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Day to Day

QUESTIONS AND RELATED FACTS

इसरो ISRO PSLV-C35



The Global
Competitiveness Report
2016-2017

WORLD
ECONOMIC
FORUM

Insights Report

1 SEPTEMBER TO 30 SEPTEMBER, 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 September to 30th September) 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

ISRO successfully launched eight satellites

Question: Recently Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched eight satellites from one rocket into two different orbits. This was-

- (a) 37th Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle
- (b) 35th Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle
- (c) 34th Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle
- (d) 33th Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 26 September 2016 Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched eight satellites from one rocket into two different orbits.
- This was one of the longest and most complex missions undertaken by ISRO.
- The main satellite was SCATSAT-1 that will enhance the study of ocean and weather conditions.
- The 37th Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle or PSLV took off successfully from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh.
- This Launch vehicle carried eight satellites – three from India, three from Algeria, and one each from Canada and the US.
- The total weight of all the eight satellites carried on-board PSLV-C35 was 675 kg.
- This launch was ISRO's longest mission spread over two hours and fifteen minutes.
- After a flight of 16 minutes 56 seconds, the vehicle achieved a polar Sun Synchronous Orbit of 724 km inclined at an angle of 98.1 degree to the equator (very close to the intended orbit).
 - After separation, the two solar arrays of SCATSAT-1 satellite were deployed automatically and ISRO's Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) at Bangalore took over the control of the satellite.
- 37 seconds later the primary satellite SCATSAT-1 was separated from the PSLV fourth stage.
- The rocket's main cargo was the 371 kg SCATSAT-1 for ocean and weather related studies. It is meant for weather forecasting, along with detection and tracking of cyclones.
- The satellite will be capable of Long term imaging of the earth surface under identical illumination conditions.
- SCATSAT-1 was accompanied by two other satellites developed by students in India.
- Pratham, a 10-kg satellite developed by students of IIT Bombay, will study the total electron count in space.
- The 5.25-kg PISAT made by students of Bengaluru's PES University will take pictures of earth, with focus on India.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151114>

<http://www.isro.gov.in/update/26-sep-2016/pslv-c35-successfully-launches-eight-satellites-two-different-orbits-single>

India's official entry to Best Foreign Language Film category at the 89th Academy Awards

Question: Which of the following film has been chosen as India's official entry to Best Foreign Language Film category at the 89th Academy Awards?

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- (a) Pink (b) Visaranai
(c) Court (d) Haider

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 22 September 2016 Visaranai, the Tamil docu-drama crime thriller, has been chosen India's official entry to Best Foreign Language Film category at the 89th Academy Awards.
- It is directed by Vetrimaran, and produced by actor Dhanush's Wunderbar Films.
- It is based on the story of four migrant workers who suffer police brutality and corruption after being jailed on false charges.
- The film was earlier chosen in the competition section of 72nd Venice Film Festival.
- The film won three honours: Best Feature Film in Tamil, Best Supporting Actor for Samuthirakani and Best Editing for Kishore at the 63rd National Film Awards.
- So far India has not won a single Oscar in Best Foreign Film category.
- It may be recalled that 'Lagaan', 'Mother India', 'Salaam Bombay' are the Indian films to be included in the top 5.
- In 2016, India had sent Marathi film Court as the official entry for Oscars.
- The 89th Academy Awards is scheduled to take place in February 2017 in Los Angeles.

Reference:

<http://filmfed.org/news.html>

<http://www.thehindu.com/features/cinema/visaranai-is-indias-official-entry-for-oscar-2017-in-foreign-language-film-category/article9136134.ece>

List of 27 new smart cities

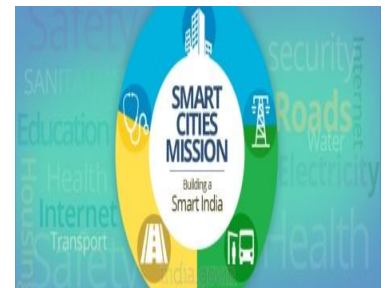
Question: In the list of 27 new smart cities announced by the Minister of Urban Development M.Venkaiah Naidu how many cities of Uttar Pradesh are included?

- (a) 4 (b) 2 (c) 3 (d) 5

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 20 September 2016 Minister of Urban Development Shri M.Venkaiah Naidu released the list of 27 new smart cities.
- Golden Temple city of Amritsar topped the list.
- Eight other cities of pilgrim and tourism importance that made to the third list of smart cities are; Ujjain, Tirupati, Agra, Nashik, Madurai, Thanjavur, Ajmer and Varanasi.
- With this the number of cities selected under Smart City Mission for financing implementation of smart city plans has gone up to 60.



- The 27 smart cities announced are from 12 States including 5 from Maharashtra, 4 each from Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, 3 from Uttar Pradesh and 2 each from Punjab and Rajasthan.
- Nagaland and Sikkim have made it to the smart city list for the first time.
- With this, the total investment proposed by the 60 cities selected so far has gone up to Rs.1, 44,742 cr.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150941>

http://zeenews.india.com/business/news/economy/third-list-of-27-new-smart-cities-announced-amritsar-tops-followed-by-kalyan-ujjain_1931514.html

Gramin Swachh Survekshan, 2016 report released

Question: Name the place declared as the cleanest in the “Plains” category in the recently released Gramin Swachh Survekshan, 2016 report.

- (a) Mandi
- (b) Sindhudurg
- (c) Nadia
- (d) Satara

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 8 September 2016 the Minister, Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Narendra Singh Tomar released the report called as Gramin Swachh Survekshan, 2016.
- The assessment is done by Quality Council of India (QCI).
- The Gramin Swachh Survekshan was launched in May 2016.
- A total of 22 hill districts and 53 plain areas were assessed.
- Each district has been judged on four distinct parameters.
- The parameters to judge sanitation status include:
 - i. Households having access to safe toilets and using them (toilet usage, water accessibility, safe disposal of waste) (40%)
 - ii. Households having no litter around (30%)
 - iii. Public places with no litter in the surrounding (10%)
 - iv. Households having no stagnant wastewater around (20%)
- Maximum weightage was placed on accessibility to safe toilets and water.
- Mandi was judged as the cleanest district in “Hills” category.
- Sindhudurg as the cleanest in the “Plains” category.
- Districts of Sikkim, Shimla (Himachal Pradesh), Nadia (West Bengal) and Satara (Maharashtra) featuring at the top of the index.

- According to the results, Sindhudurg, Nadia, Satara, Midnapur East, Kolhapur, Hoogly, Udupi, Ratnagiri, Thane and Churu scored 96.8, 95, 92.9, 92.6, 91.6, 91.5, 91, 90.9, 88.7 and 88.4 marks respectively out of 100.
- On the other hand, Mandi, West Sikkim, Shimla, East Sikkim, Hamirpur, South Sikkim, Kullu, North Sikkim, Champhai and Chamba scored 98.4, 96.4, 94.1, 93.7, 93.4, 93, 91, 90.7, 90.1 and 90 marks respectively based on the parameters fixed.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=149633>

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/569253/sindhudurg-mandi-cleanest-districts-survey.html>

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

Cabinet approves creation of GST Council and its Secretariat

Question: Recently the Union Cabinet has approved setting up of GST Council and setting up its Secretariat. The creation of the GST Council will be done under which of the following article?

- (a) Article 288A
- (b) Article 280A
- (c) Article 279 A
- (d) Article 278A

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 12 September 2016 Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved setting up of GST Council and setting up its Secretariat.
- The Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty-second Amendment) Bill, 2016, for introduction of Goods and Services tax in the country was accorded assent by the President on 8th September, 2016, and the same has been notified as the Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016.
- As per Article 279A (1) of the amended Constitution, the GST Council has to be constituted by the President within 60 days of the commencement of Article 279A.
- The notification for bringing into force Article 279A with effect from 12th September, 2016 was issued on 10th September, 2016.
- As per Article 279A of the amended Constitution, the GST Council which will be a joint forum of the Centre and the States, shall consist of the Union Finance Minister as its Chairperson, The Union Minister of State, in-charge of Revenue of finance and the Minister In-charge of finance or taxation or any other Minister nominated by each State Government as its member.



- The Council will make recommendations to the Union and the States on important issues related to GST, like the goods and services that may be subjected or exempted from GST.
- It will determine the parameters related to the GST. Appointment of the Secretary (Revenue) as the Ex-officio Secretary to the GST Council.
- The GST Council Secretariat will have its office at New Delhi.
- The Finance Minister has also decided to call the first meeting of the GST Council on 22nd and 23rd September 2016 in New Delhi.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149703>

All India Trinamool Congress recognised as national party

Question: Recently All India Trinamool Congress has been recognised as national party. Now India has how many national party?

(a) 6 (b) 7 (c) 5 (d) 8

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 2 September 2016 the Election Commission of India has recognised Trinamool Congress as national party?
- Trinamool Congress has satisfied one of the conditions mentioned in the Election Symbols (Reservation and Allotment) Order, 1968 to be recognised as a national party — having been recognised as a State party in at least four States.
- It is a recognised State party in West Bengal, Manipur, Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh.
- a political party shall be eligible to be recognised as a National party if :-
 - (i) It secures at least six percent(6%) of the valid votes polled in any four or more states, at a general election to the House of the People or, to the State Legislative Assembly; and
 - (ii) In addition, it wins at least four seats in the House of the People from any State or States. Or
 - (iii) It wins at least two percent (2%) seats in the House of the People (i.e., 11 seats in the existing House having 543 members), and these members are elected from at least three different States.
- Now, India has seven recognised national parties — the Congress, the BJP, the BSP, the CPI, the CPI (M), the NCP and the All India Trinamool Congress.

Reference:

http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/current/TMC_02092016.pdf

<http://aitcofficial.org/aitc/trinamool-congress-recognised-as-national-party/>

INTERNATIONAL

2016-17 Global Competitiveness Index

Question: Recently World Economic Forum (WEF) has release Global Competitiveness Report for 2016-17. What is the rank of India among the 138 countries in the 2016-17 Global Competitiveness Index (GCI)?

- (a) 40th (b) 39th
(c) 45th (d) 65th

Ans (b)

Related facts:



- On 28 September 2016 World Economic Forum (WEF) has release Global Competitiveness Report for 2016-17.
- The Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017 assesses the competitiveness landscape of 138 economies, providing insight into the drivers of their productivity and prosperity.
- 2016-17 Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) is the part of the report is calculated by aggregating indicators across 12 pillars in the report which covers both business and social indicators.
- The 12 pillars includes institutions, macro-economic environment, infrastructure, health and primary education, higher education and training, labour market efficiency, goods and market efficiency among others.
- Switzerland has been ranked 1st for the eighth times in a row with the score of 5.81.
- Singapore and the United States stayed in second and third place with the score of 5.7 each.
- The Netherlands overtook Germany for fourth place, while Sweden in sixth spot and Britain in seventh leap-frogged Japan, Hong Kong and Finland.
- Last five countries in the Index are Yemen (Rank- 138, score-2.7), Martania (Rank- 137, score-2.9), Chad (Rank- 136, score-2.9), Burundi (Rank- 135, score-3.1) and Malawi (Rank- 134, score-3.1).
- India jumped 16 places to the 39th position with the score of 4.5 in the last year in the WEF's Global Competitiveness Index.
- In the year 2015-16, India was ranked at the 55th place (Out of 140).
- Among neighboring countries of India, Sri Lanka has been ranked 71st in index (score- 4.2), Bhutan 97th (score-3.9), Nepal 98th (score-3.9), Bangladesh 106 th (score-3.8) and Pakistan 122nd (score-3.5).
- Among the developed countries of the world to Japan has been ranked 8th(score-5.5), the 9th Hong Kong (score-5.5), the United Kingdom 7th (score-5.5) and the France 21th (score -5.2).
- Among the emerging economies of the BRICS countries, China has been ranked 28th (score-5.0), Russia 43rd (score-4.5), South Africa 47th (score-4.5) and Brazil 81 th (score -4.1) is achieved.

Reference:

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-competitiveness-report-2016-2017-1>
<http://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness-index/competitiveness-rankings/>
<http://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness-index/country-profiles/#economy=IND>

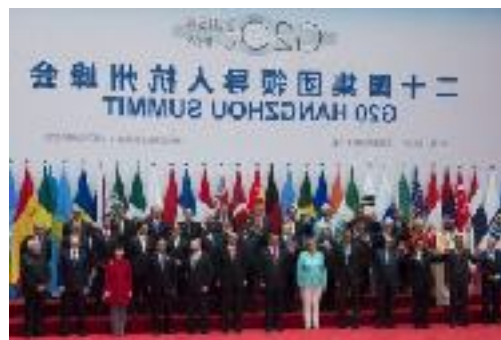
11th summit of G20

Question: The 11th summit of G20 held on 4–5 September 2016 in which of the following city?

- (a) Seoul
- (b) Brisbane
- (c) Hangzhou
- (d) London

Ans (c)

Related facts:



- The 2016 G20 Hangzhou summit was the eleventh meeting of the Group of Twenty (G20).
- It was held on 4–5 September 2016 in the city of Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China.
- It was the first ever G20 summit to be hosted in China.
- The chair of the summit was Xi Jinping, President of China.
- The summit was attended by all the leaders of the G20 including Prime Minister Narendra Modi. NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Arvind Panagariya was the Sherpa for 2016 G20 Summit. **The guest invitees in the summit were:** Egypt, Kazakhstan, Laos, Senegal, Spain, Singapore and Thailand. In the summit Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed G20 leaders to act decisively to eliminate safe havens for economic offenders, unconditionally extradite money launderers and end excessive banking secrecy.
- He also spoke about India's support to a trade facilitation agreement (TFA) for services, a move that will help in movement of professionals.
- The PM also stressed the need for safeguarding climate justice, which requires affordable financing and environmental sound technology for developing countries.
- The members G20 includes 19 individual countries.
- These are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States—along with the European Union (EU).
- The EU is represented by the European Commission and by the European Central Bank. Collectively, the G20 economies account for around 85% of the gross world product (GWP), 80% of world trade (or, if excluding EU intra-trade, 75%), and two-thirds of the world population.
- It was founded in 1999 with the aim of studying, reviewing, and promoting high-level discussion of policy issues pertaining to the promotion of international financial stability.
- The G20 heads of government or heads of state have periodically conferred at summits since their initial meeting in 2008 in U.S.A.
- The group also hosts separate meetings of finance ministers and central bank governors.
- The heads of the G20 nations met semi-annually at G20 summits between 2009 and 2010. Since the November 2011 Cannes summit, all G20 summits have been held annually.
- The **2017 G20 Summit** will be held in **Hamburg, Germany**.

Reference:

http://www.g20.org/English/aboutg20/AboutG20/201511/t20151127_1609.html

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/pm-leads-fight-against-safe-havens-at-g20-116090501018_1.html

South-East Asia countries to set up fund for health emergencies preparedness

Question: Which of the following country along with 10 other member countries of WHO's South-East Asian Regional Committee has decided to set up a dedicated fund aimed at building preparedness for health emergencies in the region?

- (a) India
- (b) Bhutan
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Myanmar

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 9 September 2016 India along with 10 other member countries of WHO's South-East Asian Regional Committee has decided to set up a dedicated fund aimed at building preparedness for health emergencies in the region.
- Taking part in the 69th session of WHO Regional Committee Meeting at Colombo, they also passed a resolution for promoting physical activity and expanding health workforces across the region.
- The new funding stream will allow countries to invest in infrastructure and human resources that will enhance preparedness.
- In the recent years, earthquakes, cyclones and floods have caused health emergencies in south-east Asian region and it has also been threatened by a range of emerging diseases.
- This includes SARS, MERS CoV, pandemic influenza and Zika virus.
- Establishing a joint funding stream under the South-East Asia Regional Health Emergency Fund (SEARHEF) to help countries better prepare for such events was seen by the countries as a key priority for the regional health agenda.
- At present, the density of health care providers in the region is 12.5 per 10,000 persons, which is less than the WHO recommended minimum of 44.5 per 10,000 persons.
- The Regional Committee is WHO South-East Asia Region's highest decision-making body.
- The region comprises 11 countries – Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

Reference:

<http://www.searo.who.int/mediacentre/releases/2016/1638/en/>

World Risk Index-2016

Question: In the recently released World Risk Index by the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft in cooperation with the University of Stuttgart in Germany, India is ranked-

- (a) 54th
- (b) 65th
- (c) 77th
- (d) 71st

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 25 August 2016 World Risk Report 2016 was released by the United Nations University Institute for Environment and Human Security (UNU-EHS) and Bündnis Entwicklung Hilft in cooperation with the University of Stuttgart in Germany.
- The World Risk Index is part of the World Risk Report 2016 assessed the risk of disaster in 171 countries through the combined analysis of natural hazards and societal vulnerabilities.
- The island state of Vanuatu has been ranked No.1, displayed the greatest risk in 2016.
- Tonga with the index value of 29.33 and the Philippines with the index value of 26.70 have been ranked 2nd and 3rd.
- The list is followed by Guatemala and Bangladesh at fourth and fifth place respectively.
- Saudi Arabia (ranked 169th), Malta (ranked 170th) and Qatar (ranked 171st) have the lowest disaster risk.
- India has been ranked 77th on the World risk index-2016.
- The World Risk Report 2015 had positioned India at 78th position and 2014 report had placed India on 73rd rank.
- Among the neighboring countries Pakistan has been ranked at 72nd position while Sri Lanka and Bangladesh are at 63rd and 5th position, respectively.
- China and Nepal are in a better position than India and have been ranked at 85th and 108th position respectively.

Reference:

<http://weltrisikobericht.de/wp-content/uploads/2016/08/WorldRiskReport2016.pdf>

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/india-ranked-77-in-disaster-risk-index-of-the-world/article9036125.ece>

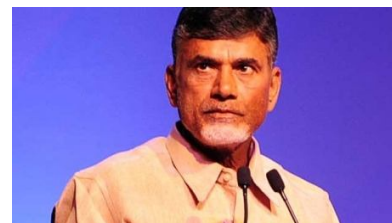
ECONOMICS

Andhra Pradesh has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16

Question: Which of the following state has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Tamilnadu

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 16 September 2016 Andhra Pradesh has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16.
- Andhra Pradesh attracted an investment of Rs 21,914 crore out of the Rs 1,38,700 crore gross investments across India.
- This was 15.8% of the total investments of over Rs 10 crore each unit. In 2014-15, AP's share in the country's investments was 8.1%.
- Gujarat retained the second place attracting 14.5 per cent of investments, up from 9.5 per cent in 2014-15 while Maharashtra was pushed to the third spot with 10.9 per cent in 2015-16, a decline from 14.8 per cent.
- Tamil Nadu also made quantum gains in investment, attracting 9 per cent of the gross and jumping to the fourth spot.
- In 2014-15, investment flow into Tamil Nadu was a mere 2.9 per cent.
- Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh were tied at the fifth spot garnering 7.2 per cent share each in industrial investments, according to the RBI report.
- According to the Industries Department of AP, industrial growth rate in the state shot up from 5.25 per cent in 2014-15 to 11.1 per cent in 2015-16.

Reference:

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-andhra-pradesh-tops-in-attracting-industrial-investments-maharashtra-down-to-third-spot-2255833>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/andhra-pradesh-tops-in-attracting-industrial-investments/1/766285.html>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/andhra-pradesh-tops-in-attracting-industrial-investments-116091601301_1.html

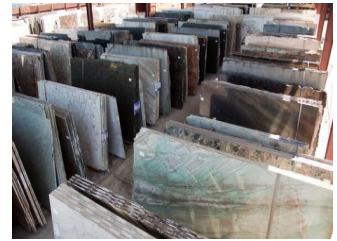
New Import policy for Marble and Travertine Blocks

Question: Recently Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has notified the new import policy for Marble & Travertine Blocks, and Marble and Granite Slabs, to come into effect from-

- (a) 1 October 2016.
- (b) 2 October 2016.
- (c) 3 October 2016.
- (d) 4 October 2016.

Ans: (a)

Related fact:



- On 18 September 2016 Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India has notified the new import policy for Marble & Travertine Blocks, and Marble and Granite Slabs, to come into effect from 1 October 2016.
- The Minimum Import Price (MIP) for import of Marble Blocks has been reduced to US Dollars 200 per Metric Ton to address the distortions associated with an MIP.
- To address the interest of domestic producers, the Basic Customs Duty on import of Marble & Travertine Blocks will go up four times from the present 10% to 40% w.e.f. 1st October 2016.
- The MIP on the import of marble slabs is being reduced to US Dollars 40 per Sq. Metre to address the distortion associated with an MIP.
- In order to address the interest of domestic producers the basic customs duty on import of marble slabs is being doubled from 10% to 20% i.e. 1st October 2016.
- With effect from 1st October 2016, the MIP on the import of granite slabs is being reduced to US Dollars 50 per Sq. Metre to address the distortion associated with MIP.
- In order to address the interest of domestic producers the basic customs duty on import of granite slabs is being doubled from 10% to 20% w.e.f. 1st October 2016.
- The new policy balances the interests of domestic consumers, producers and processors, and ends the cumbersome licensing system for import of Marble & Travertine blocks.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150873>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/new-import-policy-for-marble-travertine-blocks-notified/article9121062.ece>

Fresh guidelines for flexi-fund

Question: Under the new norms, flexi-fund in each CSS has been increased from the current 10 percent to what percentage for the states?

- (a) 15 %
- (b) 20%
- (c) 25%
- (d) 30%

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 11 September 2016 Government of India issued fresh flexi-fund guidelines that will give more freedom to states in spending money under the Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) to meet local developmental requirements.
- Under the new norms, flexi-funds in each CSS has been increased from the current 10 per cent to 25 per cent for states and 30 per cent for Union Territories.
- The flexi-fund component will provide “flexibility” to states to meet local needs and requirements and pilot innovation to improve efficiency.
- States can use the fund to undertake mitigation or restoration activities in case of natural calamities, or to satisfy local requirements in areas affected by internal security disturbances.
- However, state governments will have to constitute a state-level sanctioning committee (SLSC) to avail of the flexi-fund facility.
- It should be known that based on the recommendations of the sub-group of chief ministers and consultations with stakeholders, Niti Aayog had issued instructions for rationalisation of CSS.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/centre-gives-states-more-freedom-to-spend-funds-under-css-116091100606_1.html

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/states-get-more-freedom-to-spend-funds-under-centrally-sponsored-schemes-1457237>

<http://www.thestatesman.com/news/business/-states-get-more-freedom-to-spend-funds-under-css/164423.html>

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/33048>

The World's Highest-Paid TV Actresses 2016

Question: Name the Indian actress who is among the world's highest paid television actresses?

- (a) Deepika Padukone
- (b) Vidya Balan
- (c) Priyanka Chopra
- (d) Aishwarya Rai

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 14 September 2016 Forbes released the list of The World's Highest-Paid TV Actresses 2016.
- The Forbes top paid TV actresses' list topped by Modern Family star Sofia Vergara who earned \$43 million this year.
- On the second slot on the Forbes list is The Big Bang Theory actress Kaley Cuoco with \$24.5 million.
- The Mindy Project's Mindy Kaling, another person of Indian origin, takes the third spot with \$15 million.
- Fourth place was secured by two, Ellen Pompeo and Mariska Hargitay, who both made \$14.5 million.
- Priyanka makes a debut on the list, is placed at eighth position with \$11 million in earnings.
- Another newcomer on the rankings is Julia Louis-Dreyfus ('The Good Wife'). Kerry Washington of "Scandal" fame finds herself at sixth position, with \$13.5 million earnings.
- Julianna Margulies with the earnings of \$10.5 million and Julie Bowen with the earning of \$10 million has been ranked 9th and 10th respectively.

Reference:

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/maddieberg/2016/09/14/the-worlds-highest-paid-tv-actresses-2016-sofia-vergara-stays-the-queen-of-the-small-screen-with-43-million/#47ab03b46a7f>
<http://www.forbes.com/pictures/gjdm45eimd/8-priyanka-chopra/#242abc0249e7>
<http://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/television/priyanka-chopra-among-forbes-10-highest-paid-tv-actresses-sofia-vergara-tops-list-3032022/>

First bank in India to deploy 'software robots'

Question: Which of the following bank became the first bank in India to deploy 'software robots, which emulate human action, in its over 200 business processes?

- (a) HDFC
- (b) ICICI
- (c) Oriental Bank
- (d) State Bank Of India

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 8 September 2016 country's largest private lender ICICI Bank became the first bank in India to deploy 'software robots that emulate human action, in its over 200 business processes.
- The software robots are processing over 10 lakh transactions daily, bringing in operational efficiency, accuracy and a massive reduction in processing time for customer services.
- Software robots have reduced the response time to customers by up to 60 per cent and increased accuracy to 100 per cent thereby improving the bank's productivity and efficiency.
- There is a plan to more than double the software robots to over 500 by end of this fiscal.
- This initiative marks a milestone in the banking innovation in the Indian banking industry as it joins a select group of overseas organisations which have deployed this unique state-of-the-art robotic technology.

Reference:

<http://www.icicibank.com/aboutus/article.page?identifier=news-icici-bank-introduces-software-robotics-to-power-banking-operations-20160809103646464>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/icici-bank-deploys-software-robots-to-perform-banking-operations/article9085266.ece>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/icici-bank-announces-deployment-of-software-robotics-for-business-processes/articleshow/54170008.cms>

Expansion of India -Chile Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA)

Question: Recently an agreement on the expansion of India-Chile Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) was signed between India and Chile .Under the expanded PTA, Chile has offered concessions to India on how many objects?

- (a) 1798
- (b) 1031
- (c) 296
- (d) 178

Ans: (a))

Related facts:



- On 6 September 2016 an agreement on the expansion of India–Chile Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) was signed between India and Chile in a meeting held between Ms. Rita Teatonia, Commerce Secretary and Mr. Andres Barbe Gonzalez, Ambassador, Embassy of Chile.
- A Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between India and Chile was earlier signed on March 8, 2006 and came into force with effect from August, 2007.
- In the original PTA concluded in March 2006, India's offer list to Chile consisted of 178 tariff lines.
- The Margin of Preference (MoP) ranging from 10%-50% at 8-digit level and Chile's offer list to India consisted of 296 tariff lines with MoP ranging from 10% – 100% at 8-digit level.
- Under the expanded PTA, Chile has offered concessions to India on 1798 tariff lines with Margin of Preference (MoP) ranging from 30%-100%.
- India has offered concessions to Chile on 1031 tariff lines at 8-digit level with MoP ranging from 10%-100%.
- India's export basket with Chile is diversified and keeping in view the wide variety of tariff lines offered by Chile, the expanded PTA would immensely benefit India.
- Among the Latin American countries, Chile was the third largest trading partner of India during 2015-16.
- India's bilateral trade with Chile stood at US\$ 2.64 billion with exports at US\$ 0.68 billion and imports at US\$ 1.96 billion respectively during 2015-16(P).

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149558>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=139004>

http://www.ptinews.com/news/7841694_-India-Chile-expand-preferential-trade-agreement

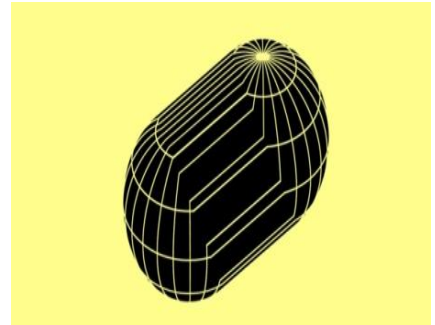
Fortune 2016 'Change the World'

Question: Which of the following company has been ranked first in the Fortune 2016 'Change the World' list?

- (a) GlaxoSmithKline
- (b) Nestle
- (c) Cipla
- (d) None of these

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 19 August 2016 renowned business magazine Fortune released the Fortune 2016 'Change the World' list.
- The list recognises companies that have had a positive social impact through activities that are part of their core business strategy.
- Fortune's 2nd annual Change the World list features 50 do-gooding companies.
- The list has been topped by British pharma giant GlaxoSmithKline.
- Israel's industrial machinery maker IDE Technologies and US-based General Electric (are ranked second and third respectively).
- India's pharmaceutical giant Cipla and consumer goods conglomerate Godrej have been recognised by Fortune magazine in a list of global firms changing the world for the good and having a positive social impact through their activities.
- Cipla is ranked 46th in the list of 50 followed by Godrej on the 48th spot, the only Indian companies in the list.
- American motor company Tesla has been ranked 50th.

Reference:

<http://beta.fortune.com/change-the-world/list>

<http://beta.fortune.com/change-the-world/gsk-1>

<http://fortune.com/2016/08/19/companies-change-world-hiring-jobs/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/cipla-godrej-recognised-in-fortune-change-the-world-list/article9007658.ece>

SCIENTIFIC

MICA missile successfully tested

Question: Recently Indian Air Force, successfully fired the recently acquired long range 'Beyond Visual Range' MICA missile. It is a-

- (a) Surface to Air Missile (b) Air to Air Missile
(c) Air to Surface Missile (d) Surface to Surface Mobile

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 24 September 2016 'Tigers' the first squadron of Indian Air Force, successfully fired the recently acquired long range 'Beyond Visual Range' Air-to-Air MICA missile on a maneuvering target from Mirage-2000 Upgrade aircraft.
- The missile achieved a Direct Hit on a target which was much smaller than an actual aircraft and flying at low altitude.
- With the success of this mission, the IAF has become one of the few Air Forces in the world with the capability of such long range Beyond Visual Range Air-to-Air missile.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151085>

<http://www.airforce-technology.com/news/newsiaf-test-fires-mica-multi-mission-air-to-air-missile-5015150>



India Successfully Test-Fires Surface-to-Air Missile Barak 8

Question: From which of the following place India successfully test fired its new long range surface-to-air missile, Barak 8?

- (a) Kochi, Kerala (b) Chandipur, Odisha
(c) Chennai, Tamil Nadu (d) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 20 September 2016 India successfully test fired its new, long range surface-to-air missile, Barak-8 jointly developed with Israel from a defence base off Odisha coast.
- The missile was launched from a mobile launcher at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur.
- The missile system was jointly developed by India's Defense Research and Development Organization (DRDO) and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) manufacturer.
- The medium-range missile can identify and hit an air target within a range of some 70-100 KM.
- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) has manufactured this missile.
- Apart from the missile, the system includes a Multi Functional Surveillance and Threat Alert Radar (MF-STAR) for detection, tracking and guidance of the missile.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-successfully-testfires-surfacetoair-missile/article9127725.ece?w=alauto>

<https://sputniknews.com/military/20160920/1045495557/india-barak-8-test.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Barak_8



NASA's First Ever Asteroid Mission launched

Question: Name the spacecraft launched onboard United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station to collect samples from a near-Earth asteroid Bennu?

- (a) Atlantis (b) OSIRIS-Rex
(c) New Horizon (d) Kepler

Ans : (b)

Related facts:

- On 8 September 2016 US space agency, NASA launched OSIRIS-REx (Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security-Regolith Explorer) spacecraft onboard a United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket from Cape Canaveral Air Force Station.
- OSIRIS-REx is United States' first mission to collect samples from an asteroid and return to Earth.
- It will reach the Bennu asteroid in August, 2018.
- The spacecraft will spend over a year exploring the asteroid before approaching its surface to grab a sample.
- OSIRIS-REx's main goal is to gather dirt and debris at least 60 grams (2.1 ounces) from the surface of the asteroid and return it to Earth by 2023 for further study.
- The mission will help scientists investigate how planets formed and how life began, as well as improve our understanding of asteroids that could impact Earth.
- 101955 Bennu is a carbonaceous asteroid in the Apollo group that was discovered by the LINEAR Project on September 11, 1999.



Reference:

<https://techcrunch.com/2016/09/08/nasa-has-successfully-launched-osiris-rex-their-first-asteroid-sample-return-mission/>

<http://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-s-osiris-rex-speeds-toward-asteroid-rendezvous/>

<http://www.asteroidmission.org/mission/>

First DNA Sequencing in Space

Question: Which of the following space agency has successfully performed DNA sequencing in microgravity as part of the Biomolecule Sequencer experiment?

- (a) ISRO (b) NASA
(c) ESA (d) CNSA

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 30 August 2016 for the first time ever, DNA was successfully sequenced in microgravity as part of the Biomolecule Sequencer experiment.
- It was performed by NASA astronaut Kate Rubins aboard the International Space Station.
- For the first time DNA sequencing is possible in an orbiting spacecraft.
- The Biomolecule Sequencer investigation sent samples of mouse, virus and bacteria DNA to the space station to test a commercially available DNA sequencing device called MinION, developed by Oxford Nanopore Technologies.
- Ability to sequence the DNA of living organisms in space opens a whole new world of scientific and medical possibilities.
- This sequencing could be used to keep astronauts aboard the ISS healthy.
- That could also prevent wasting resources, like antibiotics and disinfectant
- Scientists consider the first DNA sequencing in space as a game changer.



Reference:

https://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/station/research/news/dna_sequencing

http://zeenews.india.com/space/dna-sequenced-in-space-for-first-time-by-nasa-astronaut-kate-rubins-watch-video_1923908.html

Avian Influenza (H5N1) Free Country

Question: Which country was recently declared itself as Avian Influenza (H5N1) Free Country?

- (a) Nepal (b) United states of America
(c) India (d) United Kingdom

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 14 September 2016 In a notification, the ministry of agriculture has said that The Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries in the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare has declared India free from Avian Influenza (H5N1) from 5th September, 2016.
- India had notified outbreak of Avian Influenza (H5N1) on 09.05.2016 at Humnabad, Bidar district, Karnataka. There has been no further outbreak reported in the country thereafter.
- In a letter to the State Chief Secretaries the Center has emphasized the need for continued surveillance especially in the vulnerable areas bordering infected countries and in areas visited by migratory birds.

About Avian influenza

- H5N1 is an avian (bird) flu virus that has caused outbreaks in domestic poultry in parts of Asia and the Middle East. Because H5N1 is so deadly to poultry, it is considered "highly pathogenic," or highly disease causing.
- Most avian influenza viruses do not infect humans; however some, such as A(H5N1) and A(H7N9), have caused serious infections in people.
- Outbreaks of AI in poultry may raise global public health concerns due to their effect on poultry populations, their potential to cause serious disease in people, and their pandemic potential. Reports of highly pathogenic AI epidemics in poultry, such as A(H5N1), can seriously impact local and global economies and international trade.
- The majority of human cases of A(H5N1) and A(H7N9) infection have been associated with direct or indirect contact with infected live or dead poultry.
- There is no evidence that the disease can be spread to people through properly cooked food.
- Controlling the disease in animals is the first step in decreasing risks to humans.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149767>

Successful testing of Indigenous Light Utility Helicopter (LUH)

Question: Recently HAL Conducted Technical Flight of Indigenous Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) on-

- (a) 7 September 2016 (b) 8 September 2016
(c) 6 September 2016 (d) 9 September 2016

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 6 September 2016 HAL conducted a technical flight of indigenous Light Utility Helicopter (LUH) in Bengaluru.
- This event marks an important and significant beginning for prototype testing of LUH.
- This is the third indigenous helicopter product from the stables of HAL after ALH and LCH . The LUH has a maximum All-Up-Weight (AUW) of 3150 Kgs, fitted with Safran HE Ardiden-1U engine of 750 KW power, with a range of 350 Km, service ceiling 6.5 Km, seating capacity of six passengers plus two pilots
- The helicopter is designed to carry out various utility roles such as reconnaissance, transport, cargo load and rescue operations. The helicopter can operate from sea level to high altitudes of Himalayas.

Reference:

http://www.hal-india.com/HAL%20Conducts%20Te/ND_174



Successful launch of INSAT-3DR

Question: Recently the Indian Space Research Organisation's GSLV-F05 rocket successfully launched INSAT-3DR into the earth's orbit. INSAT-3DR is...?

- (A) a communication Satellite
- (B) an advanced meteorological satellite of India
- (C) an advanced communication satellite
- (D) a payload to monitor and study the nature of the charged particles and influence of space radiation on spacecraft and electronic components

Ans: (B)

Related facts:



- On 8th September, 2016 the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched INSAT-3DR into earth's Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO).
- The launch took place at 4:50 PM from the Second Launch Pad at the Satish Dhawan Space Centre Sriharikota, the spaceport of India.
- The launch was delayed by 40 minutes due to an anomaly observed in the functioning of a pressure release valve in the liquid Oxygen filling ground segment which was resolved later.
- The satellite was launched by GSLV-F05 rocket. It is the 10th flight of Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV). The flight is also significant since it is the first operational flight of GSLV carrying Cryogenic Upper Stage (CUS).
- GSLV is a three stage launcher that uses one solid rocket motor stage, one Earth storable liquid stage and one cryogenic stage. It had its first flight on April 18, 2001.
- INSAT-3DR is an advanced meteorological (weather observation) satellite built by India to provide a variety of inputs essential for accurate weather forecasting.
- It carries a multi spectral Imager, 19 channel Sounder, Data Relay Transponder and Search and Rescue Transponder.
- The satellite can also pick up and relay alert signals originating from distress beacons of maritime, aviation and land based users.
- INSAT-3DR (weight – 2211 kg) is the heaviest satellite to be launched from the Indian soil.
- The satellite will be commissioned into service after the completion of orbit raising operations and the satellite's positioning in its designated orbital slot of 74 degree East longitude in the GSO and in-orbit testing of its payloads.

Reference:

<http://www.isro.gov.in/update/08-sep-2016/gslv-successfully-launches-india%E2%80%99s-weather-satellite-insat-3dr>
<http://www.isro.gov.in/hi/Spacecraft/insat-3dr>
<http://www.isro.gov.in/hi/launcher/gslv-f05-insat-3dr>

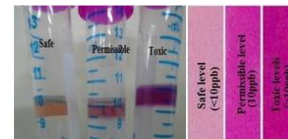
Portable kit for detection of Chromium contamination of water developed

Question: Which of the following research institute has developed portable kit for detection of Chromium contamination of water?

- (a) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
- (b) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- (c) Tata Institute of Fundamental
- (d) Indian Institute of Science

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 17 August 2016 Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC) has developed a portable kit to check chromium contamination in water.
- Chromium, which is widely used in industries such as leather, steel, chrome plating, paint manufacturing and wood preservation, is one of the major effluents found in water in several parts of the country.
- Chromium in the environment primarily exists as Trivalent Chromium Cr (III) and Hexavalent Chromium Cr(VI).
- Hexavalent Chromium Cr (VI) is toxic and the World Health Organization has classified it as carcinogenic.
- It can cause stomach ulcers and cancers and severe damage to kidneys and liver.
- As per Indian standard IS10500 for drinking water, the maximum permissible concentration of Cr (VI) in drinking water is 50 microgram per litre.
- The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) recommends a still lower permissible concentration of 10 microgram per liter.
- Detection of Cr (VI) at such low levels is not only technically challenging but also expensive and time consuming since it involves collection of water samples from affected areas, transport to laboratory, storage and finally analysis.
- The method can be used for limited water samples with errors due to conversion of Cr (III) to Cr (VI) and vice versa during transport and storage.
- BARC has developed a simple, user friendly, quick and cost effective kit for onsite determination of Cr (VI), which meets IS10500 as well as EPA criterion.
- It provides the much needed solution to measure the level of Chromium contamination in drinking water and tap water, lakes, rivers as well as ground water.
- The procedure involves adding a specified amount of specific reagents to the water sample and identifying the developed colour.
- Water samples can be immediately categorized as being safe or toxic for drinking from Chromium (VI) point of view.
- The kit provides several advantages including onsite detection and instantaneous results, elimination of use of sophisticated instruments for analysis, low investment on infrastructure for production of the kit, easy availability of raw materials and very good accuracy for the intended purpose.
- Existing kits for onsite detection of Chromium (VI) are currently imported and the cost of analysis is beyond Rs. 100 per sample.
- In comparison, analysis using BARC kit costs Rs. 16 per sample.
- This is yet another example of BARC's efforts towards 'Make in India' campaign of the Government of India.
- The technology of the BARC kit for Cr (VI) detection has been transferred to M/s LTEK Industries, Nagpur.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148984>

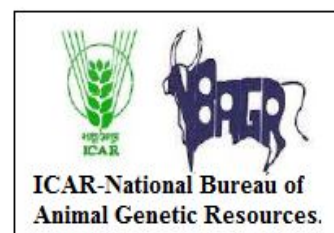
<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/science/barc-develops-portable-kit-to-detect-chromium-in-water/article9002655.ece>

Nine New Germplasm of Indigenous Farm Animals Registered

Question: After including Nine New Germplasm of Indigenous Farm Animals breeds, total number of indigenous breeds now in the country is-

- (a) 180
- (b) 175
- (c) 160
- (d) 155

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 23 August 2016 Nine New Germplasm of Indigenous Farm Animals Registered as Breeds by ICAR-National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources, Karnal.
- 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.
- The 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.
- Name of animals Registered as Breeds are-Tenyi Vo pig(Nagaland), Nicobari pig(Nicobar Islands), Doom pig(Assam), Badri cattle(Uttarakhand), Teressa Goat(Nicobar group of islands), Kodi Adu Goat(Tamil Nadu), Tamil Nadu(Tamil Nadu), Kendrapada sheep(Odisha), Kaunayen chicken(Manipur).
- The cataloguing of India's animal genetic resources by the ICAR and registration of breeds is aimed at creating a sense of ownership among local communities responsible for development of breeds.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149129>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/9-new-breeds-of-indigenous-livestock-registered/article9027056.ece>

SPORTS

TENNIS

U.S Open-2016

Question: Who among the following has won the US Open final in men's singles category?

- (a) Rafael Nadal (b) Roger Federer
(c) Novak Djokovic (d) Stan Wawrinka

Ans: (d)

Related facts:



- The US Open-2016 was a tennis tournament played on outdoor hard courts.
- It was the 136th edition of the US Open, the fourth and final Grand Slam event of the year.
- It took place from 29-08-2016 to 11-9 2016 at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.
- Result of the tournament:
- Men's Singles:
- Winner: Stan Wawrinka(Switzerland)
- Runner Up: Novak Djokovic(Serbia)
- Women's Singles:
- Winner: Angelique Kerber(Germany)
- Runner up: Karolína Plisková(Czech Republic)
- Men's doubles:
- Winner: Jamie Murray(United Kingdom) and Bruno Soares(Brazil)
- Runner Up: Pablo Carreno Busta and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez(Both are of Spain)
- Women's Doubles:
- Winner: Bethanie Mattek-Sands(United States) and Lucie Safarova(Czech Republic)
- Runner Up: Caroline Garcia and Kristina Mladenovic(Both are of France)
- Mixed Doubles:
- Winner: Laura Siegemund(Germany) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)
- Runner Up: Coco Vandeweghe and United States Rajeev Ram(Both are of United States)
- Stan Wawrinka won three Grand Slam singles finals in his career, namely 2014 Australian Open, the 2015 French Open and the 2016 US Open.
- Angelique Kerber won the title, defeating Karolína Plíšková in the final.
- It was Kerber's second Grand Slam singles title and she became the first German to win the US Open since Steffi Graf in 1996.

Reference:

<http://www.usopen.org/index.html>

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/current/us-open/560/results?matchType=singles>

<http://www.wtatennis.com/tournaments/tournamentId/840/title/us-open>

CRICKET

Highest ever one-day international total

Question: Which of the following team has scored highest ever one-day international total?

- (a) India (b) Sri Lanka
(c) England (d) Australia

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On August 30, 2016; the third match of the ODI series between Pakistan and England concluded in Nottingham.
- In this match England hit the score 444-3.
- This surpassed the 443-9 posted by Sri Lanka against the Netherlands in 2006.
- England scored the highest ever one-day international total as they beat Pakistan by 169 runs at Trent Bridge to secure a series victory.
- Alex Hales of England struck a record 171 and Jos Buttler of England made England's fastest ever 50 from 22 balls as England hit 444-3.

Reference:

<http://www.bbc.com/sport/cricket/37225767>

<http://www.espnricinfo.com/england-v-pakistan-2016/content/story/1052783.html>

<http://stats.espnricinfo.com/ci/content/records/211599.html>



HOCKEY

MCC Murugappa Gold Cup Hockey Tournament

Question: Which of the following team has won the recently held MCC Murugappa Gold Cup Hockey Tournament?

- (a) Karnataka Hockey (b) Punjab & Sind Bank
(c) Indian Railways Hockey (d) Indian Oil Corporation

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From 1st September – 11th September 2016; ten days MCC Murugappa Gold Cup Hockey Tournament held at Chennai.
- It was the 90th edition of the Tournament.
- Indian Railways Men Hockey Team has won MCC Murugappa Gold Cup Hockey Tournament 2016 by defeating Indian Oil Corporation Team by 2 – 1.
- Man of the Match of the Finals awarded to Malak Singh of Indian Railways.
- Other awards of the tournaments are:
 - Best Forward- AffanYousuf (Indian Railways)
 - Best Midfielder-Amit Rohidas (Indian Railways)
 - Best Goal keeper/ Defender-Jugraj (Indian Railways)
- Most Promising Player of the tournament-Joshua (Hockey Unit of Tamil Nadu)

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149760>

<http://www.murugappa.com/indian-railways-champion-90th-mcc-murugappa-gold-cup-hockey-tournament/>



BADMINTON

Brazil Open Grand Prix

Question: Who has won the doubles of the Brazil Open Grand Prix-2016?

- (a) Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N. Sikki Reddy
- (b) Toby Ng and Rachel Honderich
- (c) Michael Fuchs and Eva Janssens
- (d) None of these

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- The 2016 Brazil Open Grand Prix, is the twelfth Grand Prix's badminton tournament of the 2016 BWF Grand Prix Gold and Grand Prix.
- The tournament was played at the Costa Cavalcante in Foz do Iguacu, Brazil on 30 August – 4 September 2016.
- Result of the Tournament:
 - Men's Singles
 - Winner: Zulfadli Zulkiffli(Malaysia)
 - Runner Up: Anand Pawar(India)
 - Women's Singles:
 - Winner: Beatriz Corrales(Spain)
 - Runner Up: Airi Mikkela(Finland)
 - Men's Doubles
 - Winner: Michael Fuchs and Fabian Holzer(Both are of Germany)
 - Runner Up: Jones Ralfy Jansen and Josche Zurwonne(Both are of Germany)
 - Mixed Doubles
 - Winner: Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N. Sikki Reddy(Both are India)
 - Runner Up: Toby Ng and Rachel Honderich(Both are of Canada)

Reference:

[http://bwf.tournamentsoftware.com/sport/winners.aspx?id=1216C8C8-3AFE-48F9-BCDE -685A2841A4CD](http://bwf.tournamentsoftware.com/sport/winners.aspx?id=1216C8C8-3AFE-48F9-BCDE-685A2841A4CD)

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2016_Brazil_Open_Grand_Prix



BOXING

Ajay Singh

Question: Recently who has been elected as the president of the Boxing Federation of India?

- (a) Jay Kowli (b) Ajay Singh
(c) Rohit Jain (d) Hemanta Kumar Kalita

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 25 September 2016 the election process for the office-bearers of the new National Boxing federation was completed.
- Ajay Singh of Uttarakhand is elected president of the Boxing Federation of India.
- Mumbai-based Jay Kowli won the post of secretary-general.
- Ajay Singh, who polled 49 out of the 64 votes cast, defeated Rohit Jain (15 votes) in the contest for the president's post.
- Jay Kowli polled 48 votes, ahead of Lenny D'Gama (12) and Rakesh Thakran (4).
- Assam's Hemanta Kumar Kalita was elected unopposed as treasurer.
- Indian Boxing Federation is the Indian national governing body for Olympic boxing and is the India's member organization of the International Amateur Boxing Association (AIBA).
- The headquarter of Boxing Federation of India is in New Delhi.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/ajay-singh-elected-bfi-president/article9147064.ece>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/sport/Ajay-Singh-elected-BFI-President-Jay-Kowli-back-as-Secretary-General/2016/09/25/article3629550.ece>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/ajay-singh-elected-bfi-president-jay-kowli-back-as-sec-gen-116092500312_1.html



GOLF

Arnold Palmer

Question: Recently Arnold Palmer passed away. He was a-

- (a) Golfer (b) Cricketer
(c) Singer (d) Dancer

Ans (a)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 Arnold Daniel Palmer was an American professional golfer passed away in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He has died at the age of 87
- He is generally regarded as one of the greatest players in professional golf history.
- He won more than 90 golf tournaments, including the Masters four times, the U.S. Open in 1960, and the British Open in 1961 and 1962.
- Palmer became the first person to make \$1 million playing golf.
- Arnold Palmer, known as "the King" for his transformative legacy in golf.

Reference:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3807098/Golfing-legend-Arnold-Palmer-died-aged-87.html>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/25/us/arnold-palmer-death/>

<http://www.nbcnews.com/news/sports/arnold-palmer-everyman-king-golf-dies-pittsburgh-87-n654161>



SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

International Kabaddi Federation (IKF) formally unveiled the logo of the 2016 Kabaddi World Cup

Question: The logo of the 2016 Kabaddi World Cup is-

- (a) Asiatic bears (b) Asiatic Lion
(c) Asiatic white elephant (d) None of these

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 16 September 2016 Vijay Goel, Hon'ble Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports and J.S Gehlot, President, International Kabaddi Federation (IKF) formally unveiled the logo of the 2016 Kabaddi World Cup.
- The logo is derived from the natural heritage of Gujarat, the Asiatic Lion, symbolizing the ferocity of a Kabaddi defender and the agility of a raider.
- The 2016 Kabaddi World Cup will be held at The Arena by TransStadia in Ahmedabad from 7 October to 22 October 2016.
- The Indian national kabaddi team will face off against 11 other nations, which includes USA, UK, Australia, Iran, Poland, Thailand, Bangladesh, South Korea, Japan, Argentina and Kenya.



Reference:

<http://www.sportskeeda.com/kabaddi/2016-kabaddi-world-cup-schedule-announced-india-face-tough-start>

<http://www.voiceonline.com/2016-kabaddi-world-cups-logo-unveiled/>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/sports/2016-kabaddi-world-cup-top-sporting-extravaganza-in-the-offing/380794/>

Short Notes

PERSONALITIES

Shimon Peres

Question: Recently Shimon Peres passed away. He was the former president of which of the following country?

- (a) Uzbekistan (b) Venezuela
(c) Israel (d) Palestine

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 28 September 2016 former president of Israel, Shimon Peres passed away. He was 93 years old.
- He was elected to the Knesset in November 1959
- He served twice as the Prime Minister of Israel and twice as Interim Prime Minister, and he was a member of twelve cabinets in a political career spanning nearly 70 years.
- He was elected as the ninth President of Israel, serving from 2007 to 2014.
- Peres concluded the Oslo Peace Accords, for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994 with Rabin and Yasser Arafat.



Reference:

<http://www.theweek.co.uk/77033/shimon-peres-israels-warrior-for-peace-dies-aged-93>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/27/middleeast/shimon-peres-obit/>

Jim Yong Kim

Question: Dr. Jim Yong Kim unanimously reappointed to a second five-year term as President of which of the following institution?

- (a) World Trade Organization (b) World Bank
(c) International Monetary Fund (d) World Health Organization

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Executive Directors of the World Bank unanimously reappointed Dr. Jim Yong Kim to a second five-year term as President of the World Bank Group.
- His term will begin from July 1, 2017.
- His term will be up to the next 5 years.
- Dr. Jim Yong Kim is a South Korean-American physician and anthropologist who has served as the 12th President of the World Bank since July 1, 2012.
- The World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference. It is headquartered at Washington D.C.

Reference:

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/09/27/jim-yong-kim-unanimously-reappointed-to-second-term-as-world-bank-group-president>
<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/world-bank-reappoints-jim-yong-kim-as-president/article9157556.ece>



New Director General of National Security Guard (NSG)

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the Director General, National Security Guard (NSG)?

- (a) P.C Thakur (b) Prakash Mishra
(c) O.P Singh (d) Sudhir Pratap Singh

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 Sudhir Pratap Singh has been appointed to the post of Director General, National Security Guard (NSG).
- He is an IPS of Rajasthan cadre 1983.
- He is presently working as ADG, CRPF.
- His appointment is up to the date of this superannuation i.e. up to 31.01.2018 or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151110>
http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/ApptDGCISF_230916.PDF



Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha

Question: Recently Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to which of the following country?

- (a) Australia (b) United Kingdom
(c) Sri Lanka (d) Bangladesh

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom.
- Presently he is the India's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka.
- He is an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1981 batch.
- He will be replacing Navtej Sarna in the UK.

Reference:

<https://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27440/Yashvardhan+Kumar+Sinha+appointed+as+the+next+High+Commissioner+of+India+to+the+United+Kingdom>



Appointment of the US ambassador to Cuba

Question: Recently who has been named as the first US ambassador to Cuba in more than 50 years?

- (a) Richard Rahul Vema
(b) Richard Nixon
(c) Jeffrey DeLaurentis
(d) John Shore

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Jeffrey DeLaurentis has been named as the first US ambassador to Cuba by U.S President Barack Obama in more than 50 years.
- This appointment requires confirmation by the Senate
- It may be recalled that in July 2015 US President, in order to establish diplomatic relations with Cuba opened its Embassy .

Reference:

<https://havana.usembassy.gov/ambassador.html>
<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/27/politics/obama-cuba-ambassador/>
<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2016/09/27/obama-appoints-ambassador-to-cuba-jeffrey-delaurentis/91185468/>



New Director General of NDRF

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the New Director General of NDRF?

- (a) O.P. Singh
- (b) Sudhir Pratap Singh
- (c) R. K. Pachnanda
- (d) P. C Thakur

Ans (c)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 R. K. Pachnanda has been appointed as the New Director General of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- He is an IPS officer of West Bengal cadre 1983.
- Presently he is working as ADG, CISF.
- His appointment is up to the date of his superannuation i.e. up to 31.01.2018 or until further orders whichever is earlier.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151110>

http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/ApptDGCISF_230916.PDF

Appointment of new DG CISF

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the new Director General, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) by appointments Committee of Cabinet?

- (a) Sudhir Pratap Singh
- (b) R. K. Pachnanda
- (c) O.P. Singh
- (d) P.C. Thakur

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 O.P. Singh has been appointed as the new Director General, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) by appointments Committee of Cabinet
- O.P. Singh is an IPS officer of UP 1983 cadre and presently working as DG, NDRF (ADG level).
- He has been appointed till the date of his superannuation i.e. up to 31.01.2020 or until further orders.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151110>

http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/ApptDGCISF_230916.PDF

New President of Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)

Question: Recently who among the following has been appointed as the president of the prestigious Indian Statistical Institute (ISI)?

- (a) Vijay Kelkar (b) C Rangarajan
(c) Raghuram Govind Rajan (d) None of These

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 22 September 2016 Former petroleum secretary Vijay Kelkar has been elected president of the prestigious Indian Statistical Institute (ISI).
- He will replace former RBI governor C Rangarajan.
- He was earlier Advisor to the Minister of Finance (2002–2004), and is known for his role in economic reforms in India.
- Prior to this, he remained Finance Secretary, Government of India 1998–1999, and in 1999 he has been nominated as Executive director of India, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka on the board of the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Reference:

<http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/vijay-kelkar-elected-president-of-indian-statistical-institute/386816/>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/vijay-kelkar-elected-president-of-isi-116092200778_1.html

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/vijay-kelkar-elected-president-of-isi/1/770788.html>



Arun Goyal

Question: Who has been appointed as Additional Secretary in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council?

- (a) Arun Goyal (b) Amit Mitra
(c) Arun Khandelwal (d) None of These

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 24 September 2016 Senior IAS officer Arun Goyal has been appointed as Additional Secretary in the Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council.
- The Council will be headed by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, is mandated to decide on tax rate, exempted goods and the threshold limit.
- The Appointments Committee of Cabinet has approved Goyal's appointment against the newly created post, an order issued by the Department of Personnel and Training.
- Goyal, a 1985 batch IAS officer of Union Territory cadre, is at present working as Additional Secretary, Project Monitoring Group, Cabinet Secretariat.
- The Union Cabinet had recently approved appointment of the Secretary (Revenue) as the ex-officio Secretary to the GST Council and inclusion of the chairperson, Central Board of Excise and Customs, as a permanent invitee.

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/arun-goyal-appointed-addl-secretary-gst-council/1/772286.html>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/arun-goyal-appointed-additional-secretary-gst-council/articleshow/5449555.cms>



Mark Zuckerberg

Question: How much would invested by Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook's chief executive and his wife, Dr. Priscilla Chan over the next decade toward preventing, curing or managing all diseases by the end of the century?

- (a) \$5 billion (b) \$4 billion
(c) \$3 billion (d) \$2 billion

Related facts:

Ans: (c)

- On 21 September 2016 Mark Zuckerberg, Facebook's chief executive and his wife, Dr. Priscilla Chan announced to invest \$3 billion over the next decade toward preventing, curing or managing all diseases by the end of the century.
- It was announced at an event in University of California, San Francisco.
- The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative's structure as a limited liability company gives it freedom to also spend on for-profit companies and political donations.
- Some traditional philanthropies, which have spending restrictions and targets they must meet, disapprove of the L.L.C. structure.
- The Chan Zuckerberg Initiative's science work will be led by Cori Bargmann, a neuroscientist at Rockefeller University in New York. The first project will be the Chan Zuckerberg Biohub, an independent research center in San Francisco that will bring together engineers, computer scientists, biologists, chemists and others.
- Formed in partnership with Stanford, the University of California, Berkeley, and the University of California, San Francisco, it will receive initial funding of \$600 million over 10 years.

Reference:

http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/news/2016/09/21/mark-zuckerberg-priscilla-chan-chan-zuckerberg-initiative/90790572/dge-fight-disease.html?_r=0
<http://www.usnews.com/news/business/articles/2016-09-21/the-zuckerbergs-have-a-new-charitable-goal-end-all-disease>



Navtej Sarna

Question: Recently India's High Commissioner to Britain Navtej Sarna was on Thursday appointed as the next Ambassador to which of the following country?

- (a) Venezuela (b) Israel
(c) United States of America (d) South Africa

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 22 September 2016 Navtej Singh Sarna has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the United State of America.
- Presently he is India's High Commissioner to Britain.
- He is 1980-batch IFS officer.
- He will replace Arun Kumar Singh, who retired in August 2016.

Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/navtej-sarna-appointed-new-indian-ambassador-to-us/articleshow/54464343.cms>



Ravi Reddy

Question: Who has been selected as the first African president of the International Society for Blood Transfusion (ISBT)?

- (a) Ravi Reddy (b) Jitendra Singh
(c) T.R Raina (d) Yudhbir Singh

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- In September 2016 Ravi Reddy has been selected as the first African president of the International Society for Blood Transfusion (ISBT).
- Before this he was the chief operations officer of the South African National Blood Service (SANBS).
- The ISTB is a scientific body for transfusion medicine professionals established in 1935.
- It is a platform for exchanging knowledge and advancing the blood-transfusion practice. Its membership spans more than 100 countries.

Reference:

<http://www.iol.co.za/capetimes/reddy-first-african-head-of-global-blood-service-2065646>



Anandi Ramalingam

Question: Which of the following Public sector enterprise has appointed Anandi Ramalingam, its head of marketing as its first woman director?

- (a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited(HAL)
(b) Bharat Electronics Limited(BEL)
(c) Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited(BHEL)
(d) GAIL India

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 19 September 2016 Navratna Defence PSU Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) got its first woman whole time Director when Ms Anandi Ramalingam assumed charge as Director (Marketing).
- Ramalingam was earlier the general manager heading the Military Communication Strategic Business Unit (SBU) at BEL's Bangalore Complex .
- Bharat Electronics Limited is an Indian state-owned aerospace and defence company with about nine factories, and few regional offices in India.
- It has been accorded Navratna status by the Government of India in 2007.
- BEL is one of nine PSUs under the Ministry of Defence of India.

Reference:

<http://www.uniindia.com/anandi-ramalingam-assumes-charge-as-bel-s-marketing-director/business-economy/news/628637.html>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/anandi-ramalingam-made-bel-s-first-woman-director-116091901048_1.html



Edward Albee

Question: Recently Edward Albee passed away. He was a-

- (a) Scientist (b) Playwright
(c) Journalist (d) Politician

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 16 September 2016 an American playwright Edward Albee passed away. He was 88.
- He is known for works such as The Zoo Story (1958), The Sandbox (1959), who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (1962) and A Delicate Balance (1966).
- Three of his plays won the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, and two of his other works won the Tony Award for Best Play.
- Albee received three Pulitzer Prizes for drama—for A Delicate Balance (1967), Seascape (1975) and Three Tall Women (1994).
- He received a Special Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement (2005).



Reference:

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/17/arts/edward-albee-playwright-of-a-desperate-generation-dies-at-88.html?_r=0

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/16/us/playwright-edward-albee-dead/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edward_Albee

New Chairman of Union Public Service Commission

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Union Public Service Commission?

- (a) Deepak Gupta (b) Alka Sirohi
(c) Vinay Mittal (d) Amar Pratap Singh

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 17 September 2016 President has appointed Alka Sirohi, Member, Union Public Service Commission to perform the duties of the post of Chairman, Union Public Service Commission.
- The appointment will be with effect from the September 21, 2016.
- The post of Chairman. UPSC will fall vacant on 20.09.2016, consequent upon demitting of office by Deepak Gupta on attaining 65 years of age.
- The appointment of Alka Sirohi is till further orders or till completion of her term as Member on January 03, 2017, whichever is earlier.
- In January 2012 she became the member of Union Public Service Commission.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150866>

‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’ mascot

Question: Recently who has been chosen as the ‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’ mascot?

- (a) Deepa Bai (b) Rama Bai
(c) Kunwar Bai (d) Kewala Bai

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 13 September 2016 105-year-old Kunwar Bai has been chosen as the ‘Swachh Bharat Abhiyan’ mascot.
- Kunwar Bai had sold-off her 8-10 goats to build two toilets at her home.
- Subsequently, she started showing other villagers the toilets at her home while informing them about its importance.

Reference:

<http://www.mid-day.com/articles/kunwar-bai-swachh-bharat-abhiyan-narendra-modi-goats-toilet-new-delhi/17612158>

<http://www.abplive.in/india-news/105-year-old-kunwar-bai-made-swachh-bharat-abhiyan-mascot-415257>

Nadia Murad Basee Taha

Question: Who has been appointed as the “United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking.”?

- (a) Malala (b) Nadia Murad Basee Taha
(c) Sabina (d) Rehana

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 16 September 2016 Nadia Murad Basee Taha, who survived trafficking at the hands of ISIL has been appointed as the “United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime Goodwill Ambassador for the Dignity of Survivors of Human Trafficking.”
- Murad advocates for those persecuted by ISIL in Iraq and has been nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize for her work.
- Murad was taken from her home village of Kocho near Iraq’s northern town of Sinjar in August 2014 and brought to IS-controlled Mosul.
- She managed to escape from them and started living in the refugee camp for about one year.

Reference:

<http://time.com/4435297/sinjar-anniversary-yazidi-nadia-murad/>

<http://www.euronews.com/2016/09/18/nadia-murad-yazidi-woman-and-survivor-of-isil-atrocities-becomes-un-ambassador>

V. Shanmuganathan

Question: Recently President of India has directed V. Shanmuganathan, Governor of Meghalaya, to discharge the functions of the Governor of which of the following state?

- (a) Himachal Pradesh (b) Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Haryana (d) Manipur

Ans (b)

Related facts:

- On 12 September 2016 the President has appointed Shri V. Shanmuganathan, Governor of Meghalaya, to discharge the functions of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh.
- He will replace J.P. Rajkhowa, who shall cease to hold the office of the Governor of Arunachal Pradesh of the president.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149731>



Swapan Mukherjee

Question: Recently Swapan Mukherjee passed away. He was a-

- (a) Journalist (b) Historian
(c) Politician (d) Actor

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

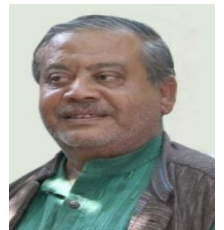
- On 6 September 2016 CPI-ML (Liberation) leader Swapan Mukherjee passed away. He was 66.
- He passed away in Chandigarh due to heart attack.
- He was in charge of CPI-ML (Liberation)'s units in Delhi, Punjab, Chandigarh, Maharashtra and Odisha.

Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/senior-cpiml-leader-swapan-mukherjee-passes-away/>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/senior-cpi-ml-liberation-leader-swapan-mukherjee-cremated/1/759223.html>

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-otherstates/swapan-mukherjee-passes-away/article9082782.ece>



New Air force chief of Sri Lanka

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the as the new Air Force Commander of Sri Lanka?

- (a) Gagan Bulathsinghala (b) Kapila Jayampathi
(c) A.K Jayawardhana (d) None of These

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 12 September 2016 Sri Lanka President Maithripala Sirisena appointed Air Marshal Kapila Jayampathi as the new Air Force Commander.
- He will replace the former Commander Gagana Bulathsinhala who retired at the age of 55.
- He joined Sri Lanka Air Force on March 5, 1982.

Reference:

<http://www.news.lk/news/sri-lanka/item/14455-kapila-jayampathy-new-air-force-commander>
<http://www.sundaytimes.lk/article/1008541/air-vice-marshal-kapila-jayampathy-appointed-new-commander-sri-lanka-air-force>
<http://indianexpress.com/article/world/world-news/sri-lanka-appoints-new-airforce-chief-3027092/>

C.K Asnani

Question: C.K Asnani has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) which of the following Public Sector Undertaking (PSU)?

- (a) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited.
(b) Uranium Corporation of India Limited.
(c) Bharat Electronics Limited.
(d) Bharat Heavy Electrical Limited.

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 1 September 2016 C.K Asnani has taken charge as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of state owned Uranium Corporation of India Limited (UCIL).
- He will succeed D Acharya.
- Prior to this appointment he was serving as the Director (Technical) of Indian Rare Earths Limited, Mumbai.
- Uranium Corporation of India Limited was incorporated on 4th October 1967.
- It is a Public Sector Enterprise under the Department of Atomic Energy with a special standing at the forefront of Nuclear Power cycle.
- Fulfilling the requirement of uranium for the Pressurised Heavy Water Reactors, UCIL plays a very significant role in nuclear power generation of the country.

Reference:

<http://www.ucil.gov.in/pdf/news/CMD%20Asnanai.jpg>
<http://www.ucil.gov.in/about.html>

Bibhuti Lahkar

Question: Recently Bibhuti Lahkar has become the first Asian to be awarded the prestigious Heritage Heroes Award by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN). He is related to which of the following National Park?

- (a) Manas National Park
- (b) Nanda Devi National Park
- (c) Kanha National Park
- (d) Satpura National Park

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- Assam-based ecologist and conservation activist Bibhuti Lahkar has won the prestigious Heritage Heroes Award on 3 September 2016.
- He has become the first Asian to be awarded the prestigious Heritage Heroes Award.
- Bibhuti started working in the site in 1999 as part of his PhD, focusing on the management of grasslands of Manas.
- He singlehandedly motivated about 100 youths to learn the basics of wildlife monitoring and act as tour guides.
- The award was given by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

Reference:

<https://www.iucn.org/news/meet-heritage-hero-voted-public-%E2%80%93-bibhuti-lahkar>
<https://www.iucn.org/theme/world-heritage/our-work/more-projects/bibhuti-lahkar>



Ashok Chawla

Question: Who has been appointed as the new Chancellor of Teri University?

- (a) Basabi Bhaumik
- (b) Ashok Chawla
- (c) Ashok Kumar
- (d) None of These

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 31 August 2016 The Energy and Resources Institute (Teri) appointed former Finance Secretary Ashok Chawla as the new Chancellor of Teri University.
- He will replace former Chancellor and Head R.K. Pachauri, who was accused of sexually harassing a female colleague in 2015.
- Chawla is also the former head of the Competition Commission of India (CCI) and the chairman of the National Stock Exchange and has work experience of over 40 years in various sectors of government and international agencies.
- TERI University was established on 19 August 1998 and recognized by the University Grants Commission (UGC) as a deemed to be university in 1999.

Reference:

<http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/teri-inducts-3-new-members-in-its-governing-council/363181/>
http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/ashok-chawla-is-new-chancellor-at-teri-university-116083100992_1.html



Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth Dhanush

Question: Who has been appointed as UN Women's Advocate for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in India?

- (a) Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth Dhanush
- (b) Aishwaryaa Rai Bachhan
- (c) Priyanka Chopra
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 film director, classical dancer and writer, Aishwaryaa Rajinikanth Dhanush has been appointed as the UN Women's Advocate for Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment in India.
- Aishwaryaa will help raise awareness of UN Women's core messages of gender equality and women's empowerment across India, boosting the organisation's efforts to close the gender gap and achieve a more equal world – a Planet 50-50 – by the year 2030.
- Aishwaryaa's father is acclaimed film actor Rajinikanth.

Reference:

<http://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/news-and-events/stories/2016/08/aishwaryaa-rajinikanth-dhanush-announced-as-un-womens-advocate>

https://twitter.com/UN_Women?ref_src=twsrc%5Etfw

<https://www.facebook.com/unwomenindia/posts/1361423307218993>



Vidya Balan

Question: Recently Bollywood actress Vidya Balan has been named as the brand ambassador of which of the following Project?

- (a) Asra Yojana
- (b) Lohia Awas Yojana
- (c) Hausla Poshan Yojna
- (d) Samajwadi Pension Yojana

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 9 September 2016 Uttar Pradesh government has named Bollywood actress Vidya Balan as brand ambassador of the ambitious Samajwadi Pension Yojana.
- Samajwadi Pension Yojana is one of the pension schemes launched by the Government of Uttar Pradesh to encourage savings among people living below the poverty line and provide them financial assistance.
- It was launched on 28th February, 2014.
- It was launched with an aim to provide Rs 500 per month to poor women and cover at least 50 lakh beneficiaries in the state.
- Woman head of house are the beneficiaries under this scheme.
- The number of beneficiaries under this scheme has been increased to 55 Lakhs from 45 lakhs.

Reference:

<http://english.tahikanews.com/vidya-balan-brand-ambassador-samajwadi-pension-yojana/50843>



Roger Tsien

Question: Roger Tsien, who shared the Nobel Prize in chemistry, has passed away. He won the noble prize in which of the following year?

- (a) 2009 (b) 2011
(c) 2008 (d) 2013

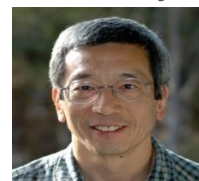
Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 24 August 2016 Roger Tsien an American biochemist passed away.
- He was a professor of chemistry and biochemistry at the University of California, San Diego.
- He was awarded the 2008 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his discovery and development of the green fluorescent protein, in collaboration with organic chemist Osamu Shimomura and neurobiologist Martin Chalfie.
- He was also awarded first prize in the 1968 Westinghouse Science Talent Search for high school seniors.

Reference:

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/2008/tsien-facts.html
<http://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/news/2016/aug/31/roger-tsien-dies/>



Part-time Chairman of UIDAI

Question: Who has been appointed part-time Chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?

- (a) J. Gopalakrishnan (b) J. Satyanarayana
(c) Rajesh Jain (d) Dr. Anand Deshpande

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 8 September 2016 J Satyanarayana has been appointed part-time Chairman of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).
- Rajesh Jain and Dr. Anand Deshpande has been appointed as part-time members of UIDAI.
- Satyanarayana has close to four decades of experience in varied areas of governance and served as the Secretary, Department of Electronics and Information Technology from 2012 to 2014 before superannuation.
- He has been instrumental in training the political leaders & policy makers on the concepts and principles of e-Governance.
- Rajesh Jain, Founder and Managing Director of netCORE Solutions is one of India's most established entrepreneurs in the IT space.
- Dr. Anand Deshpande, Founder, Chairman and Managing Director of Persistent Systems, is a B. Tech. (Hons.) in Computer Science and Engineering from the IIT, Kharagpur, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in Computer Science from Indiana University, Bloomington, Indiana, USA.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149622>



O. P Kohli

Question: Recently O.P Kohli sworn in as the acting governor of which of the following state ?

- (a) Chhattisgarh (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Odisha (d) Rajasthan

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 8 September 2016 Gujarat Governor Om Prakash Kohli was sworn in as the acting governor of Madhya Pradesh.
- Acting Chief Justice of Madhya Pradesh High Court Rajendra Menon administered the oath of office to Kohli at a function in Raj Bhawan.
- He replaced former Governor Ram Naresh Yadav whose tenure ended on 7 September 2016.

Reference:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhopal/Gujarat-governor-OP-Kohli-assumes-office-as-acting-governor-in-Madhya-Pradesh/articleshow/54189276.cms>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/o-p-kohli-sworn-in-as-mp-governor-116090800522_1.html

<http://mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx>



Kashmiri Lal Zakir

Question: Recently Kashmiri Lal Zakir passed way. He was-

- a) Painter b) Architect
c) Poet d) Historian

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 31 August 2016 renowned Urdu poet, novelist, playwright and short-story writer Kashmiri Lal Zakir passed away.
- He was born on 7 April 1919 in Pakistan.
- His career was started with his first ghazal published in Adabi Duniya.
- Zakir is a recipient of the honour of Fakhr-e-Haryana from the Government of Haryana.
- The Government of India awarded him the fourth highest civilian honour of the Padma Shri, in 2006, for his contributions to Indian literature.

Reference:

<http://klzakir.blogspot.in/>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/kashmiri-lal-zakir-urdu-torchbearer-passes-away/>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/poet-kashmiri-lal-zakir-passes-away-116090100027_1.html



Islam Karimov

Question: Recently Islam Karimov passed away. He was the President of which of the following country?

- a) Kyrgyzstan b) Kazakhstan c) Tajikistan d) Uzbekistan

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 2 September 2016 Uzbekistan's President Islam Karimov passed away.
- He was the first President of Uzbekistan, whose term was from 1991 to 2016.
- During his tenure Uzbek government has been repeatedly criticised for human rights abuses, most notoriously in 2005 in the city of Andijan, where government forces are accused of killing hundreds of demonstrators.
- The United Nations describes the use of torture in Uzbekistan as systematic.



Reference:

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/09/uzbekistan-president-islam-karimov-dies-160902085632323.html>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-37260375>

New President of Brazil

Question: Recently who has been sworn in as the Brazil's new president?

- (a) Dilma Rousseff (b) Michelle Thatcher (c) Michel Temer (d) John Temer

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 31 August 2016 Michel Temer was sworn in as the new president of Brazil.
- He took the charge as the 37th President of the Country.
- Dilma Rousseff was removed from the presidency by the Senate in an impeachment trial. The opposition needed 54 of the 81 senators to vote in favor for her to be removed. They got many more, winning in a landslide of sorts, 61-20.
- Temer will serve as president until December 31, 2018. Michel Temer was Brazil's former vice president since 2011 and as President in an acting capacity since 12 May 2016, when Rousseff was suspended from office to face the impeachment trial.
- Dilma Vana Rousseff served as the 36th President of Brazil from 2011 until her impeachment and removal from office on 31 August 2016. She is the first woman to have held that office.

Reference:

<http://www.brazilgovnews.gov.br/news/2016/08/michel-temer-takes-office-as-president-of-brazil>

PLACES

Foundation Stone of the Ludhiana Mega Food Park

Question: Recently Union Minister Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid the Foundation Stone of the Mega Food Park in which of the following state?

- (a) Kapurthala
- (b) Fatehgarh
- (c) Ludhiana
- (d) Gurudaspur

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 26 September 2016 Union Minister Food Processing Industries Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid the Foundation Stone of the Ludhiana Mega Food Park being promoted by Punjab Agro.
- Mega Food Park will be set up with the project cost of Rs. 117.61 crore in an area of 100.20 acres.
- It will give benefit to farmers and processors of Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, Rupnagar, S.B.S. Nagar, Jalandhar, Moga, Sangrur and Barnala district of Punjab.
- In order to give an impetus to the growth of the Food Processing Sector in Punjab, Ministry has approved three Mega Food Park in the State of Punjab.
- Out of these three Mega Food Park First Mega Food Park located at Fazilka has already become operational.
- The foundation stone laying of a second Mega Food Park in the state promoted by M/s Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. (PAIC) was done today by Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries at Ludhiana.
- A 3rd Mega Food Park (M/s Sukhjit Mega Food Park) has been approved by the Ministry in Kapurthala District of Punjab.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151126>

PARAM-ISHAN supercomputer at IIT, Guwahati launched

Question: What is the capacity of the “Param-Ishan” supercomputing facility at IIT, Guwahati?

- (a) 200 TB (b) 250TB
(c) 300TB (d) 400 TB

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 19 September 2016 Union Human Resource Development Minister Shri Praksh Javadekar launched PARAM-ISHAN supercomputing facility at IIT, Guwahati.
- It is fastest and most powerful computer in northeastern, eastern and southern regions.
- The supercomputer was installed in a partnership of the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) and IIT – Guwahati.
- The high-performance “Param-Ishan” has computing speed of 250 tera FLOPS and capacity of 300 tera bites (TB).
- PARAM-ISHAN can be used in the application areas like Computational Chemistry, Computational Fluid Dynamics, Computational Electromagnetic, Civil Engineering Structures, Nana-block Self Assemble, Optimization etc.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150905>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/science/super-computing-facility-param-ishan-launched-at-iit-guwahati/articleshow/54414529.cms>

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/iit-guwahati-gets-param-ishan-supercomputer-fastest-in-neighborhood-1460622>

Charkhi Dadri

Question: Recently a district named Charkhi Dadri announced. It is located in which of the following state?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Bihar
(c) Haryana (d) Madhya Pradesh

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 18 September 2016 Chief Minister of Haryana, Manohar Lal Khattar announced Charkhi Dadri as 22nd district of Haryana.
- At present, Charkhi Dadri is part of Bhiwani, the state's largest district carved out on December 22, 1972.



Reference:

<https://twitter.com/mlkhattar/status/777536439873441792?lang=hi>

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/haryana/charkhi-dadri-is-state-s-22nd-district/297332.html>

Assam

Question: Recently Assam tourism minister Himanta Biswa Sarma unveiled a new logo of Assam Tourism. The logo comprises-

- (a) Elephant, Tea leaf, Brahmaputra River, Sunshine
- (b) One-horned rhinoceros in the backdrop of a sun, tea in the form of two leaves and a bud, the Brahmaputra in blue stripes.
- (c) Leopard, Sun, Elephant, Brahmaputra River
- (d) One-horned rhinoceros, Tea leaf, Brahmaputra, Moon

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 4 September 2016 Assam tourism minister Himanta Biswa Sarma unveiled a new logo of Assam Tourism with the tagline 'Awesome Assam'.
- The logo has a one-horned rhinoceros in the backdrop of a sun, tea in the form of two leaves and a bud, the Brahmaputra in blue stripes and the words "Awesome Assam" in green.
- This is aimed at promoting the state at a globally.
- Rs 15 crore had been allotted to promote tourism in the media.
- For developing Kamakhya's tourist infrastructure alone we have allotted Rs 33 crore.
- Under 'Swadesh Darshan' Scheme, the Govt. Of India has also allocated 120 Crores for 5 National parks of the state.
- Majuli Island (located in the middle of Brahmaputra River) is Assam's famous tourist spot.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/himantabiswa/status/772400536335347712>

<http://www.diprassam.gov.in/pressrelease/Press%20release%20745.pdf>

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1160905/jsp/northeast/story_106372.jsp#.V-SOaf197IV

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/assam-adopts-new-tourism-logo-punchline-3013838/>

<http://news.webindia123.com/news/Articles/India/20160905/2931181.html>

Chhattisgarh Government inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Civil Aviation

Question: Recently Chhattisgarh Government inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Civil Aviation to boost regional air connectivity within the state. Name the district headquarters that will get connected to state capital Raipur through air services in the first phase.

- (a) Jagdalpur, Ambikapur, Raigarh and Bilaspur
- (b) Bilaspur, Raigarh, Balrampur, Sukuma
- (c) Jagdalpur, Ambikapur, Raigarh, Surajpur
- (d) Raigarh, Bilaspur, Ambikapur, Surguja

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 9 September 2016 Chhattisgarh Government inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Civil Aviation to boost regional air connectivity within the state.
- The MoU was signed at the secretariat in the presence of Union Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju and Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh.
- As per the agreement made under the Centre's Regional Connectivity Scheme (RCS), small airports and airstrips will be developed in phased manner in different cities to facilitate intra-state flight services.
- This scheme will cover those cities where flight services have been either discontinued for a long time or could not be started.
- In the first phase, Jagdalpur, Ambikapur, Raigarh and Bilaspur (all district headquarters) will get connected to state capital Raipur through air services .
- Besides, the Centre will provide an opportunity to various aviation companies to start flights on subsidised rates within the state.

Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/airlines/-aviation/chhattisgarh-inks-mou-with-aviation-ministry-to-boost-air-link/articleshow/54257281.cms>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/raipur/Revolution-in-air-Domestic-flight-service-on-the-cards/articleshow/54263576.cms>

Andhra Pradesh becomes second state to achieve 100% electrification

Question: Name the first state to achieve 100% electrification.

- a) Maharashtra b) Gujarat
c) Karnataka d) Madhya Pradesh

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- According to the report published by JM Financials based on a national-level survey on electrification in various states Andhra Pradesh has become the second state in the country after Gujarat to achieve 100 per cent electrification of households.
- Andhra Pradesh has achieved 100 per cent electrification by June-end.
- About 35 per cent rural households in states like Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha and Assam still lacked access to power supply.
- An investment of Rs 20,000 crore has been proposed by the state government over the next five years to strengthen the transmission and distribution systems and extend power supply connection on demand,

Reference:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Andhra-Pradesh-becomes-second-state-to-achieve-100-electrification/articleshow/54310158.cms>



World's first driverless bus service

Question: The World's first driverless bus service was started in which of the following country?

- (a) China (b) France
(c) Germany (d) Japan

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- In September 2016 the world's first driverless bus service began carrying passengers in the city of Lyon, France.
- To ensure safety and avoid accidents the bus comes loaded with LiDAR radar technology and motion sensors.
- The buses are manufactured by French firm Navya.
- It has an average speed of 10 km per hour.
- The bus has capacity to hold up to 15 passengers.

Reference:

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/news/2016/09/03/worlds-first-driverless-bus-service-begins-carrying-passengers-i/>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/driverless-bus-service/1/762324.html>

<http://phys.org/news/2016-09-world-driverless-buses-passengers-france.html>



Country's first women PCR vans launched

Question: Recently the police of which of the following state has launched five all-women Police Control Room (PCR) vans to handle “all kinds of distress calls”?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Rajasthan
(c) Delhi (d) Kerala



Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 9 September 2016; In a first of its kind initiative, Delhi Police launched five all-women Police Control Room (PCR) vans to handle “all kinds of distress calls”.
- One of the women personnel will be the driver of the PCR van; another will carry an MP-5 gun.
- These women personnel have been trained to handle all kinds of distress calls and have undergone basic medical training.
- The initiative has been taken with a view that lady distress callers find it easier to communicate with women police personnel and narrate their grievances without any hesitation.

Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/delhi-police-launches-five-all-women-pcr-vans/articleshow/54257073.cms>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/delhi/in-a-first-delhi-police-launches-5-all-women-pcr-vans-to-boost-safety/story-8cNGCaMZj8TX0H6fKMCxHJ.html>

Hingoli

Question: Recently the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-wave Observatory (LIGO) project that was given the in-principle approval by the Union Cabinet will come up in which of the following district of Maharashtra?

- (a) Hingoli (b) Sangli
(c) Gondia (d) None of the above



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 8 September 2016 according to the press release issued by Department of Science and Technology (DST) Hingoli district has been selected as the preferred site for the Ligo project.
- It would be third such laboratory in the world, first outside the United States.
- The existing laboratories are located in Hanford, Washington, and in Livingston, Louisiana.
- It may be recalled that on 17 February 2016, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi had given in-principle approval to the LIGO-India mega science proposal for research on gravitational waves.
- LIGO-India will bring considerable opportunities for Indian scientists in instrumentation and development.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/first-ligo-lab-outside-us-to-come-up-in-maharashtras-hingoli/article9085796.ece>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/first-ligo-lab-outside-us-to-come-up-in-maharashtra/article9086271.ece>

Connaught Place

Question: American technology giant Microsoft is setting up a cybersecurity centre in which the following place in New Delhi?

- (a) Connaught Place (b) ISBT
(c) South Block (d) India Gate

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- According to the press release published on 31 August 2016 American technology giant Microsoft is setting up a cybersecurity centre in Connaught Place, New Delhi.
- It would be inaugurated in November, 2016.
- Microsoft has seven such centres globally that have partnerships with international law enforcement agencies such as Interpol and Europol to fight cybercrime.

Reference:

<http://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/microsoft-plans-cybersecurity-centre-in-connaught-place/53951658>

<http://communicationstoday.co.in/index.php/4112-connaught-place-to-be-the-cybersecurity-centre-for-the-country>

<http://www.networkedindia.com/2016/09/01/microsoft-opening-cyber-security-centre-connaught-place/>



Majuli named world's largest river island

Question: Recently Majuli has been named as the world's largest river island. It is located in which of the following state?

- (a) Odisha (b) West Bengal
(c) Assam (d) Gujarat

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 1 September 2016 Majuli has been named as the world's largest river island.
- It is located in Assam.
- The island is located in the middle of the Brahmaputra River.
- The river island covers an area of around 880 sq.km.
- In the last 30-40 years it is estimated that it has lost around one third of its area. Majuli is home to around 160,000 people.
- The island of Majuli today houses a total of 243 small and large villages.
- Various ethnic origins all of whom have settled in Majuli are Mishings, Deori, Sonowal Kachari, Koch, Kaivartta and Nath.
- The island is an assembly constituency reserved for scheduled tribes.
- It was recently declared a district and was earlier a sub-division under Jorhat district.
- CM Sarbananda Sonowal was elected from Majuli constituency.
- Majuli is the nerve centre of neo-Vaishnavite culture and has been vying for World Heritage Site status.
- It has been included in the tentative list by UNESCO.
- Majuli has replaced Marajo in Brazil.

Reference:

<http://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/largest-river-island->

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/guwahati/Majuli-named-worlds-largest-river-island/articleshow/53972804.cms>

<http://whc.unesco.org/en/tentativelists/1870/>



Terrorist attack in Yemen

Question: On 29 August 2016 which of the following country was attacked by terrorists of the Islamic State?

- (a) Yemen (b) Israel
(c) Egypt (d) Thailand

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 an Islamic State group militant rammed his explosives-laden car into an army recruiting centre in Aden, Yemen.
- 71 people died in the attack.
- This was the deadliest jihadist attack on the Yemeni city in over a year.
- The army, supported by a Saudi-led coalition, is training young recruits in Aden to join its nationwide war against Shiite Huthi rebels and their allies, as well as Sunni jihadists.
- Aden is the temporary base of Yemen's internationally recognised government, which was forced into exile after Iran-backed insurgents seized Sanaa and other parts of the war-torn country.



Reference:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/afp/article-3763250/Suicide-bombing-kills-60-Yemen-army-camp.html>

<http://www.middleeasteye.net/news/suicide-bombing-kills-11-yemen-army-camp-279643085>

AWARDS & HONORS

J. C. Daniel Award-2015

Question: Who has been as been selected for the J.C Daniel award 2015?

- (a) K G George (b) M. T. Vasudevan Nair
(c) J. Sasikumar (d) Josh Prakash

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 6 September 2016 Film-maker and screen-writer K.G. George has been selected for the J.C. Daniel award for 2015.
- He has been chosen for the award considering his wholesome contribution to Malayalam cinema.
- George is one of the leading lights of the revolutionary changes witnessed by Malayalam cinema in the 1970s.
- The film-maker has also secured nine State film awards. Some of his acclaimed works include Yavanika, Aadaminte Variyellu, Panchavadi Palam, Irakal and Mattoral.
- The award, conferred by the State government annually in memory of J.C. Daniel who introduced cinema to Malayalis, carries a cash prize of Rs.1 lakh and a citation.



Reference:

<http://english.manoramaonline.com/news/just-in/jc-daniel-award-for-k-g-george.html>

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-kerala/jc-daniel-award-for-k-g-george/article9078902.ece>

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-kerala/jc-daniel-award-for-k-g-george/article9078902.ece>

Entertainer of the Year award by CNBC

Question: For which of the following movie Irrfan Khan won the best actor at National Awards?

- (a) Paan Singh Tomar (b) Haasil
(c) A Mighty Heart (d) Piku

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 30 August 2016 Actor Irrfan Khan was honoured with the Entertainer of the Year award by CNBC.
- He was felicitated by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.
- The actor has been praised for his performance in movies like "Piku", "Jurassic World" and "Talvar" which released last year.
- He won the best actor award at National Awards in 2012 for his movie Paan Singh Tomar.



Reference:

http://zeenews.india.com/entertainment/celebrity/irrfan-khan-honoured-with-entertainer-of-the-year-award_1924033.html

<http://www.abplive.in/movies/irrfan-honoured-with-entertainer-of-the-year-award-408188>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/irrfan-honoured-with-entertainer-of-the-year-award-116083001071_1.html

OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

“Swachhta Saptah” campaign

Question: On 17 September 2016 Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu launched Swachhta Saptah under the Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat Mission coincidentally marked the birthday of which of the following politician?

- (a) Pranab Mukherjee (b) Narendra Modi
(c) Arun Jaitley (d) L.K Advani

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 17 September 2016 Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu launched Swachhta Saptah under the Swachh Rail Swachh Bharat Mission to mark the birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- It was launched to spread wider awareness on sanitation and cleanliness in rail premises and make hygiene a habit amongst the travelling public.
- The Indian Railways is organizing a special nine-day long public outreach programme scheduled from 17th September to 25th September 2016.
- The programme for each day is as follows:
 - September 17th-Clean environment
 - September 18th-Clean station
 - September 19th-Clean train
 - September 20th-Clean Neer
 - September 21-Hygienic premises
 - September 22-Clean cooperation
 - September 23-Clean Interface
 - September 24th-Clean dedication
 - September 25-Clean Diet



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150864>

<https://twitter.com/sureshprabhu/status/778088341845794816?lang=hi>

Coastal cleanup drive

Question: Who has launched the Coastal cleanup drive in Puducherry as part of the '31st International Coastal Clean Up Day'?

- (a) Pranab Mukherjee (b) Narendra Modi
(c) Kiran Bedi (d) None of These

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 17 September 2016 Kiran Bedi has launched the Coastal cleanup drive in Puducherry as part of the '31st International Coastal Clean Up Day'.
- Bedi and Local Administration Minister A Namassivayam administered a pledge for garbage free beaches to volunteers of NSS, NCC, NGOs, members of Indian Coast Guard and others.
- The programme was organised by the Indian Coast Guard in association with the Local Administration Department.



Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/bedi-launches-coastal-clean-up-drive/1/766478.html>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/kiran-bedi-launches-coastal-clean-up-drive-3035835/>

'Selfie with my Shauchalya' campaign

Question: 'Selfie with my Shauchalya' campaign was launched in which of the following city?

- (a) Pondicherry (b) New Delhi
(c) Ahmedabad (d) Ludhiana

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- For making the Swachh Bharat Mission successful in the real terms, providing toilets to every household and for encouraging people to use clean toilets the Ludhiana district administration has started "Selfie with my Shauchalya" campaign.
- Under this initiative, the beneficiaries of toilets provided by Punjab government and Bharti Foundation have been urged to click a selfie with their toilet.
- The winner of best selfie would be specially honoured by the District Administration on October 2, 2016.
- To accomplish this goal, the Punjab government and the Bharti Foundation has aim to construct total of 26,107 toilets by October 31, 2016.
- Out of which around 20,000 have already been constructed.



Reference:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/ludhiana/Ludhiana-administration-starts-Selfie-with-my-Shauchalya-campaign/articleshow/54382979.cms>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/punjab/selfie-with-my-shauchalya-campaign-to-boost-toilet-use-under-swachh-bharat-in-ludhiana/story-0VbiedMTPgKdlrmVx7ISQI.html>

Yudh Abhyas

Question: Recently the joint military training exercise of Indian and US Armies was held at which of the following place?

- (a) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (b) Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
(c) Chaubattia, Uttarakhand (d) Kandla, Gujarat

Ans. (c)



Related facts:

- Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2016, a joint military training exercise of Indian and US Armies, commenced on 14-27 September 2016 at Chaubattia, Uttarakhand.
- This will be the eleventh exercise in the Yudh Abhyas series, which started in 2004 under US Army Pacific partnership program.
- The US contingent is represented by a Company of 5th Infantry Battalion, 20 Infantry Regiment, 2 Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 7 Infantry Division, US Army while the Indian side was represented by an Infantry Battalion.
- The exercise will be participated by about 225 personnel of the US Army and similar strength of Congo Brigade of the Indian Army.
- The two-week long joint drill will help the tactical and technical skills in countering insurgency and terrorism in a UN peacekeeping scenario involving combined deployment at the brigade level.
- The India-US Combined Military Training Exercise Yudh Abhyas 2015, was held from 09 to 23 Sep 2015 at Joint Base Lewis McChord, USA.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149799>

Leprosy Case Detection Campaign

Question: When did the Health Ministry launched the biggest Leprosy Case Detection Campaign in the country?

- (a) 3 September 2016 (b) 4 September 2016
(c) 5 September 2016 (d) 6 September 2016

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 5 September 2016 Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has launched the biggest Leprosy Case Detection Campaign (LCDC) in the country.
- It was launched across 149 districts of 19 states/UTs.
- This fortnight-long campaign will cover 1656 blocks/urban areas of these districts and screen a total of 32 crore people for leprosy.
- For this purpose, 297604 teams comprising of one lady ASHA worker and one male volunteer each would visit every house in their allotted area and screen all the family members for leprosy.
- The states and UTs covered in this campaign are Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, West Bengal, Chandigarh, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Delhi and Lakshadweep.
- The districts having a prevalence rate of more than one case per 10,000 population in any of the last three years have been included in this campaign.
- The Leprosy Case Detection Campaign is a unique initiative of its kind in the world where each and every member of the targeted population will be examined.
- The objective of the campaign is the early detection of leprosy in affected persons so that they can be saved from physical disability and deformity by providing them timely treatment and thus also halting the transmission of disease at the community level.
- The first LCDC was launched during March-April 2016 in 50 districts of 7 states namely Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha and Uttar Pradesh wherein a population of about 6.8 crores was covered.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149557/>

Gas4India campaign

Question: Recently Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has launched Gas4India campaign for which of the following purpose?

- (a) For the production of natural gas
- (b) To promote the use of natural gas
- (c) For the use of new technology to produce natural gas
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 6 September 2016 Union Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum and Natural Gas Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched #Gas4India campaign.
- It aimed at promoting the use of gas in the country.
- #Gas4India is a unified cross-country, multimedia, multi-event campaign to communicate the national, social, economic and ecological benefits of using natural gas as the fuel of choice to every citizen who uses, or will use in the near future, gas in any way- cook, travel, light their homes, and power their business.
- The campaign includes social engagement via Twitter, Facebook, YouTube, LinkedIn, and its official blogsite, as well as hyper local, offline events to directly connect with consumers through discussions, workshops and cultural events.
- Dharmendra Pradhan launched the website, Twitter handle, facebook page and Theme song of the campaign.
- The country is moving towards the gas-based economy, and it is working to increase the share of gas in the country's energy basket from the present 6.5%
- Complimenting the efforts of all the stakeholders in joining hands for promoting the use of natural gas, he said the Government has taken initiatives and policy reforms throughout the Gas chain.
- GAIL has already finished the tendering process for gas grid and actual process of laying pipelines will begin soon.
- Government is going to take steps to harness synthetic gas from Coal Bed Methane, and also promoting Bio-CNG and Bio-PNG. 3 New LNG terminals are also coming up.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149580>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/oil-gas/dharmendra-pradhan-launches-gas4india-campaign-to-boost-natural-gas-use/articleshow/54035550.cms>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/india-to-increase-share-of-gas-in-energy-mix-to-15-per-cent-union-petroleum-minister-dharmendra-pradhan-3017136/>

https://www.facebook.com/Gas4India/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf

PRABAL DOSTYK-16

Question: Recently the joint exercise 'PRABAL DOSTYK – 16 was held between which of the following two countries?

- (a) India-Kazakhstan
- (b) India-Uzbekistan
- (c) India-Tajikistan
- (d) India-Turkmenistan

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 3 September, 2016 a joint exercise 'PRABAL DOSTYK – 16 was held between Indo-Kazakhstan.
- The exercise is being conducted in Karaganda region of Kazakhstan and will conclude on 17 Sep 2016.
- The primary aim of the fourteen day exercise will be to enhance interoperability while undertaking Counter Terrorism & Counter Insurgency Operations in rural & semi-urban environment under the umbrella of United Nations.
- The exercise will be conducted in two stages; first stage will be to familiarize with each other's tactics, drills, weapons & equipment,
- Whereas in the second stage troops of both the armies will graduate to jointly execute a helicopter borne operation in a simulated environment.
- 'Prabal Dostyk' meaning 'Robust Friendship' will be a significant step towards fostering military as well as diplomatic ties between both countries.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149599>



Shramdaan Movement launched in Puducherry

Question: Recently Lt Governor Kiran Bedi launched the 'Shramdaan movement' as part of the Swachh Bharat and Swachh Puducherry initiatives at which of the following village?

- (a) Seliamedu
- (b) Pudukuppm
- (c) Thirukkanur
- (d) None of these

Ans (a)

Related facts:

- On 3 September 2016 Lt Governor Kiran Bedi launched 'Shramdaan movement' as part of Swachh Bharat and Swachh Puducherry initiative at Seliamedu village in Bahoor, Puducherry.
- On this occasion Kiran Bedi said that Shramdaan is a habit and a movement, and every one irrespective of status should be involved in the drive against garbage.
- More than 50,000 students from Pondicherry University and its affiliated colleges would join the shramdaan movement.
- The aim of this movement is to create a disease-free environment.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/puducherry/kiran-bedi-launches-shramdaan-movement-in-puducherry-village/article9069809.ece>

<https://twitter.com/hashtag/kiranbedi>

<http://swachhindia.ndtv.com/kiran-bedi-launches-shramdaan-movement-in-puducherry-for-swachhta-2438/>



Annual joint disaster relief exercise 'Prakampana'

Question: Recently the maiden Joint Disaster Management Exercise named Prakampana ('Cyclone' in Sanskrit) has been inaugurated at-

- (a) Kochi
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Visakhapatnam
- (d) Mumbai

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- The three (30-01 September 2016) day long Joint Disaster Management Exercise named Prakampana ('Cyclone' in Sanskrit) has been inaugurated at Visakhapatnam on 30th August 2016.
- The exercise was aimed at synchronising resources and efforts of all agencies involved in disaster management.
- It was conducted by the Eastern Naval Command in liaison with concerned Centre and State authorities.
- The inaugural session had presentations by all concerned agencies were aimed at highlighting their existing capabilities in dealing with such natural disasters.
- It was followed by a Table Top Exercise (TTX) at Maritime Warfare Centre, inside Naval Dockyard on a simulated scenario of a super cyclone hitting an urban city akin Hudhud.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149359>

[http://www.indiastrategic.in/Maiden Annual Joint Disaster Relief Exercise Prakampana Inaugurated.htm](http://www.indiastrategic.in/Maiden%20Annual%20Joint%20Disaster%20Relief%20Exercise%20Prakampana%20Inaugurated.htm)

Commission & Committee

CEA submitted the report titled ‘Incentivising Pulses Production Through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Related Policies’

Question: Who among the following is the Chief Economic Advisor of India?

- (a) Arvind Panagariya
- (b) Arvind Subramanian
- (c) H.R Khan
- (d) Shakti Kant Das

Ans. (a)

Related facts:



- On 16 September 2016 the Chief Economic Advisor-led panel submitted the report titled ‘Incentivizing Pulses Production Through Minimum Support Price (MSP) and Related Policies’ to Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.
- The panel was set up in the wake of a recent surge in retail prices of pulses.
- The committee suggested that the government procurement machinery should be in “high gear” to ensure procurement of kharif pulses at this season’s already-announced minimum support price (MSP).
- Some other key recommendations are:
- Efforts to be made to give production subsidies to farmers for growing pulses in irrigated areas of about Rs 10-15 per kg to be given via DBT.
- Supply of pulses to increase 8%.
- The purchase and sale of pulses to be reviewed weekly.
- Production of pulses should be increased from 3 percent to 8 percent.
- It suggested elimination of export ban on pulses and stock limits, and more generally, the use of trade policy to control domestic prices, which induces policy volatility, should be avoided.
- Build up 2 million tons of pulses stock with targets for individual pulses, especially tur (3.5 lakh tonnes) and urad (2 lakh tonnes).

Reference:

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

http://finmin.nic.in/reports/Pulses_report_16th_sep_2016.pdf

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/announce-higher-msp-for-pulses-speed-up-procurement-cea-panel-116091600697_1.html

Madhukar Gupta Committee

Question: Recently the Ministry of Home Affairs had constituted a Committee under the Chairmanship of Madhukar Gupta. The committee is related to-

- (a) Identification of Bangladeshi nationals in India
- (b) e-visas
- (c) Strengthening of border protection on Indo-Pakistan Border.
- (d) Strengthening of border protection on Indo-Bangladesh Border.

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 the Committee constituted under the Chairmanship of Madhukar Gupta, Retd. Home Secretary presented its report to the Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh.
- It may be recalled that the Ministry of Home Affairs had constituted committee in April, 2016 for strengthening border protection and addressing the issue of gaps and vulnerability in border fencing along Indo-Pakistan Border.
- The Committee has made a detailed study through discussions on threat perception, field visits and detailed discussion with stakeholders.
- The Committee has made a detailed recommendations pertaining to strengthening of border protection on Indo-Pakistan Border.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149312>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/madhukar-gupta-committee-submits-its-report-to-rainath-singh-on-india-pakistan-border/1/751678.html>

Indian Navy has set-up a high level committee to find out the extent of Scorpene submarine data leak and the damage to the Navy

Question: Indian Navy has set-up a high level committee to find out the extent of Scorpene submarine data leak and the damage to the Navy. The committee will be headed by-

- (a) Admiral Ashok Kumar
- (b) Admiral Deepak Kumar
- (c) Admiral Sunil Kumar
- (d) Admiral Sanjay Pathak

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 Indian Navy has set-up a high level committee to find out the extent of Scorpene submarine data leak and the damage to the Navy.
- The committee will be headed by Admiral Ashok Kumar
- It may be recalled that newspaper named "The Australian" uploaded data pertaining to India's Scorpene submarines.
- The data leak revealed the detailed information about the combat capability and operating instructions of underwater warfare system of the six Scorpene submarines being built by DCNS in India.
- Newspaper has over the last week released several pages of classified information from among the 22,400 pages it obtained, in redacted form, detailing the stealth and combat capabilities of the Scorpene under construction for the Indian Navy.
- India signed a 3.5 billion U.S. dollars deal with French manufacturer DCNS for six Scorpene submarines in 2005 to be built in Mumbai with an Indian government-owned shipbuilder.



Reference:

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/32351>

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-08/30/c_135645092.htm

<http://www.newsroompost.com/306438/scorpene-data-leak-serious-waiting-for-probe-report-navy-chief/>

PLANNING & PROJECT

Mega Call Centre

Question: Recently Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav inaugurated Mega Call Centre in which of the following city?

- (a) Kannauj
- (b) Allahabad
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Agra

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav inaugurated the mega call centre at Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
- The responsibility of running the call centre has been handed to Karvy Data Management Services and there are 325 employees working and the number is likely to go up to 500 so that in a short span, maximum and direct feedback from people can be taken.
- The call centre would be used to take feedback from beneficiaries of 20 schemes run by 13 state government departments.
- The call centre would further ring in transparency in the schemes run by the government.

Reference:

<http://www.upnews360.in/E/35003700380035003800/Chief-Minister-inaugurates-Mega-Call-Centre>

Development of Gas Infrastructure in Eastern part of the country

Question: Which of the following project will connect Eastern part of the country with National Gas Grid?

- (a) JHBDPL Gas Pipeline project. (b) JSPL gas grid project.
(c) Nunmati-Siliguri pipeline project.(d) Salaya-Mathura Pipeline project

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 21 September 2016 Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved viability gap funding / partial capital grant at 40 percent (Rs. 5,176 crore) of the estimated capital cost of Rs. 12,940 crore to GAIL for development of 2539 km long Jagdishpur-Haldia and Bokaro-Dhamra Gas Pipeline (JHBDPL) project.
- Government of India has taken this historic decision to provide Capital Support for developing this gas pipeline. JHBDPL project will connect Eastern part of the country with National Gas Grid.
- It will ensure the availability of clean and eco-friendly fuel i.e. Natural Gas to the industrial, commercial, domestic and transport sectors in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.
- This Capital Grant will encourage the supply of eco-friendly fuel at affordable tariffs to industries and will encourage industrial development in these states.
- Further, the CCEA has approved the simultaneous development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks in cities namely Varanasi, Patna, Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Cuttack etc. en-route of JHBDPL project.
- These distribution networks will be developed by GAIL in collaboration with the concerned State Governments.
- It will bring clean cooking fuel at the door step of Domestic households as well as provide clean fuel to transport sector in the eastern region.
- About 1.25 crore population living in these cities will be directly benefitted by the establishment of these CGD networks.
- All these projects will generate direct as well as indirect employment for about 21,000 people and will boost socio-economic development in the eastern part of the country.
- Cabinet earlier had approved the revival of three Fertiliser Units (FCIL- Gorakhpur, HFCL- Barauni and FCIL-Sindri) along the route of this pipeline project.
- On revival, these units will be the anchor gas customers for JHBDPL project and gas to these plants will be supplied under the Gas Pooling Scheme for urea sector at pooled price.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150960>

<http://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/cabinet-approves-capital-grant-to-gail-for-development-of-gas-infrastructure-in-eastern-india/54443291>

Development of islands to attract tourist

Question: How many Islands are initially proposed for holistic development?

- (a) 20 (b) 22
(c) 25 (d) 26

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- According to an official release on 20 September 2016 from Prime Minister's Office, PM was given a presentation on the vision for holistic development.
- India has a total of 1,382 offshore islands, out of which officials have initially proposed 26, which could be considered for holistic development.
- These 26 islands are located along different parts of India's coastline, including some in the Andamans and Lakshadweep.
- Developmental activities shall be centred around basic infrastructure, tourism, agriculture (including organic agriculture and fisheries), and carbon-neutral energy generation.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150962>

<http://www.ptinews.com/news/7894178-PM-directs-speedy-development-of-islands-26-identified->

Mission Parivar Vikas

Question: Health Ministry will launch “Mission Parivar Vikas” in 145 High Focus districts for improved family planning services. Which of the following state is not included in the mission?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Odisha
(c) Bihar (d) Assam

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 23 September 2016 Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has decided to launch “Mission Parivar Vikas” in 145 high focus districts having the highest total fertility rates in the country.
- These 145 districts are in the seven high focus, high TFR states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Assam that constitute 44% of the country's population.
- The main objective of ‘Mission Parivas Vikas’ will be to accelerate access to high quality family planning choices based on information, reliable services and supplies within a rights-based framework.
- These 145 districts have been identified based on total fertility rate and service delivery (PPIUCD and Sterilization performance) for immediate, special and accelerated efforts to reach the replacement level fertility goals of 2.1 by 2025.
- Recent data suggests that these 145 districts have TFR of more than/equal to 3.0 (56% of the 261 districts in the 7 HFS) and are home to 28% of India's population (about 33 Crores).
- However, only 22% of India's protected couples and 40% of India's couples with unmet need reside in these districts.
- The Mission will be implemented in all the 145 districts at one go.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151049>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/quwahati/Centre-to-launch-new-family-planning-drive-in-state-soon/articleshow/54507239.cms>

Inauguration of Stage 1A of Chennai Metro Phase-1

Question: Recently how much amount has been released by centre for Chennai Metro Phase-1 project?

- (a) Rs 5,000 crore (b) Rs 7,000 crore
(c) Rs 8,000 crore (d) Rs 10,000 crore

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 21 September 2016 Union Minister of Urban Development Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the Stage 1A of Chennai Metro Phase-1, from Little Mount to Airport in Chennai.
- The Stage 1A of Phase I project from Little Mount to Airport runs a total length of 8.613 kms and comprises of 6 stations namely Little Mount, Guindy, Alandur, Nanganallur Road Station, Meenambakkam and Airport Metro Station.
- Chennai will now have around 19 kilometers of metro operational, out of the total 45 kilometers of Chennai Metro Rail Project Phase 1.
- Government of India have so far released about Rs. 10,000 Cr. for the Chennai Metro Phase-1 project.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150999>



Provision of Yatri Mitra Sewa by Railways

Question: Recently Ministry of Railways has decided to introduce Yatri Mitras Sewa for enabling passengers to book-

- (a) Catering services (b) Health services
(c) Wheelchair services cum porter services (d) Tickets

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 19 September 2016 Ministry of Railways has decided to introduce Yatri Mitras Sewa for enabling passengers to book wheelchair services cum porter services.
- Yatri Mitra shall provide Wheel chair cum porter services to differently abled, ailing and old persons.
- The responsibility of providing Yatri Mitra Sewa has been entrusted with IRCTC. IRCTC may provide this service 'Free of cost' through some NGO, charitable trust, PSUs etc under CSR.
- IRCTC may also arrange these services through existing Battery Operated Car (BOC) Operator, wherever, an agency is providing the service.
- However, if this service can't be provided 'Free of Cost' due to lack of response from NGOs, Charitable trust, PSUs etc, IRCTC may arrange this service on payment basis through a service provider or on its own.
- The Yatri Mitra service can be booked on IRCTC e-ticketing website and 139 (IVRS and SMS) or through a mobile.
- The IRCTC/service provider on receipt of SMS will ensure that the Yatri Mitra is arranged/positioned at the platform near the coach of the arriving passenger.
- The mobile number of the Yatri Mitra shall also be sent to the passenger through SMS in advance.
- On arrival of the train, the Yatri Mitra shall approach the passenger near his coach, greet him, show his mobile message which will be similar as sent to the passenger himself.
- IRCTC shall provide adequate number of wheelchairs at the station as per the requirement to be decided in consultation with SrDCM/DCM of concerned division. Preference should be given to battery operated wheelchairs.
- The Yatri Mitra appointed by service provider shall be issued an ID card and permit to provide these services at the station by SrDCM/DCM of the concerned Division.
- The service will be available at major stations.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150899>



Federal Bank has launched its second Federal Skill Academy

Question: Recently Federal Bank has launched its second Federal Skill Academy at which of the following place?

- (a) Ernakulam (b) Tirupati
(c) Coimbatore (d) Rameswaram

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 16 September 2016 Federal Bank has launched its second Federal Skill Academy at Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.
- The academy has been launched as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility initiatives.
- The first Academy was inaugurated in 2015 at Ernakulam, Kerala.
- The Academy at Coimbatore will be initially providing an in-demand CNC Machine Operator Certificate Course in Milling & Turning which will be certified by COINDIA.
- The initiative will facilitate underprivileged students to successfully complete the courses which will make them employable for opportunities both in India as well as abroad.
- Candidates aged between 18 and 25 years and have passed plus two, ITI, diploma, degree or engineering course dropouts can take part.
- Their annual family income should not exceed Rs. 2 lakh. Candidates will be selected based on a test and interview.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Coimbatore/federal-bank-opens-skill-academy/article9117183.ece>

<http://simpli-city.in/news-detail.php?nid=4638>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/federal-bank-launches-second-federal-skill-academy-at-coimbatore/articleshow/54428646.cms>

Talent identification portal launched

Question: Which of the following ministry has launched a Talent Search Portal under the Department of Sports?

- (a) Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs
- (b) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (c) Ministry for Development of North Eastern Region
- (d) Ministry of Home Affairs

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 15 September 2016 Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Youth Affairs & Sports, Vijay Goel has decided to start a Talent Search Portal under the Department of Sports.
- The portal is intended to give a fair opportunity to talented children from every nook and corner of the country to pursue their dreams of achieving excellence in sports.
- Details of the performance and potential of a child including video and photographs could be uploaded on the portal by children, their parents, relatives, teachers and others on the portal.
- After due scrutiny, children with potential will be given an opportunity to appear for a battery of tests which could be conducted at the nearest SAI Centre among others.
- Those who pass the battery of tests will be admitted to the training centers of SAI. Sports Ministry will also persuade the State Governments and others to admit some of such children in their centers.
- The plan is to target talented children of 8 years and above. Efforts will be made to involve National Sports Federations, corporate houses and other stake-holders in the programme.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149801>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/good-governance/centre/Sports-ministry-to-launch-talent-identification-portal/articleshow/54348145.cms?>



Scooty for College Girls Scheme

Question: Which of the following state has launched the “Scooty for College Girls Scheme”?

- (a) Rajasthan
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 9 September 2016 Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Mehbooba Mufti launched the “Scooty for College Girls Scheme”.
- The idea is to make College Girls independent in (terms of) mobility.
- Under this scheme, 312 applications were received from Women’s College Gandhi Nagar but only 150 were selected.
- Eligibility for a Scooty was based on minimum percentage and the annual family income of 65 per cent and Rs.4 lakh respectively.
- College going girl students will be given a 50 per cent subsidy on purchase of a Scooty.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/jkpdp/status/774294273743327234>

<https://kashmirobsrver.net/2016/local-news/cm-launches-scooty-girls-scheme-10131>

<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-watch-mehbooba-mufti-launches-scooty-for-college-girls-scheme-in-jammu-2253519>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/mehbooba-mufti-launches-scooty-for-college-girls-scheme-in-jammu-116090900557_1.html



‘e-nivaran’ facility launched

Question: Which of the following institution has launched the ambitious ‘e-nivaran’ facility for online redressal of taxpayers’ grievances related to refunds, ITRs and PAN among others as part of its initiative to reduce instances of harassment of the public when it comes to complaints related to the I-T department?

- (a) Central Board of Direct Taxes(CBDT)
- (b) SEBI
- (c) Revenue Department
- (d) Ministry of Finance

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 8 September 2016 CBDT has launched the ambitious ‘e-nivaran’ facility for online redressal of taxpayers’ grievances related to refunds, ITRs and PAN among others as part of its initiative to reduce instances of harassment of the public when it comes to complaints related to the I-T department.
- The ‘e-nivaran’ (electronic resolution) link has recently been activated on the e-filing portal of the department – <https://incometaxindiaefiling.gov.in>.
- With the help of this taxpayers can register their complaints through their personal computer systems and receive a special PIN number on their registered mobile and email, as their unique number to keep track of the issue.
- ‘e-nivaran’ will work on the lines of the internet-based Income Tax Returns (ITRs) filing system and taxpayers can register all complaints related to delay in refunds, filing of e-returns, Tax Deducted at Source (TDS), PAN issues, and those pertaining to their Assessing Officer (AO).
- The ‘e-nivaran’ form is also expected to be provided at the Aaykar Sampark Kendras (ASK) (tax facilitation centre), located in over 300 cities, in a physical form which will later fed into the system by tax officials.
- Once the grievance is registered, the system will also issue an acknowledgment number which can be quoted by the taxpayer for all his future communications with the taxman and also to track the progress of the complaint.
- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is a part of Department of Revenue in the Ministry of Finance.
- It is a statutory authority functioning under the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1963.
- The Central Board of Revenue as the Department apex body charged with the administration of taxes came into existence as a result of the Central Board of Revenue Act, 1924.
- Initially the Board was in charge of both direct and indirect taxes.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/policy/govt-launches-enivaran-to-resolve-it-grievances/article9086087.ece>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/wealth/tax/cbd-t-launches-e-nivaran-facility-to-resolve-income-tax-grievances/articleshow/54187291.cms>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/business/banking-and-finance/cbd-t-launches-online-nivaran-to-resolve-i-t-grievances-3020676/>

Third Phase of Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP) approved

Question: Recently the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for initiation of the Third Phase of Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP). The programme was launched in which of the following year?

- (a) 2003 (b) 2002
(c) 2001 (d) 1998

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 12 September 2016 the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for initiation of the Third Phase of Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme (TEQIP).
- The Project will be implemented as a 'Central Sector Scheme' with total project outlay of Rs. 3600 crore.
- The project would be initiated with a cost of Rs. 2660 crore.
- The additional financing of Rs. 940 crore would be provided at later stage.
- Out of the Rs.2660 crore, the Central share will be Rs.1330 crore and external assistance from the World Bank through International Development Association (IDA) Credit of Rs. 1330 crore (\$ 201.50 million as first tranche).
- The project will be implemented with the facility of Direct Funds Transfer to the accounts of beneficiary institutes.
- The project will be initiated in the current year and will be co-terminus with Fourteenth Finance Commission (FFC) i.e. 2019-20.
- An estimated 200 Government / Government aided engineering institutes and Affiliating Technical Universities (ATUs) including the Centrally Funded Technical Institutions (CFTIs) will be selected.
- The Focus States are 7 Low Income States (Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh), 3 Hill States (Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir and Uttarakhand), 8 North-Eastern States (Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Sikkim and Tripura) and Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- The Ministry of Human Resource Development launched in December, 2002 the "Technical Education Quality Improvement Programme of Government of India (TEQIP)".
- The Programme was conceived and designed as a long term project to be implemented in 10-12 years in 3 phases to support excellence and transformation in Technical Education in the country.
- The first phase of TEQIP commenced in 2003 and ended on March 31st, 2009. TEQIP-II is scheduled to conclude in October, 2016.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149697>

<http://mhrd.gov.in/technical-education-12>

Introduction of Flexi Fare system for Rajdhani/Duronto and Shatabdi trains

Question: Recently Ministry of Railways have decided to introduce the flexi fare system for Rajdhani/Duronto and Shatabdi trains. The changes in fares as above shall come into force w.e.f-

- (a) 7 September 2016 (b) 8 September 2016
(c) 9 September 2016 (d) 10 September 2016

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 7 September 2016 Ministry of Railways have decided to introduce the flexi fare system for Rajdhani/Duronto and Shatabdi trains.
- The base fares will increase by 10 per cent with every 10 per cent of berths sold subject to a prescribed ceiling limit.
- The changes in fares as above shall come into force w.e.f 09.09.2016.
- There will be no change in the existing fare for 1AC and EC class of travel.
- Other supplementary charges like reservation charges, Superfast charge, Catering charges, Service tax etc., as applicable shall be levied separately.
- Vacant berths left at the time of charting would be offered for current booking
- . Tickets under current booking shall be sold at the last price sold for that class and other supplementary charges like reservation fee, superfast charges, catering charges, service tax etc., as applicable shall be levied in full.
- The information should also be displayed to the passenger during the booking in case the fare of lower class becomes higher than the higher class to exercise option to travel by the higher class.
- The last price for every class of tickets for the particular train should be printed in the reservation chart for the purpose of charging of difference of fare in the train or charging the passengers of the train without ticket etc.
- The present limit of berths set aside for Tatkal quota in these trains shall be operated as per the existing guidelines.
- However, no additional charges as "Tatkal charges" will be levied.
- The berths assigned under the Tatkal quota shall be booked at the rate of 1.5 times of the base fare for all classes (2S, SL, 2A, 3A and CC) except 1AC and EC.
- Other supplementary charges like reservation fee, superfast charges, catering charges, service tax etc., as applicable shall be levied in full.
- Normal concession as applicable for respective concessional ticket will be admissible on the base fare of the ticket at each stage as per the table above.
- There will be no change in the existing refund rules.
- There shall be no change in charges for reservation fee, superfast surcharge etc.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149606>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/railways/railways-introduces-surge-pricing-for-rajdhani-duronto-and-shatabdi-trains/articleshow/54061383.cms>

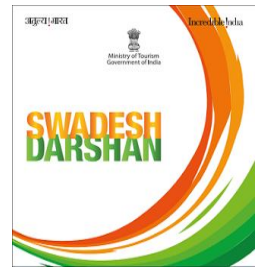
Under Swadesh Darshan Scheme various project launched

Question: Recently the Swadesh Darshan Scheme in Ministry of Tourism has approved projects of Rs. 450 Crore for development of Heritage circuit in which of the following states?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan and Karnataka
- (b) Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Karnataka and Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Sikkim and Tamil Nadu
- (d) Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Assam and Bihar

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 7 September 2016 Swadesh Darshan Scheme in Ministry of Tourism has approved projects to the tune of Rs. 450 Crore for development of Heritage circuit in Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand, Ramayana Circuit in Uttar Pradesh, North East Circuit in Sikkim and Coastal Circuit of Tamil Nadu.
- The Heritage Circuit in state of Madhya Pradesh, covers Gwalior- Orchha- Khajuraho- Chanderi- Bhimbetka- Mandu with total project cost of approximately Rs. 100.00 Crore.
- The project envisages world class infrastructural development of the sites which includes developing a Theme Park and Convention centre in Khajuraho, Sound and Light Show in Mandu. Site Illumination, Construction of Tourist Facilitation Centres and parking area are other intervention proposed in the circuit.
- Coastal circuit in State of Tamil Nadu envisages development Chennai- Mamamallapuram- Rameshwaram- Manpadu- Kanyakumari with total project cost of approximately Rs. 100 Crore has been approved.
- Ramayana Circuit in State of Uttar Pradesh envisages development of two destinations viz. Chitrakoot and Shringverpur.
- The Project cost for this circuit is approximately Rs. 70 Crore for development of Parikrama marg, food Plaza, Laser Show, Foot Over Bridge connecting MP and UP part of Chitrakoot.
- Ramayana Circuit in Uttar Pradesh also includes Ayodhya for which the State Tourism Department of Uttar Pradesh is preparing Detailed Project Report (DPR) .
- North East circuit in State of Sikkim with approximate project cost of Rs. 95.50 Crore includes development of eco log huts, cultural centre, and paragliding centre, and craft bazaar, base camp for mountaineering and meditation hall.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149587>

DigiLocker integrated with Driving Licenses (DL) & Vehicle Registration certificates (RC)

Question: DigiLocker is .. ?

- (A) a platform for issuance and verification of documents and certificates digitally.
- (B) a locker to save personal files.
- (C) a collection of Prasar Bharti's valuable recordings.
- (D) a digital locker containing classified files of the Government of India.

Ans: (A)

Related facts:

- On 7th September, 2016 the union minister of Road transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari and Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice jointly launched the integration of DigiLocker with Driving Licenses and Vehicle Registration Certificates.
- The integration will eliminate the need to carry around physical copies of RCs and Driving Licences since digital copies of the same can be accessed on mobile phones via the DigiLocker mobile app.
- This will also enable issuance of Driving Licenses and Vehicle Registration documents directly to the DigiLockers and digital copies can also be shared with other departments as identity and address proof.
- The DigiLocker will help spot verification of these documents which will reduce space for fictitious documents.
- DigiLocker is a platform for issuance and verification of documents and certificates digitally. It aims at transforming India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy.
- DigiLocker currently has 21,26,332 registered users with 24,11,702 uploaded documents and has issued over 4,26,73,232 documents as on 01 September 2016.
- With this launch the National Register System has got integrated with DigiLocker, making over 19 crore Vehicle Registration Certificates and over 9 crore driving licenses available in the citizens' lockers.
- It is to be noted that as per IT Act 2000, digitally signed documents are considered at par with the physical issued documents.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149602>



First state to Implement Public Fund Management System

Question: Recently which of the following state have implemented Public Fund Management System (PFMS)?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Jharkhand
(c) Maharashtra (d) Karnataka

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 30 August 2016 Jharkhand become the first state in the country to have implemented Public Fund Management System (PFMS).
- It has been implemented by the state finance department.
- This Public Fund Management System (PFMS) will be implemented in all central funded schemes with immediate effect.



Reference:

<http://english.pradesh18.com/news/jharkhand/jharkhand-becomes-first-state-to-implement-public-fund-management-system-912507.html>

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/jharkhand-becomes-first-state-to-implement-public-fund-management-system-1452463>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/jharkhand-becomes-first-state-to-implement-pfms-116083100073_1.html

Sauni Project

Question: Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first phase of SAUNI (Saurashtra Narmada Avataram for Irrigation) project in which of the following state?

- (a) Telangana (b) Gujarat
(c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Rajasthan

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first phase of SAUNI (Saurashtra Narmada Avataram for Irrigation) project in Gujarat.
- In this project nearly 10 dams and reservoirs of Rajkot, Jamnagar and Morbi would be filled up with the water of Narmada River.
- The estimated cost of the project is Rs 12,000 crore.
- Narendra Modi had announced the project in 2012 when he was the chief minister of Gujarat.
- It will fill up nearly 115 dams of Saurashtra region which faces shortage of water for irrigation and drinking.



Reference:

<https://guj-nwrws.gujarat.gov.in/showpage.aspx?contentid=4720&lang=english>

http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pm-visits-gujarat-launches-saurashtra-narmada-irrigation-project/?comment=disable

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/live-pm-modi-inaugurates-first-phase-of-sauni-project-in-gujarat/article9049855.ece>

Mumbai-Nagpur super communication highway

Question: Recently the Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis unveiled a detailed plan for the Mumbai-Nagpur Super Communication Expressway. Name the nodal agency for the project.

- (a) National Highway Development Authority
- (b) Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation
- (c) State Road Transport Corporation
- (d) None of the above

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis unveiled a detailed plan for the Mumbai-Nagpur Super Communication Expressway.
- It is a 706-km link that seeks to connect 24 districts and improve access from rural communities in the east to commercial hubs in the west.
- State-run Maharashtra State Road Development Corporation, the nodal agency for the project.
- The construction to start by end of December, 2016 and end by September 2019.
- The Rs 46,000-crore project, formally called 'Maharashtra Prosperity Corridor', also involves construction of agricultural centre's, warehouses and other facilities that the state hopes will lead to creation of thousands of new jobs.
- The construction cost for the eight-lane expressway is estimated at Rs 30 crore per km.
- It involves six lanes of super communication highway and two lanes of service roads, utility shifting, bypass and other structures.
- Further, the government plans to issue "land pool ownership" certificates. Farmers' gains are mainly from the value accretion to the developed residential and commercial plots they are entitled to, amounting to up 35 per cent of the land acquired.
- The highway will reduce traveling time to 8 hours from 16 hours

Reference:

<http://www.mumbaimirror.com/mumbai/others/Fadnavis-unveils-road-map-for-Mumbai-Nagpur-expressway/articleshow/53882604.cms>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/land-acquisition-for-rs-30-000-cr-mumbai-nagpur-highway-to-begin-soon-116062700643_1.html

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Mahindra DiGiSense

Question: Which of the following company has launched DiGiSense?

- (a) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd
- (b) Tata
- (c) Mahindra Tech
- (d) Wipro

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 26 August 2016 Mahindra & Mahindra launched DiGiSense.
- DiGiSense is a technology solution aimed at empowering owners, fleet operators, drivers, dealers and service teams to access information about their vehicles on a real-time basis.
- This is first of its kind technology platform which is multi application and multi product enabled.
- DiGiSENSE empowers owners, fleet operators, drivers, dealers and service teams to access vital information about their vehicles, trucks, tractors or construction equipment on a real time basis from the driver's seat.
- This will empower customers to digitally build knowledge 24X7 about the performance and location of their mobility products and tractors.
- This new technology will be available in select variants of M&M commercial and passenger vehicles to tractors and construction equipment and will cost between Rs5000to Rs10,000 per vehicle.
- The key features of DiGiSENSE include route planning; delivery tracking, vehicle utilization reports, trip optimization, alerts and machine hour operations and geo fencing.
- DiGiSENSE will initially be available in Jeeto and Imperio in the small commercial vehicles space, Arjun Novo among tractors, the Mahindra Blazo in the heavy commercial vehicles space and Earthmaster in the construction equipment space.

Reference:

<http://www.mahindra.com/news-room/press-release/Mahindra-Launches-a-Game-Changing-Connected-Vehicles-Technology-Platform-DiGiSENSE>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/auto/story/mahindra-launches-digisense-platform/1/751296.html>

<http://www.livemint.com/Industry/WJedqvMmWGOtWmQTUNNvI/Mahindra-launches-DiGiSense-platform-to-access-vital-vehicle.html>

<http://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/cloud-based-tech-vodafone-mm-bosch-unite-for-digisense/53882281>

POCSO e-Box launched

Question: Which of the following Ministry has launched the POCSO e-Box?

- (a) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (b) Ministry of Labour & Employment
- (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (d) Ministry of Law and Justice

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 26 August 2016 an online complaint box for reporting child sexual abuse, the POCSO e-Box was launched by the Minister for Women and Child Development, Maneka Sanjay Gandhi in New Delhi.
- Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO), e-Box, is an online complaint management system for easy and direct reporting of sexual offences against children and timely action against the offenders under the POCSO Act, 2012.
- The e-Box is incorporated prominently in the home page of National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) website <http://ncpcr.gov.in/> where a user has to simply push a button named POSCO e-Box.
- This will navigate to a page with a window containing an animation movie.
- The animation movie reassures the child that whatever has happened to him/her is not his/her fault and she/he need not feel guilty and that NCPCR is a friend which will help her.
- After the user presses the arrow on this page, it navigates to another page where he/she has to select at least one picture option (describing the category of harassment) and fill the form with details such as mobile number, e-mail and description of the harassment followed by the 'submit' button.
- The complaint is then registered and a unique auto-generated complaint number is flashed.
- Ministry has started Childline in 1998 and it receives 14 lakh complaints a month.
- The e-box is an extension of that.
- Sexual offences against children are rampant but only a small percentage gets reported.
- According to a study, about 53% of children surveyed, reported having faced one or the other form of sexual abuse in their lifetime.
- Being concerned about such offences against children, the Government enacted POCSO Act, 2012 to protect them from offences of sexual assault, sexual harassment and pornography, while safeguarding the interest of the child at every stage of the judicial process,.
- It will incorporate child friendly mechanisms for reporting, recording of evidence, investigation and speedy trial of offences through designated Special Courts.
- Any human being up to the age of 18 years is recognised as a child under the POCSO Act.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149240>

<http://www.uniindia.com/news/india/maneka-launches-pocso-e-button-for-children-to-file-complaints-of-sexual-abuse/603124.html>

TREATY & AGREEMENTS

Indian Oil and GAIL sign MoU for taking equity stake in upcoming Dhamra LNG terminal

Question: Recently Indian Oil and Gail has signed MoU for taking equity stake in Dharma LNG terminal. In this Indian Oil acquires what percent of equity?

- (a) 49%
- (b) 39%
- (c) 30%
- (d) 40%

Ans (b)

Related facts:

- On 21 September 2016 Indian Oil Corporation Limited and GAIL (India) Limited signed an MoU with Dhamra LNG Terminal Private Limited (DLTPL) for taking equity in the 5 MMTPA capacity LNG Receiving, Storage and Regasification Terminal, being put up at Dhamra Port, Odisha.
- The agreement was signed in New Delhi in the presence of Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum and Natural Gas Sh Dhamendra Pradhan.
- As per the MoU, DLTPL shall be an equal Joint Venture of Indian Oil and GAIL on one hand and Adani Group on the other. Indian Oil and GAIL would acquire 39% and 11% equity respectively in DLTPL, with the balance 50% being held by Adani group.
- IndianOil and Adani group will each divest 1% of their respective stake to a credible financial institution which will then have 2% stake in the terminal.
- Apart from equity, Indian Oil and Gail intend to book regasification capacity of 3.0 and 1.5 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) respectively in the terminal.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150995>

http://www.business-standard.com/content/b2b-manufacturing-industry/indian-oil-and-gail-pick-up-stakes-in-adani-group-s-dhamra-lng-terminal-116092200331_1.html



Jharkhand government signed MoUs with different companies under ‘Momentum Jharkhand’

Question: Recently Jharkhand government has signed MoUs with how many countries under ‘Momentum Jharkhand’?

- (a) 5
- (b) 6
- (c) 7
- (d) 8

Ans: (d)

Related facts:



- On 20 September 2016 Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghubar Das has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with eight different companies in the western metropolis in campaign branded as ‘Momentum Jharkhand’.
- Six new policies aimed at diversifying state’s industrial landscape were launched.
- Several MoUs catering to sectors such as multispecialty healthcare and medical education, skills development and technical education, textiles, tourism, and e-governance signed.
- The state has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Orient Craft Limited in the textile sector worth Rs 1,500 crore for construction of two parks across a 140-acre land.
- In the education sector, the state signed an MoU worth Rs 350 crore with MNR Education Trust Integrated Medical and Para-medical Education Campus and it would be set up in the next five years on an 80-acre land.
- According to the MoU with Tata Steel Limited, training would be imparted to youth in soft skill system, in mining and meteorological sector under the CSR .
- MoU with Desun Hospital & Heart Research Institution is for a 500-bed multi-specialty hospital and for setting up a 300-seat nursing institution and a paramedical institution.
- The MoU with Fuel would in skill development for the next ten years and another MoU was signed with a company in the e-governance sector.
- Bokaro Seva Trust and Rama University in Kanpur signed a MoU for a super specialty hospital and medical research worth Rs 100 crore.
- MoU with Vakarangee Limited in e-Governance to set up more than 1,600 (of which 1,100 will be in rural areas) Vakarangee kendras (centres) across Jharkhand over the next 5 years to serve e-services (B2B & B2C) to public facilities.

Reference:

<http://momentumjharkhand.com/jharkhands-investment-promotion-campaign-poised-to-go-global/>

<https://twitter.com/dasraghubar/status/778107308807258113>

<https://twitter.com/dasraghubar/status/778228586549501952>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/jharkhand-signs-8-mous-for-development-in-various-sectors/articleshow/54433228.cms>

<http://www.jharkhandstatenews.com/cm-launches-investment-promotion-campaign-momentum-jharkhand/#.V-nE7PI97IU>

<http://smestreet.in/jharkhand-attracts-investment-through-momentum-jharkhand-program/>

Ministry of water resources sign MOU with ministry of agriculture

Question: Recently Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation signed a MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare for which of the following purpose?

- (a) Speedy implementation of Namami Gange programme
- (b) Management of flood plains
- (c) Research in the field of Agriculture
- (d) None of these

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 16 September 2016 Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation (MoWR, RD&GR) signed a MoU with the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) for speedy implementation of Namami Gange programme. The MoU was signed for speedy implementation of Namami Gange programme.
- The MoU was signed by Hari Har Mishra, Additional Mission Director, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG), MoWR, RD&GR and Dr. S.S Tomar, Additional Commissioner, MoA&FW in the presence of Union Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Minister Uma Bharti and Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Radha Mohan Singh.
- As per the MoU the MoA&FW will develop organic farming in the villages along Ganga with each Gram Panchayat representing a single cluster, promote organic farming through awareness programmes, self help groups, mobile apps etc.
- The Ministry will also create awareness about balanced use of chemicals, fertilizers and pesticides promote micro irrigation for water conservation in Ganga Basin and will encourage livelihood opportunities and natural farming, based on animal husbandry, along Ganga.
- The Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation shall ensure necessary coordination, and support from the state governments and state level implementing agencies for various activities to be undertaken by Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare as part of Namami Gange programme.
- The MoU will remain in effect for a period of three years and thereafter can be extended as mutually agreed between the parties.
- The achievement /progress of the implementation of this MoU shall be monitored by a steering committee consisting of the Nodal officers from each Ministry.
- The committee will meet on periodic basis, once in three months or whenever necessary to review the performance of this MoU and the agreed list of activities.
- Government of India has launched “Namami Gange”, integrated Ganga Conservation Mission as an umbrella programme at an indicative cost of Rs. 12,728 crore for new components and converging ongoing programmes amounting to Rs. 7,272 crore with an aim to integrate previous and latest efforts by enhancing efficiency, extracting synergy and better coordination with all the stakeholders including the line Ministries of Government of India.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149849>

Agreement between LG Electronics Inc. and Amazon.com

Question: Recently South Korea's LG Electronics Inc signed an agreement with Amazon.com Inc for-

- (a) Smart-home services
- (b) Technology transfer
- (c) Acquisition
- (d) None of the above



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- In September, 2016 South Korea's LG Electronics Inc partner with Amazon.com Inc on smart-home services.
- The agreement will enable the U.S. Company's services such as the Alexa virtual assistant on some of the electronics maker's devices.
- Alexa will work with its SmartThinQ Hub.
- A LG device used to connect with home appliances over the internet, to allow users to control the South Korean firm's home appliances via voice-recognition technology.
- In addition, the company would add Amazon's Dash feature on its SmartThinQ sensors, which enable smart features on appliances that cannot communicate with other devices on their own, to allow users to quickly order household items such as laundry detergent or drinks.

Reference:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-lg-elec-amazon-com-idUSKCN11805D>

http://www.koreatimes.co.kr/www/news/tech/2016/09/133_213339.html

<http://www.homeworldbusiness.com/lg-partners-amazon-expanding-smart-home-focus/>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/tech/news/2016/09/02/amazons-alexa-now-works-lg-smart-home-tech/89783856/>

CONFERENCE

BRICS Labour and Employment Ministerial meeting

Question: Recently BRICS Labour and Employment Ministerial meeting was held in which of the following city?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Goa
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Udaipur

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 27-28 September 2016 BRICS Labour and Employment Ministerial meeting held under BRICS India presidency in New Delhi.
- Bandaru Dattatreya, the Union Minister of State(IC) Labour and Employment has chaired the BRICS Labour and Employment Ministerial Meeting.
- Over the course of two days fruitful discussions were held on areas of common labour and employment issues.
- The deliberations included “Employment Generation”, “Social Security”, and “Inclusive Development including Formalization”
- The BRICS Labour and Employment Ministerial Declaration has been adopted at the end of these discussions.
- The BRICS Ministerial Declaration is an action-oriented statement. Strong interventions and actions have been proposed in the areas concerning employment generation, social security and formalisation of labour markets leading to inclusive and sustainable development.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151224>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151151>

<http://labour.nic.in/brics/brics-labour-employment-ministerial-meeting>



Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Krishi Unnati Mela

Question: Recently Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the four day Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Krishi Unnati Mela – 2016 in which of the following city?

- (a) New Delhi (b) Mathura
(c) Agra (d) Patna

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 26 September 2016 Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister, Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the four days Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Krishi Unnati Mela – 2016, in Mathura.
- On this occasion he has requested farmers and entrepreneurs that they take more and more benefit from agriculture fair.
- He appreciated the role of concerned officers of National Horticulture Board, Ministry of Agriculture and different departments of Government of India for organizing the fair at Mathura.
- The Agriculture Minister laid foundation stone of first Gokul Gram Project in Mathura.
- On this occasion he said that government has prepared a plan to establish 14 Gokul Gram in the country under Gokul Mission.
- He first Gokul Gram is going to be established in Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay's birth place, Mathura.
- Gokul Gram will work as a centre for development of native breed cattle and it will work to supplement resources of cattle of farmers in breeding areas.
- Earlier the Agriculture Minister inaugurated a waste sewage water treatment plant in Mathura.
- This plant has developed a unique indigenous technique facility for treatment & recycle of sewage water into irrigation water by Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151124>

Childhood cancer awareness exhibition launched

Question: Recently childhood cancer awareness began in which of the following city?

- (a) Agra (b) Lucknow
(c) Kanpur (d) Noida

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- A first-of-its-kind exhibition on childhood cancer awareness began on 25 September 2016 in the premises of the Taj Mahal in Agra.
- As many as 1,500 children are expected to participate in the three-day exhibition, which is a part of the 'Go Gold India-Taj Goes Gold and UP Goes Gold' campaign of non-government organisation (NGO) 'CanKids..Kidscan', National Society for Change for Childhood Cancer in India.
- Uttar Pradesh (UP) Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav has also extended his support to the campaign.
- The cancer survivors will collect 2,50,000 signatures, one for each child diagnosed with cancer, through the campaign.
- The signatures will be presented to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/7908986_Exhibition-at-Taj-Mahal-for-children-with-cancer.html

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/childhood-cancer-awareness-exhibition-begins-in-taj-mahal-complex-3050352/>

5th BIRAC Innovators Meet

Question: Recently BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council), a non-profit Public Sector Enterprise under the aegis of Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, has organised the 5th Innovators Meet at-

- (a) Jaipur (b) New Delhi
(c) Lucknow (d) Bhubneshwar

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council), a non-profit Public Sector Enterprise under the aegis of Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Government of India, is organizing the 5th Innovators Meet on 22-23 September 2016 in New Delhi.
- The theme of the meet would be 'Biotech Innovation Ecosystem – Strategizing the Next Leap'.
- The Innovators Meet is being organized for marking BIRAC's continuous efforts to foster innovation and entrepreneurship in all places of research.
- BIRAC's mandate is to serve as a single window interface to promote affordable innovation in key social sectors with higher focus on start-ups & small and medium enterprises.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150954>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151045>

74th Meeting of Central Waqf Council Held

Question: Number of State Waqf Boards in the country is..?

- A) 31 B) 28
C) 29 D) 36

Ans: (A)

Related facts:

74th Meeting of Central
Waqf Council was held on
20 September, 2016

- 74th Meeting of Central Waqf Council was held on 20 September, 2016.
- The meeting was chaired by the Union Minister of State for Minority Affairs (Independent Charge) & Parliamentary Affairs Shri Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi.
- Following a complaint of illegal occupation of Waqf properties the centre has started a campaign on war-footing to free the Waqf properties from the clutches of "illegal occupants."
- The Minister directed all the State Waqf Boards that all the Waqf properties be registered on-line by this year-end and their information should be available in a transparent manner. Financial assistance to State Waqf Boards has been provided for this purpose.
- To deal with complaints regarding Waqf properties, one-man "Board of Adjudication" will be established soon at the Centre level to be headed by a retired Supreme Court Justice or retired High Court Chief Justice. Three-member Tribunals are also being established in the States.
- It is to be noted that currently there are 31 State Waqf Boards and more than 4,27,000 registered Waqf properties across the country.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150936>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/intense-campaign-on-to-free-waqf-properties-from-mafia-naqvi-116092000744_1.html

Second BRICS Environment Ministers meeting

Question: The second BRICS Environment Ministers meeting was held in-

- (a) Goa (b) New Delhi
(c) Jaipur (d) Bengaluru

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 16 September 2016 the meeting of Environment Ministers of BRICS countries was held in Goa.
- The meeting of BRICS Environment Ministers is being organized by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Government of India.
- The discussion was held about Memorandum of Understanding and the Joint Working Group on environment.
- The BRICS Ministers also discussed thematic areas of mutual interest and prioritise actions for cooperation in critical areas like air and water pollution, liquid and solid waste management, climate change and conservation of biodiversity.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149841>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149743>

Sixth meeting of national security advisers of the BRICS countries

Question: The sixth meeting of national security advisers of the BRICS countries was held at-

- (a) Goa (b) New Delhi
(c) Jaipur (d) Bengaluru

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 14-15 September 2016 the sixth meeting of national security advisers of the BRICS countries was held at New Delhi.
- It was presided over by National Security Advisor Ajit Doval.
- Indian NSA Ajit Doval hosted his BRICS counterparts: Sergio Westphalen Etchegoyen, Brazil's Cabinet Chief for Institutional Security, Nikolai P. Patrushev, Russian Secretary of the Security Council, Yang Jiechi, Chinese State Councilor and Mbangiseni David Mahlobo, South African Minister of State Security.
- The meet was aimed at taking stock of security issues such as counter terrorism, cyber security and energy security.
- They also exchanged assessments of recent developments in the West Asia and North Africa (WANA) region.
- They agreed to strengthen joint efforts on enhancing cyber security by sharing of information and best practices, combating cyber-crimes, improving cooperation between technical and law enforcement agencies including joint cyber security R&D and capacity building.



Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/brics-members-agree-to-deny-terrorists-access-to-finance/articleshow/54350138.cms>

http://thebricspost.com/need-a-global-legal-regime-to-deal-with-terrorism-brics/#.V94mc_I97IV

Conference on 'Urban Transition in BRICS'

Question: Recently the three day conference on 'Urban Transition in BRICS' was held in which of the following city?

- (a) Jaipur (b) Visakhapatnam
(c) Bangalore (d) Kochi

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- The three (14-16 September 2016) day conference on 'Urban Transition in BRICS' inaugurated on 14 September 2016 in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- Minister of Urban Development and Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation, M.Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the conference.
- The conference discussed and evolved a common agenda for BRICS to be presented later at the Habitat-III Conference at Quito, Ecuador.
- The Visakhapatnam Conference is being organized as a part of the Government's efforts to take cooperation among BRICS group on various issues to the people for which several such meetings are being organized across the country.
- BRICS nations account for over 3 billion population constituting 53.40% of world's population, 23.10% of global GDP and 26.70% of world's geographical area, spread over four continents.
- Range of urbanization varies from 84% in Brazil, 73% in Russia, 64% in South Africa, 57% in China and 32% in India.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149720>

http://www.ptinews.com/news/7864840_BRICS-conference-to-promote-cooperation-in-urban-sector.html



BRICS Wellness Workshop

Question: Recently the BRICS Wellness Workshop was organised in which of the following city?

- (a) Jaipur (b) Bengaluru
(c) Ranchi (d) New Delhi

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- The two days BRICS Wellness Workshop was organised at Bengaluru during 10-11 September 2016.
- It was organised by Ministry of AYUSH, in collaboration with Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS).
- Secretary level Officers and Traditional Medicine/wellness experts from the BRICS countries have participated in the BRICS Wellness Workshop.
- The Workshop, being held in Bengaluru, is designed to have sessions related to Traditional Systems of Medicine, Trade and Economy, Wellness and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), Wellness indicators for BRICS, Wellness and Tourism among others.
- It also includes a session on WHO strategy for Traditional Medicine.
- Yoga workshops and Ayurveda consultations with experts was also organised for interested delegates from 9-12 September 2016.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149683>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149623>



First edition of 'IoT India Congress, 2016

Question: The first edition of 'IoT India Congress, 2016' was held at which of the following city?

- (a) Chennai (b) Jaipur
(c) Bengaluru (d) New Delhi

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 8 September The first edition of 'IoT (Internet of Things) India Congress, 2016' began in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- The three-day event was inaugurated by Union Information Technology (IT) and Electronics Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad and JS Deepak, Secretary, Ministry of Telecommunications.
- The congress aims to bring together key stakeholders across the value chain and verticals to collaborate, ideate and share a common roadmap for Internet of Things (IoT) implementation.
- Besides tech start-ups, the congress brought top executives from multinational companies such as Philips, GE, and IBM on one platform.

Reference:

<http://iotindiacongress.com/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/bengaluru-hosts-first-edition-of-iot-india-congress/article9081662.ece>



First BRICS Film Festival-2016

Question: Recently the BRICS film festival was held in which of the following city of India?

- (a) Jaipur (b) Udaipur
(c) New Delhi (d) Mumbai

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 2 September 2016. The BRICS Film Festival-2016 was started at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi.
- It should be known that the Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed a BRICS film festival and film awards at the last BRICS Summit.
- Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting Rajyavardhan Rathore and Minister of State for External Affairs V.K. Singh inaugurated the first BRICS film festival.
- The five day festival served as a platform for people of the film industry of member countries to explore areas of cooperation in the domain of cinema, culture and cuisine.
- It is a step taken to build bridges and bring harmony amongst the BRICS countries Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- Indian film Thithi won the best film award at the BRICS Film Festival.
- Best Director Award went to Huo Jianqi of China.
- South Africa's Thabo Rametsi took home the best Actor award while Russian actor Yulia Peresild was given best actress award.
- The next BRICS film festival will be hosted by China.
- A total of 20 films from BRICS member countries were screened during the festival in the competitive segment.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149515>

https://sputniknews.com/art_living/20160906/1045023428/india-russian-actress-award.html



Conference for awareness on National Academic Depository inaugurated

Question: The National Academic Depository (NAD) is an initiative of ...?

- (A) Human resource development (B) Finance
(C) Law and justice (D) Culture

Ans: (A)

Related facts:



- On 9th September, 2016 Prakash Javadekar, Minister for Human Resource Development inaugurated a National Conference for awareness on National Academic Depository (NAD).
- He called upon all participants to target year 2017 to roll out the use of National Academic Depository.
What is NAD :
- The National Academic Depository (NAD) is an initiative of ministry of human resource development to maintain a national-level database of all academic qualifications from secondary school certificate to university and professional certificates.
- NAD will remove the need to physically approach the educational institutions to obtain attestations of certificates and will facilitate online verification and easy retrieval of academic records.
- The database would also help in dealing with issues of forged certificates since it enables online verification.
- As part of pilot implementation, CBSE has already made available the academic awards of four exams on the NAD system.
Importance:
- It is an innovative step in direction of bringing administrative and academic reforms through the use of technology.
- Establishment of a National Academic Depository is a part of the Digital India vision of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Reference;

<https://www.ndml.in/national-academic-depository.php>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149652>

‘Solung’ Festival

Question: ‘Solung’ Festival is related to which of the following state?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Mizoram
(c) Manipur (d) Assam

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- Arunachal Pradesh began the celebration of Solung festival from 31 August 2016.
- This festival is celebrated by the Adi tribe of Arunachal Pradesh.
- The festival which is celebrated in the first week of September every year for 7 days is an agro based festival of India.
- The festival is also symbolizes the socio-religious aspects of Adi community.

Reference:

<http://m.dailyhunt.in/news/india/english/news-bharati-epaper-newsbhar/adi-tribe-begins-a-gro-based-solung-festival-in-arunachal-pradesh-newsid-57417488>

<http://www.newsbharati.com/Encyc/2016/9/1/Solung-Festival-Arunachal-Pradesh>

First international conference on LPG

Question: The first international conference on LPG was held in which of the following state?

- (a) Kerala (b) Karnataka
(c) Chhattisgarh (d) Odisha

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- The first international conference on LPG was hosted by Bhubaneswar, capital city of Odisha.
- The two (1-2 September 2016)-day conference organised by Research and Development Initiative (RDI) along with leading public sector oil companies Bharat Petroleum Corporation, Indian Oil Corporation and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation.
- The International Conference on LPG cooking gas, organized by Research & Development Initiative along with leading Public Sector oil companies – Indian Oil Corporation, Bharat Petroleum & Hindustan Petroleum Corporation.
- It was inaugurated by Jharkhand Governor Hon'ble Droupadi Murmu in the presence of Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and other senior officials.
- The conference, which concluded on September 2, was also have a session on the hugely successful "Give it Up" scheme, largest Direct Bank Transfer Scheme PAHAL and Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana.
- Topics like "Role of private sector in expanding the reach of LPG" and "Role of Women in LPG Global Network – Global Practices & International Models" was also discussed.



Reference:

<http://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/first-international-conference-on-lpg-inaugurated-in-bhubaneswar-today/53963404>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/First-international-conference-on-LPG-in-Bhubaneswar-from-Thursday/2016/08/31/article3606076.ece>

<http://latestodishanews.com/first-international-conference-lpg-inaugurated-bhubaneswar/>

BRICS Convention on Tourism

Question: Recently the two-day long BRICS Convention on Tourism was inaugurated in which of following place?

- (a) Bodh Gaya (b) Sanchi
(c) Khajuraho (d) Varanasi

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- Recently the two (1-2 September)-day long BRICS Convention on Tourism was inaugurated in Khajuraho Madhya Pradesh.
- Delegation from the BRICS Countries have participated in the Convention.
- The BRICS nations were represented by the Minister of Tourism, South Africa D.A. Hanekom and delegations from Russia and China.
- The inaugural function was also graced by Tourism Minister and Chairman-Tourism, Government of Madhya Pradesh Surendra Patwa.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149441>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149317>

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD)-2017

Question: Which of the following city will host the 2017 Bharatiya Pravasi Divas?

- (a) Bengaluru (b) Kochi
(c) Jaipur (d) Gandhinagar

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- According to the press release by ministry of external affairs Bengaluru, Karnataka will host the 2017 Bharatiya Pravasi Divas (PBD) scheduled to take place on January 7, 8 and 9 of 2017.
- The theme of 2017 PBD is "Redefined Engagement with Indian Diaspora".
- It may be recalled that 13th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was held during 7–9 January 2015 at Gandhinagar, Gujarat.
- January 9 was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion since it was on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, returned to India from South Africa, led India's freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.
- PBD conventions are being held every year since 2003.

Reference:

<https://pbdindia.gov.in/introduction>



ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

Apple acquired Tuplejump

Question: Recently Apple acquired Tuplejump. It is located in which of the following state?

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

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- According to the press release issued by Apple on 23 September 2016 Apple Inc. has acquired Indian machine-learning startup Tuplejump Software Pvt Ltd.
- Tuplejump is Hyderabad-based startup.
- Known in the trade as an acqui-hire, nearly all of Tuplejump's 16 employees are in the process of becoming Apple staffers.
- Tuplejump is Apple's first acquisition in India.
- Tuplejump was founded in 2013 by Rohit Rai, Satyaprakash Buddhavarapu and Deepak Alur.



Reference:

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-09-22/apple-buys-tuplejump-to-expand-machine-learning-capabilities>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/small-biz/startups/applequietly-acquires-hyderabad-based-ai-startup-tuplejump/articleshow/54490013.cms>

<http://www.digit.in/startups/apple-acquires-hyderabad-based-machine-learning-startup-tuplejump-31808.html>

Cabinet approved for initiating the process of winding up of Hindustan Diamond Company Private Limited (HDCPL)

Question: Recently Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for initiating the process of winding up of Hindustan Diamond Company Private Limited (HDCPL). The HDCPL was incorporated in which of the following year?

(a) 1975 (b) 1976 (c) 1917 (d) 1978

Ans: (d)

Related facts:



- On 21 September 2016 the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for initiating the process of winding up of Hindustan Diamond Company Private Limited (HDCPL).
- It was a 50:50 joint venture of the Government of India and De Beers Centenary Mauritius Limited (DBCML).
- The HDCPL was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1956 in 1978.
- The objective of formation of the Company was to supply rough diamonds to diamond processing industry in India, particularly to small and medium diamond jewellery exporters, who had no direct access to rough diamonds from Diamond Trading Company (DTC), London, and the marketing arm of De Beers who held a very large chunk of world's rough diamonds market.
- The winding up of HDCPL is not likely to affect supply of rough diamonds to Indian diamantaires as Indian diamond industry has grown in these years and several Indian players are sight holders with top diamond producers now.
- Also, with the objective to facilitate the constant supply of rough diamonds and to make India an International Diamond Trading Hub, the Government has created a Special Notified Zone (SNZ) at Bharat Diamond Bourse, Mumbai in 2015.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150957>

Cabinet approves establishment of Higher Education Financing Agency

Question: Recently the Union Cabinet has approved the creation of the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA). The authorised capital of HEFA is-

(a) Rs.1,000 crore (b) Rs.1,500 crore (c) Rs.2,000 crore (d) Rs.3,000 crore

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 12 September 2016 the Union Cabinet has approved the creation of the Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) to give a major push for creation of high quality infrastructure in premier educational institutions.
- The HEFA would be jointly promoted by the identified Promoter and the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) with an authorised capital of Rs.2000 crore.
- The Government equity would be Rs.1000 crore.
- The HEFA would be formed as a SPV within a PSU Bank/ Government-owned-NBFC (Promoter).
- It would leverage the equity to raise up to Rs. 20,000 crore for funding projects for infrastructure and development of world class Labs in IITs/IIMs/NITs and such other institutions.
- The HEFA would finance the civil and lab infrastructure projects through a 10-year loan.
- All the Centrally Funded Higher Educational Institutions would be eligible for joining as members of the HEFA.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149707>

YEAR, DAY & WEEK

World Maritime Day

Question: World Maritime Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 26 September (b) 24 September
(c) 29 September (d) 28 September

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 29 September 2016 World Maritime Day was celebrated across the world.
- The World Maritime Day theme for 2016 is “Shipping: indispensable to the world”.
- The theme was chosen to focus on the critical link between shipping and global society and to raise awareness of the relevance of the role of IMO as the global regulatory body for international shipping.

Reference:

<http://www.imo.org/en/About/Events/WorldMaritimeDay/Pages/WMD-2016.aspx>

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



World Heart Day

Question: World Heart Day is celebrated on-

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

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 29 September 2016 World Heart Day was celebrated across the world.
- The Day serves as the biggest platform for raising awareness about cardiovascular disease (CVD).
- The Day is being celebrated since 2000.
- Cardiovascular disease (CVD), including heart disease and stroke, is accountable for nearly half of all NCD deaths making it the world's number one killer and claiming 17.5 million lives each year.

Reference:

<http://www.world-heart-federation.org/what-we-do/world-heart-day/>

<http://worldheartday.org/world-heart-day-2015/>

<http://heart.cochrane.org/askaquestion?platform=hootsuite>



World Rabies Day

Question: World Rabies Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 26 September (b) 27 September
(c) 28 September (d) 25 September

Ans: (c)

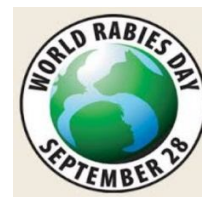
Related facts:

- World Rabies Day was celebrated on 28 September 2016 across the world.
- World Rabies Day is celebrated annually to raise awareness about rabies prevention and to highlight progress in defeating this horrifying disease.
- 28 September also marks the anniversary of Louis Pasteur's death, the French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first rabies vaccine.
- The theme for 2016 is "Rabies: Educate. Vaccinate. Eliminate", which emphasises the two crucial actions that communities can do to prevent rabies.
- The World Rabies Day is an initiative of Global Alliance for Rabies Control. Observance of the day was initiated in 2007 to create a global opportunity for people to focus on rabies prevention.

Reference:

<https://rabiesalliance.org/world-rabies-day/>

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/events/2016/world-rabies-day/en/>



International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons

Question: International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons is celebrated on-

- (a) 24 September (b) 26 September
(c) 23 September (d) 28 September

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons was celebrated across the world.
- International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons was observed on 26 September 2016. The Day provides an occasion for the world community to reaffirm its commitment to global nuclear disarmament as a high priority.
- It also provides an opportunity to educate the public and their leaders about the real benefits of eliminating such weapons, and the social and economic costs of perpetuating them.
- According to UNO some 15,000 nuclear weapons remain. Countries possessing such weapons have well-funded, long-term plans to modernize their nuclear arsenals.

Reference:

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

http://www.unfoldzero.org/?p=action_sep26

<http://www.unis.unvienna.org/unis/en/pressrels/2016/unissgsm783.html>



World Rhino Day

Question: World Rhino Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 20 September (b) 22 September
(c) 19 September (d) 24 September

Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- On 22 September 2016 the World Rhino Day was celebrated across the world.
- World Rhino Day was first announced by WWF-South Africa in 2010.
- The day is observed to celebrate all five species of rhino and they are Black, White, Greater one-horned, Sumatran and Javan rhinos.
- In India, the day was observed with all-day awareness programmes at Kaziranga National Park (Assam), Manas National Park (Assam) and Laokhowa Burachapori (Assam).

Reference:

<http://www.worldrhinoday.org/about/>

<http://rhinos.org/>

<http://www.nationalgeographic.com.au/animals/on-world-rhino-day-we-pay-tribute-to-a-threatened-species.aspx>



International Day of Peace

Question: International Day of Peace is celebrated on-

- (a) 20 September
(b) 21 September
(c) 22 September
(d) 23 September

Ans: (b)

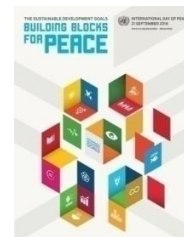
Related facts:

- On 21 September 2016 International Day of Peace was celebrated across the world.
- The Day's theme for 2016 is "The Sustainable Development Goals: Building Blocks for Peace."
- The International Day of Peace was established in 1981 by the United Nations General Assembly.
- In 1982, the first 'International Peace Day' was celebrated.

Reference:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/peaceday/index.shtml>

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/prizes-and-celebrations/celebrations/international-peace-day/>



International Day of Democracy

Question: International Day of Democracy was celebrated on-

- (a) 16 September (b) 15 September
(c) 14 September (d) 17 September

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 15 September 2016 the International Day of Democracy was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of 2016 is: Democracy and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- In 2007 the United Nations General Assembly resolved to observe 15 September as the International Day of Democracy.

Reference:

<http://www.un.org/en/events/democracyday/background.shtml>



International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer

Question: International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer was celebrated on-

- (a) 16 September
(b) 18 September
(c) 15 September
(d) 19 September

Ans. (a)

Related facts:

- On 16 September 2016 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of 2016 International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer is: "Ozone and climate: Restored by a world united."
- In 1994, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 16 September the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, commemorating the date of the signing, in 1987, of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer (resolution 49/114).

Reference:

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



Engineers' Day-2016

Question: Engineers' Day in India is celebrated on-

- (a) 14 September (b) 18 September
(c) 20 September (d) 15 September

Ans. (d)



Related facts:

- On 15 September 2016 Engineers' Day was celebrated across the country.
- The theme of the 49th Engineers' Day is "Skill Development for Young Engineers to Reform the Core Sector: Vision 2025."
- Engineers Day celebrations in India, held in commemoration of M. Visvesvaraya's birth anniversary.

Reference:

<http://www.ibtimes.co.in/engineers-day-india-2016-top-quotes-wishes-greetings-funny-messages-share-your-engineer-693517>

World Suicide Prevention Day

Question: World Suicide Prevention Day was celebrated on-

- (a) 12 September (b) 10 September
(c) 14 September (d) 16 September

Ans. (b)



Related facts:

- On 10 September 2016 World Suicide Prevention Day was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of the 2016 World Suicide Prevention Day is – "Connect, Communicate, Care".
- World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD) is an awareness day observed on 10 September every year, in order to provide worldwide commitment and action to prevent suicides, with various activities around the world started in 2003.
- The World Health Organization estimates that over 800,000 people die by suicide each year – that is one person every 40 seconds.

Reference:

<https://www.iasp.info/wspd/>

Hindi Diwas

Question: Hindi Di was was celebrated on-

- a) 15 September
- b) 17 September
- c) 14 September
- d) 12 September

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 14 September 2016 Hindi Diwas was celebrated across the country.
- On this occasion the President of India, Pranab Mukherjee had conferred awards at a function in Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- The awards are given in different categories for the excellence in different fields pertaining to Hindi.
- The Awards were conferred upon the Ministries, Departments, PSUs and Nationalised Banks.
- Hindi Diwas commemorates the day when the Constituent Assembly of India accepted Hindi as the official language of the country along with English i.e. on 14 September 1949.
- It should be known that on 10 January every year 'World Hindi Day' is celebrated.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=54096>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hindi_Divas

International Literacy Day

Question: International Literacy Day was celebrated on-

- (a) 9 September
- (b) 8 September
- (c) 3 September
- (d) 10 September

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 8 September 2016 International Literacy Day was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of International Literacy Day 2016 is "Reading the Past, Writing the Future"
- .In 1965 UNESCO officially proclaimed 8 September International Literacy Day to actively mobilize the international community and to promote literacy as an instrument to empower individuals, communities and societies.



Reference:

<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/unesco/events/prizes-and-celebrations/celebrations/international-days/literacy-day/>

MISCELLANEOUS

Paryawaran Bhawan Renamed

Question: Paryawaran Bhawan has been renamed as-

- (a) Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Bhawan
- (b) Indira Bhawan
- (c) Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan
- (d) Veer Savarkar Bhawan

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 20 September 2016 “Paryavaran Bhawan” located in CGO Complex, New Delhi has been renamed as Pandit Deendayal Antyodaya Bhawan.
- M. Venkaiah Naidu, Union Minister for Urban Development, Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation and Information & Broadcasting along with Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, Minister of State for Minority Affairs (Independent Charge) and Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs unveiled the new name Plaque of the Building .
- Earlier, the Ministry of Environment and Forests was a major occupant of the Building and therefore, it was appropriately called ‘Paryavaran Bhawan’.
- Decision to re-name the building as Pt. Deendayal ‘Antyodaya Bhawan’ has been taken to highlight the Antyodaya Philosophy of Pt. Deendayal.
- 2016 is Pt. Deendayalji’s birth centenary year.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150938>

Website and mobile app for Baluchi services

Question: Which of the following news agency of the Government of India has launched a multimedia website and a mobile application of its Baluchi services?

- a) DD News
- b) AIR
- c) PTI
- d) PIV

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 16 September 2016 All India Radio has launched a multimedia website and a mobile application of its Baluchi services.
- Prasar Bharti Chairman Dr. A Suryaprakash has launched the services.
- It is aimed at making the contents and programmes of Baluchi language available at multimedia platforms for easy access of listeners and create a global audience.
- External Services Division (ESD) of AIR broadcasts one hour programme in Baluchi language every day, which includes news also.
- This service was started in 1974. ESD presently broadcasts daily in 57 radio transmissions covering over 108 countries in 27 languages.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/air-to-today-launch-multimedia-website-mobile-app-of-its-baluchi-services-116091600268_1.html

<http://www.financialexpress.com/industry/tech/air-to-today-launch-multimedia-website-mobile-app-of-its-baluchi-services/379334/>

Government of Odisha launches pension scheme for construction workers

Question: Recently Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik launched a pension scheme for construction workers. Under the scheme who will get Rs 500 every month as pension?

- (a) Workers above 50 years (b) Workers above 60 years
(c) Workers above 70 years (d) Workers above 80 years

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 9 September 2016 Chief Minister of Odisha, Naveen Patnaik launched a pension scheme for construction workers.
- Under the scheme, the workers aged 60 years and above are entitled to get a monthly pension of Rs 300 and workers above 80 years will get Rs 500 every month as pension.
- The workers will be getting the benefits regardless of being registered with the Odisha Building and other Construction Workers Welfare Board.
- This apart, widow and differently-abled construction workers will also be getting the monthly pension.
- As many as 1000 beneficiaries were handed over work order for construction of houses.
- The state government had launched housing grant of Rs 1 lakh for the construction workers in rural areas under the Nirman Shramik Pucca Ghar Yojana last year.
- The amount has been raised upto Rs 1.30 lakh.
- In addition to this, the state government has raised the maternity benefit from earlier Rs 8000 to Rs 10000 and assistance for the treatment of seriously ill workers has been increased to Rs 3 lakh.



Reference:

http://www.telegraphindia.com/1160910/jsp/odisha/story_107329.jsp#.V9tGPfl97IV

<http://odishasuntimes.com/2016/09/09/odisha-cm-launches-pension-scheme-construction-workers/>

UN Charter translated into Sanskrit

Question: Who among the following has translated the UN Charter into Sanskrit?

- (a) Dr. Kesari Nand Tripathi (b) Dr. Jitendra Kumar Tripathi
(c) Prof. Dev Mani Tripathi (d) Prof. Satpal Singh

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 7 September 2016 India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin informed that UN Charter, the seminal treaty of the United Nations, has been translated into Sanskrit.
- The charter has been translated by Dr Jitendra Kumar Tripathi, Secretary of the Lucknow-based Akhila Bharatiya Sanskrit Parishad.
- The United Nations Charter was signed on June 26 1945, in San Francisco, at the conclusion of the United Nations Conference on International Organisation, and came into force on October 24 1945.
- The Charter is available in all six official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) of the UN



Reference:

<http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2016/09/07/un-charter-translated-into-sanskrit/>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/variety/un-charter-translated-into-sanskrit/article9080484.ece>

Ministry of Civil Aviation prohibits the use of Samsung's Galaxy Note 7 mobile on board an aircraft

Question: Recently the Ministry of Civil Aviation has issued a public notice prohibiting the use of Galaxy Note 7 Smartphone on board an aircraft. This Smartphone is of which of the following company?

- (a) Nokia (b) Samsung
(c) Panasonic (d) Microsoft

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 9 September 2016 the Ministry of Civil Aviation has issued a public notice prohibiting the use of Samsung's Galaxy Note 7 Smartphone on board an aircraft.
- The Ministry has advised airlines and travelling public not to turn on or charge the said mobile during flights.
 - This has been done in light of several incidents globally, involving the battery of Samsung Galaxy Note 7.
- Passengers have also been advised not to stow them in their checked in baggage.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149662>



Cabinet approved Exchange of Tariff concessions

Question: Recently Union Cabinet has approved the exchange of tariff concessions, on Margin of Preference basis, under the Fourth Round of Negotiations under the Asia Pacific Trade Agreement (APTA) and related amendments. Currently, APTA consists of how many countries?

- (a) 6 (b) 8
(c) 7 (d) 5

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 12 September 2016 the Union Cabinet has approved the exchange of tariff concessions, on Margin of Preference basis, under the Fourth Round of Negotiations under the Asia Pacific Trade Agreement and related amendments.
- The current membership of APTA consists of six countries or Participating States (PSs), namely, Bangladesh, China, India, Lao PDR, Republic of Korea, and Sri Lanka.
- Mongolia has been included as the 7th APTA Participating State.
- The Asia Pacific Trade Agreement or APTA (formerly the Bangkok Agreement) is an initiative under the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UN ESCAP) for trade expansion through exchange of tariff concessions among developing country members of the Asia Pacific Region.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149708>

<http://www.unescap.org/apta/participating-states>



First Phase of ESICS Pilot Project of Telemedicine Services Inaugurated

Question: Recently Employees State Insurance Corporation's (ESIC) has launched an ambitious Pilot Project of Tele-Medicine Services at how many locations?

- (a) 15 (b) 14 (c) 12 (d) 11

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 6 September 2016 Bandaru Dattatreya, the Minister of State for Labour and Employment inaugurated the first phase of Tele-medicine services of Employees State Insurance Corporation's (ESIC).
- Employees State Insurance Corporation's (ESIC) Model Hospital Basaidarapur has been connected with three ESIS dispensaries at Katihar (Bihar), Unnao (UP) and Rudarpur (Uttaranchal).
- ESIC has launched an ambitious Pilot Project of Tele-Medicine Services at 11 ESI locations.
- It was launched in coordination with C-DAC, Mohali under the aegis of "Digital Inclusive and Smart Community (DISC)" which is a part of Digital India Programmed of Government of India.
- In all, three specialized ESIC Hospitals will be connected with eight ESI Dispensaries at remote locations of the country where there are no specialized ESI healthcare services available.
- In second and third phase rest of the two Hospitals and five Dispensaries will be connected by month end thereby providing specialized health care services at the doorsteps of the IPs and their family members.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149574>

<http://netindian.in/news/2016/09/06/00039437/first-phase-esics-pilot-project-telemedicine-services-inaugurated>

M-Gullak

Question: Recently Digital payments platform MobiKwik launched "M-Gullak" to promote the habit of savings among Urban poor with which of the following NGO?

- (a) Samagra (b) Akshaya Trust (c) Smile Foundation (d) Pratham

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 1 September 2016 Digital payments platform MobiKwik and Samagra, an NGO serving urban poor, on Thursday launched "M-Gullak" to promote the habit of savings among them.
- M-Gullak will help urban poor become a part of India's digital revolution.
- "M-Gullak" will provide ICT-enabled mobile wallet platform that enables users save in very small amounts at various locations, recharge phones, buy digital goods and transfer to their bank accounts.
- The initiative has first been launched in Pune and is expected to benefit 150,000 urban poor residents by the end of this year.
- By early 2017, "M-Gullak" will be available for over 50 million users in Delhi and other metros.



Reference:

<http://tech.firstpost.com/news-analysis/samagra-and-mobikwik-launch-m-gullak-for-the-urban-poor-332924.html>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/mobikwik-and-samagra-launch-m-gullak-for-urban-poor-116090100410_1.html

<http://www.qizmodo.in/indiamodo/Mobikwik-Samagra-Launch-M-Gullak-For-Urban-Poor/articleshow/53962349.cms>

Subsidized helicopter services in J&K and Himachal Pradesh approved

Question: Recently the government approved subsidized helicopter services in J&K and Himachal Pradesh. What would be the maximum limit on subsidy?

(A) 75 percent (B) 80 percent (C) 90 percent (D) 100 percent

Ans: (A)

Related facts:



- On 9th September, 2016 the union government approved the operation of subsidized helicopter services in the State of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh on a pilot basis in 10 sectors.
- For Jammu and Kashmir, the recommendation of the Joint Working Group for five sectors in Srinagar-Drass-Kargil-Zaskar-Leh has been accepted.
- The State Governments of Jammu and Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh will re-identify and finalize the most critical sectors in their States
- While deciding the sectors for providing the air connectivity, the difference of time between the road travel and air travel may be taken as an important factor.
- The central government will subsidize only the cost towards actual number of entitled passengers utilizing the helicopter services. No subsidy will be provided for the vacant seats.
- VIPs, officers of the State Government on tour, income tax payers or tourists will not be eligible for subsidized fares.
- The service operator will be selected by open tender process by the State Government. The operation of helicopter services in the State will continue till March, 2017 or expiry of contract, whichever is earlier.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149645>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/centre-approves-subsidised-chopper-service-for-jk-himachal-3017160/>

West Bengal assembly passes resolution proposing name change

Question: Which of the following option represent the correct form of the new name of West Bengal in English proposed by the West Bengal Assembly in its resolution?

(a) Bangla (b) Bengal
(c) Bango (d) West Bang

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 29 July 2016 West Bengal Legislative Assembly passed a resolution changing the name of the State to Bengal in English, Bangal in Hindi and Bangla in Bengali.
- The resolution was passed under Rule 169 of the rules of procedures of the House.
- The resolution will be sent to the central government on the recommendation of the House, because for changing the name, state requires the consent of Parliament.
- In September 2011 the State Assembly, under the earlier Trinamool Congress government, had passed a resolution changing the name of the State to Paschim Bangal both in Bengali and English.
- In 1999, the Left Front government had passed resolution-changing name of the State to Bangla.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/west-bengal-assembly-passes-resolution-for-states-name-change/article9045696.ece>

<http://www.india.com/news/india/west-bengal-assembly-passes-resolution-proposing-name-change-1444241/>

‘Pharma Sahi Daam’ Mobile App

Question: When the Union Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs Ananth Kumar has launched ‘Pharma Sahi Daam’ Mobile App?

- (a) 28 August 2016 (b) 26 August 2016
(c) 29 August 2016 (d) 24 August 2016

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 Union Minister of Chemicals & Fertilizers and Parliamentary Affairs Ananth Kumar has launched ‘Pharma Sahi Daam’ Mobile App.
- The mobile App. developed by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA).
- The app will show the MRP fixed by NPPA for various scheduled drugs on real time basis.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149301>

<http://www.ddinews.gov.in/Health/Health%20-%20Top%20Story/Pages/ananthkumar.aspx>



SPORTS PERSONALITY

Virat Kohli

Question: Which of the following State-owned Bank has appointed Indian test skipper Virat Kohli as brand ambassador?

- (a) Dena Bank (b) Vijaya Bank
(c) State Bank of India (d) Punjab National Bank

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 17 September 2016 State-owned Punjab National Bank has appointed Indian test skipper Virat Kohli as brand ambassador.
- Earlier he was appointed as the brand ambassador of the Border Security Force (BSF) in 2013.
- He has been the brand ambassador of many products such as Adidas, Boost, Fair & Lovely, and Pepsi etc.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/pnb-ropes-in-virat-kohli-as-brand-ambassador-116091700461_1.html

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/off-the-field/Punjab-National-Bank-ropes-in-Virat-Kohli-as-brand-ambassador/articleshow/54379694.cms>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/off-the-field/Virat-Kohli-appointed-BSF-ambassador/articleshow/22900040.cms>



Shahan Ali Mohsin

Question: Recently who has won the Asian Karting Champion Championship?

- (A) Hayden haikal
- (B) Shahan Ali Mohsin
- (C) Oscar Engee
- (D) None of these

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- The final round of the National Rotax Max Asian Karting Champion Championship was held at Sepang Malaysia.
- Indian racer Shahan Ali Mohsin created history by clinching the Micro Max title in the final weekend of the Asian Karting Championship.
- He became the first Indian racer to win the Asian Karting Champion Championship.



Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/shahanracing/photos/pcb.646176635539697/646174978873196/?type=3&theater>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/sports/shahan-ali-mohsin-becomes-first-indian-to-win-the-asian-karting-championship/articleshow/54015974.cms>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/racing/top-stories/Shahan-becomes-first-Indian-to-win-Asian-Karting-Championship/articleshow/54006832.cms>

Anjum Chopra

Question: Name the first Indian woman cricketer to get the prestigious life membership of Marleybourne Cricket Club (MCC)?

- (a) Mithali Raj
- (b) Jhulan Goswami
- (c) Anjum Chopra
- (d) Harmanpreet Kaur

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 8 September 2016 Former Indian women's team captain Anjum Chopra has been awarded an honorary life membership of the Marleybourne Cricket Club (MCC).
- She is the first Indian woman cricketer to get the prestigious life membership of MCC.
- Virender Sehwag and Zaheer Khan were recently awarded the MCC memberships too.
- The 39-year-old Anjum played 12 Tests, 127 ODIs and 18 T20 Internationals for India.
- She scored 548 runs in Tests with 4 half centuries while in 50 overs format, she scored 2856 runs with a century and 18 half-centuries.



Reference:

<http://www.sportskeeda.com/cricket/anjum-chopra-first-indian-womens-cricketer-awarded-mcc-life-membership>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/sports/cricket/anjum-chopra-becomes-first-indian-woman-cricketer-to-receive-mcc-life-membership-3017241/>