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# NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

Year - 1



Vol. - 1



August, 2017



 **NATION  
TAX  
MARKET**

**GST**

**Goods and Services Tax**



Prime Minister  
**Narendra Modi's**  
visit to **America**



**GSAT-17**

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> June to 30<sup>th</sup> June) 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

Preface .....	1
NATIONAL .....	9
GST – transformation of the Indirect Taxation Landscape.....	9
Prime Minister’s Tri-Nation Visit .....	12
City Liveability Index launched .....	14
List of 30 new smart cities .....	14
Agreement among IOC, BPCL and HPCL .....	15
Penury Grant to Non-Pensioner Ex-Servicemen/Widows Enhanced .....	15
Dr. B. Borooah Cancer Institute to be taken over by Department of Atomic Energy .....	16
10th Common Review Mission report of National Health Mission .....	16
State Visit of President of Palestine to India .....	17
EPFO’s Civil Charter 2017 and of E-Court Management System Launched.....	18
INTERNATIONAL .....	19
World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision .....	19
Social Progress Index- 2017 .....	20
QS World University Ranking-2018.....	21
17th Summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organization .....	21
UN report on Global Remittance by nationals living abroad .....	22
Global Innovation Index -2017 .....	23
Attack on casinos in Manila.....	23
Presidential election in Iran.....	24
Global Peace Index-2017 .....	24
Montenegro became the 29th member of NATO .....	25
Mission Innovation and Clean Energy Ministerial.....	26
The Global Game Changers List 2017 .....	27
Japanese cabinet approved Bill allowing the king to step down .....	27
Manchester Terrorist Attack .....	28
Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction .....	28
Arctic Energy Summit 2017 .....	28
ECONOMICS .....	29
World’s 100 Highest-Paid Athletes .....	29

Govt. sold 2.5 percent stake in L&T .....	30
Banks to deposit junked notes at RBI by July 20.....	30
The World's 100 Highest-Paid Celebrities Of 2017.....	31
US authorised LNG export from offshore JV with India .....	31
World Investment Report-2017 .....	32
Cabinet approves Interest subvention on Short-Term crop loan .....	33
Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill 2017 approved to be introduced.....	34
Cabinet approves Initial Public Offer of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited .....	35
15th Meeting of the GST Council .....	36
Mobile App ABTEJ .....	37
Scientific.....	37
DEFENSE/SCIENCE SHORT NOTES .....	37
Communication satellite GSAT-17 launched.....	37
Discovery of 2-D Magnet .....	38
Prithvi-II missile successfully test-fired.....	38
Sports .....	40
TENNIS.....	40
Madrid Open 2017 .....	40
CRICKET .....	40
ICC Champions Trophy-2017 .....	40
IPL Twenty20 tournament .....	41
FOOTBALL.....	42
FIFA U-20 World Cup, 2017 .....	42
Hero Federation Cup.....	42
BADMINTON .....	43
Indonesia Open Super Series Premier .....	43
GOLF .....	43
U.S. Open Championship-2017 .....	43
FORMULA ONE.....	44
Canadian Grand Prix-2017 .....	44
SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS.....	44
First foreign coach for female boxers.....	44
SPORTS PERSONALITY .....	45
World Wrestling Entertainment Champion .....	45

Short Notes .....	46
PERSONALITIES .....	46
New President of India International.....	46
Palbinder Kaur Shergil.....	46
Muzoon Almellehan .....	47
Desh Bandhu Gupta .....	47
Justice Dalveer Bhandari.....	48
Brand Ambassador of GST .....	48
Baldwin Jacobson Lonsdale .....	49
Swami Atmasthanand Maharaj.....	49
Reenat Sandhu .....	50
Jyoti Bajpai.....	50
Gaitri Issar Kumar .....	50
New Home Secretary and Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs.....	51
New Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia .....	51
New chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Gosewa Commission .....	51
Ajit Vinayak Gupte.....	52
First Indian woman judge of ITLOS .....	52
C. Narayan Reddy .....	53
Justice P.N. Bhagwati .....	53
Ajmer Singh Aulakh .....	54
Resignation of Uber CEO Travis Kalanick.....	54
Appointment of the New Registrar of Copyrights .....	54
Era Sezhiyan.....	55
Independent director of the Indian Postal Payment Bank.....	55
Ruchira Kamboj .....	56
Sachin Tendulkar .....	56
P. Govardhan Reddy.....	57
First female Sikh MP of UK .....	57
Basudev Chatterjee .....	57
President of the United Nations 72nd General Assembly.....	58
Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.....	58
Sher Bahadur Deuba .....	59
New Director General of National Water Development Agency (NWDA).....	59



Syed Gyyur-ul-Hassan Rizvi.....	60
New Chairman of the International Fertilizer Association .....	60
Vani Sarraju Rao .....	61
Shekar Vempati .....	61
New CEO of Jet Airways .....	62
AA Pawar assumes charge of Director general Medical Services (NAVY) .....	62
Aleksandar Vucic .....	63
WHO's new Director General .....	64
S. Ramaswamy.....	64
Roger Moore.....	64
First CEO of the Paytm Bank.....	65
Chandraswami.....	65
Anshu Jamsenpa .....	66
A.K. Viswanathan.....	66
PLACES.....	67
Global Skill Park .....	67
Al-Nuri Masjid .....	67
Country's first trademarked building.....	68
Sailani Island: New Water Tourism Site .....	68
Kamrup.....	69
AWARDS & HONORS .....	69
Femina Miss India, 2017 .....	69
Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar-2017.....	70
International Dublin Literary Award- 2017.....	71
Man Booker International Prize-2017 .....	71
CEAT International Cricketer of the Year Award.....	72
WHO Director-General's Special Recognition Award to J P Nadda .....	72
United Nations bravery award to two Indian Peace Keepers .....	73
OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN .....	73
Swasth Saarthi Abhiyaan .....	73
Anuyatra Campaign.....	74
Joint Multi-Adventure Expedition by IAF & HPTDC .....	74
Campaign on 'adoption of slum' .....	75
Ganga Nirikshan Abhiyan.....	76

Deep Ocean Mission .....	76
Water Harvesting and Conservation-promotion Mission .....	77
COMMISSION & COMMITTEE.....	78
Committee to prepare the final draft of National Education Policy.....	78
Single-member commission to investigate the killing of 5 Farmers in Mandsaur .....	78
PLANNING & PROJECT.....	79
Metro Rail project in Uttarakhand.....	79
First Air Freight Corridor between India and Afghanistan .....	79
Plan to keep dustbins in vehicles .....	80
New airport terminal at Gorakhpur .....	80
Eklavya Model Residential School Scheme .....	81
Agricultural Loan Solution Scheme .....	81
National Mission on Cultural Mapping of India .....	82
Bengaluru Metro Phase –I Project dedicated to the people of Karnataka .....	82
Launch of Tele-Law System .....	83
Hill Area Development Program .....	84
India's first Rural LED Street Lighting Project.....	84
Project "Assam Citizen Centric Service Delivery" .....	85
Vatsalya-Maatri Amrit Kosh.....	85
Launch of 3 services/ Schemes of Telecommuication.....	86
Selfie with Daughter Mobile app .....	86
SATH Programme .....	87
Hundred Percent Sewage Treatment Project .....	88
SEVA App.....	88
Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust.....	89
'SAMPADA' Scheme launched.....	90
U.G.C. App.....	90
Litchi processing plant .....	90
INAM-Pro + .....	91
SAMPADA SCHEME .....	92
Decision to start two new circuits of the Maharaja Express.....	92
TREATY & AGREEMENTS .....	93
Agreement between EPFO and HUDCO .....	93
Cabinet approved amendment to India and the Netherlands Social Security Agreement.....	94

Cabinet approved MoU between India, Portugal on governance reforms.....	95
Cabinet approves India- Australia MoU on cooperation in the textiles .....	96
Cabinet approves India- Sri Lanka MoU for cooperation in Traditional Medicine .....	97
Cabinet approves India-Netherlands MoU in water management .....	97
Cabinet approves MoU between India and Armenia on Space Cooperation .....	98
Agreement between Sung Ha Telecom and Chhattisgarh government.....	99
Agreement between Samsung India and the MSME Ministry.....	99
MoU between CISF & NSDC.....	100
MoU between National Aviation University and Bird Worldwide Flight Services.....	100
Cabinet approves signing of MoU between India and Bangladesh .....	101
Cabinet approves signing of MoU between India and Armenia .....	102
Cabinet approves MoU between India and Palestine .....	102
Agreement between Rajya Anandam Sansthan and IIT Kharagpur.....	103
Cabinet approves signing of MoU between SEBI and European Securities and Markets Authority.....	104
Cabinet approves MoU between India and Mali .....	104
Cabinet approves Bilateral MoU between India and Iran .....	105
Cabinet approves Agreement between India and Somalia on transfer of sentenced persons .....	105
Cabinet approves agreement between India and Cyprus .....	106
Cabinet approved MoU between India and South Korea .....	106
CONFERENCE .....	107
First Guwahati International Documentary Film Festival.....	107
Ambubachi festival.....	107
Eighth Session of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).....	108
7th meeting of Agriculture Ministers of BRICS countries.....	108
Second Meeting of National Council of Senior Citizens .....	109
8th Clean Energy and Second Mission Innovation Ministerial Meeting .....	109
Conference on "Capacity Building of SDRFs-2017" .....	110
First Workshop on Sagarmala Project.....	111
1st Human Resources Round Table Conference of Indian Railways .....	112
19th ARCASIA Forum -2017 .....	112
MODI Fest inaugurated in Bengaluru .....	113
18th Annual India Russia Summit .....	113
YEAR, DAY & WEEK.....	114
World Hydrography Day .....	114



World Blood Donor Day .....	114
World Ocean Day .....	115
World Child Labour Prohibition Day .....	115
World Environment Day .....	115
Question: World Milk Day is celebrated on .....	116
World No Tobacco Day .....	116
Hindi Patrakarita Divas.....	117
Anti-Terrorism Day.....	117
MISCELLANEOUS.....	118
Protocol for Environment friendly weddings implemented .....	118
Falling Figure Series.....	118
US helicopter deal canceled .....	119
World Bank approves aid amount to Afghanistan.....	119
Resolution passed against ban on cattle sale for slaughter .....	120
World's smallest and cheapest private jet .....	120
Mega Food Park.....	121
Inauguration of State's first Mega Food Park in Odisha.....	121
World's largest circular swing .....	122
Exhibition on the birth centenary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay .....	122
Inauguration of Mega Food Park in Odisha.....	123
Inauguration of 'Return of Three Statues' exhibition.....	124

# NATIONAL

## GST – transformation of the Indirect Taxation Landscape

**Question: Goods and Services Tax (GST) was approved by the Parliament through...**

- (a) 101st Constitutional Amendment Act (b) 99th Constitutional Amendment Act  
(c) 98th Constitutional Amendment Act (d) 102nd Constitutional Amendment Act

**Ans: (a)**

### **Related Fact :**

- Goods and Services Tax (GST), a historic tax reform, has come into effect since 1st July, 2017.
- A function was organized in the Central Hall of Parliament on the mid-night of 30th June – 1st July, 2017 to commemorate the historic occasion.
- The occasion was graced by the Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Vice President, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha and Hon'ble Union Finance Minister among other dignitaries.

### **GST- evolution of the idea:**

- In December 2002, the Kelkar Task Force on indirect taxation suggested a comprehensive Goods and Services Tax (GST) based on the Value Added Tax principle.
- The proposal to introduce GST was first mooted in the Budget Speech for the financial year 2006-07.
- Since the proposal involved restructuring and reform of not only indirect taxes levied by the Centre but also the States, the responsibility of preparing a design and a plan of action for the implementation of GST was assigned to the Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers which had been formed earlier for implementation of the Value Added Tax.
- The Empowered Committee of State Finance Ministers submitted its final report which became the backbone for drafting the Bill.
- In 2011, UPA II moved a Constitution Amendment Bill in Lok Sabha. It was referred to Parliamentary committee.

### **After the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act:**

- After the assent of the Hon'ble President on 8th September, 2016, the 101st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2016 came into existence. The GST Council was constituted on 15.9.2016.
- Since its formation in September, 2016 the GST Council has held 18 meetings.
- The Finance Ministers of all the States or their representative along with State and Central govt. officials have participated in these extensive meetings and formulated the law and procedure to implement this historic tax reform. It was a mammoth task involving 27000+ man hours of intensive work. More than 200 meetings of the officers of the Centre and States took place in different parts of the country to expedite the implementation of GST.
- While framing GST Acts and Rules, enhanced 'Ease of doing business' for the taxpayers was a key consideration and accordingly the roles and responsibilities of the States and Central govt. have been defined.



- In a short span of time, the GST council has cleared GST laws, GST Rules, Tax rate structure including Compensation Cess, Classification of goods and services into different rate slabs, exemptions, thresholds, structure for tax administration, etc.
- All the decisions of Council were taken with consensus. While formulating the Acts and Rules, extensive participatory consultations with trade and industry including other significant stakeholders were undertaken. Feedback was also obtained by posting draft Acts and Rules on the websites and inviting comments from the public.
- On 29th March, 2017, Finance Minister of India tabled four Goods and Services Tax (GST) Bills for consideration and passage in the Lok Sabha namely The Central Goods and Services Tax (CGST) Bill, 2017, The Integrated Goods and Services Tax (IGST) Bill, 2017, The Union Territories Goods and Services Tax (UTGST) Bill, 2017 and the GST (Compensation to States) Bill, 2017.
- They were passed by the Lok Sabha on 29th March, 2017 and by the Rajya Sabha on 6th April, 2017.

#### **The final Structure of GST:**

- The threshold limit for exemption from levy of GST is Rs. 20 lakh for the States except for the Special Category, where it is Rs 10 Lakh.
- A four slab tax rate structure of 5%, 12%, 18% and 28% has been adopted for GST.
- A cess would be levied on certain goods such as luxury cars, aerated drinks, pan masala and tobacco products, over and above the GST rate of 28% for payment of compensation to the states.
- The threshold for availing the Composition scheme is Rs. 75 lakh except for special category States where it is Rs. 50 lakh and they are required to file quarterly returns only. Certain categories of manufacturers, service providers (except restaurants) are out of the Composition Scheme.
- GST envisages all transactions and processes to be done only through electronic mode, to achieve non-intrusive administration. This will minimise tax payers physical interaction with the tax officials.
- GST provides for the facility of auto-populated monthly returns and annual return.
- It also facilitates the taxpayers by prescribing grant of refund within 60 days, and provisional release of 90% refund to exporters within 7 days. Further facilitation measures include interest payment if refund is not sanctioned in time, and refund to be directly credited to bank accounts.
- Comprehensive transitional provisions for ensuring smooth transition of existing taxpayers to GST regime, credit for available stocks, etc.
- Other provisions include system of GST Compliance Rating, etc.
- Anti-profiteering provisions for protection of consumer rights.

#### **IT backbone of GST : Role of GST Network (GSTN)**

- GSTN has been created as a section 25 private limited company with Strategic Control with the Government, to function as a common Pass-through portal for taxpayers.
- On this common portal, taxpayers will submit their registration applications, file returns, make tax payments, claim refunds etc.
- GSTN has been provided with a robust IT platform and it will provide interface to 80 lakh taxpayers and thousands of tax officials.
- All filings under GST will be done electronically. While GSTN remains a front-end, at the back end, the IT systems of CBEC and different states interface with the GSTN IT

network to provide a seamless end to end processing of tax returns for the taxpayers. 64,000 officials have been trained on the GST portal from February till June 2017.

- The GSTN IT systems have undergone load tests, performance tests, vulnerability tests, security and all other mandatory tests.
- Enrolment of existing taxpayers of the State tax administrations and the Central Board of Excise and Customs to the GST system commenced on 8th November, 2016. More than 66 lakh taxpayers have activated their account at the GST portal.
- GST Application on Payment has been operationalized. 25 banks have been integrated with the GST Common portal and will be providing e-payment and over the counter payment facilities as well as payment through NeFT/RTGS and credit/debit card.

#### **GST Outreach Programme**

- The Government has stepped up its outreach programme through various events, workshops, media and television to reach masses.
- The field units of CBEC have run campaigns using mobile vans to reach the assessee at their door-step to help them with the GST migration and transitional issues. A total of 4700 workshops have been conducted across India.
- An extensive multi-media campaign through print and electronic media, outdoor hoardings, etc. has been carried out for informing, educating and assisting taxpayers and other stake-holders to enable a smooth transition to GST.
- The Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC) has also been restructured for administration of GST. The reorganisation involved bringing about structural changes and redeployment of human resources.
- The field formations have been restructured as 21 CGST & CX Zones, 107 CGST & CX Commissionerates, 12 Sub-Commissionerates, 768 CGST & CX Divisions, 3969 CGST & CX Ranges, 48 Audit Commissionerates and 49 Appeal Commissionerates.
- National Academy of Customs Indirect Taxes and Narcotics (NACIN) have conducted extensive training programs. In the first phase, nearly 52,000 officers were trained during September, 2016 to January, 2017 through a multi-layered training programme across India.
- A Refresher Training was also conducted on updated Law, Rules and Procedures and a total of 17,213 officials were trained till 23rd June, 2017.
- Under the Accredited GST Training Programme, 20 institutes have been certified as 'Approved Training Partners' to impart 'quality training at reasonable cost' to members of trade/industry and other stakeholders.
- Besides that, training resources such as 500 FAQs on GST have been released in English, Hindi and 10 regional languages.
- A twitter seva askGST\_GOI has been started by the Government as an initiative to answer queries of the Tax Payers on a real time basis.

#### **Importance:**

- GST is the biggest tax reform since independence. It will pave the way for realization of the goal of One Nation – One Tax – One Market.
- GST will benefit all the stakeholders namely industry, government and consumer. It will lower the cost of goods and services, give a boost to the economy and make the products and services globally competitive, giving a major boost to 'Make in India' initiative.

- GST will make India a common market with common tax rates & procedures and remove economic barriers. GST is largely technology driven and will reduce the human interface to a great extent.
- GST is expected to improve ease of doing business in India.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=167023>

## Prime Minister's Tri-Nation Visit

**Question:** PM Narendra Modi was on which of the following three-nation visit between June 24<sup>th</sup> -27<sup>th</sup>, 2017?

- (a) France, Portugal, America
- (b) Portugal, United States, Netherlands
- (c) Israel, America, Portugal
- (d) Russia, America, Netherlands



**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on three nation visit to Portugal, United State and Netherlands from June 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- In the first phase of his visit Prime Minister Narendra Modi reached Portugal on June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- During this visit, he met his Portuguese counterpart Prime Minister Antonio Costa.
- After wide ranging bilateral talks between the two leaders, the following major MoU / Agreements were signed-
  - (i) Indo-Portuguese Space Coalition
  - (ii) MoU on Nano Technology
  - (iii) MoU on Public Administration and Governance Reforms
  - (iv) MoU on cultural cooperation
  - (v) MoU on Youth and Sports
  - (vi) MoU on cooperation in the field of Higher Education and Scientific Research.
  - (vii) MoU between Portugal India Business Hub & Reira Group/Goa Desk.

(viii) MoU on Biotechnology

(ix) MOU between Portugal India Business Hub & Indian Chamber of Commerce.

- In the second phase of his tri-nation tour, Prime Minister visited the USA on June 25<sup>th</sup> -26<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- It was the first visit of Prime Minister Modi to USA after the election of Donald trump as US President.
- Prime Minister NarendraModi held official talks with President Trump on June 26 followed by delegation level talks.
- PM Narendra Modi also met US Secretary of State Rex Tillerson and United States Secretary of Defense Jim Mattis in Washington DC.
- He also met American business leaders in Washington D.C.
- On the final leg of his three nation visit Prime Minister Narendra Modi arrived at Amsterdam, Netherlands on June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017.
- His trip marks *70 years* of the establishment of Indo-Dutch *diplomatic relations*.
- During his visit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi held an official meeting with MarkRutte and called on King Willem-Alexander and Queen Maxima.
- In addition to this, the Prime Minister met with the representatives of Dutch companies working in the Indian market and those who want to invest in India.
- The Prime Ministers of both countries in a joint statement reaffirmed their commitment to combat terrorism and prevent radicalisation and reiterated the need for a unified and collective effort by the international community to eliminate terrorism through a holistic approach.
- Prime Minister Modi invited the Netherlands to join the International Solar Association (ISA).
- *Importantly, The Netherlands hosts the second largest Indian Diaspora in Europe.*

#### Reference:

<http://www.mea.gov.in/prime-minister-visits.htm>

<http://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral->

[documents.htm?dtl/28554/List of MoUsAgreements signed during the visit of Prime Minister to Portugal](documents.htm?dtl/28554/List_of_MoUsAgreements_signed_during_the_visit_of_Prime_Minister_to_Portugal)

<http://mea.gov.in/outgoing-visit-info.htm?2/975/Visit+of+Prime+Minister+to+USA+June+2526+2017>

<http://mea.gov.in/outgoing-visit->

<info.htm?2/976/Visit+of+Prime+Minister+to+Netherlands+June+27+2017>



## City Liveability Index launched

**Question- Which of the following states ranked highest in terms of implementation of urban reforms during year 2016-17?**

(a) Telangana (b) Odisha (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Gujarat

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 23, 2017, the Urban Development Ministry launched the 'City Liveability Index' to measure the quality of life in 116 major cities of the country.
- These include smart cities, capital cities and cities with a population of above one million each.
- The Index is a Common Minimum Reference Framework to enable the cities know where they stand in terms of quality of life and the interventions required to improve them.
- Cities will be assessed on a comprehensive set of 79 parameters to capture the extent and quality of infrastructure including availability of roads, education and health care, mobility, employment opportunities, emergency response, grievance redressal, pollution, availability of open and green spaces, cultural and entertainment opportunities etc.
- The Ministry of Urban Development also disbursed Rs.500 cr as incentive to 16 States that performed well in implementing urban reforms during 2016-17.
- Andhra Pradesh topped the list scoring 96.06% marks in respect of reforms like e-governance, Audit of accounts, Tax revision policies and extent of tax revenue collection, Energy and Water Audit and Credit Rating etc.
- Others who received the incentive fund in order of merit were- Odisha (95.38%), Jharkhand (91.98%), Chattisgarh (91.37%), Madhya Pradesh (90.20%), Telangana (86.92%), Rajasthan (84.62%), Punjab (77.02%), Kerala (75.73%), Goa (75.38\*), Mizoram (75.00%), Gujarat (73.80%), Chandigarh (72.73%), Uttar Pradesh (70.67%) and Maharashtra (70.52).

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=65670>



## List of 30 new smart cities

**Question: How many cities of UP have been included in the latest list of 30 smart cities announced by Union Urban Development Minister Venkaiah Naidu recently?**

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

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- Central government today announced another list of 30 cities for development as smart cities taking the total cities picked up so far to 90 under Smart City Mission launched on June 25, 2015.
- 30 cities announced today proposed a total investment of Rs.57,393 cr under respective smart city plans. This includes Rs.46,879 cr for ensuring core infrastructure in the areas identified by citizens for area based development and Rs.10,514 cr for technology based solutions for improving governance, service delivery and utilization of infrastructure.
- With this the total investment approved under the smart city plans of 90 cities has gone up to Rs.1,91,155 cr.



- The latest list of 30 new smart cities include Allahabad, Jhansi and Aligarh cities of Uttar Pradesh.
- Other prominent cities in the list are Gangtok, Dehradun, Shimla, Bengaluru, Satna, Patna, Naya Raipur and Trivendrum.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=65651>

## Agreement among IOC, BPCL and HPCL

**Question: State-owned oil firms IOC, BPCL and HPCL signed an agreement to jointly set up the world's largest refinery and petrochemical complex in which of the following states?**

(a) Gujarat (b) Maharashtra (c) Rajasthan (d) Odisha

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017, three public sector oil marketing companies – Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL) signed an agreement to jointly set up the world's largest refinery and petrochemical complex at Ratnagiri district of Maharashtra.
- Established with an investment of \$40 billion this refinery will be world's largest refinery.
- Indian Oil Corp will have the largest shareholding with 50 per cent stake while Hindustan Petroleum Corp Ltd and Bharat Petroleum Corp Ltd will take 25 per cent stake each.
- The capacity of this refinery will be 60 million metric tons annually.
- This refinery is likely to be operational by 2022.
- This refinery will be Green Refinery based on high environmental management standards.
- As of now, Jamnagar refinery, established in Gujarat and owned by Reliance Industries Limited, is India's largest oil refinery (refinery).



**Related Links:-**

<https://www.iocl.com/aboutus/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=44682&tID=8>

## Penury Grant to Non-Pensioner Ex-Servicemen/Widows Enhanced

**Question: The government recently announced to increase Penury Grant to Non-Pensioner Ex-Servicemen/Widows from 1000 per month to ...**

(a) 4000 per month. (b) 3500 per month. (c) 3000 per month  
(d) 5000 per month.

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 8, 2017, the government enhanced penury grant to non-pensioner Ex-Servicemen/Widows to Rs. 4,000/- per month from the existing rate of Rs. 1,000/- per month.
- Defence Minister Arun Jaitley approved the enhancement of the penury grant following the demands by different stake holders, including Ex-servicemen Associations, Rajya Sainik Boards, Ex-servicemen/widows.
- The penury grant is provided to non-pensioner Ex-servicemen/widows, who are above 65 years of age by the Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare, Ministry of Defence through Kendriya Sainik Board.



- The step of enhancement of penury grant will benefit a large number of non-pensioner Ex-servicemen and widows who are in a state of penury. It was last revised from one time grant of Rs. 30,000/- to Rs. 1,000/- per month in October 2011.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165509>

## Dr. B. Borooah Cancer Institute to be taken over by Department of Atomic Energy

**Question: Tata Memorial Centre is an aided institution of...**

- (a) Department of Atomic Energy. (b) AIIMS (c) Fortis Group  
(d) None of the above.

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved taking over of Dr. B. Borooah Cancer Institute, Guwahati by Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and bringing it under the administrative control of Tata Memorial Centre.
- The cabinet also approved augmentation of additional manpower of 166 posts in medical, paramedical and support positions.
- The decision comes in the wake of the increasing instances of cancer, limited cancer treatment facilities and the need for a hospital support to carry out further research in North Eastern Region.
- The approximate non-recurring expenditure for strengthening of institute is estimated at Rs. 150 crore and annual recurring expenditure is estimated at Rs. 45- 50 crore.
- Tata Memorial Centre is an aided institution of Department of Atomic Energy. Tata Memorial hospital is a premier research institution in the field of cancer research and treatment. TMC under the aegis of DAE has been extending financial and technical support to Dr. B. Borooah Cancer Institute since 1989.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164491>

## 10th Common Review Mission report of National Health Mission

**Question: When was the National Rural Health Mission started?**

- (a) May 05, 2001 (b) June 06, 2007 (c) April 12, 2005  
(d) January 01, 2001

**Ans: (c)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 2, 2017, the Union Health Minister, J P Nadda released 10th Common Review Mission (CRM) report of the National Health Mission.
- 10th Common Review Mission (CRM) under National Health Mission was held from 7th November 2016 to 11th November 2016 in 16 States / UT namely Andhra Pradesh, Arunchal Pradesh, Bihar, Chandigarh, Delhi, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Jharkhand, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Nagaland, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh.



- The terms of reference include service delivery; quality assurance; RMNCH+A; human resources; community processes; information and knowledge; healthcare financing; procurement of drugs, diagnostics and supply chain management; NUHM; and governance and management.
- The CRM report spans all aspects of health system reform and uses a mix of methods- including secondary data review, rapid assessment of facilities, and implementer and beneficiary perspectives.
- It is notable that the National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched on 12th April 2005, to provide accessible, affordable and accountable quality health services to the poorest households in the remotest rural regions.

**Reference:**

<http://nhm.gov.in/monitoring/common-review-mission/10th-common-review-mission.html>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163346>

## State Visit of President of Palestine to India

**Question: What is the name of the President of Palestine who was on a state visit to India**

- (a) Beta Szigvalo (b) Mahmoud Abbas (c) Benjamin Netanyahu  
(d) Recep Tayyip Erdogan

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts**

- President of Palestine Mr. Mahmoud Abbas was on a state visit to India from 14-17 May, 2017, at the invitation of India's President Pranab Mukherjee.
- This is the third state tour of President Mahmoud Abbas.
- During this visit, he met President Pranab Mukherjee, Vice President Hamid Ansari and External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.
- During the visit, he addressed the Delhi-based India Islamic Cultural Center.
- On May 16, 2017, the delegation level bilateral talks concluded between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Mahmoud Abbas at the Hyderabad House in New Delhi.
- After the talks, 5 MoUs were signed between the two countries :
  - I. Memorandum of Understanding on Visa Relief on Diplomatic and Official Passports
  - II. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Youth Affairs and Sports
  - III. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in Agriculture Sector
  - IV. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the Health Sector
  - V. Memorandum of Understanding on Information Technology and Electronics
- India – Palestine relations have been traditionally cordial.
- India's sympathy with the Palestine issue and friendship with the Palestinians have come to the test of time and is an integral part of our foreign policy.
- In the year 1947, India had voted against the partition of Palestine in the United Nations General Assembly.
- India was the first non-Arab country to recognize the PLO as the sole and legal representative of the people of Palestine in the year 1974.
- India was one of the first countries to recognize Palestine state in the year 1988.
- India voted in support of the United Nations General Assembly's resolution in October 2003 against the creation of a wall of the partition by Israel.



- India voted in favor of accepting Palestine as a full time member of UNESCO.
- Apart from this, India supported the establishment of Palestine's flag in the United Nations campus in September, 2015, along with other observer states like the flag of the Member States.

**Related Links:-**

[http://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-](http://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-detail.htm?28462/State+Visit+of+President+of+Palestine+to+India+May+1417+2017)

[detail.htm?28462/State+Visit+of+President+of+Palestine+to+India+May+1417+2017](http://www.mea.gov.in/incoming-visit-detail.htm?28462/State+Visit+of+President+of+Palestine+to+India+May+1417+2017)

## EPFO's Civil Charter 2017 and of E-Court Management System Launched

**Question: What is the time frame for claims settlement referenced to EPFO?**

(a) 10 days (b) 15 days (c) 20 days (d) 25 days

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 16, 2017, Minister of State for Labour and Employment (Independent Charge) Bandaru Dattatreya launched Citizen's Charter 2017 and E-Court Management System of Employee's Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) in Bengaluru.
- The objective of Citizen's Charter 2017 is to:
  1. Ensuring transparency in executing the work executed on behalf of EPFO and ensuring accountability.
  2. Providing social security coverage to all employees.
  3. Executing policies for the benefit of all stakeholders.
- This will improve service delivery system and grievance redressal system.
- Through this citizen charter, the goods and services will be made available to all stakeholders in a timely manner.
- This will also reduce the time limit which is currently 30 days.
- It is notable that the deadline for claim settlement is 10 days and the time limit in respect of Grievance Management is 15 days.
- The purpose of introducing the e-courts management system of EPFO is to ensure a transparent and electronic case management system that will meet the expectations of all stakeholders (employers, employees, petitioners).
- Under this system, the court process of EPF and MP Act 1952 and EPFT will be completed through digital medium.
- On the registered mobile number of the petitioners, automatic messages will be sent in relation to the latest status of their immediate matters, which will ensure easy access to their tribunals.
- Through this, stakeholders can get fresh knowledge of various matters.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=60986>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=161829>



# INTERNATIONAL

## World Population Prospects: The 2017 Revision

**Question:** According to the report released by the United Nations on June 21st, 2017, the population estimated by year 2050 is ...

(a) 9.8 billion (b) 11.2 billion (c) 8.6 billion (d) 7.6 billion

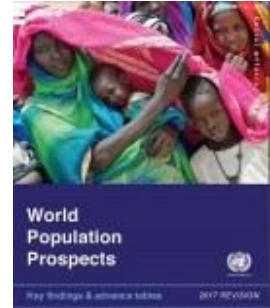
**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 21st June, 2017, the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat issued World Population Prospects Report: The 2017 Revision.
- According to the results of the 2017 Revision, the world's population numbered nearly 7.6 billion as of mid-2017.
- The reports shows that the world's population is projected to increase by slightly more than one billion people over the next 13 years, and will reach 8.6 billion in 2030, and to increase further to 9.8 billion in 2050 and 11.2 billion by 2100.
- Currently, the population of China is approximately 1.41 billion compared with 1.34 billion in India that is 19 percent and 18 percent of the world's population respectively.
- India's population is projected to continue growing for several decades to around 1.5 billion in 2030 while the population of China is expected to remain stable until the 2030s, after which it may begin a slow decline.
- In this way India will be the world's most populous country by 2024-2030.
- According to repots data, ten countries are expected to account collectively for more than half of the world's projected population increase over the period 2017-2050.
- These ten countries are India, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Pakistan, Ethiopia, the United Republic of Tanzania, the United States of America, Uganda, Indonesia and Egypt.
- Nigeria's population, currently the seventh largest in the world, is growing most rapidly.
- The population of Nigeria is projected to surpass that of the United States shortly before 2050, at which point it would become the third largest country in the world.
- According to the report in 2017, an estimated 50.4 per cent of the world's population was male and 49.6 per cent female.
- Current estimates indicate that roughly 83 million people are being added to the world's population every year.

**Reference:**

[https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Publications/Files/WPP2017\\_KeyFindings.pdf](https://esa.un.org/unpd/wpp/Publications/Files/WPP2017_KeyFindings.pdf)





## Social Progress Index- 2017

**Question- What position has India got in the recently released 'Social Progress Index- 2017'?**

(a) 98<sup>th</sup> (b) 95<sup>th</sup> (c) 93<sup>rd</sup> (d) 68<sup>th</sup>

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 20, 2017, Social Progress Index 2017 was released by the nonprofit organization 'Social Progress Imperative'.
- In this index, 128 countries have been given ranking based on their social progress.
- The social progress index is based on three dimensions-
  - 1. Basic Human Needs**
    - (A) Nutrition and Basic Medical Care
    - (B) Water and Sanitation
    - (C) Shelter
    - (D) Personal Safety
  - 2. Foundation of Wellbeing –**
    - (A) Access to Basic Knowledge
    - (B) Access to Information and Communications
    - (C) Health and Wellness
    - (D) Environmental Quality
  - 3. Opportunity**
    - (A) Personal Rights
    - (B) Personal Freedom and Selection
    - (C) Tolerance and inclusion
    - (D) Access to Advanced Education
- In the list of 128 countries in the social progress index, 2017, Denmark topped the list. Its total score is 90.57.
- Other countries after Denmark are Finland (Score-90.53), Iceland (Score-90.27) and Norway (Score-90.27), and Switzerland (Score-90.10).
- The countries having the lowest five positions in this index are respectively-
  128. Central African Republic (Score-28.38), 127. Afghanistan (Score-35.66), 126. Chad (Score-35.69) 125. Angola (score -40.73) and 124. Niger (Score-42.97).
- In Social Progress Index, India has been ranked 93rd in total of 128 countries in 2017 with score of -58.39.
- While last year (2016), India was ranked 98th in total of 133 countries.
- In this index among the neighboring countries of India, Sri Lanka has been ranked 73rd China 83rd, Nepal 91, Bangladesh 97th and Pakistan got the 105th place.
- In developed countries, the United Kingdom is ranked 12th, Germany 13th, Japan 17th, America 18th, and France 19th.



- Apart from India in the BRICS countries, Brazil is ranked 43rd , South Africa 66th , Russia 67th and China 83rd .

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.socialprogressimperative.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/06/English-2017-Social-Progress-Index-Findings-Report.pdf>

## QS World University Ranking-2018

**Question: Which University has got top position in the recently released QS World University Ranking?**

- (a) Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) (b) Stanford University  
(c) Harvard University (d) California Institute of Technology

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 8, 2017, QS World University Ranking-2018 was released.
- Around 1,000 universities from 84 countries were included in this ranking.
- In the QS World University Ranking-2018, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) of the US has been ranked first for the sixth consecutive time.
- Stanford University and Harvard University remained second and third respectively while the California Institute of Technology ranked fourth.
- The University of Cambridge and the University of Oxford were ranked fifth and sixth respectively.
- For the first time in the QS World University Ranking-2018, three Indian institutes have got place in the top 200 universities of the world.
- According to this, IIT Delhi, 172nd , IIT, Bombay 179th and Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru got 190th position.



**Related Link:-**

<https://www.topuniversities.com/university-rankings/world-university-rankings/2018>

## 17th Summit of Sanghai Cooperation Organization

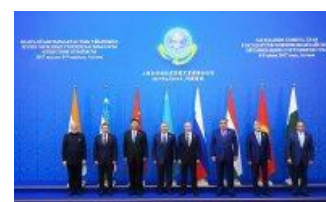
**Question- The 17th SCO summit recently concluded in ...**

- (a) Tashkent, Uzbekistan (b) Beijing, China (c) Ufa, Russia  
(d) Astana, Kazakhstan

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- The 17th Summit of the Heads of the Member States of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) concluded in Astana, Kazakhstan on 8-9 June, 2017.
- This annual summit was hosted and chaired by President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev.
- This is the third occasion when Kazakhstan presided over the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Summit.
- Prior to this Kazakhstan had presided over the SCO Summit in 2005 and 2011.
- President of China, Xi Jinping, Russia's President Vladimir Putin, and representatives of other member countries participated in the summit.



- India and Pakistan were granted the status of the member countries of the organization under a critical phase of expansion of SCO.
- In the 16th Summit held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan in 2016, the two countries had signed a memorandum of obligation to join the organization.
- After India and Pakistan becoming a member, the number of SCO members increased to 8.
- Other members of the organization include China, Kazakhstan Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran and Mongolia are presently observer countries.
- SCO was formed on June 15, 2001.
- It is mainly related to military cooperation between member countries. It includes sharing the intelligence information and undertaking anti-terrorism operations in Central Asia.
- It has its headquarters in Beijing, China.
- At present, Rashid Alimov is the Secretary-General of the SCO.
- The 18th Summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organization is proposed in China.

**Related Links:-**

<http://eng.sectsco.org/news/20170609/289274.html>

## UN report on Global Remittance by nationals living abroad

**Question- Who among the following is the largest recipient of global remittance as per UNIFAD report?**

(a) India (b) China (c) Pakistan (d) Sri Lanka

**Ans : (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On the 14th June, 2017, the UN International Fund for Agricultural Development (UN IFAD) released a report titled 'Sending Money Home: Contributing to the SDGs, One Family at a Time'.
- This is the first-ever study of a 10-year trend in migration and remittance flows over the period 2007-2016.
- The report shows that there have been increases in sending patterns to almost all regions of the world particularly Asia which has witnessed an 87 per cent increase in remittances.
- More than 200 million migrant workers are now supporting an estimated 800 million family members globally.
- Remittance flows have grown over the last decade at a rate averaging 4.2 per cent annually, from \$296 billion in 2007 to \$445 billion in 2016.
- The top ten sending countries account for almost half of annual flows, led by the United States, Saudi Arabia and the Russian Federation.
- Asia receives 55 per cent of all remittance flows.
- India is the largest recipient of remittances sent by its citizens working abroad followed by China, Philippines, Mexico and Pakistan.
- In the year 2016, India received a total of \$ 62.7 billion through foreign remittances.



**Related Links:-**

<https://www.ifad.org/documents/36783902/4a5640d9-e944-4a8c-8007-a1bc461416e6>

## Global Innovation Index -2017

**Question:** In the 'Global Innovation Index -2017', India has been ranked at ...

(a) 66<sup>th</sup> (b) 60<sup>th</sup> (c) 65<sup>th</sup> (d) 55<sup>th</sup>

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- The 10th edition of Global Innovation Index was released on June 15, 2017.
- The theme of the year 2017's Global Innovation Index is 'Innovation Feeding the World'.
- Switzerland tops the Global Innovation Index-2017 followed by Sweden at the second and the Netherlands at the third place.
- United States of America is the fourth most innovative country of the world.
- India has been ranked 60th among 127 countries in the Global Innovation Index 2017.
- In 2016, India was ranked 66th in the list of 128 countries.
- As per the Global Innovation Index 2017, India is far behind from BRICS group, except Brazil (at 69).
- In this list, China is ranked 22nd, Russian Federation 45th and South Africa 57th.
- Among India's neighboring countries, Sri Lanka ranked 90th, Nepal 109th Pakistan 113th and Bangladesh got 114th rank.
- India is at the top spot this year in the regional rankings of Central and South Asia.
- Yemen has been ranked 127th in the Global Innovation Index 2017.
- The Global Innovation Index is jointly released by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO), Cornell University and INSEAD: The Business School for the World.
- Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and CNI and Brazilian Micro and Small Business Support Service (Sebrae) are included in the form of Knowledge Partner in the publication of this report.



**Related links:-**

[http://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/articles/2017/article\\_0006.html](http://www.wipo.int/pressroom/en/articles/2017/article_0006.html)

## Attack on casinos in Manila

**Question:** Manila, where an unknown gunman attacked and burned a casino on June 2, is a famous city of ...

(a) Philippines (b) Thailand (c) Maldives (d) Indonesia

**Ans : (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 2, 2017, an unknown gunman attacked and burned a casino located Manila, the capital of Philippines.
- More than 36 people died and many others were injured in this attack.
- This resort is located near Neyoy Aquino International Airport.
- Terrorist organization Islamic State (IS) claimed the responsibility for this attack.



**Related Links:-**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/06/01/world/asia/shooting-resorts-world-manila.html>

## Presidential election in Iran

**Question: Who among the following won the presidential election recently held in Iran?**

(A) Dr. Hassan Rouhani (B) Ebrahim Raisi (C) Mustafa Mirsalim  
(D) Mustafa Hashmi

**Ans : (a)**

### Related facts

- According to election results declared by the interior ministry of Iran on May 20, 2017, the incumbent President of Iran, Dr. Hassan Rouhani got a decisive victory over his conservative rival Ebrahim Raisi
- President Dr. Hassan Rouhani received 23,636,652 votes in 41,366,085 votes cast in the country. (57.14%)
- Elections for Iran's 12th President were held on May 19, in which about 73% of the people voted.
- There were four Presidential candidates in the election however hardliner Ibrahim Raisi (38.28% votes) was seen as the main competitor of Hassan Rouhani.
- Significantly, President is elected for four years in Iran and no President can contest elections for the third consecutive term.
- According to the provision of Article 117 of the Constitution of Iran, it is mandatory for the candidate to get a minimum of 50% + 1 votes of total votes cast to win the presidential election.
- If no candidate gets clear majority, a second round of election is conducted between two candidates with highest vote share in the first round.
- In the political system of Iran, the President is the second highest person. The highest person is the highest religious leader.
- It is notable that the biggest achievement of Hassan Rouhani's last four-year term was Iran's nuclear deal with Western countries, due to which the restrictions on Iran were lifted.



### Related links:-

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/05/iran-election-president-hassan-rouhani-takes-lead-170520042625946.html>

## Global Peace Index-2017

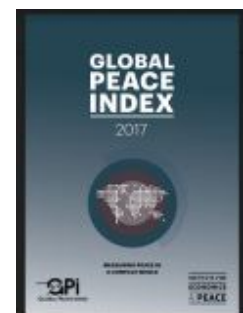
**Question- India's ranking in the 'Global Peace Index -2017' is...**

(a) 142<sup>nd</sup> (b) 137<sup>th</sup> (c) 144<sup>th</sup> (d) 125<sup>th</sup>

**Ans : (b)**

### Related facts:-

- On June 1, 2017, the 11th edition of the 'Global Peace Index-2017' was released by the London-based Institute for Economics and Peace (IEP).
- Based on 23 qualitative and quantitative indicators, Global Peace Index measures the level of peace in 163 countries of the world.
- These 23 indicators can be classified under three broad subjects-
  - (I) Safety and protection level in society
  - (II) Expansion of domestic and international conflicts and
  - (III) Militarization.



- Global Peace Index 2017 shows that during the last one year, the level of peace has increased in 93 countries. While the level of peace has declined in 68 countries.
- According to the latest index, North America is currently the Most Peace Full Region in the world.
- According to the report, the global economy suffered a total loss of \$ 14.3 trillion due to violence in the year 2016. This amount is 12.6 percent of the global GDP.
- According to the Global Peace Index-2017, Iceland is the world's most peaceful country for the 10th time with a minimum score of 1.111 among 163 countries while Syria is the most troubled country with a maximum score of 3.814 .
- Interestingly, Iceland was not included in the first GPI released in 2007.
- The other peaceful countries following Iceland are:  
(2) New Zealand (Score -1.241), (3) Portugal (Score -1.258), (4) Austria (score -1.265) and (5) Denmark (Score -1.337).
- The ranking of the most troubled 4 countries after Syria is: (162) Afghanistan (Score: 3.567), (161) Iraq (Score: 3.556), (160) South Sudan (Score: 3.524) and (159) Yemen (score- 3.412).
- In the Global Peace Index -2017, India is placed at 137th position (Score-2.541) .
- India was at 141th position last year.
- Among India's neighbors Bhutan is at 13th (Score: 1.474), Sri Lanka 80th (Score-2.019), Bangladesh 84th (Score-2.035), Nepal 93rd (Score-2.8), China 116th (Score-2.42) and Pakistan 152th (Score- 3.058) place .
- The ranking of other major countries of the world is as follows: Canada 8th, Japan 10th, Germany 16th, Singapore 21st, United Kingdom 41st, France 51st, Brazil 108th and the America at 114th position.

#### Related Links:-

[https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B9JDcB\\_PDjM1SUN6NXpzMmh3OTQ](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/0B9JDcB_PDjM1SUN6NXpzMmh3OTQ)

## Montenegro became the 29th member of NATO

**Question: Recently, Montenegro became the 29th member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO). Which of the two countries were included in the alliance prior to the recent enlargement?**

- (a) Albania and Croatia (b) Czech Republic and Poland  
(c) Latvia and Lithuania (d) Slovakia and Slovenia

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 5, 2017, Montenegro became the 29th member of North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) upon depositing its instrument of accession with the US State Department in Washington DC.
- Montenegro signed the Accession Protocol in May 2016, after which all 28 national parliaments voted to ratify Montenegro's membership.





- Montenegro's accession to the Alliance is NATO's first enlargement since 1 April 2009, when Albania and Croatia joined the Alliance.
- NATO is an alliance of countries from Europe and North America. It provides a unique link between these two continents, enabling them to consult and cooperate in the field of defence and security, and conduct multinational crisis-management operations together.
- NATO is committed to the principle of collective defence enshrined in Article 5 of the Washington Treaty.
- Montenegro, which means "Black Mountain", is south-east European country. Montenegro emerged as a sovereign state after more than 55% of the population opted for independence in a May 2006 referendum.
- The vote heralded the end of the former Union of Serbia and Montenegro, which itself was created only three years earlier out of the remnant of the former Yugoslavia.
- Dusko Markovic is the incumbent prime minister of Montenegro. Montenegro's capital is Podgorica and currency -Euro.

**Reference:**

<http://www.nato.int/nato-welcome/index.html>

## Mission Innovation and Clean Energy Ministerial

**Question: 2nd Mission Innovation Ministerial and 8th Clean Energy Ministerial is being organized on 6th -8th June, 2017 in ...**

(a) Canada (b) Tokyo (c) Beijing (d) Peru

**Answer- (c)**



**Related facts:**

- The 2nd Mission Innovation Ministerial and 8th Clean Energy Ministerial is being held on 6–8 June 2017.
- China will host the eighth Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM8) in Beijing.
- International business leaders and experts from over 20 member countries and the European Commission are expected to join the ministerial.
- Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest & Climate Change Dr. Harsh Vardhan is leading the Indian Delegation.
- Mission Innovation (MI) was launched by leaders of 20 countries on 30th November 2015.
- The CEM focuses on collaboration to scale clean energy technologies and solutions that are available today, while MI focuses on scaling research and development (R&D) for the new technologies of the future.
- Members of the two fora represent about 90 percent of global clean energy investment and 75 percent of global greenhouse gas emissions.
- **The vision of the ministerial is to:**
- Demonstrate and celebrate the "Revolution Now" of rapidly decreasing costs and increasing deployment of clean energy technologies and the national and global value propositions of economic opportunity, health and welfare, and energy security of the transition to modern, clean, and efficient energy.
- Deepen and broaden government participation and leadership in the CEM forum to drive greater progress in the global clean energy transformation.

- Strengthen action-oriented partnerships and collaborations with international organizations, business and industry, foundations, and others with aligned interests to raise the overall impact of all efforts. Launch new, high-impact CEM campaigns that tap into globally relevant and timely clean energy areas and that encourage concrete commitments from all CEM member governments, the private sector, and other partners.
- During the meeting 7 Innovation Challenges would be announced out of which India co-leads 3 challenges: Smart Grid, Off-Grid Access and Sustainable bio-fuels.
- Under the Indo-US Joint Clean Energy Research (PACE-R) the new collaborative public – private programme on Smart Grids & Energy Storage would be announced.
- India has initiated Joint virtual Clean Energy Centre with UK and has committed £5 million.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164405>

## The Global Game Changers List 2017

**Question: Who was on top of 'The Global Game Changers List 2017' released by Forbes on May 16, 2017?**

- (a) Mark Zuckerberg (b) Mukesh Ambani (c) Anil Ambani  
(d) Azim progeny

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 16, 2017, the 'Global Game Changers List-2017' was released by the famous American magazine Forbes. In the second annual list of the magazine 25 adventurers have been included. Those who have brought changes in the lives of millions of people around the world through their enterprises. Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries Limited, has been named in the list for bringing Internet within the reach of the common people in India.



**Related Links:-**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbespr/2017/05/16/forbes-launches-2017-global-game-changers-list/#7789128453c5>

## Japanese cabinet approved Bill allowing the king to step down

**Question: The Japanese Cabinet recently sanctioned the bill allowing King to step down. Currently the King of Japan is-**

- (a) Yoshihito (b) Akihito (c) Naruhito (d) Maruhito

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 19, 2017, the Cabinet of Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe approved the bill allowing the king to step down. Under which the elderly King Akihito of Japan could leave the throne. This would be the first case of abandonment by any king of Japan in the past two centuries. This bill will be sent to Japan Parliament 'Diet' for final approval. Significantly, there is no provision for quitting the throne in the existing Japanese law.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/05/japan-cabinet-approves-emperor-akihito-abdication-bill-170519033810354.html>

## Manchester Terrorist Attack

**Question: Recently, during whose pop concert suicide bombing was carried out in Manchester City, UK?**

(a) Justin Bieber (b) Ariana Grande (c) Madonna (d) Lady Gaga

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 22, 2017, a suicide attack was carried out during the American singer Ariana Grande's pop concert at Manchester Arena in Manchester City, UK.
- In this suicide attack, 22 people lost their lives and about 59 were injured.
- The blast took place around 10.30 pm (Indian time at 3 am).
- This is the most horrific terrorist incident since the year 2005 in the UK.
- Earlier in July 2005, more than 50 people were killed in the serial bomb blasts in London.
- Manchester Arena is the largest indoor stadium in the city with a capacity of 18 to 21 thousand.
- The Islamic State (IS) has taken responsibility for this suicide terror attack.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-manchester-40010124>

## Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction

**Question- Where was the meeting of 'Global Forum for Reducing Disaster Risk' (GPDRR) held?**

(a) New York, US (b) Cancun, Mexico (c) Antalya, Turkey  
(d) Sendai, Japan

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- During 22-26 May, 2017, the meeting of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction was held in Cancun Mexico.
- GPDRR is a platform that reviews progress in the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (SFDRR).
- This framework was passed in the third United Nations Global Disaster Risk Mitigation Conference held in March 2015 in Sendai, Japan.
- This was the first time after 2015, when the global leaders and the parties to disaster reduction risks will have an opportunity to review the global progress in the implementation of SFDRR in collaboration with the international community.
- More than 5,000 delegates including Presidents, Ministers, Chief Executive Officers, Disaster Specialists and volunteers representatives from areas such as Science and Technology and educationists participated in the event.
- Indian delegation was led by Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.unisdr.org/conferences/2017/globalplatform/en/about>

## Arctic Energy Summit 2017

**Question: Where will the Arctic Energy Summit 2017 be organized?**

(a) Norway (b) Finland (c) Fairbank (d) Denmark



**Ans :(b)**

**Related facts:-**

- The 4th biennial Arctic Energy Summit 2017 will be hosted by Finland from 18-20 September 2017.
- Finland will chair the Arctic Council from 2017 to 2019.
- The AES is a multi-disciplinary event expected to draw several hundred industry officials, scientists, academics, policy makers, energy professionals and community leaders together to collaborate and share leading approaches on Arctic energy issues. The 2017 Summit will address energy in the Arctic as it relates to:
  - Small and off-grid community energy solutions
  - Oil and gas development
  - Renewable energy
  - Regulation and Financing
  - Transportation and transmission
- The conference will be organized jointly by the Institute of North and the Ministry of Economic and Employment, Finland.

**Related Links:-**

[http://arcticenergysummit.com/story/Finland\\_to\\_Host\\_2017\\_Arctic\\_Energy\\_Summit](http://arcticenergysummit.com/story/Finland_to_Host_2017_Arctic_Energy_Summit)

## **ECONOMICS**

### **World's 100 Highest-Paid Athletes**

**Question- On June 8, 2017, Forbes released 'The World's 100 Highest Paid Athletes-2017' list. Which Indian player has figured in this list?**

- (a) Mahendra Singh Dhoni (b) Virat Kohli (c) Yuvraj Singh  
(d) Shikhar Dhawan

**Ans :(b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 8, 2017, famous American magazine Forbes published the 'World's 100 Highest Paid Athletes- 2017' list.
- Real Madrid's Cristiano Ronaldo, with earnings of \$93 million, retains the top spot for the second consecutive year.
- US Basketball player LeBron James was ranked second with \$ 86.2 million income.
- Argentine football player Lionel Messi was ranked third with an income of \$ 80 million.
- Switzerland's renowned tennis player Roger Federer was fourth with \$ 64 million and US basketball player Kevin Durant ranked fifth with the income of \$ 60.6 million.
- Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli also figured in this list with US \$ 22 million income.
- Famous American tennis player Serena Williams ranked 51st in the list with \$ 27 million in earnings. He is the only female sports person in this list.
- There are 21 countries represented on this year's World's Highest-Paid Athletes list, with 63 Americans.



- It is noteworthy that Forbes earnings figures include all salaries and bonuses earned between June 1, 2016 and June 1, 2017.
- Endorsement incomes are an estimate of sponsorship deals, appearance fees and licensing income for the 12 months through June 1 based on conversations with dozens of industry insiders.

**Related Links:-**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbespr/2017/06/07/forbes-releases-its-2017-list-of-the-worlds-100-highest-paid-athletes/#176267c67d3c>

## Govt. sold 2.5 percent stake in L&T

**Question: What is the fiscal deficit target of the government?**

- (a) 3.2 percent of GDP (b) 4.5 percent of GDP (c) 2.5 percent of GDP  
(d) 1.5 percent of GDP

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 21, 2017, India sold a 2.5 per cent stake in engineering and construction group company Larsen & Toubro Ltd (L&T).
- This has brought in cash of more than Rs. 4,000 crore to the government.
- The stake which was held by the Specified Undertaking of Unit Trust of India (SUUTI) was sold through block deals in stock markets.
- SUUTI (government owned unit) owned a 6.68 per cent stake in L&T as of the end of March.
- India is aiming to raise Rs. 72,500 crore through the sale of partial government stakes in state-run and private firms during the year to March 2018, to meet fiscal deficit target of 3.2 per cent of gross domestic product.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/govt-sells-619-mn-stake-in-lt/article9731981.ece?homepage=true>

## Banks to deposit junked notes at RBI by July 20

**Question: Bank notes of Rs . 500 and Rs. 1000 were demonetized on ...**

- (a) November 8, 2016 (b) November 11, 2016 (c) November 10, 2016  
(d) November 09, 2016

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- According to a recent notification by Department of Economic Affairs, the Finance Ministry has asked banks and post offices to deposit junked Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000 notes with the Reserve Bank of India by July 20.
- This is the second window the government has provided to banks, post offices and cooperative banks for depositing the junked notes with RBI.
- The earlier window was open till December 31, a day after the 50-day period of demonetisation of high value currency.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/banks-post-offices-allowed-to-deposit-old-bank-notes-with-rbi/article9731885.ece?homepage=true>



## The World's 100 Highest-Paid Celebrities Of 2017

**Question-** On June 12, 2017, the prestigious American magazine Forbes released the list of 100 highest paid celebrities in the world. Who is India's highest paid celebrity in this list?

(a) Akshay Kumar (b) Prabhash (c) Shahrukh Khan (d) Salman Khan

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 12, 2017, the prestigious American magazine Forbes released the World's 100 Highest Paid Celebrities list-2017.
- American rapper and industrialist Sean Combs topped the list with \$ 130 million in this list.
- After this, the famous American singer Beyonce Knowles ranked second with \$ 105 million in earnings.
- The famous British author J.K. Rowling ranked third with a net earnings of \$ 95 million.
- Famous Canadian singer and musician Drake ranked fourth with US \$ 94 million in earnings.
- Famous football player Cristiano Ronaldo is at the fifth position with net earnings of \$ 93 million.
- Apart from this, among other celebrities of the world, Lionel Messi (\$ 80 million) is 14th, Roger Federer (\$ 64 million), 23rd, Jackie Chan (\$ 49 million) is ranked 39th.
- This year, only three celebrities from India are included in this list.
- Famous Bollywood actor Shahrukh Khan, with a net earning of US \$ 38 million, is ranked 65th in the list and remains the first in the country.
- Apart from this, famous Bollywood actor Salman Khan is at 71st place with \$ 37 million and Akshay Kumar is at 80th place with earnings of US \$ 35.5 million.
- The world's 100 top-earning celebrities earned a cumulative \$5.15 billion pretax between June 1, 2016 and June 1, 2017, essentially flat over 2016's \$5.1 billion total.
- 66% of the 100 celebrities in the world belong to the United States, 20% in Europe, 12% in Canada, and 5% in Asia.



**Related Links:-**

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/natalierobehmed/2017/06/12/celebrity-100-the-worlds-highest-paid-celebrities-of-2017/#c1570e34d92a>

## US authorised LNG export from offshore JV with India

**Question – Recently, what amount of Liquefied natural gas exports did the US sanction every day from Delphine LNG's proposed Offshore Louisiana Floating Terminal?**

(A) 1.2 billion cft (B) 1.5 billion cft (C) 1.8 billion cft (D) 1.9 billion cft

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 2, 2017, the US approved a long-term application to export Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) from offshore Indian and American joint venture, in the Gulf of Mexico.
- Export of 1.8 billion cubic feet per day (Bcf/d) of natural gas has been approved from Delfin LNG's proposed offshore Louisiana floating terminal.





- With this approval, the Department of Energy has authorised a total of 21 Bcf/d of natural gas exports to non- free trade agreement (non-FTA) countries from planned facilities in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, and now, with Delfin, from the Gulf of Mexico.
- The export from the Delfin LNG terminal, jointly owned by the India and Singapore-based Fairwood Group and the US-based Peninsula group, has been approved for a period of 20 years.

**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8759798\\_US-authorises-LNG-export-from-offshore-JV-with-India](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8759798_US-authorises-LNG-export-from-offshore-JV-with-India)

## World Investment Report-2017

**Question: According to the ‘World Investment Report-2017’ issued by UNCTAD on June 7, 2017, India, with \$ 44 billion of foreign direct investment inflows, is at which place in the list of the largest investment recipient countries?**

(a) 9<sup>th</sup> (b) 12<sup>th</sup> (c) 10<sup>th</sup> (d) 8<sup>th</sup>

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts**

- On June 7, 2017, the World Investment Report (WIR) 2017 was released by UNCTAD (United Nations Conference on Trade and Development).
- World Investment Report is being published annually by UNCTAD since year 1991.
- This is the 27th edition of World Investment Report.
- The central theme of the 27th edition of the World Investment Report is “Investment and the Digital Economy”.
- **The following issues are included in each version of the World Investment Report** –
  1. An analysis of trends in FDI during the previous year, with special emphasis on development implications.
  2. Ranking of the largest multinational corporations in the world
  3. In-depth analysis of a selected topic related to FDI.
  4. Policy analysis and recommendations.
- In 2016, global flows of foreign direct investment fell by about 2 per cent, to \$1.75 trillion.
- In the year 2016, FDI inflows in developing countries declined 14 percent to \$ 646 billion.
- In the year 2016, the global FDI inflow of developing Asia declined 15 percent to \$ 443 billion.
- Global FDI inflows grew 5 percent to \$ 1 trillion in developed countries in the year 2016.
- According to this report, in the year 2016, the United States, China and India were the preferred destinations for foreign direct investment.
- **According to the World Investment Report-2017, the 5 largest economies with direct foreign investment inflow are:**
  - I. United States (\$ 391 billion)
  - II. United Kingdom (\$ 254 billion)
  - III. China (\$ 134 billion)
  - IV. Hong Kong China (\$ 108 billion)
  - V. The Netherlands (\$ 92 billion)



- According to the report, India is the 10th highest recipient of FDI in the world with FDI inflows of \$ 44 billion.
- **According to the World Investment Report, the 5 largest economies with foreign direct investment outflow are:**
  - i. United States (\$ 299 billion)
  - ii. China (\$ 183 billion)
  - iii. Netherlands (\$ 174 billion)
  - iv. Japan (145 billion dollars)
  - v. Canada (66 billion dollars)

**Related Links:-**

<http://unctad.org/en/Pages/MeetingDetails.aspx?meetingid=1413>

## Cabinet approves Interest subvention on Short-Term crop loan

**Question: Central government's target of short term crop loan for farmers during 2016-17 was ...**

- (a) Rs. 6,15,000 crore. (b) Rs. 500000 crore.  
(c) Rs. 300000 crore. (d) Rs. 500000 crore.

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 14, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the Interest Subvention Scheme (ISS) for farmers for the year 2017-18.
- The interest subvention will be given to Public Sector Banks (PSBs), Private Sector Banks, Cooperative Banks and Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) on use of own funds and to NABARD for refinance to RRBs and Cooperative Banks.
- The Interest Subvention Scheme will continue for one year and it will be implemented by NABARD and RBI.
- This will help farmers getting short term crop loan up to Rs. 3 lakh payable within one year at only 4% per annum. The Government has earmarked a sum of Rs. 20,339 crore for this purpose.
- The objective of the scheme is to make available agricultural credit for Short Term crop loans at an affordable rate to give a boost to agricultural productivity in the country.
- As per the scheme the Central Government will provide interest subvention of 5 per cent per annum to all prompt payee farmers for short term crop loan upto one year for loan upto Rs. 3 lakhs borrowed during the year 2017-18.
- Farmers will thus have to effectively pay only 4% as interest. In case farmers do not repay the short term crop loan in time they would be eligible for interest subvention of 2% as against 5% available above.
- The Central Government will provide approximately Rs. 20,339 crore as interest subvention for 2017-18.
- The central government has approved an interest subvention of 2% i.e. an effective interest rate of 7% for loans upto 6 months to small and marginal farmers for post harvest storage of their produce.
- Farmers affected by natural calamities will be given relief by 2% interest subvention for the first year on the restructured amount.



- Notably, this scheme has been running since 2006-07. Under this, the farmers can avail concessional crop loans of upto Rs.3 lakh at 7% rate of interest. It also provides for an additional subvention of 3% on prompt repayment within a period of one year from the date of advance.
- As a measure to check distress sale, post-harvest loans for storage in accredited warehouses against Negotiable Warehouse Receipts (NWRs) are available for upto 6 months for KCC holding small & marginal farmers.
- This provides institutional credit to the farmers and disengages them from non-institutional sources of credit, where they are prone to exploitation by private money lenders.
- During the year 2016-17, the volume of short term crop loan lent stood at Rs.6,22,685 crore, surpassing the target of Rs. 6,15,000 crore.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165625>

## Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill 2017 approved to be introduced

**Question: Rajya Sabha is required to return a Money Bill passed and transmitted by Lok Sabha within a period of ...**

(a) fourteen days (b) thirty days (c) five weeks (d) ten days

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 14, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the proposal to introduce a Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill, 2017.
- The Bill would provide for a comprehensive resolution framework for specified financial sector entities to deal with bankruptcy situation in banks, insurance companies and financial sector entities.
- The Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance, Bill 2017 when enacted, will pave the way for setting up of the Resolution Corporation. It would lead to repeal or amendment of resolution-related provisions in sectoral Acts as listed in Schedules of the Bill.
- It will also result in the repealing of the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation Act, 1961 to transfer the deposit insurance powers and responsibilities to the Resolution Corporation.
- The Resolution Corporation would protect the stability and resilience of the financial system; protecting the consumers of covered obligations up to a reasonable limit; and protecting public funds, to the extent possible.
- The Government has recently enacted the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 ("Code") for the insolvency resolution of non- financial entities. The proposed Bill complements the Code by providing a resolution framework for the financial sector. Once implemented, this Bill together with the Code will provide a comprehensive resolution framework for the economy.
- The Financial Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill, 2017 seeks to give comfort to the consumers of financial service providers in financial distress. It also aims to inculcate



discipline among financial service providers in the event of financial crises by limiting the use of public money to bail out distressed entities.

- It would help in maintaining financial stability in the economy by ensuring adequate preventive measures, while at the same time providing the necessary instruments for dealing with an event of crisis.
- The Bill aims to strengthen and streamline the current framework of deposit insurance for the benefit of a large number of retail depositors. Further, this Bill seeks to decrease the time and costs involved in resolving distressed financial entities.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165620>

## Cabinet approves Initial Public Offer of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited

**Question: What is the target set up by Government of India for Renewable Energy Sector by 2022?**

(a) 175 GW (b) 150 GW (c) 200 GW (d) 250 GW

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave approval to:
  - (a) Issue 13,90,00,000 fresh equity shares of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) of Rs.10 each to the public on book-building basis through the IPO;
  - (b) Issue shares to retail investors and IREDA employees at a discount of 5% on the issue price of each equity share on book-building basis, with cap of 0.5% on equity post issue for CPSE employees and the allocation to retail investors in the net offer will not be less than 35%, as per the ICDR, 2009. The number of shares proposed to be issued to employees and retail investors will be finalized in consultation with the lead managers and as per the SEBI regulations and
  - (c) Conduct book building process for the said IPO by MNRE / IREDA through Book Running Lead Manager as per the guidelines of Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) and as per guidance of the Inter-Ministerial Group.
- The Public issue of equity will enable IREDA to increase its equity base which will help them raise more debt resources for funding Renewable Energy (RE) projects. Such public issue will also enable it to unlock its true value and increase its visibility in domestic and international financial markets.
- IREDA has to cater to the increasing needs of the sector to sustain its contribution to the Renewable Energy Sector. Government of India has scaled-up the RE targets to 175 GW by the year 2022. To achieve this ambitious target, substantial investments in RE sector will be required.
- About IREDA:
- IREDA is a public financial institution established in March, 1987 under the Company's Act, 1956. IREDA is registered as non-banking financial company with the Reserve Bank of India. Since its inception, IREDA has played a pioneering role in supporting and



facilitating the policies and program of the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy. IREDA has primarily worked with the private sector enterprises operating in the power sector.

- For the last three decades, IREDA has been supporting establishment of renewable energy projects and has greatly succeeded in commercialization of sustainable energy technologies in the country.
- Objectives of IREDA:
- To give financial support to specific projects and schemes for generating electricity and / or energy through new and renewable sources and conserving energy through energy efficiency.
- To strive to be competitive institution through customer satisfaction.
- To maintain its position as a leading organization to provide efficient and effective financing in renewable energy and energy efficiency / conservation projects.
- Improvement in the efficiency of services provided to customers through continual improvement of systems, processes and resources.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164462>

## 15th Meeting of the GST Council

**Question: The GST Council has been constituted as per the provisions of ...**

- (a) The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016.  
(b) Finance Act, 2017 (c) Budget 2016 (d) Ordinance

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- The 15th Meeting of GST Council was held on June 03, 2017 at Vigyan Bhavan New Delhi.
- The meeting was chaired by the Union Minister for Finance, Defence and Corporate Affairs, Arun Jaitley.
- Important decisions like finalization of tax rates and cess to be levied on commodities can be taken in this meeting.
- Besides, approval of amendments to the draft GST Rules and related Forms are also on the agenda of the one day meeting.
- The meeting is likely to be attended by the Finance Ministers of different States/UTs who are the members of the GST Council along with the senior officers.



**GST Council:**

The Constitution (One Hundred and First Amendment) Act, 2016 has provision for the creation of the GST Council (Article 279A (1)). As per Article 279A (4), the Council will make recommendations to the Union and the States on important issues related to GST, like the goods and services that may be subjected or exempted from GST, model GST Laws, principles that govern place of Supply, threshold limits, GST rates including the floor rates with bands, special rates for raising additional resources during natural calamities/disasters, special provisions for certain States, etc. As per Article 279A of the amended Constitution, the GST Council will be a joint forum of the Centre and the States.

- **This Council shall consist of the following members namely: –**

- a) Union Finance Minister... Chairperson  
b) The Union Minister of State, in-charge of Revenue of finance... Member

c) The Minister In-charge of finance or taxation or any other Minister nominated by each State Government... Members

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163341>

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

## Mobile App ABTEJ

**Question: Mobile App ABTEJ has been launched by which of the following banks?**

- (a) Andhra Bank (b) Oriental Bank of Commerce  
(c) Punjab National Bank (d) SBI

**Ans: (a)**



- State-owned lender Andhra Bank launched a mobile app ABTEJ (phase I) for its customers on May 31, 2017.
- **Facilities/Options available under Andhra Bank Mobile Banking**
- Balance Inquiry – Customers can view the balance, lien Amount, funds in Clearing, float Balance and effective Available balance of the account.
- Mini Statement – Last 10 transactions (both credit and debit legs) in the registered account can be viewed using this option.
- Funds Transfer – Quick & Registered
- Account Details like branch code, IFSC, mode of operation, account status, account opening date, Sharing of Account details like Account name, Account number & IFSC etc. through SMS/Email/Whatsapp
- Mobile Recharge /DTH
- Cheque Services , Standing Instruction services etc.

**Reference:**

<https://www.andhrabank.in/English/abtej.aspx>

## Scientific DEFENSE/SCIENCE SHORT NOTES

### Communication satellite GSAT-17 launched

**Question: The latest communication satellite of India, launched on June 29, 2017 by European Ariane 5 Launch Vehicle from Kourou, French Guiana, is ...**

- (a) GSAT-15 (b) GSAT-17 (c) GSAT-19 (d) GSAT-16

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 29, 2017, India's latest communication satellite, GSAT-17 was launched using the European Ariane 5 Launch Vehicle from Kourou, French Guiana.
- The 3477 kg GSAT-17 carries communication payloads in C-band,





Extended C-band and S-band for providing various services to the country. The satellite also carries equipment for meteorological data relay and satellite based search and rescue services.

- ISRO's Master Control Facility (MCF) at Hassan in Karnataka took over the command and control of GSAT-17 immediately after its separation from the launch vehicle.
- The GSAT series of geosynchronous satellites is a system developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) with an objective to make the country self-reliant in broadcasting services.
- Significantly, with the successful launch of GSAT-17, India successfully launched the third communication satellite in the last two months.
- The designed in-orbit operational life of GSAT-17 is about 15 years.

**Reference:**

<http://www.isro.gov.in/gsat-17>

## Discovery of 2-D Magnet

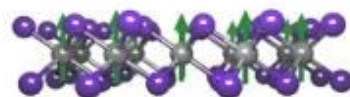
**Question: Researchers from which of the following countries have discovered 2D magnet?**

(a) America (b) China (c) Germany (d) France

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to paper published on 7 June in science journal Nature, researchers of University of Washington and Massachusetts Institute of Technology discovered the first single-layer 2-D magnetic properties in the world.
- This 2D magnet is made up of a compound named Chromium Triiodide ( $\text{CrI}_3$ ).
- Pablo Jarillo-Herrero, a condensed-matter physicist at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in Cambridge, and Xiaodong Xu, an optoelectronics researcher at the University of Washington in Seattle have succeeded in this discovery.
- The 2-D magnet can pave the way for more organized and effective tools.



**Related Links:-**

<https://www.nature.com/news/physicists-have-finally-created-a-2d-magnet-1.22115>

## Prithvi-II missile successfully test-fired

**Question: What is the strike range of Prithvi-II missile?**

(a) 200 Km (b) 250 Km (c) 300 Km (d) 350 Km

**Ans: (d)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 2, 2017 India successfully test-fired its indigenously developed nuclear-capable Prithvi-II missile from a test range in Odisha as part of a user trial by the Army.
- The trial of the Prithvi-II missile was carried out from a mobile launcher from launch complex-3 of the Integrated Test Range) at Chandipur near Balasore in Odisha.
- Prithvi –II is a surface to surface missile and has a strike range of 350 km.



- The Prithvi-II missile is capable of carrying 500 kg to 1,000 kg of warheads and is thrust by liquid propulsion twin engines. It uses advanced inertial guidance system with manoeuvring trajectory to hit its target with precision and accuracy.
- Prithvi-II was randomly chosen for test from the production stock. Launch activities were carried out by the specially formed strategic force command and monitored by the scientists of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) as part of training exercise.
- The missile trajectory was tracked by the DRDO radars, electro-optical tracking systems and telemetry stations located along the coast of Odisha.

#### Good to Know:

Prithvi-II missile was developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP). This programme was conceived by renowned scientist and late former President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam to enable India attain self sufficiency in the field of missile technology. This programme was approved by the government on July 26, 1983. The missiles developed under IGMDP were:

- Short range surface-to-surface missile (code-named Prithvi)
- Intermediate range surface-to-surface missile (code-named Agni)
- Short range low-level surface-to-air missile (code-named Trishul)
- Medium range surface-to-air missile (code-named Akash)
- Third-generation anti-tank missile (code-named Nag).

The Agni missile was initially conceived in the IGMDP as a technology demonstrator project in the form of a re-entry vehicle, and was later upgraded to a ballistic missile with different ranges. As part of this program, the Interim Test Range at Balasore in Orissa was also developed for missile testing.

Variants of Prithvi Missile:

Missile	Warhead	Payload (kg)	Range (km)	Fuel/Stages	Weight (kg)	In service
Prithvi-I	Nuclear, HE, submunitions, FAE, chemical	1,000	150	Single stage liquid	4,400	1988
Prithvi-II	Nuclear, HE, submunitions, FAE, chemical	350–750	350	Single stage liquid	4,600	1996
Prithvi-III	Nuclear, HE, submunitions, FAE, chemical	500–1,000	350–600	Single stage solid	5,600	2004

#### Reference:

[http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/prithvi-ii-missile-successfully-test-fired/article18705455.ece?utm\\_source=pushnotifications&utm\\_campaign=pushnotifications](http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/prithvi-ii-missile-successfully-test-fired/article18705455.ece?utm_source=pushnotifications&utm_campaign=pushnotifications)

## Sports

# TENNIS

### Madrid Open 2017

**Question-Winners of the Madrid Open 2017 is –**

(A) Rafael Nadal (B) Roger Federer (C) Novok Djokovic  
(D) Dominic Thiem

**Ans : (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- From 5 to 14 May 2017, the tennis tournament Madrid Open 2017 was organized in Madrid (Spain).
- Spanish player Rafael Nadal defeated Austria's Dominic Thiem in the final.
- This is Nadal's fifth Madrid Open and 30th Masters-1000 titles.
- With this victory, Nadal has consistently captured the third title.
- Earlier, he also earned the title of Barcelona Open and Monte Carlo Masters.
- Nadal also equaled Novak Djokovic's record by winning the 30th Masters -1000 title.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.madrid-open.com/en/mutua-news/nadal-wins-his-fifth-mutua-madrid-open/>



## CRICKET

### ICC Champions Trophy-2017

**Question: Who was selected as the Player of the Series in the ICC Champions Trophy tournament held on June 18, 2017?**

(a) Shikhar Dhawan (b) Hasan Ali (c) Sarfraz Ahmed  
(d) Junaid Khan

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- 8th ICC Champions Trophy tournament was organized by the International Cricket Council (ICC) during 1st to 18th June 2017 in England and Wales.
- ICC's top 8 teams participated in this international ODI tournament. Those were divided into two groups of 4-4
- Group A – England, Bangladesh, Australia and New Zealand
- Group B – India, Pakistan, S.Africa and Sri Lanka
- On 18th June, 2017, Pakistan won the Champions Trophy final defeating India at the Oval by 180 runs.
- Pakistan batsman Fakhar Jahan, who made 114 runs in the final, was selected as Player of the Match.
- The prizes given in the tournament are as follows:
- Player of the Tournament – Hasan Ali (Pakistan)
- Golden Ball – Hasan Ali (Pakistan), highest 13 wickets.
- Golden bat – Shikhar Dhawan (India), highest of 338 runs
- Pakistan's 180-run victory is the highest margin of victory in any ICC ODI Tournament final.



- Earlier in 2003, Australia defeated India by 125 runs in the ICC World Cup final.
- 338 runs made by Pakistan is its highest score made in the final of any ICC tournament.
- Earlier, Pakistan had scored 315 against India in the final of the 2008 Kitply Cup.
- Azhar Ali and Fakhar Jaman's 128-run partnership were the first century partnerships made by Pakistan against India for the first wicket in ICC ODI match.
- Earlier, Amir Sohail and Saeed Anwar shared the highest partnership of 84 in the 1996 World Cup (Bangalore).
- Fakhar Jaman's century (144 runs) is the first century made by any Pakistani in the ICC World Cup Champions Trophy final.
- Sri Lanka became the first team, in the history of the Champions Trophy, chasing the most runs to register a win.
- On June 8, 2007, Sri Lanka successfully achieved the goal of 322 runs given by India.
- On June 5, 2017, Australia played their 900th ODI match (against Bangladesh).

**Related Links:-**

<https://www.icc-cricket.com/champions-trophy>

## IPL Twenty20 tournament

**Question: Who was the winner of recently concluded IPL-10?**

- (A) Kolkata Knight Riders (B) Mumbai Indians  
(C) Rising Pune Supergiant (D) Sunrise Hyderabad

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- Tenth IPL, sponsored by Vivo, was conducted in various cities of India from April 5 to May 21, 2017.
- Mumbai Indians, led by Rohit Sharma, won the tournament for the third time, defeating Rising Pune Supergiant led by Steve Smith (Australia), by 1 run in the Rajiv Gandhi International Cricket Stadium in Hyderabad.
- Kunal Pandya of Mumbai Indians was elected 'Man of the Match' of the final match.
- 'Ben Stokes' (England) of Rising Pune Supergiant was selected as 'Most Valuable Player'.
- **IPL-10: Key facts-**
- Orange Cap (for making the most runs) – David Warner (641 runs), Sunrisers Hyderabad
- Purple Cap (for taking most wickets) – Bhuvneshwar Kumar (26 wickets), Sunrisers Hyderabad
- Fair Play Trophy – Gujarat Lions
- Most individual score- (in an innings) -David Warner (126), Sunrisers Hyderabad; Against Kolkata Knight Riders
- Fastest Fifties – Sunil Narayan (Kolkata Knight Riders), at 15 balls.
- Fastest century – David Warner (Sunrisers Hyderabad), in 43 balls
- Most Sixes – 26, Glenn Maxwell (Kings XI Punjab)
- Most Fours-63, David Warner (Sunrisers Hyderabad)
- Emerging Player-Basil Thampi (Gujarat Lions)
- The 4 players who hit the century in the IPL-10 are David Warner (Sunrisers Hyderabad), Hashim Amla (Kings XI Punjab), Ben Stokes (Rising Pune Supergiant) and Sanju Samson (Delhi Daredevils)

**Related Link:-**

<http://www.iplt20.com/news/108571/match-report-final-rps-vs-mi>



## **FOOTBALL**

### FIFA U-20 World Cup, 2017

**Question: Who won the title of U-20 FIFA World Cup, 2017?**

(a) England (b) Japan (c) South Korea (d) Spain

**Ans : (a)**



**Related facts:-**

- FIFA U-20 World Cup, 2017 was held in South Korea from 20 May to 11 June 2017.
- England won the championship defeating Venezuela 1-0.
- Italy got the third place- and Uruguay stood fourth.
- Below are the Key Highlights of the FIFA U 20 World Cup:
- Golden boot-Riccardo Orsolini, Italy, 5 goals
- Golden Ball – Dominic Solanke, UK
- Golden Glove-Freddie Woodman, UK
- Fair Play Award-Mexico.
- The number of participating teams in the competition this year was -24.
- The Ambassador of the NCT-DREAM was appointed the ambassador of the FIFA U-20 World Cup-2017.

**Related links:-**

<http://www.fifa.com/u20worldcup/news/y=2017/m=6/news=england-soar-as-history-makers-abound-in-korea-republic-2894526.html>

### Hero Federation Cup

**Question- Who was the winner of the recently concluded Hero Federation Cup, 2017?**

(a) Mohan Bagan (b) Aizawl FC (c) Bengaluru FC (d) None of these

**Ans: (c)**



**Related facts:-**

- The 38th edition of the Football Competition Federation Cup, 2017 organised by the All India Football Federation (AIFF) and sponsored by Hero Moto Corp, was completed in May, 2017.
- In the final match played in Cuttack on May 21, 2017, Bengaluru FC defeated Mohun Bagan Football Club by 2-0 and won the title for the second time.

**Related Links: –**

<https://www.the-aiff.com/news-center-details.htm?id=8178>

<https://www.the-aiff.com/news-center-details.htm?id=8179>

## BADMINTON

### Indonesia Open Super Series Premier

**Question: Who became the first Indian player to win the men's singles title of the Indonesia Open Super Series?**

- (a) B. Sai Praneet (b) H.S. Pranay (c) Srikanth Kidambi  
(d) Chirag Shetty

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- The 5th Contest of the BWF Super Series -Indonesia Super Series Premier concluded in Jakarta (Indonesia). India's Srikanth Kidambi won the men's title defeating Kazumasa Sakai of Japan in the men's singles final. Japan's Sayaka Sato won the women's singles title by defeating Sung Ji-Hyun of S.Korea
- **Men's doubles-**  
Winner-Li Junhui and Liu Yuchen (both China)  
Runner-up-Matthias Boe and Carsten Mogensen (both Denmark)
- **Women's Doubles-**  
Winner-Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (both China)  
Runner-up Chang Ye-Na and Lee So Hee (both South Korea)
- **Mixed doubles-**  
Winner- Tontowi Ahmad and Liliyana Natsir (both Indonesia)  
Runner-up Zheng Siwei and Chen Qingchen (both China)
- Srikanth has won 3 Super Series titles in his career.
- Srikanth is the first Indian male player to win the Indonesia Open.

**Related links:-**

<http://bwfworldsuperseries.com/results/2658/bca-indonesia-open/podium>



## GOLF

### U.S. Open Championship-2017

**Question: The winner golfer of the U.S. Open Championship -2017 is –**

- (a) Brooks Koepka (b) Bill Hass (c) Brian Harman  
(d) Tommy Fleetwood

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts:**

- During June 15-18, 2017, the U.S. Open Championship was organized in Wisconsin.
- American Brooks Koepka won the championship. The 27-year-old from Florida who turned professional in 2012, had won twice on the European Tour and just once on the PGA Tour before this win. For the first time since world rankings were introduced in 1986, the top three, Dustin Johnson, Rory McIlroy and Jason Day, all missed the cut at a major.





## FORMULA ONE

### Canadian Grand Prix-2017

**Question: Who is the winner of the Canadian Grand Prix-2017?**

(A) Valtteri Bottas (B) Sebastian Vettel (C) Lewis Hamilton  
(D) Nico Rosberg

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- Seventh Formula-1 race Canadian Grand Prix of the Season-2017 concluded in Montreal (Canada).
- Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton (UK) won the title after completing the race in 1 hour, 33 minutes 5.154 sec.
- Mercedes driver Valtteri Bottas (Finland) and Red Bull driver Daniel Ricciardo (Australia) secured second and third positions respectively.
- In this race, former world champion Sebastian Vettel secured fourth place.
- Force India team's Mexican driver Sergio Perez got 5th position.

**Related Links:-**

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2017/races/965/canada.html>



## SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

### First foreign coach for female boxers

**Question: Who has been appointed as the first foreign coach for Indian female boxers?**

(a) Stefan Cottalorda (b) Rafael Bergamasco (c) Santiago Neiva  
(d) Raven Powell

**Ans:(a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 23, 2017, Stephen Cottalorda of France was appointed the coach of senior Indian women boxers.
- Cottalorda's tenure will be for about two years and he will take charge from the first week of June.
- Cottalorda is a member of the European Board of Boxing Coaches Committee.
- Apart from this, Italy's Raffaele Bergamasco has been appointed junior female boxers coach and the Santiago Neiva of Sweden has been appointed coach for men's boxing.
- All of them have tenure till December 2020.
- For the first time in the history of Indian boxing, three foreign coaches have been appointed at various levels.



- So far, the position of the male boxing coach was jointly handled by Shiv Singh and S.R. Singh.
- The coach of the women's boxing was Gurubax Singh Sandhu.
- Senior female boxers are currently receiving the training at the National Boxing Academy, Rohtak.

**Related Links:-**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/indian-women-boxers-get-foreign-coach-for-the-first-time/1/962053.html>

## **SPORTS PERSONALITY**

### **World Wrestling Entertainment Champion**

**Question: What is the original name of Jinder Mahal, who recently became the WWE (World Wrestling Entertainment) Champion?**

- (a) Dilip Singh Rana (b) Dilli Sardesai (c) Raj Singh Dhesi  
(d) Gulshan Kumar

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 21, 2017, Jinder Mahal, Canadian national of Indian origin won WWE Championship after beating Randy Orton. This is Jinder's first WWE title.
- He is the second person of Indian origin to become WWE Champion.
- It is notable that in 2007, India's 'The Great Khali' became WWE World Heavy weight Champion; he was the first Indian to win this competition.
- Jinder Mahal ( original name- Raj Singh Dhesi), who is the second WWE Champion, is famous in the ring as 'The Maharaja', 'The Match of Peace' and 'The New American Dream'.
- He defeated 13-time WWE Champion Randy Orton from the title.

**Related links:-**

<http://www.wwe.com/shows/smackdown/2017-05-23/article/jinder-mahal-punjabi-celebration-preview>



## Short Notes

### PERSONALITIES

#### New President of India International

**Question: Who amongst the following has been recently appointed as the President of India's International Center for International Cultural Institute (ICC)?**

- (a) Justice B.N. Krishna (b) N.N. Vohra (c) Dr. Vasudha Kamat  
(d) Dr. K. Kasturirangan

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 26, 2017, Jammu and Kashmir Governor N N Vohra was appointed the president of the India International Centre (IIC) – one of the premier cultural institutions in the country.
- He was elected as the president at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the institute which was held on June 23rd, 2017.
- He was appointed after eminent jurist Soli Sorabjee quit the presidential post.
- India International Centre is a non-government institution widely regarded as a place where statesmen, diplomats, policymakers, intellectuals, scientists, jurists, writers, artists and members of civil society meet to initiate the exchange of new ideas and knowledge in the spirit of international cooperation.
- Its purpose, stated in its charter, was 'to promote understanding and amity between the different communities of the world'.
- On March 19th, 1959, it was registered under the Societies Registration Act (XXI) of 1860.
- In November 1960, Crown Prince Akihito of Japan laid the cornerstone for the superstructure.
- The building was completed by 22 January 1962 and inaugurated by Dr. S. Radhakrishnan.



**Reference:**

[http://www.iicdelhi.nic.in/User\\_Panel/UserView.aspx?TypeID=1074](http://www.iicdelhi.nic.in/User_Panel/UserView.aspx?TypeID=1074)

#### Palbinder Kaur Shergil

**Question: Which of the followings countries' Supreme Court has appointed Palbinder Kaur Shergill as the first turbaned (amritdhari) Sikh woman Judge?**

- (a) Mexico (b) Canada (c) UK (d) Netherlands

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 23rd, 2017, Palbinder Kaur Shergill became the first turbaned (amritdhari) Sikh woman to be appointed judge of the Supreme Court of British Columbia in New



Westminster (Canada).

- Jody Wilson-Raybould, minister of justice and attorney general of Canada, announced her appointment.
- Justice Shergill has replaced Justice EA Arnold-Bailey, who retired on May 31.
- A human rights advocate, Justice Shergill represented the interests of the Canadian Sikh community in several cases heard by the Supreme Court of Canada
- She also argued in the case dealing with the right of Sikh students to wear the kirpan (ceremonial dagger) in schools.

**Reference:**

[http://www.courts.gov.bc.ca/supreme\\_court/](http://www.courts.gov.bc.ca/supreme_court/)

## Muzoon Almellehan

**Question- Muzoon Almellehan was recently appointed the new and youngest goodwill ambassador of which international institution?**

(a) UNO (b) WHO (c) UNICEF (d) Amnesty International

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 19, 2017, 19-year-old Syrian refugee and education worker Muzoon Almellehan was appointed as the new and youngest Goodwill Ambassador of UNICEF.
- Muzoon fled the conflict in Syria along with her family in 2013, living as refugee for three years in Jordan before being resettled in the United Kingdom. It was during her 18 months in the Za'atari camp that she began advocating for children's access to education, particularly for girls.
- Notably, nearly 50 million children have been uprooted across the globe— 28 million of them driven from their homes by conflicts not of their making, and millions more migrating in the hope of finding a better, safer life.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2017/06/historic-first-unicef-appoints-syrian-refugee-muzoon-almellehan-goodwill-ambassador/>

## Desh Bandhu Gupta

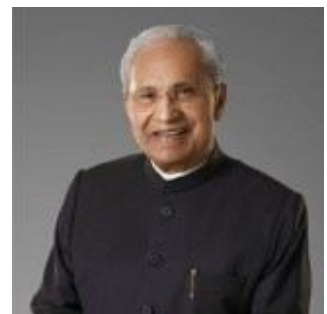
**Question- Desh Bandhu Gupta, who passed away recently, was the founder and president of which major pharmaceutical company?**

(a) Cipla (b) Ranbaxy (c) Lupin (d) Sun Pharma

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 26, 2017, the country's leading pharmaceutical manufacturer Lupin founder and President Deshbandhu Gupta passed away. He was 79 years old.



- He was born in February, 1938 in Alwar district of Rajasthan.
- He founded the Lupin Company in 1968.
- Mr. Gupta also set-up Lupin Human Welfare and Research Foundation in 1988 to eradicate poverty by encouraging sustainable development at the grass root level in rural India.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.livemint.com/Companies/297V3tyiGbGdAETOxveJSK/Desh-Bandhu-Gupta-Lupin-founder-and-chairman-dies-at-79.html>

## Justice Dalveer Bhandari

**Question- The Government of India renominated Justice Dalveer Bhandari as the candidate for the post of ...**

- (a) Ambassador to the United Nations
- (b) Ambassador to the European Union
- (c) Judge to the International Court of Justice (ICJ)
- (d) Attorney General of India

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 20, 2017, Government of India renominated Justice Dalveer Bhandari as Judge of the International Court of Justice (ICJ).
- Justice Dalveer Bhandari will serve for a term of nine years as the Indian judge at the ICJ.
- Justice Bhandari, who previously served in the Supreme Court of India, was elected in April 2012 to the International Court of Justice.
- International Court of Justice (ICJ) is the primary judicial branch of the United Nations, which was founded in June 1945.
- Its headquarters is in The Hague, Netherlands.
- The Court consists of 15 judges who are elected to nine-year terms by the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council.
- As a judge of the ICJ, Justice Bhandari will enjoy privileges and immunities equal to the head of a diplomatic mission.
- Each member of the Court receives an annual salary and supplementary allowance. After leaving the court, members receive annual pensions.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.icj-cij.org/court/index.php?p1=1>



## Brand Ambassador of GST

**Question: Who among the following has been made the brand ambassador of the Goods and Services Tax (GST)?**

- (a) Ajay Devgan
- (b) Anupam Kher
- (c) Amitabh Bachchan
- (d) P.V. Sindhu

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**



- On June 19, 2017, the Central Board of Excise and Customs made the famous Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan as the brand ambassador of Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- He is promoting GST through a 40 second video.
- Ace badminton player PV Sindhu was previously the GST ambassador.
- Significantly, GST will come into effect on July 1, 2017.

**Related links:-**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/govt-ropes-in-amitabh-bachchan-to-promote-gst/article19103065.ece>

## Baldwin Jacobson Lonsdale

**Question- Baldwin Jacobson Lonsdale, who passed away recently, was the President of**

(a) Djibouti (b) Vanuatu (c) Ethiopia (d) Mongolia

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- Vanuatu President Baldwin Jacobson Lonsdale passed away on June 17, 2017. He was 67 years old. He was President of Vanuatu from September 22, 2014 to June 17, 2017.
- President of the Vanuatu Parliament, Esman Simon is currently the acting President of the country. President Lonsdale had played an important role in the strengthening of bilateral relations between India and Vanuatu.
- Vanuatu Republic is an island nation located in the South Pacific Ocean.
- Its capital is Port Vila.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-40313334>



## Swami Atmasthanand Maharaj

**Question- Swami Atmasthanand Maharaj, who passed away recently, was associated with ...**

(a) Narayana Seva Sansthan (b) Ramkrishna Math (c) Isha Foundation  
(d) Gayatri Parivar

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 18, 2017, Ramkrishna Math and Mission's Chief Swami Atmasthanand Maharaj passed away. He was 99 years old. Swami Atmasthananda was, born in May, 1919, at Sabajpur, near Dhaka, now in Bangladesh, had received "mantra diksha" from Swami Vijnananandaji Maharaj (a monastic disciple of Ramakrishna) in 1938 and joined the Ramakrishna Order at Belur Math in January, 1941 at the age of 22. As a young boy, Modi had visited the Belur Math to join the Order, but his request was turned down and he was told that his calling was elsewhere. Later, he got spiritual guidance from Swami Atmasthananda in Rajkot, Gujarat.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.jagran.com/news/national-spiritual-guru-of-pm-modi-swami-swasthanand-maharaj-dies-16224760.html>





## Reenat Sandhu

**Question: Senior IFS officer Reenat Sandhu has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to ...**

(a) Canada (b) Germany (c) Italy (d) Belgium

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to a release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs dated June 13, 2017, Reenat Sandhu has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Italy.
- She is 1989 batch IFS officer.
- She will succeed Anil Wadhwa.

**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8795688\\_India-appoints-envoys-to-Italy-Denmark-Belgium-and-EU.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8795688_India-appoints-envoys-to-Italy-Denmark-Belgium-and-EU.html)



## Jyoti Bajpai

**Question: Jyoti Vajpayee, who passed away recently, was a ...**

(a) Politicians (b) Literary (c) Musicians (d) Cricket Administrator

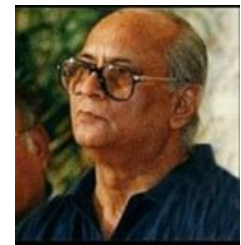
**Ans : (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017, senior cricket administrator and former BCCI joint secretary and Honorary Treasurer Jyoti Vajpayee passed away.
- He was the Joint Secretary of the Board from the year 1997 to the year 2003 and the Honorary Treasurer from 2003 to the year 2005.
- Apart from this, he had also been the director and honorary secretary of Uttar Pradesh Cricket Association.

**Related Links:-**

<http://zeenews.india.com/hindi/sports/former-bcci-treasurer-jyoti-bajpayee-dies/330044>



## Gaitri Issar Kumar

**Question: Gaitri Issar Kumar has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to ...**

(a) Italy (b) France (c) Belgium (d) Germany

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to a release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs on June 13, 2017, senior Indian Foreign Service Officer Gaitri Issar Kumar has been appointed the next Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Belgium.
- In addition, she has also been appointed as ambassador to the European Union.
- She is an IFS officer of the 1986 batch.
- She will succeed Manjeev Singh Puri on this post.

**Reference:**

[http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/28535/Gaitri\\_Issar\\_Kumar\\_appointed\\_as\\_the\\_next\\_Ambassador\\_of\\_India](http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/28535/Gaitri_Issar_Kumar_appointed_as_the_next_Ambassador_of_India)



## New Home Secretary and Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs

**Question: Who has recently been appointed as the new Home Secretary of India?**

- (a) Subhash Garg (b) L.C. Goyal (c) Rajiv Gouba  
(d) Durga Shankar Mishra

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 21, 2017, the Central Government appointed senior IAS officer Rajiv Gouba as the new Home Secretary of the country.
- His tenure will be for two years.
- He is currently working as the Union Urban Development Secretary.
- He will replace Rajiv Maharishi whose tenure ends on August 30.
- Besides the government also appointed Executive Director of the World Bank, Subhash Garg as the new Secretary of the Department of Economic Affairs.
- Mr. Garg will succeed Shastikant Das on this post.



**Related Links:-**

<http://rstv.nic.in/rajiv-gauba-appointed-new-home-secretary.html>

## New Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia

**Question: Who has been appointed as the new Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia?**

- (A) Mohammed bin Nayef (B) Mohammed bin Salman  
(C) Mohammed bin Nazarbayev (D) Mohammed bin Nahyal

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 21, 2017, Shah (King) of Saudi Arabia Salman bin Abdulaziz Al-Saud appointed his son Mohammed Bin Salman a new Crown Prince.
- Crown Prince is the successor of the Shah of Saudi Arabia.
- Mohammad bin Salman replaced Mohammad bin Nayef for this post.
- Mohammad bin Nayef was also removed from the post of Interior Minister of Saudi Arabia (Home Minister).
- Mohammad bin Salman will also be Deputy Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia. Earlier, he was the vice-Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia.
- Apart from this, he is also the Defense Minister of Saudi Arabia and Chief of Royal Court of Riyadh.



**Related Links:-**

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/06/21/middleeast/saudi-arabia-crown-prince/index.html>

## New chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Gosewa Commission

**Question: Who recently became the new chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Gosewa Commission?**

- (a) Rajiv Gupta (b) Durga Shankar Mishra (c) Arun Kumar Gupta



(d) Fateh Bahadur Singh

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 21, 2017, former IAS officer Rajiv Gupta was appointed the new chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Go-Service Commission.
- His tenure will be up to 1 year .
- It is notable that this commission was constituted under the Uttar Pradesh Gosewa Act, 1999.

**Related links:-**

<http://tahlkanews.com/up-news/up-newsrajiv-gupta-becomes-chairman-of-gosewa-commission-198733>

## Ajit Vinayak Gupte

**Question: Ajit Vinayak Gupte has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to ...**

(a) Denmark (b) Italy (c) Belgian (d) Canada

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 13, 2017, senior officer of the Indian Foreign Service, Ajit Vinayak Gupte was appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Denmark.
- He is the IFS officer of the 1991 batch.
- He is currently working as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.



**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8795688\\_India-appoints-envoys-to-Italy-Denmark-Belgium-and-EU.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8795688_India-appoints-envoys-to-Italy-Denmark-Belgium-and-EU.html)

## First Indian woman judge of ITLOS

**Question: Who was recently elected as the first Indian woman judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS), a United Nations judicial body dealing with disputes related to sea law?**

(a) Ruchira Kamboj (b) Neeru Chadha (c) Nirupama Rao  
(d) Meena Chadha

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017, renowned law expert Neeru Chadha was elected as the first Indian woman judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS).
- Her tenure to this post will be of 9 years.
- It is worth mentioning that the ITLOS is a United Nations judicial body dealing with disputes related to the sea-related international law.
- Neeru Chadha was the only candidate from the Asia Pacific group, who was elected in the first round of voting.
- She got 120 votes which is the highest in the Asia Pacific group.
- Neeru Chadha was also the first Indian woman to become Chief Legal Advisor to the Ministry of External Affairs.



- It is worth mentioning that this year; Justice P. Chandrasekhar Rao had completed his second 9-year tenure in ITLOS.
- He was also the President of the Tribunal till 1999-2002.
- This 21-member tribunal was established in the year 1996.
- Its center is in Hamburg, Germany.
- Presently Justice Vladimir Golitsyn is the President of this tribunal.

**Related Links:-**

<http://aajtak.intoday.in/story/neeru-chadha-becomes-1st-indian-woman-as-member-of-itlos-1-935612.html>

## C. Narayan Reddy

**Question- ‘ Viswambhara’ which brought famous Telugu writer C. Narayan Reddy Jnanpith award in 1988 was a collection of ...**

(a) Essays (b) Poems (c) Stories (d) Memoirs

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 12, 2017, famous Telugu poet, writer and former Rajya Sabha member C. Narayan Reddy passed away. He was 85 years old.
- He was honored with the prestigious Jnanpith Award in 1988 for Viswambhara, a collection of his poems.
- He was awarded Padmashree in 1977 and Padmabhushan in 1992.
- He was nominated to the Rajya Sabha in 1997.
- He was also the President of the Telangana Saraswat Council.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.thehindu.com/books/books-authors/jnanpith-winner-c-narayana-reddy-passes-away/article18965174.ece>

## Justice P.N. Bhagwati

**Question: Who among the following is credited with introducing Public Interest Litigation in India?**

(a) Justice P N Bhagwati (b) H. J. Kania (c) Mehr Chand Mahajan  
(d) M. Patanjali Sastri

**Ans :(a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 15, 2017, the former Chief Justice of India, Justice P.N. Bhagwati passed away. He was 95 years old.
- He was the 17th Chief Justice of the India from 1985 to 1986.
- He is credited with introducing Public Interest Litigation (PIL) in Indian judicial system.
- The PIL was brought with the aim of protecting the interests of the underprivileged people of the society.
- In 2007, Justice Bhagwati was awarded the Padmabhushan.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165675>

<http://supremecourtindia.nic.in/judges/bio/pnbhagwati.htm>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P.\\_N.\\_Bhagwati](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/P._N._Bhagwati)

## Ajmer Singh Aulakh

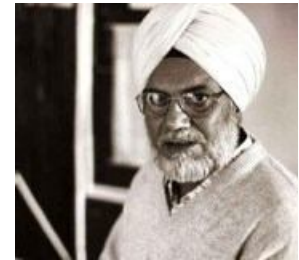
**Question:** Ajmer Singh Aulakh , who passed away recently, was a

- (a) educationist (b) environmentalist (c) playwright  
(d) historian

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 15, 2017, famous Punjabi playwright Ajmer Singh Aulakh passed away.
- He was 75 years old and was ailing for some time.
- Aulakh had authored several books in Punjabi. In 1970s, he became popular as a dramatist and his plays won appreciation both at state and national level.
- He was awarded Sahitya Academy Award (Punjabi) in the year 2006 for his book 'Ishq Baz Namaz Da Haj Nahi'.



**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8799930\\_Punjabi-playwright-Ajmer-Singh-Aulakh-passes-away.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8799930_Punjabi-playwright-Ajmer-Singh-Aulakh-passes-away.html)

## Resignation of Uber CEO Travis Kalanick

**Question:** Uber Technologies Inc. is a multinational technology company of which of the following countries?

- (a) USA (b) France (c) German (d) United Kingdom

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- Uber Technologies Inc Chief Executive and co-founder Travis Kalanick resigned on June 20, 2017.
- Kalanick's departure comes after a lengthy investigation led by former U.S. Attorney General Eric Holder.
- Uber workplace culture and practices were under scrutiny after a female former employee publicly accused the company of sexual harassment.
- Uber lost \$2.8 billion in last year itself and another \$708 million in the first quarter this year 2017.



**Reference:**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-uber-ceo-idUSKBN19C0G6>

## Appointment of the New Registrar of Copyrights

**Question:** Who has been appointed as the new registrar of copyrights by the Central Government?

- (A) Pradeep Dubey (B) Omita Paul (C) R.S.Yadav  
(D) Hoshiar Singh

**Ans : (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 7, 2017, the Central Government appointed Hoshiar



Singh, senior official of the Indian Telecommunications Service (ITS), as the new registrar of copyrights.

- His term on this post will be of 5 years.
- The Office of Copyrights is mandated to protect the music and film industry besides addressing its concerns, among others things.
- It comes under the purview of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion.

**संबंधित लिंक**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8773854\\_Hoshiar-Singh-appointed-chief-of-Copyrights-office.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8773854_Hoshiar-Singh-appointed-chief-of-Copyrights-office.html)

## Era Sezhiyan

**Question: Former MP Era Sezhiyan, who passed away recently belonged to...**

(a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Gujrat (c) Goa (d) Tamilnadu

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 6, 2017, Era Sezhiyan, a well-known politician and former MP from Tamil Nadu passed away. He was 94 years old.
- He was elected to Lok Sabha from Perambalur constituency for the first time in 1962 on DMK party Ticket.
- Later he represented Kumbakonam in the fourth and fifth Lok Sabha.
- In 1978, he was elected to the Rajya Sabha on Janata Party ticket.

**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8772712\\_Veteran-parliamentarian-Era-Sezhiyan-passes-away.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8772712_Veteran-parliamentarian-Era-Sezhiyan-passes-away.html)



## Independent director of the Indian Postal Payment Bank

**Question: Who has been appointed as the new independent director of the Indian Postal Payment Bank (IPPB)?**

- (a) Giriraj Sharma and Anupam Singh  
(b) K.G. Karmakar and Gauri Shankar  
(c) Deepak Gupta and Chanda Kochhar  
(d) Shikha Sharma and Uday Kotak

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 7, 2017, the Central Government appointed KG Karmakar and Gauri Shankar as the new independent directors of Indian Postal Payment Bank (IPPB).
- Their tenure as directors of IPPB will be of 3 years.
- The India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)[1] has been recently incorporated as a Public Limited Company under the Department of Posts with 100% Government of India equity.
- The goal of this bank is to provide banking services in remote areas left untouched so far.
- Indian Postal Payment Bank is the third payments bank, after the Paytm Payments Bank Ltd. And Airtel Payments Bank Ltd. which were licensed from RBI.
- Payment banks do not accept fixed deposits and recurring deposits, but can accept demand deposits up to a maximum of Rs 1 lakh through savings accounts and current accounts.





- In the form of pilot project on January 30, 2017, branches of Indian Postal Payment Bank were inaugurated in Ranchi, Jharkhand and Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
- By September, 2017, it is planned to be started in 650 branches across the country.

**Related Links:-**

<https://www.indiapost.gov.in/Financial/Pages/Content/IPPB.aspx>

## Ruchira Kamboj

**Question: Ruchira Kamboj has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to ...**

(a) Australia (b) Sri Lanka (c) South Africa (d) Myanmar

**Ans :(c)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to a release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs on June 6, 2017, Senior officer of the Indian Foreign Service, Ruchira Kamboj has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to South Africa.
- She will replace Ghanshyam on his post.
- Ruchira Kamboj is a 1987 batch IFS officer..
- Currently she is the Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India in the UNESCO office in Paris.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.india.com/news/india/ruchira-kamboj-appointed-as-next-high-commissioner-of-india-to-republic-of-south-africa-2205852/>

## Sachin Tendulkar

**Question: Who of the following have been included, besides Sachin Tendulkar, in UNICEF's 'Super Dad' campaign?**

(a) Mahershala Ali, (b) Novak Djokovic, (c) Hugh Jackman  
(d. All of the above

**Ans :(d)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to UNICEF's press release, issued on June 6, 2017, Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar has been associated with the 'Super Dad' campaign.
- It is a new UNICEF initiative launched to celebrate fatherhood and highlight the importance of love, play, protection and good nutrition for the healthy development of young children's brains.
- This campaign has been commenced a few days before Father's Day (June 18, 3rd Sunday of June).
- Besides Sachin Tendulkar, Mahershala Ali, David Beckham, The All Blacks (New Zealand National Rugby Union Team), Daniel Cormier, Novak Djokovic, Louis Hamilton, Hugh Jackman, Thalia, and Chris Weidman are associated with this campaign.
- UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) was founded on December 11, 1946, and has its headquarters in New York City, United States.



- This campaign is part of UNICEF's # Early Moment's Matter campaign, which aims to understand the children's surroundings and early childhood experiences that affect their future health, learning ability, wellbeing etc.

**Related Links:-**

[https://www.unicef.org/media/media\\_96148.html](https://www.unicef.org/media/media_96148.html)

## P. Govardhan Reddy

**Question- Senior Congress leader and Rajya Sabha member P. Govardhan Reddy, who passed away recently, was a Rajya Sabha member from ...**

(A) Madhya Pradesh (B) Telangana (C) Andhra Pradesh (D) Kerala

**Ans :(b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 9, 2017, senior Congress leader and Rajya Sabha MP P. Govardhan Reddy passed away. He was 80 years old.
- He was a Rajya Sabha member from Telangana.
- He had been five time MLA from Andhra Pradesh.



**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8782453\\_Congress-MP-P-Govardhan-Reddy-dies-in-Kullu.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8782453_Congress-MP-P-Govardhan-Reddy-dies-in-Kullu.html)

## First female Sikh MP of UK

**Question: Who has been elected as the first female Sikh MP in Britain in the latest elections?**

(a) Asha Gill (b) Manpreet Kaur (c) Harpreet Gill (d) Preet Gill

**Ans :(d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 9, 2017, Preet Gill was elected as the first female Sikh MP for the UK parliament elections.
- She won the parliamentary election from Birmingham Edgbaston by more than 24,000 votes on Labour Party Ticket.
- She has been active in politics and has worked as a local councilor.
- Apart from this, Tanmanjeet Singh Dhesi won from the Slough constituency in the UK general elections, becoming the first turbaned Sikh member of the British Parliament.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/election-2017-40212954>

## Basudev Chatterjee

**Question: The book 'Trade, Tariffs and Empire: Lancashire and British Policy in India' was authored by...**

(A) Basudev Chatterjee (B) Ram Vilas Sharma (C) Neelkanth Sastry (D) Shobha de

**Ans :(a)**



**Related facts:**

- On June 8, 2017, famous historian Basudev Chatterjee passed away in Guwahati, Assam.
- He was the former chairman of the Indian Council for Historical Research.
- His main books are 'Trade, Tariffs and Empire: Lancashire and British Policy in India' and 'Dictionary of Martyrs India's Freedom Struggle'.
- He also proposed documenting records of archival and non-archival material such as church records, personal letters of World War II, oral history, folklores and songs.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/tp-newdelhi/historian-basudev-chatterji-passes-away/article18870247.ece>

## President of the United Nations 72nd General Assembly

**Question: Who has recently been elected as the President for the United Nations 72nd General Assembly?**

- (a) Mogance Liketoft (b) Peter Thompson (c) Miroslav Lajcak  
(d) Andreas Kiska

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 31, 2017, the United Nations General Assembly elected the foreign minister of Slovakia Miroslav Lajcak as the president of 72nd General Assembly.
- His tenure will start with effect from September, 2017, replacing the current president of the General Assembly, Peter Thompson (Fiji).
- The 72nd session of the 193-member United Nations General Assembly will begin on 12 September, 2017 in New York.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=56876#.WTU8O5KGPIU>

## Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes

**Question: Recently who has been appointed as chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes?**

- (a) L. Murugan (b) Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria (c) K Ramulu  
(d) Dr. Yogendra Paswan

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 31, 2017, President Pranab Mukherjee appointed former Union Minister and Lok Sabha member from Agra, Prof. (Dr.) Ram Shankar Katheria as the Chairman of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes.
- He will succeed P.L. Punia on this post.
- President also appointed L. Murugan as the Deputy Chairman of the Commission. He will replace Rajkumar Ver.
- Besides Ramulu, Dr. Yogendra Paswan and Dr. Swaraj Vidwan were appointed as members of the Commission.



- National Commission for Scheduled Tribes is a constitutional institution under Article 338 of the Indian Constitution.
- The tenure of chairman, deputy chairman and 3 members is 3 years from the date of assumption of office.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=62244>

## Sher Bahadur Deuba

**Question: Sher Bahadur Deuba, who was elected as Nepal's prime minister for the fourth time, became the .....Prime Minister of Nepal.**

(a) 40<sup>th</sup> (b) 41<sup>st</sup> (c) 39<sup>th</sup> (d) 42<sup>nd</sup>

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 07, 2017, veteran Nepalese politician Sher Bahadur Deuba took oath as Nepal's prime minister for the fourth time.
- Mr. Deuba secured 388 votes in his favour and 170 votes against him. He needed 297 votes in the 593 member Parliament to prove his majority.
- The Nepali Congress leader has become the 40th Prime Minister of Nepal. The post of Prime Minister fell vacant after Maoist leader Prachanda resigned last month under a power sharing deal with the Nepali Congress leader.
- Mr. Deuba served as the prime minister from 1995 to 1997, from 2001 to 2002, and from 2004 to 2005. He was sacked by the then King Gyanendra Shah in 2005 over failure to hold elections and bring Maoist rebels to a round table negotiation.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/sher-bahadur-deuba-elected-nepals-prime-minister-for-fourth-time/article18731402.ece>

## New Director General of National Water Development Agency (NWDA)

**Question: Who amongst the followings has been appointed as the new Director General of National Water Development Agency?**

(a) S. Masood Husain (b) Dr. Sharad Jain (c) A.D. Bhardwaj  
(d) Dr. R. K. Bhatnagar

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 5, 2017, Dr. Sharad Kumar Jain assumed the additional charge of Director General, National Water Development Agency (NWDA) under Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- Dr. Jain is presently working as Scientist with National Institute of Hydrology (NIH), Roorkee and took additional charge for DG of NWDA.
- He succeeds Shri S. Masood Husain who has moved over as Member (WP&P), Central Water Commission.



- National Water Development Agency (NWDA) was set up in July, 1982 as Autonomous Society.
- Primary functions of the agency is 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=164401>

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

## Syed Gyyur-ul-Hassan Rizvi

**Question: Syed Gyyur-ul-Hassan Rizvi recently took over as the chairman of ...**

- (a) the National Minorities Commission.
- (b) National Minorities commission.
- (c) All India Muslim Personal Law Board. (d) None of the above.

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 26, 2017, Syed Ghayorul Hasan Rizvi assumed charge of the Chairman of the National Commission for Minorities in New Delhi.
- He has also worked as the Chairman of Uttar Pradesh Minority Finance Development Corporation Limited.
- It is notable that the National Commission for Minorities was formed by the Parliament according to the provisions of National Minorities Commission Act.
- The commission consists of a chairman, a vice chairman and five members nominated by the central government.
- On October 23, 1993, the Government of India notified five religious communities, namely, Muslim, Christian, Sikh, Buddhist and Parsi as minority communities.
- Later on January 27, 2014, the Government of India also recognized the Jain community as a minority community.
- According to the 2001 census, the percentage of these six religious minorities in the country's population is 18.80.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=162153>

## New Chairman of the International Fertilizer Association

**Question: Who has been elected as the new President of the International Fertilizer Association (IFA)?**

- (a) Rajesh Kapoor (b) Deepak Kumar (c) Rakesh Kapoor



(d) Atul Kumar

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 24, 2017, Joint Managing Director of IFFCO Rakesh Kapoor was elected as President of International Fertilizer Association (IFA).
- The appointment was announced in the IFA Annual Conference held in Marrakesh, Morocco on 22-24 May, 2017.
- In the 90 years of IFA history, Rakesh Kapoor is the third Indian to reach this prestigious position.
- He is currently the President of the Fertilizer Association of India.
- IFA is a global fertilizer association with over 500 member organizations.
- Its headquarters is in Paris, France.

**Reference:**

[http://www.fertilizer.org//En/Media/Press\\_Releases\\_Detailed/2017\\_05\\_24.aspx](http://www.fertilizer.org//En/Media/Press_Releases_Detailed/2017_05_24.aspx)

## Vani Sarraju Rao

**Question: Senior Indian Foreign Service Officer Vani Sarraju Rao was recently appointed as the next ambassador of India to ...?**

(a) Germany (b) Finland (c) Philippines (d) Iran

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to a release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs on May 26, 2016, Vani Sarraju Rao has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Finland.
- She is the IFS officer of 1994 batch.
- She is currently working as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.



**Related Links:-**

[http://bureaucracytoday.com/top\\_news.aspx?id=186129](http://bureaucracytoday.com/top_news.aspx?id=186129)

## Shekar Vempati

**Question: Shashi Shekar Vempati has been recently appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of ....**

(a) Prasar Bharati (b) Defence Research and Development Organization  
(c) Jet Airways (d) Google

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 2, 2017, Shashi Shekar Vempati was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Prasar Bharati.
- He was appointed on the recommendation of the three member committee headed by the Vice President, and consisting of Chairman, Press Council of India and the President's nominee i.e. Secretary, Information and Broadcasting for a period of five years from the date of assumption of office.
- Shri Vempati is currently serving as a Member (part time) of the Prasar Bharati Board since Feb 2016.





- As Part Time member of the Prasar Bharati Board, Shri Vempati has served as Chairman of Audit Committee, Member of Finance & Accounts Committee, Technology Committee, Sports Rights Committee and HR Committee.
- An alumnus of IIT Bombay, Shri Vempati has over two decades of experience as a Technocrat with specialization in areas of Corporate Management, Technology Consulting and Digital Media.
- Shri Vempati has authored many books namely. "Broadcasting Technologies in India", "National Digital Security Architecture in India", "Creating a Global Media Platform out of India" are few among others.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163361>

## New CEO of Jet Airways

**Question: Who of the following has been appointed as the new CEO of Jet Airways?**

(a) Vinay Dube (b) Gaurang Shetty (c) Cramer Ball (d) Amit Agarwal

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On May 31, 2017, Jet Airways India Ltd appointed Vinay Dube, an aviation veteran with close to three decades of experience, as its chief executive officer (CEO).
- This post was vacant for last two years since Cramer Ball resigned as CEO.
- The Mumbai-based firm appointed only acting CEOs since then.
- Mr. Dube is currently Senior Vice President – Asia Pacific with Delta Air Lines, Inc. – one of the largest and most profitable airlines in the world. During his decade long career at Delta Air Lines, beginning 2007, Mr. Dube helped grow the airline into one of the largest premium carriers across the Pacific, profitably expanding its Asia-Pacific business, entering new markets and restructuring its network, partner and customer base.
- As CEO of Jet Airways, Dube will be responsible for strengthening the airline's overall business performance and its position in the domestic and international markets.



**About Jet Airways**

- Jet Airways is India's premier international airline which operates flights to 65 destinations, including India and overseas. Jet Airways' robust domestic India network spans the length and breadth of the country covering metro cities, state capitals and emerging destinations.
- Beyond India, Jet Airways operates flights to key international destinations in South East Asia, South Asia, Middle East, Europe and North America.
- The Jet Airways Group currently operates a fleet of 113 aircraft, comprising Boeing 777-300 ERs, Airbus A330-200/300, Next Generation Boeing 737s and ATR 72-500/600s.

**Reference:**

<http://www.jetairways.com/EN/IN/Home.aspx>

## AA Pawar assumes charge of Director general Medical Services (NAVY)

**Question: Armed Forces Medical College is situated in ...**

(a) Pune (b) Mumbai (c) Bengaluru (d) Chennai



**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 1, 2017, surgeon vice admiral AA Pawar, VSM assumed charge of Director General Medical Services (Navy).
- Surgeon vice admiral AA Pawar is an alumnus of Armed Forces Medical College, Pune and was commissioned in the Indian Navy on 03 Mar 1980.
- The Flag Officer is a renowned Psychiatrist and was awarded the Gold Medal by Pune University for standing first in MD (Psychiatry) in the early part of his career.
- In an illustrious career spanning 37 years the officer has several achievements in both professional and administrative fields.
- He played a key role in setting up of Learning Disorder Centre, the first of its kind in the Armed Forces. He also conducted innovative seminars on Stress Management, Marital Harmony and Domestic Violence.
- He has also commanded INHS Asvini and Sanjivani with great distinction. At Sanjivani , he introduced facility of 'Sakhis'(lady attendants), and initiated a cashless scheme for treatment of naval personnel and their families at Amrita.
- It was during his tenure that INHS Asvini was awarded Unit Citation and the Raksha Mantri Trophy for the 2nd Best Command hospital.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163319>

## Aleksandar Vucic

**Question: Aleksandar Vucic has been sworn in as the President of which of the following countries?**

(a) Serbia (b) France (c) Spain (d) Brazil

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On May 31st Aleksandar Vucic was sworn in as the President of Serbia.
- Mr. Vucic, who had been prime minister of Serbia since 2014, won April's presidential election.
- He is the first president to take an oath of office not only on the constitution, but also on the 12th century Miroslav Gospel, the first document ever written in the Serbian language.
- In an address to parliament and to dignitaries Mr. Vucic pledged to work on regional stability and take the country closer toward a membership in the European Union.
- Although Serbia's presidency is largely a ceremonial post, but Aleksandar Vucic has indicated that he intends to continue playing a leading role in Serbian politics.
- The President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee extended note of congratulation to Mr. Aleksandar Vucic on his assumption of office of President of the Republic of Serbia.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163316>

## WHO's new Director General

**Question: Who was recently elected as the new Director General of the World Health Organization (W.H.O.)?**

- (a) Dr. Margaret Chan (b) Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus  
(c) Dr. Lin Don (d) Antony Lake

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 23, 2017, Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus was appointed the new Director General of the World Health Organization (W.H.O.).
- He was nominated by Ethiopian government.
- He will take charge on July 1, 2017, which will be of 5 years.
- He served as the Foreign Minister of Ethiopia during the year 2012-16 and the Health Minister during 2005-12.
- In this post, he will replace Dr. Margaret Chan, who has been the Director General of WHO since January 1, 2007.
- The World Health Organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations, which was established on April 7, 1948.
- Its headquarters is in Geneva, Switzerland.



**Related links:-**

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/releases/2017/director-general-elect/en/>

## S. Ramaswamy

**Question- S. K. Ramaswamy, who passed away recently, was formerly the Chief Minister of...**

- (a) Tamilnadu (b) Karnataka (c) Puducherry (d) Kerala

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 15, 2017, former Chief Minister of Puducherry S.K. Ramaswamy passed away.
- He became chief minister in 1974 heading the AIADMK-CPI coalition ministry for a brief period.
- He was also the Chief Minister in the AIADMK government in 1977, which lasted in office for a little over one year.



**Related Links:-**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/former-puducherry-chief-minister-ramassamy-passes-away-4656294/>

## Roger Moore

**Question- Roger Moore, who passed away recently, was a ...**

- (a) Scientist (b) Doctor (c) Environmentalist (d) Actor

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 23, 2017, famous British actor Roger Moore passed away. He was 89 years old.



- He played the role of British intelligence agent James Bond in seven films of the James Bond series from 1973 to 1985.
- The record of most often playing James Bond is in his name.
- The year 1973's 'Live and Let Die' was the first film in this series.
- While the 1985 'A View to Kill' was the final film of this series.
- In addition, he played an unforgettable role of Simone Templar in television series 'The Saint' between 1962 and 1969.
- In the year 1991, he was made UNICEF's Goodwill Ambassador.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0000549/>

## First CEO of the Paytm Bank

**Question- Who has been appointed as the first CEO of the Paytm Payment Bank Ltd.?**

- (a) Renuka Chowdhury (b) Shiksha Sharma  
(c) Renu Satti (d) Renuka Sharma

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 17, 2017, Renu Satti was appointed as the first Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm Payment Bank Ltd.
- Reserve Bank of India has approved her name as CEO.
- Paytm Payment Bank Ltd. got license from RBI and it started from May 23, 2017.
- Vijay Shekhar Sharma is the founder of Paytm Wallet's company One -97 Communications for digital transactions.
- Paytm will transfer the entire business of its wallet to the payment bank.
- Paytm payment Bank can accept deposits up to Rs 1 lakh per account from individuals and small businessmen.



**Related Links:-**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/paytm-to-start-payments-bank-from-may-23-renu-satti-to-be-ceo/1/956269.html>

## Chandraswami

**Question- Recently, the famous Tantric Chandraswami passed away. What was his real name?**

- (a) Premchandra (b) Nemichand (c) Devi Chand  
(d) Mahesh Chand

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 23, 2017, the famous Tantric Chandraswami passed away. He was 66 years old.
- His real name was Nemichand Jain. He was born in 1948 and came from Behror in Rajasthan.
- His name is most closely associated with former Prime Ministers P.V. Narasimha Rao and Chandrashekhar.



- Chandraswami was accused of several financial irregularities and was ordered by the Supreme Court to pay penalty in several Foreign Exchange Management Act violation cases registered by the Enforcement Directorate.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/godman-chandraswami-passes-away/article18530934.ece>

## Anshu Jamsenpa

**Question- Mountaineer Anshu Jamsenpa, who recently succeeded in climbing Mount Everest for the fifth time, belongs to ...**

(a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Manipur (c) Sikkim (d) Assam

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 21, 2017, Anshu Jamsenpa from Arunachal Pradesh became the first woman to climb Mount Everest twice in 5 days. She had returned from the 8,848-metre (29,028-feet) peak on May 16, 2017.
- Along with this, she climbed Mount Everest five times in six years.
- She is the first Indian woman to achieve this achievement.
- Earlier, she had completed the climb on Everest from 12 to 21 May 2011 for two consecutive times and on May 18, 2013 for the third time.



**संबंधित लिंक**

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/arunachal-s-anshu-jamsenpa-is-first-woman-to-scale-mt-everest-twice-in-5-days/story-dZlirF2ljwhJBIBCOFg2sO.html>

## A.K. Viswanathan

**Question: Senior Police Officer AK Viswanathan has taken charge as the Police Commissioner of ...**

(a) Mumbai (b) Delhi (c) Bangalore (d) Greater Chennai

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 15, 2017, senior IPS officer AK Viswanathan took charge as Police Commissioner of Greater Chennai.
- A 1990 batch IPS officer, Mr. Viswanathan succeeded Karan Singh on this post.



**Related Links:-**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chennai/a-k-viswanathan-is-new-chennai-police-commissioner/articleshow/58659176.cms>

## PLACES

### Global Skill Park

**Question:** At which of followings places the Global Skills Park is being set up?

(a) Bangalore (b) Chennai (c) Jaipur (d) Bhopal

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On July 3rd, 2017, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan laid foundation of the country's biggest Global Skill Park to be developed in Bhopal.
- Global Skill Park will be developed in 37 acres with expenditure of Rs 645 crore.
- Ten thousand youth will be imparted training every year at the park.
- Trained students will be given placement in India and abroad.
- The theme of the Global Skill Park will be 'With Industry, For Industry'.



**Reference:**

<https://shivrajsinghchouhan.org/newsdetail.aspx?id=1329>

## Al-Nuri Masjid

**Question-Al-Nuri Masjid is located in ...**

(a) Iraq (b) Iran (c) Egypt (d) Syria

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 21, 2017, terrorist organization Islamic State destroyed the historic al-Nuri mosque and its famous shrine Minar Al-Hadba located in Mosul city of Iraq.
- The mosque is also known as Mosul's Great Mosque. This is where IS leader Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi declared a so-called Islamic caliphate in 2014 shortly after Mosul was overrun by the militants.
- The minaret destroyed in the attack, were 840 years old.
- IS has demolished dozens of historic and archaeological sites in and around Mosul, saying they promoted idolatry.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2017/06/iconic-grand-al-nuri-mosque-iraq-mosul-blown-170621193402284.html>



## Country's first trademarked building

**Question- Which building recently became the country's first trademarked building?**

- (a) Taj Mahal Palace Hotel (b) Hyderabad House (c) Oberoi Hotel  
(d) Rashtrapati Bhavan

**Ans: (a)**

### Related facts

- On June 19, 2017, the building of Taj Mahal Palace Hotel (Hotel Taj), located in Mumbai, became country's first trademarked building.
- With this, the building joined the club of the world's premier trademarked properties.
- The building of Taj Mahal Palace Hotel is 114 years old.
- This club includes the Empire State Building in New York, the Eiffel Tower in Paris and the Opera House of Sydney.
- Now after trade marking, any company will not be able to use the photograph of Taj Mahal Palace without permission.
- The Taj Mahal Palace Hotel is operated by Indian Hotel Company Ltd. (IHCL).



### Related Links:-

<http://www.tata.com/article/inside/taj-mahal-palace-mumbai-trademark-registration>

## Sailani Island: New Water Tourism Site

**Question- Sailani Islands (New Water Tourism Site) is located in which of the following districts of Madhya Pradesh?**

- (a) Ratlam (b) Khandwa (c) Jabalpur (d) Indore

**Ans: (b)**

### Related facts:-

- On May 24, 2017, Sailani Island, developed by Madhya Pradesh State Tourism Development Corporation, was opened for public.
- This island has been developed in Khandwa district at the cost of more than Rs. 15 crore.
- It is located near the Omkareshwar Dam project built on the river Narmada.
- Surrounded by water throughout the year, this island of about three acres has built restaurants, boat clubs, conference halls, bird watching centers, watch towers etc.
- It is noteworthy that this island is the second water tourism center to be started after Hanuwantia Island in Khandwa district.
- The distance between the two Islands located on the river Narmada is about 60 km.



### Related Links:-

<http://www.samacharjagat.com/news/travel/water-travel-site-will-be-ready-in-the-form-of-sailani-islands-open-today-for-tourists-143933>

## Kamrup

**Question: Where is the new All India Institute of Medical Sciences being set up in Assam as recently approved by the Cabinet?**

(a) Haflong (b) Tezpur (c) Silchar (d) Kamrup

**Ans : (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 24, 2017, the Union Cabinet gave its approval to the establishment of the new 'All India Institute of Medical Sciences' (AIIMS) in Kamrup (North Guwahati Revenue Area) Assam.
- This institute will be set up under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) with expense of Rs. 1123 crore .
- The Institute will have a 750-bed hospital comprising trauma center, medical college, nursing college, specialty and super specialty departments.
- Apart from this, it will also have the AYUSH department to provide treatment facilities in traditional medicine.
- Prime Minister's Health Protection Scheme was announced in the year 2003.
- Under this scheme, AIIMS has been established in Bhubaneswar, Bhopal, Raipur, Jodhpur, Rishikesh and Patna while the work of AIIMS in Rae Bareilly is in progress.
- In addition, the Union Cabinet had approved the establishment of AIIMS in Nagpur (Maharashtra), Mangalagiri (Guntur, Andhra Pradesh) and Kalyani (West Bengal) in the year 2015 and in the year 2016 in Bathinda (Punjab) and Gorakhpur (UP)



**Related links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=162094>

## AWARDS & HONORS

### Femina Miss India, 2017

**Question: Who amongst the following has been selected for Femina Miss India, 2017 title?**

(a) Aditi Arya (b) Manushi Chhillar (c) Sana Dua (d) Priyanka Kumari

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 25, 2017, the 54th Femina Miss India, 2017 beauty pageant was held at Yashraj Studios, Mumbai.
- Miss Haryana Manushi Chhillar was declared Femina Miss India World 2017.
- After this victory, she will get an opportunity to represent India in the 'Miss World 2017' contest.
- Sana Dua from Jammu and Kashmir was crowned as Femina Miss India 2017 1st runner – up and Priyanka Kumari from Bihar was announced as Femina Miss India 2017 2nd runner – up respectively.



- Rinky Chakma from Tripura was adjudged the winner of Miss Beauty with a Purpose in the competition.
- Total 30 participants had contested for the title of Femina Miss India, 2017.

**Reference:**

<http://beautypageants.indiatimes.com/miss-india/dreams-come-true-at-fbb-colors-femina-miss-india-2017-grand-finale/articleshow/59315866.cms>

## Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar-2017

**Question- On June 22, 2017, Sahitya Akademi announced the annual Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar-2017 in 24 Indian languages. Who will be conferred with the Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar of Hindi language?**

- (a) Nighat Sahiba (b) Chandan Kumar Jha  
(c) Hemchandra Belwal (d) Taro Sidik

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 22, 2017, Sahitya Akademi announced the annual Sahitya Akademi Yuva Puraskar-2017 in 24 Indian languages.
- Awards were recommended by the committees for these languages respectively.
- It was approved at the meeting of the Executive Board of the Academy organized in Guwahati under the chairmanship of Sahitya Akademi president Prof Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari.
- This year, this award will be provided for 16 poem collections, 6 story collections, 2 biographies and 1 essay.
- Award for anthology of poems was given to – Pritam Barua (Assamese), Bijit Gora Ramsiari (Bodo), Rajinder Ranjha (Dogri), Taro Sidik (Hindi), Nighat Shahiba (Kashmiri), Ameya Vishram Naik (Konkani), Chandan Kumar Jha (Maithili), Khanjokapam Krishnamohan Singh (Manipuri), Sharan Muskan (Gurud) (Nepali), Suryasnat Tripathi (Oriya), Harman (Punjabi), Hemchand Belwal (Sanskrit), Maina Tudu (Santali), Rekha Sachdev Pohani (Sindhi), J. Jai Bharti (Manushi) (Tamil) and Mercy Margaret (Telugu).
- The award-winning story writer is Shamik Ghosh (Bengali), Ram Mori (Gujarati), Shanti K Apanna (Kannada), Awasthi Shashikumar (Malayalam) and Ummed Dhanai (Rajasthan).
- Awarded author for autobiography- Manu S. Pillai (English) and Rashid Ahmad Khan (Urdu).
- Awarded essayist is -Rahul Kausambi (Marathi)
- These awards are provided for those works, whose authors are 35 years of age or less on January 1 of the award year.
- As of award an engraved Tamrapthalak and Rs.50,000 / – will be provided in a special ceremony.

**Related Links:-**

[http://sahitya-akademi.gov.in/sahitya-akademi/pdf/yuvapuraskar-announced-2017\\_h.pdf](http://sahitya-akademi.gov.in/sahitya-akademi/pdf/yuvapuraskar-announced-2017_h.pdf)



## International Dublin Literary Award- 2017

**Question: Who is the winner of the International Dublin Literary Award- 2017?**

(a) Mia Couto (b) Daniel Hoan (c) Jose Eduardo (d) Anne Enright

**Ans: (c)**

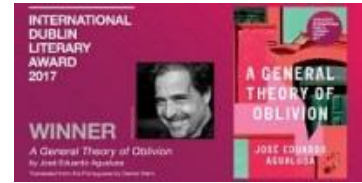
**Related facts:-**

- On June 21, 2017, the International Dublin Literary Award- 2017 was announced by the Dublin City Council.
- This year's winners are – Jose Eduardo Agualusa (Angola).
- Agulusa has won the award for his novel 'A General Theory of Oblivion'.
- This novel is originally in Portuguese language, which was translated by Daniel Hoan in English.
- This award is sponsored by Dublin City Council.
- This award is the world's largest prize for a single novel published in English language.
- Prize money is one Million Euros.
- The main character of this novel is 'Ludo', a girl from Angola who holds herself in her apartment on the occasion of Independence Day of Angola.
- Other major novels shortlisted for this award-
- Confession of the Lioness-Mia Couto
- 'The Green Road' – Anne Enright
- 'The Story of My Teeth' -Valeria Luiselli
- 'A Whole Life' – Robert Seethaler

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.dublinliteraryaward.ie/news/the-2017-winner-is-announced/>

<http://www.dublinliteraryaward.ie/2017-shortlist/>



## Man Booker International Prize-2017

**Question: Who among the following has been awarded with the Man Booker International Prize for 2017?**

(a) Jessica Cohen (b) Jonathan Cape (c) David Grossman  
(d) Helen Mort

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017, The Man Booker International Prize was awarded in London (UK) by the Man Booker Foundation.
- For year 2017, the prize was awarded to David Grossman (Israel), author of 'A Horse walks in a Bar'.
- The translator of this novel is Jessica Cohen (America) and publisher Jonathan Cape.
- The author and the translator each received £25,000 in the form of prize money and an additional amount of £ 1,000 for being shortlisted for this prize.
- **Other novels selected for the Man Booker International Prize 2017 were-**
  1. 'Compass' writer-Matthias Annard (France).
  2. 'The Unseen', author-Roy Jacobson (Norway).
  3. 'Mirror, Shoulder, Signal', Writer-Dorothy Norse (Denmark)



4. 'Judas' writer-Amos Oz (Israel)
  5. 'Fever Dream' Writer-Samantha Schwablin (Argentina)
- The award was instituted in the year 2005.
  - Till 2015, this award was biannually given to any living novelist for his world class contribution.
  - From the year 2016, this award was given annually to a novelist for English translation of his novel, which was published in the UK.
  - Man Booker International Prize of 2016 was presented to South Korea's Hon Kang for 'The Vegetarian'.
  - The Man Booker Foundation was established in the year 2002.

**Related Links:-**

<http://themanbookerprize.com/books/horse-walks-bar-by>

## CEAT International Cricketer of the Year Award

**Question: Who was given the CEAT International Cricketer of the Year Award for year 2016-17?**

(a) Shubham Gill (b) Joe Root (c) Steve Smith (d) R. Ashwin

**Ans :(d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On 24th May, 2017, Indian off-spinner R. Ashwin was awarded the 'CEAT International Cricketer of the Year' award.
- This award was given on the basis of performance during 2016-17.
- Notably, Ashwin has taken 99 wickets in the last 12 months.
- Young cricketer of the year award was given to Indian batsman Shubham Gill who performed brilliantly during the England-India U-19 ODI series.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/cricket/ashwin-presented-ceat-international-cricketer-of-the-year-award/article18559864.ece>

## WHO Director-General's Special Recognition Award to J P Nadda

**Question: Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare J P Nadda was recently conferred the WHO Director-General's Special Recognition Award for ...**

- (a) AIDS Control.
- (b) global tobacco control.
- (c) determining the prices of Generic Medicines.
- (d) bringing change in the healthcare sector.

**Ans:(b)**

- On June 8, 2017, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Mr. J P Nadda was conferred the WHO Director-General's Special Recognition Award for global tobacco control.
- The award was presented to him by Dr Poonam Khetrpal Singh, Regional Director, WHO South-East Asia.
- It is notable that India has implemented large pack warnings with 85% pictorial health warnings on both the sides, conducted second round of Global Adult Tobacco Survey





(GATS), strengthened & upscaled cessation facilities with the launch of the toll-free national tobacco Quitline among other initiatives.

- India has also put a ban on smokeless tobacco products and has strengthened the implementation of the Tobacco Free film and television policy.
- With around 27 crore users, tobacco consumption in India is second largest in the world.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165500>

## United Nations bravery award to two Indian Peace Keepers

**Question: Two Indian peacekeepers awarded with the Dag Hammarskjöld medal posthumously by the United Nations are-**

- (a) Ravi Kumar and Arjun Thapa (b) Brajesh Thapa and Ravi Kumar  
(c) Kiran Kumar and Dinesh Pandey (d) Vikas Kumar and Ravikumar

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 24, 2017, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres awarded two Indian peacekeepers Brajesh Thapa and Ravi Kumar posthumously with the United Nations bravery award 'Dag Hammarskjöld Medal'.
- 117 people, who were honored with this honor, included soldiers of the military and police forces associated with various UN peacekeeping operations in 2016.
- Brajesh Thapa was martyred during the peace campaign during the deployment of the United Nations Permanent Mission located in Congo.
- While Ravi Kumar was martyred while participating in an expedition during the deployment of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon
- It is worth mentioning that around 96,000 military and police forces of 124 countries, including India, are deployed in peacekeeping operations run by UN in various countries.
- At present, approximately 7,600 military and police forces in India are involved in these operations.



**Related Links:-**

<https://www.un.org/press/en/2017/hq718.doc.htm>

## OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

### Swasth Saarthi Abhiyaan

**Question: Swasth Saarthi Abhiyaan is aimed at-**

- (a) Providing clean fuel to households  
(b) Providing health facility to auto, taxi and bus drivers.  
(c) Promote clean fuel to prevent pollution.  
(d) Promote the production of biodiesel.

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**





- On June 28, 2017, Union Minister for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan and Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, together, inaugurated the Swasth Saarthi Abhiyaan (SSA) at Siri Fort Auditorium, New Delhi.
- This two month long mega campaign is aimed to provide preventive healthcare to the auto, taxi and bus drivers of the region.
- A medical camp at various IGL stations in the Capital will provide free health checkup for all drivers which include blood test, sugar test, eye test with the help of doctors from St Stephen hospital.
- A Swasth Saarthi web application has also been launched enabling the drivers undergoing the health checkups during the campaign to access their health records online from anywhere, in case of need.
- In addition to this a 'Fuel Conservation Workshop' for drivers was also organized by Petroleum Conservation Research Association (PCRA) as a part of Saksham-2017.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=65702>

## Anuyatra Campaign

**Question: 'M Power' programme was recently launched by Vice President Mr. Hamid Ansari under which State Government's 'Anuyatra' campaign'?**

(a) Kerala (b) Tamil Nadu (c) Rajasthan (d) Punjab

**Ans: (a)**

**Related fact:-**

- On June 12, 2016 Vice President Hamid Ansari launched 'M Power' programme under the 'Anuyatra campaign' of Government of Kerala for persons with special needs.
- The aim of this innovative initiative is to make the State friendly to the disabled and empowering the children to bring them in the mainstream.
- The MPower program is being managed by the Kerala Social Security Mission under the Department of Social Justice in collaboration with the Magic Academy.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165572>

## Joint Multi-Adventure Expedition by IAF & HPTDC

**Question- Indian Air Force is undertaking a Joint Multi Adventure Expedition from 12th to 17th June, 2017 in collaboration with which of the tourism development corporations listed below?**

- (a) Uttar Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation  
 (b) Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation  
 (c) Central Tourism Development Corporation  
 (d) Arunachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation



**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- Indian Air Force is undertaking a Joint Multi Adventure Expedition from 12th to 17th June, 2017 in collaboration with Himachal Pradesh Tourism Development Corporation.
- A team of 25 talented air warriors, including four women officers, led by Wing Commander SS Malik are participating in the activities.
- A joint team of IAF and HPTDC would participate in Mountain Terrain Biking (MTB) competition at Shimla, Paragliding at Joginder Nagar (Bir Billing), Trekking at Beas Kund and River Rafting at Pirdi (Kullu).
- The aim of the expedition is to inculcate a spirit of adventure and team work among air warriors. The joint expedition with HPTC will give exposure to our air warriors and will promote the motto 'Join the IAF with Pride' and will provide wide publicity to Indian Air

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165567>

## Campaign on 'adoption of slum'

**Question: Which settlement was adopted by Minister of State for Youth affairs and Sports Vijay Goyal Under 'Adopt a Slum campaign'?**

(a) Rajiv Basti (b) Indira Basti (c) Nehru Basti (d) Shakur Basti

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 24, 2017, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (Independent Charge) Vijay Goel announced "Adopt a Slum" campaign to mark completion of three years of the BJP Government at the center.
- Its aim is to initiate development works in slums and solve the problems of people residing in these settlements.
- A Slum Youth Race / Marathon was organized on May 26, 2017, in view of the commencement of this campaign.
- This campaign was started by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports with the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan.
- NSS, Public school, Rotary Club etc. will be able to discharge the role of associate in this campaign.
- It is notable that Vijay Goyal has adopted Indira Basti of Timarpur area under this campaign.
- On this occasion, a booklet was released in connection with the campaign and the entire process.
- Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan will adopt slums in all 11 districts and work with the youth volunteers to develop these settlements.
- On May 26, 2017, 'Slum Youth Rally' was organized at 6.00 am at Shankar Lal Hall, University of Delhi.
- Other such marathons will be organized in Wazirpur, Model Town, Adarsh Nagar, Chandni Chowk, Buradi and many other areas.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=61123>

## Ganga Nirikshan Abhiyan

**Question- Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti started the Ganga Nirikshan Abhiyan to inspect Namami Gange projects from ...**

(a) Murshidabad (b) Farakka (c) Barrackpore (d) Kakadweep

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 26, 2017, Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti started Ganga Nirikshan Abhiyan from Central Inland Fisheries Research Institute located at Barrackpore West Bengal.
- During her fortnight long tour of 2500 KM the Minister will visit several places from Ganga Sagar to Gangotri along the river Ganga to personally monitor the progress of Namami Gange programme.
- She will pass through Kakadweep, Kapilmuni Ashram (Ganga Sagar), Nabadweep, Murshidabad, Farakka, Sultanganj (Bhaglpur), Munger, Patna, Arrah, Buxar, Varanasi, Allahabad, Shringverpur, Fatehpur, Kanpur, Fatehgarh, Kasganj, Narrora, Bhriku Ashram, Brijghat, Vidhurkuti, Haridwar and Uttarkashi to reach Gangotri.
- The Minister will travel through Boat, Road, Rail, Air and on foot. During the Ganga Nirikshan Abhiyan Water Resources Minister will attend Ganga Chaupal at Cossipore ghat, Kapilmuni Ashram (Ganga Sagar), Gandhi ghat (Barrackpore), Diamond Harbour, Hooghly, Nabadweep, Murshidabad, Sultanganj (Bhaglpur), Munger, Arrah, Buxar, Shringverpur, Allahabad, Bhriku Ashram, Fatehpur, Kanpur, Kasganj, Brijghat and Gangotri.
- In these Chaupals Miss Bharti will interact with various stakeholders such as NGOs, Government agencies, other institutions and individuals to make Namami Gange programme a success.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=61166>

## Deep Ocean Mission

**Question: Ministry of Earth Sciences, Government of India has planned to launch 'Deep Ocean Mission' by...**

(a) January 2018. (b) February, 2018. (c) March 2018.

(d) April, 2018.

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 30, 2017, Secretary of Earth Sciences M. Rajeevan announced that the Ministry of Earth Sciences will launch 'Deep Ocean Mission' in January 2018.



- India is the first country in the world to have been given the pioneer area for exploration of deep-sea.
- India had got the opportunity of exploration in Polymetallic Nodules in the Central Indian Ocean Basin in 1987.
- Study was done Under the National Polymetallic Modules Program, for the mining of nodules, for the development of mining technology by National Institute of Ocean Technology, by CSIR-NIO for Environmental Impact Assessment Studies and CSIR-National Metallurgical Laboratory and CSIR Minerals and Metals Technology Institute for Metal Extraction Development.
- This program is financed by the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- At present, on the basis of resource evaluation, India has approximately 75,000 square kilometers of Area with approximately 100 million tonnes of strategic metals such as copper, nickel, cobalt, manganese and iron.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=62236>

## Water Harvesting and Conservation-promotion Mission

**Question- The Chief Minister of which of the following States inaugurated water harvesting and conservation campaign on the occasion of 'Water Day' on May 25, 2017?**

(a) Jharkhand (b) Uttarakhand (c) Bihar (d) Assam

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 25, 2017 the Chief Minister of Uttarakhand launched Water Harvesting and Conservation-Promotion Campaign on the occasion of Water Day on May 25, 2017.
- This campaign will last till 30th June, 2017.
- The purpose of this campaign is to increase awareness of water conservation.
- The Chief Minister released publicity material on water harvesting and conservation and also flagged off a rath with the message for Kumaon region.
- The population of Uttarakhand state is 1.10 crore.
- There are currently 20 lakh toilets in this state.
- On an average this state uses 7-10 liters of water in toilets daily.

**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8738360\\_U-khand-CM-launches-water-conservation-campaign.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8738360_U-khand-CM-launches-water-conservation-campaign.html)



## COMMISSION & COMMITTEE

### Committee to prepare the final draft of National Education Policy

**Question:** The central government has recently constituted a committee to prepare the final draft of the National Education Policy under the chairmanship of ...

- (a) Dr. T V Kattimani (b) Dr. K. Kasturirangan  
(c) Dr. Manjul Bhargava (d) Dr. Vasudha Kamat

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 26th, 2017, the Central Government constituted a committee for preparation of final draft of National Education Policy under the Chairmanship of eminent Scientist Dr K. Kasturirangan (Former president of ISRO).
- Other members of the committee are Dr. Vasudha Kamat Shri K.J. Alphonse Dr. Manjul Bhargava, Dr Ram Shankar Kureel, Dr. T.V.Kattimani, Shri Krishna Mohan Tripathy, Dr. Mazhar Asif and Dr. M.K.Shridhar.
- The council will start its work from immediate effect.
- In an exhaustive democratic exercise carried for last 30 months the HRD ministry has received thousands of suggestions from, educationists, teachers, experts, students and other stakeholders from across the country.
- Apart from this aforesaid suggestion TSR Subramaniam committee has also given its detailed input.
- All these suggestions and inputs will be considered by the committee.



**Reference:**

[http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload\\_files/mhrd/files/nep/Inputs\\_Draft\\_NEP\\_2016.pdf](http://mhrd.gov.in/sites/upload_files/mhrd/files/nep/Inputs_Draft_NEP_2016.pdf)

### Single-member commission to investigate the killing of 5 Farmers in Mandsaur

**Question- Who among the following has been commissioned to investigate the killing of 5 farmers in Mandsaur, Madhya Pradesh?**

- (a) Justice A.K. Jain (b) Justice J.K. Jain (c) Justice K.K. Gautam  
(d) Justice Ashok Chauhan

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 12, 2017, Madhya Pradesh government constituted a single-member inquiry commission for the investigation of the killing of five farmers in Mandsaur Madhya Pradesh.
- 5 people had died after the use of force on agitators during the agitation in Mandsaur district.
- The Commission will complete its investigation within three months and submit its report to the state government.
- The commission's headquarters will be in Indore.





- **The inquiry commission will investigate the following 5 points-**
  - (i) Under what circumstances did the above incident happen?
  - (ii) Whether the force used by the police was appropriate or not, considering the circumstances of the incident? If not, who is the culprit for this?
  - (iii) Whether the district administration and the district police administration had taken adequate and timely steps for the circumstances and events created there?
  - (iv) In future, such incidents should not be recurring, reasonable suggestions in this regard, and
  - (v) Other topics which are necessary or relevant in case subject to scrutiny.

**Related links:-**

<http://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20170612N27&LocID=1&PDt=6/12/2017>

## **PLANNING & PROJECT**

### **Metro Rail project in Uttarakhand**

**Question: Uttarakhand government has announced a metro rail project between ...**

- (a) Nainital- Dehradun (b) Haridwar- Shimla (c) Dehradun-Haridwar  
(d) Dehradun- Kathgodam

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On 25th June, 2017, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tivendra Singh Rawat announced a 'Metro Rail Project' connecting Dehradun to Haridwar.
- This project was launched on the occasion to mark 100 days of BJP governments in Uttarakhand.
- A booklet, '100 Din Sarkar Ke, 100 Din Vikas Ke', prepared by the state's public relation department has also been launched on the occasion.
- This project will help meet the rising vehicular traffic in the State specially in Dehradun. .
- To reduce travel time by at least two hours between Dehradun and Delhi, the Muzaffarnagar-Deoband-Roorkee railway line project will be completed soon.
- It is also notable that Union Ministry for Road Transport and Highways, has already sanctioned Ring Road projects for Dehradun, Haridwar and Haldwani.



**Reference:**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/100-days-of-ukhand-govt-cm-announces-dehradun-haridwar-metro/1/987273.html>

### **First Air Freight Corridor between India and Afghanistan**

**Question: The first air freight corridor flight, recently flagged off by Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, has been started between ...**

- (a) Kabul and Mumbai (b) Kabul and New Delhi  
(c) Kabul and Ahmedabad (d) Kabul and Jaipur

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**





- On June 19, 2017, Afghan President Ashraf Ghani flagged off Air Freight Corridor Flight from Kabul to New Delhi between India and Afghanistan.
- This is the first air freight corridor between India and Afghanistan.
- It is notable that in September, 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President Ashraf Ghani decided to establish Air Freight Corridor.
- This air freight corridor will help in boosting trade relations between the two countries as well as enhancing reach of landlocked Afghanistan to the Indian markets.
- The first flight of this corridor was flagged off from New Delhi to Kabul on June 18, 2017.

**Related links:-**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-afghanistan-establish-direct-air-freight-corridor-117061901391\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-afghanistan-establish-direct-air-freight-corridor-117061901391_1.html)

## Plan to keep dustbins in vehicles

**Question- Recently, which state government, launched a plan to put dustbins in vehicles?**

(a) Odisha (b) Uttarakhand (c) Himachal Pradesh (d) Rajasthan

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat launched a plan to keep dustbins in vehicles.
- Under this plan, dustbins in vehicles will be compulsory for registration.
- This will prevent the spread of garbage on roads.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.newsdnntv.com/?p=50258>

<http://punjabkesari.com/country/uttarakhand/it-will-be-mandatory-to-make-garbage-in-vehicles-trivandrum/amp/>

<http://www.himalayanbuzz.com/cars-without-dustbin-will-not-get-registration-uttarakhand/>

## New airport terminal at Gorakhpur

**Question: Who among the following is the founder of 'Nath' Hindu monastic in India?**

(a) Gorakhnath (b) Matsyendranath (c) Aadityanath  
(d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017, Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the new terminal building (phase-1) of Gorakhpur Airport.
- The construction cost of this building, built in 1400 sqm, is Rs 22.34 crores.
- This building has sitting capacity for 100 passengers.
- Notably, an International Airport is being built in Jewar (Noida) and Kushinagar cities of the state.
- On this day Chief Minister inaugurated Super Multi Specialty Services at the Royal Global Hospital in Gorakhpur.



- In addition, he also unveiled and inaugurated the statue of Baba Saheb Bhimrao in Harnampur village of Gorakhpur.

**Related Links:-**

[http://information.up.nic.in/View\\_Hindinews.aspx?id=351](http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=351)

## Eklavya Model Residential School Scheme

**Question: Eklavya Model Residential School (EMRS) scheme was launched in ...**

(A) Year 2000 (B) Year 2002 (C) Year 1998 (D) Year 1999

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to a release issued by Ministry of Tribal Affairs on June 13, 2017, 51 new Eklavya Model Residential (EMR) schools have become functional in the last three years.
- Presently, 161 Eklavya model residential schools are functioning across 26 states of the country benefiting more than 52 thousand tribal students.
- Eklavya Model Residential School Scheme was started in 1998 and first school was started in the year 2000 in Maharashtra.
- EMRSs have been functioning as institutions of excellence for tribal students.
- During the last 17 years, a total of 259 schools have been sanctioned, out of which 72 EMR schools have been sanctioned during last three years.
- As per existing EMRS Guidelines of 2010, at least one EMRS is to be set up in each Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA) / Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) having 50% ST population in the area.
- The capital cost for setting up the school complex, including hostels and staff quarters etc. has been earmarked at Rs. 12 crore with a provision to go up to Rs.16 crore in hill areas, deserts and islands.
- Recurring cost during the first year for these schools would be Rs. 42000/-per child, with a provision of raising it by 10% every second year to compensate for inflation etc.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=65457>

## Agricultural Loan Solution Scheme

**Question: 'Krishi Rin Samadhan Yojana' has been launched by the government of ...**

(a) Maharashtra (b) Madhya Pradesh (c) Uttar Pradesh  
(d) Chhattisgarh

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 7, 2017, the Madhya Pradesh government on Wednesday launched a new debt relief scheme – Krishi Rin Samadhan Yojana for farmers.
- The cabinet also allocated Rs 1,000 crore for the scheme.
- Under this scheme, the interest rate on loans would be less than earlier.
- The government has taken this decision in view of the violent agitation being made by farmers in the state for loan waiver and fair prices for their produces.



**Related Links:-**

<https://twitter.com/ChouhanShivraj/status/872426324710653952>

## National Mission on Cultural Mapping of India

**Question: Jagoi is one of the major Indian classical dance forms prevalent in ...**

(a) Manipur (b) Assam (c) Odisha (d) Sikkim

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 17, 2017, Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister of State (Independent charge) for Culture & Tourism launched the implementation of the 'National Mission on Cultural Mapping of India' at Goverdhan Block, Mathura District, Uttar Pradesh.
- This Mission encompasses data mapping, demography building formalising the processes and bringing all the cultural activities under one web based umbrella for better results. The Mission also seeks to open a direct channel of communication of artists with the Government and peer to peer communication among artists for talent honing and handholding of each other.
- The scheme is set to cover all the Blocks of the Country, involving a total of 6.40 Lakh villages over the span of next 3 years with a vision that no cultural talent or heritage should remain unattended.
- The scheme aims to nurtured talent and conserve heritage. It also aims to propagate India's cultural talent across all boundaries.
- The Ministry is eying to launch massive cultural awareness campaigns so that no artist is left behind. The Artist/Organisations also may register online at [www.culturalmapping.nic.in](http://www.culturalmapping.nic.in).
- The Cultural Mapping of India portal will serve as a repository/consolidated database of information about cultural assets and resources i.e. a cultural inventory at one place for essential planning, sustainable economic development and for preserving the scattered and near extinct art forms.
- Immediately after this event in Mathura district, the Ministry of Culture will be organising similar Block level events in other States too so as to kick start the process of scaling up the efforts to cover all the Blocks of the Country.
- The current round includes Shimoga Block in Shimoga District, Karnataka, Thanesar Block in Kurukshetra District, Haryana, Chauri – Chaura Block in Gorakhpur District in Uttar Pradesh & Saraikela Block in Saraikela – Kharsawan District in Jharkhand.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165655>

## Bengaluru Metro Phase –I Project dedicated to the people of Karnataka

**Question: Metro Rail was first started in 1984 in ...**

(a) Delhi (b) Kolkata (c) Bhopal (d) Amritsar

**Ans: (b)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 17, 2017, President Pranab Mukherjee dedicated the last section of the first phase of Bengaluru Metro Rail Project, popularly known as 'Namma Metro' to the city



residents.

- The project was jointly implemented by the Union and the Karnataka governments. It aims to providing efficient and environment-friendly transport option to the residents of Bengaluru.
- The project was started in 2008 covering a total stretch of 42.3 kilometre in length. It's been built at a cost of Rs. 13,845 crore.
- Besides Union and Karnataka governments, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Agence Francaise De Development (AfD) — Francis also contributed to the project.
- A sum of Rs. 300 crore was raised by floating bonds, which is a first in the metro history of the country.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/prez-inaugurates-new-line-of-bengaluru-metro/article9729483.ece>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165725>

## Launch of Tele-Law System

**Question-** The Government of India has launched the 'Tele-Law' programme in an effort to make legal aid easily accessible to the marginalized communities and citizens living in rural areas. The programme is being launched on a pilot basis in ...

- (a) Uttar Pradesh, Bihar (b) Haryana, Punjab  
(c) Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh (d) Odisha, West Bengal

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 11, 2017, the government of India launched the Tele-Law programme to facilitate easy legal aid accessible to the marginalized communities and citizens living in rural areas.
- The program will be jointly organized by the Ministry of Law and Justice and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.
- The legal aid services will be provided through Common Service Centres (CSC) at panchayat level, spread across the country.
- In the first phase, the 'Tele-Law' scheme will be tested as a pilot across 500 Common service Centres (CSC) in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar to understand the challenges and make necessary corrections to before rolling it out across the country.
- A portal called 'Tele-Law' will be also launched which will be available across the Common Service Centre (CSC) network.
- This portal will link citizens with law service providers with the help of a technology-enabled platform.
- Through Tele-law, people can get legal assistance from lawyers at Common Service Centers through video conferencing.
- Additionally, law school clinics, District Legal Service Authorities, voluntary service providers and Non-Government Organisations working can also be connected through the CSCs anywhere and anytime, in order to strengthen access to justice for the marginalized communities.



- The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) will provide a panel of lawyers from State capitals, who will be available through video conferencing to provide legal advice and counselling to the applicants, across the 1000 Common Service Centres (CSC).
- Under this program, a para legal volunteer will be appointed on every Common service center, which will be the first point of contact for rural citizens and help them understand the legal issue.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165554>

## Hill Area Development Program

**Question- In which of the following states will the 'Hill Area Development Program' be started on an experimental basis?**

(a) Tripura (b) Manipur (c) Assam (d) Mizoram

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 5, 2017, the Minister of State for Development of North East Region, Dr. Jitendra Singh announced the 'Hill Area Development Program' for the North-Eastern States.
- The Hill Area Development Programme, aimed at giving a focused attention to the lesser developed hilly areas, will be initiated on a pilot basis in the hilly districts of Manipur.
- Under this program, special focus will be given to areas like Manipur, Tripura and the hilly areas of Assam (backward areas in socio-economic development) for developing infrastructure, roads, quality, health, education etc.
- The purpose of this program is to focus on the development of less developed hilly areas.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=63348>

## India's first Rural LED Street Lighting Project

**Question: The first project for rural LED street lighting in the country under the Government of India's Street Lighting National Project would be started in...**

(a) Bihar (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Uttarakhand (d) Andhra Pradesh

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 5, 2017, Government of India announced to implement India's first Rural LED Street Lighting Project in Andhra Pradesh.
- Under this project, government of India would be retrofitting 10 lakh conventional street lights with LED lights through the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL).
- In first phase these LED street lights would be installed in Gram Panchayats of Guntur, Prakasham, Nellore, Kurnool, Kadapa, Ananthapur & Chittoor districts of Andhra Pradesh.
- Government of India will implement this project through the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) under the Ministry of Power.





- This conventional street lights replacement drive in rural areas will help the gram panchayats to cumulatively save approximately 147 million units of electricity annually and lead to reduction of 12 crore tonnes of CO2.
- EESL has assured the State government of approximately 59 percent savings in electricity, which translates to annual monetary savings of 88.2 crores.
- The entire upfront capital cost of this project is being funded by French Development Agency Agence Française de Développement (AFD).
- It is notable that over 23 lakh conventional street lights have been replaced by LED street lights in 21 States of India.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164400>

## Project “Assam Citizen Centric Service Delivery”

**Question: India recently signed a loan agreement with World Bank for the project “Assam Citizen Centric Service Delivery”? What is the loan amount?**

- (a) USD 33.2 Million (b) USD 34.2 Million (c) USD 37.2 Million  
(d) USD 39.2 Million

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 5, 2017, India signed loan Agreement with the World Bank for the project “Assam Citizen Centric Service Delivery” for IBRD Credit of USD 39.2 Million.
- The total cost of the programme /project is USD 49 million, of which USD 39.2 million will be financed by the Bank, and the remaining amount will be funded-out of State Budget.
- Duration of the programme is 5 years.
- The objective of the project is to improve access in the delivery of selected public services in Assam and to adopt an integrated approach to improve access and accountability.
- The Project also seeks to enable citizens to access services under the RTPS Act in a timely, efficient, and accountable manner.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164417>

## Vatsalya-Maatri Amrit Kosh

**Question- Recently, where a National Human (Maternal) Milk Bank and Lactation Counseling Center ‘Vatsalya-Maatri Amrit Kosh’ was inaugurated?**

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

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On 7th June, 2017, Secretary of Health and Family Affairs, C.K Mishra inaugurated ‘Vatsalya Maatri Amrit Kosh’ at Lady Hardinge Medical College, New Delhi.
- It is the largest Human (Maatri) Milk bank and Lactation Counseling center of public sector in the entire north India.





- This fund was established in collaboration with the Norwegian Government, Oslo University and the NIPI-Norwegian India Partner Initiative.
- It is notable that the government has recently started the program of MAA (Mother Absolute Affection) to bring awareness about the subject of mother's milk feeding.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=164479>

## Launch of 3 services/ Schemes of Telecommunication

**Question-How many states / Union Territories will be imparted training under the first phase of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Sanchar Kaushal Vikas Pratisthan scheme?**

(A) 8 (B) 10 (C) 20 (D) 25

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 24, 2017, Minister of State for Communication Independent Charge Manoj Sinha launched BSNL's satellite phone service.
- In the first phase, this service will be given to government agencies and later will be open to others gradually.
- On this occasion, the Minister also launched Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Telecom Skills Excellence Award Scheme and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Sanchar Kaushal Vikas Pratisthan Scheme.
- Under the first phase of Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Sanchar Kaushal Vikas Pratisthan Scheme, 10 thousand people from 10 States / Union Territories will be trained.
- In the first phase, the states of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Odisha and Haryana are included.
- Under this new scheme of the Department of Telecommunications, more than 1000 communication skills development establishments will be set up in the future.
- Pandit Deen Dayal Upadhyay Telecom Skills Excellence Awards will be given to outstanding performers in telecom sector.
- According to the Minister of Communications, the plan of the Department of Telecommunications is to provide broadband connection to 2.5 million Gram Panchayats by December 2018.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=61126>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=162079>

## Selfie with Daughter Mobile app

**Question: Selfie with Daughter' campaign was launched in ...**

(a) Haryana (b) Rajasthan (c) Gujarat (d) Punjab

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 09, 2017, President of India, Pranab Mukherjee launched a mobile application 'Selfie with Daughter' at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi.
- The President stated that the App is an innovative concept and an act of gentle persuasion. This can eventually help in dealing with the problems arising out of gender imbalance



by changing the mindset of people.

- 'Selfie with Daughter' campaign was launched by a former Sarpanch Sunil Jaglan in June 2015 in Bibipur village of Jind District in Haryana.
- Shri Jaglan has been working in the field of women empowerment and village development. The aim of the campaign is to motivate society to feel proud to be parents of a girl child which will result in improving the child sex ratio.
- Selfie-with-Daughter has become a world-wide movement against female foeticide and sex selection.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165528>

## SATH Programme

**Question: SATH Programme has been launched by ...**

- (a) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers welfare
- (b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (c) Human Resource Development Ministry
- (d) NITI Aayog

**Ans: (d)**



- On June 10, 2017, NITI Aayog launched SATH (Sustainable Action for Transforming Human capital) programme with the State Governments.
- SATH is a program to initiate transformation in education and health sectors for this it aims to identify and build three future 'role model' states for health systems.
- NITI will work in close collaboration with their state machinery to design a robust roadmap of intervention and develop a program governance structure.
- To select the three model states, NITI defined a three-stage process – expression of interest, presentations by the states and assessment of commitment to health sector reforms.
- NITI invited all states and UTs to participate in the program. Sixteen states expressed prima facie interest, of which fourteen made their presentations. Andhra Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Chandigarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Jharkhand, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Punjab, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh presented their project proposal to a Committee headed by Member of NITI Aayog, Bibek Debroy.
- Of these fourteen states, five have been shortlisted. Subsequently, three will be selected on the basis of further evaluations and objective assessment of criteria affecting the potential for impact and likelihood of success. Metrics such as MMR, IMR, incidence of malaria and others have been considered for determining potential impact while density of doctors and nurses, compliance to IPHS norms are some of the metrics used to determine likelihood of success.
- The program will be implemented by NITI along with McKinsey & Company and IPE Global consortium after the signing of MoUs.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165545>

## Hundred Percent Sewage Treatment Project

**Question: National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has approved projects for the creation of sewage treatment infrastructure in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and UT of Delhi. The cost of this project is –**

(a) Rs 1,200 Cr. (b) Rs 1,500 Cr. (c) Rs 1,800 Cr. (d) Rs 1,900 Cr.

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 5, 2017, National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) approved projects worth Rs 1,900 Crore for the creation of sewage treatment infrastructure in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and UT of Delhi.
- Under this project hundred percent sewage treatment facilities will be made available for Haridwar, Rishikesh, Vrindavan, Varanasi, Allahabad and NCT of Delhi.
- Under 'Maily Se Nirmal Yamuna' project in the National Capital Territory of Delhi, construction of as many as seven prioritized STPs of total capacity of 94 MLD in Najafgarh area have been approved at an estimated cost of Rs 344.81 crore.
- A comprehensive project of interception, diversion and treatment of sewage in Naini, Phaphamau and Jhunsi sewerage zones of Allahabad at an estimated cost of Rs 767.59 crore has also been approved.
- A 42 MLD (million litres per day) Sewage Treatment Plant (STP) will be constructed in Naini and eight pumping station will also be build.
- The projects would also arrest flowing waste water of 18 drains into the Ganga and Yamuna to ensure pollution free water for bathing at Sangam during Ardh Kumbh mela 2019.
- The NMCG cleared the Rs 744-crore projects including a 60-MLD STP and laying of sewerage lines in Pahari zone in Bihar's Patna.
- An all-encompassing programme at an estimated cost of Rs 61.5 crore, in five Ganga main stem States – Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal has also been given approval.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164393>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/nmcg-approves-projects-worth-over-rs-1900-for-creating-sewage/1/971188.html>

## SEVA App

**Question: The Central Government has launched 'SEVA' app for...**

(a) petroleum consumers. (b) power consumers. (c) tourists.  
(d) industry workers.

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 23, 2017, union minister of state (IC) for power, coal, new & renewable energy and mines, Piyush Goyal launched the Saral Eindhān Vitaran Application (SEVA), developed in-house by Coal India Limited (CIL) for power sector consumers.



- SEVA is a part of 'Digital India' initiative, which is aimed at Easy, Effective, Economical and Transparent Governance.
- Using this app the common man would be able to hold the Government accountable for the coal linkage allocations and would be able to check any pilferage or inefficiencies in coal consumption for power generation.
- The consumer friendly mobile app helps in tracking of coal dispatch to 118 Power Plants through Fuel Supply Agreement (FSA) of around 500 MT besides, dispatch through Special Forward E-Auction and Bridge Linkage from more than 200 dispatch points spread over eight states of the country.
- Daily quantity involved is to the tune of 1.25 Million Tonnes involving the daily movement of around 195 coal trains.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=162042>

## Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust

**Question: Recently Union Minister of Shipping, Surface Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of 8 projects for the construction of connectivity facility at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT). What is total cost of these projects?**

- (a) 1205.08 crores (b) 1203.09 crores (c) 1117.03 crores  
(d) 1115.03 crores

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 30, 2017, Minister of Shipping, Surface Transport and Highways, Nitin Gadkari laid the foundation stone of 8 projects for connectivity facility at Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT).
- These 8 projects include integrated railway yard facility on JNPT, connecting the fourth terminal to the rail; Jasai-JNPT third railway line, overhead bridge at North Gate, integrated central parking for tractor-trailer, construction of a place for the stay of ships, overhead bridge at the ward junction and reconstruction of ward.
- The total cost of 8 projects is Rs. 1117.03 crores.
- All these projects will be helpful in connecting the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) with remote rural areas.
- It is important that the connectivity of the ports is one of the four main pillars of the vital Sagarmala program of the Ministry of Shipping.
- Jawaharlal Nehru Port was built between the mid-1980s and is operating from May 26, 1989.
- It is located in the north-east of the Elephanta Island.
- This port can have traffic of ships having submersion depth of 12.50 meter.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=62235>

## 'SAMPADA' Scheme launched

**Question- Where did Prime Minister Narendra Modi launch ' Agro-Marine processing scheme 'SAMPADA' recently?**

(a) Arunachal Pradesh (b) Tripura (c) Assam (d) Gujarat

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 26, 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Agro-Marine Processing Scheme –'SAMPADA' in Dhemaji district in the State of Assam.
- This scheme has been started for the purpose of creating employment for the youth.
- Initially, Rs 6000 crore will be invested in this scheme and later public-private partnership will be adopted, in which direct foreign investment will be included.
- He laid the foundation stone of the country's third Indian Agricultural Research Institute in Gogaimukh in Dhemaji district.
- Apart from this, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Changsari, Kamrup district of Assam.



**Related Links:-**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/8739695\\_PM-launches-agro-marine-processing-scheme-SAMPADA.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/8739695_PM-launches-agro-marine-processing-scheme-SAMPADA.html)

## U.G.C. App

**Question: Recently, Union HRD Minister Prakash Javadekar launched Anti Ragging Mobile App in New Delhi. This app has been developed by ...**

- (a) Ministry of Human Resource Development  
(b) NCERT (c) University Grants Commission  
(d) Ministry of Electronics and IT

**Ans : ( c )**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 29, 2017, Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar launched anti ragging mobile app in New Delhi.
- This app has been developed by the University Grants Commission (UGC).
- This app will work on android system on which students can log in and register their complaints. Accordingly all concerned will be informed and action will start immediately.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163220>

## Litchi processing plant

**Question: Where did the Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh inaugurate the Litchi processing plant recently?**

(a) Patna (b) Buxar (c) Muzaffarpur (d) Ranchi

**Ans :(c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 29, 2017, Union Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the litchi





processing plant at Muzaffarpur, Bihar.

- Significantly, Bihar is the leading state in the production of litchi.
- About 300 thousand metric tonnes of litchi is produced from the area of 32 thousand hectares.
- Bihar's contribution to the production of the litchi in the country is about 40 percent.
- It is known that National Litchi Research Center was set up in Muzaffarpur on June 6, 2001 to develop new varieties and techniques.
- It is noteworthy that scientists of Bhabha Atomic Research Center, Mumbai and National Research Center of Litchi have succeeded in treating litchi and preserving it for 60 days at low temperature.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=61206>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=162221>

## INAM-Pro +

**Question: INAM-Pro is a ...**

- (a) government scheme to promote use of bio-fertilizers.
- (b) campaign of BSNL to increase its subscribers base.
- (c) a web portal to bring cement buyers and sellers together.
- (d) None of the above.

**Ans: (c)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 1, 2017, the Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Nitin Gadkari launched INAM-Pro + in New Delhi.
- INAM-Pro+ is an upgraded version of INAM-Pro which was launched by the Ministry two years back as a common platform to bring cement buyers and sellers together.
- Following the success with cement, the portal has recently been upgraded as INAM-Pro+ to include the A to Z of construction materials, equipments/machinery and services like purchase, hiring, lease of new/used products and services in the domains of Construction Materials viz, cement, steel, bitumen, stone aggregates, concrete, bricks, wood, sanitary items, paint etc.
- The web portal has been designed by National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd.
- More than 700 construction companies have used INAM-Pro during the last two years. With 37 Cement companies registered on it, the portal facilitated comparison of price, availability of materials etc.
- The publicly visible prices have promoted transparency and enhanced ease of doing business. The companies registered on INAM-Pro have a committed supply of 27 million metric tons of cement at a price restricted by predefined ceiling values.
- INAM-Pro has been highly acclaimed by the construction industry and IT sector and has also been recognized and listed in the Book-on-Innovations "New Beginning" released by Prime Minister on the Civil Services Day.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163320>





## SAMPADA SCHEME

**Question: Under which scheme of Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, the plans for reorganization of food processing industries has been approved?**

- (a) Estate Planning Processing Plan
- (b) Processing plan
- (c) Food security scheme
- (d) Food Processing Restructuring Plan

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, has given its approval for re-structuring the schemes of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) under new Central Sector Scheme – SAMPADA (Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters)
- This approval has been given for the period of year 2016-2020 with the 14th Finance Commission cycle.
- An amount of Rs. 6000 crores has been allocated for this new scheme.
- It will invest Rs 31,400 crore, thereby producing 334 lakh metric tonnes (worth Rs 1,04,125 crore) in agriculture.
- This will generate 5,30,500 jobs directly and indirectly across the country during the year 2019-20 and 20 lakh farmers will be benefitted.
- The aim of the SAMPADA scheme is to supplement the agriculture, modernize processing and reduce agricultural waste.
- SAMPADA is a scheme in which plans like the mega food parks, integrated cold chain and value addition infrastructure, food safety and quality assurance infrastructure are included in the ongoing schemes of the Ministry.
- The SAMPADA is a comprehensive package that will give a new dimension to the food processing sector.
- As a result of the implementation of the SAMPADA, modern infrastructure will be created with the management of efficient supply chain management, so that agricultural products can be delivered directly to the retail outlet from the farm.
- This will not only promote the development of the food processing sector in the country but will also help in providing better prices to the farmers.
- It will also help in reducing the wastage of agricultural product, increasing the level of processing, the availability of safe and convenient processed foods at affordable prices to consumers and the export of processed food item

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=60800>



## Decision to start two new circuits of the Maharaja Express

**Question: Recently, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation decided to introduce two new circuits of the Shashi Rail Maharaja Express. What is the name of these two circuits?**

- (A) Southern Medha, Southern Tourism
- (B) Southern Sojourn, Southern Jewels
- (C) Southern Mumbai, Southern Trivandrum



(D) Southern Rogers, Southern Siggings

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts**

- According to a press release dated May 02, 2017, The Indian Railway PSU, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC) has decided to start two new circuits of their flagship luxury train Maharajas' Express, this year.
- These two circuits have been named Southern Sojourn and Southern Jewels.
- In view of monsoon and for the convenience of domestic travelers, there are plans to start two new trips on these routes from June / July 2017. Although regular service on these two routes will start from September, 2017 this year.
- The journey of the Monsoon Special Southern Sojourn will begin on 24th June, 2017 from Mumbai and the journey will end with reaching Trivandrum via Goa, Hampi, Mysore, Cochin, Alleppey.
- On September 9, 2017, the regular travel of Southern Sojourn will start from Mumbai and Southern Jewels will start regular journey from Trivandrum on September 16, 2017.
- During this visit, guests will have the opportunity to visit traditional cultural presentations in Cochin, coir factory tour and roaming in cruise in addition to traditional Chettinad food in Alleppey
- Partial journey in the Maharaja Express's monsoon special train has been started for the first time.
- This train has been receiving prestigious Leading Luxury Train of the World Award for the last five years since 2012.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=60739>

## **TREATY & AGREEMENTS**

### **Agreement between EPFO and HUDCO**

**Question: To fulfill the housing mission by which year, a (MoU) was recently signed in New Delhi between Employee Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) and Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO)?**

(a) 2020 (b) 2021 (c) 2022 (d) 2023

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 22, 2017 A Memorandum of Understanding was signed in New Delhi between the Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) and the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) to fulfill the housing mission for all till 2022.
- In order to achieve this vision, the EPFO amended the Employees Provident Fund Scheme (EPF) on April 12, 2017 through the budget notification number GSR 351 (E).
- There is a provision for EPF members to assist them in taking the house by allowing clearance of 90 percent of the total collected provident fund amount.



- The objective of the scheme is to provide assistance for the construction of houses for those unified personnel who are associated with the housing programs of central and state governments.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=65637>

## Cabinet approved amendment to India and the Netherlands Social Security Agreement

**Question: India has entered into a social security agreement with ... countries.**

(a) 18 (b) 10 (c) 25 (d) 30

**Ans:(a)**

- On June 22, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved Amendment to the bilateral Social Security Agreement (SSA) between India and the Netherlands by incorporating the “Country of Residence” Principle into the agreement.
- The amended SSA will be operational from the third month from the date of notification to the Netherlands by India and will strengthen the ties between the two countries.
- The SSA has been in successful operation since June 2010 and has benefitted Indian expatriates who have been working in the Netherlands.
- About the Agreement:
- Beginning 1st January 2013, the Netherlands introduced new rules on export of social security benefits to countries outside the European Union.
- Under the new Social Security (Country of Residence) Act, the amount of benefit or allowance paid to a qualified beneficiary (read as Dutch national) is adjusted to the cost of living of the country where the beneficiary is currently residing.
- As per the new Dutch legislation, social security benefits when exported or remitted would be indexed to the cost of living of the host country (as reflected in the World Bank figures), where the Dutch citizen resides.
- The new Dutch legislation, in ordinary circumstances, has no implications for the Indian worker working in the Netherlands because it is applicable only to Dutch nationals residing outside the EU except for a very few exceptional cases.
- The Indian posted workers would largely continue to get benefits as per the existing India-Netherlands Social Security Agreement.
- However, the circumstances where the “country of residence” principle will apply to a few instances of Indian nationals include the following:
- An Indian worker who dies in the Netherlands and has his/her spouse and children living in India.
- An Indian worker who gets disabled while working in the Netherlands and returns to India.
- Notably, the Netherlands introduced a new social security legislation on 1st January 2013, consequent to which the Netherlands began to apply the “country of residence” principle on certain social security benefits exported to other countries.



- After the adoption of the new social security legislation, the Netherlands side requested that India agree to revise the bilateral SSA since such a revision would be necessary as per the national legislation of the Netherlands.
- As on date, India has signed and operationalized SSAs with 18 countries – Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Japan, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and South Korea.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165848>

## Cabinet approved MoU between India, Portugal on governance reforms

**Question: Which one of the below is not an objective of Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances?**

- Promoting administrative reforms in government policies, structures and processes.
- Formulation of policy and coordination of issues relating to redress of grievances.
- Maintaining secrecy about government policies and good practices
- Promoting reforms through e-Governance.

**Ans: (c)**

- On June 22, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India, and Ministry of the Presidency and of Administrative Modernization, Government of Portuguese Republic, for 'Cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance Reforms'.
  - The MoU will help in understanding the system of customer oriented public service delivery in Portugal with reference to rapidly changing environments in the area of public service management and enable in replicating, adapting and innovating some of the best practices and processes in the Indian Public Service Delivery System.
  - A Joint Working Group on Public Administration and Governance Reforms will be responsible for implementation of the MoU.
  - The areas of co-operation under this MoU may include, but shall not be limited to:
    - Digital transformation of Government
    - Administrative simplification and process re-engineering
    - Public Service Delivery
    - Building and developing staff capability
    - Sharing good governance practices in public administration
    - Public Grievance Redress Mechanism
- The forms of co-operation under the MoU will be as under:
- organization of a senior consultative body and working sessions for ongoing discussions regarding cooperation and collaboration;
  - exchange of knowledge and experiences and the holding of consultations in the above mentioned areas, in situ and online;
  - exchange of invitations to events related to Public Administration and Governance Reforms and the dispatch of experts in this sector;



- (d) exchange of publications, reports and various public materials related to Public Administration and Governance Reforms, which are published by the Sides;
- (e) facilitating study visits and sharing of information and experience through workshops, seminars and conferences;
- (f) any other forms of cooperation and collaboration that are of mutual interest in the area of Public Administration and Governance Reforms and are jointly decided upon by the Signatories.
- Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances has so far entered into bilateral MoUs with China, Malaysia, Singapore, France and United Kingdom and trilateral MoU with Brazil and South Africa.
- MOUs with China and Singapore are under renewal/consideration in consultation with Ministry of External Affairs. The recent MoU with Portugal is a step in that direction.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165843>

<http://darpg.nic.in/missionvision-statement>

## Cabinet approves India- Australia MoU on cooperation in the textiles

**Question: Powertex scheme is related to...**

- (a) Powerloom sector development.
- (b) Development of government Printing Press.
- (c) Development of alternative sources of Energy.
- (d) Modification in taxation system to avoid tax evasion.



**Ans: (a)**

- On June 22, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the textiles, clothing and fashion sectors between the Ministry of Textiles government of India and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia.
- The MoU will facilitate cooperation in textiles and fashion sectors that may benefit to the participants.
- The participants will jointly identify appropriate measures to connect the Australian and Indian textile and fashion sectors; promote collaboration and international engagement between those sectors.
- The MoU will include nurturing talents, promoting economic opportunities and encourage professional engagement, training, skill development and public exhibition of products derived from these sectors in the two countries.
- However, Intellectual Property Rights of either side will stand protected.
- The weavers including ancillary workers will be benefited from activities to be taken under MOU.
- For overall development of handloom sector, the initiative aims to increase the handloom fabric production so that weavers are able to get continuous
- employment and improve their living standards.
- Notably, Powertex Scheme has been launched for powerloom sector
- development with objective
  - (a) To provide financial assistance to economically weaker low-end powerloom units, for upgrading existing plain looms to semi-automatic/shuttleless looms by way of fixing certain additional attachments/kits.



(b) To improve quality and productivity of the fabrics being produced and enable them to face the competition in domestic and international markets.

**Reference:**

<http://texmin.nic.in/sites/default/files/PowerTex%20India%20Brochure%20English.pdf>

## Cabinet approves India- Sri Lanka MoU for cooperation in Traditional Medicine

**Question: Nokrek Biosphere Reserve is situated in which of the following states?**

- (a) Meghalaya (b) Odisha (c) Chhattisgarh  
(d) Arunachal Pradesh

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 22, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval for signing an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation in Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy between Ministry of AYUSH, government of India and the Ministry of Health, Nutrition and Indigenous Medicine of the Government of Sri Lanka.
- The signing of the proposed MoU will enhance bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the areas of traditional medicine and homoeopathy. This will be of immense importance to both countries considering their shared cultural heritage.
- There are no additional financial implications involved. The financial resources necessary to conduct research, training courses, conferences / meetings will be met from the existing allocated budget and existing plan schemes of Ministry of AYUSH.
- The activities between the two sides will start immediately after the signing of the MoU by the two countries. The initiatives taken between the two countries will be as per the terms of reference of the MoU signed and will be a continuing process till the MoU remains in operation.
- The Ministry of AYUSH, as a part of its mandate to propagate Indian systems of Medicine globally has taken effective steps by entering into MoUs with 11 countries.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165830>

## Cabinet approves India-Netherlands MoU in water management

**Question: The Hague is a famous city of which of the following countries?**

- (a) The Netherland (b) Belgium (c) Spain (d) Mexico

**Ans:(a)**

- On June 22, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, government of India and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for bilateral cooperation in the field of water resources management.
- The MoU envisages cooperation at the National, regional and international levels by collaborating and sharing experience and expertise in the areas such as techniques in the efficient use of water resources, river basin management, decision support systems, delta





management, water quality issues and waste water recycling and re-use through innovative concession arrangements.

- The form of cooperation under the MoU will include promoting the exchange of knowledge and expertise through study visits, seminars, conferences and meetings of experts of the Signatories.
- A Joint Working Group shall be formed to monitor the activities to be carried out in fulfillment of the MoU.
- The Bilateral cooperation will benefit the country in enhancing institutional and technical capacity of center and State Government agencies dealing with water resources especially in the field of river basin management, pollution abatement of rivers including Ganga, flood management, water quality and efficient use of water amongst others.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165846>

## Cabinet approves MoU between India and Armenia on Space Cooperation

**Question: ISRO's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle PSLV-C38 successfully launched the 712 kg Cartosat-2 Series Satellite along with how many co-passenger satellites on June 23, 2017?**

(a) 30 (b) 25 (c) 31 (d) 35

**Ans:(a)**

- On June 22, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was apprised about an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space between India and Armenia.
- The MoU has already been signed in April, 2017.
- This MoU shall enable the areas of cooperation such as, space science, technology and applications including remote sensing of the earth; satellite communication and satellite based navigation; space science and planetary exploration; use of spacecraft and space systems and ground system; and application of space technology.
- The agreement would facilitate setting up of a Joint Working Group, drawing members from Department of Space/ Indian Space Research Organisation (DOS/ISRO), and the State Committee of Sciences of the Ministry of Education and Sciences of the Republic of Armenia.
- This working group will further work out the plan of action including the time-frame and the means of implementing this MoU.
- The MoU would lead to development of a joint activity in the field of application of space technologies for the benefit of humanity. Thus all sections and regions of the country will get benefited.
- Financing of works carried out under this MoU shall be provided by the respective executive organization.



**Reference:**

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/cabinet-approves-mou-on-cooperation-in-the-peaceful-uses-of-outer-space-between-india-and-armenia/](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/cabinet-approves-mou-on-cooperation-in-the-peaceful-uses-of-outer-space-between-india-and-armenia/)

## Agreement between Sung Ha Telecom and Chhattisgarh government

**Question: Sung Ha Telecom of South Korea has given approval to establish a manufacturing plant in ...**

(a) Naya Raipur (b) Champa (c) Raigarh (d) Chirmiri

**Ans :(a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 30, 2017, Sung Ha Telecom company of South Korea gave in-principle consent to set up its mobile phone manufacturing plant in Naya Raipur—the upcoming new capital of Chhattisgarh.
- Sung Ha Telecom is one of the biggest companies in the used mobile phone market in Korea and has a high-skilled experience in this field for 15 years.
- Notably, a high level business delegation including Chief Minister Raman Singh visited Seoul and Japan to attract investments to the state and create ample employment opportunities for youth.



**Related Links:-**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/south-korean-telecom-firm-to-set-up-manufacturing-unit-in-chhattisgarh-4680793/>

## Agreement between Samsung India and the MSME Ministry

**Question: Recently a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Samsung India and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). Under this agreement, in which two cities will MSME-Samsung Technical School be set up by Samsung?**

(a) Jaipur, Bangalore (b) Bangalore, Jamshedpur  
(c) Ranchi, Jaipur (d) Patna, Bangalore

**Ans :(b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 2, 2017, a MoU was signed between Samsung India and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).
- Under this agreement, partnership was renewed for operating 10 existing schools and opening two more technology schools in the country.
- Two new MSME-Samsung Technical Schools will be set up in Bangalore and Jamshedpur.
- With this, the number of schools running in partnership with the Samsung and MSME Ministry has increased to 12. Samsung runs another 10 such schools in collaboration with Departments of Technical Education in different states such as Rajasthan, Kerala, Bihar, Delhi and West Bengal, taking the total to 22.
- Under the MSME-Samsung Technical School Scholarship program, 1,000 girls and differently-abled trainees, who have successfully completed the basic course, will be given a scholarship of up to INR 20,000.



**Related Links:-**

<https://news.samsung.com/in/samsung-msme-ministry-widen-partnership-for-samsung-technical-school>

## MoU between CISF & NSDC

**Question:** The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) can be subjected to a mid-term review after...

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

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 5, 2017, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Ministry of Home Affairs and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) & National Skill Development Fund (NSDF), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- The MoU shall remain in effect for a period of 5 years starting from 5th June, 2017 till 5th June, 2022.
- The MoU is subject to a mid-term review after 3 years.
- The MoU aims at assisting retiring/retired, serving low medical category (LMC) CISF personnel to acquire additional skills and facilitate their resettlement through a second career.
- Around 500 personnel will be imparted training in the first phase of the training programme.
- Under the Memorandum of Understanding, skill development centres will be set up focusing on sectors like handicrafts and apparel, industry related skills like mobile repairing, jewellery making, beauty and wellness, among others.
- It will also provide welfare to wards, family members of serving CISF personnel, retired personnel and personnel killed in action.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164418>

<https://twitter.com/cisfhqrs>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/cisf-nsdc-ink-pact-to-skill-retiring-security-personnel/1/971424.html>



## MoU between National Aviation University and Bird Worldwide Flight Services

**Question:** To develop professional aviation and aerospace education programmes and research for the benefit of the Indian civil aviation industry a MoU was recently signed between National Aviation University (NAU) and

- (a) Bird Worldwide Flight Services (India) Private Limited.  
(b) University Grant commission (c) NCERT  
(d) Academic Staff College

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 1, 2017, the National Aviation University (NAU) signed a MoU with the Bird Worldwide Flight Services (India) Private Limited to develop professional aviation and aerospace education programmes and research for the benefit of the Indian civil aviation industry.



- On the same day the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) and the Bird Education Society for Travel & Tourism also signed an MoU.
- This MoU aims at training, skilling and empowering more than 30,000 unemployed youth across various states, including North-East states, over the next six years.
- Focus of these skill development programmes would be on quality of skilling which is aligned to the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF).
- Establishment of Centers of Excellence in different parts of the country in cooperation with NSDC and the Aerospace & Aviation Sector Skill Council (AASSC) is also proposed.
- It is important that Ministry of Civil Aviation is encouraging industry participation in skills development in order to ensure employability of the persons being skilled on the one hand and sustainability of skill development programmes on the other.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164402>

## Cabinet approves signing of MoU between India and Bangladesh

**Question: Who among the following is the chairman of Prasara Bharti?**

- (a) Dr. Shankar Sharan (b) A Surya Prakash (c) Chandan Mitra  
(d) Vir Sanghvi

**Ans: (b)**

**Related Fact :**



- On June 14, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was apprised about an Memorandum of Understanding which has already been signed between India and Bangladesh for promoting cooperation in the field of Information Technology and Electronics (IT&E).
- The MoU was signed in April, 2017 between Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India and Information and Communication Technology Division of Bangladesh.
- It will remain in force for a period of five years. Thereafter, the MoU will be extended at any time within the period it remains in force by mutual written consent of the Parties. It can be terminated by either Party after giving six months' prior notice in writing to the other Party.
- The MoU in the field of IT&E is technical in nature and focused primarily on e-Governance, m-Governance, e-Public Services Delivery, Cyber Security, Capacity Building etc.
- The MoU aims to explore business opportunities, IT&E market in Bangladesh by Indian IT companies and attract investment in Indian electronics and IT sectors in India which would indirectly generate employment opportunities.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165617>

## Cabinet approves signing of MoU between India and Armenia

**Question: Which one of the cities below is the capital of Armenia?**

(a) Yerevan (b) Kapan (c) Goris (d) Armavir

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 14, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi was apprised about an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) which has already been signed between India and Armenia for cooperation on youth matters.
- The MoU was signed in April, 2017. This MoU shall remain in force for a period of five years. Thereafter, the MoU will be automatically renewed for successive periods of five years, unless either Party notifies the other Party of its intention of not to renew it at least six months before its expiration.
- It can be terminated by either Party after giving six months' prior notice in writing to the other Party.
- The objective of the MoU is to strengthen and encourage cooperation between the two countries on youth matters through participation in events and activities organized by the parties, information and knowledge sharing, and youth exchanges between the two countries.
- The areas of cooperation on Youth matters include exchanges of youth, representatives of youth organizations, and government officials in-charge of youth policy-making.
- It will also be applicable for extension of invitations to international conferences and seminars on youth matters held in the two countries, exchange of printed materials, films and experiences.
- The cooperation will also be in areas of research and other information on youth matters, participation in youth camps, youth festivals and other youth events held in the two countries, etc.



**Reference:**

<http://pibmumbai.gov.in/scripts/detail.asp?releaseld=E2017PR1085>

## Cabinet approves MoU between India and Palestine

**Question: The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, India and the Ministry of Agriculture, Palestine on agriculture cooperation does not cover which of the following?**

- (a) Agricultural research (b) Veterinary services  
(c) Irrigation and climate change  
(d) Establishment of a chemical fertilizer for Palestine.

**Ans: (d)**

**Related Fact:**

- On June 14, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its ex-post facto approval to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, India and the Ministry of Agriculture, Palestine on agriculture cooperation.





- The MoU was signed in May 2017 during the visit of the Palestinian Minister of Foreign Affairs to India.
- The MoU provides for cooperation in the fields of agricultural research; veterinary field including capacity enhancement of Palestinian Veterinary services and Animal Health; irrigation and climate change.
- It will also be extended to areas such as plant and soil nutrition, exchange of experiences in the field of sanitary and phytosanitary legislation, Animal husbandry, modern irrigation technology and capacity building.
- Under the MoU, an Agricultural Steering Committee will be constituted to determine the programs and action plans to achieve the objectives provided in the MoU.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165623>

## Agreement between Rajya Anandam Sansthan and IIT Kharagpur

**Question- India's ranking in the World Happiness Index , published by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, is ...**

(A) 120<sup>th</sup> (B) 121<sup>th</sup> (C) 122<sup>nd</sup> (D) 123<sup>rd</sup>

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- According to a press release issued on May 23, 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed between Rajya Anandam Sansthan, Madhya Pradesh and the Rekhi Center of Excellence for the Science of Happiness, IIT Kharagpur for measuring the well-being of the people of the state.
- IIT-KGP will develop the index and analyse data collected by the state government to assess the level of happiness and chalk out recommendations that can be used to enhance happiness.
- IT-KGP will also develop an online screening and assessment system in order to screen and identify suitable volunteers from the database of more than 30,000 people who have offered to be part of the collaborative exercise.
- The institute will also develop online courses on happiness through the evaluation system available at the Centre for Educational Technology of IIT-KGP.
- Importantly, Happiness Index figures are prepared based on social inequality, life expectancy, per capita GDP, public trust (lack of corruption in government and business) and support.

**Related Links:-**

<http://alumni.iitkgp.ac.in/content/iit-kharagpur-and-mp-govt-collaborate-spread-happiness>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/iit-kharagpur-signs-mou-with-madhya-pradesh-for-measuring-happiness-index/articleshow/58805143.cms>





## Cabinet approves signing of MoU between SEBI and European Securities and Markets Authority

**Question: The European Union (EU) is a political and economic union of ... member states.**

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

**Ans: (d)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval to the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for entering into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with European Securities and Markets Authority (ESMA) in relation to Mutual Co-operation.
- The MoU is likely to establish cooperation arrangements as a precondition for ESMA to recognize Central Counter Parties (CCPs) established in India.
- Central Counter Parties are supervised by the SEBI to provide clearing services to clearing members or trading venues established in the European Union.
- It also provides ESMA with adequate tools to monitor the on-going compliance by the Covered CCPs with the Recognition Conditions.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=164466>

## Cabinet approves MoU between India and Mali

**Question: Which of the following is not true about Mali?**

- (a) Mali, officially the Republic of Mali, is a landlocked country in West Africa.
- (b) Its capital is Bamako.
- (c) Mali is renowned worldwide for having produced some of the stars of African music, most notably Salif Keita.
- (d) It is surrounded by Atlantic Ocean in the west.

**Ans: (d)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi provided its ex-post facto approval to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), India and Direction Nationale De Industries (MLINDI), Republic of Mali on Standardization and Conformity Assessment.
- The MoU aims to facilitate closer cooperation and provide a mechanism by which India and Mali can work together towards standardization and conformity assessment activities in order to facilitate sharing of expertise and mutual trade.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164470>

## Cabinet approves Bilateral MoU between India and Iran

**Question: Who among the following is the current chairman of Securities and Exchange Organization (SEBI)?**

- (a) Ajay Tyagi (b) S. Raman (c) G. Mahalingam  
(d) Madhabi Puri Buch

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the Bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) and Securities and Exchange Organization (SEO), Iran in relation to mutual cooperation on matters pertaining to securities markets.
- The MoU aims at creating conditions for an effective development of securities markets in the two countries.
- It is expected to add value to overseas mutual cooperation and regulation activities of SEBI and SEO, Iran. The MoU is likely to promote further development of economic links and cooperation between the two regulators.
- It would also contribute towards strengthening the information sharing framework between the two countries.



**Reference:**

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/cabinet-approves-bilateral-mou-between-india-and-iran/](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/cabinet-approves-bilateral-mou-between-india-and-iran/)

## Cabinet approves Agreement between India and Somalia on transfer of sentenced persons

**Question: Which of the following act authorizes the government of India to sign an agreement with a foreign country on transfer of sentenced persons?**

- (a) Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 (b) Prisons Act, 1894  
(c) Prisons Act, 1900 (d) None of the above.

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its approval for signing and subsequent ratification of the Agreement on Transfer of sentenced persons between India and Somalia.
- Signing the Agreement with Somalia shall facilitate the Indian prisoners imprisoned in Somalia or vice-versa to be near to their families, for serving remaining part of their sentence and shall facilitate their social rehabilitation.
- It is notable that the government of India has signed bilateral Agreements on Transfer of Sentenced Persons with United Kingdom, Mauritius, Bulgaria, France, Egypt, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Bangladesh, Brazil, Israel, Bosnia & Herzegovina, UAE, Italy, Turkey, Maldives, Thailand, Russian Federation, Kuwait, Vietnam, Australia, Hong Kong, Qatar, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Bahrain and Estonia.
- Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 enables the government of India to sign a treaty/agreement with countries having mutual interest in transfer of sentenced persons.



- Under such agreement foreign prisoners can be transferred to the country of their origin to serve the remaining part of their sentence and prisoners of Indian origin convicted by a foreign court can serve their sentence in India.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164468>

## Cabinet approves agreement between India and Cyprus

**Question: Cyprus is located in ...**

- (a) Mediterranean Sea (b) Atlantic Ocean (c) Ionian Sea  
(d) Pacific Ocean

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its ex-post facto approval to the Agreement between India and Cyprus on Merchant Shipping.
- This agreement was signed in April 2017.
- The Agreement in Merchant Shipping will pave the way for cooperation in eliminating any hindrances which may hamper the development of sea trade between the two nations.
- The MoU will encourage participation in the transport of goods between the countries, and also from third countries.
- The MoU further seeks to enhance cooperation for employment, improvement of conditions of work and for the welfare of seafarers employed on each other's vessels.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164474>

## Cabinet approved MoU between India and South Korea

**Question: What is the export credit limit under the proposed MoU to be signed between Export-Import Bank of India and Export-Import Bank of Korea?**

- (a) \$ 9 Billion (b) \$ 20 Billion (c) \$ 25 Billion (d) \$ 30 Billion

**Ans: (a)**

- On June 7, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the proposed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank) and Export-Import Bank of Korea (KEXIM) for export credit of USD 9 billion.
- The export credit will be utilized through lending by EXIM Bank for promoting projects for priority sectors, including smart cities, railways, power generation and transmission etc., in India and for the supply of goods and services from India and Korea as part of projects in third countries. The MoU is proposed to be signed between the two banks during the forthcoming visit of the Finance Minister Arun Jaitley, to Seoul, South Korea during 14-15 June 2017 for the Annual Financial Bilateral Dialogue. The parties to the MoU will hold mutual consultations to structure the financial assistance, review the existing arrangements and related procedures. EXIM Bank will identify viable projects in India. For projects in third countries, both parties will jointly identify viable projects.
- Notably, the intent of this MoU was visible in the joint declaration issued at the time of visit of Prime Minister Modi to the Republic of Korea. The joint declaration stated that



Korea intends to offer USD 10 billion of infrastructural development in India. The package was subsequently prepared to comprise of USD 1 billion from the South Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) as government to government funding and USD 9 billion as export credit from KEXIM. The credit of USD 9 billion from KEDIM is to be through a formal MoU to be signed between KEXIM and EXIM Bank.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164476>

## CONFERENCE

### First Guwahati International Documentary Film Festival

**Question: Who among the following is the winner of Best Director's award of the 64th National Film Awards ?**

- (a) Rajesh Mapuskar (b) S S Rajamouli (c) Ram Madhvani  
(d) Nitesh Tiwari

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts:**

- The First Guwahati International Documentary Film Festival was organized in Guwahati, Assam from June 21st to 24th, 2017. In all, 27 documentary and animation films from across the world were shown along with some best Indian films. In this festival, documentary films from various countries, including Bulgaria, Australia, Poland, Germany, Canada and Egypt were screened. The event was jointly organised by Films Division, a part of Ministry of Information & Broadcasting and Dr Bhupen Hazarika Regional Government Film and Television Institute.



**Reference:**

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/49063>

## Ambubachi festival

**Question: The famous 'Ambubachi festival' is celebrated in ...**

- (A) Tripura (B) Assam (C) Jharkhand (D) Kerala

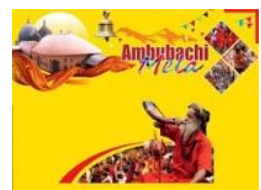
**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- Assam's famous 'Ambubachi Festival' began on June 22, 2017.
- Under this festival, a fair is held in the famous Kamakhya temple of the state.
- This temple is about 9 km away from Guwahati, located on the Nilanchal hill.
- This temple is considered to be very special among all 51 Shaktipeeths of the Goddess.

**संबंधित लिंक**

<http://www.patrika.com/news/miscellaneous-india/mother-kamakhya-devi-ambubachi-festival-devotees-arrived-in-guwahati-in-the-number-of-millions-1605955/>



## Eighth Session of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)

**Q. Where was the 8th session of the Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) organized during June 19-23, 2017?**

(a) Beijing (b) Vienna (c) Montreal (d) Tokyo

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- During 19-23 June, 2017, the 8th session of the Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) was being organized in Vienna, Austria.
- In this conference, Central Vigilance Commissioner K.V. Chaudhary represented India.
- While presenting the country statement, Mr. Chowdary highlighted India's robust and time tested institutional and legislative framework including, the Prevention of Corruption Act an independent Central Vigilance Commission, Central Information Commission, Comptroller and Auditor General, the Judges (Inquiry) Act and a spate of legislations including The Lokpal & Lokayukta Act, 2013, Whistle Blowers Protection Act 2011, Prevention of Money Laundering Act, Benami Transactions (Prohibition) Act.
- He also accounted demonetization of high value currency as a bold step to eliminate black money and corruption.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=165777>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=65603>

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/IRG/implementation-review-group.html>

## 7th meeting of Agriculture Ministers of BRICS countries

**Question: Where was the seventh meeting of Agriculture Ministers of BRICS countries organized?**

(a) Jaipur, India (d) Nanjing, China (c) Johannesburg, South Africa  
(d) St. Petersburg, Russia

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- The 7th Meeting of BRICS Ministers of Agriculture, under the theme "BRICS: Innovating and Sharing to Power Agriculture", was hosted by China in Nanjing city on 16 June, 2017.
- India was represented by Union Agriculture and Farmer Welfare Minister Radha Mohan Singh.
- In this meeting, a joint declaration by the Agriculture Ministers of BRICS countries and the Agriculture Corporation Action Plan-2017 of BRICS countries was issued.



**Related Links:-**

<https://brics2017.org/English/China2017/BRICSCalendar/>

<http://indianembassy.org.cn/newsDetails.aspx?NewsId=981>



## Second Meeting of National Council of Senior Citizens

**Question: The National Council of Senior Citizens had its first meeting in ...**

(a) 2016 (b) 2015 (c) 2014 (d) 2013

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 19, 2017, Shri Thaawarchand Gehlot, Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment chaired the 'Second Meeting of National Council of Senior Citizens (NCSrC)' organized by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- In pursuance of the National Policy for Older Persons (NPOP), a National Council for Older Persons (NCOP) was constituted in 1999 under the Chairpersonship of the Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment to oversee implementation of the Policy.
- The Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment is the Chairman and Minister of State (Social Justice and Empowerment) is the Vice-Chairman of the Council.
- The members of the Council includes Secretary (SJ&E), Joint Secretary (Social Defence), related central ministries such as Finance, Rural Development, Home Affairs, Law and Justice, Human Resource Development etc., and National Commissions like NHRC, NCW etc. besides State Governments (on rotation), Oldest member of the Lok Sabha, Oldest member of the Rajya Sabha, alongwith representatives of Senior Citizens Associations, Pensioners' Associations, eminent senior citizens working on issues related to senior citizens etc.
- The NCOP is the highest body to advise the Government in the formulation and implementation of policy and programmes for the aged.
- In order to have a definite structure as well as regional representation, the National Council for Older Persons (NCOP) has been reconstituted and renamed as National Council of Senior Citizens (NCSrC) vide a resolution dated 17th February, 2012.
- The NCSrC advises Central and State Governments on the entire gamut of issues related to welfare of senior citizens and enhancement of their quality of life.
- Significantly, the National Council of Senior Citizens had its first meeting on 30th August, 2016.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165742>

## 8th Clean Energy and Second Mission Innovation Ministerial Meeting

**Question: Where was the 8th Clean Energy and Second Mission Innovation Ministerial Meeting held during June 6-8, 2017?**

(A) New York (B) Tokyo (C) Beijing (D) New Delhi

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- The 8th Clean Energy and Second Mission Innovation Ministerial Meeting was held in Beijing, China from 6th to 8th June, 2017.
- An Indian delegation led by Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences and Environment, Forest & Climate Change participated in event along with senior officials from the Ministry of Science & Technology, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and Ministry of Power.





- Mission Innovation (MI) was launched on 30th November 2015 by leaders of 20 countries with a landmark 5-year commitment to accelerate the pace of innovation and make clean energy widely affordable and accessible worldwide.
- MI now comprises 22 economies and the European Commission, representing the European Union, and collectively accounts for more than 80 percent of the world's total public financing of clean energy R&D.
- India is Founding Member of the Steering Committee and also a Member of the two sub-groups: Joint research and Capacity Building and Private Sector Engagement.
- During the meeting 7 Innovation Challenges were announced out of which India co led 3 challenges: Smart Grid, Off-Grid Access and Sustainable biofuels.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164405>

## Conference on “Capacity Building of SDRFs-2017”

**Question: Which of the below is the amount allocated to State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) for the period 2015-20?**

- (a) 33,581crore (b) 61,220crore (c) 11441 crore  
(d) 14201 crore

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On June 6, 2017, the Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 2-day National Level Conference on “Capacity Building of SDRFs-2017”.
- The conference was organised by National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- The conference aims to develop synergies between the responses of National & State Disaster Response Forces (SDRFs) and to highlight way ahead to strengthen the response capabilities of SDRFs
- On this occasion, the Home Minister also informed that the funds allocated to State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) have increased from Rs 33,581 crore during 2010-15 to Rs 61,220 crore during the period 2015-20 .
- 2 additional NDRF battalions have also been set up in Varanasi and Arunachal Pradesh to strengthen its infrastructure.
- It is notable that India, being a large country, is vulnerable to many disasters such as 58.6% of area is prone to earthquakes, 12% of area is prone to floods and the coastlines are prone to cyclones.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=164435>

## First Workshop on Sagarmala Project

**Question: Which one of the below is not one of the components of Sagarmala project?**

- (a) Port Modernization & New Port Development
- (b) Port Connectivity Enhancement
- (c) Port-linked Industrialization
- (d) Interlinking of Rivers



**Ans: (d)**

- The first workshop on Sagarmala Project titled, “Accelerating Sagarmala Implementation – Engaging with States” is being organized on 9th June, 2017 in New Delhi at India Habitat Centre.
- The workshop aims to familiarize the key stakeholders with the provisions of the Sagarmala programme, its objectives and avenues available for them to implement these projects.
- This workshop will provide a platform for the States to exhibit their ongoing work and works envisaged for future and provide a feedback mechanism to address their concerns with regards to Sagarmala Programme.
- The main objective of this workshop is to enhance the engagement among Ministry of Shipping, other ministries and various maritime states of India for Sagarmala Programme.
- The workshop will be presided by Secretary (Shipping) and the key note address will be delivered by Amitabh Kant, CEO, NITI Aayog.
- As per the concept approved by the Government of India, the projects identified under Sagarmala will be taken up by the respective Ports, State Governments or Maritime Boards and Central Ministries mainly through private funding or PPP mode.
- The Sagarmala Development Company Ltd. (SDCL) has been set up by the Ministry of Shipping to provide equity support to the project SPV's and funding support to residual projects under Sagarmala.
- Already 239 projects worth 1.37 lakh crore are under various stages of development and implementation.
- About Sagarmala Project:
- Sagarmala project is a port-led direct and indirect development promotion initiative of the Government of India. It envisages modernization of India's Ports so that port-led development can be augmented and coastlines can be developed to contribute in India's growth. It looks towards “transforming the existing Ports into modern world class Ports and integrate the development of the Ports, the Industrial clusters and hinterland through road, rail, inland and coastal waterways resulting in Ports becoming the drivers of economic activity in coastal areas. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its ‘in-principle’ approval for the concept and institutional framework of Sagarmala Project on 25 March 2015. The project was launched by Ministry of Shipping (the nodal ministry for this initiative) in Karnataka on 31 July 2015.
- Components of Sagarmala Programme are:
- Port Modernization & New Port Development
- Port Connectivity Enhancement
- Port-linked Industrialization
- Coastal Community Development

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165499>

## 1st Human Resources Round Table Conference of Indian Railways

**Question: Indian Railway manufacturing unit is not located in ...**

(a) Kapurthala (b) Bangalore (c) Bela (d) Patna

**Ans: (d)**

- Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu inaugurated Indian Railways' 1st HR Round Table Conference on June 8, 2017.
- The Conference was organized around three themes i.e. Stakeholders Expectations from HR, The Future of Work – HR Role and Creativity Within Constraints  
Each theme was in form of a Roundtable discussion amongst HR experts and leaders of industry.
- The participants came from all parts of the country including Ministry of Railways and its public sector organizations.
- Indian Railways is the biggest civilian employer in the country spanning the length and breadth of the sub-continent within strength of over 13 lakh employees.
- The employees are spread over 10 departments in 17 Zones, 6 Production Units and 68 Divisions.
- The service of the Indian Railways are 24X7 and the work content varies from high precision engineering to customer interface and train operations with many departments working in a coordinated manner.
- Improving the productivity of the human resources through inter-change of ideas with various stakeholders, HR practitioners and academics was the aim of the Conference.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=165505>

## 19th ARCASIA Forum -2017

**Question: Where was the 19th ARCASIA Forum -2017 organized?**

(a) New Delhi (b) Jaipur (c) Bangalore (d) Ahmedabad

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 23, 2017, Union Urban Development, Civil Aviation and Urban Poverty Alleviation Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu formally inaugurated the 19th ARCASIA Forum-2017.
- The event was organized from May 21 to 25, 2017 in Birla Auditorium Jaipur.
- The theme of this forum was 'Happiness through Architecture'.
- Representatives of 12 countries participated in it and expressed their ideas related to architecture in various sessions organized.
- Notably, the Global Center of Excellence has been established in Jaipur recently and this city has been selected as Asia's first Cisco Light House City.



**Related Links:-**

<https://twitter.com/Arcasiajaipur/status/867014443477209089>

## MODI Fest inaugurated in Bengaluru

**Question: What does the word 'MODI' mean in context to the MODI Fest being organized in the country?**

- (a) Surname of the Prime Minister.
- (b) Making of Developed India –MODI.
- (c) A traditional festival of Gujarat. (d) None of the above.

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Fact :**

- On June 2, 2017, Union Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation D.V.Sadananda Gowda inaugurated Making of Developed India Festival – MODI Fest at Malleswaram in Bengaluru.
- The objective of the programme was to communicate to the people about the Union Government's achievements over the last 3 years and to convey them about the various Government schemes and initiatives.
- An exhibition depicting the achievements of the Union Government over last three years was also held on the occasion.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163357>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/three-day-modi-fest-gets-under-way/article18710373.ece>



## 18th Annual India Russia Summit

**Question: Where was the 18th Annual India Russia Summit held?**

- (a) Barnaul (b) Samara (c) Penza (d) St. Petersburg

**Ans: (d)**

**Related Fact :**

- 18th Annual India Russia Summit was held at St. Petersburg, Russia on June 1, 2017.
- This also marks 70 years of diplomatic relations between India and Russia characterized by a high degree of convergence on various bilateral and global matters.
- Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin issued 'St. Petersburg Declaration' on this occasion.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized the role of the private sector in enhancing trade and commercial ties between the two countries, adding that India and Russia are close to achieving the target of 30 billion US dollars worth of investment by 2025.
- India and Russia also signed five agreements in sectors covering nuclear energy, railways, gems and jewellery, traditional knowledge and cultural exchanges. These are:
- The program of cultural exchanges between the Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of India for 2017-2019.
- The General Framework Agreement for the construction of the third stage of the Kudankulam NPP (KK5 & KK6) along with the Credit Protocol.



- Agreement between the Federal Service for Intellectual Property (Rospatent) and the Council of India on Scientific and Industrial Research on granting access to Rospatent experts to the Indian Digital Library of Traditional Knowledge (TKDL).
- The contract between JSC «Russian Railways» and the Ministry of Railways of the Republic of India on the preparation of the justification for the implementation of the high-speed service at the Nagpur-Secunderabad section.
- Memorandum of cooperation between ALROSA Joint Stock Company (Public Joint Stock Company) and the Council for the Promotion of the Export of Precious Stones and Jewellery of India.
- On this occasion both the leaders committed to enhancing bilateral relations in a variety of areas including energy, nuclear, hydrocarbon, renewable energy, defence, culture, education, transport and sustainable development.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=163331>

## YEAR, DAY & WEEK

### World Hydrography Day

**Question: When is 'World Hydrography Day' celebrated?**

(a) 23 June (b) 24 June (c) 21 June (d) 22 June

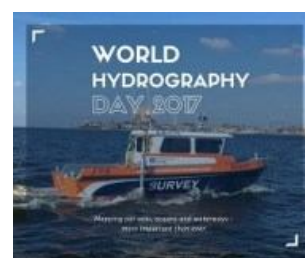
**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- 'World Hydrography Day' was celebrated all over the world on June 21, 2017.
- The main theme of this day in 2017- 'Mapping our seas, oceans and waterway- more important than ever.
- According to UN resolution, all States should work with the IHO to promote safe navigation, especially in the areas of international navigation, ports and where there are vulnerable or protected marine areas.
- World Hydrography Day is an opportunity to increase public awareness of the vital role that hydrography plays in everyone's lives.
- This day got official recognition through the resolution passed in the United Nations in the year 2005.

**Related links:-**

[https://www.iho.int/mtg\\_docs/WHD/2017/BriefingNotesforWHD2017.pdf](https://www.iho.int/mtg_docs/WHD/2017/BriefingNotesforWHD2017.pdf)



### World Blood Donor Day

**Question: When is 'World Blood Donor Day' celebrated?**

(a) June 14 (b) June 12 (c) June 13 (d) June 15

**Ans : (a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017 'World Blood Donor Day' was celebrated all over the world.





- Slogan of World Blood Donor Day 2017 is 'What can you do? Donate blood. Do it now. Give it often.'
- The event serves to raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood.
- Nobel Prize Winner (1930) Carl Landsteiner who discovered Blood group 'A, B and O' was also born on June 14.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.who.int/campaigns/world-blood-donor-day/2017/event/en/>

## World Ocean Day

**Question: When is 'World Ocean Day' celebrated?**

(a) June 7 (b) June 6 (c) June 8 (d) June 3

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 8, 2017, World Oceans Day was celebrated all over the world.
- The theme of World Oceans Day 2017 is 'Our Oceans, Our Future'
- This day is celebrated to remind everyone of the major role the oceans have in everyday life. They are the lungs of our planet, providing most of the oxygen we breathe.
- In December 2008, the United Nations General Assembly made the official declaration to celebrate 'World Ocean Day' on June 8.
- The first 'World Ocean Day' was celebrated on June 8, 2009.

**Related Links:-**

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



## World Child Labour Prohibition Day

**Question- When is 'World Child Labour Prohibition Day' celebrated?**

(A) June 15 (B) June 13 (C) June 10 (D) June 12

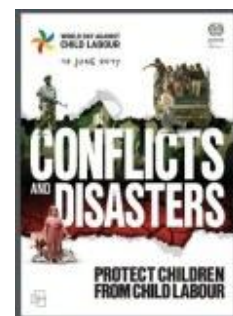
**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 12, 2017 World Day against Child Labour was observed all over the world.
- The theme of World Child Labour Prohibition Day, 2017 is 'In conflicts and disasters, protect children from child labour.'
- According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), more than 1.5 million people live in countries that are affected by conflict / violence etc.
- According to this, there are 168 million child laborers worldwide.
- It is notable that the International Labour Organization has launched World Child Labor Prohibition Day in 2002 to eliminate child labor at the global level.

**Related Links-**

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



## World Environment Day

**Question- Which of the countries below is the global host country for World Environment Day 2017?**

(a) Italy (b) Canada (c) India (d) Japan





**Ans :(b)**

**Related facts:-**

- World Environment Day was celebrated on June 5, 2017 throughout the world.
- The theme of World Environment Day 2017 is 'Connecting People to Nature'.
- Every World Environment Day has a different global host country, where the official celebrations take place. This year it is Canada.
- World Environment Day is celebrated every year on June 5, since 1974.

**Related links:-**

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

**Question: World Milk Day is celebrated on ...**

**Question: World Milk Day is celebrated on ...**

(a) June 1 (b) June 5 (c) June 3 (d) June 2

**Ans :(a)**

**Related facts:-**

- World Milk Day was celebrated on June 1, 2017 all over the world.
- The objective of celebrating this day is to attract attention in relation to milk and to provide opportunities for the promotion of activities related to milk industry.
- The first 'World Milk Day' was celebrated in 2001.
- Significantly, India has been leading the world for milk production for last 15 years.
- In the year 2011-14, 398 million tonnes of milk was produced, which increased by 16.9 percent to 465.5 million tonnes in 2014-17.
- In the year 2011-14, the farmers' income was Rs 29 per liter, which has increased by 13.79 per cent in 2014-17 to 33 rupees per liter.
- Dr. Verghese Kurien was the father of the Milk Revolution in India.
- Notably, 'National Gokul Mission' aims to preserve and develop native Bovine breeds.
- The e-Pashu hat portal was established for the first time in the country under this mission.
- National Kamdhenu Reproductive Centers' is also being set up in Madhya Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh to work as a center of excellence for holistically developing and preserving native breeds.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.fao.org/economic/est/est-commodities/dairy/school-milk/15th-world-milk-day/en/>



**World No Tobacco Day**

**Question: When is 'World No Tobacco Day' observed?**

(a) 29th May (b) 26th May (c) 28th May (d) 31st May

**Ans :(d)**

**Related facts:-**

- World No Tobacco Day was observed on May 31, 2017 throughout the world.
- The theme of this day for year 2017 is 'Tobacco-a threat to development'.
- The aim of observing this day is to create awareness among public about the harmful effects of tobacco related products.



- Member countries of the World Health Organization (W.H.O.) observe this day on May 31 every year since 1987.
- On this occasion, public awareness programs were organized throughout the country.
- Number of people consuming tobacco in India is the second highest after China.
- According to the World Health Organization, more than 7 million people die every year due to tobacco consumption worldwide and the health sector costs \$ 1.412 trillion.
- 15 billion cigarettes are sold daily, out of which more than 10 billion cigarettes are used daily.
- Worldwide, 226 million adult tobacco users live in poverty.
- In low-income countries, more than 10 percent of household income is spent on tobacco products.
- Death of 12% of people, over 30 years of age, is caused by the use of tobacco.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.who.int/tobacco/wntd/en/>

## Hindi Patrakarita Divas

**Question- 'Hindi Patrakarita Divas' is celebrated on?**

(a) May 29 (b) 30th May (c) 28th May (d) 31st May

**Ans (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 30, 2017, 'Hindi Patrakarita Divas' was celebrated throughout the country.
- It was on this date in 1826 that P. Jugal Kishore Shukla published the first Hindi newspaper 'Udant Martand'.
- To commemorate this historic beginning, 'Hindi Patrakarita Divas' is celebrated on 30th May every year.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.navodayatimes.in/news/special-story/hindi-journalism-day-how-it-all-began/6869/>

## Anti-Terrorism Day

**Question- 'Anti-Terrorism Day' is observed on ...**

(A) 22nd May (B) 20th May (C) 19th May (D) 21st May

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- 'Anti Terrorism Day' was observed on May 21, 2017 in India.
- The Anti- Terrorism Day is observed on May 21st as it was on this day in 1991 that the former Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi fell to the bullets of terrorists.
- It aims to spread awareness against terrorism and violence and its adverse effects all sections of the society.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.indianmirror.com/homepage-articles/Anti-Terrorism-Day.html>

## MISCELLANEOUS

### Protocol for Environment friendly weddings implemented

**Question-** Which state government has recently announced to implement Green Protocol for environment friendly weddings?

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

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 5, 2017, Kerala government announced the implementation of Green Protocol for Environment friendly weddings.
- The Kerala government has taken this decision to deal with the damage to the environment after weddings.
- Under this protocol, the use of glass, plates and decorative items made of materials such as plastic and thermocol have been prohibited in weddings.
- To ensure implementation of Green Protocol strict monitoring will be done at the marriage halls, conference centers, hotels and other places of worship.
- Instead of this, people would be persuaded to use tumblers, plates and other utensils made of glass and environment-friendly metals.
- Provision of strict action has been made against the organizer in case of violation.
- In Kerala under the Suchitwa Mission the protocol has already been launched in Kannur, Ernakulum, Kollam and Alappuzha on a pilot basis.



**Related Links:-**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/state-issues-protocol-for-functions-recipe-for-green-kerala-plantain-leaf-plates-steel-glasses-4692247/>

### Falling Figure Series

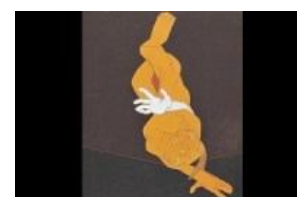
**Question:** Recently 'Falling Figure Series' painting of which painter, was sold at Rs 4.27 crores?

(a) Syed Haider Reza (b) Tyeb Mehta (c) Ghulam Mohammad Sheikh (d) Amrita Shergill

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- In June 2017, a painting of Falling Figure Series of the famous painter Tyeb Mehta was sold at Rs 4.27 crores.
- This painting was made in the year 1965.
- Sale of this painting was made in the Summer Online auction of Saffron Art.
- The price of this painting was estimated at Rs2-3 crore.



**Related Links:-**

<http://www.freepressjournal.in/tyeb-mehtas-falling-figure-sells-for-over-rs-4-cr/1084143>

## US helicopter deal canceled

**Question: India recently cancelled a deal for purchase of 16 helicopters worth Rs. 6500 crore to be bought from which of the following US companies?**

- (A) Sikorsky Aircraft (B) Litton Industries. (c) Lockheed Corporation.  
(d) Leidos.

**Ans :(A)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 14, 2017, the Defence Ministry scrapped a Rs 6,500 crore deal for purchasing 16 multirole helicopters for Indian Navy from the US.
- The deal has been suspended as the government is bargaining hard on price with foreign vendors and promoting Make in India in the military sector for reducing dependency on imports.
- The deal was under bargaining with American company Sikorsky Aircraft.

**Related Links:-**

<http://zeenews.india.com/hindi/india/defence-ministry-scraps-rs-6500-crore-navy-helicopter-deal-with-us/329935>



## World Bank approves aid amount to Afghanistan

**Question: What is the amount of grants recently approved by World Bank for Afghanistan?**

- (a) \$ 250 million (b) \$ 350 million (c) \$ 450 million  
(d) \$ 520 million

**Ans :(d)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 13, 2017, the World Bank announced a financing package for Afghanistan of more than \$500 million to help the country through a difficult phase in its struggle to end poverty and to signal a long-term commitment to the country's people.
- The package will help Afghanistan with refugees, expand private-sector opportunities for the poor, boost the development of five cities, expand electrification, improve food security, and build rural roads.
- The financing includes grants from the International Development Association (IDA), the World Bank's fund for the poorest countries, as well as contributions from the Afghanistan Reconstruction Trust Fund (ARTF – managed by the World Bank) and from other partners, including Denmark, Germany and Japan.  
The six grants of \$520 million consist of:
- \$205.45 million in additional financing from IDA, donors and the ARTF to the Citizens' Charter Afghanistan Project to support communities with internally displaced persons and returnees from Pakistan;
- \$100 million from IDA to the Inclusive Growth Development Policy Grant to support reforms that expand access to economic opportunities for the vulnerable and promote private sector development;
- \$20 million from IDA to the Urban Development Support Project to strengthen urban policy-making in national agencies, and strengthen management and service delivery in five provincial capital cities;



- \$60 million from IDA to the Herat Electrification Project to provide access to electricity to households, institutions and businesses in selected areas of Herat Province;
- \$29.45 million from IDA and donors to the Afghanistan Strategic Grain Reserve Project to finance establishing strategic wheat reserves and improve the efficiency of grain storage management;
- The Board also approved restructuring the Afghanistan Rural Access Project, which aims to benefit rural communities through access to all-season roads. The approval made it possible for ARTF to provide \$105 million in additional financing to the project.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2017/06/13/world-bank-announces-usd500-million-afghanistan-financing>

## Resolution passed against ban on cattle sale for slaughter

**Question: Legislative assemblies of which of the two states have passed resolution against ban on cattle sale for slaughter?**

- (a) Tamilnadu, Mizoram (b) Nagaland, Tripura  
(c) Kerala, Meghalaya (d) Meghalaya, Nagaland

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 12, 2017, the Meghalaya Assembly unanimously passed a resolution opposing the Centre's notification banning the sale and purchase of cattle for slaughter.
- The Resolution also seeks withdrawal of the government's decision.
- Kerala Assembly has already passed a resolution against central government's notification to this effect on June 08, 2017.
- Importantly, the ministry of environment, forest and climate change issued the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Regulation of Livestock Markets) Rules, 2017 on May 23, 2017.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.livemint.com/Politics/RkByzXv9nncaRIsQYfjFgK/Meghalaya-government-passes-resolution-against-cattle-slaugh.html>



## World's smallest and cheapest private jet

**Question: Recently, the world's smallest and cheapest private jet has been launched by U.S. based company Cyrus Aircraft for Rs 12.62 crore. What is the name of this jet?**

- (a) Real Jet (b) Vision Jet (c) Laser Jet (d) Nano Jet

**Ans : (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 7, 2017, the world's smallest and cheapest private jet, called 'Vision Jet', was launched by US-based aviation company Cyrus Aircraft for Rs 12.62 crore.
- The Vision Jet is the first private jet with only a single engine and it's also flyable by a single pilot, both of which help to keep production and operating costs low.
- The Vision Jet can cruise at 345 mph at a maximum operating altitude of 28,000 feet.
- It can take off in just over 2,000 feet of runway.

**Related Links:-**

<https://cirrusaircraft.com/visionjet/>





## Mega Food Park

**Question: Recently at which two places foundation stone of the mega food park was laid in the state of Kerala by the Union Minister of Food Processing Industries?**

- (a) Palakkad, Alappuzha (b) Iduki, Wayanad  
(c) Palakkad, Wayanad (d) Alappuzha, Iduki

**Ans :(a)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 11, 2017, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid foundation stone for two mega food parks at Palakkad and Alappuzha in Kerala.
- Mega Food Parks are aimed to give a big push to the infrastructure development for food processing in the state of Kerala.
- Food Park at Palakkad is being developed by Kerala Industrial Infrastructure Development Corporation (KINFRA) and Alappuzha by Kerala State Industrial Development Corporation (KSIDC).



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=65435>

## Inauguration of State's first Mega Food Park in Odisha

**Question: Recently, in which district of Odisha Union Food Processing Industries Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated the first Mega Food Park of the state?**

- (a) Narangpura (b) Raigad (c) Koraput (d) Khordha

**Ans :(b)**

**Related facts:-**

- On June 1, 2017, Union Food Processing Industries Minister Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated the first Mega Food Park 'MITS Mega Food Pvt Ltd' in Raigad district of Odisha.
- This is the seventh mega food park run by the current government.
- This Mega Food Park has been set up in 50.05 acres of land at a cost of Rs 80.17 crore.
- The Government of India has given financial assistance of Rs.50.00 crores to this project.
- Food Park is provided with fully operated industrial shed facility for small and medium enterprises (SMEs), developed industrial plot for processing units, rice processing complex of 12 TPH, dry ware house capacity of 10,000 MT capacity, 2500 MT capacity cold storage houses and multi food-processing facilities etc are available.
- It is to be noted that the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing Mega Food Park scheme in the country by promoting value addition and reducing waste at each stage of supply chain.
- Mega Food Park provides modern infrastructure for food processing and simultaneously provide value chain from the farm to the market.



**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=62270>



## World's largest circular swing

**Question: The largest circular hammock is located in...**

(a) Britain (b) China (c) Germany (d) Japan

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:-**

- In May 2017, the world's largest circular swing was planted in China. This will be turned on soon.
- This hammock is built on the Bailang River Bridge (1771 ft long) located in the city of Weifang, China.
- The height of this swing is 145 meters and diameter is 125 meters.
- It is manufactured by Tianjin Craftsman Manufacturing.
- In this, 36 carts have been made for people to sit.
- Each cart can accommodate up to 10 people.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/news/2017/05/23/bailang-river-bridge-ferris-wheel-china>



## Exhibition on the birth centenary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay

**Question: Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated an exhibition on the birth centenary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay in Gorakhpur. What was the theme of this exhibition?**

- (a) Moving steps towards Antyodaya  
(b) Pandit ji and his thoughts  
(c) Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas  
(d) Poor's participation in government schemes

**Ans : (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 26, 2017, Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated an exhibition organized at the birth centenary of Pt Deendayal Upadhyay in Gorakhpur.
- The theme of this exhibition was 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas'.
- Such exhibitions are also being organized in whole of the state to mark the birth centenary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay.
- The exhibition depicts the life Pt Deendayal Upadhyay through rare pictures.
- During the exhibition, a book titled 'Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas' was distributed free of cost.
- It is important to note that Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay was born on September 25, 1916 in Nagla Chandrabhan (Mathura).

**Related Links:-**

[http://information.up.nic.in/View\\_Hindinews.aspx?id=276](http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=276)

<https://twitter.com/myogiadityanath/status/868119975374057472>

<http://upnews360.in/newsdetail/73497/hi>



## Inauguration of Mega Food Park in Odisha

**Question: Consider the following about Mega Food Park Scheme.**

1. This scheme is run by the central government.
2. Government of India provides financial assistance up to Rs. 50.00 Crore per Mega Food Park project.
3. One of the objectives of the scheme is to increase farmers' income.

**Which of the statements above are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None

**Ans: (c)**



**Related Fact :**

- On June 1, 2017, the first mega food park in the state of Odisha was inaugurated by Minister of Food Processing Industries Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal.
- This mega food park has been set up in 50.05 acre of land at the cost of Rs. 80.17crore.
- This is the 7th mega food park operationalized in the last 3 years by the central government.

What is Mega Food Park Scheme?

- The Scheme of Mega Food Park aims at providing a mechanism to link agricultural production to the market by bringing together farmers, processors and retailers so as to ensure maximizing value addition, minimizing wastage, increasing farmers' income and creating employment opportunities particularly in rural sector.
- The scheme is based on "Cluster" approach and envisages a well-defined agri/horticultural-processing zone containing state-of-the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well-established supply chain.
- Mega food Park Scheme is being implemented with an aim to give a major boost to the food processing sector by adding value and reducing food wastage at each stage of the supply chain particularly perishables.
- Mega Food Parks create modern infrastructure facilities for food processing along the value chain from farm to market.
- Common facilities and enabling infrastructure is created at Central Processing Centre and facilities for primary processing and storage is created near the farm in the form of Primary Processing Centers and Collection Centers.
- Under the Scheme, Government of India provides financial assistance up to Rs. 50 Crore per Mega Food Park project.

**Reference;**

<http://mofpi.nic.in/Schemes/project-components>

## Inauguration of 'Return of Three Statues' exhibition

**Question:** Recently, three statues (sitting Buddha, disciple worshiping Buddha and Goddess Pratyangira) were safely returned to India from which of the following countries?

(a) America (b) Japan (c) Australia (d) China

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- On May 23, 2017, the Minister of State for Culture and Tourism (Independent Charge), Dr. Mahesh Sharma inaugurated the exhibition 'Return of three statues from Australia' in National Museum, Janpath, New Delhi.
- This exhibition was organized on the occasion of the safe return of three stone statues- sitting Buddha, disciple worshiping Buddha and Goddess Pratyangira from Australia to India.
- These statues were bought by the Australia Art Museum from Nancy Wiener in New York in 2007 and in 2005.
- During the special event held in the Australian Art Museum in Canberra, these three ancient artifacts were formally handed over to Dr. Mahesh Sharma by Senator Mitch Fifield.
- On this occasion Dr. Mahesh Sharma released the book 'War Paintings of the Irresistible Jat King Surajmal' written by Dr. Satyavrat Tripathi.
- In addition, he also launched an 'App' on the cleanliness campaign.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=61108>

