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Current
Affairs

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Day to Day

₹ 500
1000

**NOTES CEASE TO
BE LEGAL TENDER**



QUESTIONS AND RELATED FACTS

1 NOVEMBER TO 30 NOVEMBER, 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 November to 30th November) 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.

Contents

NATIONAL	7
Withdrawal of Legal Tender Status for Rs 500 and Rs 1000 Notes.....	7
Visit of Prime Minister of the United Kingdom to India	9
State Visit of President of Israel to India	11
13th World Robot Olympiad	12
Cabinet approved new Merchant Shipping Bill.....	13
Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas to be opened in 62 uncovered districts of the country	15
Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board (IBBI) of India notified two Regulations.....	16
Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin).....	17
Second Visitor's Conference commences with the launch of Student Startup Policy.....	18
All India Radio launched its first-ever Gojri news bulletin	19
INTERNATIONAL	20
2016 Global Youth Development Index	20
ECONOMICS	21
India's first Payments Bank goes live.....	21
Cabinet approved 3rd Protocol of India-New Zealand tax treaty	22
First state in country to pass the motion in Legislative Assembly supporting Central government's move for demonetising.....	23
Five more banks join the UPI	23
SCIENTIFIC.....	24
India successfully test-fired Agni-I missile	24
Trial of Prithvi-II missile was successfully conducted.....	25
INS Chennai Joins the Indian Navy	25
Successful Maiden Flight of Rustom – II.....	26
NASA's MMS Breaks Guinness World Record	27
SIMBEX-2016	28
10th Indo-Nepal Joint Exercise Surya Kiran	29
SPORTS	30
FOOTBALL	30
2016 AFC Cup.....	30
BADMINTON.....	30
THAIHOT CHINA OPEN 2016	30
GOLF	31
BANK BRI-JCB Indonesia Open.....	31

Hero Women's Indian Open.....	32
FORMULA ONE.....	32
Brazilian Grand Prix	32
PERSONALITIES	33
Anand Yadav	33
Dileep Padgaonkar	33
Manoj Bajpayee.....	34
Prof. M G K Menon	34
Dr. Viveki Rai	35
Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu	36
Nikki Haley.....	36
M. Balamuralikrishna	37
Shatrughna Singh	38
Antonio Costa	39
Pankaj R Patel	39
New Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)	40
Lieutenant General S.K. Sinha	40
New President of INTERPOL	41
Kanubhai Gandhi	42
Aniruddha Rajput	42
New Special Director of Intelligence Bureau	43
Chitra Ramkrishna.....	44
Sarabjit Singh Marwah	44
Ranveer Singh	45
M. Rajeshwar	46
Sanjiv Arora.....	46
New chairman of GSM Association (GSMA)	47
D. Bala Venkatesh Varma	48
PLACES.....	48
Iraq	48
India.....	49
World's largest Marine Protected Area	49
Third State to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).....	50
Second Open Defecation Free State	50

OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN	51
Aligarh leads in Swachh Bharat awareness campaign	51
INS Shardul visits Port Victoria.....	52
Indo China Joint Military Exercise Hand –in- Hand 2016.....	53
Demchok mission.....	54
Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan	54
Joint military exercise SAMPRITI-2016	55
MMTC launched a multimedia advertising campaign	56
COMMISSION & COMMITTEE.....	57
Committee to enable 100 per cent conversion of Government – Citizen Transactions to the digital platform.....	57
Special Committee for Inter-Linking of Rivers.....	57
Special Task Force formed to recalibrate ATMs.....	58
Meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament for the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas	59
e-pashuhaat	59
PLANNING & PROJECT	60
Annapurna rasoi programme.....	60
Cabinet approval for State highway re-routing in Kakinada	60
Inauguration of the Gomti Riverfront Development Project	61
Revamped Aadhaar Toll-Free Helpline No. 1947 Launched	62
Free power connection programme	62
India and US launched clean energy projects	63
Several rail projects launched	63
“No More Tension” Mobile Application	64
Economic Editors’ Conference-2016.....	64
Pradhan Mantri Yuva Yojana.....	65
Startup Mentorship Circle	65
Madhubabu Aain Sahayata scheme.....	66
First LNG fuelled bus in the country	66
Saur Sujala Yojana	67
Affordable houses for urban poor in five States.....	67
TREATY & AGREEMENTS	68
MoU concerning the Demonstration Project for ICT based Green Hospital at AIIMS in Delhi	68
Agreement between Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India	69

NSDA Signs MoU with British Council	69
Agreement between Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India	70
Online submission of applications by urban poor for affordable houses	70
DRDO Signs MoU With IIT Delhi	71
MOU between India and Palestine	72
CONFERENCE.....	72
PETROTECH-2016	72
Annual Conference of DGPs/IGPs – 2016	73
5th International Tourism Mart-2016	74
Heart of Asia conference	74
Second All India Women Journalists' Workshop	74
Festival of India	75
Third World Internet Conference.....	75
First Cherry Blossom Festival	76
Second edition of National Children's Film Festival, 2016	76
36th India International Trade Fair	77
Urban Mobility India Conference.....	77
First-ever International Agrobiodiversity Congress.....	78
11th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission (CIC).....	79
17th National Rail Transport Conclave.....	79
India Ideas Conclave 2016	80
International Conference on Decarbonisation of Indian Railways- Mission Electrification	80
7TH Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2016	81
Mega Exhibition-cum-Sale at Handloom Haat	82
YEAR, DAY & WEEK.....	83
Constitution Day.....	83
International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.....	83
National Milk Day.....	84
World Television Day.....	84
Quami Ekta Week	85
International Day for Tolerance	85
World Diabetes Day.....	86
World Pneumonia Day 2016	86
National Education Day.....	87

Vigilance Awareness Week	87
World Cities Day	88
National unity day	88
International Internet Day	89
MISCELLANEOUS	89
M/O Culture Releases Commemorative & Circulation Coin on 500th Anniversary of Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's Coming to Vrindavan	89
Country's first cashless metro	90
Reliance Group launches IoT services venture 'UNLIMIT'	90
City Union Bank (CUB) launched country's first banking robot	91
YES MOBILE 2.0	91
Mobile application of '108' Samajwadi Health Service launched	92
Ministry Of Railways Decides To Post Station Directors at A1 Category Stations	92
New building of Institute of Archaeology	93
EPFO joins network of Common Services Centers	94
SPORTS PERSONALITY	95
Robin Peterson	95
Jason McCracken	95

NATIONAL

Withdrawal of Legal Tender Status for Rs 500 and Rs 1000 Notes

Question: From mid-night 8 November 2016 Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes was legally invalid. What is the time limit fixed by the government, after which the old notes of Rs 500 and 1000 are not acceptable in any form?

- (a) 31 March 2017
- (b) 31 January 2017
- (c) 30 November 2017
- (d) 30 December 2016

Ans. (a)



Related facts:

- From mid-night 8 November 2016 Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 notes were declared legally invalid.
- To break the grip of corruption and black money the government has taken this decision.
- The five hundred and thousand rupee notes hoarded by anti-national and anti-social elements will become just worthless pieces of paper.
- Persons holding old notes of five hundred or one thousand rupees can deposit these notes in bank or post offices from 10th November onwards till 30th December.
- For immediate cash needs, these notes of value up to Rs. 4,000 per person (now it is extended Rs. 4500 per person) can be exchanged for cash over the counter of bank branches by presenting a valid proof of identity for availing this exchange facility.
- There will not be any limit on the quantity or value of Old High Denomination Bank Notes to be credited to the account of the tenderer maintained with the bank, where the Old High Denomination Bank Notes are tendered.
- However, in accounts where compliance with extant Know Your Customer (KYC) norms is not complete, a maximum value of Rs.50,000/- of Old High Denomination Bank Notes can be deposited.
- Cash withdrawal from a bank account, over the counter will be restricted to Rs.10,000/- subject to an overall limit of Rs. 20,000/- in a week for the first fortnight, i.e., until the end of business hours on November 24, 2016.
- There will be no restriction on the use of any non-cash method of operating the account which will include cheques, demand drafts, credit/debit cards, mobile wallets and electronic fund transfer mechanisms.
- To avoid inconvenience to the public Old High Denomination Bank Notes will continue to be accepted at Government Hospitals and pharmacies in these hospitals/Railway ticketing

counters/ticket counters of Government/Public Sector Undertaking buses and airline ticketing counters at airports; for purchases at consumer co-operative societies, at milk booths, at crematoria/burial grounds, at petrol/diesel/gas stations of Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies and for arriving and departing passengers at international airports and for foreign tourists to exchange foreign currency at airports up to a specified amount till 11 November 2016.

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has issued new series of notes for 500 rupees and 2,000 rupees denomination with improved features and newer sizes.
- It will be for the first time 2,000 rupees note denomination has been issued. It will be called as the 'Mahatma Gandhi (New) Series'.
- The base colour of the note is magenta.
- Size of the new note is 66mm*166mm.
- It has a motif of the Mangalayan, the low-cost mission of ISRO to Mars on the reverse side and Mahatma Gandhi on front side.
- 500 rupee note has different colour, size, theme, design and location of security features compared to the old notes.
- It has portrait and electrotpe watermarks.
- It will be in a stone grey in colour.
- The motif Delhi's Red Fort is on reverse side and Mahatma Gandhi on front side. Size of the new note is 63mm*150mm.
- In this connection, it may be noted that while the total number of bank notes in circulation rose by 40% between 2011 and 2016, the increase in number of notes of Rs.500/- denomination was 76% and for Rs.1,000/- denomination was 109% during this period.
- The World Bank in July, 2010 estimated the size of the shadow economy for India at 20.7% of the GDP in 1999 and rising to 23.2% in 2007.

Reference:

http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/prime-ministers-address-to-the-nation/?comment=disable

http://finmin.nic.in/press_room/2016/press_cancellation_high_denomination_notes.pdf

<http://finmin.nic.in/172522.pdf>

<http://finmin.nic.in/172521.pdf>

<https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/FAQView.aspx?Id=119>

https://rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=38520

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153403>

Visit of Prime Minister of the United Kingdom to India

Question: Name the Prime minister of U.K who recently visited India?

- (a) John Kerry (b) David Cameron
(c) Theresa May (d) David Miliband

Ans. (c)

Related facts:



- Prime Minister Theresa May visited India during 6-8 November 2016 at the invitation of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- Theresa May assumed office in July 2016 as the United Kingdom's second female prime minister.
- This was her first bilateral visit outside Europe after taking over as the Prime Minister of the U.K
- India and the United Kingdom share close and friendly ties.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to UK from 12-14 November, 2015 took the relationship between the largest and the oldest democracies to new heights.
- UK is among India's major trading partners and during the year 2014-15, UK ranked 18th in the list of India's top 25 trading partners.
- As per data published by Department of Commerce, two-way merchandise trade during 2014-15 was US\$14.33 billion, marking a decrease of 9.39% as compared to 2013-14.
- UK's share in India's global trade has gone down from 2.07% in 2013-14 to 1.89% in 2014-15.
- India's main exports to the UK are garments and textiles, machinery and instruments, petroleum products, footwear and leather, manufactures of metals, gems and jewellery, engineering goods, transport equipment and parts, spices, drugs & pharmaceuticals and marine products.
- The main imports from the UK to India are machinery and equipment, ores and metal scraps, precious and semiprecious stones, silver, metals, aircrafts parts, beverages and spirits, machinery, engineering goods, and other professional instruments other than electronics, non-ferrous metals and chemicals.
- UK is the 3rd largest inward investor in India, after Mauritius, and Singapore with a cumulative equity investment of US \$22.56 billion (April 2000- September 2015).
- Education is an important plank of the India-UK bilateral relationship.
- UK has traditionally been a favorite destination for international students. Management, computing, engineering, media studies, art and design are the preferred courses of the Indian students.

- At present, there are approximately 20,000 Indian students pursuing Undergraduate and Postgraduate courses in the UK.
- During PM's visit to the UK in November 2015, both Prime Ministers announced that a UK-India Year of Culture will be organized in 2017 to celebrate our deep cultural ties and mark the 70th anniversary of Indian Independence.
- The India Diaspora in UK is one of the largest ethnic minority communities in the country, with the 2011 census recording approximately 1.5 million people of Indian origin in the UK equating to almost 1.8 percent of the population and contributing 6% of the country's GDP.
- The following two MOUs are exchanged during the visit of Prime Minister of the United Kingdom to India on 7 November, 2016.
 1. MoU on Ease of Doing Business between the Government of India and the Government of UK.
 2. MoU between the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, India and the Intellectual Property Office of the United Kingdom (UK IPO) for cooperation in the field of intellectual property.

Reference:

<https://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-detail.htm?27581/Address+by+Prime+Minister+at+IndiaUK+Tech+Summit+New+Delhi+November+07+2016>

<https://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-detail.htm?27582/Press+Statement+by+Prime+Minister+during+the+visit+of+Prime+Minister+of+the+United+Kingdom+to+India+November+07+2016>

<https://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-detail.htm?27583/List+of+MOUs+exchanged+during+the+visit+of+Prime+Minister+of+the+United+Kingdom+to+India+November+07+2016>

<https://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-detail.htm?27584/IndiaUK+Joint+Statement+during+the+visit+of+Prime+Minister+of+the+United+Kingdom+to+India+IndiaUK+Strategic+Partnership+looking+forward+to+a+renewed+engagement+Vision+for+the+decade+ahead>

https://www.mea.gov.in/Portal/ForeignRelation/UK-Jan_2016_en.pdf

State Visit of President of Israel to India

Question: President of Israel was on State Visit to India on 14-21 November 2016 . Who is the President of Israel?

- (a) Ariel Sharon (b) Shimon Peres
(c) Reuven Rivlin (d) None of these

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- From 14-21 November, 2016; Reuven Rivlin, President of Israel was on state visit to India.
- President Rivlin had his first ever visit to India
- Earlier President of India Pranab Mukherjee visited Israel in October 2015.
- The President of Israel was accompanied on his visit by a delegation made up of economic and business leaders, as well as a delegation of university presidents and education heads from Israel.
- Reuven Rivlin, President of Israel met Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15 November 2016 at Hyderabad House in New Delhi.
- The two leaders held delegation level talks.
- Both countries signed two agreements:
 - (i) Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in the field of water resources management (MoU).
 - (ii) Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation in Agriculture (MoU).

Reference:

<https://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-detail.htm?27603/Media+Statement+by+Prime+Minister+during+the+State+visit+of+President+of+Israel+to+India+November+15+2016>
<https://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-info.htm?1933/State+Visit+of+President+of+Israel+to+India+November+14+21+2016>

13th World Robot Olympiad

Question: Recently 13th World Robot Olympiad commenced in which of the following Indian city?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Greater Noida
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Jaipur



Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- On 26 November 2016; the two-day 13th World Robot Olympiad began at the India Expo Mart in Greater Noida.
- It was jointly organized by National Council of Science Museums (NCSM) under the aegis of Ministry of Culture and India STEM Foundation (ISF).
- This is being held in India for the first time with the aim to find innovative solutions using robotics technology to reduce, manage and recycle waste.
- The theme for this year's event is 'Rap the Scrap'.
- The two day (November 26th – November 27th) event was inaugurated by Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (I/C) for Culture and Tourism.
- Over 2000 students from 51 countries are participating in this international championship and showcased innovative solutions using robotics technology to reduce, manage and recycle waste.
- The competition was held for students in the 9-25 years age group in the following four categories – Regular category (Elementary, Junior High, Senior High), WRO Football, Open category and Advanced Robotics Challenge.
- The event is supported by Dept. of Science & Technology, Govt. of India.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154406>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/india-hosts-world-robot-olympiad-for-the-first-time-4394814/>

<http://tech.firstpost.com/news-analysis/13th-world-robot-olympiad-begins-in-india-349775.html>

Cabinet approved new Merchant Shipping Bill

Question: Which of the following is the United Nations specialized agency with responsibility for the safety and security of shipping and the prevention of marine pollution by ships?

- a) IMO – the International Maritime Organization
- b) World Maritime University (WMU)
- c) International Maritime Law Institute (IMLI)
- d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)



Relevant facts:

- On 23rd November, 2016 The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the Merchant Shipping Bill, 2016 for introducing it in the Parliament.
- The Merchant Shipping Bill, 2016 is a revamped version of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958. The Bill provides for repealing of Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 as well as for the repealing of the Coasting Vessels Act, 1838.
- The Coasting Vessels Act, 1838, which is an archaic legislation of the British era providing for registration of non-mechanically propelled vessels to a limited jurisdiction of Saurashtra and Kutch, is proposed to be repealed since the new Bill has for registration of all vessels for the whole of India.
- The Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 had become a bulky piece of legislation due to amendments carried out in the Act from time to time. It was amended 17 times between 1966 and 2014 resulting in an increase in the number of sections to more than 560 sections.
- These provisions have been shortened to 280 sections in the Bill. The provisions of the Bill will simplify the law governing the merchant shipping in India.
- The provisions for survey, inspection and certification of vessels which were scattered in various Parts of the existing Act are placed together to provide for a simplified regime for convenience of Indian shipping industry.
- Certain redundant provisions will be dispensed with and remaining provisions will stand consolidated and simplified so as to promote ease of doing business, transparency and effective delivery of services.

Benefits:

- It will augment Indian tonnage and development of coastal shipping in India by allowing substantially-owned vessels and vessels on Bare Boat-cum-Demise (BBCD). It will also facilitate recognising Indian controlled tonnage as a separate category. It will do away with the requirement for issuing of licences to Indian flag vessels for coastal operation and for port clearance by the Customs authorities.
- Welfare measures for seafarers have been introduced under this Bill. It provides for wages for seafarers held in hostage, insurance for crew engaged on vessels including fishing, sailing without mechanical means of propulsion. The crew will not be required to sign articles of agreement before the Shipping Master.
- The bill upon enactment will incorporate all International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Conventions/Protocols in the Indian laws up-to-date. These are:
 - a) the Intervention Convention 1969,
 - b) the Search and Rescue Convention 1979
 - c) the Protocol for Prevention of Pollution from Ships Annex VI to Marine Pollution Convention,
 - d) the Convention for Control and Management of Ships Ballast Water and Sediments, 2004,
 - e) the Nairobi Wreck Removal Convention, 2007,
 - f) the Salvage Convention 1989 and
 - g) the International Convention for Bunker Oil Pollution Damage, 2001.

Reference:

<http://pi.b.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154201>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/shipping/-/transport/cabinet-approves-new-merchant-shipping-bill/articleshow/55588748.cms>

<http://www.imo.org/en/About/Pages/Default.aspx>

Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas to be opened in 62 uncovered districts of the country

Question: How many functional Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalayas are there in the country presently?

a) 591 b) 600 c) 579 d) 800

Ans: (a)

Relevant facts:

- On 23rd November, 2016 The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi approved opening of one Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya (JNV) in each of the 62 uncovered districts with an outlay of Rs.2,871 crore..
- The expenditure for this purpose during the 12th Plan will be Rs.109.53 crore with a spill over amount of Rs.2,761.56 crore from 2017-18 to 2024-25.
- A full fledged Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya provide employment to 47 persons and accordingly 62 JNVs will provide direct permanent employment to 2914 individuals.
- These JNVs will provide good quality modern education to the talented children prominently from rural areas. It is expected that nearly 35,000 students will be benefitted from these JNVs.

About Jawahar Navodaya Vidyalaya

- The National Policy on Education- 1986 envisaged setting up of residential schools that would bring out the best of the rural talent. Navodaya Vidyalayas are run by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti an autonomous organisation under the ministry of Human Resource Development. As on date, there are 598 sanctioned JNVs in 576 districts spread across 35 States / Union Territories. Out of these, 591 are functional. Each JNV has classes from VI to XII with a sanctioned strength of 80 students per class and total strength of 560 students. At least 75% of the seats in a district are filled by candidates selected from rural areas of the district. JNVs are residential and co-educational in nature, it is compulsory for all the staff and students to reside in the Vidyalaya campus.

Reference:

http://nvshq.org/news_home.php

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154199>



Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board (IBBI) of India notified two Regulations

Question: When was The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India established?

- a) October 1, 2016
- b) April 1, 2015
- c) April 1, 2016
- d) November 8, 2016

Ans: (a)

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Model Bye-Laws and Governing Board of Insolvency Professional Agencies) Regulations, 2016

The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Professional Agencies) Regulations, 2016

Related facts:

- On 22nd November, 2016 The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI), in exercise of its powers conferred under section 240 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016, has notified two regulations.

- These two regulations will come in to effect on 29th November, 2016. These are :

1- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Model Bye-Laws and Governing Board of Insolvency Professional Agencies) Regulations, 2016

- The Regulations is based on Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. It mandates Insolvency professional agencies to have Bye-Laws, lays guidelines for Amendment of Bye-Laws and ascertains the composition of Governing Board. It also provides for formation of certain committees along with duties and monitoring of members of the agency. The Regulation also has provision for disciplinary proceeding against professional members.

2- The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (Insolvency Professional Agencies) Regulations, 2016

- This regulation is also based on Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016. It provides for the Eligibility Criterion for registration as an insolvency professional agency and Grant of certificate of registration. It lays down the Procedure for rejecting application. This Regulation also has Surrender or cancellation of Registration and disciplinary proceeding clauses.
- These two regulations inter alia provide for the eligibility norms to be a Professional Member of an Insolvency Professional Agency and also for eligibility norms to be registered with the IBBI as an Insolvency Professional Agency.
- A company registered under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 with a minimum net worth of Rs. 10 crore shall be eligible to be an Insolvency Professional Agency.
- The implementation of these regulations will prove to be comprehensive and systemic reform, which will give a quantum leap to the functioning of the credit market.
- It would take India from among relatively weak insolvency regimes to becoming one of the world's best insolvency regimes. It lays the foundations for the development of the corporate bond market, which would finance the infrastructure projects of the future.
- It is to be noted that The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India was established on October 1, 2016 in accordance with the provisions of The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016.

Reference:

<http://www.ibbi.gov.in/>

<http://www.pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=145286>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154102>

Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana (Gramin)

Question: Where did the Prime Minister Narendra Modi formally launched “Housing for All” in rural areas under which the Government proposes to provide an environmentally safe and secure pucca house to every rural household by 2022?

- (a) Agra
- (b) Mathura
- (c) Lucknow
- (d) Varanasi

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 20 November 2016 Prime Minister, Narendra Modi formally launched “Housing for All” in rural areas under which the Government proposes to provide an environmentally safe and secure pucca house to every rural household by 2022.
- The unit cost for these houses has been significantly increased and now through convergence a minimum support of nearly Rs. 1.5 lakh to Rs. 1.6 lakh to a household is available.
- There is also a provision of Bank loan upto Rs. 70,000/-, if the beneficiary so desires.
- The selection of beneficiaries has been through a completely transparent process using the Socio Economic Census 2011 data and validating it through the Gram Sabha.
- The programme targets the poor households and uses ICT and space technology to further confirm correct selection of beneficiaries and progress of work.
- The entire payments are through IT/DBT mode with Aadhaar linked Bank accounts with consent, to ensure complete transparency and accountability. There is a provision for orientation of beneficiaries.
- A 45 days on site hands-on skill training of Rural Masons helps poor households to move up the skilling ladder.

Reference:

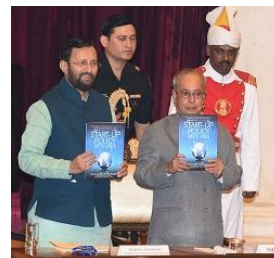
<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153931>

Second Visitor's Conference commences with the launch of Student Startup Policy

Question: National Student Startup Policy is formulated by-

- (a) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (b) NCERT
- (c) AICTE
- (d) CBSE

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 16 November 2016 President of India, Pranab Mukherjee launched the National Student Startup Policy on the opening day of the second Visitor's Conference at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- The National Student Startup Policy is formulated by AICTE(All India Council for Technical Education).
- It aims to create 100,000 technology based student start-ups and a million employment opportunities within the next 10 years.
- The policy plans on achieving this by developing an ideal entrepreneurial ecosystem and promoting strong inter-institutional partnerships among technical institutions.
- It emphasizes the much-desired need for an appropriate startup policy to propel the youth of India through and beyond the 21st century.
- It is noteworthy that job creation figures of 1.35 lakh in 2015, which is the lowest in seven years, are not encouraging.

Reference:

<http://presidentofindia.nic.in/press-release-detail.htm?2608>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153688>

All India Radio launched its first-ever Gojri news bulletin

Question: In which of the following state, All India Radio launched its first-ever Gojri news bulletin to reach out to lakhs of people of the Gujjar community?

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Haryana
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) Rajasthan

Ans. (c)



Related facts:

- On 10 November 2016 All India Radio launched its first-ever Gojri news bulletin, reaching out to lakhs of people of the Gujjar community in Jammu and Kashmir.
- The inaugural ceremony was held at Abhinav Theatre Jammu with Deputy Chief Minister Nirmal Singh launching the new news bulletin.
- It will help in a big way in disseminating the important information to people of the state in general and Gujjar Bakerwal community including nomadic tribes in particular.
- Gojri is one of the most widely spoken language in Jammu and Kashmir and over 20 percent chunk of the population in state consists of the Gojri speaking people.
- The five minutes bulletin will be aired at 10:15 am daily from the transmitters of Radio Kashmir Jammu.

Reference:

<http://www.uniindia.com/j-k-dycm-launches-first-gojri-news-bulletin/states/news/681871.html>

<http://jammuvoice.com/good-news-radio-kashmir-jammu-launches-gojri-news-bulletin-2/>

INTERNATIONAL

2016 Global Youth Development Index

Question: India has been ranked at which of the following position in recently published Global Youth Development Index (YDI) by the Commonwealth Secretariat?

- (a) 106th
- (b) 95th
- (c) 133rd
- (d) 125th

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- In October 2016 London based Commonwealth Secretariat has released the 2016 Global Youth Development Index (YDI).
- There are 183 countries in the 2016 Global Youth Development Index (YDI).
- The Global Youth Development Index report measures countries' prospects for young people in employment, education, health, civic and political spheres.
- The top 10 countries on the index are Germany (1), Denmark (2), Switzerland (4), United Kingdom (5), Netherlands (6), Austria (7), Luxembourg (8), Portugal (9) – with Australia (3) and Japan (10).
- The last five countries are Central African Republic (183rd), Chad (183rd), Cote d'Ivoire (181st), Niger (180th), Equatorial Guinea (179th) and Guinea-Bissau (178th).
- India has been ranked 133rd out of 183 countries with score of 0.548.
- Among the India's neighboring countries Nepal has been ranked (77th), Bhutan (69th) and Sri Lanka (31st), Bangladesh (154th) and Pakistan (154th).
- In terms of employment opportunities, India lags behind the rest of the world significantly, ranking 152nd.

Reference:

<http://cmydiprod.uksouth.cloudapp.azure.com/sites/default/files/2016-10/2016%20Global%20Youth%20Development%20Index%20and%20Report.pdf>
<http://youthdevelopmentindex.org/>

ECONOMICS

India's first Payments Bank goes live

Question: Recently Airtel has launched India's first payments bank in which of the following state?

- (a) Uttarakhand
- (b) Rajasthan
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Haryana



Ans.(b)

Related facts:

- On 23 November 2016 Airtel has launched India's first payments bank in Rajasthan.
- It would provide an interest of 7.25% per annum on deposits.
- Airtel Payments Bank is a subsidiary of Bharti Airtel.
- Account can be opened with Aadhaar based paperless e-KYC, with no extra documents required and customer's Airtel mobile number would be his/her bank account number.
- Over 10,000 Airtel retail outlets in towns and villages across Rajasthan will function as banking points and offer convenient banking services to customers
- It may be recalled that on April 11 2016, Airtel Payments Bank (which began operations in 2011 as Airtel M-Commerce Services) received a payments bank license from the Reserve Bank of India.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank has acquired 19.90 percent stake in Airtel Payments Bank for around Rs. 98.8 crores in February 2016.
- Highlights about the bank:
 - Anyone (non-Airtel customers also) with an Aadhaar card can open a Savings Account
 - Customer's Airtel mobile number will be his/her bank account number
 - Personal Accidental Insurance of Rs 1 lakh with every Savings Account
 - Customer can open an account by visiting a designated Airtel retail outlet in his/her neighborhood.
 - Airtel Bank does not offer ATM/Debit Card facility, at present. Customers can deposit withdraw cash at any of the designated Airtel retail outlets
 - Airtel Bank is a paperless bank. Customers can check their account balance, access other services using Airtel Money app, Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) or Interactive voice response over their mobile phones
 - Customers can access money transfer services using the Airtel Money app or through USSD by dialing *400#. Money transfers from one Airtel number to another Airtel number within the bank will be free

Reference:

<http://www.airtel.in/about-bharti/media-centre/bharti-airtel-news/corporate/india++first+payments+bank+goes+live-airtel+payments+bank+starts+pilot+services+in+rajasthan>

Cabinet approved 3rd Protocol of India-New Zealand tax treaty

Question: Under which section of the Income Tax Act is the Central Government authorized to enter into an Agreement with a foreign country or specified territory for exchange of information and recovery of income tax for the prevention of evasion or avoidance of income-tax?

- a) section 90
- b) section 30
- c) section 40
- d) section 19(a)

Ans: (a)

Relevant facts:

- On 23rd November, 2016 The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the ratification and entry into force of the third Protocol to the Convention between India and New Zealand for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.
- The Protocol was signed on 26th October, 2016. It will stimulate the flow of exchange of information for tax purposes and help curb tax evasion and tax avoidance.
- It will also enable assistance in collection of tax revenue claims between both countries.
- Article 26 on 'Exchange of Information' of the existing Convention has been replaced with a new Article in the Protocol which is in line with the international standard for exchange of information.
- A new Article on 'Assistance on Collection of Taxes' has been added in the Protocol.
- The Protocol shall enter into force on the date of notification of completion of the procedures required by the respective laws of the two countries for entry into force.
- It is notable that The Central Government is authorized under section 90 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to enter into an Agreement with a foreign country or specified territory for exchange of information and recovery of income tax for the prevention of evasion or avoidance of income-tax.
- The Convention which came into force on 3rd December, 1986 was amended in 1997 through a First Protocol and in 2000 through a Second Protocol.
- Subsequently, India proposed to further amend the Convention through a Third Protocol to update the Exchange of Information Article as per the international standard and to insert an Article on Assistance in the Collection of taxes.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154203>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/cabinet-clears-3rd-protocol-of-india-new-zealand-tax-treaty/1/818278.html>



First state in country to pass the motion in Legislative Assembly supporting Central government's move for demonetising

Question: Name the first state in country to pass the motion in Legislative Assembly supporting Central government's move for demonetising Rs 1000 and Rs 500 banknotes?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Assam
- (d) Chattisgarh

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 16 November 2016 Chhattisgarh became the first state in country to pass the motion in Legislative Assembly supporting Central government's move for demonetising Rs 1000 and Rs 500 banknotes.
- The assembly passed the resolution with 41 votes in favour and 25 against the motion.
- The chief minister, Dr Raman Singh told the assembly that the house welcomes the Centre's decision of demonetisation and expressed support to promote institutional mechanisms for clean monetary transactions.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/drramansingh/status/798883028240134145>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/chg-passes-motion-backing-demonetisation-waives-vat-on-card-116111601942_1.html

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2016/nov/17/chhattisgarh-passes-motion-backing-demonetisation-waives-vat-on-card-payment-1539570.html>



Five more banks join the UPI

Question: Which among the following is not included in the list of five new banks which have joined the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ?

- (a) State Bank of India
- (b) HDFC Bank
- (c) Allahabad Bank
- (d) Vijaya Bank

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 5 November 2016 Five new banks have joined the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- Now the total number of banks using UPI has reached to 26.
- The latest entrants include public sector lenders State Bank of India, Allahabad Bank and Bank of Baroda and two private banks -HDFC Bank and IDFC Bank.
- UPI is being provided by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) which runs the domestic card transaction platform RuPay.

Reference:

<http://epaperbeta.timesofindia.com/Article.aspx?eid=31818&articlexml=SBI-HDFC-Among-5-New-Banks-to-Join-04112016017027>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/five-more-banks-join-the-upi-bandwagon/articleshow/55227544.cms>



SCIENTIFIC

India successfully test-fired Agni-I missile

Question: Recently India successfully test-fired its indigenously built nuclear capable Agni-I ballistic missile, It is a-

- (a) Surface-to-Surface missile (b) Surface-to-Air missile
(c) Air-to-Surface missile (d) Air-to-Air missile

Ans.(a)



Related facts:

- On 22 November 2016 India successfully test-fired its indigenously built nuclear capable Agni-I ballistic missile.
- It can hit a target 700 km away, as part of a user trial by Army from a test range off Odisha coast.
- It is a surface-to-surface missile, powered by solid propellants.
- It was test-fired from a mobile launcher at 10.10 AM from launch pad-4 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) at Abdul Kalam Island (Wheeler Island).
- The launch was undertaken as periodic training activity by (Strategic Forces Command) SFC to further consolidate operational readiness.
- It weighs 12 tonnes and is 15-metre-long.
- It is designed to carry a payload of more than 500 Kg.
- Agni-I was developed by a premier missile development laboratory of DRDO in collaboration with Defence Research Development Laboratory and Research Centre Imarat and integrated by Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad.
- The last trial of Agni-I, conducted successfully on March 14, 2016 from the same base.

Reference:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/India-test-fires-Agni-I-ballistic-missile/articleshow/55559328.cms>

Trial of Prithvi-II missile was successfully conducted

Question: Recently India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed nuclear capable Prithvi-II missile, It is a-

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

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 21 November 2016 India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed nuclear capable Prithvi-II missile. The test was conducted by the India Army from a test range at Chandipur in Odisha. During the test, two Prithvi-II missiles in salvo mode were successfully test-fired in quick succession from mobile launcher from launch complex-3 of the Integrated Test Range (ITR).
- Prithvi-II is a surface-to-surface missiles which have a strike range of 350 km and are capable of carrying 500 kg to 1,000 kg of warheads.
- It was inducted into Indian armed forces in 2003 by the Strategic Forces Command (SFC).
- In a similar trial, India test fired Prithvi II as a part of a users trial on 18 May 2016.

Reference:

http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/Prithvi-II-missiles-successfully-test-fired/article16674321.ece?utm_source=RSS_Feed&utm_medium=RSS&utm_campaign=RSS_Syndication

INS Chennai Joins the Indian Navy

Question: Recently INS Chennai, a P 15A Guided Missile Destroyer, was commissioned into the Indian Navy by Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar at which of the following place?

- (a) Vishakhapatnam (b) Mumbai (c) Goa (d) Kochi

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 21 November 2016 INS Chennai, a P 15A Guided Missile Destroyer, was commissioned into the Indian Navy Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar at an ceremony held at the Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.

- The event marks the formal induction into the Navy of the third and the last of the three ‘Kolkata’ class destroyers, indigenously designed by the Indian Navy’s in-house organisation, Directorate of Naval Design and constructed by Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai.
- The ship measures 163m in length, 17.4m in breadth with a displacement of 7500 tonnes and can rightfully be regarded as one of the most potent warships to have been constructed in India.
- The ship is propelled by four powerful Gas Turbines, in a Combined Gas and Gas (COGAG) configuration, capable of achieving speeds in excess of 30 knots.
- The ship has enhanced stealth features resulting in a reduced Radar Cross Section (RCS) achieved through efficient shaping of hull, full beam superstructure design, plated masts and use of radar transparent materials on exposed decks.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153966>

Successful Maiden Flight of Rustom – II

Question: Recently India has conducted its first successful flight test of the indigenously developed Rustom-II medium-altitude, long-endurance unmanned aerial vehicle (MALE UAV) at which of the following place?

- (a) Chandi (b) Sriharikota (c) Chitradurga (d) Vellari

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 16 October 2016 DRDO has conducted its first successful flight test of the indigenously developed Rustom-II(TAPAS 201) medium-altitude, long-endurance unmanned aerial vehicle (MALE UAV) at the Chitradurga flight test range in the southern state of Karnataka, India.
- Chitradurga, 250 km from Bangalore which is a newly developed flight test range for the testing of UAVs and manned aircraft.
- TAPAS 201, the MALE UAV has been designed and developed by Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), the Bangalore-based premier lab of DRDO with HAL-BEL as the production partners.

- TAPAS 201, a multi-mission UAV is being developed to carry out the Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) roles for the three Armed Forces with an endurance of 24 hours

Reference:

http://www.drdo.gov.in/drdo/English/dpi/press_release/rustamII_161116.pdf

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153691>

NASA's MMS Breaks Guinness World Record

Question: NASA stands for... .

- a) National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- b) National Air force and space Administration
- c) National Air force and Ship Administration
- d) None of the above.



Ans (a)

Related facts:

- NASA's Magnetospheric Multiscale mission (MMS) has set the Guinness World Record for highest altitude fix of a GPS signal — 70,006.4 kilometres above the surface of the earth.
- Earlier this year, MMS achieved the closest flying separation of a multi-spacecraft formation with only 7.2 km between the four satellites.
- When closest to Earth, the satellites move at up to 35,405 km per hour, making them the fastest known operational use of a GPS receiver.
- MMS will enter Phase 2 of the mission next year and the satellites will be sent in to an even larger orbit to explore a different part of Earth's magnetosphere.
- MMS is in the first year of its prime mission and giving scientists new insight into Earth's magnetosphere.
- The mission uses four individual satellites that fly in a pyramid formation to map magnetic reconnection – a process that occurs as the sun and Earth's magnetic fields interact.

Reference:

<http://www.ndtv.com/world-news/nasas-mms-creates-new-guinness-world-record-1621679>

SIMBEX-2016

Question: ‘SIMBEX-2016’, the Bilateral Naval Exercise between Navies of the Republic of Singapore and India is scheduled to held from 31 October to 05 November at which of the following place?

- (a) Kochi (b) Bay of Bengal
(c) Mormugao (d) Chennai

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- ‘SIMBEX-2016’, the Bilateral Naval Exercise between Navies of the Republic of Singapore and India is scheduled to held from 31 October to 05 November.
- This year’s edition of SIMBEX-16 will be held in the Bay of Bengal region would be the 23rd in the series.
- SIMBEX is an acronym for ‘Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercises’. Bilateral cooperation between Singapore and India was first formalized when RSN ships began training with the Indian Navy in 1994.
- The scope of this exercise includes wide-ranging professional interactions during the Harbour Phase scheduled from 31 October to 02 November.
- While a diverse range of operational activities at sea during the Sea Phase to be held from 03 to 05 November.
- During SIMBEX-16, the Singapore Navy is represented by RSS Formidable and Maritime Patrol Aircraft Fokker 50 operating from Port Blair.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153112>

10th Indo-Nepal Joint Exercise Surya Kiran

Question: The 10th Indo-Nepal Joint Exercise Surya Kiran is scheduled to be held from 31 October to 13 November 16 at which of the following place?

- (a) Gwalior (b) Saljhandi
(c) Pithoragarh (d) Jaisalmer

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- From 31 October to 13 November 2016; The 10th Indo-Nepal Joint Exercise Surya Kiran is scheduled to be held at Army Battle School, Saljhandi, Nepal.
- The Surya Kiran series of Exercises are being conducted annually, alternatively in Nepal and India. Notably in the series of military training exercises undertaken by India with various countries, Surya Kiran series with Nepal is the largest in terms of troop's participation.
- Indian Army is represented by the elite Kumaon Regt, while Jabar Jung Battalion of Nepal Army is participating in this edition of the joint exercise on behalf of Nepal Army.
- The aim of this exercise is to conduct battalion level joint training with emphasis on Counter Terrorism in mountainous terrain. Aspects of Disaster Management have also been included in the exercise. The Joint Battalion Level Exercise will enhance defence co-operation and relations between the two nations. It is an ideal platform for the contingent of both nations to share their experience and gain mutually.
- The 9th Indo-Nepal Combined Battalion level Military Training Exercise 'Surya Kiran' was conducted from February 8 to 21, 2016 at Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153142>

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

2016 AFC Cup

Question: Which of the following team has won the 2016 AFC Cup?

- (a) Monaco FC (b) Air Force Club (c) Bengaluru FC (d) None of these

Ans. (b)



Related facts:

- The 2016 AFC Cup was the 13th edition of the AFC Cup ended on 5 November 2016 in Doha, Qatar. It is Asia's secondary club football tournament organized by the Asian Football Confederation (AFC). In the final, Iraqi Air Force Club defeated Indian team Bengaluru FC by 1–0 to win their first title. Air Force Club became the first Iraqi team to win Asian Clubs competition. Most Valuable Player-Hammadi Ahmed , Top Goal Scorer player-Hammadi Ahmed

Reference:

<http://the-afc.com/afc-cup-2016/afc-cup-2016-match-report-air-force-club-v-jsw-bengaluru-fc/sr-matchId/10433996>

BADMINTON

THAIHOT CHINA OPEN 2016

Question: Who has won the women's singles title of the Thaihot China Open-2016 ?

- (a) Sun Yu (b) Saina Nehwal (c) PV Sindhu (d) None of these

Ans.(c)



Related facts:

- The Thaihot China Open 2016 was the eleventh Superseries tournament of the 2016 BWF Super Series. The tournament took place in Fuzhou, China from November 15–20, 2016

Men's Singles:

- Winner: Jan O Jorgensen(Denmark)

- Runner Up: Chen Long(China)

Women's Singles:

- Winner: P.V. Sindhu(India)
- Runner Up: Sun Yu(China)
- This was first World Super series title for P.V Sindhu.
- P.V Sindhu is third non-Chinese woman to win the title after Malaysia's Wong Mew Choo in 2007 and India's own Saina Nehwal in 2014.

Reference:

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2471/thaihot-china-open/podium>

<http://bwfbadminton.com/2016/11/19/scintillating-sindhu-into-final-thaihot-china-open-2016-day-5/>

GOLF

BANK BRI-JCB Indonesia Open

Question: Who has won the recently held BANK BRI-JCB Indonesia Open?

- (a) Arjun Atwal (b) Gaganjeet Bhullar (c) Aman Raj (d) Shiv Chaurasia



Ans.(a)

Related facts:

- BANK BRI-JCB Indonesia Open on 17-20 November 2016. Winner: Gaganjeet Bhullar
- He won the BANK BRI-JCB Indonesia Open for the second time in his career.
- Earlier he won the tournament in 2013. He won his seventh Asian Tour victory and a second title this season. With his win at the BANK BRI-JCB Indonesia Open, Bhullar is now the fifth player after Thaworn Wiratchant of Thailand, Frank Nobilo of New Zealand, Frankie Minoza of the Philippines and Lu Hsi-chuen of Chinese Taipei to win the event twice. Jeev Milkha Singh of India, a two-time Asian Tour number one won the 2nd place with other three players.

Reference:

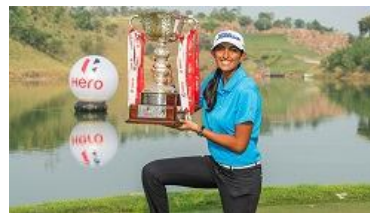
<http://www.asiantour.com/2016/11/21/double-joy-for-bhullar-indoopengolf/>

Hero Women's Indian Open

Question: Who has won the title of Hero Women's Indian Open golf tournament?

- (a) Michelle V (b) Paula Creamer
(c) Inbee Park (d) Aditi Ashok

Ans. (d)



Related facts:

- Hero Women's Indian Open was played at the DLF Golf and Country Club in Gurugram (Gurgaon), India on 11-13 November 2016.
- Aditi Ashok won the Hero Women's Indian Open title.
- She became the first Indian woman to win a Ladies European Tour title by clinching the Hero Women's Indian Open.

Reference:

<http://ladieseuropeantour.com/tournament/2016-hero-womens-indian-open/>

http://www.womensindianopen.com/news2016/Aditi_becomes_the_first_Indian.php

FORMULA ONE

Brazilian Grand Prix

Question: Who won the Brazilian Grand Prix 2016 formula one race?

- (a) Nico Rosberg (b) Lewis Hamilton
(c) Max Verstappen (d) Daniel Ricardo

Ans.(b)



Related facts:

- Brazilian Grand Prix was 20th race of 2016 session.
- It was held in Sao Paulo, Brazil on 13 November 2016.
- Winner-Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes team's British driver)

Reference:

<http://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2016/races/956/brazil.html>

PERSONALITIES

Anand Yadav

Question: Recently Anand Yadav passed away, he was a-

(a) Hindi writer (b) Marathi writer (c) Historian (d) Journalist

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 27 November 2016 Noted Marathi author Anand Yadav passed away. He was 80.
- His autobiography 'Zombi' had won Sahitya Akademi award in 1991.
- He has penned around 40 books which comprise the collection of essays, poems, criticism among others.

Reference:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/marathi-litterateur-natrang-novelist-anand-yadav-dies-in-pune-at-80/story-IMnJPiYWN8tliQIU8hTpCI.html>



Dileep Padgaonkar

Question: Recently Dileep Padgaonkar passed away . He was a-

(a) Painter (b) Journalist (c) Environmentalist (d) Jurist

Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- On 25 November 2016 eminent journalist Dileep Padgaonkar passed away in Pune. He was 72.
- He joined the Times of India as its Paris correspondent, serving it in various capacities before being appointed its editor in 1988. He held the post for six years.
- He served with the UNESCO in Bangkok and Paris from 1978 to 1986.
- He was a part of the three-member interlocutors group for Jammu and Kashmir in 2008.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154350>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/Noted-journalist-Dileep-Padgaonkar-passes-away/article16699758.ece>



Manoj Bajpayee

Question: Which of the following Indian actor has won the best performance award as an actor at the 10th Asia Pacific Screen Awards?

- (a) Nawazuddin Siddiqui (b) Manoj Bajpayee
(c) Shah Rukh Khan (d) Aamir Khan

Ans:(b)



Related facts:

- On 24 November 2016; Indian actor Manoj Bajpayee has won the best performance award as an actor at the 10th Asia Pacific Screen Awards.
- He won the award, beating Nawazuddin Siddiqui.
- The 10th Asia Pacific Screen Award was the region's highest accolade in film, were announced at a glittering ceremony in Brisbane, Australia. He won the Best Performance award for his role as Professor Siras in Aligarh – a powerful and personal drama based on true events.
- This was his second APSA nomination, following a nomination for Anurag Kashyap's "Gangs of Wasseypur" in 2012. Nawazuddin received a Special Mention in the Best Performance category for his role in Anurag Kashyap's "Raman Raghav 2.0".

Reference:

<http://www.asiapacificscreenacademy.com/2016/11/winners-announced-in-10th-asia-pacific-screen-awards/>

Prof. M G K Menon

Question: Recently Prof. M G K Menon passed away, He was a-

- (a) Economist (b) Physicist (c) Sociologist (d) None of these

Ans:(b)



Related facts:

- On 22 November 2016; Prof. M G K Menon Former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) chairman passed away in New Delhi. He was 88.
- Prof. Menon has done Scientific Work in Cosmic Rays, Particle Physics.

- He also headed the Indian Space Research Organisation in 1972 as its chairman.
- He was the director of the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research at the age of 35 years.
- He is a recipient of Padma awards(1968), including Padma Vibhushan (1985).
- Menon had done scientific work in cosmic rays, particle physics and distinguished himself with investigations in the field.
- Menon was a member of the Planning Commission (1982-1989), Scientific Adviser to the Prime Minister (1986-1989), Vice President, Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR) (1989-1990) and Member of Parliament (Rajya Sabha) during 1990-96.
- He was also a Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences and the Royal Society of London.

Reference:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/acclaimed-physicist-and-ex-isro-chief-prof-mgk-menon-dies-at-88/story-KhdZ36LxxsH1z1CasRb6CN.html>

<http://www.isro.gov.in/about-isro/prof-m-g-k-menon>

Dr. Viveki Rai

Question: Recently Dr. Viveki Rai passed away. He was a -

- (a) Writer (b) Actor (c) Environmentalist (d) Historian

Ans.(a)

Related facts:

- Dr. Viveki Rai, the renowned Hindi and Bhojpuri litterateur, died on 22 November 2016 in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. He was 93.
- He was an author and a columnist for a Hindi daily; he had penned over 50 books during his lifetime.
- His novel Sonamati recognized as one of his best literary work.
- Viveki Rai's creative works mainly depict rural life of India.
- He was recipient of the Mahapandit Rahul Sankrityayan award (2001), Uttar Pradesh prestigious Yash Bharati award (2006).



Reference:

<http://theindianawaaz.com/renowned-hindi-bhojpuri-writer-dr-viveki-rai-passes-away/>

Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu

Question: Recently Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu was re-elected for a second three-year term as President of the Council of which of the following UN agency?

- (a) International Labour Organization (b) International Civil Aviation Organization
(c) World Health Organization (d) UNICEF



Ans.(b)

Related facts:

- On 21 November 2016 Dr. Olumuyiwa Benard Aliu was re-elected for a second three-year term as President of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).
- He first assumed the office of ICAO Council President on 1 January 2014, having been elected by acclamation by the ICAO Council following the completion of the mandate of the previous President, Mr. Roberto Kobeh González. Prior to this, Dr. Aliu served as the Representative of Nigeria on the ICAO Council from 1 January 2005 to 31 December 2013. The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) is a specialized agency of the United Nations.
- It codifies the principles and techniques of international air navigation and fosters the planning and development of international air transport to ensure safe and orderly growth.
- Its headquarters are located in the Quartier International of Montreal, Canada.

Reference:

<http://www.icao.int/Newsroom/Pages/dr-olumuyiwa-benard-alIU-re-elected-as-president-of-icao-council.aspx>

<http://www.icao.int/about-icao/Pages/default.aspx>

Nikki Haley

Question: Who has been selected as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations in President-elect Donald Trump's administration?

- (a) Nikki Haley (b) Susana Martinez (c) Michael Haley (d) None of these

Ans.(a)

Related facts:



- On 23 November 2016 South Carolina Gov. Nikki Haley has been selected as U.S. ambassador to the United Nations in President-elect Donald Trump's administration.
- She has accepted the position, which requires Senate confirmation.
- She will be serving Carolina as its Governor until her nomination is not confirmed by the Senate.
- She became the first-ever Indian-American to be appointed to a cabinet-level post in any US administration.
- She has served America as the 116th Governor of South Carolina since 2011.
- She is also the first woman and first minority governor of South Carolina.
- She served six years as a member of the South Carolina House of Representatives.

Reference:

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/11/23/us/nikki-haley-donald-trump-un-ambassador.html?_r=1

<http://www.npr.org/sections/thetwo-way/2016/11/23/503115218/trump-chooses-south-carolina-gov-nikki-haley-as-u-n-ambassador>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-38017449>

M. Balamuralikrishna

Question: Recently M. Balamuralikrishna passed away, he was a-

- (a) Musician (b) Scientist (c) Historian (d) Dancer

Ans(a)

Related facts:

- On 22 November 2016 Veteran Carnatic music exponent Dr M Balamuralikrishna passed away in Chennai on Tuesday. He was at 86. He was known for his non-conformism, spirit of experimentation and abundant creativity.
- He innovated the tala system and the Carnatic music system without disturbing its rich tradition. He was also involved in extensive research into music therapy.
- He has garnered two National Film Awards (1976, 1987).
- He won the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1975, the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian honor in 1991, for his contribution towards arts.



Dr. Balamurali Krishna

- He was also awarded with the Mahatma Gandhi Silver Medal from UNESCO in 1995, the Chevalier of the Ordre des Arts et des Lettres by the French Government in 2005, the Sangeetha Kalanidhi by Madras Music Academy in 1978.
- BalaMuraliKrishna featured in the popular national integration song “Miley Sur Mera Tumhara” in which he rendered Tamil lyrics.

Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154104>

<http://english.mathrubhumi.com/movies-music/music/carnatic-musician-dr-m-balamurali-krishna-passes-away-india-music-1.1524502>

Shatrughna Singh

Question: Former chief secretary of Uttarakhand, Shatrughna Singh was recently sworn-in as the Chief Information Commissioner of which of the following state?

- (a) Punjab (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Uttarakhand (d) Madhya Pradesh

Ans.(c)

Related facts:

- On 19 November 2016 Former chief secretary of Uttarakhand, Shatrughna Singh was sworn-in as the state’s Chief Information Commissioner(CIC).
- He was administered the oath of office by Governor K K Paul at Raj Bhawan auditorium in the presence of Chief Minister Harish Rawat.
- The CICs post was laying vacant for a year since N S Napalchayal stepped down in 2015 after completing his five-year term.
- His term of office is of 5 years or until attaining the age of sixty-five years.



Reference:

<http://uic.gov.in/CIC%20SS%20Notification.pdf>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/shatrughna-singh-sworn-in-as-uttarakhand-cic/1/814648.html>

Antonio Costa

Question: Antonio Costa is the prime minister of which of the following country?

(a) Suriname (b) Mauritius (c) Portugal (d) Indonesia

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- From 7 to 9 January, 2017; 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention to be held at Bengaluru in Karnataka. Dr. Antonio Costa, Prime Minister of the Republic of Portugal will be the Chief Guest.
- He will participate in the inaugural session of the PBD Convention on 8 January and address the delegates. Michael Ashwin Satyandre Adhin (36 years), Vice President of the Republic of Suriname will be the Special Guest at the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas to be held on 7 January, 2017 in Bengaluru.

Reference:

<http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27652/Chief+Guest+for+Pravasi+Bharatiya+Divas+and+Special+Guest+for+Youth+Pravasi+Bharatiya+Divas+2017>

Pankaj R Patel

Question: Who has been elected as the new President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) for the year 2017?

(a) Pankaj R Patel (b) Naina Lal Kidwai
(c) Rajiv Kumar (d) None of these

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 21 November 2016 Pankaj R Patel, chairman & managing director of Cadila Healthcare Ltd (Zydus Cadila) has been elected as the new President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) for the year 2017.
- Patel will take over from Harshvardhan Neotia, Chairman of Ambuja Neotia Group, during the FICCI AGM to be held on December 16 and 17, 2016 in New Delhi.

Reference:

<http://blog.ficci.com/presidium/pankaj-patel/>
http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/zydus-cadila-cmd-pankaj-patel-becomes-new-ficci-president-116112101079_1.html

New Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)

Question: Who has appointed as the new Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA)?

- (a) Justice Deepak Misra (b) Justice Ranjan Gogoi
(c) Justice DY. Chandrachud (d) Jagdish Singh Khehar

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 19 November 2016 Government of India has appointed Justice Jagdish Singh Khehar, as the new Executive Chairman of the National Legal Services Authority (NALSA).
- He succeeds Justice Anil R. Dave. Chief Justice of India Justice TS Thakur is the patron-in-chief of NALSA. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has been constituted under the Legal Services Authorities Act, 1987 to provide free Legal Services to the weaker sections of the society.

Reference:

<http://www.livelaw.in/justice-js-khehar-appointed-new-executive-chairman-nalsa/>

<http://nalsa.gov.in/content/introduction>

Lieutenant General S.K. Sinha

Question: Lieutenant General S.K. Sinha passed away on 17 November 2016. He served as Governor to which of the following pair of states?

- (a) Assam and J & K (b) Bihar and Orissa
(c) Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand (d) Karnataka and West Bengal

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 17 November 2016 Former Jammu and Kashmir and Assam Governor Lt Gen SK Sinha passed away at a hospital in New Delhi after brief illness. He was 90. Lt Gen Sinha had joined army in 1943 and has also served as India's Ambassador to Nepal. He authored five books including one on Jammu and Kashmir Operation of 1947-48 and his autobiography, "A Soldier Recalls". In 1972 he led the Indian delegation to Italy for a conference on application of human rights to warfare. In recognition of his service he was awarded Param Vishist Sewa Medal in 1973.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153742>

New President of INTERPOL

Question: Who has been elected as the new of President of INTERPOL?

- (a) Meng Hongwei (b) Mireille Ballestrazzi
(c) Jurgen Stock (d) Arthur Nebe

Ans. (a)



Reference:

- On 10 November 2016 Delegates at INTERPOL's 85th General Assembly have elected Meng Hongwei of China as the new of President of INTERPOL.
- He is a top-level Chinese Security Minister was elected as the president of the International Crime fighting and police cooperation organization (Interpol).
- Meng will serve as President until 2020.
- Meng Hongwei took over from France's Mireille Ballestrazzi.
- The International Criminal Police Organization or INTERPOL, is an intergovernmental organization facilitating international police cooperation.
- It was established as the International Criminal Police Commission (ICPC) in 1923; it chose INTERPOL as its telegraphic address in 1946, and made it its common name in 1956.
- Interpol has an annual budget of around €78 million, most of which is provided through annual contributions by its membership of 190 countries (as of 2015).
- The organization's headquarters is in Lyon, France.
- China will host INTERPOL's 86th General Assembly in 2017.

Reference:

<https://www.interpol.int/News-and-media/News/2016/N2016-149>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-37932927>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/11/china-police-official-meng-hongwei-head-interpol-161110100157925.html>

Kanubhai Gandhi

Question: Recently grandson of Mahatma Gandhi passed away, he was a former scientist in which of the following institution?

(a) NASA (b) ISRO (c) ESA (d) None of these

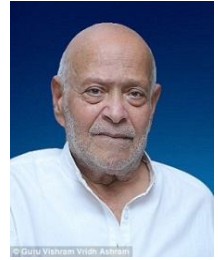
Ans. (a)

Related facts:

- Kanubhai Gandhi, grandson of Mahatma Gandhi and former NASA scientist, died on 7 November 2016 battling paralysis and heart attack. He was 86.
- Kanubhai was famously known as the little boy holding his grandfather's stick in this photograph taken in 1930 on Dandi beach during salt satyagraha.
- Kanubhai was the son Ramdas Gandhi (Mahatma Gandhi's third son).

Reference:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-3918040/Gandhi-s-grandson-former-NASA-scientist-dies-poverty-India.html>



Aniruddha Rajput

Question: Recently Aniruddha Rajput, a practising lawyer of India's Supreme Court elected as members of the which of the following International Organisation?

(a) International Court (b) International Law Commission
(c) International Court of Arbitration (d) International Jurist Commission

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 3 November 2016 Rajput, a practising lawyer of India's Supreme Court elected as members of the International Law Commission.
- International Law Commission is the UN organ tasked with the progressive development of international law and its codification.
- The newly elected members will serve five-year terms of office with the Geneva-based body beginning January 2017.



- The members have been elected from five geographical groupings of African, Asia-Pacific, Eastern European, Latin American and Caribbean and Western European states.
- India's Permanent Representative to the UN Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin has informed that Rajput is India's first time candidate to the Commission .

Reference:

<http://legal.un.org/ilc/elections/2016election.shtml>

<http://legal.un.org/docs/?symbol=A/71/90>

http://legal.un.org/ilc/elections/2016election_outcome.shtml

New Special Director of Intelligence Bureau

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the Special Director of Intelligence Bureau?

(a) Rajeev Rai Bhatnagar (b) Reena Mitra (c) S.K. Sinha (d) A.K Patnaik

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 7 November 2016; Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed S.K. Sinha to the post of Special Director of Intelligence Bureau.
- He is an IPS officer of 1983 batch of Bihar Cadre.
- Presently he is working as the Additional Director, IB.
- He will be serving upto 31.10.2019.

Reference:

<http://pi.b.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153347>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/shri-s-k-sinha-appointed-as-special-director-ib-116110701723_1.html



Chitra Ramkrishna

Question: Recently National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) Managing Director and CEO Chitra Ramkrishna was named as the Chairperson of the which of the following Global Organisation?

- (a) International Monetary Fund (b) World Federation of Exchanges
(c) The World Economic Forum (d) World Bank

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 3 November 2016 National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) Managing Director and CEO Chitra Ramkrishna was named as the Chairperson of the Board of World Federation of Exchanges (WFE).
- Her name was announced at the 56th General Assembly in Cartagena, Colombia.
- She is the first women Chairperson of the Board of World Federation of Exchanges (WFE).
- WFE is the global industry association for exchanges and clearing houses.

Reference:

<http://www.wfecm.com/gaam/index.php/chitra-ramkrishna>

Sarabjit Singh Marwah

Question: Indian origin Sarabjit Singh Marwah has been appointed as first Sikh senator of which of the following country?

- (a) Australia (b) Canada (c) Colombia (d) Mexico

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 31 October 2016 India born Sarabjit Singh Marwah has become the first Sikh to be appointed to the Canadian Senate (upper house). He was among six people from Ontario who have appointed to Senate by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.
- Marwah is one of the founders of the Sikh Foundation of Canada that promotes Sikh culture and art among the diaspora community.



- Marwah joined Scotia bank in Toronto as a financial analyst in 1978. Rising through the ranks, he went on to become the Chief Financial Officer (COO) of the bank in 1998.
- In 2002, he was made the bank's senior executive vice president and chief financial officer.
- In 2005, he was elevated as the vice chairman and chief administrative officer. In 2008, he was re-designated as vice chairman and chief operating officer of the bank – the positions he held till his retirement in 2014.

Reference:

http://www.worldsikh.org/wso_congratulates_sabi_marwah_on_senate_appointment?recruiter_id=19277

http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/kolkata-born-sarabjit-singh-marwah-becomes-canada-s-first-sikh-senator-116110200437_1.html

Ranveer Singh

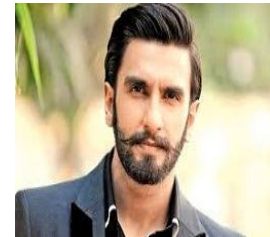
Question: Ranveer Singh has been named as the first Indian ambassador for-

- (a) Sri Lanka Tourism (b) Switzerland Tourism
(c) Nepal Tourism (d) Indonesia Tourism

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 4 November 2016 Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh has been named the Indian ambassador for Switzerland Tourism. He will now be in charge of promoting Switzerland Tourism's campaign for 2017-“Nature wants you back!”.
- He has been now named the first Indian ambassador for Switzerland Tourism.



Reference:

<http://www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/travel-tourism/switzerland-appoints-ranveer-singh-as-brand-ambassador/438457/>

<http://www.dnaindia.com/entertainment/report-ranveer-singh-becomes-the-first-indian-brand-ambassador-for-switzerland-tourism-2270186>

M. Rajeshwar

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the Executive Director by Reserve bank of India(RBI)?

(a) G. Mahalingam (b) Urjit Patel (c) M Rajeshwar Rao (d) None of the above

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 7 November 2016 Reserve Bank of India has appointed M. Rajeshwar Rao as the Executive Director consequent upon G. Mahalingam taking voluntary retirement from the Reserve Bank.
- As Executive Director, Rajeshwar Rao will look after Department of Statistics and Information Management, Financial Markets Operation Department and International Department.
- Prior to taking over as the Executive Director, Rajeshwar Rao was the Chief General Manager, Financial Markets Operations Department. Rajeshwar Rao has a Bachelor of Arts in Economics and a Master of Business Administration from University of Cochin.
- He is also a Certificated Associate of Indian Institute of Bankers.
- Rajeshwar Rao joined the Reserve Bank in 1984 and as career central banker has exposure in various aspects of central bank functioning. He has previously held charge of the Risk Monitoring Department. He has also worked as the Banking Ombudsman, New Delhi and in the Reserve Bank's regional offices at Ahmedabad, Hyderabad, Chennai and New Delhi.

Reference:

https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=38505

Sanjiv Arora

Question: Sanjiv Arora has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to which of the following country?

(a) Lebanon (b) Qatar (c) Saudi Arabia (d) None

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 31 October 2016; Sanjiv Arora has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Lebanon.
- Lebanon, officially known as the Lebanese Republic, is a sovereign state in Western Asia.
- He has served in various capacities in India's diplomatic missions in Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Germany and Czech Republic.
- He is an Indian Foreign Service officer of 1984 batch.

Reference:

[http://www.mea.gov.in/press-](http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27557/Sanjiv_Arora_appointed_as_the_next_Ambassador_of_India_to_Lebanon)

[releases.htm?dtl/27557/Sanjiv_Arora_appointed_as_the_next_Ambassador_of_India_to_Lebanon](http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27557/Sanjiv_Arora_appointed_as_the_next_Ambassador_of_India_to_Lebanon)

New chairman of GSM Association (GSMA)

Question: Recently who has been elected as chairman of GSM Association (GSMA)?

(a) Anil Ambani (b) Mukesh Ambani (c) Sunil bharti Mittal (d) Kumar

Mangalam Birla

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

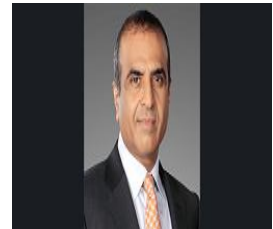
- On 27 October 2016; Sunil Bharti Mittal has been elected as chairman of GSM Association, or GSMA. GSMA represents interests of mobile operators worldwide.
- He is the first Indian to be elected as chairman of the GSMA.
- He will serve for the two-year period from January 2017 through December 2018.
- He will replace Fredrik Baksas. GSMA represents nearly 800 of the world's mobile operators, as well as more than 300 companies in the broader mobile ecosystem.

Reference:

<http://www.gsma.com/newsroom/press-release/gsma-elects-new-board-members-elects-sunil-bharti-mittal-chair/>

<http://www.livemint.com/Industry/oIqf8osI86XDFglgko0htK/Sunil-Mittal-elected-chairman-of-GSMA.html>

<http://www.uniindia.com/gsma-appoints-sunil-bharti-mittal-as-chairman/business-economy/news/667943.html>



D. Bala Venkatesh Varma

Question: Recently D. Bala Venkatesh Varma has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to which of the following country?

- (a) Russia (b) United Arab Emirates (c) New Zealand (d) Spain

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 22 October 2016 D. Bala Venkatesh Varma has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the kingdom of Spain. He is an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1988 batch.
- He will replace Siddhartha Chattopadhyay. He has also served in the Indian Missions in Moscow and Tashkent and as Director in the Prime Minister's Office (2004-07).

Reference:

https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27526/D_Bala_Venkatesh_Varma_appointed_as_the_next_Ambassador_of_India_to_Spain



PLACES

Iraq

Question: In which of the following city of Iraq nearly 100 people have been killed and dozens wounded in a massive suicide truck bomb blast?

- (a) Hilla (b) Karbala (c) Diyala (d) None of these

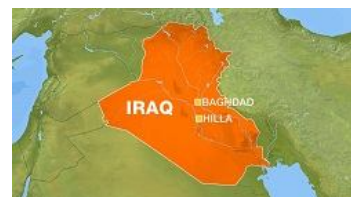
Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 24 November 2016 a suicide truck bomb killed about 100 people, most of them Iranian Shia pilgrims, at a petrol station in the city of Hilla 100 km south of Baghdad
- The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) group claimed responsibility for the attack.

Reference:

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/11/iraq-dozens-killed-petrol-station-suicide-attack-161124143129057.html>



India

Question: Who will host the second Twenty20 Blind World Cup-2017?

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

Ans.(c)

Related facts:

- Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) announced that India will host the second Twenty20 Blind World Cup in 2017.
- Cricketer Rahul Dravid has been appointed as the brand ambassador for the tournament.
- It will begin on January 31 in New Delhi.
- The final will be played in Bangalore on February 12, 2017.

Reference:

<http://blindcricket.in/CABI-announces-Rahul-Dravid-as-the-brand-ambassador>

<http://www.cricbuzz.com/cricket-news/83908/india-to-host-second-twenty20-blind-cricket-world-cup>



World's largest Marine Protected Area

Question: Which of the following sea has been declared as world's largest marine protected area (MPA)?

- (a) Orkney Islands southern shelf, South Atlantic
(b) Ross Sea, Antarctica
(c) Both (a) and (b)
(d) None of these

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 28 October 2016 at the Meeting of the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) in Hobart, Australia, all Member countries have agreed that the Ross Sea in Antarctica will become the world's largest marine protected area (MPA).
- It will be the world's largest marine protected area and covering 15.57 Lakhs square kilometers.
- The new MPA will come into force in December 2017 and will for 35 years.
- Under the new rules, around 72 percent of the Ross Sea will be a 'no-take' zone which forbids all fishing, while other sections will permit some harvesting of fish and krill for scientific research.
- The world's first high-seas MPA was designated in 2009, covering the South Orkney Islands southern shelf, an area of 94 000 km² in the South Atlantic.
- Marine protected areas (MPA) are protected areas of seas, oceans, estuaries or large lakes. MPAs restrict human activity for a conservation purpose, typically to protect natural or cultural resources.
- MPAs aim to provide protection to marine species and can assist in rebuilding fish stocks and sustaining biological diversity.

Reference:

<https://www.ccamlr.org/node/92518>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-37789594>

<http://voices.nationalgeographic.com/2016/10/28/worlds-largest-marine-protected-area-declared-in-antarctica/>



Third State to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF)

Question: Which of the following state became the third State to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) (Gramin)?

(a) Karnataka (b) Andhra Pradesh (c) Telangana (d) Kerala

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 1 November 2016; State of Kerala became the third State overall and the largest State so far to be declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) under the Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM) (Gramin).
- Kerala, with a rural population of approximately 3.5 crores, is also the largest State so far to have achieved the ODF Status, after Sikkim (~6 lakhs) and Himachal Pradesh (~70 lakhs).
- The declaration was formally made by the Chief Minister of Kerala, Pinarayi Vijayan, in a ceremony at the Central Stadium, Thiruvananthapuram.
- With this, all 14 districts, 152 blocks, 940 Gram Panchayats and 2117 villages of the State have been declared free from open defecation.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153172>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Kerala-becomes-open-defecation-free-state/articleshow/55183183.cms>

<https://twitter.com/vijayanpinarayi/status/793350559021600768>

Second Open Defecation Free State

Question: Recently which of the following state has been declared Open Defecation Free (ODF), making it the second State in the country (after Sikkim) to achieve the feat?

(a) Uttarakhand (b) Himachal Pradesh (c) Kerala (d) Telangana

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 28 October 2016 State of Himachal Pradesh was declared Open Defecation Free (ODF), making it the second State in the country (after Sikkim) to achieve the feat.



- The State government made the declaration at a public event in Shimla.
- The Union Minister for Drinking Water and Sanitation, Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Narendra Singh Tomar and the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Shri JP Nadda, were also present on the occasion. With this, Himachal Pradesh has successfully achieved total rural sanitation coverage of 100% in the State.
- All 12 out of 12 districts in the State being both, declared as well as verified, as ODF.
- It may be recalled that Sikkim was first Indian state to be declared free of open defecation.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153077>

OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

Aligarh leads in Swachh Bharat awareness campaign

Question: Which of the following city leads the Swachh Bharat awareness campaign?

(a) Agra (b) Aligarh (c) Bhopal (d) Jaipur

Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- Aligarh leads 500 cities in undertaking Swachh awareness generation activities under the fortnightly thematic activities as required under the Swachh Survekshan-2017, launched by the Ministry of Urban Development on 17 November 2016.
- During the evaluation of IEC (Information, Education and Communication) activities by the Ministry, Aligarh has scored the maximum marks.
- IEC performance has been assessed by the Ministry while evaluation of other parameters of Swachh Survekshan-2017 will be done by the Quality Council of India.
- All the cities were required to furnish reports on IEC activities involving citizens along with evidence of media coverage relating to ensuring cleanliness at parks, government of offices, residential colonies, tourist places, schools etc., and welfare of sanitary workers, for evaluation.
- The other cities in the top 10 in this regard are: Vasai-Virar (Maharashtra), Hyderabad, Gurugram, Chandigarh, Madurai (Tamil Nadu), Vadodara and Rajkot (Gujarat), Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh) and Mysuru (Karnataka).
- These cities were given scores under the 50% of weightage allocated for IEC under Survey-2017.



- Ministry of Urban Development has informed all the 500 cities included in Swachh Survekshan-2017 that remaining 50% of the weightage for IEC component under this ranking will be given to the efforts towards community participation for making individual, community and public toilets functional during the current cleanliness fortnight that commenced 18 November 2016.
- Final results of Swachh Survekshan-2017 will be announced in January, 2017.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153725>

INS Shardul visits Port Victoria

Question: Which of the following is the capital of Seychelles?

- a) Victoria b) Takamaka c) Anse Boileau d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- Indian Naval Ship Shardul has arrived at Port Victoria on 23rd November, 2016 on a three day visit to Seychelles to promote maritime security in the Indian Ocean Region.
- INS Shardul is an amphibious ship of the Indian Navy which is currently on a month long deployment in the Southern Indian Ocean in keeping with the vision of SAGAR – Security and Growth for All in the Region. The Indian Navy will be progressing maritime security cooperation with Seychelles Coast Guard towards (SCG) ensuring a secure and stable regional maritime environment for unhindered economic development in the region.
- INS Shardul's visit is part of its mission to carry out surveillance in the Seychelles Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) with SCG personnel embarked onboard. It will also help authorities in providing logistics and medical support. Meeting with government and military authorities, training and technical cooperation measures with SCG, sporting and cultural interactions are also planned as part of the trip. The Indian Navy regularly undertakes surveillance missions in the Seychelles EEZ, by deploying IN ships and aircraft, based on request by the Government of Seychelles. The current year has seen two such deployments, the first by the state-of-the-art, P8I maritime reconnaissance aircraft in March 2016 and the second by Indian Naval Ship Trikan in July 2016. The current visit seeks to strengthen the strong bonds of friendship between India and Seychelles and contribute to peace and maritime security in the region.



Reference:

<https://www.indiannavy.nic.in/content/visit-indian-warship-trikand-port-victoria>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154109>

Indo China Joint Military Exercise Hand –in- Hand 2016

Question: Recently the sixth India China Joint Training Exercise “Hand – in – Hand 2016” was held at which of the following place?

- (a) Yunnan Province, China
- (b) Pune
- (c) Visakhapatnam
- (d) Kunming

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- The sixth India China Joint Training Exercise “Hand – in – Hand 2016” is being held at the parade ground in Aundh Military Camp, Pune.
- The joint military exercise is scheduled to held from November 15 to 27, 2016.
- Maj Gen Y K Joshi, Additional Director General of Military Operations of Indian Army and Maj Gen Wang Haijiang of the People’s Liberation Army and other senior army officers of both the countries were present.
- The aim of the joint exercise is to acquaint both the Armies with each other’s operating procedures in the backdrop of counter terrorism environment.
- The basic objective of the training is enhancing confidence and trust between the two armies which may be called upon to grapple with anti terrorism operations under the UN mandate.
- The conduct of Joint Military Exercises is also an important step to uphold the values of Peace, Prosperity and Stability in the region.
- Exercise ‘Hand in Hand 2016’ will be conducted in three phases. The first phase of the exercise consists of familiarization with weapons and equipment.
- The second phase will consist of basic training that includes combat conditioning, firing of personal weapon, support weapon and practice of drills like establishment of covert observation post, house clearing, cordon and search and humanitarian and disaster relief operations.
- The third phase of the exercise is the conduct of joint exercise.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153701>

<http://www.uniindia.com/india-china-joint-exercise-hand-in-hand-2016-to-be-held-in-pune/india/news/684452.html>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/pune-to-host-india-china-hand-in-hand-2016-joint-training-exercise-116111300064_1.html

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/pune-to-host-india-china-hand-in-hand-2016-joint-training-exercise-116111300064_1.html



Demchok mission

Question: Recently Army has completed laying an irrigation pipeline for residents of villages in the Demchok region of-

(a) Eastern Assam (b) Anantnag (c) Region of Eastern Ladakh (d) Kupwara Region

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 6 November 2016 Indian Army has completed laying an irrigation pipeline for residents of villages in the Demchok region of Eastern Ladakh. The irrigation project was being built under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme to link a village with a “hot spring”. The mission was completed despite a face-off last week with Chinese troops over the work. In order to protest the laying of the pipeline, Chinese troops attempted to erect a fibre-reinforced plastic (FRP) hut on the border. However, the Indian Army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police did not allow that. This is the first time since 2014 when the Chinese Army had come deep inside the Indian territory in Demchok in protest against an ongoing irrigation project.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/armys-demchok-mission-a-success/article9312345.ece>

Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan

Question: Recently PMSMA has been launched, it will provide special free antenatal care to how many pregnant women across the country in order to detect and prevent high risk pregnancies.

(a) 2 Crore (b) 3 Crore (c) 1.5 Crore (d) 4.5 Crore

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 4 November 2016 J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare has launched the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA).
- It is aimed to reduce maternal and infant mortality rates through safe pregnancies and safe deliveries. The national programme will provide special free antenatal care to about 3 crore pregnant women across the country in order to detect and prevent high risk pregnancies.



- The nationwide programme will provide fixed day assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care to pregnant women on the 9th of every month.
- At the function J P Nadda also launched the PSMA Web Portal & a Mobile Application along with the 360 degree communication package to raise awareness about the campaign.

Reference:

<http://pi.b.nic.in/newsite/erelcontent.aspx?relid=153275>

<http://pi.b.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153122>

<https://www.indianbureaucracy.com/j-p-nadda-unveils-pmsma/>

Joint military exercise SAMPRITI-2016

Question: “Sampriti-2016” a joint military training exercise will be conducted between which of the following pair of countries?

(a) India-Bangladesh (b) India- Nepal (c) India-Malaysia (d) India-Burma

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- From 05 to 18 November 2016; A joint military training exercise SAMPRITI 2016 is being conducted at Tangail, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Exercise SAMPRITI is an important bilateral defence cooperation endeavour between India and Bangladesh.
- This will be the sixth edition of the exercise which is hosted alternately by both countries.
- The joint exercise SAMPRITI 2016 will simulate a scenario where both nations are working together in a Counter Insurgency and Counter Terrorism environment under the UN Charter.
- The exercise curriculum is progressively planned where the participants will initially get familiar with each other's organizational structure and tactical drills.
- Subsequently, the training will advance to joint tactical exercises wherein the battle drills of both the armies will be practiced.
- The training will culminate with a final validation exercise in which troops of both armies will jointly practice a Counter Terrorist Operation in a controlled and simulated environment.

Reference:

<http://pi.b.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153191>

MMTC launched a multimedia advertising campaign

Question: When is Indian Gold Coin was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- (a) 1 November 2015 (b) 2 November 2015
(c) 4 November 2015 (d) 5 November 2015

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 27 October 2016 with an aim to drive awareness around Diwali on the availability of Indian Gold Coin, MMTC along with World Gold Council has launched a multimedia advertising campaign starting this week that includes newspapers, radio, digital and select cinema halls.
- More information on Indian Gold Coin can be accessed on www.indiangoldcoin.com or toll free number 1800 1800 000.
- The Indian Gold Coin is available in denominations of 5 gm and 10 gm coin and 20 gm bar.
- The coins are currently available at all MMTC outlets across India, along with select branches of seven Banks – Indian Overseas Bank, Vijaya Bank, Federal Bank, Yes Bank, Andhra Bank, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank.
- Indian Gold Coin is available at about 383 outlets across India now.
- Indian Gold Coin was launched by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 5th November, 2015.
- It is India's first ever sovereign gold offering and only Gold Coin hallmarked by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) for purity.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=152013>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/advertising/mmhc-with-world-gold-council-launches-drive-to-spread-awareness-about-indian-gold-coin/articleshow/55093398.cms>

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE

Committee to enable 100 per cent conversion of Government – Citizen Transactions to the digital platform

Question: Recently the Government of India has constituted a Committee of Officers to enable 100 per cent conversion of Government – Citizen Transactions to the digital platform under the leadership of-

(a) Arvind Subramanian (b) Amitabh Kant (c) S.S Mundra (d) None of the above

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 25 November 2016 the Government of India has constituted a Committee of Officers to enable 100 per cent conversion of Government – Citizen Transactions to the digital platform under the leadership of NITI Aayog CEO Mr. Amitabh Kant.
- Members of the Committee of Officers for driving a digital payments economy in India include Secretary, Department of Financial Services, Ministry of Finance; Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology; Secretary, Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion; Secretary, Department of Investment and public Asset Management; MD & CEO, National Payments Corporation of India, Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development, Chairman, National Highways Authority of India, Adviser, NITI Aayog.
- Committee will identify and operationalise in the earliest possible time frame user-friendly digital payment options in all sectors of the economy.
- This is integral part of the Governments strategy to transform India into a cashless economy.
- The aim of the committee is to identify various digital payment systems appropriate to different sectors of the economy and coordinate efforts to make them accessible and user-friendly.
- The committee will also identify and access infrastructural and bottlenecks affecting the access and utility of digital payment options.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154298>

Special Committee for Inter-Linking of Rivers

Question: National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up in which of the following year?

(a) 1980 (b) 1981 (c) 1982 (d) 1983

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 15 November 2016 Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri



Narendra Modi has given its approval to the Status-cum-Progress Report and constitution of “Special Committee for Inter-Linking of Rivers” in compliance of Supreme Court judgment dated 27.2.2012 in the matter of Writ Petition (Civil) 512 of 2002: Networking of Rivers along with Writ Petition No. 668 of 2002.

- Approval of the Union Cabinet will help in monitoring of the precious Inter-linking of River Projects to be carried out under National Perspective Plan 1980 of Government of India.
- The Status-cum-Progress Report of Special Committee for Inter-linking of Rivers will be submitted bi-annually for information of Cabinet, which will facilitate faster and appropriate decisions in the interest of the country as expeditiously as possible.
- Interlinking of River (ILR) programme is of national importance and has been taken up on high Priority. Under the National Perspective Plan (NPP) prepared by Ministry of Water Resources, NWDA has already identified 14 links under Himalayan Rivers Component and 16 links under Peninsular Rivers Component for inter basin transfer of water based on field surveys and investigation and detailed studies.
- National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up in July, 1982 as Autonomous Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860, to carry out the water balance and other studies on a scientific and realistic basis for optimum utilisation of Water Resources of the Peninsular rivers system for preparation of feasibility reports and thus to give concrete shape to Peninsular Rivers Development Component of National Perspective.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153640>

<http://wrmin.nic.in/forms/list.aspx?lid=1279>

Special Task Force formed to recalibrate ATMs

Question: Recently a Special Task Force has been formed to recalibrate ATMs under the chairmanship of-

(a) Urjit Patel (b) H.R Khan (c) S.S Mundra (d) R. Gandhi

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 14 November 2016 Union Government has formed a Special Task Force(STF) under the chairmanship of S.S. Mundra, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The STF has been formed to speed up the process of recalibration of ATMs machines to dispense the new denomination notes.
- All ATMs/cash handling machines needs to be recalibrated to dispense the new design notes following introduction of Mahatma Gandhi (new) series bank notes including a new high denomination (Rs.2000) in new designs.
- Representatives from the Finance and Home ministries, RBI, State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, Axis Bank and HDFC Bank and the National Payments Corporation of India, will be its members.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/task-force-led-by-mundra-formed-to-recalibrate-atms/article9345829.ece>

Meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament for the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas

Question: What is the present share of gas in the energy mix of the country ?

(a) 4.5% (b) 5.5% (c) 6.5% (d) 7.5%

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- Meeting of the Consultative Committee of the Members of Parliament for the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas was held in New Delhi on 09th November, 2016.
- Minister of State (Independent Charge) for M/o Petroleum & Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan chaired the meeting.
- A presentation on the topic “Promoting Gas Economy” was made during the meeting.
- Gas Dharmendra Pradhan said that the present share of gas in the energy mix of the country is 6.5% which the Government is trying to take up to 15% in a couple of years.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/dpradhanbjp/status/796364774699200512>

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153458>



e-pashuhaat

Question: Name the portal launched to connect farmers and breeders of bovine animals?

- (a) e-pashuhaat
(b) e-pashupalan
(c) e-pashurakshak
(d) None of these

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 26 November 2016 Union Minister for Agriculture Radha Mohan Singh launched e-pashuhaat portal.
- The portal was launched to connect farmers and breeders of bovine animals.
- The portal would become a platform for sell of bovines, including information on semen, embryos and live animals with all the agencies and stake holders in the country.
- It would make the farmers aware of availability of quality disease free bovine germplasm with different agencies in the country.
- India has the largest bovine population in the world. India accounts for 14 per cent of the world cattle population, while share for buffalo alone is 53 per cent.
- The indigenous varieties are endowed with quality of heat tolerance, resistance to diseases and survive with little input.
- The portal will also connect the farmers with the milk cooperatives in the country.

Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154398>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2016/nov/26/e-pashuhaat-portal-to-connect-farmers-and-breeders-of-bovine-animals-launched-1542920.html>



PLANNING & PROJECT

Annapurna rasoi programme

Which of the following state is set to launch Annapurna rasoi programme?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Rajasthan
(c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Uttarakhand

Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- According to a press release Rajasthan government will start a project named “Annapurna rasoi programme” to provide quality meal at cheap price to people belonging to the weaker section and labourers.
- Under the Annapurna rasoi programme, labourers, rickshaw pullers, auto drivers, students, working women, elders and other weaker section will be provided breakfast at Rs 5 per plate and lunch/dinner at Rs 8 per plate.
- The scheme will be started in 12 districts in the first phase which include Jaipur, Jodhpur, Udaipur, Ajmer, Kota, Bikaner, Bharatpur, Pratapgarh, Dungarpur, Banswara, Baran and Jhalawar through 80 vans.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/raj-govt-to-provide-quality-meal-at-cheap-price-116112400052_1.html

<http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in/content/di/pr/en/news-detail.41920.html>



Cabinet approval for State highway re-routing in Kakinada

Question: The Golden Quadrilateral highway network connects which four cities of India?

- a) Agartala, Ahmedabad, Srinagar, Kocchi
b) Chennai, Kolkata, Delhi, Mumbai
c) Leh, Chennai, Kohima, Jaipur
d) None of the above.

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 23rd November, 2016 The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for diversion of State Highway-149 passing through Naval Land at Kakinada.
- It also cleared taking over of 11.25 acres of land of the Government of Andhra Pradesh underneath the existing Highway passing through Naval land at Kakinada.
- In connection with the proposal surrender of 5.23 acres of Naval land at Kakinada to the State Government of Andhra Pradesh was also approved.
- Besides, the state will receive Payment of Rs. 1882.775 Lakhs as compensation for facilitating acquisition of land and associated construction of alternate road.
- The re-routing of state highway at Kakinada will provide hindrance free training by reducing accidents and improvement in security of the establishment.
- It will ensure safety and security of Amphibious Warfare Training Centre along with related infrastructure.

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/state-highway-re-routing-in-kakinada-gets-cabinet-nod/1/818270.html>

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154202>



Inauguration of the Gomti Riverfront Development Project

Question: Gomti Riverfront Development Project has been developed in which of the following city?

(a) Lakhimpur Kheri (b) Sultanpur (c) Lucknow (d) Jaunpur

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On November 16, 2016 Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Mr. Akhilesh Yadav inaugurated the Gomti Riverfront Development Project.
- Under the project, both sides of the Gomti River have been beautified and developed for public use.
- On this occasion, He also inaugurate the Ghaus Mohammad Stadium.
- Under this project, a diaphragm wall has been made on both the banks of the Gomti River, giving its water flow a definite direction (water-way).
- The land between the water-way and the embankment has been developed for public use. This has a cycle track, a jogging track, walking track, kids play area and facility of toilet, potable water and parking at every 500 metres.
- Commuting in the water-way has also been arranged vide a water bus, which will start plying from next month.
- Under the project, the lake has been developed which will have a musical fountain, Yoga place, wedding ground, a 2000 person capacity amphi-theatre and a stadium for playing football and cricket.
- For seating purposes, instead of concrete and hard material, grass and plants have been used, making it first of its kind stadium.
- Under this project, for entertainment of the people and urban beautification, the Hardinge bridge, Gomti barrage and Lohia bridge have been illuminated with RGB lights and coloured lights have been put up at Gandhi bridge, which is fast taking shape of a selfie point for people.

Reference:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_engnews.aspx?id=1140

<http://upnews360.in/E/36003300300036003000/Chief-Minister-inaugurates-the-Gomti-Riverfront-Development-Project-and-the-Gaus-Mohammad-Stadium>

<https://twitter.com/yadavakhilesh/status/798905378117296128?lang=hi>

Revamped Aadhaar Toll-Free Helpline No. 1947 Launched

Question: Recently Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), launched a revamped version of its of which of the following Toll-free helpline number?

(a) 1947 (b) 1948 (c) 1949 (d) 1950

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 16 November 2016; Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), launched a revamped version of its Toll-free helpline number: 1947, to help residents get quick access to information about Aadhaar.
- The free of cost helpline 1947 will be available 24×7 throughout the year on IVRS mode.
- While Call-Centre agents will be available from 7 am to 11 pm (Monday to Saturday).
- On Sundays, agents will answer calls from 8 am to 5 pm.
- On an average the helpline number handles about 1.5 lakh calls per day.
- Toll-free helpline 1947, which has been revamped to handle more incoming calls, brings Aadhaar closer to everyone.
- It can be accessed through mobile or landline and will be especially beneficial in these times when the Aadhaar number is being increasingly used in the banking sector to identify individuals.
- The Aadhaar toll-free helpline 1947 will among other things, enable residents to locate an Aadhaar Enrolment Centre, know generation status of an Aadhaar number (after enrolment) and help retrieve Aadhaar details of any person who has lost his/her Aadhaar or hasn't received it through post.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153669>

<https://uidai.gov.in/hi/toll-free-number-hi.html>



Free power connection programme

Question: Which of the following state has launched “Har Ghar Bijli Lagataar” a key programme to provide free electricity connection?

(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Jharkhand (c) Bihar (d) Assam

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 15 November 2016; Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar launched “Har Ghar Bijli Lagataar”, a key programme to provide free electricity connection to about 50 lakh households above the poverty line.
- It aims to supply power to every household in Bihar in the next two years.
- Providing power connection to every household is an important component of Government “seven resolves”.
- As part of the programme, nearly 50 lakh households above the poverty line, but deprived of power will get electricity connection free.
- The target is to link the leftover households with electricity connection in next two years (by 2018)
- An amount of Rs 1857.5 crore has been set aside by the state government for this purpose.
- The state is undertaking this task on its own by drawing loan from the Asian Development Bank.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/NitishKumar/status/798528562017878016?lang=hi>

<http://khabar.ndtv.com/news/bihar/nitish-kumar-launches-free-power-connection-programme-1625779>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/nitish-kumar-launches-free-power-connection-programme-4377163/>



India and US launched clean energy projects

Question: Recently US announced two financial projects worth USD 95 million in India with the aim to-

- (a) Bring more energy-efficient appliances to rural sector
- (b) Help in Clean India mission for the construction of toilets.
- (c) Improve India's basic infrastructure
- (d) Promote latest technology in agriculture

Ans. (a)

Related facts:

- On 14 November 2016 US announced two financial projects worth USD 95 million in India .
- The aim of the project is to bring more energy-efficient appliances to rural sector, as part of its efforts to continue the global transition to zero-and-low carbon energy sources.
- The US has committed USD 70 million in Overseas Private Investment Corporation (OPIC) financing for renewable energy projects in India.
- It has also announced to launch a USD 20 million partnership this week with the philanthropic sector to bring more efficient appliances to rural Indian villages.
- The USD 75 million OPIC financing has been allocated for a utility-scale PV project in Telangana.
- It is sponsored by Renew Power Ventures.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-and-us-launch-usd-95-mln-clean-energy-projects-116111401616_1.html

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/36482>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/india-and-us-launch-95-million-clean-energy-projects/articleshow/55421849.cms>



Several rail projects launched

Question: Name the train that was flag off on 14 November 2016 plying between Ghazipur and Kolkata?

- (a) Gazipur-Kolkata Express
- (b) Deen Dayal Upadhyay super fast express
- (c) Shabd Bhedi Superfast Express
- (d) None of the above

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 14 November 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched several rail projects in Ghazipur district in eastern Uttar Pradesh .
- He also flag off a weekly 'Shabd Bhedi' Superfast Express train plying between Ghazipur and Kolkata.
- During his visit, the Prime Minister also lay the foundation of a rail-road bridge over the Ganga that will connect Mau with Tadighat and also the doubling of the Ghazipur city-Ballia Rail section.

Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/pm-modi-to-launch-rail-projects-in-ghazipur-4374220/>



“No More Tension” Mobile Application

Question: Recently Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare has released the “Healthy India Initiative/Swastha Bharat-ek pehal” magazine . The current issue is available in which of the following languages?

- (a) Hindi, English, Bengali, Gujarati (b) Hindi, Kannada, Tamil
(c) Hindi, English (d) Hindi, English, Tamil

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 9 November 2016 J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare released the “Healthy India Initiative/Swastha Bharat-ek pehal” magazine and launched the “No More Tension” Mobile Application.
- Stress management mobile application “No More Tension” helps users to manage stress. The main objective of ‘No More Tension’ is to provide information to users regarding stress such as, what is stress, effects, symptoms and its management.
- The application allows the user to measure their stress level and learn various techniques like yoga and meditation to reduce stress from their lives.
- Currently, the application is available for download on Google play store and App store and will be available shortly on Windows.
- The “Healthy India Initiative/Swastha Bharat-ek pehal”, a quarterly magazine, will cater to health related information and will raise awareness about healthy living.
- The magazine will cover different aspect of health: women and child health, elderly health, seasonal ailments, daily nutritional needs, safe medication practices, home remedies healthy living and many more.
- The magazine will be made available at all the government facilities up to the sub-centre and will be available free of cost.
- The e-version of this magazine is also available for download.
- The current issue is in Hindi and English and the next version will be available in 13 other languages.



Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153444>

Economic Editors’ Conference-2016

Question: The two day Economic Editors’ Conference-2016 was inaugurated on 10 November in which of the following city?

- (a) New Delhi (b) Chandigarh (c) Pune (d) Jaipur

Ans. (a)

Related facts:

- The Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, Arun Jaitley inaugurated the two day(10-11 November) Economic Editors’ Conference-2016 on 10th November, 2016 in New Delhi.
- Press Information Bureau (PIB) in collaboration with the Ministry of Finance has organized the two day Economic Editors’ Conference-2016.
- The Main objective of holding the National Economic Editors Conference is to apprise the media persons about the major policy initiatives, achievements and future road map of different participating Departments/Ministries of the Government of India.
- The Directorate of Advertising and Audio-Visual Publicity (DAVP) has also put an exhibition on the occasion on “70 years of India’s Independence”.



Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153399>

Pradhan Mantri Yuva Yojana

Question: Which of the following ministry has launched the Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojana to Scale Up An Ecosystem Of Entrepreneurship For Youngsters?

- (a) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- (b) Ministry of Skill Development And Entrepreneurship
- (c) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (d) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 9 November 2016 Minister of State(I/C) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Rajiv Pratap Rudy, launched the Pradhan Mantri YUVA Yojana, MSDE's flagship scheme on entrepreneurship education and training.
- The scheme spans over five years (2016-17 to 2020-21) with a project cost of Rs. 499.94 crore.
- It will provide entrepreneurship education and training to over 7 lakh students in 5 years through 3050 Institutes.
- It will also include easy access to information and mentor network, credit, incubator and accelerator and advocacy to create a pathway for the youth.
- The Institutes under the PM's YUVA Yojana include 2200 Institutes of Higher Learning (colleges, universities, and premier institutes), 300 schools, 500 ITIs and 50 Entrepreneurship Development Centres, through Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs).

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153429>

<https://twitter.com/RajivPratapRudy/status/796254962929893376>



Startup Mentorship Circle

Question: A unique platform called 'Startup Mentorship Circle' was launched by-

- (a) Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- (c) Reserve Bank of India(RBI)
- (d) None of these

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 5 November 2016 Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has launched a unique platform called 'Startup Mentorship Circle' to help in connecting start-ups with the global marketplace.
- 'Startup Mentorship Circle' is truly a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and startups to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.
- 'Startup Mentorship Circle' is truly a strong eco-system for nurturing innovation and startups to drive sustainable economic growth and generate large scale employment opportunities.
- CII provides perhaps the largest network for start-ups with its 8000 direct and 2 lakh indirect members.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) is an association of Indian businesses which works to create an environment conducive to the growth of industry in the country.

Reference:

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/36036>



Madhubabu Aain Sahayata scheme

Question: Recently which of the following state has started “Madhubabu Aain Sahayata scheme”?

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

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 28 October 2016 State Government of Odisha has decided to start ‘Madhubabu Aain Sahayata Sibir’ (MASS) to establish legal assistance cells in each gram Panchayats (GPs)(6812).
- This will give access to people deprived of justice due to social and economical reasons.
- The assistance will be given in the shape of free legal aid to ensure that opportunities for securing justice are not denied to any citizen for economic and other reasons.
- It is aimed at revamping the socio-economic structure at the grassroots level by making citizens aware of their rights and providing free legal advice at the doorstep.
- The scheme is named after “Madhu Babu who is considered as the first lawyer of Odisha.
- The legal assistance lawyer, who would receive Rs 500 per sitting as remuneration
- This would help people especially the women, children, senior citizens, SC, ST and socially and educationally backward to resolve long pending litigations.

Reference:

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/2016/oct/28/odisha-to-establish-legal-aid-cells-for-the-poor-in-gram-panchayats-1532633.html>

First LNG fuelled bus in the country

Question: What does LNG stand for?

a) Liquefied Natural Gas b) Liquid Natural Gas c) Low carbon natural Gas d) None of the above.

Ans (a)

Related facts:

- On 8th November 2016, Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched India’s first LNG fuelled bus at Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.
- It has been a joint effort of Petronet LNG Limited (PLL), Indian Oil Corporation Ltd and Tata Motors Ltd to introduce LNG as a fuel in commercial vehicles in the state capital.
- The LNG fuelled bus is being launched as part of a plan of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas to use LNG directly for mass transportation and to reduce carbon emissions in the Country simultaneously generating savings.
- It is a pilot project; the LNG-driven bus will run on trial basis before it can be certified for commercial application.



LNG and its Benefits:

- LNG stands for Liquefied Natural Gas. LNG is an environment friendly fuel with less number of Nox, Sox and particulate matters, as compared to any other automotive fuel.
- Co2 emission is also lesser than Diesel. Introduction of LNG in transport segment will also help India to meet its COP21 commitment.
- The Government of India has already announced that it is planning to use LNG as a fuel for Railways and long-haul transportation. The Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation, which has a fleet of 6,000 buses, has already announced plans to use natural gas. LNG is greener as well as more economical as compared to Diesel.
- LNG is more suitable for heavy duty segment like Trucks and Buses.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153376>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Thiruvananthapuram/lng-buses-to-debut-in-state-on-november-8/article9308277.ece?ref=tpnews>

Saur Sujala Yojana

Question: Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi had launched the Saur Sujala Yojana in which of the following state?

(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Gujarat (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Punjab

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 1 November 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Saur Sujala Yojana in Chhattisgarh to provide solar powered irrigation pumps to farmers at a subsidized price.
- Chhattisgarh is the first state to implement the scheme.
- Under the scheme, solar powered irrigation pumps of 3HP and 5HP capacity worth Rs 3.5 lakh and Rs 4.5 lakh respectively would be distributed to the farmers by March 31, 2019.
- The beneficiaries would get the pumps at the subsidised price.
- The scheme will be given priority in those areas where electricity connection has not reached yet.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/pm-narendra-modi-launches-saur-sujala-yojana-in-chhattisgarh-116110100699_1.html

Affordable houses for urban poor in five States

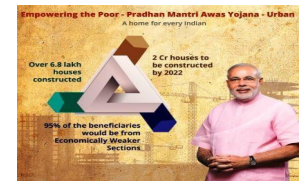
Question: On 28 October 2016 the Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has approved construction of 84,460 more affordable houses for urban poor under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(Urban) in which of the following five States?

- (a) West Bengal, Punjab, Haryana and Madhya Pradesh
(b) Punjab, Jharkhand, Kerala, West Bengal and Manipur
(c) Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala and Manipur
(d) Punjab, Haryana, Kerala, Manipur and West Bengal

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 28 October 2016 Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has approved construction of 84,460 more affordable houses for urban poor in five States .
- The houses will be constructed under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(Urban).
- This will require total investment of Rs.3,073 cr for which Central Assistance of Rs.1,256 cr has been approved.
- The five states are:
- West Bengal has been sanctioned 47,379 houses with an investment of Rs.1,918 cr for which Central Assistance of Rs.711 cr has been approved.
- Punjab got 15,209 houses sanctioned with an investment of Rs.424 cr and Central Assistance of Rs. 217 cr.
- Jharkhand has been sanctioned 12,814 houses at a total cost of Rs.464 cr with Central Assistance of Rs.192 cr.
- Kerala got 5,968 houses with an investment of Rs.179 cr for which Central Assistance of Rs.89 cr has been approved.
- Manipur has got 3,090 houses approved for construction with a total investment of Rs.88 cr with Central Assistance of Rs.46 cr.
- Under the 'Beneficiary Led Construction' component of PMAY (Urban), each eligible beneficiary belonging to Economically Weaker Sections is provided Central Assistance of Rs.1.50 lakh for expansion/upgradation of existing house as per the Guidelines.



Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153074>

TREATY & AGREEMENTS

MoU concerning the Demonstration Project for ICT based Green Hospital at AIIMS in Delhi

Question: Recently, The Cabinet approved MoU concerning the Demonstration Project for ICT based Green Hospital at AIIMS in Delhi among Ministries of Finance, Health & Family Welfare, AIIMS and New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO) of... .

- a) Japan
- b) Australia
- c) South Korea
- d) Russia

Ans: (a)

Relevant facts:

- On 23rd November, 2016, The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) among New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization (NEDO), Japan and Ministries of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs), Health & Family Welfare and All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) concerning the Demonstration Project for ICT based Green Hospital at AIIMS in Delhi.
- The project shall encompass surveys required for engineering and design, construction and operation of the equipment besides basic planning and engineering and design.
- It will also include manufacture, commissioning, installation, transportation, demonstration of the equipment and its technology dissemination in India.
- The MoU shall come into effect on the date of its signature and shall remain effective until March 31, 2020.
- The objectives of the project are to contribute to the efficient use of energy and the protection of the environment in India by installing the energy efficient and IT related equipment in AIIMS Delhi.
- Efforts will be made to widely disseminate the technology in India through demonstration of the equipment.
- The New Energy and Industrial Technology Development Organization, or NEDO, is Japan's largest public management organization promoting research and development as well as deployment of industrial, energy and environmental technologies.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/cabinet-approves-mou-among-new-energy-and-industrial-technology-development-organization-japan-and-ministries-of-finance-health-family-welfare-and-116112400324_1.html



Agreement between Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India

Question: Recently Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$500 million loan to build a 9.8 km long road bridge across the Ganges River in which of the following state?

(a) Uttarakhand (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Bihar (d) West Bengal

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 15 November 2016 Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India today signed a \$500 million loan to build a 9.8 km long road bridge across the Ganges River in Bihar.
- The bridge will improve transport connectivity between North and South Bihar and for better link between the State Capital, Patna, and the surrounding areas.
- This will be India's longest river bridge.
- The new Ganga Bridge, to be located near Patna, will span both channels of the Ganges River and serve as an alternate route to the existing Ganga Bridge.
- The project will also build viaducts, embankments, and toll and service facilities, and will link to national highway networks.
- The bridge is expected to benefit over 9 million people.
- Along with ADB's loan and \$900,000 in technical assistance to improve bridge operation and management, the state government of Bihar will provide support equivalent to \$215 million.
- The project is expected to be completed by the end of December 2020.

Reference:

<https://www.adb.org/news/500-million-adb-loan-help-india-build-its-longest-river-bridge>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153636>



NSDA Signs MoU with British Council

Question: When did National Skill Development Agency and The British Council signed a MoU to collaborate for undertaking joint research projects in the area of skill development?

(a) 10 November 2016 (b) 11 November 2016
(c) 12 November 2016 (d) 13 November 2016

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 11 November 2016 National Skill Development Agency and The British Council signed a MoU to collaborate for undertaking joint research projects in the area of skill development.
- Alan Gemmell, Director- India, The British Council and Dr. Sunita Chhibba, DG-NSDA signed the MoU.
- This collaboration comes as a part of strengthening the overall research mechanism in skill development space and to encourage research collaborations with various national and international organizations.
- Under this partnership, The British Council and the National Skill Research Division (NSRD), a research division under the National Skill Development Agency (NSDA) will work closely with each other to build research collaborations between the UK and India over a period of three years in the skilling domain.
- The partnership aims to promote knowledge exchange and research collaborations between UK and India in the skills space and to strengthen capacity of research organizations in both the countries so as to be able to work in collaborative research environments in the Sector.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153536>



Agreement between Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India

Question: Recently the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$48 million loan to improve access to efficient and reliable power for which of the following state?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Assam
(c) Telangana (d) Jharkhand

Ans: (b)

Related facts:



- On 7 November 2016 Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India signed a \$48 million loan to help Assam state continue its drive to improve access to efficient and reliable power. This is the second tranche loan of the \$300 million multi tranche financing facility for the Assam Power Sector Investment Program that was approved by the ADB Board in July 2014.
- The project will help Assam to enhance capacity and efficiency of its power distribution system to improve electricity service to end users.
- The first tranche loan of \$50 million was signed in February 2015.
- Increased access to reliable and modern power supply for remote communities can help meet growing demand. This loan will help strengthen the state's distribution system, improve energy efficiency and reduce technical and commercial losses.

Reference:

<https://www.adb.org/news/48-million-adb-loan-improve-assams-power-distribution-system>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153369>

Online submission of applications by urban poor for affordable houses

Question: Who is the Minister of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation?

- (a) M. Venkaiah Naidu (b) Ravi Shankar Prasad (c) Piyush Goyal (d) Prakash Javadekar

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 2 November 2016 A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard was signed today by the Ministry of HUPA and Common Services Centre e-Governance Services India Limited of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

- Under this Ministry of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation has enabled online submission of applications by the urban poor for affordable houses under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana(Urban) from 3 November 2016.
- Out of the over two lakh Common Services Centre across the country, about 60,000 located in urban areas will enable online submission of applications from November 3, 2016; at a nominal cost of Rs.25/- per application.
- As per the MoU, CSCs will also facilitate printing of the acknowledgement receipt with beneficiary photograph which helps applicants in tracking application status. Beneficiaries have to visit the nearest CSC for seeking assistance for seeking benefits of PMAY(Urban) online.
- In case the beneficiary does not have Aadhar Card, CSCs will enable beneficiaries acquiring them.
- This process of applying online is e-KYC (Know Your Client) enabled which means applications are submitted after due verification.
- Minister of Housing & Urban Poverty Alleviation is M.Venkaiah Naidu.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153186>

DRDO Signs MoU With IIT Delhi

Question: Recently Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi to establish-

- (a) Joint Advanced Technology Centre (JATC) (b) Joint Space Technology Centre(JSTC)
(c) Joint Research Centre(JRC) (d) None of these

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 4 November 2016 Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi .
- The MoU was signed to establish a 'Joint Advanced Technology Centre' (JATC).
- JATC will be located in the campus of IIT Delhi at the upcoming Science and Technology Park (Mini-Science Park 'MSP').
- Secretary, Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr. S Christopher, signed the MoU with the Director IIT Delhi Prof. V Ramgopal Rao.
- The JATC will enable Directed, Basic & Applied Research and will engage with premier research institutes through multi-institutional collaboration.
- As per the MoU, DRDO will support JATC in equipping it with advanced and unique research facilities that will enable the faculty and scholars to conduct advanced research and transform the JATC as Centre of Excellence.
- DRDO scientists and engineers will work with the academic research faculty and scholars in addressing scientific problems to find an innovative solution.



- DRDO will facilitate towards advanced research to utilize technology outcome in the futuristic applications.
- The objective for creation of JATC is to undertake and facilitate multi-disciplinary directed basic and applied research in the jointly identified research verticals.
- Faculties and researchers in various Engineering and Science departments of IIT Delhi will participate in the research programme/projects of the Centre.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153315>

MOU between India and Palestine

Question: Recently India and Palestine signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for setting up of Palestine-India Techo Park in-

(a) Ramallah (b) Hebron (c) Jenin (d) Nablus

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 31 October 2016 India and Palestine signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for setting up of Palestine-India Techo Park in Ramallah.
- Government of India has announced grant of US\$ 12 million for setting up the Park with payment of US\$ 3 million each on half-yearly basis for 2 years.
- Palestinian side has made the land available for the project.
- The Technopark will serve as an IT hub in Palestine with complete IT facilities offering a one-stop solution to all IT-related service requirements, providing state-of-the-art technology, hosting IT companies and foreign companies benefitting local business, Universities and other institutions.
- The project will help job creation, business and other opportunities for young Palestinians.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-palestine-sign-mou-for-setting-up-techno-park-in-ramallah-116103101035_1.html



CONFERENCE

PETROTECH-2016

Question: PETROTECH-2016, the 12th International Oil & Gas Conference & Exhibition is set to be inaugurated in which of the following city?

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

Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- PETROTECH-2016, the 12th International Oil & Gas Conference & will be held at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, during 5-7 December, 2016.
- The theme for this year's Petrotech Conference is 'Hydrocarbons to fuel the future: Choices & Challenges.



- With this theme, PETROTECH-2016 aims to explore areas of growth in petroleum technology, exploration, drilling, production & processing, refining, pipeline transportation, petrochemicals, natural gas, petroleum economics, legal and human resource development, marketing, research & development, information technology, safety, health & environment management in the energy sector. It will be organised under the aegis of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, Government of India.
- Dharmendra Pradhan, Minister of State (Independent Charge), Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, will inaugurate the PETROTECH-2016 Exhibition at Pragati Maidan.
- The three-day mega event will see participation of over 100 eminent speakers and 6,000 delegates from 68 countries, including technologists, scientists, planners and policy-makers, management experts, entrepreneurs, service-providers and vendors.
- Along with the Conference being held at Vigyan Bhawan, the event will have a concurrent Exhibition spread over 15,000 square metres at Pragati Maidan.
- It should be known that 81% of India's oil requirement and about 37% of gas requirement is imported. India has acquired hydrocarbon assets in 25 countries.
- India is 3rd largest energy consumer in the world.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154397>

Annual Conference of DGPs/IGPs – 2016

Question: The 51st Annual Conference of Directors General / Inspectors General of Police of States and UTs and Heads of Central Police Organizations will be held at-

(a) New delhi (b) Jaipur (c) Guwahati (d) Hyderabad

Ans.(d)

Related facts:

- The 51st Annual Conference of Directors General / Inspectors General of Police of States and UTs and Heads of Central Police Organizations will be held on November 25-27, 2016.
- The conference is scheduled at the Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel National Police Academy, Hyderabad. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh will attend the Conference. President's Police Medals and Police Medals will be presented to the officers of the Intelligence Bureau during the conference. This Conference was being held at Delhi every year till 2013. In November, 2014, for the first time since its inception in 1920, the Conference was organized out of Delhi and held in Guwahati, Assam.
- Last year the conference was organized in the Rann of Kutch, Gujarat.
- This is the third time that the conference is being organized outside Delhi.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154240>



5th International Tourism Mart-2016

Question: Where the 5th International Tourism Mart-2016 was held?

(a) Imphal (b) Guwahati (c) Assam (d) Agartala

Ans.(a)

Related facts:

- The 5th International Tourism Mart-2016 was organized in Imphal, Manipur.
- It will be held between 23– 25 November 2016.
- It was by the Ministry of Tourism in association with the North Eastern States and West Bengal.
- Okram Ibobi Singh, Chief Minister of Manipur inaugurated the Mart.

Reference:

<http://www.itmnortheastindia.in/>



Heart of Asia conference

Question: The two-day sixth ministerial conference of the ‘Heart of Asia’ will be held at-

(a) Jaipur (b) Amritsar (c) Bengaluru (d) New Delhi

Ans.(b)

Related facts:

- The two-day (3-4 December 2016) sixth ministerial conference of the ‘Heart of Asia’ will be held at Amritsar, Punjab.
- Over 40 foreign ministers and dignitaries of the heart of Asian countries, supporting countries and international organizations will participate in the conference.
- The conference, which will be addressed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Afghan President Ashraf Ghani.
- The key element of the conference will be challenge of terrorism in the heart of Asian region, especially Afghanistan, countering extremism, exploring cultural and civilization similarities, and cooperation in the educational sector.



Reference:

<http://www.mea.gov.in/asia-ministrial-conf.htm>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/heart-of-asia-conference-in-amritsar-from-dec-3/story-35Xtb8MO0AC11tSDZg8mTP.html>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2016/oct/25/pakistan-will-attend-heart-of-asia-conference-in-india-1531615.html>

Second All India Women Journalists’ Workshop

Question: Recently the second ‘All India Women Journalists’ Workshop’ was organized in which of the following city?

(a) Jaipur (b) New Delhi (c) Lucknow (d) Hyderabad

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 21 November 2016 the second ‘All India Women Journalists’ Workshop’ organized in New Delhi. Workshop was inaugurated by the Minister of Women and Child Development, Maneka Sanjay Gandhi . It was organized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in association with Press Information Bureau, Ministry of Information & Broadcasting.



- Women journalists from print, electronic and online media from the length and breadth of the country including small and regional media organizations participated in the conference.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153991>

Festival of India

Question: Festival of India is being organized in which of the following country from 15 November, 2016 to 24 March, 2017?

(a) France (b) Britain (c) Oman (d) Germany

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From 15 November, 2016 to 24 March, 2017; Festival of India is being organized in Oman.
- The Festival will showcase diverse Indian culture, i.e. classical and folk dance, music, Indian cuisine and Exhibition on Islamic Art Calligraphy. Artists from Jammu & Kashmir are also presenting folk dance and music of J & K.
- The events will be held in four cities of Oman, namely, Muscat, Sur, Sohar and Salalah.
- Following events will be showcased:
 1. An eight-member Classical (Indian creative ballet) by Hritaal Dance Group led by Mr. Jaydeep Palit from 15-19 November, 2016.
 2. Exhibition of Islamic Art Calligraphy by Rampur Raza Library from 21 November – 3 December, 2016.
 3. An eight-member Vocal Sufiana music by a group led by Dr. Soma Ghosh from 24 – 29 January, 2017.
 4. A fifteen-member Jammu & Kashmir dance and music group organized by North Zone Cultural Centre, Patiala from 10 – 14 February, 2017.
 5. Food Festival by India Tourism Development Corporation, Ministry of Tourism from 15 – 19 March, 2017.
 6. Fashion Show by National Institute of Fashion Technology/Ministry of Textiles – March, 2017.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153607>

https://twitter.com/Indemb_Muscat/status/798772688592347141

Third World Internet Conference

Question: The third World Internet Conference was organised from Nov 16 to Nov 18 in which of the following country?

(a) Japan (b) China (c) India (d) U.S.A

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- From 16 to 18, November 2016; The third World Internet Conference was held in Wuzhen, Zhejiang province, China.
- The theme of the conference was “Innovation-driven Internet Development for the Benefit of All – Building a Community of Common Future in Cyberspace”.
- More than 310 technology corporations, including big-name enterprises such as Microsoft, IBM, Alibaba, Tencent and Baidu participated in the conference.

Reference:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/photo/2016-11/18/c_135838543.htm

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2016-11/18/c_135840197.htm

<http://video.chinadaily.com.cn/2016/1116/9680.shtml>



First Cherry Blossom Festival

Question: India's First Cherry Blossom Festival was launched in-

- (a) Meghalaya (b) Manipur
(c) Tripura (d) Sikkim

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- From 14 to 17 November, 2016; India's First Cherry Blossom Festival launched today at Shillong, Meghalaya.
- It was launched by Dr Mukul M Sangma, Chief Minister of Meghalaya.
- The 4-day festival provided opportunities to showcase the unique beauty of pink and white cherry blossoms and traditional arts, culture and cuisine to the naturalists and tourists of state.
- The Cherry Blossom Festival, popularly known as Sakura Festival in Japan, is held in April every year. Australia, Korea, China, the US and some other countries celebrate the festival which helps in creating a positive impact on the local economy.



Reference:

<https://cherryblossomfestival.in/about/>

<https://www.facebook.com/CherryBlossomFestivalofIndia/photos/pcb.210569322703525/210569219370202/?type=3&theater>

<http://thenortheasttoday.com/tag/cherry-blossom-festival/>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-s-first-cherry-blossom-festival-starts-in-meghalaya-116111401382_1.html

Second edition of National Children's Film Festival, 2016

Question: The second edition of National Children's Film Festival (NCFF) was held in which of the following city?

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From 14 to 16 November, 2016; The second edition of National Children's Film Festival (NCFF) was held in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- The NCFF, jointly organised by Children's Film Society of India (CSFI) and the government of Rajasthan.
- Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, union minister of state for information and broadcasting, inaugurated the second edition of National Children's Film Festival (NCFF).
- The inauguration was attended by actors Anil Kapoor, Irrfan Khan, Ila Arun.
- The theme for this year was "The Indian Experience, Challenges, Possibilities".
- It may be recalled that the first National Children's Film Festival was held in 2014 in New Delhi.



Reference:

https://twitter.com/Ra_THOR/status/798097575647858689

<http://cfsindia.org/ncff-2016/>

<http://www.htsyndication.com/htsportal/article/National-Children-s-Film-Festival-begins-in-Jaipur/17105745>

36th India International Trade Fair

Question: What is the theme of 36th India International Trade Fair?

- (a) Sustainable growth in the export sector
- (b) Women Entrepreneurs
- (c) Digital India
- (d) Increase in GDP

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 14 November 2016 President of India, Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the 36th edition of the India International Trade Fair 2016 in New Delhi.
- The fair will held on 14-27 November 2016.
- This year, India International Trade Fair 2016 has theme 'Digital India'.
- This year, as many as 7000 participants are taking part in the fair.
- The 'Partner Country' is the 'South Korea' and the 'Focus Country' is 'Belarus'.
- The 'Partner States' are 'Madhya Pradesh' and 'Jharkhand' while, 'Haryana' is participating as the 'Focus State'.
- Over 150 companies from 27 countries are taking part in the fair. These include: Australia, Afghanistan, Belarus, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, Germany, Hong Kong, Iran, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Myanmar, Netherlands, Oman, Sri Lanka, South Africa, South Korea, Singapore, Tibet, Turkey, Thailand, UAE and UK.
- It also provides first hand information of the policies, progressive reforms and the new schemes launched by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India under the Foreign Trade Policy (2015-2020).

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153575>

<https://twitter.com/CimGOI/status/798045948769280001>

<http://presidentofindia.nic.in/press-release-detail.htm?2605>



Urban Mobility India Conference

Question: Recently the Urban Mobility India Conference from 8th to 11th November 2016 was held in which of the following city?

- (a) New Delhi (b) Gandhi Nagar
- (c) Jaipur (d) Bhubneshwar

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 8 November 2016 Union Minister of Urban Development, Housing and Poverty Alleviation Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated a four day (8th to 11th November 2016) Urban Mobility India conference at Gandhinagar in Gujarat.
- The conference was organized jointly by Ministry of Urban Development and Gujarat Government from 8th to 11th November at Mahatma Mandir.
- The theme of the conference is 'Planning Mobility for City's sustainability'.
- Various issues pertaining to atmospheric pollution, traffic congestion due to rising number of vehicles in the cities and various aspects of sustainable and environment friendly urban transport management were discussed in this conference.
- This is for the first time the conference has been organized outside Delhi.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153332>



First-ever International Agrobiodiversity Congress

Question: The 1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress – IAC 2016 was held from 6-9 November, 2016 in which of the following city?

(a) Hyderabad (b) Kolkata (c) New Delhi (d) Bangaluru

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- From 6-9 November 2016; the 1st International Agrobiodiversity Congress – IAC 2016 was held in New Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first ever International Agro-biodiversity Congress, IAC in Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 6 November 2016.
- The event was attended by 900 delegates from 60 countries.
- This international Congress initiate and encourage a dialogue among relevant stakeholders – including farmers – to better understand everyone’s role in Agrobiodiversity management and the conservation of genetic resources.
- India is the perfect venue for the first-ever International Agrobiodiversity Congress as it is one of the most diverse countries in the world.
- It takes up only 2.4% of the world’s land area, and yet it harbours 7-8% of all recorded species, including over 45,000 species of plants and 91,000 species of animals (CBD, 2014).
- Additionally, India has 34 global biodiversity hotspots, located in the Indian Himalayas, Western Ghats, North-East and Nicobar Islands.

Reference:

<http://www.bioversityinternational.org/news/detail/first-ever-international-agrobiodiversity-congress-to-be-held-in-new-delhi-india/>

http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pms-speech-at-international-agro-biodiversity-congress-2016/?comment=disable

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153317>

11th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission (CIC)

Question: Where was the two-day 11th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission (CIC) held?

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 7-8 November 2016; 11th Annual Convention of Central Information Commission (CIC) was held in New Delhi.
- It was inaugurated by Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh.
- During the inauguration, the Home Minister launched the e-Court software which is under implementation in the Commission with the help of National Informatics Centre.
- The book has been prepared for the Commission by Yashwantrao Chavan Academy of Development Administration.
- Chief Information Commissioner, R.K. Mathur also informed that the CIC has digitised about 1.5 lakh files.
- The inauguration function was followed by various sessions on topics such as RTI in Railways, RTI Web portal by DoPT, RTI in Public Sector Undertakings, RTI in Banking/Insurance, Academic papers on RTI and RTI in States.

Reference:

<http://cic.gov.in/sites/default/files/CallForPapers.pdf>

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153254>

<http://www.rajnathsingh.in/shri-rajnath-singh-inaugurates-the-11th-annual-convention-of-cic/>



17th National Rail Transport Conclave

Question: The 17th National Rail Transport Conclave was held on 5 November 2016 in which of the following city?

- (a) Jamshedpur
- (b) Kanpur
- (c) Agartala
- (d) New Delhi

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 5 November 2016; the 17th National Rail Transport Conclave was held in New Delhi.
- It was organised by Ministry of Railways in collaboration with Centre for Transportation Research and Management (CTRAM).
- The conclave discussed on "Challenges and Strategies for Indian Railways in the Emerging Economic Scenario".
- The keynote address in the inaugural session was delivered by Chief Economic Advisor, Shri Arvind Subramanian.
- In his keynote address he spoke about recent Economic measures taken by Government, Indian Economy & Role of Railways in the Indian Economy.

Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153309>

<http://ctram.org/news/seminar/mint-to-%20mint.pdf>



India Ideas Conclave 2016

Question: India Ideas Conclave 2016 was held in which of the following city?

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From 4-6 November 2016; the 3rd India Ideas Conclave took place at Goa.
- The central theme of the Conclave is India at 70 – Democracy, Development & Dissent.
- Over 350 invited intellectuals including government leaders, corporate leaders, scholars, journalists, politicians and social activists participate in this important conclave where ideas and opinions are exchanged in a candid and scholarly atmosphere.
- The first two editions of the conclave saw the participation of scholars from over 25 countries including several Heads of State and other dignitaries.
- Several White Papers were presented at the conclave by eminent scholars, one of which has subsequently been adopted by the Government of India.

Reference:

<http://www.indiafoundation.in/upcoming-conferences/india-ideas-conclave-2016.html>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/Top-BJP-politicos-to-attend-India-Ideas-Conclave/articleshow/55233668.cms>



International Conference on Decarbonisation of Indian Railways- Mission Electrification

Question: Recently International Conference on Decarbonisation of Indian Railways – Mission Electrification organised by Institution of Railways Electrical Engineer (IREE) in which of the following city?

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 3 November 2016; Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu has inaugurated the International Conference on Decarbonisation of Indian Railways – Mission Electrification.
- The conference was organised by Institution of Railways Electrical Engineer (IREE) in partnership with ASSOCHAM India.
- On the occasion a mobile app 'RAIL SAVER' was launched by the Minister of Railways Shri Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu.
- This app is expected to reduce energy consumption by 15 – 20%.
- The Conference aims at bringing various stakeholders on a common platform for exchange of ideas and to deliberate on implementable technological solutions and financing options to significantly increase pace of electrification and achieve the target for setting up of renewable energy installations with total capacity of 1000 MW by 2020.
- The Conference also covered the aspects relating to policy, technological modernization, mechanization, innovations and financing models for railway electrification and de-carbonization.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153230>



7TH Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2016

Question: The Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2016 is scheduled to be held from November 3-5, 2016 in which of the following city?

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

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- From November 3-5, 2016; 7th Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2016; held at New Delhi.
- The Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) 2016.
- This is the first major inter-governmental event after the adoption of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR).
- The Sendai Framework, adopted at the third UN World Conference in Sendai, Japan in March, 2015.
- It is the first major agreement of the post-2015 development agenda and identifies targets and priority action areas towards reducing disaster risk.
- The Conference discussed the issues related to DRR in 6 technical, 22 thematic and 3 featured sessions during the Conference.
- Established in 2005, AMCDRR is a biennial conference jointly organized by different Asian countries and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).
- So far, six AMCDRR conferences have been organised.
- India had also hosted the second AMCDRR in New Delhi in 2007.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153198>

Mega Exhibition-cum-Sale at Handloom Haat

Question: Recently the Union Minister of Textiles, Government of India, Smriti Zubin Irani, inaugurated the Mega Exhibition-cum-Sale at Handloom Haat, Janpath, in which of the following city?

- (a) Jaipur
- (b) Ahmadabad
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Mysore

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 22 October 2016 the Union Minister of Textiles, Government of India, Smriti Zubin Irani, inaugurated the Mega Exhibition-cum-Sale at Handloom Haat, Janpath, in New Delhi.
- The exhibition is sponsored by Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India.
- The exhibition will showcase the products produced by the artisans / Primary / Apex Corporations of Handlooms, Handicrafts, Wool and Jute.
- Approximately 150-200 nos. of participants from handlooms, handicrafts, jute, wool, carpet and silk participated in the exhibition.
- The Association of Corporations & Apex Societies of Handlooms (ACASH), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India, is organizing exhibitions on behalf of Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India.
- ACASH is a national level apex organization of the entire national and state handloom development corporations and handloom apex cooperative societies and represents the strength and the best of the Indian handloom.
- The marketing efforts of ACASH are backed by promotion and publicity strategies with special emphasis on Fairs & Expositions.
- Ministry of Textiles, Govt. of India provides total policy and financial support for all such activities undertaken by ACASH.
- During this exposition the expected sales are likely to be around Rs.2.50 crores.
- Ministry of Textiles, Government of India is the sponsoring authority for this event.
- It formulates implements, monitors and reviews policies, programmers and schemes.
- Its input related Schemes, Development Schemes, Welfare Schemes and Marketing Schemes are meant to enhance the socio-economic status of the artisans.
- The Office also provides creative inputs from design, evolves interactive programmes and introduces technological innovations.
- It also gives valuable marketing support to the sector by organizing participation of artisans in local regional, national and international fairs, exhibitions, fashion shows and buyer seller meets.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151882>

YEAR, DAY & WEEK

Constitution Day

Question: Constitution Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 26 November
- (b) 21 November
- (c) 18 November
- (d) 25 November

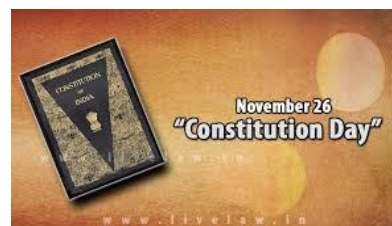
Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 26 November 2016; India observes its Constitution Day.
- On the day in 1949, the constitution was adopted which came into force on January 26, 1950 marking the beginning of a new era in the history of India.
- The Union government in 2015 decided to observe 26th November as Constitution Day to honour our Constitution and its promulgation.
- The day is celebrated to value and preserve the rich heritage of composite culture and to develop the scientific temper, humanism and the spirit of inquiry and reform.

Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/nation-observes-constitution-day-on-saturday-4395803/>



International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

Question: International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is celebrated on-

- (a) 21 November
- (b) 25 November
- (c) 22 November
- (d) 26 November

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 25 November 2016; International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women was celebrated across the world.
- By resolution 54/134 of 17 December 1999, the United Nations General Assembly designated 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women,
- The premise of the day is to raise awareness of the fact that women around the world are subject to rape, domestic violence and other forms of violence; furthermore, one of the aims of the day is to highlight that the scale and true nature of the issue is often hidden.
- The theme for this year is “Orange the World – raise funds to end violence against women”.

Reference:

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

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55651#.WDuho9V97IU>



National Milk Day

Question: National Milk Day was celebrated on-

- (a) 21 November
- (b) 26 November
- (c) 27 November
- (d) 19 November



Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- On 26 November 2016 National Milk Day was Celebrated the country.
- National Milk Day is celebrated in India on the birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, the Father of White Revolution.
- He was born on 26 November 1921.
- According to Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Ministry the milk production has recorded a growth rate of 6.28% during last two years 2014-15 and 2015-16, which is much higher than the growth rate of around 4% in the previous years.
- Per capita availability of milk increased from 307 gram per day in 2013-14 to 340 grams per day in 2015-16, a growth of 5% which was below 3% before 2014-15.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154397>

World Television Day

Question: World Television Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 23 November
- (b) 21 November
- (c) 30 November
- (d) 25 November



Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- On 21 November 2016 World Television Day was celebrated across the world.
- United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21 November as World Television Day (through resolution 51/205 of 17 December 1996).

Reference:

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

Quami Ekta Week

Question: The Qaumi Ekta Week (Communal Harmony Week) was observed all over the country on-

- (a) 8-24 November 2016
- (b) 19-25 November 2016
- (c) 17-23 November 2016
- (d) 16-22 November 2016

Ans.(b)

Related facts:

- Communal Harmony Week or Quami Ekta Week was observed all over the country from 19-25 November 2016.
- The observation of the Quami Ekta Week help to highlight the inherent strength and resilience of our nation to withstand actual and potential threats to the eclectic and secular fabric of our country.
- During the week many programmes like meetings, seminars and symposia will be organized to highlight the importance of communal harmony and national integration.
- The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH), an autonomous organization with the Ministry of Home Affairs, organises Communal Harmony Campaign coinciding with the Qaumi Ekta Week and observes the Communal Harmony Flag Day on 25th November.
- The first day of the week was celebrated as the National Integration Day.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/quami-ekta-week-begins-today-116111900106_1.html



International Day for Tolerance

Question: The International Day for Tolerance is observed on-

- (a) 14 November
- (b) 18 November
- (c) 16 November
- (d) 19 November

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 16 November 2016; the International Day for Tolerance was observed across the world.
- The Day is observed to strengthening tolerance by fostering mutual understanding among cultures and peoples.
- In 1996, the UN General Assembly (by resolution 51/95) invited UN Member States to observe the International Day for Tolerance on 16 November.
- This action followed up on the United Nations Year for Tolerance, 1995, proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993 at the initiative of UNESCO, as outlined in the Declaration of Principles on Tolerance and Follow-up Plan of Action for the Year.
- In 1995, to mark the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, UNESCO created a prize for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.
- The UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence rewards significant activities in the scientific, artistic, cultural or communication fields aimed at the promotion of a spirit of tolerance and non-violence.

Reference:

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

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

<http://www.toleranceday.org/resources.html>



World Diabetes Day

Question: World Diabetes Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 13 November
- (b) 18 November
- (c) 14 November
- (d) 17 November

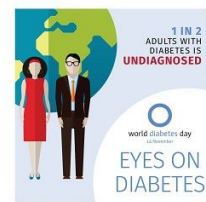
Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 14 November 2016; World Diabetes Day was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of World Diabetes Day 2016 is “Eyes on Diabetes”.
- World Diabetes Day was created in 1991 by International Diabetes Federation (IDF) and the WHO.
- The day itself marks the birthday of Frederick Banting who, along with Charles Best and John James Rickard Macleod, first conceived the idea which led to the discovery of insulin in 1921.
- In 1923 Banting and John James Rickard Macleod received the Nobel Prize in Medicine.
- On 20 December 2006, the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution 61/225 to celebrate 14 November as World Diabetes Day.

Reference:

https://www.diabetes.org.uk/Get_involved/World-Diabetes-Day/
<http://www.who.int/life-course/news/events/world-diabetes-day-2016/en/>
<http://www.who.int/diabetes/en/>
<http://www.idf.org/wdd-index/wdd2016.html>
<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/factsheets/fs312/en/>



World Pneumonia Day 2016

Question: World Pneumonia Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 13 November
- (b) 12 November
- (c) 18 November
- (d) 14 November

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- World Pneumonia Day was celebrated on 12 November 2016 across the world.
- This year's theme is “Keep the promise. Stop pneumonia now”.
- This Day is celebrated to bring people from all over the world together uniting to demand that something be done to fight the pneumonia illness.
- World Pneumonia Day helps to highlight the severity of pneumonia and encourages more organizations to look at ways of combating the disease.
- This day was first hosted in 2009 when over 100 organizations joined to form the Global Coalition against Child Pneumonia.
- Pneumonia is a leading cause of death for children under the age of five years around the world.
- In 2015, approximately 920,136 children died from this infectious disease.

Reference:

<http://www.who.int/life-course/news/events/world-pneumonia-day-2016/en/>
<http://stopppneumonia.org/world-pneumonia-day/pneumonia-fumbler-challenge/>
<http://stopppneumonia.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/2016-Advocacy-Toolkit.pdf>



National Education Day

Question: National Education Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 10 November
- (b) 11 November
- (c) 14 November
- (d) 12 November

Ans. (b)

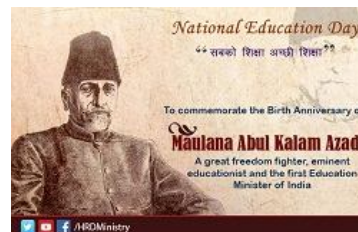
Related facts:

- National Education Day was celebrated on November 11, 2016.
- The observance of National Education Day is in commemoration of the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad for his great contribution to the cause of education in India.
- The theme of the Day for 2016 is 'Education to all-Good education'.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/HRDMinistry/status/796964981262585860>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/national-education-day/1/808069.html>



Vigilance Awareness Week

Question: When did the Vigilance Awareness Week is celebrated every year?

- (a) 31st October to 7th November
- (b) 31st October to 5th November
- (c) 30st October to 4th November
- (d) 31st October to 6th November

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 31st October to 5th November, 2016 the Vigilance Awareness Week was celebrated across the country.
- "Public participation in promoting integrity and eradicating Corruption" has been chosen as the theme for Vigilance Awareness Week this year by the Central Vigilance Commission.
- It is celebrated as part of its efforts to promote probity in public life and to achieve a corruption free society.
- The observance of the Vigilance Awareness Week commenced with pledge taking by public servants in the Ministries/Departments/Central Public Sector Enterprises/Public Sector Banks and all other Organizations.
- All the organizations have been advised to consider activities relevant to the theme both within their organization as well as for outreach for public /citizens during the Vigilance Awareness Week.



Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153144>

<http://cvc.nic.in/vawcvc16.pdf>

<http://cvc.nic.in/vawpr2016.pdf>

World Cities Day

Question: World Cities Day is celebrated on-

- a) 30 October
- b) 25 October
- c) 31 October
- d) 1 November

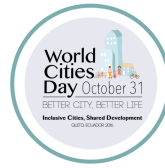
Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 31 October 2016 World Cities Day was celebrated across the world.
- The 2016 Theme is “Inclusive Cities, Shared Development”.
- The UN General Assembly designated by resolution 68/239 31 October as World Cities Day.

Reference:

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



National unity day

Question: When the National unity day is celebrated?

- (a) 30 October
- (b) 28 October
- (c) 31 October
- (d) 14 October

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 31st October, 2016; National unity day (Rashtriya Ekta Diwas) was observed across the country.
- The theme for 2016 National unity day is ‘Integration of India’.
- In October 2014 Government had decided to observe the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel as the ‘Rashtriya Ekta Diwas’ (National Unity Day) on 31st October every year.
- Prime Minister also flagged off- ‘Run for Unity,’ a marathon organized in Delhi to commemorate the occasion.
- It should be noted that Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel was Born on 31 October 1875 .
- On this occasion Prime Minister also administered the ‘Ekta’ pledge to the people present in the event.

Reference:

<http://ddinews.gov.in/Home%20-%20Headlines/Pages/Runforunitynationalunityday.aspx>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153099>



International Internet Day

Question: When the International Internet Day is celebrated ?

- (a) 28 October
- (b) 29 October
- (c) 30 October
- (d) 26 October

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 29 October 2016 International Internet Day was celebrated worldwide.
- The Internet, defined as a remote connection between two computers, was first achieved on October 29, 1969.
- Since the year 2005 the International Internet Day is celebrated.

Reference:

<http://www.theinternetday.com/>

<http://www.calendarlabs.com/holidays/international/international-internet-day.php>



MISCELLANEOUS

M/O Culture Releases Commemorative & Circulation Coin on 500th Anniversary of Shri Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's Coming to Vrindavan

Question: Which of the following Ministry released a Commemorative Non-Circulation Coin of Rs 500 and a Circulation Coin of Rs10 as part of year-long celebrations of commemoration of "500th Anniversary of Shri Krishna Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's Coming to Vrindavan" ?

- (a) Ministry of Finance
- (b) Ministry of Culture
- (c) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (d) Ministry of Communications and Information Technology

Ans: (b)

Reference:

- On 25 November 2016 Ministry of Culture released a Commemorative Non-Circulation Coin of Rs 500 and a Circulation Coin of Rs 10 as part of year-long celebrations of commemoration of "500th Anniversary of Shri Krishna Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's Coming to Vrindavan.
- Government of India is commemorating the 500th anniversary of Shri Krishna Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's Coming to Vrindavan by organizing various programmes and Exhibitions on Shri Krishna Chaitanya Mahaprabhu's life and teachings in association with Vrindavan Research Institute and ISKCON.
- The inaugural function was organized by Vrindavan Research Institute at Vrindavan on 25 November, 2015.
- Krishna Chaitanya Mahaprabhu, a famous Hindi Saint and social reformer was a distinguished promoter for the Vaishnava School of Bhakti Yoga.
- The Bhakti movement initiated by him strove to eradicate the evils of caste and feudal systems of medieval India.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=154369>



Country's first cashless metro

Question: Recently, the metro of which city became the country's first cashless metro?

(a) Mumbai Metro (b) Delhi Metro (c) Kolkata Metro (d) None of the above

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 16 November 2016 Mumbai Metro became the country's first cashless metro.
- Mumbai Metro offers cashless transactions using tokens. from 15 November, 2016 to 24 March, 2017
- Mumbai Metro One Pvt Ltd (MMOPL) has tied up with Paytm, a leading mobile wallet through which commuters can buy tickets.
- Commuters can install and recharge the Paytm app on their mobiles, switch it on, scan the QR code for identifying Mumbai Metro as the payee, and pay the correct amount of fare.
- A unique transaction ID will be displayed on the Paytm app and the mobile phone with the ticketing officer at the counter will receive a SMS with the same transaction ID.



Reference:

<http://mumbaimirror.indiatimes.com/mumbai/civic/Mumbai-Metro-becomes-first-metro-in-India-to-issue-single-and-return-journey-tickets-in-cashless-transactions/articleshow/55460489.cms>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/mumbai-metro-goes-cashless-paytm-app-qr-code-reliance-infrastructure/1/812099.html>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/mumbai-metro-goes-cashless-116111600995_1.html

Reliance Group launches IoT services venture 'UNLIMIT'

Question: Recently Reliance Group announced a strategic partnership with which of the following company for the launch of its new venture 'UNLIMIT' to provide Internet of Things (IoT) services?

(a) Tata Group (b) Cisco Jasper (c) Bhartiya Group (d) Birla Group

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 15 November 2016; Anil Ambani-led Reliance Group launched UNLIMIT, an independent unit which will provide Internet of Things (IoT) services.
- Reliance Group announced a strategic partnership with Cisco Jasper for the launch of its new venture 'UNLIMIT' to provide Internet of Things (IoT) services to enterprise customers across India.
- The group, including its mobile network, has partnered Cisco Jasper to launch this venture.
- Reliance became the first telecommunications service provider in India to focus exclusively on integrated IoT business.
- The outlook for IoT services in India is virtually UNLIMITed, with the number of connected devices projected to rise from 200 million today to around 3 billion by 2020.
- Revenues set to increase from \$5.6 billion today to USD 15 billion in 2020.
- Juergen Hase has been named as Chief Executive Officer of UNLIMIT.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/reliance-group-launches-iot-services-venture-unlimit-116111500586_1.html

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/internet/reliance-group-cisco-jasper-partner-for-technology-venture/articleshow/55433096.cms>

City Union Bank (CUB) launched country's first banking robot

Question: Recently the Kumbakonam-based City Union Bank launched India's first banking robot, Its name is-

- a) Padma
- b) Saraswati
- c) Lakshmi
- d) City

Ans. (c)



Related facts:

- On 10 November 2016 Kumbakonam-based City Union Bank launched India's first banking robot Lakshmi.
- Lakshmi, which took more than six months to develop, can answer intelligently on more than 125 subjects.
- The robot, imported from France, has been customized in Coimbatore to provide basic information about the bank's history, deposit and lending rates, special schemes for students and number of branches among other things.
- Initially, Lakshmi will provide answers in English, followed by regional languages in the coming months.
- Later, it will be integrated with the Core Banking System to enable it to do multi-tasking such as providing account details and ordering cheque books.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/its-time-to-say-hello-to-lakshmi-the-banking-robot/article9336361.ece>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/Lakshmi-countrys-first-banking-robot-makes-debut-in-city/articleshow/55361225.cms>

YES MOBILE 2.0

Question: Which of the following Bank has launched "Yes Mobile 2.0" its new mobile banking app with multiple new features and extensive support for banking transactions?

- (a) Vijaya Bank
- (b) Citi Bank
- (c) Yes Bank
- (d) HDFC Bank

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 3 November 2016 Private sector lender Yes Bank BSE 1.49 % has launched "Yes Mobile 2.0" its new mobile banking app with multiple new features and extensive support for banking transactions on Apple and Android based Smart Watches.
- The app is compatible with all mobile devices including Android tablets and Apple iPads in addition to smartphones and wearables.
- The new application is filled with features like comprehensive bill payments, speech to text capabilities for registering complaints and queries and even bill payments from wearables.
- The app will allow customers to undertake most transactions on the app including Net Banking registration, thereby eliminating the need to visit the website or a banking branch.

Reference:

https://www.yesbank.in/media/press-releases/fy-2016-17/yes_bank_launches_yes_mobile_2.0

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/yes-bank-launches-new-mobile-banking-app/articleshow/55223683.cms>

Mobile application of '108' Samajwadi Health Service launched

Question: How many people have been benefited through the '108' Samajwadi Health Service?

- (a) More than 50 lakhs (b) More than 55 lakhs
(c) More than 60 lakhs (d) More than 69 lakhs

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 1 November 2016; Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Akhilesh Yadav had launched mobile application of '108' Samajwadi Health Service.
- Mobile App will enable caller to know the location of the ambulance and also the route of the vehicle. A web portal and ambulance tracker system has been created for online monitoring of the ambulance service. More than 69 lakh people benefitted through the 108 Samajwadi Health Service while 1.5 crore-plus pregnant women and children helped through the '102' National Ambulance Service. On this occasion Chief Minister interacted with workers of the 102 and 108 Ambulance service call centre to get first hand feedback.

Reference:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_engnews.aspx?id=1122

<https://twitter.com/CMOfficeUP/status/793437212453048320>

Ministry Of Railways Decides To Post Station Directors at A1 Category Stations

Question: Recently Ministry of Railways, has decided to post Station Directors at all A-1 Category railway stations, there are how many A-1 Category railway stations in India?

- (a) 76 (b) 78 (c) 65 (d) 75

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 2 November 2016 Ministry of Railways, has decided to post Station Directors at all A-1 Category railway stations.



- Presently there are 75 A-1 Category railway stations in India.
- The deployment of Station Director will be done in phases to begin with Station Directors have been posted at 12 such stations namely are:
 1. Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (CST) Mumbai, 2. Lokmanya Tilak Terminus (LTT) Mumbai, 3. Mumbai Central, 4. Delhi, 5. New Delhi, 6. Secunderabad, 7. Chennai Central, 8. Bengaluru City, 9. Howrah, 10. Sealdah, 11. Ahmedabad and, 12. Jaipur.
- The remaining 63 A-1 Category railway station will be manned with Station Directors by the end of this year. Station Directors will ensure that the stations function as excellence centers for the customers with the additional objective to ensure vigilant and sensitive customer service and also superior commercial sense.
- They will also be actively involved in the process of raising revenue from 'non fare box' like commercial advertisement, etc. at that station.

Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153188>

New building of Institute of Archaeology

Question: The new building of Institute of Archaeology will be dedicated to which of the following famous leader?

- (a) Pt. Madan Mohan Malaviya (b) Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose
 (c) Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya (d) Pt. Ravishankar

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- On 28 October 2016 Rajnath Singh, Union Home Minister laid the foundation stone of the building for Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Institute of Archaeology of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) under Ministry of Culture today at Plot No. 2, Institutional Area, Knowledge Park-II, Greater Noida, Delhi NCR.
- The Institute of Archaeology (IA) is an academic wing of Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) under the Ministry of Culture. This Institute provides an outstanding environment for the academic research through its Post Graduate Diploma in Archaeology, continuing its long established reputation for distinction in this field. Government of India has decided to dedicate the new building to Pt. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya on his Birth Centenary.
- About 38,000 square meter area has been chosen for the proposed Institute out of the existing 25 acres of land. The new building has been proposed to house a state of the art design concept having conference hall with a capacity of 1000 people, an archaeological museum with an area of 14,000 square meter.
- Notably, due to the efforts of Amlananda Ghosh, the then Director General of ASI, in 1959 the School of Archaeology started under the Directorship of B.B. Lal.

- The School of Archaeology transformed to Institute of Archaeology (IA) in 1983 as per R.N. Mirdha Committee Report.

Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153083>

<http://www.rajnathsingh.in/shri-rajnath-singh-lays-foundation-stone-of-pt-deen-dayal-upadhyay-institute-of-archaeology/>

EPFO joins network of Common Services Centers

Question: Recently Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has joined the network of Common Services Centers (CSC) by signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC SPV) on 25th October 2016. The MoU is initially for a period of-

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

Ans: (d)

Related facts:



- On 27 October 2016 Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has joined the network of Common Services Centers (CSC) in order to expand the reach of convenience offered to EPF members. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between EPFO and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC SPV) on 25th October 2016.
- The MoU is initially for a period of five years.
- The pensioners of Employees Pension Scheme of EPFO can submit their digital life certificates via Jeevan Pramaan Patra programme through a large number of points of Presence (PoP) of CSC networking in addition to those available at EPFO offices.
- Common Services Centers (CSC) network is one of the largest government approved online service delivery channel in the world.
- More details about Common Services Centers (CSC) and its network can be accessed at csc.gov.in

Reference:

<http://piib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=152018>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/epfo-joins-network-of-common-services-centers/431354/>

SPORTS PERSONALITY

Robin Peterson

Question: Robin Peterson is related to which of the following game?

(a) Cricket (b) Football (c) Hockey (d) Golf

Ans.(a)

Related facts:

- On 9 November 2016 Robin Peterson, South Africa all-rounder, has announced his retirement from all the formats of cricket. He made his South Africa debut during the Champions Trophy in 2002. He played 15 Tests, 79 ODIs and 21 T20Is. He has scored 464 runs at an average of 27.29 in 15 Tests and took 38 wickets at an average of 37.26. In addition, he scored 556 runs at an average of 20.59 in 79 ODIs and took 75 wickets at an average of 35.73.

Reference:

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/southafrica/content/story/1065379.html>

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/southafrica/content/player/46750.html>



Jason McCracken

Question: Who has been appointed as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of International Hockey Federation (FIH)?

(a) David Luke (b) Jason McCracken (c) Kelly Fair-weather (d) David Hager

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has appointed New Zealand's Jason McCracken as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He will take over on February 2017. He will replace Kelly Fair-weather. His most recent appointments were Technical Delegate at the Rio 2016 Olympic Games and Tournament Director at the 2014 Men's Hockey World Cup in The Hague, Netherlands.

Reference:

<http://www.fih.ch/news/fih-confirms-appointment-of-new-ceo-jason-mccracken/>

