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NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

Year - 1 >>> Issue - 4 >>> December, 2017

DELHI: Havoc of Smog

PARADISE PAPERS LEAK



ICIJ



MISS WORLD, 2017



Preface

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

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

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

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

Reader's satisfaction is our utmost priority so requesting you to provide your valuable feedback to us. We will warmly welcome your appreciation/criticism given to us. It will surely show us the right direction to improve the content quality. Hopefully the current affairs PDF (from 1st November to 30th November) will benefit our beloved readers.

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

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NATIONAL

Delhi: The Havoc of Smog

On December 3, 2017, for the first time in the history of cricket, the Sri Lankan team had to wear an anti-pollution mask on the Feroz Shah Kotla ground (New Delhi). This incident delineated India as an embarrassing image in front of the whole world. Whatever the argument is being given to save yourself or to draw the attention of the Indian team, but however the problem of pollution in the country's capital is in very serious condition.



The country's capital Delhi was found immersed in smog the next day of Diwali. In the month of November, such conditions also arose that the visibility level became less than 100 meters. Situations are such that PM2.5 particles in every cubic meter consistently became above 400 micrograms. At 200 to 300 levels, the air gets very bad. Above 300, it becomes hazardous. According to the Real Time Report of the Delhi Pollution Control Committee, on November 5, 2017, PM2.5 particle of 748 micrograms level and PM10 particles of 4,273 microgram level were recorded in each cubic meter. The magnitude of the air pollution can be guessed from this. This worrisome situation is not only in Delhi but the entire South Asia is going through this dangerous situation.

In this context, in the report released by UNICEF (Report Name- Danger in the air: How air pollution can affect brain development in young children) on December 6, 2017, it was reported that 17 million children in the world who are under one year are from areas where pollution level is six times higher than the international standard. Of these, 12 million children are from South Asia. The mental development of small children is being blocked in areas. Air pollution potentially affects children's brains through several mechanisms. First, particulate matter can cause neuro-inflammation by damaging the blood-brain barrier – a thin, delicate membrane that protects the brain from toxic substances.⁷ Ultrafine pollution particles (particulate matter that is equal or less than 2.5 microns in diameter) pose an especially high risk because they can more easily enter the blood stream and travel through the body to the brain.

In older people, the breakdown of the blood-brain barrier has been strongly linked with Alzheimer's and Parkinson's disease. The dosage of toxic chemicals required to damage the growing brain in the first stages of life is much lower than that which would cause damage to an adult brain.

Second, specific air pollution particles, such as magnetite, are so small that they can enter the body through the olfactory nerve and the gut. Magnetite is very common in urban outdoor air pollution, and a recent study found that it was considerably more present in brains of people living in areas where urban air pollution is high. Magnetite nanoparticles are highly toxic to the brain due to their magnetic charge and their ability to help create oxidative stress – which is often the cause of neurodegenerative diseases.

Third, several studies also show that polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), a specific class of pollutants formed from fossil fuel combustion and commonly found in areas of high automobile traffic, contribute to a loss of or damage to white matter in the brain. White matter contains nerve fibers that are critical in helping neurons communicate across different parts of the brain. As children grow and experience the world around them, well-functioning neural connections provide the foundation for continued learning and development. Thus, due to pollution, brain development is affected in the early stage of the child, which becomes the cause of various diseases and mental impairment.

Similarly, in the report of another important Lancet Medical Journal, air pollution has become alarming to this level that it is currently the cause of most deaths. According to this report, in the year 2015, about 2.5 million people died in India due to pollution-related diseases. Most of the pollution-related deaths resulted from non-infectious diseases. These include diseases like heart disease, diabetes, blood pressure, asthma, and cancer in the lungs.

The World Health Organization also claims that one-third of the total children in Delhi are affected by respiratory disease only due to pollution caused by diesel and kerosene.

Tree plants play an important role in reducing pollution. But recently, in the new research, this shocking fact has also been shown that the ability to absorb carbon in trees and plants is constantly decreasing due to air pollution.

Regardless of such alarming situation, the governments are adopting only such policies, thereby encouraging industrial development without controlling pollution.

Such a situation has to be changed and have to take action promptly. In order to reduce air pollution, the use of clean and renewable sources of energy such as solar energy, wind power, thermal energy, etc. have to be used in place of fossil fuel combustion and other energy sources. Electric vehicles have to be promoted. All efforts to overcome this fearful situation will have to be implemented, and then the future will be secure.

Paradise Papers Case

Question: Arrange the following papers leak cases according to chronological decreasing-

- (i) Offshore Leaks (ii) Wiki Leaks Cablegate
(iii) Paradise Papers (iv) Panama Papers

- (a) iv, iii, i, ii (b) iii, iv, ii, i
(c) iv, iii, i, ii (d) iii, iv, i, ii

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:



- On November 5th, 2017, International Consortium of Investigative Journalists made public the 'Paradise Papers' received by the German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung.
- 95 other media partners with 'US-based ICIJ' (total 96) made 'Paradise Papers' public.
- Paradise Papers contains the names of 180 countries in which India's position is 19th.
- It contains names of 714 Indians which includes in these papers as Bollywood star Amitabh Bachchan, Sanjay Dutt's wife Mannyata Dutt, Union Minister Jayant Sinha, BJP MP RK Sinha, Congress MP Veerappa Moily, son of P. Chidambaram, Kirti Chidambaram etc.
- In India on November 6th, 2017, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley ordered the inquiry into the matter.
- In this financial document, files related to investment in 'Tax Haven' countries have been made public, which is linked to the offshore law firm. Such kind of investment in technical language is called 'Offshore Finance'.
- It is believed that about 1.34 crore documents have been made public in Paradise Papers.
- This document is related to two financial companies - Bermuda's 'Appleby' and Singapore's Asiatici.
- Through leak papers, about 1 crore million pounds of foreign investment of Queen Elizabeth II of Britain have been revealed. She invested in an offshore in the year 2004 and in the year 2005.
- Investment in Russian shipping company by Commerce Minister Wilbur Ross of the trump's government was also revealed through these papers.
- This will again trigger questions in regards to relations between Donald Trump's government and Russia.
- It is important that in the year-2016, Panama Papers were also made public by the ICIJ, which was received by the German newspaper German newspaper Süddeutsche Zeitung.

- This paper was based only on financial matters.
- Similarly, documents related to Bahamas leaks (year-2016), Swiss leaks (Year-2012), Luxembourg Leaks (Year-2014), Offshore Leaks (Year-2014) and Wiki Leaks Cablegate (Year-2010) also made in public in all the countries.
- **What is Offshore Finance:**
- A place, outside the legal area of a person's country; given to a person or company for money investing, which can make more profit by reducing taxes.
- Generally, such places are called 'tax haven'. In the language of the industry, they are called Offshore Financial Centers (OFC).
- It is not necessary that the investor spends his black money on these sectors, but he also invests in these centers to take advantage of low tax payouts.
- **What is ICIJ:**
- The International Consortium of Investigative Journalists was founded in 1997 by American Journalist Chuck Lewis.
- It is a global network spread across 70 countries in which more than 200 journalists are connected.
- India's daily newspaper The Indian Express is a member of ICIJ who has examined all documents related to India.
- The team examines the received information and makes it public when found correct.
- Its headquarters is in Washington DC, US.

Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/manyata-sanjay-dutt-venkata-narasa-reddy-ravish-bhadana-alpana-kumari-anjna-kumari-archna-kumari-paradise-papers-pavitar-singh-uppal-amitabh-bachchan-4924303/>

<https://www.icij.org/blog/2017/475/icij-releases-paradise-papers/>

<https://www.icij.org/investigations/paradise-papers/>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/business-41877932>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-41876942>

<https://www.icij.org/about/>

National Achievement Survey-2017

Question: In November 2017, 'National Achievement Survey' was organized by-

(a) NCERT (b) CBSE (c) SIEMAT (d) NSSO

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- In November 2017, the National Achievement Survey was organized by the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- This survey was developed by NCERT.
- This survey conducted by NCERT is not only India's largest 'national achievement survey' but it is also one of the world's largest assessment surveys.
- This survey was organized for class 3, 5 and 8 in government and government-aided schools.
- Under the survey, levels of learning of more than 25 lakh students were evaluated in 700 districts of all the 36 States / Union Territories of the country.
- A monitoring team was formed for the fairness of this survey.
- This monitoring team included the inter-ministerial departments of State Governments, the National and State Supervisors of Education Departments and Supervisors of Multi-lateral Organizations.
- The implementation of the survey conducted in all the districts was monitored on the day of assessment by the monitoring team.
- The District Education Report Card will be prepared through this survey.
- The known findings from this survey will prove to be helpful in understanding the efficiency of the education system.
- The results of this survey will provide guidance in the planning and implementation of national, state, district and classroom levels of education policy in order to improve the level of learning of children and to make qualitative improvements in them.



Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173462>

World Talent Index-2017

Question: What place has India got in the World Talent Index released by Switzerland's leading business school, IMD?

(a) 54th (b) 51st (c) 60th (d) 45th

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- In November 2017, 'World Talent Ranking' was released by Switzerland's leading business school IMD.
- IMD's World Talent Index has included 63 countries.
- The IMD World Talent Ranking studies three factors: Investment & Development, Appeal, and Readiness.
- World talent ranking includes most of Europe's countries.
- Switzerland has topped in the World Talent Index.
- Switzerland has followed by Denmark, Belgium, Australia and Finland respectively.



- According to the report, Europe's tremendous education system makes it different from the crowd. It provides them the ability to attract local talent and attract foreign talent and high skilled professionals at the same time.
- India is ranked 51st in the World Talent Index -2017.
- It is notable that in last year (2016), India was at 60th place.
- Arturo Bris, Director IMD World Competitiveness Center, said that India is not doing well in the field of adopting local talent and attracting foreign workforce.
- China's position amongst BRICS countries is best and ranked 40th in the list.
- After China, Russia has been placed at 43rd, South Africa at 48th, India at 51st and Brazil at 52nd.

Reference:

https://www.imd.org/globalassets/wcc/docs/talent-ranking/talent_ranking_2017_web.pdf

Bharat Stage- VI

Question: From which date the Central Government recently decided to supply the fuel of Bharat Stage (BS)-VI level in Delhi?

- (a) April 1st, 2018 (b) April 2nd, 2018 (c) April 1st, 2019
(d) April 1st, 2020

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 15, 2017, an important decision by the central government concerned was taken in regards to serious level of air pollution in the national capital, Delhi and adjoining areas.
- The Government decided for preponement of BS-VI grade auto fuels in NCT of Delhi w.e.f 01.04.2018 instead of 01.04.2020 (two years before the scheduled period).
- This decision was made by the Petroleum Ministry in consultation with Public Oil Marketing Companies.
- This step of Petroleum Ministry will help in tackling the problem of air pollution in the National Capital Region, Delhi and its adjacent areas.
- The Ministry of Petroleum and natural Gas has successfully introduced the BS-IV grade transportation fuels across the country w.e.f April 1st
- The Government of India has been making concerted efforts in line with Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's Commitment at COP 21, to reduce vehicular emissions and improve fuel efficiency with an aim to reduce the carbon footprints and keep a healthy environment.
- After discussions with various stakeholders, the government decided to apply BS-VI grade directly to BS-IV, which could be adopted on better international initiatives.
- It is noteworthy that oil refiners are investing heavily in the upgradation of projects for the production of BS-VI level fuel.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173517>

Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath visited Mauritius

Question: Which is the only country in the world that India has granted a special right for the OCI (OCI-Overseas citizen of India) card?

(a) Myanmar (b) Mauritius (c) Bhutan (d) Suriname

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath was on the visit of Mauritius from 1st to 3rd November, 2017.
- On November 2nd, 2017, the Chief Minister participated in the program organized on Mauritius's 183rd Immigration Day.
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister also invited the natives of Mauritius to join the Prayagraj Kumbha in Uttar Pradesh.
- On November 3rd, 2017, the Chief Minister visited the Mahatma Gandhi Institute located in Mauritius.
- This institution was established by the Government of Mauritius in collaboration with the Government of India.
- This institute is a high-level center of Indian studies.
- Records of conditioned laborers migrated to Mauritius from India were preserved in the archives of this institute.
- The Chief Minister also distributed the OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) card to 9 Mauritians of Indian origin.
- On this day, the Chief Minister also visited Ramayan Center located in Mauritius and addressed the reception hosted by the Indian High Commissioner in Port Louis.
- Currently, *Abhay Thakur is the High Commissioner of India* to Mauritius.
- Union Minister of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (Independent Charge) Giriraj Singh and a delegation also went on a trip with the Chief Minister.
- It was the second foreign visit of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath. Earlier, he had traveled to Myanmar a few months ago.
- It is known that Mauritius is the only nation in the world to which India has given a special authority for the OCI (Overseas Citizen of India) card.
- This facility was granted on the occasion of the 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, held in January 2017.



Reference:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=759

Increase in the carpet area under the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme

Question: Cabinet approved the increase in the carpet area up to 120 square metres in respect of MIG II category of the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) for Middle Income Group, implemented by Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. What was the existing limit of the carpet area?

(a) Up to 80 square metre (b) Up to 90 square metre
(c) Up to 100 square metre (d) Up to 110 square metre

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 16th, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by Prime



Minister has approved the increase in the carpet area of houses eligible for interest subsidy under the Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme (CLSS) for the Middle Income Group (MIG) under Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (Urban).

- Cabinet has approved:
- Increase in the carpet area to, up to 120 square metres from the existing 90 square metre, in the MIG I category of CLSS.
- Increase in the carpet area to, up to 150 square metres from the existing 110 square metre, in the MIG II category of CLSS.
- The CLSS for MIG covers two income segments in the MIG viz. Rs.6,00,001 to Rs.12,00,000 (MIG-I) and Rs.12,00,001 to Rs.18,00,000 (MIG-II) per annum.
- In the MIG-1, an interest subsidy of 4% has been provided for loan amounts up to Rs.9 lakh while in MIG-2, an interest subsidy of 3% has been provided for loan amount of Rs.12 lakh.
- The CLSS for MIG is currently effective up to 31.03.2019.
- It is notable that CLSS for MIG is a pro-active step in meeting the challenges of urban housing shortage.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173565>

National Testing Agency

Question: National Testing Agency will be established as a society under which one of the following Act?

- (a) Society Registration Act, 1856
- (b) Society Registration Act, 1860
- (c) Society Registration Act, 1865
- (d) Society Registration Act, 1872

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 10, 2017, the Union Cabinet approved creation of National Testing Agency (NTA), as an autonomous and self-sustained premier testing organization to conduct entrance examinations for higher educational institutions.
- It will be set up as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- An eminent educationist will be appointed as Chairman of this agency by HRD Ministry.
- There will be the CEO and director general in this agency who will be appointed by the Government.
- There will be a Board of Governors comprising members from user institutions.
- Initially, it will conduct the exams which are currently being organized by Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE).
- It will run the examinations online twice in a year.
- In the first year to the National Examination Agency (NTA), the Government of India will provide a onetime grant of Rs. 25 crores.
- Thereafter, it will be financially self-sustainable.
- From the establishment of NTA, CBSE, AICTE and other agencies will be free from the responsibility of organizing these entrance examinations.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173381>



37th India International Trade Fair-2017

Question: 37th India International Trade Fair (IITF) -2017 inaugurated by President Ram Nath Kovind on November 14th, 2017. Which of the following is correct combination of exhibitors and companies from abroad, participating at IITF 2017?

- (a) 2200 exhibitor and 11 companies
- (b) 2700 exhibitor and 33 companies
- (c) 3000 exhibitor and 22 companies
- (d) 2500 exhibitor and 44 companies

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 14th, 2017, the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 37th India International Trade Fair (IITF) -2017, at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- The theme of this fair is "Start up India: Stand up India".
- This is a fourteen days Fair is being organized from November 14-27, 2017.
- IITF is organized by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO).
- 3,000 exhibitors, including 22 companies from abroad, are participating at IITF 2017.
- The Fair will be opened for Business visitor from November 14th -17th and for General Public from 18th- 27th.
- Thirty-two of India's states and Union territories are represented.
- The format of IITF has Business, Social, Cultural and Educational Dimensions that are weaved together where visitors and exhibitors, media persons, marketing professionals, social activists, NGOs etc. all come together to explore their objectives.
- It is noteworthy that this is the largest integrated trade fair with both B2B and B2C components.
- It is one of the largest trade fairs in the world both in terms of exhibitors and visitors participation and has evolved its unique character as an iconic International event.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173474>

National Achievement Survey (NAS)

Question: Recently the largest ever survey, National Achievement Survey (NAS) conducted successfully. The NAS was not conducted for which of the following classes?

- (a) Class 3rd (b) Class 5th (c) Class 7th (d) Class 8th

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 13th, 2017, the largest ever survey, National Achievement Survey (NAS) conducted successfully.
- The NAS was conducted throughout the country.
- It was conducted for the Classes 3, 5 and 8 in government and government aided schools.
- The survey tools used multiple test booklets with 45 questions in Classes III and V related to language, mathematics and 60 questions in Class VIII in Mathematics, Language, Sciences and Social Sciences.



- Along with the test items, questionnaires pertaining to students, teachers and schools were also used.
- To ensure the fairness of the survey, a monitoring team was constituted which consisted of observers from inter-ministerial departments drawn from the State Governments, National and State Observers from Education Departments and multi-lateral organizations.
- The learning levels of more than 25 lakhs students from 1, 10,000 across 700 districts in all 36 States/UTs were assessed.
- More than 1.75 lakhs trained Field Investigators from outside the government education system were engaged to conduct the learning assessment in the country.
- The whole process will begin immediately and will be completed within 3-5 months.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173462>

India Youth Development Index and Report 2017

Question: On which date an Index (India Youth Development Index and Report 2017) enabling recognition the high and low performing states identifies the weak domains and informs the policy makers the priority areas of intervention for youth development in the states have been released by Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (Independent Charge) Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore?

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

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 13th, 2017, Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (Independent Charge) Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore released the India Youth Development Index and Report 2017.
- The objective of constructing the India Youth Development Index (YDI) 2017 is to track the trends in Youth Development across the States.
- The Index enables recognizing the high and low performing states, identifies the weak domains and informs the policy makers the priority areas of intervention for youth development in the states.
- Youth Development Index and Report 2017 is an initiative outcome of The Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD), Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu.
- In preparing this report latest definition of youth as used in National Youth Policy – 2014 (India) and World Youth Development Report of Commonwealth have been used.
- This report is of immense value to enable comparisons across geographical areas and categories, as human development index has done in comparing the development situation across regions, nations and localities.
- The index also measures the achievements made besides serving as an advocacy tool for youth development and facilitates to identify priority areas for development of Policy and Interventions.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173434>

World Organic Congress-2017

Question: Which of the following statements is/are true about organic farming-?

(i) Organic agriculture initiates the use of natural ways to increase the health of soil

(ii) Organic agriculture avoids use of chemical fertilizers

(iii) Organic farming instigates domestic animals use to increase the sustainability of the farm

(a) Only (i) (b) (i) & (ii) (c) (ii) & (iii) (d) (i), (ii) & (iii)

Ans: (d)

Related Facts:-

- On 2017; Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister, Shri Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated the three-day (November 9-11) Organic World Congress – 2017 at India Expo Centre in Greater Noida.
- Nearly 1,400 representatives from 110 countries and 2000 delegates from India have been participating in this congress.
- The International Federation of Organic Farming Movements (IFOAM) and OAFI are organizing the event where 55 seeds group from 15 Indian states will showcase 4,000 varieties of seeds.
- The Organic World Congress (OWC) is organized once every three years in a different country and this time it is being organised in India.
- The goal is to move from organic India to the organic world.
- Shri Singh said it is important to understand that India is one of the oldest organic agricultural nations of the world.
- The exhibition of carefully preserved diverse indigenous seed varieties over generations is an important event of this congress.
- The last edition of the Organic World Congress took place in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2014



Related Links:-

pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173326

Gender Vulnerability Index

Question: Which of the following state is most safe for women according to first gender vulnerability index report?

(a) Nagaland (b) Mizoram (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Goa

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, country's first Gender Vulnerability Index Report was launched by Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- Report has been prepared by Plan India, a member of Plan International Federation, is a nationally registered independent child development organization.
- **The Gender Vulnerability Index (GVI), is an initiative towards a landscape analysis taking into account four core dimensions:**
 - (a) Education
 - (b) Health and Survival



(c) Poverty

(d) Protection

- GVI scores between 0 and 1 are given on the basis of performance in these areas.
- Increasing points from 0 to 1 point refers better performance.
- GVI score of India is 0.5314.
- The Education dimension in the GVI is given a score of 0.499, GVI score in dimension of Health and survival is 0.526, GVI for protection is the highest among all four dimensions, at 0.630, while Poverty dimension under the GVI comes to a total 0.490.
- Goa ranked first in the country with a GVI score of 0.656 in the list of the states.
- According to Index Goa ranks 1st in terms of protection and is the state where girls are least vulnerable.
- Goa is followed by Kerala (GVI score -0.634) second, Mizoram (GVI score -0.627) third, Sikkim (GVI score -0.613) fourth and Manipur (GVI score 0.610) at fifth position.
- In this list, Bihar is at 30th place, Uttar Pradesh is at 29th place, Delhi at 28th place, Jharkhand is at 27th place and Arunachal Pradesh is at 26th place.
- This list covers Delhi with 29 states of India.
- This report has also been issued in different areas of personal listings.
- In the field of education Himachal Pradesh ranked top followed by Sikkim and Punjab respectively second and third, whereas Delhi ranked 30th, Arunachal Pradesh 29th and Jharkhand 28th in the lower position.
- In the field of health top three states are Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Sikkim respectively, while Bihar (30th), Meghalaya (29th) and Jharkhand (28th) remained in the lower position.
- In the field of poverty, Manipur, Mizoram and Tamil Nadu are the top three states respectively and Bihar (30th), Uttar Pradesh (29th) and Jammu-Kashmir (28th) are in the lower position.
- In the field of protection, Goa, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu Kashmir are top three states while Uttar Pradesh (30th), West Bengal (29th) and Delhi (28th) remained at the bottom.
- The status of Goa (1st position in combined list) in the individual list of all areas is as follows: 1st in terms of protection, 5th for education, 6th for Health and Survival, and 8th for Poverty.
- Staying at 28th place in the combined list, Delhi ranked 21st in Poverty, 24th in Health, 30th in Education and 28th in Protection.

Reference:

https://www.planindia.org/sites/all/themes/plan_india/images/pdf/gender-vulnerability-index.pdf

10th Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition and Awards for 'Best Urban Transport Practices'

Question: 10th Urban Mobility India Conference and Exhibition, 2017 & CODATU XVII Conference recently concluded at Hyderabad. The Awards for the 'Best Urban Transport Practices' were announced. Who amongst the following has been chosen for the 'Best Urban Transport Initiative' Award?

(a) Surat (b) Kochi (c) Mysuru (d) Hyderabad

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:



- On November 4th, 2017, 10th Urban Mobility India Conference & Exhibition, 2017 and CODATU XVII Conference, was inaugurated in Hyderabad by Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu.
- The conference was organized from November 4th-6th.
- Overarching theme of this conference was "Intelligent, Inclusive and sustainable mobility".
- On the concluding day of the three day Urban Mobility Conference –cum-Exhibition at Hyderabad the Awards for the 'Best Urban Transport Practices' were announced by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- Surat Municipal Corporation has been chosen for the 'Best City Bus Services Award'.
- Kochi (Kerala) has been chosen for the 'Best Urban Transport Initiative' Award for completing its Metro Rail Project in a quick time.
- Kochi has been chosen as the 'Best City in Urban Transport Initiative' category for its innovative features including implementation in integration with Water Transport.
- Kochi Metro also introduced 'Rupay' based transit card.
- Mysuru's Public Bicycle Sharing has won the 'Best Non-Motorised Transport' Award for its Public Bicycle Sharing. Mysure launched its Public Bicycle Sharing in June this year with 425 bicycles and 45 docking stations. 'Commendable Initiative Award' under 'Best Intelligent Transport Project' category was given to H-TRIMS of Hyderabad.
- Chittor has been chosen for the 'Commendable Initiative Award' for the city police's initiative for improving road safety. Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala, has won the Best Performer Award in the category of 'no helmet-no petrol'.
- Pune has won the Best Performer Award in the category of "automatic adjustment of signal timings based on traffic flows, pedestrian controlled signals and SMS based alerts to the citizens".
- **Other Award Winners are as follows:**
- Commendable Urban Mass Transit Initiative for implementing Cluster Based Bus Transit System- Madhya Pradesh
- Commendable Initiative for introducing Public Bicycle Sharing- Bhopal
- Commendable City Bus Service Project initiative- Noida and Greater Noida
- Commendable Initiative for introducing Special Bus Services for women- Andaman
- Commendable Urban Mass Transit Initiative- Lucknow Metro Rail Project

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173259>

World Food India 2017

Question: PM Narendra Modi recently inaugurates World Food India 2017. What is name of the portal which is launched on the occasion to mark the historic World Food Convention?

- (a) Nivesh Bandhu (b) Nivesh Mitra (c) Nivesh Sahayak
(d) Nivesh Samahan

Answer- (a)

Related Facts:



- On November 3rd, 2017, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, inaugurated World Food India 2017, at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi.
- Three days World Food India 2017 is being organised between 3-5 November.
- India is hosting this World Food Convention for the first time with theme “Transforming Food Economy”.
- This is a initiative of Ministry of Food Processing Industries under the able guidance of Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Smt Harsimrat Kaur Badal.
- President of Armenia Prime Minister of Latvia Dy. Minister for Economic Development, Italy; Minister, Federal Ministry for Food and Agriculture, Germany; Minister of Environment and Food, Denmark were present on the occasion.
- Director, Chairman and CEOs of group such as Nestle, Unilever; Metro AG &CEO, Metro Cash and Carry; Tata International and Chief Ministers of Andhra Pradesh; Chhattisgarh etc. also joined in the inaugural function.
- To mark the historic World Food Convention hosted for the first time by India, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched – Nivesh Bandhu the unique portal or “investor’s friend”.
- The URL of the portal is <http://foodprocessingindia.co.in/> .
- The portal will help bring together information on central and state government policies, and incentives provided for the food-processing sector.
- It is also a platform for business networking, for farmers, processors, traders, and logistics operators.
- The inaugural day of World Food India 2017 saw signing of 13 MoUs worth Rs 68,000 crore.
- The MoUs were signed in the presence of Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Union Minister for Food Processing industries, Government of India.
- The companies who signed an MoU signalling their intent and seriousness about India included PepsiCo which signed an MoU worth Rs 13,300 crores for setting up a Food and Beverage plant, Coca Cola for investing Rs. 11,000 crore in juice bottling infrastructure and fruit processing plants and equipment; ITC and Patanjali who committed to investing Rs 10,000 crore each in the sector.
- Other MoUs signed included Amazon in food retail business, Sharaf Group of UAE for Farm produce, collection, processing and Export; YES Bank for financing food processing projects across the sector.
- The Prime Minister also released a Coffee table book and commemorative stamp on Indian Cuisines.
- After the inaugural, the Prime Minister visited an exhibition spread over 40,000 sq mtrs in lawns of India Gate has been mounted where more than 800 global companies representing 22 Countries & domestic companies are exhibiting their strenghts in Food Processing sector.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173216>

NTPC Boiler Blast Accident

Question: On November 1st, 2017, an unfortunate accident has taken place in NTPC power station at Unchahar. The boiler blast, was in which unit of the Plant?

(a) Unit 4 (b) Unit 5 (c) Unit 6 (d) Unit 7

Answer- (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, an unfortunate accident has taken place in NTPC power station at Unchahar.
- A sudden blast took place in boiler situated in UNIT 6 (500 MW).
- NTPC power plant at Unchahar is coal based power station.
- Primarily Blockages in the flue gas pipe in the unit has been found responsible for the blast.
- A panel headed by executive director S.K. Roy looking into the cause of the accident.
- The Panel has to submit his report in a month.
- The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has served a notice to the Uttar Pradesh government over the death of people in blast.
- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved an ex- gratia of Rs. 2 lakh each for the next of kin of those who have lost their lives due to the accident at the NTPC plant in Raebareli, Uttar Pradesh.
- The Prime Minister has also approved Rs. 50,000 each for those injured due to the accident.
- It is noteworthy that NTPC is Maharatna Company having a power generation capacity of 51,708 MW.
- The company comprises of 48 NTPC Stations (20 Coal based stations, 7 combined cycle gas/liquid fuel based stations, 1 Hydro based station), 9 Joint Venture stations (8 coal based and one gas based) and 12 renewable energy projects.
- Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, J&K, Punjab, Rajasthan, Chandigarh, Delhi and Uttaranchal are the beneficiary state by the generation of power at NTPC power station at Unchahar.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173184>

Approval for Introduction of NCTE Act's Amendment Bill

Question: The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval to amendment in National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993. Till which year the amendment seeks to grant retrospective recognition to the Central/State/Union Territory funded Institutions/Universities conducting Teacher Education Courses without NCTE recognition?

(a) 2017-2018 (b) 2017-2019 (c) 2018-2021 (d) 2017-2021

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for introduction of a Bill in Parliament to amend the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993.
- The amendment seeks to grant retrospective recognition to the Central/State/Universities who are found to be conducting teacher education courses without NCTE permission.
- The amendment allows retrospective recognition till the academic year 2017-2018.
- It is noteworthy that earlier, NCTE wrote to all Central Universities and /State Obvernrmnts / State Universities / District Institutes of Education and Training (DIETs) informing them about the legal provisions making it mandatory to seek prior permission for starting Teacher Education Courses.
- NCTE had given time till 31-03-2017 to aforesaid institutes to inform NCTE if any such Institution/University is running a course without permission of NCTE, for a one-time resolution of past issues.
- Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development has brought about this amendment.
- The retrospective recognition is being given as a onetime measure so as to ensure that the future of the students passed out/enrolled in these institutions is not jeopardized.
- The amendment will make students studying in these Institutions/Universities, or already passed out from here, eligible for employment as a teacher.
- It is notable that The NCTE Act, 1993 came into force on 1st July, 1995 and is applicable throughout the country, except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The main objective of the Act is to provide for the establishment of a NCTE to achieve planned and coordinated development of the teacher education system, regulation and ensure proper maintenance of norms and standards in the system.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173128>

INTERNATIONAL

Cabinet approval of India's Membership for European Bank for Reconstruction & Development

Question: Recently, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved India's Membership for European Bank for Reconstruction & Development (EBRD). Where is headquarter of the EBRD located?

(a) Brussels (b) London (c) Rome (d) Paris

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 22, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved India's Membership for European Bank for Reconstruction & Development (EBRD).
- Necessary steps will be initiated by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance to acquire the membership of the EBRD.



- From its membership, India will have the following benefits:
- Membership of EBRD would enhance India's international profile and promote its economic interests. Access to EBRD's Countries of Operation and sector knowledge.
- India's investment opportunities would get a boost.
- It would increase the scope of cooperation between India and EBRD through co-financing opportunities in manufacturing, services, Information Technology, and Energy.
- EBRD's core operations pertain to private sector development in their countries of operation. The membership would help India leverage the technical assistance and sectoral knowledge of the bank for the benefit of development of private sector.
- This would contribute to an improved investment climate in the country.
- The membership of EBRD would enhance the competitive strength of the Indian firms, and provide an enhanced access to international markets in terms of business opportunities, procurement activities, consultancy assignments etc.
- This would open up new vistas for Indian professionals on the one hand, and give a fillip to Indian exports on the other.
- Increased economic activities would have the employment generating potential.
- It would also enable Indian nationals to get the employment opportunity in the Bank.
- EBRD was established in 1991.
- Headquarter of EBRD is located in London (U.K.)
- Currently its chairman is *Sir Suma Chakrabarti*.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173734>

Climate Change Performance Index-2018

Question: India's ranking in the Climate Change Performance Index-2018 (2018-CCPI) is –
 (a) 14th (b) 20th (c) 15th (d) 21st

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- 'Climate Change Performance Index, 2018' was released by Environmental organization- GermanWatch in November 2018.
- This index was first released in the year 2005.
- Sweden with 74.32 has been put on top (4th Rank) amongst the 56 countries and the EU in the Climate Change Performance Index of the year 2018, whilst last year France was at top rank.
- Rank of the Sweden is 4th in the list because none of the countries achieved positions one to three as no one is doing enough to prevent dangerous climate change.
- The first five top countries are Sweden (4th), Lithuania (5th), Morocco (6th), Norway (7th) and United Kingdom (8th).
- India has been ranked 14th with 60.02 score in this index.
- India marks an improvement of 6 places from its 20th rank in CCPI 2017.
- This year India has been put in the high rating in the emissions and energy use categories whilst last year it had got a place in medium rating categories.



Reference:

<https://germanwatch.org/en/download/20503.pdf>

WHO Global Ministerial Conference on TB eradication

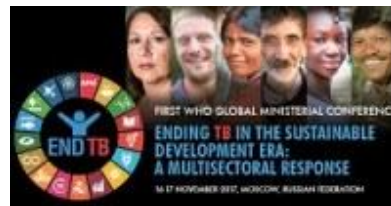
Question: The WHO Global Ministerial Conference “Ending TB in the Sustainable Development Era: concluded during November 16th-17th, 2017 at which of the following places?

(a) New York (b) New Delhi (c) Paris (d) Moscow

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- During November 16-17; WHO Global Ministerial Conference Tuberculosis Eradication in the Sustainable Development Era, 2017 – was held in Moscow, Russia.
- In this conference, India is represented by Union Health and Family Welfare Minister J.P. Nadda.
- On this occasion, he said that India is committed to eradicating TB by 2025.
- Recently, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has announced the implementation of the daily dose of medicine for TB disease victims across the country under the revised National TB Control Program (RNTCP).
- The ministry had earlier asked to take the drug supplements three times a week for the treatment of TB disease.
- The Ministry of Health will extend it to all the major hospitals, IMAs, IAPs and professional medical organizations to make available doses of mixed drugs daily to all TB patients.
- According to World Health Organization’s Global TB report 2017, the number of people suffering from TB has decreased from 28.2 lakh to 27 lakh and death has decreased by 60 thousand in the last one year.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173580>

15th ASEAN-India Summit and 12th East Asia Summit

Question: Where was the 15th ASEAN-India Summit held on November 14, 2017?

(a) Singapore (b) Manila (c) Laos (d) Dhaka

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 14, 2017, the 15th ASEAN-India and 12th East Asia Summit was organized in Manila, Philippines.
- The Summits was attended by Heads of State/Government of the 10 ASEAN and 18 East Asia Summit Participating Countries respectively.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the Indian delegation to this summit.
- It is remarkable that Trade between India and ASEAN stood at US\$ 71 billion in 2016-17 and comprises 10.85% of India’s total trade with the world.
- At the 15th ASEAN-India Summit, Prime Minister and ASEAN Leaders reviewed the commemorative activities undertaken in 2017 to mark the 25 years of India’s dialogue partnership with ASEAN as well as review the broad spectrum of ASEAN-India cooperation in all its aspects.



- India, China, Japan, South Korea, Australia, New Zealand, USA and Russia Heads of State / Government attended the meeting of the 12th East Asia Summit on November 14, 2017.
- India is a founding member of the East Asia Summit formed in 2005.
- The summit discussed regional and international issues including terrorism, nuclear non-proliferation and irregular displacement.
- With this, on 13-14 November, 2017 the 31st Summit of 10-member ASEAN countries concluded in Manila.
- The theme of the 31st ASEAN Summit was 'Partnering for Change Engaging the World'.
- The summit was chaired by President Rodrigo Duterte of the Philippines.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the Asian Trade and Investment Conference (ABIS) on November 13, 2017, during his visit to the Philippines.
- Apart from this, the Prime Minister also held bilateral meetings with many other leaders of the world.

Reference:

http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29102/15th_ASEANIndia_Summit_and_12th_East_Asia_Summit_in_Manila_Philippines_November_14_2017

Iran- Iraq Earthquake

Question: Recently on November 12th, 2017, more than 300 people have been dies in a earthquake in Parts of Iran and Iraq. What was the magnitude of this earthquake on reactor scale?

(a) 6.5 (b) 7.0 (c) 7.3 (d) 7.5

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 12th, 2017, powerful earthquake hits parts of Iran and Iraq.
- The magnitude of the earthquake was 7.3 on reactor scale.
- More than 300 peoples died and thousand are expected to be injured.
- The centre of the earthquake was centred 19 miles outside the eastern Iraqi city of Halabja, according to the most recent measurements from the US Geological Survey at a shallow depth of 23 kilometres.
- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has condoled the loss of lives in the earthquake that has affected parts of Iran and Iraq.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173427>

United Nations Climate Change Conference

Question- At which of the following places United Nations Climate Change Conference is being organized?

(a) Germany (b) Fiji (c) Morocco (d) France

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- During November 6-17, 2017, the United Nations Climate Change Conference is being organized in Bonn, Germany.
- This conference is referred to by COP23 / CMP13 / CMA 1-2.
- The Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change hosting the Conference.
- Fiji is presiding over this conference.
- It is the 23rd annual 'Conference of the Parties' (COP) of the nations of the world, whose aim is to 'prevent dangerous human generated disturbances with climate system'.
- It is significant that in the year 2016, the Climate Change Conference (COP22 / CM12 / CMA1) was organized in Marrakesh, Morocco.
- Earlier, there was a historic 'Paris settlement' took place in the Climate Change Conference (COP21 / CMP11) organized in Paris, France.

Reference:

<http://www.un.org/sustainabledevelopment/cop23/>



Global Gender gap Report

Question: What is the rank of India in the gender gap index in the Global Gender Gap Report issued by the World Economic Forum (WEF) on November 2, 2017?

(a) 108 (b) 109 (c) 110 (d) 111

Answer- (a)

Related Facts:

- On 2 November, 2017, the 'Global Gender Report-2017' was released by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- 144 countries have been listed in this gender gap index this year.
- Iceland is at first place in the list. Its total score is 0.878.
- In the list, Norway (score -0.830) second in the list, Finland (score -0.823) third, Rwanda (score -0.822) fourth and Sweden (score -0.816) has been placed at fifth.
- This list has 5 countries in the lower order is – Yemen (144th place), Pakistan (143rd place), Syria (142nd), Chad (141st) and Iran, Islamic Republic (140th place).
- This year's edition of the Report benchmarks these countries on their progress towards gender parity on a scale from 0 (imparity) to 1 (parity) across four thematic dimensions- Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment.
- India has been placed 108th on the list with a score of 0.669. India was ranked 87th last year.
- **India's position in various sectors of the index remained as follows:**
 - (i) Economic Partnerships and Opportunities -139th Place
 - (ii) Academic Achievements -112th Place



- (iii) Health and Survival -141th Place
- (iv) Political Empowerment- 15th place

- The position of neighboring countries of India in the list is as follows:
- Bangladesh -47th
- China – 100th
- Nepal -111th,
- Bhutan -124th
- Sri Lanka -109th
- Among BRICS countries South Africa is at 19th, Russia Federation ranked 71st and Brazil ranked 90th.

Reference:

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2017>

Catalonia Independence

Question-On 27 October 2017, Catalonia declares itself independent from Spain.

Consider the following statements in regards to this and give answer:

(i) The referendum for independence was held on October 1, 2017.

(ii) Before referendum, a resolution of independence was passed by Provincial Parliament of Catalonia with majority of 70:10.

- (a) Only (i) is correct. (b) Only (ii) is correct.
- (c) Both (i) and (ii) are correct. (d) (i) and (ii) are both wrong.

Answer- (a)

Related Facts:

- On October 27, 2017, Catalonia province declared itself independent from Spain after getting majority by the provincial parliament in favor of independence.
- In the provincial parliament of 135 seats, 70 votes were in favor of independence and 10 votes in the opposition.
- The opposition did not participate in this voting.
- Catalonia is financially strong and has about 20 percent of Spain's national income.
- It is significant that in order to become independent from Spain, a referendum was held in Catalonia on October 1, 2017, which was declared as unconstitutional by the Spanish court.
- In this referendum, 43 percent of the voters took part in which 90 percent of the votes were in favor of independence and 10 percent in opposition.
- After passing the proposal with majority in the provincial parliament, the parliament of Spain ended the autonomy of Catalonia, which would now have direct control of the Spanish government in Catalonia.
- Spain's Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy dismissed Catalonia leader Carlos Puigdemont and his cabinet.
- The Prime Minister has announced that he will be holding the law on December 21, 2017 and again in a fair manner.
- It is notable that in Spain, autonomy was given to Catalonia before the Civil War, which was abolished under General Francisco's leadership from 1939-1975.
- After the death of Jan Franco, it was re-granted with political and cultural autonomy by the 1978 constitution, which received more force by the Act of 2006.



- But in 2010 the Spanish court snatched all the powers from him.
- In the elections of the year 2015, the new government was elected under the leadership of Carlos Piedmont, in Catalonia, who promised to make a referendum for Catalonia's independence.

Reference:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/10/27/europe/catalonia-independence-spain/index.html>

Credit Suisse Family Report

Question: What is the location of India in the list of countries of family-owned businesses published in 'CS Family 1000' report released by 'Credit Suisse Research Institute'?

(a) First (b) Second (c) Third (d) Fourth

Answer- (c)

Related Facts:

- In September, 2017, 'CS Family 1000' report was published by Switzerland's multi-national financial services group 'Credit Suisse Research Institute'.
- With 167 businesses China topped in the list of countries of family-owned businesses.
- With 121 businesses US is at second and India with 108 businesses is at third.
- Based on average market capitalization of family-owned companies Spain is ranked first.
- The Spain in this list is followed by Netherlands (second), Japan (third) and Switzerland (fourth).
- India is ranked 22nd in this list and except Japan India is at 5th rank in Asia-Pacific regions.
- Based on the performance of the business, the performance of family-owned businesses is considered to be the best in this report.
- Country-owned businesses of China, India and Indonesia had a revenue-ratio of 15-16 times (P / E) in 12 months at country level, while Korea, Hong Kong and Singapore were 10-13 times higher.
- Report also stated that India lags slightly behind China not just on the adoption of environmentally related issues, but also on socially related issues, with 35% of companies implementing policies in relation to this compared to 65% for China.



Reference:

<https://www.credit-suisse.com/corporate/en/articles/news-and-expertise/the-irresistible-charm-of-the-family-factor-201709.html>

World Youth Forum 2017

Question: At which of the following places World Youth Forum is being organized from 4th-10th November?

(a) France (b) Egypt (c) Malaysia (d) Peru

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- World Youth Forum is being organized in Sharam El Shiekh, Egypt from 4th-10th November.
- The five-day forum will be inaugurated by the President of



Egypt Mr. Abdelfateh El Sisi.

- The forum focuses on “talk all for Creativity, Development, and Peace” as its theme.
- The Minister of State (Independent Charge) Youth Affairs and Sports Col. Rajyavardhan Rathore has reached Egypt to attend World Youth Forum, at Sharam El Shiekh, Egypt.
- The World Youth Forum program is divided into various pillars, tackling themes and topics of interest to international youth.
- These pillars are Youth Global Issues, Sustainable Development, Technology and Entrepreneurship, Civilizations and Culture, Creating Future Leaders, Model United Nations.
- The Summit segment is expected to be attended by the Heads of State/Government, Ministers of youth from 14 countries and Representatives of UN, Arab League and African, Union.
- The Forum aims to provide a platform to the youth from all over the globe to engage with the key global policymakers.
- The forum will cover the role of youth in business and innovation, challenges and making of future leaders, gender equity and women empowerment among other things.
- A three-day international conference WYF- Model United Nations will also be organized during the forum.
- By participating in WYF- Model United Nations, delegates will be able to gain an experience of simulating representative of a nation at the United Nations Security Council.

Reference:

<https://egyouth.com/en/>

Doing Business Index -2018

Question: According to the report ‘Doing Business Index -2018’ released by the World Bank and International Finance Corporation on October 31, 2017. The position of India in this list is:

(a) 130th (b) 30th (c) 115th (d) 100th

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On October 31, 2017, the 15th report ‘Doing Business-2018’ was released by the Washington-based World Bank and International Finance Corporation.
- The central theme of this year’s report is ‘Reforming to Create Jobs’.
- In the report released for year-2018, the economy of 190 countries has been included.
- In the Doing Business Index -2018 report, New Zealand has been ranked top with 86.55 followed by Singapore (Score-84.57) second, Denmark (Score-84.06) third, Korea Republic (Score-83.92), fourth and Hong Kong (Score-83.44) fifth.
- This index includes Somalia (190th place), Eritrea (189th), Venezuela (188th), Southern Sudan (187th) and Yemen Republic (186th place) as countries with the lowest trade regulatory environment.
- In the Doing Business Index 2018, India secured 100th position (Score-60.76).
- Last year India was ranked 130th.



- Among BRICS countries, Russia ranked 35th, China 78th, South Africa 82nd and Brazil ranked 125th.
- For the ease of business in BRICS countries, the highest improvement was done in India compared to the previous year.
- Among neighboring countries to India Bhutan is at 75th rank, Nepal is at 105th, Sri Lanka is at 111th, Pakistanis at 147th, 177th in Bangladesh is at 177th, and Afghanistan secured 183rd place.
- According to the World Bank report, high ranking means that the government of that particular country has provided a favorable regulatory environment for doing business, while the low ranking reflects the adverse environment of the business.

Reference:

<http://www.doingbusiness.org/~media/WBG/DoingBusiness/Documents/Annual-Reports/English/DB2018-Full-Report.pdf>

Lonely Planet: List of Destination in 2018

Question: American travel guide company 'Lonely Planet' has given the first place to which of the following countries to "Best destination to travel" in the year-2018?

(a) China (b) Portugal (c) Georgia (d) Chile

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- In October, 2017, American travel guide company 'Lonely Planet' released a list of various places named 'Best in Travels for the year 2018'.
- Chile is ranked first in the list of top ten countries to visit in 2018, followed by South Korea and Portugal at second and third place respectively.
- Ahead in the list there are Djibouti, New Zealand, Malta, Georgia, Mauritius, China and South Africa.
- In the list top ten cities to visit in 2018 released, Seville Spain has been placed at first place followed by Detroit America and Canberra Australia second and third place respectively.
- In the list of top ten regions to visit in 2018, Belfast & the Causeway Coast, Northern Ireland got first place followed by Alaska America and Julian Alps, Slovenia respectively.
- Lahaul & Spiti, India have been ranked eighth in this list.
- In the list of best value top 10 destinations, Estonia, tally is the first, Lenzerot and Canary Islands, Spain are second and America's Arizona is third.



Reference:

<https://www.lonelyplanet.com/best-in-travel>

World's First Trackless Smart Train

Question: Which of the following countries started the test operation of the first trackless smart train?

(a) Japan (b) China (c) UK (d) Germany



Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- In October, 2017, the world's first trackless smart train's test run was launched in China.
- This train is called ART: Autonomous Rail Rapid Transit.
- It runs on censored virtual tracks. With the help of which the train continues on a certain path.
- It has been built to reduce traffic problems in urban areas.
- As per requirement, this train will be run with 3 and 5 coaches, with a capacity of carrying 300 and 500 passengers respectively.
- 70 km / h. is the maximum speed of the train.
- Train has been developed by the CRRC Zhuzhou Locomotive Co Ltd.
- It is notable that this smart train was unveiled for the first time on June 2, 2017.

Reference:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-10/24/c_136702282.htm

The World's Most Valuable Athlete 2017

Question: Virat Kohli retains 7th position in recent released list of the world's most valuable athletes released by America's popular magazine Forbes. Who is at first rank in the list?

- (a) Lionel Messi (b) Cristiano Ronaldo (c) Roger Federer
(d) Usain Bolt

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On October 26, 2017, the category of the most valuable athletes was released by Forbes America's popular magazine Forbes magazine, The Forbes Fab 40: The World Most Valuable Brand, 2017.
- Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli with USD 14.5 million, is on 7th position, while Argentine star footballer Lionel Messi is at number 9 with USD 13.5 million.
- Switzerland's star tennis player Roger Federer topped the list with USD 37.2 million.
- America's basketball player Le Bron James and Usain Bolt of Jamaica are second and third position holder the list respectively.
- Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal) with brand value of USD 21.5 million is fourth in this list.
- It is noteworthy that Indian cricketer Mahendra Singh Dhoni had secured 5th rank in the list of the most valuable athletes released in 2014.



Reference:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/mikeozanian/2017/10/24/the-forbes-fab-40-the-worlds-most-valuable-sports-brands-2017/#3694ce563b84>

The World's 100 Most Powerful Women

Question: Which of the following Indian women was included in the list of 100 most powerful women in the world for the year 2017 released by America's prestigious magazine 'Forbes'?

- (a) Priyanka Chopra (b) Deepika Padukone (c) Neeta Ambani
(d) Arundhati Bhattacharya



Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 1, 2017, America's prestigious magazine 'Forbes' released the list of the world's 100 most powerful women for the year 2017.
- Germany's Chancellor Angela Merkel has been ranked first in this list.
- K. Prime Minister 'Theresa May' and Melinda Gates, co-chair of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation retains second and third respectively in this list.
- Chief Operating Officer of Facebook, Sheryl Sandberg is at fourth and General Motors CEO Mary Barra ranked fifth.
- In the list, 5 Indian women have also been included.
- ICICI Bank Managing Director Chanda Kochhar ranked 32nd, HCL Technologies CEO Roshni Naadhar Malhotra ranked 57th, India's biotechnology and pharmaceutical company Biocon founder Kiran Majumdar Shaw ranked 71st and Head of HT Media Shobhana Bhartia has got 92th position.
- Bollywood actress Priyanka Chopra got 97th place in the list.
- Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wajed has been ranked 30th in the list.
- In the list of the most powerful women, US President Donald Trump's first daughter, Ivanka Trump was ranked 19th, India-born Indra Nooyi and Nikki Haley at 11th and 43rd
- Hillary Clinton, US Presidential candidate for year 2016 is at 65th

Reference:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/carolinehoward/2017/11/01/the-worlds-100-most-powerful-women-in-2017/#548357303148>

World Nuclear Industry Status Report- 2017

Question: According to the World Nuclear Industry Status Report released recently, what is the place of India in the world in terms of number of nuclear reactors?

(a) Fourth (b) Fifth (c) Third (d) Sixth

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- The 'World Nuclear Industry Status Report' 2017 was released on September 12, 2017.
- It is prepared by an independent energy expert, Mycle Schneider, who provides a detailed overview of the global nuclear industry and specialized analysis on major events and trends.
- According to the update report, India is the third largest in the world with six nuclear reactors in the year 2016 in the establishment of nuclear reactors.
- India's neighboring country China is at the top of the list with the establishment of 20 reactors.
- Over the past four years, the number of nuclear reactors under construction in the world has seen a decline.
- By the end of 2013, construction of 68 reactors was going on globally, but by the middle of 2017, the number of reactors under construction has been 53.
- According to the report, due to delay in construction work, the cost of most nuclear projects increases.
- Due to this, It takes more time to produce electricity.



- There are 37 reactors around the world whose construction work has started late. In India, even five of the six reactors under construction are delayed.
- The eight nuclear power projects all over the world are under construction for one or more decades, while 3 of these projects are under construction for 30 years.
- It is important to note that from 1997 until now, the production of renewable energy in the world has been four times as much as the production of nuclear power.
- The production of renewable energy has increased in comparison to nuclear power.
- Due to China's 23 percent more nuclear power production, global nuclear energy production registered an increase of 1.4 percent in 2016.
- Although the share of nuclear power in power generation has remained steady at 10.5 percent.
- According to a report, at the world level increase of 16% in wind power generation and 30% in solar energy production has taken place.
- Renewable energy contribution in global power generation is 62 percent.
- It is important that Russia and the United States had shut down their nuclear reactors in 2016, whereas both Sweden and South Korea have closed their old nuclear reactors in the first half of 2017.

Related Links:-

<https://www.worldnuclearreport.org/IMG/pdf/20170912wnsr2017-en-lr.pdf>

Global Competitiveness Index 2017-18

Question: Recently, the World Economic Forum released the Global Competitiveness Report 2017-18. According to the Global Competitiveness Index 2017-18 present in the report, at which position India has been placed?

(a) 39th (b) 35th (c) 40th (d) 65th

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The Global Competitiveness Report 2017-18 was released by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in Geneva on September 26, 2017.
- *The Report assesses the competitiveness landscape of 137 economies on 12 pillars of competitiveness, providing unique insight into the drivers of their productivity and prosperity.*
- These 12 pillars are -institutions, infrastructure, comprehensive economic environment, health and primary education, higher education and training, skilled labor markets, skilled goods markets, financial market development, technology readiness, market size, business expertise and innovation.
- Under the Global Competitiveness Index-2017-18, Switzerland (Score-5.9) has remained at the top for the sixth consecutive year.
- Switzerland is followed by United States (Score-5.9), Singapore (Score-5.7) Third, Netherlands (Score-5.7) Fourth and Germany (Score-5.7) fifth.
- The lowest place in the index was of Yemen 137th (Score-2.9), followed by Mozambique 136th (Score-2.9), Chad 135th (Score-3.0) and Liberia at 134th (Score 3.1).
- In this index, India is ranked 40th this year (Score-4.6) among total 137 countries.
- Last year India was at 39th place in 138 countries.

**The Global
Competitiveness Report
2017-2018**



- India's neighboring countries position- Sri Lanka 85th, Nepal 88th, Bangladesh 99th and Pakistan remained at 115th place in this index.
- Among BRICS countries apart from India, China ranked 27th, Russia 38th, South Africa 61st, and Brazil remained at 80th place.
- Among other major countries of the world, the United Kingdom ranked 8th, Japan 9th, Canada 14th, UAE 17th and France 22nd.

Reference:

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-competitiveness-report-2017-2018>

World's Highest Paid TV Actors list- 2017

Question: Which Indian origin actor is included in the world's highest-paid TV actors list- 2017, released by the prestigious magazine 'Forbes' on September 28, 2017?

(a) Deepak Nayyar (b) Kunal Nayyar (c) Dinesh Kumar (d) Ratan Nayyar

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On September 28, 2017, the prestigious magazine 'Forbes' released the list of the World's Highest Paid TV Actors, 2017.
- Famous American actor Jim Parsons is at top in this list with USD 27.5 million.
- He is followed by American actor Johnny Galecki, who has been ranked second with a net worth of USD 26.5 million.
- American actor Simon Helberg remained at number 3rd with earnings of USD 26 million.
- Indian-American British actor Kunal Nayyar is ranked fourth in the list with US \$ 25 million
- No Indian TV actor has been included in this list.



Reference:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/maddieberg/2017/09/28/the-worlds-highest-paid-tv-actors-jim-parsons-leads-with-27-5-million/#3e76400e51a3>

<https://www.forbes.com/pictures/59c9b63331358e542c02de24/1-jim-parsons/#5d66edf92f67>

ECONOMICS

Asia's richest families List-2017

Question: Which of the following families has topped the list of Asia's richest families recently released by prestigious American magazine Forbes?

(a) Lee family (b) Ambani family (c) Coke family
(d) Premji family

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 15, 2017 went Asia's richest families List- 2017 was released by the prestigious American magazine Forbes.
- This list covers the 50 richest families of Asia.



- Ambani family with 44.8 billion USD is the richest family of Asia.
- After this, family of Samsung Group (South Korea) is second in the list with total assets of USD 40.8 billion.
- With USD 4 billion, Kwok family of Sun Hung Kai & Co. group is at third place.
- With a total worth of USD 36.6 billion, Chearavanont family of Thailand's Charoen Pokphand (CP) Group is at fourth place.
- In the list beside Ambani family following Indian families were also included: Premji family (with 19.2 billion USD) 11th, Hinduja family (with 18.8 billion USD) 12th, Mittal family (with 17.2 billion USD) 14th, Egyptian family (with 16.1 billion USD) 16th, Birla family (with 14.1 billion USD) 19th, Godrej family (with 14 billion USD) 20th, Bajaj family (with 9.3 billion USD) 26th and Jindal family (with 7.68 billion USD) 32nd.
- Apart from these families, the other richest families respectively are: The Burman family of Dabar group (35th), Lal family of Eihcher group (36th), Bangur family of Shree Cement group (37th), Sehgal family of auto parts industry (41st), Wadia family (42nd), Kushal Pal Singh belonging to Real Estate (44th), Patel family of Cadila Healthcare Group (45th), Piramal family (47th) and Munjal family of Hero Group (48th).

Reference:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/forbespr/2017/11/15/indias-ambani-family-tops-forbes-list-of-asias-richest-families/#626db817d63d>

Constitution of Task Force for drafting a New Direct Tax Legislation

Question: Recently, under whose chairmanship a Task Force has been set up by the central government in order to review the Income-tax Act, 1961 and to draft a new Direct Tax Law in consonance with economic needs of the country?

- (a) Girish Ahuja (b) Dr. Arvind Subramanian (c) Sunil Chandra
(d) Arbind Modi

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 22, 2017, the Central Government constituted a work force to draft new direct tax laws under the chairmanship of the Central Direct Tax Board (CBDT) under the chairmanship of Arbind Modi.
- Followings are the member of Task Force:
- Shri Arbind Modi, Member (Legislation), CBDT – Convener
- Shri Girish Ahuja, practicing Chartered Accountant and non-official Director, State Bank of India;
- Shri Rajiv Memani, Chairman & Regional Managing Partner of E&Y
- Shri Mukesh Patel, Practicing Tax Advocate, Ahmedabad;
- Mansi Kedia, Consultant, ICRIER, New Delhi;
- Shri G.C. Srivastava, Retd. IRS (1971 Batch) and Advocate.
- *Dr.Arvind Subramanian*, Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) *will be a permanent*Special Invitee in the *Task Force*.
- The Terms of Reference of the Task Force is to draft an appropriate Direct Tax Legislation keeping in view: The direct tax system prevalent in various countries, the international best practices the economic needs of the country; and any other matter connected thereto.



- The Task Force will submit its report to the government within 6 months.
- It is noteworthy that during the Rajaswa Gyan Sangam held on 1st and 2nd September, 2017, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had proposed the reviewing the Income tax Act-1961 and to draft a new Direct Tax Law in consonance with economic needs of the country.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173742>

Cabinet approval for setting up of the 15th Finance Commission

Question: Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved the setting up of the 15th Finance Commission. Under which article of the Indian Constitution, the Finance Commission is constituted?

- (a) Article 280 (1) (b) Article 260 (1) (c) Article 300 (a)
(d) article 246 (1)

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 22nd, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the setting up of the 15th Finance Commission.
- The Terms of 15th finance commission will commence on April 1, 2020.
- 15th Finance Commission after its formation will give recommendations during the next 5 years after reviewing financial position, loss of the Union and the States, keeping in mind the fiscal consolidation framework recommended by the 14th Finance Commission.
- It is noteworthy that Finance Commission is constituted under Article 280 (1) of the Indian Constitution.
- Accordingly, a Finance Commission will be constituted within two years from the beginning of the constitution and after the completion of every five years or before, which the President considers necessary.
- So far 14 finance commissions have been set up.
- It is also noteworthy that the 14th Finance Commission was constituted on January 2nd, 2013, whose chairman is by Y.V. Reddy.
- The 14th Finance Commission submitted its report on December 15, 2017.
- The recommendations of the 14th Finance Commission are valid for the financial year 2019-20.
C. Niyogi was the Chairman of the First Finance Commission.
- The main function of the Finance Commission is to decide the share of taxes between the union and the states.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173726>



Increase in the number of millionaires in India, 2017

Question: According to a report recently released by Credit Suisse, by which rate total family wealth in India is expected to increase to \$ 7.1 trillion by 2022?



(a) 7.5% (b) 4.6% (c) 7.9% (d) 5.7%

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- According to a report released by Credit Suisse on November 14, 2017, the number of millionaires in India has reached a level of 245000.
- At the same time, the total wealth of families in India has also increased to \$ 5 trillion.
- According to the report, by the year 2022, the number of millionaires in the country is expected to reach 372,000, while the total wealth of families is estimated to 7.1 trillion dollars by 7.5%.
- According to the report, since 2000, the proportion wealth of people in India has increased annually by 9.2%, which is more than 6% of the average global growth.
- The actual growth rate in the population is estimated at 2.2%.
- The growth of India's property by 451 billion dollars reflects the 8th largest increase in the case of the rise in the wealth of one country on a global basis.
- Approximately 92% of the adult population has less than \$ 10,000 worth; while on the other hand, the smallest share of the total population (only 0.5% of the adult population) has wealth over \$ 100,000 which is only 4.2 million in regards to India's large population.
- In India, much of the share of the private property is in the form of land and another real estate, which is around 86% of the total family wealth.
- The share of private sector in single property is estimated to be only 9%.
- Switzerland is at the first place in the world according to the per capita property, where the per-person property is \$ 537600 in 2017.
- After this, Australia is at the second place with the wealth \$ 402600 and the United States is third with \$ 388,000.
- Since 2012, the total global capital has risen by a fast pace of 6.4% to \$ 280 trillion.
- Global Wealth Report, 2017, is the 8th report of this series.

Reference:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/india-home-to-245000-millionaires-household-wealth-at-5-trillion/articleshow/61644558.cms>

India Announces Contribution to India-UN Development Partnership Fund

Question: India has decided to significantly scale up the contribution to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund through a multiyear contribution of-

- (a) USD 100 million (b) USD 150 million
(c) USD 200 million (d) USD 225 million

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 6, 2017, India has been pledged an additional amount of USD 100 million to the India-UN Development Partnership Fund at United Nations Pledging Conference for Development Activities held in New York.
- This announcement was made by Anjani Kumar, Counsellor at the Permanent Mission of India to the UN. This contribution will be in addition to India's contribution of 10.582 million dollars in other UN programs. During the conference almost 20 countries assured the contribution of USD 398.38 million in this fund.



- The India-UN Development Partnership Fund was launched on occasion of the World Oceans Day at a special ceremony held at the Permanent Mission of India to the UN.
- 'ClimateEarly Warning System in Pacific Island Countries' was the first project get assistance by this fund.

Reference:

<https://www.pminewyork.org/pages.php?id=2748>

National Anti-profiteering Authority under GST

Question: Union Cabinet has given its approval for the creation of the posts of Chairman and Technical Members of the National Anti-profiteering Authority (NAA) under GST to ensure that the benefits of the reduction in GST rates on goods or services are passed on to the ultimate consumers by way of a reduction in prices. In how many goods GST Council has given major relief in GST rates?

(a) 178 (b) 208 (c) 188 (d) 158

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On 16th November, 2017, Union Cabinet has given its approval for the creation of the posts of Chairman and Technical Members of the National Anti-profiteering Authority (NAA) under GST to ensure that the benefits of the reduction in GST rates on goods or services are passed on to the ultimate consumers by way of a reduction in prices.
- The Authority would have the following duties:
 - To determine the allegations;
 - To identify the registered person who is responsible;
 - To order;
 - Reduction in prices;
 - Return to the recipient, an amount equivalent to the amount not passed on by way of commensurate reduction in prices along with interest at the rate of eighteen per cent.
 - Imposition of penalty; and
 - Cancellation of registration.
- It is important to remember that in the 23rd meeting held on the 10th November, 2017, the GST Council had recommended major relief in GST rates on certain goods.
- These rate changes have been brought into effect from the 15th November, 2017.
- On 178 items the GST rate has been brought down from 28% to 18%.
- There are now only 50 items which attract the GST rate of 28%.
- The National Anti-Profiteering Authority shall be a five member committee.
- The committee will be headed by a senior officer of the level of Secretary to the Government of India and will have four Technical Members who are or have been Commissioners of State tax or central tax or have held an equivalent post under existing laws. Committee's institutional framework comprises the NAA, a Standing Committee, Screening Committees in every State and the Directorate General of Safeguards in the Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC).



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173563>

Revised price of ethanol under EBP

Question: Approval to the revision in the price of ethanol under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme has been given by Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs. The revised price of ethanol would be fixed at-

- (a) Rs.40.85/- per litre
- (b) Rs.39.0/- per litre
- (c) Rs.49.50/- per litre
- (d) Rs.48.50/- per litre

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has approved the revision in the price of ethanol under Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme for supply to the Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies.
- The revised price of ethanol would be fixed at Rs.40.85/- per litre under EBP.
- The revised price will be applicable during ethanol supply period from 1st December 2017 to 30th November, 2018.
- Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) have to start the ethanol procurement process for the upcoming sugar season 2017-18 for which ethanol pricing under EBP Programme needs to be decided.
- It will help in reducing dependency on crude oil imports, saving in foreign exchange and benefits to the environment.
- It is noteworthy that Government fixed the delivered price of ethanol during ethanol supply year 2014-15 & 2015-16 in the range of Rs.48.50 to Rs.49.50 per litre including Central/State Government taxes and transportation charges.
- This price was re-examined for ethanol supply year 2016-17 in the context of firming of sugar prices and falling crude prices and consequent under-recoveries of OMCs.
- The Ex-Mill price was revised to Rs.39/- per litre.
- Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme was launched by the Government in 2003 which has been extended to the Notified 21 States and 4 Union Territories to promote the use of alternative and environment friendly fuels.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173135>



Cabinet approves Special Banking Arrangement (SBA)

Question: For payment of outstanding subsidy during 2016-17 to which of the following companies, Cabinet approves Special Banking Arrangement (SBA)?

- (a) Telecom companies (b) Textile companies
- (c) Marketing companies (d) Fertilizer companies

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has accorded the ex-post facto approval for implementation of Special Banking Arrangement (SBA).



- This Special Banking Arrangement (SBA) is for Rs. 10,000 crore for payment of outstanding claims on account of fertilizer subsidy in the year 2016-17.
- Earlier, to reduce the burden of fertilizer subsidy backlogs, a Special Banking Arrangement of Rs. 10000 crores have been approved in Budget to clear fertilizer subsidy dues.
- The overall budget allocation for the Department of Fertilizer for the year 2017-18 is 74,235 crores.
- Government is making available fertilizers, namely Urea and 21 grades of P&K fertilizers to farmers at subsidized prices through fertilizer manufacturers/importers.
- Under the SBA, a total loan of Rs. 9,969 crore for settlement of outstanding subsidy bills with SBI was raised by the Government.
- The loan amount along with interest liability on the part of Government amounting to Rs. 80.90 crore were paid to SBI.
- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has also approved that, in future, Department of Fertilizers would avail the SBA with the concurrence of Department of Expenditure.
- It is notable that SBA for an amount of Rs. 10,000 crore for the year 2016-17 has already been implemented/ operationalised to overcome the liquidity problems of the fertilizer companies.
- Government is making available fertilizers, namely Urea and 21 grades of P&K fertilizers to farmers at subsidized prices through fertilizer manufacturers/importers.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173137>

ADB's India Development Forecast

Question: Asian Development Bank has reduced the forecast of India's GDP growth for the year 2017-18 to 0.4 percent from the earlier declared (April forecast) growth rate.

India's GDP growth is estimated-

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

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On September 26, 2017, ADB released its 'Asian Development Outlook' 2017 update.
- In this, the pre-declared estimate of India's GDP growth rate has been reduced from 7.4 percent to 7 percent.
- The reason for the decline in GDP growth is the weakness in private consumption, manufacturing output and business investment.
- At the same time, the growth forecast for the year 2018-19 has been reduced from 7.6 percent to 7.4 percent.
- According to ADB, launch and implementation of new GST system has reduced consumer expenditure and commercial investment.
- For the current financial year, the growth of the estimated 7 percent by the bank is less than 7.1 percent of the previous year.
- The most important fact in terms of India's growth forecasts is that the growth rate in the first quarter of the current financial year is estimated to be 5.7 percent.
- This is the minimum growth rate of the last three years in this context.



Growth rate of Indian economy: OECD estimates

Question: What is the percentage of increase in the Indian economy in the Indian economy by the Economic Co-operation and Development Organization (OECD) for the year 2017-18?

- (a) 6.8 percent (b) 6.7 percent (c) 6.5 percent
(d) 6.4 percent

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The organisation for economic co-operation and development (OECD) has reduced India's growth forecast from 7.3 per cent to 6.7 per cent in 2017-18.
- It has further trimmed its forecast for India's growth to 7.2 per cent in 2018-19 from an earlier estimate of 7.7 per cent.
- The OECD believes that the transitory effects of demonetisation, GST implementation and weak environment for business investments have resulted in the downward revision for 2017 growth projections.
- However, it expects GST to boost investment, productivity and growth in the long term.
- Also, global GDP growth has been projected at 3.5 per cent in 2017-18 and 3.7 per cent in 2018-19, with growth likely to be higher in the Euro area, Russia, Japan and Canada.
- Global merchandise trade is expected to grow at 3.6 per cent in 2017, according to the World Trade Organisation.

Reference:

<https://cfo.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/indian-economy-to-grow-6-7-pc-in-2017-18-says-oecd/60785910>



Maharashtra top ranked in manufacturing emergence

Question: According to a recent study by Assocham, Maharashtra is at the first place in terms of manufacturing emergence. Which of the following states is at second place?

- (a) Punjab (b) Madhya Pradesh (c) Gujarat (d) Karnataka

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On September 26, 2017, a study report was released by the highest industry organization Assocham with title of Manufacturing Excellence and Emergence in India: The State Level analysis.
- According to the report Maharashtra and Gujarat ranked among top (1st and 2nd respectively) state in term of manufacturing emergence in mainstream states across India.
- With a ratio of 1.29, Maharashtra has emerged on top with growth of EM part-II filed by MSMEs at district Industrial Centres in FY15 over FY13.
- Gujarat has also performed decently with fourth and fifth position in terms of change in return on capital and efficiency respectively.
- Assocham Economic Research Bureau (AERB) considered the various parameters such as factories, production value, working capital, pure fixed capital formation, fixed capital,



financed goods, capital investment, total investment and other manufacturing sectors in the performance of states.

- The study stated that all states were divided into three major categories according to geographical conditions, viz., north-eastern, Himalayan and mainstream states.
- Mainstream states were further divided into two sub-categories, namely, excellence and emergence.
- The study also highlighted various challenges being faced by India's manufacturing sector – competitive cost and technology being offered by countries like Bangladesh, China, Indonesia, Korea, Singapore and Taiwan.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/maharashtra-gujarat-top-in-manufacturing- ASSOCHAM/article9874484.ece>

Global Financial Centers Index (GFCI)

Question- What is the position of International Financial Services Center (IFSC) of Gujarat International Finance Tech-City (Gift City) in the latest Global Financial Centers Index released recently?

(a) Seventh (b) Tenth (c) Eighth (d) Ninth

Answer- (b)

Related Facts:

- In the ranking of competing global financial centers in September, 2017, the International Financial Services Center of Gift City, located in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, has been ranked 10th.
- GIFT IFSC is ranked tenth, ahead of Luxembourg, Seoul, Abu Dhabi, Toronto and Beijing in the list of the GFCI report, which has 15 centres that are likely to become more significant in the next few years.
- Global Financial Center Index (GFCI) is published twice a year: Once from the China Development Institute (CDI) located in Shenzhen and once by the Z / Yen Partners in London.
- The current index was published by the London-based Z / Yen Partners.
- GFCI report covers approximately 92 centers and 16 associate centers globally.
- Gift IFAC includes 10 major banks, 8 insurance companies and Participating Brokers.
- It also has two international exchanges (India INX and NSEIFSC).



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/markets/gift-city-s-ifsc-bags-10th-place-in-global-financial-centres-index-117100200495_1.html

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/giftifsc-ranks-at-10th-place-in-global-financial-centres-index/article9883732.ece>

SCIENTIFIC

DEFENSE/SCIENCE SHORT NOTES

Multi State Mega Mock Tsunami Exercise

Question: Recently, Ministry of Home Affairs through National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) today conducted a first-of-its-kind multi-State mega mock exercise on tsunami preparedness covering the entire eastern coastline of the country. The exercise was conducted simultaneously by how many states?

(a) 5 (b) 3(c) 4 (d) 7

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 24, 2017, the Union Home Ministry conducted the first multi-state Mega Mock Tsunami Exercise-017 on Tsunami preparation on the entire East coast of the country.
- The exercise was conducted with corroboration of National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS).
- Simulation exercises were conducted simultaneously in 35 coastal districts across four States of West Bengal, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh & Tamil Nadu and Union Territory of Puducherry along with the entire East Coast.
- The purpose of this exercise is to assess and improve the early warning and response mechanism to mitigate the impact of a high-intensity tsunami.
- This program is one of the programs organized on the occasion of Second World Tsunami Awareness Day celebrated on November 5, 2017.
- Under this practice, the artificial landscape of Tsunami disaster was presented to evaluate preparation on Eastern Marine Coast.
- This practice is important because the eastern coast of India is susceptible to the view of cyclone and tsunami.
- The region was one of the worst affected by the Indian Ocean tsunami of 2004.
- This exercise will go a long way in helping States/UTs in updating their resources, procedures and plans.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173811>

Dongfong-41

Question: China has recently built next-generation multi- nuclear warhead intercontinental ballistic missile “Dongfong-41”. What is its range?

(a) 7,000 km (b) 10,000 km (c) 12,000 km (d) 15,000 km

Answer: (c)

Related Facts



- According to a report published in November 2017, China has built an intercontinental missile 'Dongfong 41'.
- It is a three-stage solid-fuel missile.
- The missile has a speed of more than Mach 10.
- Missile has a 12,000-kilometer range.
- This missile is able to target anywhere in the world.
- This missile can carry 10 nuclear weapons simultaneously and can aim differently.
- The missile is expected to be inducted in the Chinese army next year.

Reference:

<http://www.dailymail.co.uk/sciencetech/article-5103667/China-s-ballistic-missile-ready-months.html>

Successfull flight-test of Brahmos

Question: On November 22nd, 2017, a history is created after successfull flight test of world's fastest supersonic cruise missile-Brahmos (Brahmos-Air Launched Cruise Missile). This successful flight test was done by which of the following fighter aircraft of IAF?

(a) SUKHOI-30MKI (b)MIG-21 (c)MIRAGE-2000 (d) MIG 27

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 22nd, 2017, a history is created after successful flight-test of world's fastest supersonic cruise missile Brahmos-Air Launched Cruise Missile.
- For the first time this successful flight test was done by from the Indian Air Force's (IAF) frontline fighter aircraft Sukhoi-30MKI against a sea based target in the Bay of Bengal.
- This successful maiden test firing of Brahmos Air Launched Cruise Missile (ALCM) from Su-30MKI will significantly bolster the IAF's air combat operations capability from stand-off ranges.
- It is noteworthy that Brahmos is a two stage missile with a solid propellant booster engine.
- The missile has a flight range of up to 290-km with supersonic speed all through the flight, leading to the shorter flight time.
- It operates on 'Fire and Forget' principle, adopting varieties of flight on its way to the target.
- It carries a conventional warhead weighing of 200 to 300 kgs.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173720>
<http://www.brahmos.com/>

Layer of dust surrounding the Proxima Century

Question: Which star is closest to the sun?

(a) Cyrus (b) Proxima Century (c) Bernard



(d) Wolff 359 (CN leonis)

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- In November 2017, scientists detected a layer of dust surrounding the Proxima Centauri.
- This conclusion indicated the fact that the Proxima Centauri hosts the planetary system.
- The new assessment of the Chilean-based observatory has revealed that the light coming from the cold dust in the area is one to four times the distance from the Proxima Centauri as far as the distance from Earth to the Sun.
- Proxima Centauri is the closest star to the sun.
- It is located approximately four light years away from us.
- 'Proxima B' revolves around it.

Reference:

<http://www.almaobservatory.org/en/press-release/alma-discovers-cold-dust-around-nearest-star/>

China launches two navigation satellites

Question: China has successfully launched two Beidou-3 satellites in space. In which year the Beidou project was started by China?

(a) 1993 (b) 1994 (c) 1998 (d) 2003

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 5th, 2017, China successfully launched two BeiDou-3 satellites in space.
- These two satellites were launched from the Sichuan satellite launch center in Sichuan province with the help of Rocket Long March-3b.
- The launching satellite represents the third phase of the Beidou navigation satellite system.
- This system will provide services to the countries involved in China's Belt and Road initiative.
- This system will create fully controlled satellite navigation system by the year 2020.
- In the year 1994 the BeiDou project was started.
- Compared to first-generation satellites, BeiDou-3 is capable of sending better signals than other satellite navigation systems.
- It can also provide better satellite based services in the search and rescue operations according to international standards.



Reference:

http://news.xinhuanet.com/english/2017-11/06/c_136730074.htm

7th Joint Exercise Sampriti 2017

Question: During 6-18 November 2017, seventh joint exercise SAMPRITI concluded at Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School, Vairengte in Mizoram between which of the following pair?

(a) India-Nepal (b) India-Sri Lanka (c) India-Bangladesh
(d) India-Mongolia



Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- During 6-18 November, 2017, seventh Indo-Bangladesh joint exercise SAMPRITI concluded at Counter Insurgency and Jungle Warfare School, Vairengte in Mizoram.
- The exercise has been aimed to strengthen and broaden the aspects of interoperability and cooperation between the Indian and Bangladesh Armies.
- It also aimed to work together in a counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism environment under the UN mandate.
- Exercise was conducted under the aegis of the Red Horns Division of Gajraj Corps and had two distinct components which included Command Post Exercise (CPX) and Field Training Exercise (FTX).
- Troops from 38 East Bengal Regiment of Bangladesh Army and Mahar Regiment of Indian Army represented respective Armies during the exercise.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173572>

World's First Fully Electric Operated Cargo Ship

Question: Which one of the following countries has recently launched the world's first all-electric cargo ship?

(a) China (b) America (c) Russia (d) Brazil

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- China's first all-electric cargo ship was launched in November 2017.
- It was launched in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong Province, southern China.
- The ship can run 80 kilometers with 2000 tons of goods after being fully charged.
- It is manufactured by Guangzhou Shipyard International Co. Ltd.
- It is powered by lithium battery (26 tons).
- The length of this vessel is 70.5 meters and its maximum speed is 12.8 km / h.
- There is zero emission of waste gas pollutants.



Reference:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/china-launches-world-s-first-fully-electric-cargo-ship/story-ceg5ZbMb67yOLpYFZNdg4l.html>

SPORTS

TENNIS

Nitto ATP Finals 2017

Question: Who is the winner of the singles title of the recently concluded Men Tennis Competition, Nitto ATP Finals 2017?

- (a) Grigor Dimitrov (b) Jack Sok (c) David Goffin
(d) John Peers

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- During November 12-19, 2017 the men's tennis competition Nitto ATP Finals 2017 concludes in London, Great Britain.
- **Competition result**
- **Men's Singles:**
winner-Grigor Dimitrov (Bulgaria)
Runner up-David Goffin (Belgium)
- **Men's Doubles:**
winner- John Peers (Australia) and Henri Kontinen (Finland)
Runner up- Lukasz Kubot (Poland) and Marcelo Melo (Brazil)



Reference:

<https://www.atpworldtour.com/en/tournaments/nitto-atp-finals/605/overview>

KPIT-MSLTA Challenger 2017

Question: Who amongst the following won the title of 'KPIT-MSLTA Challenger 2017'; a men's tennis tournament?

- (a) Yuki Bhambri (b) Ramkumar Ramanathan (c) Rohan Bopanna (d) Somdev Devvarman

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- During 13-18 November 2017 men's tennis tournament, 'KPIT-MSLTA Challenger' concluded in Pune.
- **Competition Results**
- **Men's Singles:**
winner-Yuki Bhambri (India)
Runner up- Ramkumar Ramanathan (India)
- **Men's Doubles**
winner-Tomislav Brkic (Bosnia) and Ante Pavic (Croatia)
Runner up- Pedro Martinez and Adrian Menendez (both Spain)



Reference:

<http://kpitchallenger.com/>

Rolex Paris Masters, 2017

Question: Who won the title of the recently concluded men's tennis competition, Rolex Paris Masters, 2017?

(a) Roger Federer (b) Rafael Nadal (c) Jack Sock (d) Marcelo Melo

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The ATP World Tour Session 2017 professional Male Tennis Competition concluded in Paris (France). (October 30 to November 5, 2017)
- **Competition Results:**
- **Men's singles:**
- Winner-Jack Sock (America)
- Runner up- Filip Krajinovic (Serbia)
- **Men's doubles:**
- Winner-Lukasz Kubot (Poland) and Marcelo Melo (Brazil)
- Runners up-Ivan Dodig (Croatia) and Marcel Granollers (Spain)



Reference:

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/news/sock-krajinovic-kubot-melo-paris-2017-tournament-story>

Kremlin Cup, 2017

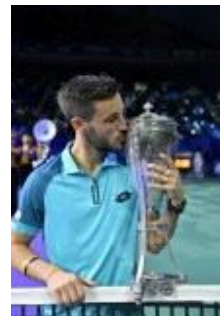
Question: Who won the women's singles title of the recently concluded Kremlin Cup, 2017 tennis tournament?

(a) Nicola Pietrangeli (b) Anna Smith (c) Timea Babos (d) Julia Goerges

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- International tennis Championship, Kremlin Cup, 2017, concluded in Moscow, Russia. (October 16-22, 2017)
- The result of the competition for singles title:
- **Men's Singles:**
- Winner-Damir Dzumhur (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
- Runner up- Richardas Berankis (Lithuania)
- **Women's Singles:**
- Winner- Julia Goerges (Germany)
- Runner up – Daria Kasatkina (Russia)



Reference:

<https://kremlincup.ru/en/about/2017/>

European Open, 2017

Question: Who was the partner of Divij Sharan of India in winning Double's of Men's Tennis Championship 'European Open, 2017' concluded recently?

(a) Purav Raja (b) Scott Lipsky (c) Pablo Cuevas (d) Benoit Pierre



Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Men Tennis Competition 'European Open, 2017' concluded in Antwerp, Belgium. (From 16 to 22 October, 2017)
- **Competition Result:**
- **Men's Singles:**
- winner- Jo Wilfred Tsonga (France)
- Runner up- Diego Schwartzman (Argentina)
- **Men's Doubles:**
- Winner- Divij Sharan (India) and Scott Lipsky (United States)
- Runner up- Santiago Gonzalez (Mexico) and Julio Pastilla (Chile)

Reference:

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/antwerp/7485/2017/results?matchType=singles>

Vienna Open-2017

Question: Who won the title of Men's single in the recently concluded Tennis Competition 'Vienna Open'-2017?

- (a) John Issner (b) Kevin Anderson (c) Sam Querrey
(d) Lucas Pouille

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Men's tennis competition 'Vienna Open'-2017 (Erste Bank Open 500) of ATP Tour Session concluded in Vienna Austria. (October 23-29, 2017)
- Competition Results:
- **Men's Singles**
Winner-Lucas Pouille (France)
Runner up-Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (France)
- **Men's doubles**
winner-Rohan Bopanna (India) and Pablo Cuevas (Uruguay)
Runner up-Marcelo Demoliner (Brazil) and Sam Querrey (U.S.)

Reference:

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/vienna/337/2017/results?matchType=singles>



Swiss Indoors-2017

Question: The winner of the single title in recently concluded Men's Tennis Championship 'Swiss Indoors'-2017 is –

- (a) Marin Cilic (b) Roger Federer (c) Jack Sock (d) David Goffin

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- ATP Tour Session of men's tennis competition 'Swiss Indoors' -2017 concluded in Basel, Switzerland. (October 23-29, 2017)



- Competition Results:
Men's Single
Winner-Roger Federer (Switzerland)
Runner up-Juan Martin Del Potro (Argentina)
- **Men's double**
winner-Ivan Dodig (Croatia) and Marcel Granollers (Spain)
Runner up-Fabrice Martin and Edouard Roger Vasselin (Both France)

Reference:

<http://www.swissindoorsbasel.ch/en-us/Players/Draw-2017/Singles-Draw-2017>
<http://www.swissindoorsbasel.ch/en-us/Players/Draw-2017/Doubles-Draw-2017>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_Swiss_Indoors

WTA Final's, 2017

Question: Who won the title of the recently concluded Women's Tennis Championship WTA Finals?

- (a) Simona Halep (b) Elind Svitolina (c) Caroline Wozniakki
 (d) Caroline Garcia

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Women's Tennis Tournament of WTA Tour Session-2017, "WTA Finals' 2017" concluded in Kalang, Singapore. (22-29 October, 2017)
- **Competition Result:**
- **Women's singles**
- Winner- Caroline Wozniakki (Denmark)
Runner up- Venus Williams (America)
- **Women's doubles**
- Winner- Timea Babos (Hungary) and Andrea Hlavackova (Czech Republic)
Runners up – Kiki Bertens (Netherlands) and Johanna Larson (Sweden)



Reference:

<http://www.wtatennis.com/tournament/2017-wta-finals#results>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_WTA_Finals

French Open Series -2017

Question: Recently, India's Srikanth Kidambi won the men's singles title of French Open Super Series Badminton. It's his which number title for year 2017.

- (a) Second (b) Third (c) Fourth (d) Fifth

Answer- (c)

Related Facts:

- 10th competition 'French open Series-2017' of BWF Super Series concluded in Paris, France. (24-29 October, 2017)
- Competition Result:



- **Men's singles**
winner-Srikanth Kidambi (India)
Runner up- Kenta Nishimoto (Japan)
- **women's singles**
winner-Tai Tzu-Ying (Chinese Taipei)
Runner up- Akena Yamaguchi (Japan)
- Srikanth is the first Indian to win the French Open title.
- It's Srikanth fourth title in this year and sixth title overall.
- He made a new Indian record by entering the Fifth Super Series Final.
- In the year 2017, he has also won the title in Indonesia, Australia and Denmark Open.
- Srikanth has become the fourth player in the world to win four or more Super Series titles in a year.
- In the year 2017, she won the title in Indonesia, Australia and Denmark Open.
- Srikanth reached at the level of Lin Dan and Lee Chong Wei by plying five Super Series Finals in a year.
- He became the first Indian player to win four or more Super Series titles in a year.
- Saina won three Super Series titles in 2010.

Reference:

<http://bwfworldsuperseries.com/results/2677/yonex-french-open/podium>

Vietnam Open 2017

Question: Who amongst the following won the Men's singles title of the recently concluded Hung Thinh Vietnam Open -2017?

- (a) Yuki Bhambri (b) Peter Polansky (c) Mikhail Youzhny
(d) Akira Santillan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- ATP Challenger Tour's Tennis Tournament -Hung Thinh Vietnam Open -2017 concluded in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. (October 23-29, 2017)
- Competition Results:
- Men's Singles
Winner- Mikhail Youzhny (Russia)
Runner up- John Millman (Australia)
- Men's Doubles
Winner- Saketh Myneni and N Vijay Sundar Prashanth (both India)
runner up- Ben Mclachlan and Go Soeda (both Japan)



Reference:

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/ho-chi-minh-city/7333/2017/draws?matchType=singles>

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/ho-chi-minh-city/7333/2017/draws?matchType=doubles>

CRICKET

Under-19 Youth Asia Cup

Question: Who amongst the following recently won the title of the Under-19 Youth Asia Cup 2017 held in Malaysia?

(a) India (b) Afghanistan (c) Pakistan (d) Malaysia

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- From 10-19 November, 2017 'Under-19 Youth Asia Cup 2017' concluded in Malaysia.
- Eight countries (India, Nepal, Malaysia, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, UAE, Pakistan and Afghanistan) took part in this competition.
- Afghanistan won the title for the first time by defeating Pakistan by 187 runs in the final match held in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) on November 19, 2017.
- Player of the Series- Mujib Jadran from Afghanistan; most wickets (20) in the series.
- Most runs in the series- Mohammad Taha (Pakistan)
- Naveen-ul-Haq is the captain of Afghanistan's Under-19 Asia Cup team.

Reference:

<http://www.asiancricket.org/index.php/tournaments/u-19-youth-asia-cup-2017>

<https://www.icc-cricket.com/news/516194>

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/series/8616/report/1125956>



Ranji Trophy: Team to play 500th match

Question: Which of the following home teams of India became the team to play 500th Ranji Trophy on November 9, 2017?

(a) Karnataka (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Gujarat (d) Mumbai

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Mumbai team played their 500th match of the national championship: Ranji Trophy in 2017-18, at the Wankhede Stadium against Baroda. (November 9, 2017)
- Mumbai became the first team to achieve this milestone.
- Mumbai has won the title of Ranji Trophy for the record 41 times.
- This team has given India the most international cricketer by combining all three formats of cricket.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/cricket/mumbais-500th-ranji-trophy-match-500-not-out-mumbais-performance-in-the-ranji-trophy/article20008609.ece>



India-New Zealand ODI Series, 2017

Question: Who won 'Player of the Series' title in the India-New Zealand ODI series-2017, concluded on October 29, 2017?

(a) Rohit Sharma (b) Tom Latham (c) Virat Kohli



(d) Ross Taylor

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The New Zealand cricket team is playing a series of three ODIs and three T-20 matches on tour of India. (October 22 to November 7, 2017)
- ODI series of three matches concluded. (October 22-29, 2017)
- India won the ODI series 2-1.
- This is India's seventh consecutive win in ODI series.
- Virat Kohli was chosen as the player of the series for most 263 runs in the Series.
- Virat scored a hundred before the series and in his 200th match, and became the second batsman in the world to score a hundred in the 200th match.
- Virat Kohli became the fastest player to reach 9000 ODIs runs after reaching the milestone in 194 innings.
- In the third match, Virat made his 32nd century of ODI career.
- Only Sachin Tendulkar (49 centuries) ahead of him in terms of the most centuries in ODIs.
- With 1460 run Virat is at top among the players who make highest run this year.
- In this series, Rohit Sharma completed 1000 runs in 2017.
- He became the second batsman to do this.
- Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli shared more than 200 runs in the ODIs four times, which is the highest partnership by any pair.
- Dhoni became India's first wicketkeeper, who has caught 200 catches (289 totals) in ODIs on the Indian land.

Reference:

<http://www.bcci.tv/india-v-new-zealand-2017/overview>

<http://www.bcci.tv/india-v-new-zealand-2017/results>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/sports/cricket/virat-kohli-scores-32nd-odi-century-fastest-to-9000-runs-in-odis-4912196/>

http://www.espncriinfo.com/story/_/id/21208132/kohli-rohit-record-double-century-stands

HOCKEY

Hockey Asia Cup (Women), 2017

Question: By defeating which o the following countries India has won the title of the recently concluded Hockey Asia Cup (Women), 2017?

(a) China (b) Japan (c) D. Korea (d) Malaysia

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The 9th edition of Hockey Asia Cup (Women) concluded in Kakamigahara, Gifu (Japan). (October 28 to November 5, 2017)
- The tournament was attended by 8 teams.
- Indian women team won the Asian Cup title (gold) for the second time by defeating China 5-4 in the penalty shoot-out after a 1-1 draw in the final.
- Korea won the Bronze medal by defeating hosting nation Japan 1-0.
- Zhong Jiachi of China scored the maximum of 11 goals in the tournament.



- The Indian women's hockey team had won the first Asia Cup title in New Delhi in 2004, defeating Japan.
- Indian women's hockey team captain is Rani Rampal and Harendra Singh is the chief coach.
- Following this victory, the Indian women's hockey team retreated Spain by achieving 10th place in the FIH World Ranking released on 6th November.
- In the ranking, the Netherlands occupies the top.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/hockey/indian-women-win-asia-cup-qualify-for-hockey-world-cup/article19987232.ece>

7th Sultan of Johor Cup, 2017

Question: India won Bronze medal in the recently concluded Sultan of Johor Cup hockey tournament by defeating which of the following?

(a) Japan (b) Malaysia (c) Great Britain (d) Australia

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- The 7th edition of the Sultan of Johor Cup International U-21 hockey tournament concludes in Johor Bahru, Johor, Malaysia. (October 22-29, 2017)
- Participating teams- (6) Great Britain, Australia, India, Malaysia, Japan and America.
- Winner (Gold Medal) – Australia by 2-0
- Runner up (Silver Medal) – Great Britain
- 3rd Place (Bronze Medal) – India by 4-0
- 4th place- Malaysia
- In the tournament, India's Dilpreet Singh scored the maximum of 9 goals.



Reference:

<http://www.sultanjohorcup.com.my/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2017_Sultan_of_Johor_Cup

FOOTBALL

FIFA U17 Football World Cup

Question: On October 28, 2017, who amongst the following awarded the Golden Boot award in the FIFA U-17 Football World Cup?

(a) Phil Foden (b) Rhian Brewster (c) Sergio Gomez
(d) Abel Ruiz

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- FIFA U-17 Football World Cup-2017, held in India for the first time, concluded in Salt Lake Stadium, Kolkata, after organizing various cities. (October 6-28, 2017)
- 24 teams of 6 confederation participated in the world cup.



- For the first time on October 28th, England won the title of world cup (gold medal) by defeating Spain 5-2 in match played in Salt lake stadium in Kolkata.
- Brazil won bronze title by defeating Mali 2-0.
- The Golden Ball award for Best Player was awarded to Phil Foden of England.
- Silver Ball – Sergio Gomez (Spain)
- Bronze Ball- Rhian Brewster (England)
- England's Rhian Brewster was awarded the 'Golden Boot' award (8 goals).
- Silver Boot- Lassana Ndiaye (Mali)
- Bronze Boot-Abel Ruiz (Spain)
- Golden Glove Award was presented to Brazilian Gabriel Brazzo.
- Brazil was awarded 'FIFA Fair Play Award'.
- England won the match consistently and the England team was unbeaten in the tournament.
- Spain never won the title even after reaching the final 4 times.
- Its England's third title of the year.
- Earlier, England has won the U-20 World Cup and U-19 European Championships in Korea.
- England's Brewster became the first footballer to have two hat-tricks in any World Cup.
- England is the 9th team to win the U-17 World Cup.
- This time in the world cup final match (score 5-2) was the highest score match.
- Earlier, in the Ecuador World Cup-1995, Ghana defeated Brazil by 3-2.
- Total 183 goals were made in this World Cup, which is the highest one in any U-17 world cup.
- 13, 47,143 spectators have enjoyed the matches, which is also a new record.
- Earlier, 13, 09,929 spectators had made a record presence in the 2011 Colombia World Cup.
- The mascot of the FIFA U-17 World Cup was a leopard named 'Kheleo'.

Reference:

<http://www.fifa.com/u17worldcup/news/y=2017/m=10/news=england-make-history-as-football-takes-over-india-2918205.html>

BADMINTON

82nd Senior National Badminton Championship

Question: Recently, who won the title of women's singles at the 82nd Senior National Badminton Championship in Nagpur?

- (a) Ashwini Ponnappa (b) N. Sikki Reddy (c) Saina Nehwal
(d) Sanyogita Ghorpade

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- 82th Senior National Badminton Championship, 2017concluded in Nagpur, Maharashtra (November 2nd-8th, 2017).
- **Competition Results-**
- **Men's Singles:**



- Winner-H.S.Prannoy (PSPB)
- Runners up- Srikanth Kidambi (PSPB)
- **Women's Doubles:**
- Winner- Ashwini Ponnappa and N. Sikki Reddy (both PSPB)
- Runner up- Sanyogita Ghorpade and Prajakta Sawant (both AI)
- **Men's Doubles:**
- Winner-Manu Attri (PSPB) and B. Sumit Reddy (TS)
- Runners up- *Satwiksairaj Rankireddy* (AP) and Chirag Shetty (MAHA)
- **Women's Singles:**
- Winner- Saina Nehwal (PSPB)
- Runner up -PV Sindhu (AP)
- **Mixed Double:**
- Winners – *Satwiksairaj Rankireddy* (AP) and Ashwini Ponnappa (PSPB)
- Runner up- Pranab J Chopra and N. Sikki Reddy (both PSPB)
- Saina won the title ten years later, while HS Prannoy won the title for the first time.

Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/SNBCIndia2017/>

BOXING

AIBA Young Women's World Boxing Championship-2017

Question: Which of the following is the mascot of AIBA Young Women's World Boxing organizing in Guwahati in November, 2017?

(a) Huppy (b) Dumpy (c) Guppy (d) Sumpy

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The Indian Boxing Federation (BFI) released the official song, logo and mascot of the first AIBA Youth Woman World Boxing Championships. (November 6, 2017)
- The famous one-horned rhinoceros (female) of Assam has been made an official mascot, which has been named GUPPY.
- It symbolizes strength and patience.
- The official song of the championship (Anthem) is 'Make Some Noise'.
- Shan has composed the lyrics and it is sung by Kunwar Juneja and Sunidhi Chauhan.
- This logo consists of two essential elements-the culture of Assam (host state) and the strength of a woman.
- From 19-26 November, 2017, about 193 boxers from 39 countries will participate in this competition in Guwahati, Assam.
- India hosted the Senior Women's World Championship in 2006.
- Indian women boxers Mary Kom, Shiv Thapa and Zubin Garg are the brand ambassadors of AIBA for this championship.



Reference:

<https://www.aiba.org/blog/30-days-go-2017-aiba-womens-youth-world-championships-begin-guwahati-19-november/>

ASBC Asian Women's boxing championship

Question: M.C. Mary Kom in the recently concluded ASBC Asian Women's boxing championship won the gold medal. How many gold medals have Mary Kom won in the Asian boxing championship?

(a) Three (b) Five (c) Seven (d) Nine

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- ASBC Asian Female Boxing Championship, 2017 Ho Chi Minh, completed in Vietnam. (November 2-8, 2017)
- Five-time world champion and famous Indian woman boxer by the nickname 'Magnificent Mary' MC Mary Kom won the gold medal for the fifth time in this championship.
- In the final of 48 kg weight class, Mary defeated Kim Hyang Mi of North Korea 5-0.
- This is Mary's first medal in the Light flyweight 48 kg weight category.
- India won a total of 7 medals (1 gold, 1 silver, 5 bronze) in the championship.
- Mary Kom became the world's first boxer to win 5 gold medals in the Asian Championships.
- She participated in Asian boxing 6 times and reached the final every time.
- 5 times she won gold medal and won the silver medal in Guwahati in the year 2008.
- The International Boxing Association gave her the nickname 'Magnificent Mary' in 2010.
- 35-year-old Mary Kom is also the Rajya Sabha MP and Government Supervisor of Boxing in India.
- She got the Arjuna Award in 2003, the Padma Shri in 2006, the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna in 2009 and the Padma Bhushan in 2013.
- Other medal winners in the championship
- Sonia Lather (57kg) – Silver
- Shiksha (54kg) – Bronze
- Priyanka Chaudhary (60kg) Bronze
- Lashram Sarita Devi (64kg) Bronze
- Lavina Borgohein (69kg) – Bronze
- Seema Punia (81+kg) – Bronze
- Chief Coach-Shiv Singh
- The best boxer award for the championship was given to Lin Yu Ting (Chinese Taipei).



Reference:

<http://www.asbcnews.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/11/medal-by-weight.pdf>

<http://www.asbcnews.org/chinese-taipeis-lin-yu-ting-won-the-best-boxer-trophy-in-the-asbc-asian-confederation-womens-boxing-championships/>

Second Elite Men's National Boxing Championships, 2017

Question: Who amongst the following has been declared the best boxer in the recently concluded second Elite Men's National Boxing Championship, 2017?

(a) Shiva Thapa (b) Manoj Kumar (c) Mandeep Jangra
(d) Parag Chauhan



Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Indian Boxing Association (BFI) Second Elite Men's National Boxing Championship organized by 2017 concluded in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (24-30 October, 2017)
- Railways Sports Promotion Board (RSPB) received 5 gold and 1 bronze medals in the competition and got top position (overall champion) in the medal table.
- RSPB Manoj Kumar was selected as the 'Best Boxer' of the competition. Manish Kaushik of Services Sports Control Board (SSCB) was selected as 'Best Promising Boxer'.
- The award of 'Best Challenger' was given to NT Redabakima of Mizoram.
- SSCB secured second place with 4 gold and 1 silver medal.
- Haryana got 1 gold, 1 silver and 2 bronze medals and remained third.
- Manoj Kumar defeated Duryodhana Singh of SSCB 4-1 in Welter Weight category (69kg).
- Manish Kaushik defeated Shiv Thapa of Asom 4-1 in Light Weight category (60kg).
- NT Lalbiakima was defeated in the light flyweight category (46-49kg) by K. Shyam Kumar of RSPB.

Reference:

<http://boxingfederation.in/national-boxing-championship-at-visakhapatnam/>

31st Ahmet Comert International Boxing Tournament

Question: Who amongst the following Indian young woman boxers won the single gold medal of in the 31st Ahmet Comert international boxing tournament held in Istanbul?

(a) Praveen (b) Sonia (c) Manisha (d) Lalita

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- The 31st Ahmet Comert International Boxing Tournament concluded in Istanbul, Turkey. (11 to 17 September, 2017)
- Indian women youth boxers won a total of 9 medals including 1 gold, 4 silver and 4 bronze medals in the competition.
- India's only gold medal won by Sonia, in the weight class of 48 kg, by defeating the Zhazira Uracabeva of Kazakhstan.
- Other Indian Medal winners
- **Silver medal**
 1. Praveen (54 kg)
 2. Ankushita Boro (64 kg)
 3. Shashi Chopra (57 kg)
 4. Niharika Gonella (75kg)
- **Bronze medal**
 1. Jyoti Guheya (48 kg)
 2. Tilottama Chanu (60 kg)
 3. Manisha (69kg)
 4. Lalita (64kg)



Reference:

<http://ddnews.gov.in/sports/women-boxers-shine-ahmet-comert-boxing-tournament>

FORMULA ONE

Brazil Grand Prix 2017

Question: Which driver won the title of the recently concluded Brazil Grand Prix 2017 Formula One car race?

- (a) Louis Hamilton (b) Sebastian Vettel (c) Max Verstappen
(d) Valtteri Bottas

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 13, 2017, 19th race of Formula One Session 2017 'Brazil Grand Prix 2017' concluded in Interlagos, São Paulo (Brazil).
- Italian team Ferrari's driver Sebastian Vettel (Germany) won the title of the race by completing it in 1 hour, 3 minutes, 26.262 seconds.
- This is the 5th victory of Sebastian Vettel till now, in 19 Formula One race so far in 2017.

Reference:

<https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/features/2017/11/brazil-stats--vettel-gives-ferrari-first-interlagos-win-in-10-y.html>



Formula One World Championship-2017

Question: Who won the title of Formula One World Championship-2017 after recently concluded Mexican Grand Prix Race?

- (a) Lewis Hamilton (b) Nico Rosberg (c) Valtteri Bottas (d) Daniel Ricciardo

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- 18th race of the Formula One season at the Mexican Grand Prix concluded in Mexico City (October 29, 2017).
- **Competition Results:**
- Winner-Max Verstappen (Netherlands), Team- Red Bull Racing Tag Heuer.
- Based on the figures of 18 out of the 20 races of 2017, Lewis Hamilton won the title of the Formula One World Championship for the fourth time.
- The driver of German team Mercedes Benz, Lewis received 333 points by winning 9 races.
- Hamilton became the first British driver to win this championship four times.
- German team Mercedes Benz won the title of World Constructors Championship with the most 595 points.
- The remaining two races of this season are still to be held, the Brazilian Grand Prix (November 12) and the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix (November 26).

Reference:

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2017/races/976/mexico.html>

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2017/drivers.html>

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2017/team.html>



SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

France to host Rugby World Cup

Question: Which edition of Rugby World Cup would be hosted by France?

(a) 2018 (b) 2019 (c) 2022 (d) 2023

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- France will host the 2023 Rugby World Cup.
- On November 15, 2017, this decision was taken at an interim meeting of the World Rugby Council in London.
- 2015th edition of Rugby World Cup concluded in England.
- It is noteworthy that the Rugby World Cup of 2019 will be held in Japan.

Reference:

<https://www.rte.ie/sport/rugby/2017/1115/920153-world-cup-bid/>

<http://www.bbc.com/sport/rugby-union/41995220>



Pro kabaddi league, 2017

Question: Which team won the title of the recently concluded Pro kabaddi league, 2017?

(a) U Mumba (b) Puneri Paltan (c) Patna Pirates (d) Jaipur Pink Panthers

Answer- (c)

Related Facts:

- The 5th edition of the Indian Professional Pro Kabaddi League concludes. (July 28 to October 28, 2017)
- Sponsor-Vivo
- Organizer -Mashala Sports and Star India
- This league was attended by 12 teams, in which four new teams were UP Yoddha, Tamil Thalaivas, Haryana Steelers and Gujarat Fortunegiants.
- Final- Jawaharlal Nehru Indoor Stadium, Chennai.
- In the final Patna Pirates won the title of the league for the third consecutive time by defeating Gujarat Fortunegiants by 55-38.
- Patna Pirates captain Pardeep Narwal secured the maximum of 369 points in the over 26 matches.



Reference:

<https://www.prokabaddi.com/>

ISSF World Cup Final-2017

Question: Which of the following country achieved the top ranking in the recently concluded ISSF World Cup Final, 2017?

(a) Italy (b) China (c) India (d) America

Answer- (a)

Related Facts:



- A four stage World Cup Final Event International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) concluded in New Delhi. (October 23-30, 2017)
- Venue – Karni Singh Shooting Range, New Delhi.
- India, the hosting country; remained at 7th place with 1 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze (total 3) medals.
- Italy got the top rank with a total of 6 medals, including 2 gold, 3 silver and 1 bronze medal.
- China remained at second with 2 gold, 2 silver and 5 bronze.
- Indian Medal Winner:
- Gold Medal – Jitu Rai and Heena Sidhu (10m Air Pistol Mixed Team)
- Silver Medal- Sangram Dahiya (Double Trap Men)
- Bronze medal- Amanpreet Singh (50m pistol Men)

Reference:

<http://www.issf-sports.org/news.ashx?newsid=2930>

Commonwealth (Youth, Junior, Senior) Weightlifting Championships

Question: Hosting of which version of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championship has been conferred to India?

(a) 2018 (b) 2019 (c) 2020 (d) 2021

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- India will host, Commonwealth (Youth, Junior and Senior) Weightlifting Championships, in 2019.
- This decision was taken at the executive board meeting of the Commonwealth Weightlifting Association (CWF) (Gold Coast, Australia). (September 6, 2017)
- Its version of the year 2017 was completed in Gold Coast, Australia. (September 3-9, 2017)
- It is notable that the Commonwealth Games will be organized in the Gold Coast in 2018.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/india-to-host-2019-commonwealth-weightlifting-championships-117090600613_1.html

42nd Maharashtra state Open squash championship

Question: Who won the women's singles title of the recently concluded 42nd Maharashtra State Open Squash Championship?

(a) Riya Sisoudia (b) Sachika Ingale (c) Sachika Balwani (d) Urvashi Joshi

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- 42nd Maharashtra state Open squash championship concluded in Mumbai. (September 4, 2016)
- Competition Results
- **Male class**



- Winner-Aditya Jagtap (Maharashtra)
- Runners up- Abhishek Pradhan (Maharashtra)
- **Female class**
- Winner-Sachika Ingale (Uttar Pradesh)
- Runners up- Urvashi Joshi (Maharashtra)
- Gaurav Nandrajog defeated Abhishek Agrawal in third place play-off in men's category.
- Sachika Balwani defeated Riya Sisoudia in third place play-off in women's section.

Reference:

http://ispsquash.com/maharashtrastateopen_from1996.htm

<http://mumbainewsnetwork.blogspot.in/2017/09/bombay-gym-42nd-maharashtra-state-open.html>

SPORTS PERSONALITY

Brand Ambassador of Bengaluru FC

Question: Who amongst the following has been chosen as brand ambassador by Bangalore FC for ISL session 4, 2017?

- (a) Zaheer Khan (b) Rahul Dravid (c) Bichung Bhutia
(d) Mary Kom

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On 14 November 2017, Bangalore FC chose former Indian cricket team captain Rahul Dravid as his brand ambassador for ISL 2017.
- It is the fourth session of the ISL Football League started in 2013 and is the first session of Bengaluru FC in the league.
- ISL 2017 will be organized from 17 November 2017-17 March 2018.
- At present, Sunil Chhetri is the captain of Bengaluru FC.



Reference:

<http://www.bengaluru.fc.com/fortress-gets-wall-dravid-becomes-bengaluru-fc-ambassador/>

First Indian cricketer to score highest double century in first-class cricket

Question: Which of the following cricketers recently broke the record of Vijay Merchant by scoring the 12th double century in first-class cricket?

- (a) Gautam Gambhir (b) Anmolpreet Singh (c) Gurkirat Singh
(d) Cheteshwar Pujara

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- In a Ranji Trophy 2017-18 match Cheteshwar Pujara, playing for Saurashtra hit a double century (204 runs) against Jharkhand (November 2, 2017).
- With this, Pujara became the first Indian cricketer to score 12 double centuries in first-class cricket.



- Before this double century, the record of 11 double centuries of cricketer Vijay Merchant broke.
- 3 Triple Centuries are also in the names of Pujara in domestic cricket.
- His highest individual score in the first-class match is 352 runs.
- Pujara has scored a total of 42 centuries and 43 half-centuries in the first-class match.
- Rahul Dravid, Sunil Gavaskar, and Vijay Hazare have scored 10 double centuries in the first class.

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/cheteshwar-pujara-double-hundred-ranji-trophy/1/1080697.html>

Russian gold medalist athlete has been restricted for the lifetime

Question-Recently Which Russian athlete has been restricted by the international Olympic Association for the lifetime?

(a) Sergey Kiryayapkin (b) Alexander Legkov (c) Valeriy Borchin (d) Yulia Gushchina

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- In a decision taken by the International Olympic Association (IOC), the Winter Olympics, 2014 gold medalist Russian athlete Alexander Legkov was disqualified in the Dope Test. (November 1, 2017)
- Legkov won a gold medal in the cross country race (50 km), which has been withdrawn.
- Legkov will no longer be able to participate in any Olympics.
- His record in Sochi also has been canceled.



Reference:

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-olympics-doping-sochi/two-russian-skiers-get-life-bans-over-sochi-games-doping-idUSKBN1D1562>

President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation Re-elected

Question: Who amongst the following has been re-elected as the President of the Indian Weightlifting Federation on October 30, 2017?

(a) Mahadev Prasad (b) Sahdev Yadav (c) Birendra Prasad Vaishya
(d) Ramesh Kumar Gupta

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The Indian Weightlifting Federation held its Annual General Meeting on 30th October 2017 in New Delhi, India.
- The Elections of the Indian Weightlifting Federation has been conducted under strict guidelines issued by Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India with the supervision of Observers from Ministry of Sports and Indian Olympic Association.
- **The following officials were elected:**
- **President:** Mr. Birendra Prasad Baishya
- **Secretary General:** Mr. Sahdev Yadav



- **Treasurer:** Mr. Naresh Sharma
- **Secretary:** Mr. Badeti Venkataramaiah
- In addition to the above, 7 Vice Presidents, 3 Associate Vice Presidents, 5 Executive Members and 4 Joint. Secretaries have also been elected.
- The term of this committee will be till 2017-21.

Reference:

<http://www.iwf.net/2017/10/30/elections-of-the-indian-weightlifting-federation/>

Renowned tennis woman player famous as lucky charm announced her retirement

Question: On October 27, 2017, the famous women's tennis named **Lucky Charm** announced the retirement. Who's that player?

(a) Maria Sharapova (b) Serena Williams (c) Martina Hingis (d) Tima Babos

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- 'Lucky Charm' for Leander Paes and Sania Mirza, Switzerland's tennis player Martina Hingis announced her retirement. (October 27, 2017)
- According to Martina's announcement, the WTA Finals Tournament in Singapore (October 29, 2017) will be her last tournament.
- Martina has won 5 Grand Slam women's singles titles, 13 Grand Slam women doubles titles and 7 Grand Slam mixed doubles titles in her career.
- She has won 3 women's doubles Grand Slam titles with Sania Mirza, 4 with Leander Paes and 1 with Mahesh Bhupathi.
- It is noteworthy that Martina had come back after an announcement of retirement in 2001 and again in 2007.

Reference:

<http://www.wtatennis.com/news/its-official-martina-hingis-retires-professional-tennis>



Fastest Centaury of International T-20

Question: Against which country did David Miller recently make the fastest century of international T-20?

(a) Bangladesh (b) Sri Lanka (c) Pakistan (d) West Indies

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- South African batsman David Miller made world record for fastest T-20. (October 29, 2017)
- Miller scored 100 runs off just 35 balls in this match against Bangladesh. (Total 101 runs at 36 balls)
- Earlier, this record was the name of Richard Levi of Africa.
- Levy made a century in 45 balls against New Zealand in 2012.



Reference:

<https://www.sportskeeda.com/cricket/stats-david-miller-smashes-fastest-t20i-century>

Two-year ban on Sri Lankan cricketer

Question: Which former cricketer has recently been banned for two-year by the Sri Lankan cricket (SLC)?

- (a) Tilakaratne Dilshan (b) Ashen Priananjan
(c) Chamara Silva (d) Dilshan Munawira

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Sri Lanka Cricket (SLC) imposed ban on Chamara Silva from all “cricket-related activities” for his supposed role in a Tier B first-class match that featured unusual scoring rates. (September 17, 2017)
- This ban was imposed third day of the Panadura Cricket Club v Kalutara Physical Culture Club match played from January 23 to 25.
- Kalutara Club captain Manoj Despriya has been banned for two years.
- The other players, coaches, and administrators have all been punished with one-year bans.



Reference:

http://www.espnricinfo.com/story/_/id/20724896/chamara-silva-banned-two-years-cricket

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/cricket/news/slc-bans-chamara-silva-for-two-years-on-fixing-charges/articleshow/60717373.cms>

SHORT NOTES

PERSONALITIES

Indian Navy's first woman pilot

Question: Who amongst the following recently became the first woman pilot of the Indian Navy?

- (a) Aastha Sehgal (b) Rupa A. (c) Shubangi Swarup
(d) Deep Sanga

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 22, 2017, the Shubhangi Swarup from of Uttar Pradesh became the first woman pilot of the Indian Navy.
- Apart from this, three other women cadets, Astha Segal from New Delhi, Roopa A. from Puducherry and Sakthi Maya S. from Kerala, also honored as the country's first women officers of the Naval Armament Inspectorate (NAI) branch.



Reference:

<http://ddinews.gov.in/national/shubhangi-swaroop-indian-navys-first-woman-pilot>

UNICEF's Celebrity Advocate Status

Question: Who amongst the following was recently conferred the UNICEF celebrity advocate status?

(a) Saina Nehwal (b) Trisha Krishnan (c) P.V. Sandhu (d) Lily Singh

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 20th, 2017, the famous Tamil actress Trisha Krishnan was conferred the UNICEF celebrity advocate status.
- She will raise voice for rights of children including adolescents and young people.
- Apart from this, she will make effort to address issues such as anaemia, child marriage, child labour and child abuse.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/chennai/trisha-becomes-unicef-celebrity-advocate/article20607385.ece>

Zimbabwe's New President

Question: Who amongst the following recently has sworn as Zimbabwe's new president?

(a) Emmerson Mnangagwa (b) Robert Mugabe (c) Emma Mugabe
(d) Jacob Mudenda

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 24th, 2017, Former Vice-President of Zimbabwe Emmerson Mnangagwa sworn in as the new President of the country.
- Emmerson Mnangagwa has taken over from Robert Mugabe.
- It is noteworthy that Robert Mugabe resigned from the office of President after being removed from the post of chairman of Zimbabwe's ruling party ZANU-PF party on November 22, 2017.
- After ruling over past 37 years since the abolition of British Colonial Rule, he resigned from the office.
- It is notable that Queen Elizabeth II aged 91, is now the world's oldest living head of state following Robert Mugabe's resignation as president of Zimbabwe at the age of 93.



Reference:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/11/24/africa/mnangagwa-swearing-in-zimbabwe/index.html>

Suresh Chukkapalli

Question: Recently by which of the following countries Suresh Chukkapalli has been appointed as the Honorary Consul General with consular jurisdiction over the State of Telengana.



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

(a) UK (b) France (c) Korea Republic (d) Germany

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 1, 2017, Phoenix Group chairman Suresh Chukkapalli was conferred an honor by the republic of Korea by appointing him as the Honorary Consul General with consular jurisdiction over the State of Telengana.
- At a function held in New Delhi, he assumed his office.
- Suresh Chukkapalli has been the former director and founder promoter of Lanco Group.
- Apart from this, he was associated with various bodies including the Central Board of Film Certification, Trade and Industry Association.
- To develop business relations with South Korea and to promote cultural exchanges, an honorary Consulate General Office will be opened in Hyderabad soon.

Reference:

<http://www.phoenixindia.net/leadership.html#gallery-details-1>

Justice Dalveer Bhandari

Question: On November 21st, 2017, Justice Dalveer Bhandari has been re-elected as member of International Court of Justice. After this re-election he will serve for his-

(a) 2nd tenure (b) 3rd tenure (c) 4th tenure (d) 5th tenure

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 21st, 2017, India's Dalveer Bhandari was re-elected to the International Court of Justice.
- It is notable that Justice Dalveer Bhandari is member of the ICJ since 27 April 2012.
- After re-election he will serve for second terms of nine year.
- It is noteworthy that Bhandari has been re-elected to the last seat of the ICJ after Britain withdrew its candidate (Christopher Greenwood) from the election.
- Bhandari, 70, received 183-193 votes in the General Assembly and secured all 15 votes in the Security Council to fill the final vacancy on the ICJ.
- However, in the 15-member Security Council Greenwood got majority (nine) of the votes as against six votes by Bhandari.
- Earlier, On June 20, 2017, Government of India had renominated Justice Dalveer Bhandari as Judge of the International Court of Justice (ICJ).



Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/9253889_India-s-nominee-Bhandari-re-elected-to-ICJ-after-UK-pullout

Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi

Question: Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi passed away recently. He was-

(a) Journalist (b) Politician (c) Actor (d) Environmentalist

Answer- (b)

Related Facts:



- On November 20, 2017, Senior Congress leader and former Union Minister Priya Ranjan Dasmunsi passed away. He was 72 years old.
- He had been in coma since 2008.
- He was elected MP for the first time in the Southern Kolkata Lok Sabha seat in 1971.
- After that he was elected MP from Howrah Lok Sabha constituency in 1984.
- In the year 1999 and 2004, he was an MP from Raiganj Lok Sabha constituency.
- Apart from this, he was Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Information and Broadcasting from 2004 to 2008.
- He has been the President of the All India Football Federation for nearly 20 years.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173668>

Justice Bhagwati Prasad

Question: Justice Bhagwati Prasad has passed away recently. He was the former Chief Justice of which state?

- (a) Allahabad High Court (b) Jharkhand High Court
(c) Delhi High Court (d) Gujarat High Court

Answer- (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 19th, 2017, former Chief Justice of Jharkhand High Court Justice Bhagwati Prasad passed away. He was 68 years old.
- He was the President of the Gujarat State Human Rights Commission.
- Apart from this, he was also a judge in Rajasthan and Gujarat High Courts.

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/justice-bhagwati-prasad-passes-away/1/1093051.html>



Debjani Ghosh

Question: Debjani Ghosh, former managing director of Intel South Asia, was appointed the first woman president of which organization?

- (a) NASSCOM (b) FICCI (c) Ascham (d) CII

Answer- (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 10th, 2017, Debjani Ghosh, former Managing Director of Intel South Asia, was appointed the first woman president of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM).
- At this post, she is succeeding Mr. R Chandrashekhar, President, NASSCOM upon the completion of his term in March 2018.

Reference:

http://www.nasscom.in/sites/default/files/media_pdf/Debjani-Ghosh-Appointed-As-Nasscom-President-designate.pdf



Ravi Bangar

Question: Recently, the senior officer of the Indian Foreign Service Ravi Bangar was appointed as the next ambassador of India in which of the following countries?

(a) Norway (b) Ecuador (c) China (d) Russia

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- According to a press release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs Ravi Bangar, senior official of the Indian Foreign Service was appointed the next Ambassador of India to Ecuador on November 10, 2017.
- He is year 1982 batch IFS officer.
- He is presently Ambassador of India to Colombia.



Reference:

<http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29107/Ravi+Bangar+concurrently+accredited+as+the+next+Ambassado>

Ajay Bisaria

Question: In which of the following countries senior officer of Indian Foreign Service Ajay Bisaria has recently been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India?

(a) Bangladesh (b) Australia (c) Sri Lanka (d) Pakistan

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- According to a press release issued by the Ministry of External Affairs On 31st October, 2017, Ajay Bisaria has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Islamic Republic of Pakistan.
- He is the 1987 batch senior officer of the Indian Foreign Service.
- Presently he is Ambassador of India to Republic of Poland.



Reference:

http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29080/Ajay_Bisaria_appointed_as_the_next_High_Commissioner_of_Indi

Kunwar Narayan

Question: Recently Eminent Hindi poet Kunwar Narayan passed away. In which year he was honored with the prestigious Jnanpith Award?

(a) year-2009 (b) year -2005 (c) year-2008 (d) year -2002

Answer- (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 15th, 2017, senior poet Kunwar Narayan Passed away. He was 90 years old.
- He was born on 19th September, 1927 in Faizabad (Uttar Pradesh).



- He was honored with the Jnanpith Award in 2005 and Padma Bhushan in the year 2009 for the Sahitya Akademi (for the poem collection 'No other') in the year 1995.
- Apart from his first poetry collection "Chakravyuh", which is considered a landmark in Hindi literature, his other works including "Atmajayee", "Apne Samne", "Koi Dusra Nah", and "In Dinon" put him on the forefronts of the literary world.

Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/9238581_Padma-Bhushan-Hindi-poet-Kunwar-Narayan-dead-at-90.html

Kirti Nidhi Bista

Question: Kirti Nidhi Bista passed away recently. He was the former prime minister of which of the following countries?

(a) Bangladesh (b) Suriname (c) Malaysia (d) Nepal

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 11th, 2017, former Nepalese Prime Minister Kirti Nidhi Bista passed away. He was 90 years old.
- He was the Prime Minister of Nepal during 1969-1970, 1971-1973 and 1977-1979.

Reference:

<http://ddinews.gov.in/international/former-nepal-pm-kirti-nidhi-bista-passes-away>



UK Defense Minister resigned

Question: UK Defense Minister resigned on November 1, 2017, he is-

(a) Michael Arthur (b) Gavin Williamson (c) Michael Fellon (d) Thomas Gomes

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- On November 1, 2017, Britain's Defense Minister Michael Fellon resigned from his post.
- He is the first big leader of Prime Minister Theresa's Cabinet, who resigned after allegations of misbehavior.
- He acknowledged that 15 years ago, at the Conservative Party's conference he had misbehaved with a radio presenter.
- After this, Gavin Williamson has been made the new defense minister.

Related Links:-

<http://www.bbc.com/news/uk-politics-41841887>



New Director General of Police Research and Development Bureau

Question: Who has recently been appointed as Director General of Police Research and Development Bureau?

(a) Ravindra Kumar (b) RC Dholakia (c) A.P. Maheshwari



(d) Kiran Kumar Sharma

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On October 30th, 2017, the special director general of Border Security Force (BSF), AP Maheshwari has been appointed Director General of Police Research and Development Bureau by the Central Government.
- He will hold the post for a period up to his superannuation on February 28, 2021, or till further orders.
- He has been appointed in place of Meeran C Borwankar.

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/a-p-maheshwari-appointed-dg-bureau-of-police-research/1/1078575.html>

Karnataka's first woman Police chief (DG-IGP)

Question: Who has been appointed the first woman Director General of police and Inspector General of Police of Karnataka?

(a) Neelmani N. Raju (b) Kiran Bala (c) Rajni Mohapatra (d) Shashikla Kumam

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- 1983 batch IPS officer Neelmani N. Raju has been appointed the first women Director General of Police and Inspector General of Police of Karnataka. (October 31, 2017)
- She took the position of Rupak Kumar Dutt.
- Neelmani (57 years) was Director General of Police (Internal Security) before being appointed the first DG-IGP of Karnataka.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/neelamani-n-raju-is-karnatakas-first-woman-police-chief/article19956049.ece>

First global managing director and chief executive officer of Tata Steel Limited

Question: Who has been promoted to Tata Steel's first global managing director and CEO?

(a) Pramod Narayan (b) T.V Narendran (c) Kishor Amonkar
(d) Sheshmani Kumar

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- T.V. Narendran has been made the first global managing director and chief executive officer of Tata Steel Limited.
- Narendran was promoted by the Board of Directors of the Company at the board meeting held on October 30, 2017.
- Narendran was appointed Managing Director (India and South East Asia) in November 2013.



- In his tenure of four years, Tata Steel has successfully started Kalinganagar Steel Plant (Green Field Project), one of the largest projects in India, with success.
- Along with this, he has increased the ability of providing high-priced steel for the auto industry.
- Kaushik Chatterjee was again appointed Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer for five years, effective from 9th November, 2017.
- His current tenure ends on November 8, 2017.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/tata-steel-elevates-t-v-narendran-as-global-ceo-md/article19955923.ece>

America's Top Young Scientist

Question: Who amongst the following recently got the title of being America's top young scientist?

(a) Anita Kaur (b) Sunil Suri (c) Gitanjali Rao (d) Geeta Sanyal

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On October 17, 2017, Indian-American Gitanjali Rao won the 'Discovery Education contest and 3M Young Scientist Challenge'. This award has been given to her to develop a sensor that can detect lead levels in water better than traditional methods.
- GitaJangli named the device after the 'Tethys'-Greek goddess of pure water.
- This device can be moved anywhere and connecting with mobile app can be used to detect the amount of lead in the water immediately.
- This was developed in response to learning about the ongoing water crisis in Flint, Michigan USA, in 2014-15.



Reference:

<http://www.businessinsider.in/An-11-year-old-has-become-Americas-Top-Young-Scientist-for-her-sensor-detecting-lead-in-water/articleshow/61135594.cms>

New private secretary to the President

Question: Who has recently been appointed as the private secretary to President Ramnath Kovind?

(a) Sunil Singh (b) Anil Kumar (c) M.C Borwankar
(d) Vikram Singh

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On October 30, 2017, Railway Officer Vikram Singh has been appointed as the Private Secretary of President Ramnath Kovind.
- Vikram Singh is Indian Railway Traffic Service officer of 1997 batch.
- Cabinet's Appointment Committee has approved his appointment for a period of two years.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/vikram-singh-appointed-private-secretary-to-president-117103001056_1.html

Ex-General Manager of the BCCI passed away

Question: A former General Manager of the Board of Control of Cricket India passed away recently. He was-

- (a) Rameshwar Kumar (b) Jayant Saxena (c) E. Sreedharan
(d) M.V. Sridhar

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On October 30, 2017, former Hyderabad captain and Ex-General Manager (Cricket Operations) of the Board of Control of Cricket in India (BCCI) M.V. Sridhar passed away in Hyderabad
- On 27 September, he resigned as General Manager.
- Sridhar had played 97 first class matches for Hyderabad between 1988 and 1999.



Reference:

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/sports/cricket/301017/ex-bcci-general-manager-cricket-operations-mv-sridhar-dies-at-51-due-to-heart-attack.html>

Vice Chief of Naval Staff

Question: Who amongst the following has assumed the charge as Deputy Chief of the Indian Navy on October 30th?

- (a) Sujit Singh (b) Prabhjot Singh (c) Ajit Kumar P
(d) Surendra Khanna

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On October 30, 2017, Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar P has assumed charge as the Vice Chief of Naval Staff from Vice Admiral Karambir Singh.
- Vice Admiral Karambir Singh proceeds to Visakhapatnam and is scheduled to take over as Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief Eastern Naval Command on 31 Oct 17.
- Vice Admiral Ajit Kumar P is an alumni of the National Defence Academy and is a specialist in Missiles & Gunnery.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=172034>

Brand ambassador of Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation

Question: Who has recently been appointed as the brand ambassador of Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation?

- (a) Suresh Raina (b) R.P. Singh (c) Mustafa Kamal
(d) Ashish Kumar

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On October 29, 2017, Indian cricketer Suresh Raina has been appointed as brand ambassador of Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation (GMC).



- Along with this, Raina, a resident of Ghaziabad, has also been chosen as the brand ambassador for ' Swachh Bharat Abhiyan '.
- Director and Joint Secretary of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan (SBA), VK Jindal provided this information.
- Ghaziabad Municipal Corporation is one of the 16 municipal corporations of Uttar Pradesh which has been declared Open defecation free (ODF).

Reference:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/noida/raina-brand-ambassador-for-swachh-drive-in-gzb/articleshow/61328304.cms>

Sab- TV channel co-founder died

Question: Sab- TV channel co-founder passed away recently. Who was he?

(a) Mayank Singh (b) Sunil Dutta (c) Abhayraj Singh (d) Gautam Officer

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On October 27, 2017, top Producer and co-founder of Sab TV Channel, Gautam Adhikari passed away in Mumbai.
- He started the Sab TV Channel Group with his brother Markand Adhikari in the year 1985.
- After being listed on BSE in 1995, SAB became India's first public-listed television production company.



Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/television/gautam-adhikari-co-owner-of-sab-tv-dies-at-67-4908661/>

Film producer and communist leader passed away

Question: Which film producer and communist leader passed away recently?

(a) Mohan Rao (b) Sadanand (c) Atluri Purnachandra Rao (d) Ramaraw Shetty

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On October 29, 2017, Indian filmmaker and former Communist leader Atluri Purnachandra Rao passed away in Hyderabad.
- He was influenced by Left ideology and he participated in the Rationalist Movement under the leadership of Goparaju Ramachandra Rao (Gora).
- He was a member of the United Communist Party.
- As a film producer he produced several films between 1950 to 1970.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/film-producer-purnachandra-rao-dead/article19945570.ece>

New Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh

Question: Who amongst the following has recently been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh?

(a) Ram Gopal Sharma (b) Dinesh Kumar (c) Raja Ram Maurya (d) Satya Gopal

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- In October 2017, IAS officer Satya Gopal has been appointed Chief Secretary of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Delhi Lt Governor Anil Baijal relieved Gopal, Satya Gopal, a 1988-batch IAS officer; from the post of Delhi's Principal Home Secretary.
- He will take the place of Shakuntala Doley Gamlin on this post.

Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/9189985_Satya-Gopal-appointed-chief-secy-of-Arunchal-Pradesh.html

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/satya-gopal-appointed-chief-secretary-of-arunchal-pradesh-4912225/>



PLACES

National Biomaterial Centre

Question: Recently, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Anupriya Patel inaugurated the National Biomaterials Center at the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) located?

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

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 22, 2017, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Anupriya Patel inaugurated National Biometric Center (National Tissue Bank) at the National Organ and Tissue Transplant Organization (NOTTO) located in Safdarjung Hospital, New Delhi.
- The main purpose of this center is to bridge the gap between demand and supply and ensure the quality with the availability of various tissues.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173749>



Terrorist attack in northern Sinai province

Question: The al-Rawdah Sufi mosque is located in which of the following countries, which was attacked during Zuma prayers?

(a) Nigeria (b) China (c) Syria (d) Egypt

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:



- On November 24, 2017, militants attacked the al-Rawdah Sufi mosque during Zuma prayers in al-Alrish city of the restive North Sinai province of Egypt.
- 235 people died in this attack and more than 100 people were injured.
- No terrorist organization has taken responsibility for the attack on

Reference:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-42110223>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/11/24/africa/egypt-sinai-mosque-attack/index.html>

India's first cartoon network Theme Park

Question: At which place Turner International India Private Limited is going to set up India's first Cartoon Network Amusement Theme Park in partnership with Rajgreen Group of companies?

(a) Bangalore (b) Rajkot (c) Surat (d) Jaipur

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- In November 2017, Turner International India Pvt. Ltd. has partnered with Rajgreen Group of Companies for set up India's first Cartoon Network branded amusement park.
- The park will be opened in Surat, Gujarat.
- The name of the park will be "Amaazia".
- Park will be spread across an expansive 61,000 sq meter area.
- For this park Rajgreen Group of Companies will invest 450 crore.
- This park is likely to be operational in the first quarter of 2019.
- Park is conceptualised and designed by the Sanderson Group, Australia.
- Cartoon Network characters from "Ben 10", "The Powerpuff Girls" and "Adventure Time" will be part of this theme park.
- Park will host 33 theme-based attractions as well as 20 unique water-slides.
- It is Turner's third such arrangement at global level.
- Prior to this, it has set up its timeline model IMG in Dubai and CNN Water Park, Thailand.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-in-school/cartoon-network-s-theme-park-to-open-in-surat/article20136946.ece>

World's First Floating City

Question: In which of the following countries the world's first floating city will be built?

(a) Canada (b) Mexico (c) France (d) Australia

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- In November 2017, the French government decided to make a floating city in the Pacific Ocean with researchers.
- A city floating in the South Pacific Ocean of France will be built.
- This will be the world's first floating city.
- This city will be prepared by the French Polynesia Government.



- French government hopes that they will complete the construction of this city by the year 2020.
- This city will have power houses that provide fields, health care, medical research centers and sustainable energy.
- The city will consist of about a dozen structures, including homes, hotels, offices, and restaurants.
- Earlier this year, an agreement was signed between The San Francisco-based Seasteading Institute and government of French Polynesia to begin construction.

Reference:

<https://www.boredpanda.com/first-floating-nation-island-pacific-ocean-tahiti-2020-seasteading-institute/>

India's Largest CDQ Plant

Question: In which state India's largest CDQ plant is established by Tata Steel?

(a) West Bengal (b) Odisha (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Jharkhand

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 6, 2017, Tata Steel established India's largest CDQ plant (CDQ: Coke Dry Quenching) in Odisha.
- The plant has been established at Kalinganagar Industrial Complex in Jajpur district of Odisha.
- *Nippon Steel and Sumikin Engineering (NSENGI) of Japan* are the *supplier* and *technology partner* and plant is being operated by Essar Group.
- The coal is heated at 1000°C temperature and left in the plant for cooling and is mixed with inert gas.
- Electricity is made from this coal which is more energy efficient and environmentally friendly.
- CDQ is a heat recovery system to cool hot coke from coke ovens.
- This plant has the capacity to perform 200 metric tons of coal in one hour.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/indias-largest-cdq-facility-at-tata-steel-kalinganagar/article19991816.ece>

Dharampura Haveli

November 24, 2017 [Places](#)

Question: Recently, Dharmapura Haveli has been awarded by UNESCO for Asia Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation. Where is this mention located?

(a) Delhi (b) in Himachal Pradesh (c) in Madhya Pradesh (d) Rajasthan

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, Dharmapura Haveli, located at Chandni Chowk, New Delhi was awarded by the UNESCO Asia Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation in category of Honourable Mention.



- It is mentionable that sixteen projects from six countries – Australia, China, India, Iran, New Zealand, and Singapore were recognized in this year's Heritage Awards by an international panel of conservation experts.
- This is the first time when the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has given this honor to any building in Delhi.
- At this mention, the hotel is currently operating by a private company.
- Besides this, 6 other submissions (total 7) from India have also been awarded in other categories.
- Submission and their respective categories that have been awarded are as follows:
 - 'Blue House Cluster' Located in Hong Kong SAR, China has received the Award of Excellence in this year's UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation.
 - **Award of Distinction:**
 - Brookman and Moir Streets Precinct, Perth, Australia
 - Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, China
 - **Award of Merit:**
 - Christ Church, Mumbai, India
 - Royal Bombay Opera House, Mumbai, India
 - Sri Ranganathaswamy Temple, Srirangam, India
 - Great Hall and Clock Tower Buildings, Arts Centre, Christchurch, New Zealand
 - **Honourable Mention:**
 - Bomonjee Hormarjee Wadia Fountain and Clock Tower, Mumbai, India
 - Gateways of Gohad Fort, Gohad, India
 - Haveli Dharampura, Delhi, India
 - Wellington Fountain, Mumbai, India
 - Aftab Cultural House, Isfahan, Iran
 - Cathedral of the Good Shepherd and Rectory Building, Singapore
 - **New Design in Heritage Contexts:**
 - Jingdezhen Ceramic Industry Museum, Jingdezhen, China
 - Macha Village, Gansu Province, China
 - Persian Gulf University – Faculty of Art & Architecture, Bulshehr, Iran
 - It is noteworthy that UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation programme recognizes the efforts of private individuals and organizations that have successfully restored and conserved structures and buildings of heritage value in the region.
 - Eligible projects must have been completed within the past 10 years.

Reference:

<https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-bangkok-announces-2017-asia-pacific-awards-cultural-heritage-conservation>

First charging station for electric vehicles

Question: Recently, at which of the following places country's first electric vehicle charging station has been inaugurated by a public sector fuel marketing company- Indian Oil Corporation Limited?

(a) Jaipur (b) Nagpur (c) Hyderabad (d) Lucknow

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- On November 19th, 2017, the public sector fuel marketing company Indian Oil Corporation Limited launched the country's first electric charging station at one of its petrol/diesel stations in IBI Square, Nagpur (Maharashtra).
- IOCL established this station in collaboration with Ola.
- It is noteworthy that Nagpur, being the first city to introduce Electric Public Transportation Model in India, has added one more feather by adding the first Electric Charging Station at Indian Oil's COCO fuel station.



Reference:

<https://www.iocl.com/AboutUs/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=47346&tID=8>

Opening of Israel Center

Question: In which of the following educational institute Israel Center was founded recently?

(a) Banaras Hindu University (b) Delhi University
(c) Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore
(d) Indian Institute of Science, Chennai

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 5th, 2017, the Israeli Center was inaugurated by the Indian Consulate in Israel at the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIM).
- The center was inaugurated by Daniel Cormon, Ambassador of Israel.
- This center was established on the occasion of completion of 25 years of Indo-Israel Partnership.
- The aim of the construction of center is to increase academic and business cooperation between India and Israel.
- Abhoy K Ojha is the President of the Israeli Center.



Reference:

<http://www.iimb.ac.in/node/17925>

First False Ceiling Skill Training Center of Central India

Question: Where was the First False Ceiling Skill Training Center of Central India opened?

(a) Sarguja (b) Bilaspur (c) Aara (d) Madhavgarh

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:



- On November 13th, 2017, Central India's first Facing Seals and Driving Skills Training Center, was opened in Aara of Jashpur district, Chhattisgarh.
- It was inaugurated by Lok Sabha MP Shri Vishnudev Sai.
- This center is opened with the help of Pais and Ziprock.
- Nowadays everyone wish to have a beautiful house and the construction of the False Ceiling has become a common practice to increase the beauty of the houses.

Reference:

<http://bit.do/false-ceiling>

Walmart's Cash and Carry Fulfillment Centre in India

Question: Where did Walmart open its fulfillment center?

(a) Hyderabad (b) Chennai (c) Mumbai (d) Amritsar

Answer: (c)

Related Facts

- On September 29, 2017, Walmart, the world's largest American retailer, announced to launch its Cash and Carry Business to enable small businesses, under which its first Fulfillment center was started in Mumbai on November 1, 2017.
- This center offers opportunities to almost 1,500 direct and indirect employments.
- Recently, Walmart signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Government of Maharashtra.
- Walmart Company is planning to open 30 new stores in different cities of the country in next three years.
- Currently Walmart Company has 21 wholesale stores across the country.



Reference:

<https://www.wal-martindia.in/2017/09/29/walmart-india-all-set-to-enter-mumbai-with-its-cash-carry-fulfillment-center>

Attack on Riyadh Airport

Question: Recently, the Houthi rebels attacked the Khalid International Airport in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, with a missile. With which country is this rebel organization related to?

(a) Syria (b) Yemen (c) Somalia (d) Egypt

Answer- (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 4, 2017, the Shiite Houthi rebels of Yemen attacked at King Khalid International Airport located in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, by the missile.
- Saudi Arabia has claimed to have destroyed this long-range ballistic missile fired from Yemen.
- It is known that the struggle between President Abdrabbuh Mansur Hadi's government and Houthi rebels in Yemen continues.
- Saudi Arabia is leading a campaign against the Houthi rebels.
- Saudi Arabia is one of the major countries involved in the International Coalition taking action on this rebel organization since 2015.



Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/saudi-arabia-intercepts-missile-king-khalid-international-airport-riyadh-yemen-houthi-militants/1/1082551.html>

India's first ever 'Air Dispensary'

Question: Which of the following region of India is all set to get India's first-ever "Air Dispensary" based in a helicopter?

(a)Northeast (b)Southeast (c)Northwest (d)Central India

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 12th, 2017, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER), MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh joined a meeting with the representatives of Aviation Sector and helicopter service/Pawan Hans.
- In meeting it was revealed that had been exploring the idea of introducing a helicopter based Dispensary/OPD service in such far flung and remote areas, where no doctor or medical facility was available and the patient, in need, also did not have any access to any medical care.
- Northeast is all set to get this "Air Dispensary".
- This will be India's first-ever "Air Dispensary" based in a helicopter.
- As per the envisaged plan helicopter will be based at two locations, namely Imphal in Manipur and Meghalaya in Shillong.
- A contribution of Rs. 25 crore as part of the initial funding for this initiative by the Union Ministry of Development of Northeast (DONER) has already been made.
- The experiment being introduced in the Northeast, at the behest of the Ministry of Northeast/DoNER, can also be emulated in other hill states having difficult topography like Jammu & Kashmir and Himachal Pradesh.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173438>

Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC)

Question: WIPO headquarters is located at-

(a)Geneva (b)New York (c)Vienna (d)St Petersburg

Ans: (a)

Related Facts:-

- India's second Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) will be established at the Centre for Intellectual Property Rights (CIPR), Anna University, Chennai.
- In this regard the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, has signed an Institutional agreement with Anna University on November 8, 2017.
- This center is being setup under the World Intellectual Property Organization's (WIPO) TISC program.



- WIPO's Technology and Innovation Support Center (TISC) program provides innovators in developing countries with access to locally based, high quality technology information and related services.
- It also helps them to exploit their innovative potential and to create, protect, and manage their Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs)
- Over 500 TISCs operate worldwide and establishing a TISC in India will give the host institutions access to the global network
- The objective of the TISC is to stimulate a dynamic, vibrant and balanced Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) system in India to foster creativity and innovation, thereby promoting entrepreneurship and enhancing social, economic and cultural development
- CIPR has an experience of filing more than 185 Patents, 29 Trademarks, 39 Copyrights, 25 Industrial Design and has also assisted in filing 12 International Patent Applications.
- TISC will give a boost to knowledge sharing, sharing of best methods among the TISCs, capacity building, evolution and commercialization of Intellectual Properties

Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173318>

AIIMS at Bilaspur

Question: In which of the following States the new ALLMS is going to be opened?

- (a) Chhattisgarh (b) Himachal Pradesh (c) Jammu and Kashmir
(d) Bihar

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On October 3rd, 2017, the Prime Minister laid the foundation stone for the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS), at Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh.
- This 750 bed hospital will be built at a cost of approximately Rs. 1350 crore.
- In addition to healthcare, it will also provide medical education at the under-graduate and post-graduate level, besides nursing.
- The Prime Minister also unveiled a plaque to mark the launch of Digital Nerve Centres for primary healthcare.
- He also laid the foundation stone for the Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIIT), at Una and inaugurated a Steel Processing Unit of Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL), at Kandrori, Kangra.
- It is noteworthy that first AIIMS was set up in 1956 with the grant of New Zealand under the Colombo plan.
- ALLMS is an autonomous institution through an Act of Parliament, to serve as a nucleus for nurturing excellence in all aspect of health care.
- In present there are 7 AIIMS (Delhi, Bhubaneswar, Jodhpur, Patna, Raipur, Bhopal and Rishikesh) working in the country.
- In addition to this (AIIMS at Bilaspur) 5 more are being set up at Nagpur in Maharashtra, Mangalagiri in Andhra Pradesh, Kalyani in West Bengal, Gorakhpur in Uttar Pradesh and Bhatinda in Punjab.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=171338>

AWARDS & HONORS

Miss World -2017

Question: On November 18th, 2017, India's Manushi Chhillar was crowned as Miss World 2017 at a grand event held in Sanya in China. Who amongst the following was the second Runner Up in this competition?

- (a) Stephanie Hill (b) Andrea Meza (c) Magline Jeruto
(d) Aurore Kichenin

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 18th, 2017, India's Manushi Chhillar was crowned as Miss World 2017 at a grand event held in Sanya in China.
- 118 contestants from all over the world competed for the crown.
- The first and the second runners-up were Miss England Stephanie Hill and Miss Mexico Andrea Meza respectively.
- Top five contestants were: Manushi Chhillar-Miss India, Stephanie Hill- Miss England, Andrea Meza-Miss Mexico, Aurore Kichenin-Miss France and Magline Jeruto-Miss Kenya.
- Manushi Chhillar is a 20-year-old medical student from Haryana state born on 14 May 1997.
- Earlier, on June 25th, 2017, Miss Haryana Manushi Chhillar was declared Femina Miss India World 2017.
- She is the 6th Indian to win this title. Reita Faria was the first Indian to win the crown in the 1966.
- India's Manushi Chhillar was asked -"Which profession deserves the highest salary and why?"
- She answered: "A mother deserves the highest respect. It's just not about cash but also the love and respect that you give to someone. My mother has been a huge inspiration. It is the mother's job that deserves the biggest salary."



Reference:

<https://www.missworld.com/#/news/1165>

Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for year 2017

Question: Who amongst the following received the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize for year 2017?

- (a) Manmohan Singh (b) Kailash Satyarthi (c) Narendra Modi
(d) Bipin Rawat

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 18th, 2017, Indira Gandhi Prize for peace, Disarmament and Development for 2017 was awarded to Dr. Manmohan Singh.
- Manmohan was chosen by an international jury headed by former President Pranab Mukherjee.



- He was being recognised for the leadership he provided to the country and for his achievements during the “momentous” ten years between 2004 and 2014.
- The International award named after former Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was instituted in 1986.
- This Prestigious award accorded annually by Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust.
- The award comprises a cash prize of 25 lakh and a citation.

Reference:

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Indira_Gandhi_Prize#cite_note-mms-1

Prix Goncourt Award

Question: Recently who was awarded the Prix Goncourt Award 2017?

(a) Roger Versace (b) Robert Merley (c) Paul Colin (d) Eric Vuillard

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 6, 2017, Eric Vuillard was selected for the prestigious French language prize, ‘Prix Goncourt Award, 2017’ for his novel “L’Ordre du jour” (The order of the day)”.

- This novel is based on Nazi Germany’s invasion of Austria in 1938.
- 49 year old Eric Vuillard is a French writer and film director.
- Goncourt Award for the year 2016 was given to Leila Slimani for her book ‘Chanson Douce’ (English- ‘Sweet Song’).

Reference:

<http://academie-goncourt.fr/?rubrique=1229172884>


Bad Grammar Award-2017

Question- Which organization recently received ‘Bad Grammar Award 2017’?

(a) Delhi Metro (b) Transport for London (c) New York City Public Transport (d) Berlin Transport

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 6, 2017, Transport for London was selected for the ‘Bad Grammar Award 2017’.
- This award is given by the UK’s Idler Academy for the misuse of English to people and institutions.
- The Idler is a company devoted to helping people to lead more fulfilled lives and publishes a bi-monthly magazine, produce online courses and run live events.
- Transport for London is the local government body of Greater London (England), which operates the transport system of Greater London.


Reference:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/mind-the-gap-london-tube-wins-bad-grammar-award/story-D705zLH2aIUIMdaLzSAH3O.html>

National Child Awards

Question: On November 14th, 2017, on the occasion of Children's Day the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind gave away the National Child Awards 2017. Who amongst the following has been awarded Gold Medal in National Child Award for Exceptional Achievement category?

- (a) Master Aryan Chopra (b) Sh. Anand Kumar
(c) Master KRISHNA PANDIT (d) Master Akash Manoj

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 14th, 2017, The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind gave away the National Child Awards 2017 on the occasion of Children's Day in New Delhi.
- This year, the President honoured 16 children in the category of The National Child Awards for Exceptional Achievement, out of which one child was given a gold medal and 15 children were given silver medals.
- The National Award for Child Welfare was conferred on 3 individuals and 5 institutions. The Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award was conferred on 3 individuals.
- Master Akash Manoj from Krishnagiri, Tamil Nadu got Gold medal in the field of innovation.
- He has invented a device to detect silent heart attacks six hours prior to attack, that has the potential to save many lives.

About National Child Awards

- Children in the age group of 5-18 years are eligible for the award.
- The National Child Awards for Exceptional Achievement that give recognition to children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievements in the fields of innovation, scholastic achievements, sports, arts, culture, social service and music.
- The child with the most outstanding achievement is honoured with a cash prize of Rs.20,000/-, a certificate/citation and a Gold Medal. Fifteen children are being honoured with a cash prize of Rs. 10,000/-, a certificate/citation and a Silver Medal each for this year.
- Since 2015, the gold and silver awardees are also given book voucher of Rs. 10,000/- and Rs.3,000/- respectively.

Following 16 children got award in the category of National Child Award for—

Exceptional Achievement:

Sr.no.	Name	State	District	Field	Medal
1	Master Akash Manoj	Tamil Nadu	Krishnagiri	Innovation	Gold
2	Master Shahil Dey	Assam	Kamrup	Sports (Chess)	Silver
3	Master Shresth	Chattisgarh	Raipur	Innovation	Silver



	Agrawal				
4	Master Nishant Abhangi	Gujarat	Rajkot	Academics	Silver
5	Master Jaysheel Buddhadeo	Haryana	Gurgaon	Music	Silver
6	Kumari Zaira Wasim	Jammu and Kashmir	Jammu	Art	Silver
7	Kumari Nikhiya Shamsher	Karnataka	Bengaluru	Social Service	Silver
8	Master Swasthik Padma	Karnataka	Dakshina Kannada	Innovation	Silver
9	Master Floyd Emmanuel Libera	Kerala	Ernakulam	Music	Silver
10	Master Rishabh Garg	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal	Innovation	Silver
11	Master Jaisal Shah	Maharashtra	Mumbai City	Sports(Chess)	Silver
12	Kumari Labdhi Surana	Rajasthan	Udaipur	Sports(Roller Skating)	Silver
13	Master Krishna	Uttar Pradesh	Gautam Buddh	Innovation	Silver

	Pandit		Nagar		
14	Kumari Saniya Subash	Andaman and Nicobar Island	South Andaman	Sports(Martial Art)	Silver
15	Master Aryan Chopra	Delhi	West Delhi District.	Sports(Chess)	Silver
16	Kumari Kashish	Delhi	Central Delhi	Theatre	Silver

- National Awards for Child Welfare to institutions and individuals for their outstanding work in the field of child welfare.
- The awards carry a cash prize of Rupees Three Lakh and a citation for each institution and Rupees One Lakh and a citation for each individual.
- **Followings are the awardees for 2017 in this category:**
- **Individuals**

S.No	Name	State	District
1	Sh. Anand Kumar	Bihar	Patna
2	Sh Mahesh Jadhav	Karnataka	Belagavi
3	Sh Achyuta Samanta	Orissa	Bhubaneswar

- **Institution**

S.No	Name	State	District
1	Innovative Mid Brain Optimization Institute Pvt Ltd	Delhi	North-West District.
2	Society for Tribal & Rural Developments	Karnataka	Chamarajanagar.
3	Akshaya Patra Foundation	Karnataka	Bangaluru
4	Aarambh India Initiative	Maharashtra	Mumbai
5	Nirvan – A Social Welfare Organization	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow

- The Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Awards to individuals for their outstanding contribution towards service for children.
- The award includes a cash prize of Rs. One Lakh, a silver plate and a citation.
- **The following are this year's awardees in this category:**

S.No	Name	State	District
1	Sh. Shantilal Gulabchand Muttha	Maharashtra	Pune
2	Mr. Chezhan Ramu	Tamil Nadu	Tiruvannamalai

3	Ms. Shobha Vidyarthi	Uttarkhand	Nainital
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- The National Child Awards 2017 are given to celebrate the exceptional achievements of children; as well as to individuals and institutions who work for child welfare.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173487><http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173504>

Vishnudas Bhawe Award

Question: Vishnudas Bhawe Award for year 2017 was given to which of the following artist?

(a) Nana Patekar (b) Rajkumar Rao (c) Radhika Apte (d) Mohan Joshi

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 5, 2017, on the occasion of 'Marathi Rangbhoomi Day', renowned actor Mohan Joshi was conferred the 'Vishnudas Bhawe Award' for his contribution to Marathi Theater.
- Mohan Joshi has worked in 172 films of Hindi, Marathi, Kannada and Bhojpuri languages besides Marathi Theater.
- Vishnudas Bhawe Award is given in honor of the founder of Marathi Theater, Vishnudas Bhawe.

This award is a combination of trophy, a citation and Rs 25,000 cash.



Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/mohan-joshi-honoured-with-vishnudas-bhave-award/1/1083032.html>

Vigilance Excellence Award-2017

Question: Which bank was recently awarded with the Vigilance Excellence Award, 2017?

(a) Punjab National Bank (b) State Bank of India (c) Allahabad Bank (d) HDFC Bank

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) awarded the Punjab National Bank (PNB) by the Vigilance Excellence Award, 2017. (October 30, 2017)
- This honor has been given to PNB for a significant contribution in the field of vigilance.
- PNB Chief Vigilance Officer S.K. Nagpal received this award from Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu.
- Apart from this, Pratik Goswami of Indian Nuclear Power Corporation was also honored with this award.



Reference:

<http://punjabnewsexpress.com/regional/news/pnb-gets-vigilance-excellence-award-for-2016-17-58478.aspx>

Ezuthachan Puraskaram

Question: Who has been awarded with the Ezuthachan Puraskaram for year 2017?

(a) T.M. Krishna (b) C.Radhakrishnan (c) K.Sachidanandan (d) Vishnu Narayan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 1, 2017, the Malayalam poet and literary critic of the Kerala K.Sachchidanandan was elected for the Government's biggest literature prize Ezuthachan Puraskaram
- K.Sachchidanandan wrote compositions in 18 languages other than Malayalam language.
- Apart from this K.Sachchidanandan has been awarded with the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award for seven times.
- 5 lakh rupees cash is given in the Ezuthachan Puraskaram.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/ezhuthachan-award-for-satchidanandan/article19963475.ece>

The Best FIFA Football Awards -2017

Question: Under 'The Best FIFA Football Awards -2017', delivered on October 23, 2017 who amongst the following has been given 'Best Men's Player' award?

(a) Neymar (b) Cristiano Ronaldo (c) Lionel Messi (d) Gianluigi Buffon

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On October 23rd, 2017, annual awards of football's highest regulatory body FIFA were distributed in London.
- The Best FIFA Men's Player – Cristiano Ronaldo (Portugal)
- The Best FIFA Women's Player – Lieke Martens (Netherlands)
- The Best FIFA Men's Coach – Zinedine Zidane (France)
- The Best FIFA Women's Coach- Sarina Wiegman (Netherlands)
- The Best FIFA Goalkeeper – Gianluigi Buffon (Italy)
- Fair Play Award – Francis Kone (Togo)
- Puskás Award – Olivier Giroud (France)
- Fan Award – Celtic supporters (Scotland)
- In addition to these, FIFA FIFPro World11 team including Gianluigi Buffon; Dani Alves, Leonardo Bonucci, Sergio Ramos, Marcelo; Toni Kroos, Andres Iniesta, Luka Modric; Cristiano Ronaldo, Lionel Messi, Neymar was also announced.



Reference:

<http://www.fifa.com/the-best-fifa-football-awards/news/y=2017/m=10/news=cristiano-ronaldo-and-lieke-martens-cap-dream-season-at-the-best-fifa-2916955.html>

Pramod Mahajan Smriti Award

Question: On October 29, 2017, which Bollywood actor was awarded the Pramod Mahajan Smriti Award?

- (a) Amitabh Bachchan (b) Paresh Rawal (c) Gulshan Grover
(d) Anupam Kher

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On October 29, 2017, the organization Muktachand which is being run by eminent social worker Medha Vishram Kulkarni, organizes the Pramod Mahajan Smriti Puraskar.
- Anupam Kher, veteran Bollywood actor and the chairman of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), was honored with the award at the function.
- Along with Anupam, Saira Banu of Dehradun, who is UN ambassador for HeforShe, was honored Pramod Mahajan Smriti Award at the function.

Reference:

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/videos/news/anupam-kher-receives-039pramod-mahajan-smriti-award039.html>



Sakharov Award

Question: Who will be awarded the Sakharov Award of the Year 2017?

- (a) ISRO (b) Democratic opposition in Venezuela
(c) Raif Badawi (d) Mustafa Yazimi

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On October 26, 2017, the European Parliament announced the recipient of Sakharov Award, 2017, for the independence of ideas.
- For the year 2017 this award will be conferred to the Democratic opposition in Venezuela.
- The prize money of 50 thousand euro will be provided at the award distribution ceremony to be held on December 13, 2017 in Strasbourg, France.
- The Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought, named in honour of the Soviet physicist and political dissident Andrei Sakharov, is awarded each year by the European Parliament.
- It was set up in 1988 to honour individuals and organizations defending human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Reference:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/headlines/eu-affairs/20171023STO86606/parliament-awards-sakharov-prize-2017-to-democratic-opposition-in-venezuela>



National Tourism Awards, 2015-16

Question: Who has been given the Best State / Union Territory Award for the comprehensive development of tourism in the National Tourism Award, 2015-16?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Punjab (c) Andhra Pradesh



(d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On September 27th, 2017, the President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind presented the “National Tourism Awards, 2015-16” to various segments of the travel, tourism and hospitality industry at a function organised by the Ministry of Tourism on the occasion of “World Tourism Day”.
- Minister of State (I/C) for Tourism Shri Alphons Kannanthanam presided over the function. Tourism Ministers of States, Central and State Government Officials, Members from the Travel and Hospitality Industries, including leading Hoteliers, Travel Agents and Tour Operators, Students from Tourism and Hospitality Institutes, Mainstream and Travel Media attended the function.
- The President launched the “Incredible India 2.0 Campaign”; ‘Adopt A Heritage’ Project and new Incredible India Website on the occasion.
- “Incredible India 2.0 Campaign” marks a shift from the present generic promotions being undertaken across the world, to market specific promotional plans and product specific creatives, with greater focus on digital presence and social media.
- ‘Adopt A Heritage’ Project plans to entrust heritage sites to the public sector and private sector companies and individuals for the development of tourist amenities. They will become ‘Monument Mitras’ and adopt the sites.
- The “New Incredible India Website” is an advanced version of the website with more useful features.
- LIST OF AWARD WINNERS OF NATIONAL TOURISM AWARDS (2015-16) IN DIFFERENT CATEGORIES
- HALL OF FAME AWARDS
- Best State for Comprehensive Development of Tourism- Gujarat
- Best State for Comprehensive Development of Tourism- Madhya Pradesh
- Best Inbound Tour Operator – Category I- M/s Le Passage to India Tours & Travels, New Delhi
- Best Inbound Tour Operator – Category I- Ms SOTC Travel Services Pvt Ltd
- Best Inbound Tour Operator – Category IV- Ms Travelite (India), New Delhi
- Tourist Transport Operator – Category I- Ms Alwar Tourist Transport Service, New Delhi
- Most Innovative Use of Information Technology- Department of Tourism, Govt. of Kerala
- Best State / Union Territory for comprehensive development of tourism
- First Prize – Andhra Pradesh, 2nd prize – Rajasthan, Third Prize (joint winner) – Kerala and Goa.
- Sanitation Award – Telangana Government
- Best Heritage City (Joint Winner) – Varanasi, Telangana and Chanderi, Madhya Pradesh
- Best Tourist Friendly Railway Station – Ujjain Railway Station, Madhya Pradesh
- Best Airport (x) Category – Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport
- Best Airport (Other City Category) – Srinagar International Airport, Srinagar and Swami Vivekananda Havan Base, Raipur (jointly)
- Medical Tourism Facility – Apollo Health City, Hyderabad
- Best Film Promotional State-Madhya Pradesh Adventure Best State-Madhya Pradesh for Tourism
- Best Environment Friendly Hotel-ATC Maurya, New Delhi
- Best Tourism Film – Rajasthan Film, Tourism, Department, Rajasthan Government

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=67359>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=171152>

Living Legend Award

Question: The Living Legend Award is given to the senior scientists of which area?

(a) Space Science (b) Medical Science (c) Nutrition Science (d) Physics Science

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- On September 25, 2017, the 'International Nutrition Science Association' (IUNS) announced the award to the legendary Indian scientist Mahtab Bamji for the Living Legend Award.
- The award will be given to the 21st International Nutrition Congress of the International Nutrition Science Association on October 18 in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- The IUNS Council presents this award to highly experienced individuals who have contributed significantly towards the National Nutrition Society or regional organisation that aids advancement of nutrition at the national, regional and global level, through professional activities such as research, teaching and services.
- 82-year-old Bamji, former Director-grade scientist of the Hyderabad-based, National Institute of Nutrition, will be recognised for her efforts to help improve the nutrition and health status of poor farmers and villagers in Narsapuram on the outskirts of Hyderabad.
- She is currently associated with the Bamji dongoria Charitable Trust.
- Bamji is the honorary scientist of the National Academy of Sciences (NIH).
- During the long tenure of NIH, She has made significant contributions in various national projects for reducing malnutrition and improving nutrition status.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/mahtab-bamji-to-get-living-legend-award/article9872203.ece>

Von Hippal Award

Question: Which Indian scientist was recently announced to be awarded the prestigious Von Hippal Award?

(a) A.S Kiran Kumar (b) CNR Rao (c) G. Madhavan Nair
(d) Jayant Naralekar

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- According to the Jawaharlal Nehru Center for Advanced Scientific Research, Bharat Ratna Professor CNR Rao has been announced for the Won Hippal Award. (September 24, 2017)
- This award is known as the most prestigious award in the field of science research. This is given every year by the US-based Materials research committee (MRS) since 1976.
- Rao is being given this award for his very important contribution in the field of research.



- He is the first Asian scientists to be honored with this award.
- It is important that Prof. CNR Rao has given significant contribution in the research of ideally active material in which there is nano material (nanoscale dimension particles), graphene (the strongest and thin material) and two-dimensional material, superconductivity and huge magnetic plantation.
- Under this award, an amount of ten thousand US dollars, honorary membership of the Material research committee (MRS) and a trophy is given.
- The award ceremony will be held in Boston on November 29, 2017.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/cnr-rao-chosen-for-international-honour-for-materials-research/article19741577.ece>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/cnr-rao-chosen-for-international-honour-for-materials-research-117092300411_1.html

OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

Vitamin-A campaign

Question: Recently, the 34th phase of Vitamin-A campaign (15 November – 15 December, 2017) has been inaugurated in Rajasthan. Under this campaign, children of which age group will get vitamin A supplements in the prescribed quantity?

(a) 3 months to 5 years (b) 9 months to 5 years (c) 2 years to 5 years (d) 1 year to 3 years

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On 15th November, 2017, Medical and Health Minister Shri Kalicharan Saraf inaugurated the 34th phase of Vitamin-A by feeding Vitamin-A to the children at Anganwadi center sector 10, State Elementary School located at Malviya Nagar, Jaipur.
- This campaign will be operated from 15th November to 15th December 2017.
- Under the campaign, all children from 9 months to 5 years will get vitamin A supplements in the prescribed quantity.
- In the 34th phase, 77 lacs 94 thousand 532 children have been targeted to give vitamin A supplements.
- In the 33rd phase of this campaign in May-June this year 64 lakh 7 thousand 342 children were given Vitamin-A medicines.
- It is notable that efforts are being made to reduce the child mortality rate by running this campaign in two phases every year from last 17 years.
- According to the report released by the Health Index of Sample Registration System (SRS) -2016, two-digit improvements have been recorded in Rajasthan's infant mortality rate and now the infant mortality rate has decreased to 41.



Reference:

<http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in/content/dipr/en/news-detail.55689.html>

‘Blue Flag 17’

Question- In which of the following countries ‘Blue Flag 17’ multilateral joint exercise is being organized?

(a) Japan (b) Germany (c) India (d) Israel

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- During November 2-16, 2017, The Combined exercise ‘Blue Flag 17’ is being organized at Uvda Air Force Base in Israel.
- Began in 2013, ‘Blue Flag’ is the two-yearly Air Force Maneuver of Israel.
- Seven countries France, Germany, Italy, Greece, Poland, America, and India, including Israel are participating in this year’s exercise.
- In this multilateral exercise, Indian Air Force is participating with the C-130J special operations aircraft along with Garud commandos.
- A 45 member contingent of the Indian Air Force was led by Captain Malluk Singh.
- This is the first time the Indian Air Force is operating with Israeli AF in a multilateral exercise setting.
- The aim of this exercise is to promote information, experience, operational efficiency and military support of the countries involved.



Reference:

<http://www.newsabharati.com/Encyc/2017/11/6/EX-BLUE-FLAG.html>

PRABAL DOSTYK 2017

Question: Recently, Indian Army has started a joint training exercise ‘PRABAL DOSTYK 2017’ in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh with army of which of following countries?

(a) Sri Lanka (b) Myanmar (c) Kazakhstan (d) Japan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 2, 2017, the joint training exercise ‘PRABAL DOSTYK 2017’ was commenced between Indian Army and the Kazakhstan Army at Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh.
- This is a fourteen day joint training exercise which will conclude on November 15, 2017.
- The joint exercise is aimed at enhancing the military ties between the two countries as also at achieving interoperability between the two armies.
- The training contingents comprise of platoon strength from the 11th Gorkha Rifles of the Indian Army and a similar strength of the Kazakhstan Army.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173183>

Sagar Kavach exercise

Question- Where will the two-day Coastal Security Exercise ‘Sagar Kavach’ be organized in November, 2017?



(a) Goa (b) Visakhapatnam (c) Chennai (d) Baleshwar

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- From November 8-9, 2017, Coastal Security Exercise 'Sagar Kavach' will be held in Goa.
- In this two-day coastal security exercise, all the security agencies to provide seamless seaward cover along the Goa Coast jointly from coastal belt area line to the limit of territorial water (12 nautical miles).
- Agencies like Indian Coast Guard, Indian Navy, Goa Police, Goa Coastal Security Intelligence Agencies, MPT, Ports Administration Department, CISF and Customs etc. participating in this exercise.

Reference:

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/two-day-sagar-kavach-exercise-starts-on-november-8-in-goa201711021827320003/>

'Rally for Rivers' campaign

Question- On September, 2017, from which of the following places the 'Rally for Rivers' campaign was flagged off by Union Minister for Environment, Harsh Vardhan?

(a) Trichy (b) Coimbatore (c) Mysore (d) Kanyakumari

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On September 27, 2017, the 'Rally for Rivers' campaign launched by Sadhguru Jaggi Vasudev, founder of Isha Foundation, concluded in Jaipur.
- Rajasthan's Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje was the chief guest at the closing ceremony
- The River Campaign Rally was flagged off from Coimbatore on September 3rd, 2017, by Union Minister for Environment, Harsh Vardhan.
- Passing through Kanyakumari, Madurai, Thiruvananthapuram, Trichy, Puducherry, Mysore, Bangalore, Chennai, Vijayawada, Hyderabad, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Indore, Bhopal and Lucknow rally ended in Jaipur.
- It is worth mentioning that on September 1, 2017, "Rally for River- public awareness program" was organized in more than 60 cities across the country.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/rally-for-rivers-campaign-reaches-rajasthan-117092801190_1.html

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE

Consultative Group constituted to facilitate GST

Question- Recently, a consultation group was formed with the Law Committee of GST Council to make GST simpler and easier by the Central Government. Who is the convenor of this group?

(a) Pravin Khandelwal (b) Gautam Ray (c) Ajay Sahay (d) Vinod Jain



Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On November 6, 2017; a consultation group was formed with the GST Council Law Committee to make GST simpler and easier by the Central Government.
- This group will give its report to the legal committee at the end of this month.
- In this group, five persons including National General Secretary Praveen Khandelwal of All India Traders Association have been included.
- Former Chief Commissioner of the Central Board of Trade and Customs, Gautam Ray has been made the Chief convenor of the group.
- Other members of this group include Research Director of Center for Legal Policy Ardhyaasen Gupta, Vinod Jain (CA), Chief Executive Officer of Indian Exporters Federation, Ajay Sahay and the Chairman of Laghu Udyog Bharti Om Prakash Mittal.

Related Links:-

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/gst-advisory-group-in-favour-of-expanding-composition-scheme/1/1085389.html>

National Anti-profiteering Authority under GST

Question: Recently on which date the Union Cabinet approved the establishment of a National Anti-profiteering Authority under GST?

- (a) November 15, 2017 (b) November 18, 2017
(c) November 10, 2017 (d) November 16, 2017

Answer- (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 16th, 2017, Union Cabinet approved the establishment of National Anti-Profit Authority (NAA) under the goods and services tax (GST).
- Approval for the creation of the posts of Chairman and Technical Members of the National Anti-profiteering Authority (NAA) under GST has also given.
- This authority aimed at reassuring consumers that Government is fully committed to take all possible steps to ensure the benefits of implementation of GST in terms of lower prices of the goods and services reach them.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173563>

Second National Judicial Pay Commission

Question: Second National Judicial Pay Commission will be appointed under whose chairmanship?

- (a) R. Basant (b) P.N. Rama Rao
(c) J.P. Venkatarama Reddy (d) P. Reddy

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 10, 2017, the Union Cabinet approved the appointment of the second National Judicial Pay



Commission (SNJPC) for the subordinate judiciary in the country.

- The Commission is to be headed by Shri Justice (Retd.) P. Venkatrama Reddi, former Judge of Supreme Court of India.
- Shri R. Basant, a former Judge of the Kerala High Court is the Member of the Commission.
- The Commission will make its recommendations to the State Governments preferably within a period of 18 months.
- The Commission also aims at making the pay scales and conditions of service of Judicial Officers uniform throughout the country.
- This commission will examine the present structure of emoluments and conditions of service of Judicial Officers in the States and UTs.
- The Commission will review the various functions and non-cash benefits received by the judicial officers in addition to the wages besides examining the methods of working system, and suggesting them to rationalize and simplify them.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173389>

Committee for Sports University in Patiala

Question- Recently, under whose chairmanship a committee has been set for the establishment of Sports University in Patiala.

(a) Pargat Singh (b) J S Narula (c) Dr. L.S. Ranawat (d) Randhir Singh

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On October 30, 2017, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh today constituted a steering committee, headed by Olympian Randhir Singh, to set in motion the process of setting up a sports university in Patiala.
- The committee has been set up under the aegis of the Sports and Youth Affairs Department to work out the modalities for setting up the proposed university
- Besides International Olympic Committee (IOC) member Randhir Singh, the committee includes Olympian Pargat Singh, along with former Vice Chancellor of Lakshmibai National University of Physical Education (LNPE), Gwalior, J S Narula, and former Vice Chancellor of Rajasthan Sports University Dr L S Ranawat.



Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/9192481_Punjab-CM-constitutes-committee-for-sports-varsity-in-Patiala

Committee set up for review of merger proposal of public sector banks

Question: A committee has been set up under whose chairmanship to review of merger proposal of public sector banks?

(a) Arun Jaitley (b) Rajiv Kumar (c) Nirmala Sitharaman (d) Piyush Goyal

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:



- On October 30th, 2017, Central Government has made improvements in public sector banks to pursue further; the Ministerial Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Finance Minister Arun Jaitley.
- Committee will consider the merger proposal of public sector banks.
- Other members of the committee include Railway and Coal Minister Piyush Goyal and Defense Minister Nirmala Sitharaman.

Reference:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/government-sets-up-arun-jaitley-led-panel-on-psu-bank-mergers/articleshow/61340791.cms>

PLANNING & PROJECT

Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra

Question: Recently, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval to the new scheme called 'Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra'. This scheme is to-

- (a) empower rural women (b) empower urban women
(c) empower teenagers girls (d) empower maternity women

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 22nd, 2017, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval to the new scheme called 'Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra'.
- This scheme will empower rural women through community participation to create an environment in which they realize their full potential.
- The new scheme "Pradhan Mantri Mahila Shakti Kendra (PMMSK)" is envisaged to work at various levels.
- In addition, has given its approval for expansion of the schemes of Ministry of Women and Child Development under Umbrella Scheme "Mission for Protection and Empowerment for Women" for a period 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- The financial outlay during 2017-18 to 2019-20 will be Rs.3, 636.85 crore with a Central Share of approximately Rs.3, 084.96 crore.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173722>

She Pad Scheme

Question- Recently, which state government has launched a new scheme 'She Pad' to ensure menstrual hygiene among girls?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Chhattisgarh (c) Kerala (d) Karnataka

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:



- On November 8th, 2017, the Government of Kerala introduced a new scheme 'She Pad' to ensure menstrual hygiene among girls.
- This scheme has been started for state schoolgirls.
- This scheme will benefit girls from class 6 to 12.
- Scheme will be implemented this year in 300 schools of 114 Panchayats of the state.
- It *will facilitate free sanitary napkins, storage spaces for napkins and environment friendly incinerators at all government & aided schools* under this project.
- Women Development Corporation, along with local groups, will implement this scheme in 300 schools this year.
- In the coming years, this scheme will be implemented in all schools of the state.

Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/9218519_New-scheme-for-school-girls-in-Kerala.html

‘Mukhyamantri Shala Suraksha Yojana’

Question: Which of the following state government launched a Chief Minister’s scheme of protection for children on the occasion of Children’s Day?

(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Chhattisgarh (c) Rajasthan (d) Jharkhand

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 14th, 2017, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh on the occasion of Children’s Day launched the ‘Mukhyamantri Shala Suraksha Yojana’.
- In addition to this scheme, the Chief Minister also inaugurated the ‘Bal Mela-Samrashta ki Kilkari’ in the district headquarters Durg.
- The Chief Minister also released a souvenir centered study booklet and booklet of the ‘Mukhyamantri Shala Suraksha Yojana’, for the safety of school children and health plans for them.
- At the ceremony CM also announced the establishment of a state-of-the-art constellation (Planetarium) in the fort. He said that this will facilitate the study of children in the solar system and develop a scientific approach to space.
- To improve the quality of school education in Chhattisgarh, Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam Education Quality Campaign is being started.



Reference:

<http://bit.do/shala-suraksha>

She-Box Online Complaint Management System

Question: SHe-Box online complaint management system was introduced to ensure effective implementation of which of the following acts?

- (a) Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2006
- (b) Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2008
- (c) Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013



(d) Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2016

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 7th, 2017, WCD Minister Smt Maneka Sanjay Gandhi launched a comprehensive SHe-Box online complaint Management System for women working in both public and private organizations to lodge complaints of sexual harassment at workplace.
- The SHe-Box was launched in New Delhi today to ensure the effective implementation of the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act (the SH Act), 2013.
- Link to the SHe-Box portal is: <http://shebox.nic.in/>
- Under this women who have already filed a written complaint with the concerned Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) or Local Complaint Committee (LCC) constituted under the SH Act are also eligible to file their complaint through this portal.
- The WCD Ministry has also produced a manual and has organized training programmes for Internal Complaint Committees.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173299>

Continuation of sub-schemes under Umbrella Scheme “Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)”

Question: Recently, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for continuation of several schemes. Which one of the following is not included in the aforesaid schemes?

- (a) Anganwadi Services (b) Scheme for Adolescent Girls (c) National Crèche Scheme
(d) Udaan Scheme

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 16th, 2017, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for continuation of sub-schemes under Umbrella Scheme “Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS)”.
- The approved Schemes include: Anganwadi Services, Scheme for Adolescent Girls, Child Protection Services and National Crèche Scheme.
- Continuation of these scheme will be from 1.4.2017 to 30.11.2018 with an outlay of over Rs.41, 000 crore.
- The Cabinet has also approved:
- Implementation of Scheme for Adolescent Girls for out of school girls in the age group of 11-14 years, its phased expansion
- Phasing out of the ongoing Kishori Shakti Yojana for out of school girls in the age group of 11-14 years.
- Conversion of National Crèche Scheme from Central Sector to Centrally Sponsored Scheme with the revised cost sharing between Centre and States as 60:40 for all States



and UTs with legislature , 90:10 for NER and Himalayan States and 100% for UTs without legislature.

- It is noteworthy that the sub-schemes listed above are not new schemes but are continuing from the XII Five Year Plan and more than 11 crore children, pregnant women & Lactating Mothers and the Adolescent Girls will be benefited through this scheme.
- It is important to remember that National Creche Scheme aims at providing a safe place for mothers to leave their children while they are at work, and thus, is a measure for empowering women as it enables them to take up employment.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173550>

National Power Portal (NPP)

Question-National Power Portal has been started for which of the following purpose?

- (a) For the information collection and dissemination of electric field
(b) For timely payment of power to consumers (c) To monitor power companies
(d) To know about the disadvantage of power distribution, reply

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 14th, 2017, Shri R.K. Singh, Minister of State (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy, launched the National Power Portal (NPP) here today. The portal may be accessed at <http://npp.gov.in>.
- NPP is a centralised system for Indian Power Sector which facilitates online data capture/ input (daily, monthly, annually) from generation, transmission and distribution utilities in the country.
- It disseminate Power Sector Information (operational, capacity, demand, supply, consumption etc.) through various analysed reports, graphs, statistics for generation, transmission and distribution at all India, region, state level for central, state and private sector.
- The Dashboard would also act as the single point interface for all Power Sector Apps launched previously by the Ministry, like TARANG, UJALA, VIDYUT PRAVAH, GARV, URJA, and MERIT.
- NPP is integrated with associated systems of Central Electricity Authority (CEA), Power Finance Corporation (PFC), Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) and other major utilities.
- It would serve as single authentic source of power sector information to apex bodies, utilities for the purpose of analysis, planning, monitoring as well as for public users.
- The system is available 24x7 and ensures effective and timely collection of data.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173480>

BharatNet – Launch of Phase II

Question: On November 13, 2017, the Central Government launched the phase II of BharatNet project. Under this project, by the end of which year, Internet services will be started in all 2.5 lakh gram panchayats?

(a) Year 2018 (b) Year 2019 (c) Year 2020 (d) Year 2022

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 13, 2017, the Central Government launched the phase II of the BharatNet project.
- In the National Conference on BharatNet, organized by the Department of Telecommunications in Science Bhawan, New Delhi, the Central Government announced that internet services will be started in 2.5 lakh Gram Panchayats by 2019.
- The Conference attended by representatives of State Governments and Service Providers to benefit from the BharatNet Framework and discuss its various dimensions.
- In the first phase of BharatNet, a target was made to provide optical fiber connectivity to more than one lakh village panchayats in many states of the country.
- The purpose of this project is to promote internet services, e-healthcare, e-education, e-commerce and employment generation in rural areas.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173422>

Teleradiology Facility

Question: In which of the following States the teleradiology facility introduced recently?

(a) Kerala (b) Assam (c) Uttarakhand (d) Chhattisgarh

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 10th, 2017, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat launched teleradiology facility in the program organized at Pauri District Headquarter.
- Uttarakhand became the fifth state in the country adopting the Tell Radiology facility.
- This facility has been started in 12 hospitals including Pauri District Hospital.
- Teleradiology facility will be started later at 35 state colleges.
- The X-ray, CT scan, MRI from the start of this facility and there will be quick investigations regarding mammography.
- It will be available to people in remote areas of the state for treatment of every disease during the prescribed period.



Reference:

<http://www.uttarainformation.gov.in/news.php?id=22706>

Deen Dayal Upadhyay Kisan Kalyan Yojna

Question: Which state government has recently introduced Deendayal Upadhyaya Kisan Kalyan Yojana?

(a) Chhattisgarh (b) Uttarakhand (c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Jharkhand

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:



- On November 1st, 2017, Chief Minister Shri Trivandrum Singh Rawat inaugurated Deen Dayal Upadhyay Kisan Kalyan Yojna in Dehradun on the occasion of State Foundation Day.
- On this occasion, he also provided loans sanctioned to 30 farmers.
- This ambitious scheme has been started to fulfill the target of doubling the income of the farmers till 2022.
- Under this scheme, loans of upto Rs one lakh to the small and marginal farmers of the state are being given only 02 percent interests.
- UJVNL also provided a check of Rs 22.66 crore to the state government in the form of a dividend.

Reference:

<http://www.uttarainformation.gov.in/news.php?id=22719>

Cross Border Train Service

Question: Recently a new train service has been started between Kolkata and Khulna (Bangladesh). What is the name of this new train?

- (a) Maitree Express (b) Bandhan Express (c) Saathiya Express
(d) Akaltakhat Express

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 9, 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina jointly launched a new passenger train service between Kolkata and Khulna (Bangladesh) through video conference from Kolkata station.
- The name of this new train is 'Kolkata-Khulna Bandhan Express'.
- This train is will run on 177 km long way.
- This Cross Border train service will be operated regularly from November 16, 2017.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173351>



Connectivity projects between India and Bangladesh launched

Question: Who is the Present Prime Minister of Bangladesh?

- (a) Khaleda Zia (b) Sheikh Hasina (c) Latifur Rahman (d) Iajuddin Ahmed

Ans: (b)

Related Fact :

- On November 9, 2017; the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, inaugurated a series of connectivity projects between India and Bangladesh in Kolkata.
- Chief Minister of West Bengal, Ms. Mamata Banerjee and the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of the Bangladesh jointly participated in this event of inauguration via video conference.
- These projects include the second Bhairab and Titas Railway Bridges; and the International Rail Passenger Terminus at Chitpur in Kolkata.
- Bandhan Express a new train between Kolkata and Khulna also flagged off by the three dignitaries for the Inaugural run.



Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173335>

Grahak Sadak Koyla Vitaran App

Question: Recently at which of the following places new App Called “Grahak Sadak Koyla Vitaran App” benefitting customers of Coal India Limited (CIL) lifting coal through road mode has been launched by Union Minister of Railways & Coal?

(a) Visakhapatnam (b) Odisha (c) Kolkata (d) Kandla

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 7th, 2017, Union Minister of Railways & Coal, Shri Piyush Goyal has launched ‘Grahak Sadak Koyla Vitaran App’ benefitting customers of Coal India Limited (CIL) lifting coal through road mode.
- This customer friendly app was launched on CIL’s Foundation Day in Kolkata.
- The launching of the app is one of the initiatives of CIL towards achieving the much cherished goal of ‘Digital India’ and transparency.
- The main features of the app are that it provides date-wise, truck-wise quantity of coal delivered against the Sale Orders and information related to Scheme-wise, Colliery-wise, Grade-wise, customer-wise details of Sale Orders issued during a period.
- The main benefits of the App for the customers, against the Sale Orders issued, include easy accessibility of the information at the click of the button, apart from transparency in the system of loading programme and despatch.
- The app also helps in logistics planning for lifting of coal in tune with the loading programmes.
- It improved planning of procurement, production and stock management by the customers.
- It is noteworthy that Coal India Limited was granted the ‘Maharatna’ status on 11 April, 2011 by the Government of India.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173288>

Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana

Question: A Pan India scholarship program for school children called Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana is launched recently. Under the scheme of SPARSH, it is proposed to award annual scholarships to children of which Standard?

(a) VI to IX (b) VIII to X (c) VIII to XII (d) X to XII

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 3rd, 2017, Minister of Communications Shri Manoj Sinha launched a Pan India scholarship program for school children called Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana.
- SPARSH stands for ‘Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby’.



- Under the scheme of SPARSH, it is proposed to award annual scholarships to children of Standard VI to IX having good academic record and also pursuing Philately as a hobby through a competitive selection process in all postal circles.
- The amount of Scholarship will be Rs. 6000/- per annum @ Rs. 500/- per month.
- Scholarships will be given to 920 students pursuing Philately as a hobby.
- Every Postal Circle will select a maximum of 40 scholarships representing 10 students each from Standard VI, VII, VIII and IX.
- It is known to all that Philately is the hobby of collection and study of Postage stamps.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173212>

Cabinet approved continuation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

Question: For how much years Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the continuation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana- Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR)?

(a) Two year (b) Three years (c) Five Years (d) One years

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the continuation of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) as Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana- Remunerative Approaches for Agriculture and Allied sector Rejuvenation (RKVY-RAFTAAR).
- This continuation will be for three years i.e. 2017-18 to 2019-20.
- The financial allocation of the scheme will be Rs. 15,722 crore with the objective of making farming as a remunerative economic activity through strengthening the farmer's effort, risk mitigation and promoting agri-business entrepreneurship.
- This will also strengthen farmer's efforts through creation of agriculture infrastructure that help in supply of quality inputs, market facilities etc.
- This will further promote agri-entrepreneurship and support business models that maximize returns to farmers.
- RKVY-RAFTAAR funds would be provided to the States as 60:40 grants between Centre and States, as:
 - A. Regular RKVY-RAFTAAR (Infrastructure & Assets and Production Growth) with 70% of annual outlay to be allocated to states as grants based for the following activities:
 - Infrastructure and assets with 50% of regular RKVY-RAFTAAR outlay.
 - Value addition linked production projects with 30% of regular RKVY-RAFTAAR outlay.
 - Flexi-funds with 20% of regular RKVY-RAFTAAR outlay. States can use this for supporting any projects as per the local needs.
 - B. RKVY-RAFTAAR special sub-schemes of National priorities – 20% of annual outlay;
 - C. Innovation and agri-entrepreneur development through creating end-to-end solution, skill development and financial support for setting up the agri-enterprise -10% of annual outlay including 2% of administrative costs.



- It is noteworthy that Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) is a continuing scheme under implementation from XI Five Year Plan.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173139>

Chirali- Sath sada ke liye scheme

Question: For the protection of women against violence “Chirali-Sath sada ke liye” scheme, has been started as a novel initiative by which of the following state government?

(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Haryana (c) Rajasthan (d) Manipur

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- On September 26, 2017, by Department of Women and Child Development, the scheme ‘Chirali- with Sada Ke liye’ was inaugurated at Jawahar Arts Center in Jaipur.
- Under this scheme, voluntaries will be appointed for the protection of women in villages and pressure groups will be formed for women.
- The scheme will be started in 7 districts of Banswara, Bhilwara, Bundi, Jalore, Jhalawar, Nagaur and Pratapgarh.
- This scheme has been started as an innovative initiative of the state government for the prevention of violence against women.
- The pressure group will also disseminate the important role in preventing the violence and malice on women in the village and also spread public awareness.
- The work group under the scheme will be set up separately in Gram Panchayat Headquarters and Revenue villages.
- The main group and the sub-group at the village level will be formed at the Gram Panchayat headquarters.
- Each group will have 25-25 members.
- Gram Panchayat level will be included in Sathin, Kishori Girls, Aware citizens, Anganwadi activists, Asha, Women’s Representatives, Teachers of Primary School and co-member group.



Reference:

<https://hindi.news18.com/news/rajasthan/jaipur-chirali-yojana-launched-in-rajasthan-1120246.html>

Solar Photovoltaic Irrigation Pump

Question: How much will the government of Uttar Pradesh subsidize for the installation of solar photovoltaic irrigation pump of 3 Horse Power to the farmers?

(a) 35 percent (b) 45 percent (c) 50 percent (d) 55 percent

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On 5th September, 2017, in the cabinet meeting held in Uttar Pradesh, the decision was taken to provide subsidy of 25% by the center and 45% by the



state (total 70%) on establishment of Solar Photovoltaic Irrigation Pump of 3 Horse Power by farmers.

- 30 percent of the pump's value will be payable by the farmer.
- On establishment of Solar Photovoltaic Irrigation Pumps with capacity greater than 3 Horse Power will be 40% of the total grant.
- The remaining 60 percent subsidy will be payable by the farmers.
- The Government of India has now approved the establishment of 1000 solar photovoltaic irrigation pumps.
- This work has been set to be completed in the next 6 months.
- The state government has demanded 12500 additional solar photovoltaic irrigation pumps from the Central Government.
- With the establishment of these types of pumps, there will be a reduction in environmental pollution along with the saving of diesel and electricity.
- Farmers will have to register on the departmental website for this scheme.
- Farmers will be selected on first-come-first-served basis.

Reference:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=591

TREATY & AGREEMENTS

Agreement to Set-Up Large-Scale Solar Parks

Question: For what amount India has recently signed a loan agreement with World Bank shared infrastructure for Solar Park project?

- (a) USD 75 million (b) USD 98 million (c) USD 100 million
(d) USD 150 million

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 20, 2017, A Guarantee Agreement for IBRD/CTF loan of USD 98 million and Grant Agreement for USD 2 million for the "Shared Infrastructure for Solar Parks Project" were signed by India with World Bank.
- The Agreement was signed by Mr Sameer Kumar Khare, Joint Secretary (MI), Department of Economic Affairs on behalf of Government of India, and Mr Hisham A. Abdo, Acting Country Director, World Bank India, on behalf of the World Bank.
- A Loan Agreement was also signed by Mr K S Popli, Chairman and Managing Director, India Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) and Mr Hisham A. Abdo, Acting Country Director, World Bank India, on behalf of the World Bank.
- The project consists of two components viz. (i) Shared Infrastructure for Solar Parks (estimated total project cost of USD 100 million, including USD 75 million in IBRD loan and USD 23 million in CTF Loan) and (ii) Technical Assistance (USD 2 million in CTF Grant).
- The objective of the project is to increase solar generation capacity through establishment of large-scale parks in the country.



- The project will help establish large-scale solar parks and support the government's plan to install 100 Gigawatts (GW) of solar power out of a total renewable-energy target of 175 GW by 2022.

Reference:

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2017/11/20/project-signing-government-india-world-bank-sign-agreement-set-up-large-scale-solar-parks>

Indo-Russian Agreement

Question: Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved the signing of the Indo-Russian Agreement for cooperation in which of the following fields?

- (a) Agriculture (b) Terrorism (c) Double Taxation (d) Space

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 22nd, 2017 Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for signing an Agreement on Cooperation between India and Russia in the field of combating all forms of terrorism and organized crime.
- The Agreement is proposed to be signed during the upcoming visit of Indian Delegation, led by Home Minister, to Russia from 27-29 November, 2017.
- The proposed Agreement will replace the Agreement of October, 1993.
- Agreement is a step towards consolidating the benefits accrued in the field of security and seeks to jointly fight the new and evolving risks and threats.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173732>

Loan agreement between India and the World Bank

Question: A loan agreement between India and the World Bank has been signed in November, 2017 to improve the higher education system in which of the following state?

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

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 7th, 2017, a loan agreement of \$ 119 million between India and the World Bank was signed.
- This amount will be spent on improving the state's higher education system in Odisha.
- This loan agreement has been signed for the "Odisha Higher Education Programme for Excellence & Equity (OHEPEE) Project".
- The Objective of the project is to improve the quality of 'students' equitable access to selected institutions and enhance governance of the higher education system in Odisha.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173294>

MoU between India and Philippines

Question: Four agreements had been signed between India and the Philippines recently. Which of the following area is not included in these agreement?

(a) Agriculture (b) Defense (c) Information Technology (d) Micro, Medium and Small Enterprises

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 10th, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for signing a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Philippines in the field of agriculture and related fields.
- Total four agreements were made after the extensive talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the President of the Philippines, Rodrigo Duterte, who were attending the ASEAN conference held in the Philippines.
- This MoU provides for cooperation in the fields of rice production and processing, multi cropping system, dryland farming systems, bio-organic farming, solid and water conservation and management, soil fertility, sericulture, agro forestry, livestock improvement etc.
- The MoU provides for constitution of Joint Working Group composed of equal number of representatives.
- The Joint Working Group shall meet once every two years alternatively in the Philippines and India.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173399>

Agreement between India and Colombia

Question: Recently, the joint declaration between India and Colombia was approved in relation to the agreement signed between the Union of India and the Republic of Colombia between the Union Cabinet?

- (a) For trade and commerce
(b) For cooperation in the information and technology sector
(c) For the promotion and protection of the investment
(d) For cooperation in the field of space technology

Answer:(c)

Related Facts:

- On November 10, 2017, Union Cabinet has given approval for signing the Joint Interpretative Declaration (JID) between India and Colombia regarding the existing Agreement for the Promotion and Protection of Investments between India and Colombia.
- The agreement was signed on November 10, 2009.



- The JID would impart clarity to the interpretation of the existing Agreement as it includes interpretative notes to be jointly adopted for many clauses, including, the definition of investor, definition of investment, Fair and Equitable Treatment (FET), National Treatment (NT) and Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment, expropriation, Investor – State Dispute Settlement provision and Denial of Benefits.
- Joint Interpretative Declarations/Statements in general play an important supplementary role in strengthening the investment treaty regime.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173390>

Cabinet approves MoU for the promotion of Civil Aviation Cooperation

Question: On 16th November, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the Promotion of Civil Aviation Cooperation between India and which one of the following countries?

(a) Poland (b) Russia (c) Saudi Arabia (d) Morocco

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 16th, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for signing the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Poland for the Promotion of Civil Aviation Cooperation.
- The objective of the MoU is to recognize the mutual benefit of Cooperation in the field of Civil Aviation having particular significance in establishing and improving Regional Air Connectivity in India.
- The main areas of this Memorandum of Understanding to promote and facilitate mutual cooperation are as under: Support in the civil aviation market by reviewing any legal and procedural issues which may adversely affect cooperation between India and Poland. b. Exchange of information and expertise between the Ministries and respective Civil Aviation Authorities related to aviation regulations, regional air operations, airworthiness requirements and safety standards to enhance safety and security of air transport; and / or c. Collaboration on or joint development, organization and/or conduct of training programmes on aviation safety, on topics such as safety oversight, airworthiness, flight operations, licensing, legislation and enforcement; and / or d. Aviation associated consultations, joint organization and/or conduct of conferences and professional seminars, workshops, talks and other such activities on aviation safety with the participation of representatives from the Parties related to the field of civil aviation; and / or e. Regular dialogue or meetings for exchange of information; knowledge, expertise and experiences between Ministries and respective Civil Aviation safety related development of mutual interest to the parties; f. Collaboration on research and studies on aviation safety interest topics and issues of mutual interest. g. Any other issues related to co-operation in the areas mentioned above.
- The MoU would be for a term of five years.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173555>

Agreement between India and Belarus

Question: On November 16th, 2017, signing of an agreement between the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NASB) has been apprised by Union Cabinet. Earlier, on which date agreement was exchanged?

(a) 12th August (b) 12th October (c) 12th September (d) 12th November

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 16th, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has been apprised of the Agreement between the Indian National Science Academy (INSA) and the National Academy of Sciences of Belarus (NASB) on Scientific and Technological Cooperation for mutual benefit in the areas of science, technology, agriculture, etc.
- The Agreement is aimed at identifying, assessing, developing and commercializing globally competitive technologies from India and Belarus.
- The Agreement was exchanged on 12th September, 2017 at New Delhi during the visit of Belarus President H.E. Mr. Alexander Lukashenko.
- It will support institutions in both countries by way of research, technology transfers, exchange of visits and joint workshops leading to scientific and economic benefit.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173558>

Approval of loan to Andhra Pradesh by AIIB

Question: Recently how much amount of loan approval was given by the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) for five projects in Andhra Pradesh?

(a) \$ 2 million (b) \$3 million (c) \$ 5 million (d) \$5.5 million

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On October 31st, 2017, approval was granted by the Chinese sponsored Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to provide a loan amount of \$ 2 million (Rs 13,000 crore) to Andhra Pradesh.
- This loan amount has been approved for five projects in this state, which includes two roads and one rural safe drinking water department, municipal and urban development department and Panchayati Raj Department.
- It is known that a proposal was forwarded to the Central Government for seeking assistance for these five projects by the Andhra Pradesh government a few months ago.
- AIIB is headquartered in Beijing, China.
- It was commenced operations in January 2016.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/aiib-grants-rs-13-000-cr-loan-to-andhra-pradesh-117103101245_1.html

India and the Philippines

Question: For the cooperation in which of the following areas Union Cabinet recently gave the approval by signing a Memorandum of Understanding between India and the Philippines?

- (a) Medical (b) Agriculture and related fields
(c) Business education and training (d) Extradition Treaty

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 10, 2017, the Union Cabinet approved the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between India and the Philippines for cooperation in agriculture and related fields.
- This will help in understanding the best agricultural practices between the two countries and will help in improving access to advanced global markets as well as better productivity.
- The MoU has made provisions for cooperation in the following areas: paddy production and processing, multifold system, dry land farming system, organic farming, solid and water maintenance and management, soil fertility, silk pest farming, agriculture forestry and livestock improvement.
- There is also a provision for the formation of a Joint Working Group in this MOU, in which the number of representatives of both countries will be included.
- The Joint Working Group meeting will be held simultaneously once every two years in the Philippines and India.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173399>

Agreement between India and Ethiopia

Question: The cabinet approved the Ex-Post Facto approval for trade agreement for strengthening and promotion of trade and economic cooperation between India and Ethiopia. This agreement was signed during whose trip to Ethiopia in October 2017?

- (a) President (b) Prime Minister (c) Minister of Commerce (d) Foreign Minister

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On November 1, 2017, the Union Cabinet approved the Ex-Post Facto approval for the trade agreement to strengthen and promote business and economic cooperation between India and Ethiopia.
- This trade agreement was signed on October 5, 2017 during the state visit of the President of India to Ethiopia during October 4-6, 2017.
- Before it the current trade agreement was signed in the year 1982.
- Under this new trade agreement, all necessary measures will be provided for promotion of economic cooperation, investment and technical sector.



Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173132>

MoU by TSSC to drive skill development in the country

Question: With which of the following Pvt. Ltd, Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for complementing the skills imparted by the vocational system and providing better livelihood opportunities?

(a) Reliance communication (b) ITC Ltd (c) Udacity India Pvt. Ltd. (d) Wipro

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 7th, 2017, Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) has entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Udacity India Pvt. Ltd. in New Delhi.
- This MoU is for complementing the skills imparted by the vocational system and providing better livelihood opportunities.
- MoU aims to drive skill development for youth in India.
- The MoU was signed by TSSC CEO, Lt. Gen. SP Kochhar and VP – International, Udacity, Clarissa Shen.
- It is noteworthy that Udacity is a pioneer in online educational organization founded by Sebastian Thrun, David Stavens, and Mike Sokolsky offering massive open online courses (MOOCs).
- Through this MoU Students will get access to Udacity Nanodegrees which feature cutting-edge curriculum built by Silicon Valley leaders and taught by expert instructors.
- After enrolling into these Nanodegree programs they will have access to one-on-one coaching, moderated forums, and project reviews ensuring a personalized experience.



Reference:

<https://www.aninews.in/news/business/business/tssc-signs-mou-with-udacity-india-pvt-ltd-to-drive-skill-development-in-the-country201711071324090002/>

Cabinet approves trade Agreement between India and Ethiopia

Question: On which date the Union Cabinet has given its ex-post facto approval for the trade Agreement between India and Ethiopia?

(a) October 30th (b) October 5th (c) November 1st (d) October 6th

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval for the trade Agreement between India and Ethiopia.
- This agreement is for strengthening and promoting trade and economic co-operation.
- It is noteworthy that trade Agreement was signed on 5th October, 2017 during the State visit of the President of India to Ethiopia from 4th to 6th October, 2017.
- The trade Agreement will replace the existing trade Agreement signed in 1982.
- The trade Agreement will provide for all necessary measures to encourage trade, economic cooperation, investment and technical co-operation.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173132>

Cabinet's approval of signing an Agreement between India and Armenia

Question: Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for signing and ratifying an Agreement between India and Armenia on cooperation and mutual assistance in which of the following matters?

- (a) Customs matters
- (b) Matters relating to Passport
- (c) Matters relating to transfer of sentenced persons
- (d) Agricultural matters

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister has given its approval for signing and ratifying an Agreement between India and Armenia.
- This agreement is on cooperation and mutual assistance in customs matters.
- The Agreement will help in the availability of relevant information for the prevention and investigation of Customs offences.
- It is also expected to facilitate trade and ensure efficient clearance of goods traded between the countries.
- The Agreement will be signed on behalf of the two countries after it is approved by the respective Governments.
- This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month after the Contracting Parties notify each other in through diplomatic channels, that the necessary national legal requirements for entry into force of this Agreement have been fulfilled.
- The draft text of the Agreement has been finalized with the concurrence of the two Customs Administrations.
- The draft Agreement takes care of Indian Customs' concerns and requirements, particularly in the area of exchange of information on the correctness of the Customs value declared and authenticity of certificates of origin of the goods traded between the two countries.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173130>

Agreement between India and EIB

Question: For how much amount a loan agreement was signed between Government of India and European Investment Bank (EIB) for Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II Line R6?

- (a) 250 million Euros
- (b) 275 million Euros
- (c) 300 million Euros
- (d) 350 million Euros

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On October 5th, 2017, Government of India and European Investment Bank (EIB) signed the Finance Contract for



lending of € 300 million for Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II Line R6.

- Bangalore Metro Rail Project Phase II is to be jointly financed by the European Investment Bank (€500 million) and Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (€300 million).
- The project envisages extension of East-West & North-South lines for Bangalore Metro Rail.
- It includes a total length of 72.095 km (13.79 km underground) and 61 stations with 12 underground stations.
- The project implementation period is 5 years from date of commencement of the Project.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=171409>

Agreement between Force Motors and Rolls-Royce for engine building

Question: Which foreign company has recently agreed to build an engine with the Indian Automobile Company Force Motors?

(a) Audi (b) Toyota (c) Rolls-Royce (d) Ford

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- On September 12, 2017, the Indian Automobile Company Force Motors and the British company, the Rolls-Royce power system, agreed to build the railway and electric utility engines.
- This is a joint venture in which Force Motors and Rolls-Royce will invest 300 crores till the start of production.
- A plant will be set up in Chakan Pune, for construction of the engine, which is estimated to be operational in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2018-2019.
- Force Motors makes engines for other automobile companies such as Mercedes, BMW.
- Rolls-Royce is a multinational company that is a pioneer in engine manufacturing of crafts engines of defense products as well as engines, rail and electric products.



Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/force-motors-ties-up-with-rolls-royce-to-set-up-engine-plant/1/1046363.html>

Agreement between Tamil Nadu Government and GIZ

Question: Recently, the Tamil Nadu government signed a joint technical cooperation agreement with Germany-based GIZ for taking up land use planning and management project in the state. As a part of this agreement, where will one scheme be developed to exploit unplanned land?

(a) Coimbatore (b) Krishnaagiri (c) Thanjavur (d) Madurai

Answer- (a)

Related Facts:

- On September 27, 2017, the Tamil Nadu government signed a joint technical cooperation agreement with German-based



GIZ-Gesellschaft Fur Internationale Zusammenarbeit to operate the land use scheme and management project.

- According to the Indo-German Development Agreement, the India-German Economic Cooperation and Development Ministry will operate the land use scheme and management project.
- As a part of the agreement, a plan will be developed for tapping the unplanned land in Coimbatore, which will also include Tirupur and Nilgiri districts.
- GIZ will provide technical assistance to state agencies involved in preparing land use policies.
- This scheme will be implemented by various agencies under the State Planning Commission, Housing and Urban Development Department.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/tn-inks-pact-with-german-firm-for-land-use-planning-project-117092701035_1.html

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/tn-inks-pact-with-german-firm-for-land-use-planning-project/1/1057252.html>

BSNL Signs MoU with ZTE

Question: Recently, a MoU was signed between Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and ZTE. ZTE is gear maker of which of the following countries?

(a) Taiwan (b) South Korea (c) China (d) Japan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On September 27, 2017, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) and the Chinese gear maker ZTE.
- Both the sides will work together and prove key technologies like Pre5G and 5G wireless systems to make virtual network architecture of a 5G ecosystem for research and commercialization in India.



Reference:

<http://telecom.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/imc-2017-mou-signed-between-bsnl-and-zte/60870455>

CONFERENCE

1st World Conference on Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health

Question: Recently, where was the 1st World Conference on Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health organised?

(a) New Delhi (b) Colombo (c) Yangon (d) Bangkok

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:



- On November 21st, 2017, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare J.P. Nadda inaugurated '1st World Conference on Access to Medical Products and International Laws for Trade and Health in New Delhi.
- The Conference was organized by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare with the support of WHO Country Office for India and in partnership with Indian Society of International Law.
- The objective of the Conference was to exchange knowledge and expand understanding on contemporary issues in international trade laws and research and innovation for access to medical products to achieve SDG 2030 agenda.
- The conference was attended by various senior officers of the Ministry, delegates from various countries and representatives of development organisations.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173696>

India-China Tourism Exchange Seminar

Question: Recently, India-China Tourism Exchanges Seminar was organized in which of the following cities?

(a) Tianjin (b) Sanya (c) Chengdu (d) Xian

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On October 26th, 2017, the India-China Tourism Exchange Seminar was held at the Yalong Bay Conference Center at city Sanya, China.
- It was organized by the Indian Consulate in GuangZhou.
- The seminar was organized in Sanya with a 3-day Global Yoga Exchange Conference.
- The seminar was attended by senior officials from Sanya Municipal Government comprising of Foreign Affairs office, Tourism Development Commission, Department of Culture, representatives of media organisations, business houses, academia and around 150 travelagents from all over China, representatives from airlines.
- In the year 2016, about 135 million Chinese passengers traveled abroad.
- On March 28th, 2017, a proposal by the Sanya Government for establishing a friendly relationship with Bangalore was approved at The Third Meeting of the Seventh NPC Standing Committee of Sanya City.
- It is noteworthy that China is currently the world's top tourist source market.
- In August 2017, a new Sanya-Guangzhou-Delhi air route was opened.
- During the India-China Tourism Exchanges seminar, delegates of both the parties presented presentations on their respective tourism resources.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-organises-tourism-promotion-campaign-in-chinas-sanya-117102601374_1.html

5th Global Conference on Cyberspace

Question: During November 23rd-24th, 2017, at which of the places the 5th Global Conference on cyberspace was organized?

(a) Colombo (b) Dhaka (c) Toronto (d) New Delhi

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- During November 23rd -24th, 2017, '5th Global Conference on Cyberspace' was organized at Aerocity, New Delhi.
- It is one of the world's largest conferences in the field of Cyberspace and related issues.
- For the first time, this conference is taking place *outside Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*
- *The theme of this conference was "Cyber4All: A Secure and Inclusive Cyberspace for Sustainable Development".*
- The two days conference was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi.
- Senior officials, industry leaders from more than 100 nations and about 2000 delegates from civil society attended this conference.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173571>

<https://gccs2017.in/>

<http://www.oecd.org/about/membersandpartners/list-oecd-member-countries.htm>

20th International Children's Film Festival' India

Question: Where was the '20th International Children's Film Festival' India organized during November 8-14, 2017?

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

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- During 8-14 November, 2017, the '20th International Indian Child Film Festival' (ICFFI) was organized in the sculpture Vedika Hyderabad, Telangana.
- The theme of this festival was 'New India'.
- This festival was jointly hosted by the Indian Children Film Society (CFSI) and Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, along with Telangana Government.
- CFSI is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.



Reference:

<http://cfsindia.org/20icffi/>

The first Nordic-Baltic youth film festival

Question: Where was the first Nordic Baltic Youth Film Festival held recently?

(a) Copenhagen (b) New Delhi (c) Oslo (d) Helsinki

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:



- During November 13-18, 2017, first Nordic-Baltic Youth Film Festival was organized at the India Habitat Center in New Delhi.
- This was organized by the Nordic & Baltic Embassies in India, in collaboration with Habitat World, India Habitat Centre.
- At the ceremony, a diverse mix of some of the most prestigious and Oscars nominated films were performed.
- The festival began with Land of Mine from Denmark, an Oscar-nominated film about young German prisoners of World War II.
- The festival gave the Indian audience an opportunity to connect with these countries and strengthen the cultural bond.
- It is noteworthy that the Nordic Baltic 8 countries such as Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden are geographically and historically linked together through business, culture and many common and diverse cost systems.

Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/9228933_First-Nordic-Baltic-youth-film-festival-begins-tomorrow

Indo-China border consultation mechanism meeting

Question: Where was the tenth meeting of the Executive Committee of Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) on the Indo-China border affairs held recently?

(a) Beijing (b) Beijing (c) New Delhi (d) Imphal

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- 17 November 2017 Executive Committee for Consultation and Coordination on Indo-China Border Affairs (WMCC) held in Beijing, China.
- In this meeting, the two countries reviewed the situation in all areas of the mutual border.
- Both countries agreed on the topic that maintaining peace and tranquility in the border areas is an important condition of continued growth in mutual relations.
- Both sides exchanged views on more measures of confidence restoration and measures were taken to strengthen the contacts between the two countries' armies.
- It is a noteworthy that WMCC was established in 2012, which aims to provide institutional support in maintaining peace and stability in border areas of India-China.



Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/doklam-standoff-india-china-border-troops-pm-modi-xi-jinping-xiamen/1/1091721.html>

First International Balloon Festival

Question: At which of the following places first international balloon festival was organized during November 14th– 16th, 2017?

(a) Rajasthan (b) Andhra Pradesh (c) Gujarat
(d) Karnataka



Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- November 14-16, 2017, First edition of the Hot Air Balloon Festival was organized at Araku valley near Visakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh.
- Festival was organized by the Andhra Pradesh Tourism Department in cooperation with E-Factor & SkyWaltz, an Endwenger Tourism Company.
- Experienced pilots from 13 countries: Australia, New Zealand, France, Malaysia, Belgium, America, Italy, Brazil, Philippines, Switzerland, Spain, South Korea and India participated in the festival.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/araku-balloon-festival-extended-by-a-day/article20493545.ece>

10th South Asia Economic Summit

Question: Where was the tenth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES X) held from 14-16 November 2017?

(a) Dhaka (b) Manila (c) Kathmandu (d) New Delhi

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The tenth South Asia Economic Summit (SAES X) was held in Kathmandu, Nepal from 14-16 November 2017.
- The theme of this three-day conference was “Deepening Economic Integration for Inclusive and Sustainable Development in South Asia.”
- 200 delegates from South Asian countries participated in this conference.
- This conference is being organized since 2008 and is a premier regional platform for discussing and analysing economic and development issues and challenges facing South Asian countries, and advancing the cause of regional integration and cooperation.



Reference:

<http://ddnews.gov.in/national/10th-south-asia-economic-summit-begin-kathmandu-tomorrow>

7th Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan

Question: Where was the 7th Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan organized?

(a) Damascus (b) New Delhi (c) Ashgabat (d) New York

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On 14-15 November 2017, Seventh Regional Economic Cooperation Conference on Afghanistan (RECCA VII) was held in Ashgabat.
- Minister of State for External Affairs M.J. Akbar participated in the conference as Indian representative.
- Representatives from over 67 countries and Regional and international organizations participated in the conference.



- Significant trade and transit agreements were signed between Afghanistan and regional countries during the conference.
- It is noteworthy that Reka was launched in 2005 with the aim of providing help in the ongoing peace process in Afghanistan.

Reference:

<http://www.spa.gov.sa/viewfullstory.php?lang=en&newsid=1688650>

International seminar organized on the Indian Space Program

Question-Where was the international seminar organized on the Indian Space Program during 20-21 November 2017?

(a) Jaipur (b) Bangalore (c) New Delhi (d) Kochi

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- During November 20-21, 2017, International Seminar on Indian Space Programme: 'Trends and Opportunities for Industry' was organized in New Delhi.
- It was inaugurated by Secretary of Space, Chairman of the Space Commission and Chairman of the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) A.S. Kiran Kumar.
- The seminar was organised by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Antrix Corporation Limited (the commercial arm of ISRO), in coordination with Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI).
- The objective of this two-day conference was to deliberate on the best practices, pursue the ongoing discussion process to support further work of India's Space Sector and facilitate arriving at coherent framework, where in India's Space Sector can start expanding the domestic and global opportunities through enhanced partnerships and collaborations.
- Apart from this, seminar was aimed to highlight the achievements and major milestones of Indian Space Sector in recent past, and the future programs and plans.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173669>

<http://ficci.in/events-page.asp?evid=23463>

42nd ICMM World Congress on Military Medicine

Question: On 20th November, 2017, 42nd ICMM World Congress on Military Medicine was inaugurated by Admiral Sunil Lanba. In this congress delegates from how many members countries have participated?

(a) 65 (b) 75 (c) 85 (d) 95

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 20th, 2017, Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee and Chief of the Naval Staff (COSC & CNS) Admiral Sunil Lanba officially inaugurated the 42nd ICMM World Congress on Military Medicine at Vigyan Bhavan.



- Delegates from 75 member nations of the International Committee on Military Medicine (ICMM) were present and officially welcomed by the Director General Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAFMS), Lt Gen Bipin Puri.
- The keynote address was delivered by Lt Gen N K Parmar (Retd).
- A panel discussion on 'Women in Combat: Challenges for Healthcare Providers' provoked much discussion and debate.
- A plenary session on 'Innovations in Field Medical Care' was also held.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=173681>

Petrochemical Investors Conclave

Question: Where was the 'Petrochemical Investors Conclave 2017' organized on November 16, 2017?

(a) Gandhinagar (b) Bhubaneswar (c) Guwahati (d) Jaipur

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 16th, 2017, Union Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas, Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated a first-of-its-kind Petrochemical Investors Conclave in Bhubaneswar.
- The theme of this Conclave was 'Purvodaya-The Dawn of New Investment Opportunities in Eastern India'.
- It was organized by Indian Oil Corporation Limited under the auspices of the Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Ministry (IOCL).



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173585>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmphoto.aspx?mincode=20>

Second meeting of Island Development Agency

Question: Where was the second meeting of the Island Development Agency held recently?

(a) Lakshadweep (b) Andaman & Nicobar (c) New Delhi
(d) Puducherry

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 8, 2017, the second meeting of the island development agency under the chairmanship of Home Minister Rajnath Singh was held in New Delhi.
- The Island Development Agency reviewed the concept development plans and detailed master plans for holistic development of 09 islands.
- These 9 islands includes four in A&N Islands i.e. Smith, Ross, Long, Avis and five in Lakshadweep i.e. Minicoy, Bangaram, Thinnakara, Cheriya, Suheli.
- The project being steered by NITI Aayog aims at promoting and implementing development based on sustainable approach to building a thriving maritime economy of the project islands.



- During the meeting, it was decided that the Naval air station at Shibpur near Diglipur in northern Andaman & Nicobar Islands would be co-used as Joint User Airport.
- In the meeting, it was also decided to develop a PPP package including a airport (Joint User Airport) at Minicoy Island, to unlock the tourism potential.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173317>

National Workshop ‘Chintan Shivir’

Question: Which of the following options is not related to the workshop recently organized in New Delhi by Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development?

- (a) Digital Education (b) Life Skills Education
(c) Primary Education (d) Experimental Study

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Union HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar inaugurated a two-day during 6-7 November, 2017 National Workshop ‘Chintan Shivir’ organized by Department of School Education and Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development in New Delhi.
- The workshop was inaugurated by Union Human Resource Development Minister Prakash Javadekar.
- The main aim of the workshop was to provide holistic education relevant for 21st century India and to bring together key stakeholders from various NGOs, private sector and individuals to deliberate on key themes in the education sector.
- Workshop mainly focused on five themes i.e. Digital education, Life Skill education, Experimental learning, and Physical Education and Value education.
- Union HRD Minister Shri Prakash Javadekar also launched a Compendium on ‘Innovations and Best Practices in School Education’ and a State-NGO-CSR Portal – ‘Shaala Sarathi’ on the occasion.
- Over the course of two days a total of 157 organizations/experts will be making their point via presentations.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173261>

<https://innovate.mygov.in/chintan-shivir/>

Bar Leadership Summit

Question: Recently, at which of the following places Bar Leadership Summit to explore issues and concerns surrounding the liberalization of the Indian legal services sector was organized?

- (a) Bengaluru (b) Mumbai (c) Gujarat (d) New Delhi

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 11th, 2017, ‘Bar Leadership Summit on Reforms in the Indian Legal Sector’ was organized in New



Delhi.

- The Summit explored issues and concerns surrounding the liberalization of the Indian legal services sector.
- The summit was organized by The Indian National Bar Association (INBA) in collaboration with the Department of Commerce, Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and the Centre for Trade and Investment Law (CTIL), Indian Institute of Foreign Trade.
- The Minister of State for Human Resource Development (Higher Education), Shri Satya Pal Singh inaugurated the summit.
- The session wise theme of the summit: (I) the conduct of arbitration in India; (II) reforms in the Indian legal regulatory sector; and (III) the liberalization of Indian legal services; was introduced by Shri Kaviraj Singh, Secretary General of INBA.
- The Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Suresh Prabhu addressed the Summit through a video message.
- He emphasized on the growing importance of Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) and encouraged the legal community to increasingly make use of this mechanism for enhancing the ease of doing business.
- Beside, above-noted Shri. Suresh Chandra, Law Secretary, Ministry of Law and Justice Ms. Pinky Anand, Additional Solicitor General of India, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA), Shri R. S. Suri etc. also graced the summit.
- The President of INBA, Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap welcoming the gathering, highlighted the importance of initiating discussions on much needed reforms in the legal sector.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173661>

12th North East Business Summit

Question: Between November 16th-17th, 2017, where was the 12th North-Eastern Business Convention organized?

(a) Guwahati (b) New Delhi (c) Imphal (d) Kolkata

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- The Two-day “12th North-East Business Summit” from November 16th-17th, 2017, was inaugurated in New Delhi.
- The summit aimed to explore the scope for business opportunities in the North-Eastern region of India.
- Focused areas were Infrastructure and Connectivity with Public Private Partnerships, Skill Development, Financial Inclusion, Services Sector Development- Particularly in Tourism, Hospitality & Food Processing.
- The Summit was organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC), with Manipur being the state partner for the event.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173566>

4th Global Conference on Sustained Eradication of Child Labour

Question: Where was the 4th Global Conference on Sustained Eradication of Child Labour organized during November 14-16, 2017?

(a) Buenos Aires (b) New York (c) Paris (d) Rome

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- During 14-16 November, 2017, the 4th Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labor was organized in Buenos Aires, Argentina.
- The conference has been organized jointly by Government of Argentina and International Labour Organization (ILO).
- The conference attended by representatives of government, employers and workers from more than 100 countries.
- Central Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi represented India at this conference.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173530>

World Youth Forum

Question- Where was the World Youth Conference organized recently?

(a) Vienna (b) Kolkata (c) Dubai (d) Sharam El Shiekh, Egypt

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- From November 4th- 10th, 2017, third World Youth Forum, held at Sharam El Shiekh, Egypt.
- Its promotional hashtag was #WeNeedToTalk.
- The seminar was inaugurated by the Egyptian President Abdel-Fateh al-Sisi.
- Colonel Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports (Independent Charge) from India participated in this seminar.
- The Forum aims to provide a platform to the youth from all over the globe to engage with the key global policy makers.
- The Summit segment was attended by the Heads of State/Government, Ministers of youth from 14 countries and Representatives of UN, Arab League and African Union.
- It involved discussions on the role of youth in the business, new methods of creating future leaders, challenges, gender equality and women empowerment.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173225>

First ever Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) Conference in India

Question: First ever Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) Conference from November 12-15, 2017, concluded in New Delhi. In which year the organization APCERT was established?

(a) 2001 (b) 2003 (c) 2008 (d) 2012

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- From November 12-15, 2017, Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) 15th Conference concluded in New Delhi.
- This was First ever Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) Conference in India and South Asia.
- The conference theme is "Building Trust in the Digital Economy".
- Conference was organized by The Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) under the aegis of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.
- This will be inaugurated by Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister of Electronics & Information Technology.
- It is expected to be attended by 21 economies and over 300 cyber security professionals from the Asia Pacific region, USA, Europe, Industry, Academia, Government and Media.
- Last year this conference was organized from 24-27 October 2016 in Tokyo, Japan.
- The organisation was established in February 2003 with the objective of encouraging and supporting the activities of CERTs/CSIRTs in the region.
- Currently, APCERT consists of 30 Operational Members from 21 economies and 3 supporting Members.
- It is noteworthy that The Asia Pacific Computer Emergency Response Team (APCERT) is a coalition of Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) and Computer Security Incident Response Teams (CSIRTs) within the Asia Pacific region.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173473>

<https://apcert2017.in/>

https://www.apcert.org/documents/pdf/APCERT_Annual_Report_2016.pdf

Hunar Haat in IITF 2017

Question: On November 15th, 2017, Hunar Haat exhibition was inaugurated by the Ministry of Minority Affairs at India International Trade Fair (IITF). This Hunar Haat exhibition is of which number?

(a) 3rd (b) 4th (c) 5th (d) 2nd

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 15th, 2017, the fourth Hunar Haat exhibition is being organised by the Ministry of Minority Affairs at India International Trade Fair (IITF).
- The theme of 4th Hunar Haat is: Development with Dignity, Samman Ke Saath Sashaktikaran, Empowerment without Appeasement.



- Hunar Haats are organised by Ministry of Minority Affairs under USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) scheme, which aims at preserving & promoting the rich heritage of the traditional arts & crafts of the Minority communities.
- About 130 artisans from 20 States & Union Territories are participating in this Hunar Haat which include about 30 women artisans.
- It is notable that Union Ministry of Minority Affairs for the first time had inaugurated Hunar Haat (Skill Haat) at India International Trade Fair (2016).
- It is proposed to hold 10-12 Hunar Haats across the country in one calendar year.
- Second Hunar Haat held in Delhi (from 11th to 26th February, 2017) and the third in Puducherry (from 24th to 30th September, 2017).
- Besides this, the Ministry is also working to establish “Hunar Hub” in all states where artisans will be provided training and other facilities.
- It is mention worthy that India International Trade Fair (IITF) is being organized at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from 14th to 27th November, 2017.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173494>

AADI MAHOTSAV

Question: “AADI MAHOTSAV” a celebration of the spirit of Tribal Culture, Cuisine and Commerce will be organized at which of the following places?

(a) Chhattisgarh (b) Jharkhand (c) New Delhi (d) Orissa

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- From November 16th-30th, 2017, “AADI MAHOTSAV” a celebration of the spirit of Tribal Culture, Cuisine and Commerce will be organized at Dilli Haat New Delhi.
- The Theme of the festival is: A Celebration of the Spirit of Tribal Culture, Cuisine and Commerce.
- On November 14th, in a Curtain Raiser Press Conference, Ms. Leena Nair, Secretary, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, informed that Mahotsav will be inaugurated by Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu, Vice President of India.
- Ministry of Tribal Affairs along with Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd (TRIFED) is organizing “AADI MAHOTSAV” a celebration of the spirit of Tribal Culture, Cuisine and Commerce.
- Over 480 tribal artisans from over 25 States will participate in the festival.
- The festival will feature exhibition-cum-sale of tribal handicrafts, art, paintings, fabric, jewellery and much more through 160 stalls.
- It is noteworthy that Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development of India Ltd., (TRIFED) is an organization under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Govt. of India and is engaged in marketing development of tribal products including tribal art & craft under the brand name “TRIBES INDIA”.
- The main mandate of TRIFED is capability enhancement of the tribals, promotion of tribal products and creation of marketing opportunities for the tribals with a view to ensuring them fair prices for their products and augmenting their income on sustainable basis.



Related Facts:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173502>

18th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World

Question: Where was the 18th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World organized recently?

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

Answer : (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 11, 2017, the 18th International Conference of Chief Justices of the World was organized at City Montessori School, Lucknow.
- It was organized by City Montessori School.
- Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launches the lamp lighting program
- The Chief justices and jurists of various countries participated in this conference.

**Reference:**

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=777

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=782

<https://www.bhaskar.com/news/UP-LUCK-18th-international-conference-of-chief-justices-of-the-world-5743247-PHO.html>

Organic World Congress, 2017

Question: Where was the Organic Agriculture World Congress, 2017 organized?

(a) New Delhi (b) Greater Noida (c) Jaipur (d) Hyderabad

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- During 9-11 November, 2017, the 19th Organic World Congress 2017 was held in India Expo Center, Greater Noida.
- The conference was inaugurated by Radha Mohan Singh, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.
- The goal for this year's Congress is to move from organic India to the organic world.
- The event was attended by 1400 delegates from 110 countries and 2000 Indian delegates.
- Organic World Congress is organized once in three years in any country in the world.
- It was organized jointly by The International Federation of Organic Farming Movements (IFOAM) and OAFI.
- In this exhibition 55 seeds group from 15 Indian states will showcase 4,000 varieties of seeds.
- The last edition of the Organic World Congress took place in Istanbul, Turkey, in 2014.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173326>

4th Annual India-Canada Ministerial Dialogue

Question: The talks in the 4th India-Canada Ministerial Dialogue were held in New Delhi, in a friendly and encouraging atmosphere. This Ministerial dialogue was on which of following sectors?

- (a) Telecom (b) Information and Broadcasting
(c) Health and Safety (d) Trade and Investment

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 13th, 2017, the 4th India-Canada Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment was held in New Delhi.
- The talks were held in a friendly and encouraging atmosphere covering a host of trade and investment issues.
- Both sides recognized that the current bilateral trade is much below the potential between the two world's robust economies, despite the huge untapped potential for two-way trade and investment.
- The Indian Delegation was led by the Minister for Commerce and Industry, Shri Suresh Prabhu while the Canadian side was headed by the Minister for International Trade, Mr. François-Philippe Champagne.
- The Canadian side assured that they would look into the issues concerned, including movement of natural persons and what kind of provisions could be built into the CEPA.
- The other issues such as early institutionalization of the CEO Forum mechanism, issue of extension of derogation of pulses, etc. were also discussed.
- India forecast the trend for next 10 years and accordingly works towards a predictable environment for potential pulses which could be supplied from Canada.
- Commerce and Industry Minister also invited the Canadian side for participation in the Partnership Summit scheduled to be held in February, 2018 at Vishakhapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and also invited Canada to be a partner country.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173453>

Forum on Road Safety

Question: By whom Transport Ministers` Forum on Road Safety has been inaugurated recently?

- (a) Nitin Jairam Gadkari, Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways
(b) Thawar Chand Gehlot, Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment
(c) Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India
(d) Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 13th, 2017, Shri J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare inaugurated the 'Transport Ministers` Forum on Road Safety'.
- This forum has been organised by International Road Federation (IRF).



- He also informed the participants that the “capacity building for developing Trauma Care Facilities in Government Hospitals on National Highways”, was approved for development of 85 new trauma care facilities.
- “National Injury Surveillance, Trauma Registry and Capacity Building Centre have been established at Dr. RML Hospital, ATLS/NELS training for doctors and BLS training for nurses is being organized at Dr. RML Hospital.
- The scheme is proposed to continue as ‘National Programme for Trauma Care’ under the umbrella scheme ‘National Programme for Prevention & Management of Trauma & Burn Injuries’ for establishing 30 new trauma care facilities.
- Proposal for continuation of the scheme with an outlay of Rs. 554.41 cr has been approved by EFC and is placed before the CCEA for approval.
- Transport Ministers from eight countries along with Shri Yudhvir Singh Malik, Secretary (RT&H), Ministry of Road Transport & Highways, Mr. Jean Todt, UN Secretary General's Special Envoy for Road Safety and Mr. Kiran K. Kapila, Chairman, IRF, Geneva, were also present at the occasion.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173441>

Controllers Conference -2017

Question: A Two-Day Controllers Conference – 2017 Begins.

Conference will hold how many business sessions?

(a) Three (b) Four (c) Five (d) Seven

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- From November 7th-8th, 2017, Defence Accounts Department under Ministry of Defence (Finance) is organising a two-day ‘Controllers Conference – 2017’.
- Chief of Army Staff inaugurated the conference in New Delhi.
- The theme of the conference is ‘Strengthening Systems and Controls: the Way Forward’.
- The conference will have five business sessions.
- These session includes transforming audit through implementation of online audit – CICIP, IMMOLS, ILMS by leveraging Big Data, transformation of payment functions, challenges in the implementation of the Integrated Financial Advisor System in defence, strategy for effective human resource management and image building by achieving zero grievance in pension through CPDS and implementation of DTS.
- The conference is expected to facilitate exchange of knowledge and experience and initiate fresh ideas which could contribute towards aiding fiscal management of our Armed forces.
- The conference would focus on issues of using analytics for better decision making, challenges in implementation of the Integrated Financial Advisor system, change management in core functions of Defence Accounts Department and better stakeholder management in handling defence pension issues.
- The conference is being attended by senior officials from Ministry of Defence, Defence Account Department and Services Headquarters.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173285>

Heli Expo India

Question: Where was the first Heli Expo India organized?

(a) Bhopal (b) New Delhi (c) Gandhinagar (d) Shillong

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- The first Heli Expo India 2017 was held in New Delhi between November 4-5, 2017.
- The International Civil Helicopter Conference-2013 was also organized along with this.
- The two-day conference was inaugurated by the Uttarakhand Tourism Minister Shri Satpal Maharaja ji.
- This conference was organized by Pawan Hans Limited at the Pawan Hans Heliport, Rohini, New Delhi.
- The theme of the 1st Heli Expo India & International Civil Helicopter Conclave-2017 was 'Enhancing Connectivity'
- Aero Expo India hosted this conference.
- The first issue of Pawan Hans Magazine Aviation Today is also unveiled by the chief guests on this occasion.
- It is remarkable that the year 2008 was declared by the Ministry of Civil Aviation as 'the year of Helicopters'.
- In view of the importance of the 'helicopter', there is a need to strengthen the multi-dimensional role of helicopter in operations like National Disaster Management, Fire Fighting Action, Police Monitoring and Searches.
- The conference was discussed in relation to exploring the option to start helicopter taxi services between Delhi -NCR and other North Indian States.
- Helicopter taxi services have a huge potential for enforcing law and order, air ambulance services, to check forest fire and can provide better connectivity to religious and tourist destinations located in rough terrain of hilly areas.
- It is notable that Second Aero Expo India, 2017 was organized between November 2-3, 2017 at IGI Airport, New Delhi.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173236>

<https://www.aeroexpoindia.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/884021868425044/>

<https://www.aeroexpoindia.com/heli-expo-india>

Three-Day International Conference 'FIPSPHYSIOCON 2017'

Question: Recently a Three-Day International Conference – 'FIPSPHYSIOCON 2017' is inaugurated at New Delhi. The conference is being organised between-

(a) November 6th-7th (b) November 4th-7th (c) November 5th-8th (d) November 5th-7th

Answer- (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 5th, 2017, "FIPSPHYSIOCON 2017", Conference on Human Physiology is inaugurated at Vallabhbhai Patel Chest Institute (VPCI), University of Delhi.
- This is a three days conference is being organized from November 5th-7th.



- The theme of the conference is “Integrating Physiological and Biomedical Science Approaches to Improve Performance, Health and Safety”.
- The conference is being organized along with VII Congress of Federation of Indian Physiological Societies (FIPS) and XXIX Annual Conference of the Physiological Society of India (PSI).
- Conference is being organised by Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Science (DIPAS) of DRDO.
- The objective of the conference is to update the scientific community about most recent advances in human Physiology in extreme environments, Neuroscience, Yoga, Sport Physiology and translational research.
- The conference will have technical sessions including keynote address, 16 sessions, 118 lectures and 140 posters by the 300 delegates from India, USA, UK, Kyrgyz Republic and Malaysia.
- It is notable that the FIPS is a scientific federation of all the physiologists of this country and Dr. Shashi Bala Singh is its president in present.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173250>

21st World Congress of mental health

Question: In which year the founding meeting of World Federation of Mental Health was organized?

(a) 2005 (b) 1998 (c) 1948 (d) 1977

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 21st World Congress of Mental Health in Hotel Ashok, New Delhi.
- The congress is being organised from November 2 – 5, 2017, by World Federation for Mental Health in partnership with Caring Foundation and other institutions.
- World Congress of Mental Health is taking place in India for the first time.
- This is the 25th anniversary of World Mental Health Day.
- The WFMH established World Mental Health Day on 10 October 1992.
- This is the 25th anniversary of World Mental Health Day.
- The World Federation for Mental Health (WFMH) is an international membership organization founded in 1948.
- Its founding meeting was held at London, England UK in 1948.
- The WFMH events include World Congresses, Regional Conferences, meetings and other events.
- The World Congresses are normally be held every two years.
- The Federation aims to advance, among all peoples and nations, the prevention of mental and emotional disorders, the proper treatment and care of those with such disorders, and the promotion of mental health.
- As per its theme, WFMH wants a global consensus to support mental health and wellbeing in the workplace, one that makes it easier for people with mental health conditions to seek help in and out of the workplace, with an environment that fosters good employment practices with regard to mental health.



- In this World Congress there will be a sessions on yoga, meditation and traditional approaches to mental health.
- It is noteworthy that India's National Mental Health Programme is building 22 centres of excellence in the field of mental health.
- In parallel, the District Mental Health Programme has already covered 517 of the approximately 650 districts in India.

Reference:

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

7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable

Question: At which of the following places the next (8th) IEF Ministerial on April 10-12, 2018 will be organized?

(a) Bangkok (b) Malaysia (c) New Delhi (d) Paris

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The 7th Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable (AMER7) is being organized at Bangkok, Thailand from 1-3 November 2017.
- The theme of this Three-day conference is 'Global Energy Markets in Transition: From Vision to Action'.
- Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas Dharmendra Pradhan attended the meeting as Indian representative.
- It is noteworthy that India will host the next (8th) IEF Ministerial Meeting in New Delhi on April 10-12, 2018.
- The last edition (6th) of Asian Ministerial Energy Roundtable was held at Doha in 2015.
- In previous AMER events, IEF Ministers have recognized their interdependence and placed an emphasis on the need for trust and dialogue in building and sustaining partnerships.
- The 7th IEF Ministerial Meeting will build upon these outcomes to strengthen established partnerships and forge new bonds accordingly.
- **About International Energy Forum:**
- IEF was established in July 1991.
- IEF has evolved into one of the most inclusive platforms for dialogue in which consumers and producers meet on a regular basis to discuss issues of common interest pertaining to the global energy scene.
- Its membership accounts for 90% of global supply in oil and gas.
- The 72 members are spread over six continents. IEF therefore, provides the best global platform, to both producers and consumers, to deliberate on global energy issues.
- This is the only organization where there are no entry barriers for any country to join.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173163>

<https://www.ief.org/7th-asian-ministerial-energy-roundtable.aspx>

Global Clubfoot Conference

Question: At which of the following places the Global Clubfoot Conference is being organised on 1st November, 2017?

(a) Jaipur (b) New Delhi (c) Vadodara (d) Pune

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, Global Clubfoot Conference is being organised in New Delhi.
- The conference is being organised by the CURE India in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the conference.
- Clubfoot is a complex, Congenital anomaly of the foot also known as 'congenital talipes equinovarus' (CTEV) caused by the abnormal development of a baby's bones, ligaments and muscles whilst in the womb.
- It can cause permanent disability if not treated early.
- This affects the child's mobility and confidence. Inevitably, education and schooling suffer – and the child cannot fulfill his or her potential.
- According to WHO, Every year, around 100,000 babies worldwide are born with a clubfoot.
- Annually, 50,000 in India children born with clubfoot.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173126>

http://www.who.int/surgery/challenges/esc_congenital_nomalies/en/

3rd International Conference on Yoga

Question: Where was the 3rd International Yoga Conference organized during 10-11 October, 2017?

(a) Jaipur (b) Nashik (c) Haridwar (d) New Delhi

Ans: (d)

Related facts:-

- During October 10-11, 2017; the third International Conference on Yoga was organized at Non Resident Indian Center, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
- The theme of this two-day conference is 'Yoga for Wellness'.
- Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu inaugurated the conference.
- The Ayush ministry organized this conference in honor of announcing the International Yoga Day by the United Nations on 21st June.
- Nearly 500 representatives, including 69 representatives from 44 countries around the world, attended the conference.
- This conference is an attempt to discuss the role of yoga in the management of health related problems, promote healthy life and share scientific experiences.
- The theme of the yoga conventions held in the year 2015 and 2016 was 'Yoga for complete health' and 'Yoga for body and mind'.



Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=171564>

ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

New member of the International Solar Alliance

Question- Which of the following countries recently submitted its document to join India's initiative- International Solar Alliance?

(a) Guyana (b) Republic of Guinea (c) Algeria (d) Costa Rica

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 6, 2017, Foreign Minister Sushma Swaraj met with Guinea's Foreign Minister, Mamady Toure in New Delhi.
- The Foreign Minister of the Republic of Guinea submitted its formal instrument of ratification of the ISA framework agreement to the Minister of External Affairs, Government of India.
- Both exchanged views on a broad range of subjects covering bilateral friendship and cooperation.
- On this occasion, the Foreign Minister of Guinea invited Indian Government and Indian business to participate in the Donors / Investors Conference to be held in Paris in the third week of November, 2017.
- The International Solar Alliance is a common platform for cooperation among sun-rich i.e. all 121 prospective member countries lying fully or partially between the Tropics of Cancer and Capricorn.
- The initiative was launched at the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris at the end of 2015 by the President of France and the Prime Minister of India.
- Bilateral trade between India and Guinea was \$ 634.15 million in the year 2016-17.
- The founding ceremony of ISA is scheduled for December 08, 2017 in Greater Noida, India.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/guinea-becomes-new-member-of-international-solar-alliance-117110600693_1.html

Reorganization of inter-state council

Question: Which Article of the Constitution provides for the creation of Inter-state Council?

(a) Article 262 (b) Article 263 (c) Article 268 (d) Article 271

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the inter-state council was reorganized under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- It is known that the Prime Minister is the ex-officio chairman of this council.
- Six Central Ministers and Chief Ministers of all the States have been included as members.



- The following are the six central ministers included in the Council: Rajnath Singh (Home Minister), Sushma Swaraj (External Affairs Minister), Arun Jaitley (Finance Minister), Nitin Gadkari (Road Transport Minister), Thawar Chand Gehlot (Social Justice and Authorization) and Nirmala Sitharaman (Defense Minister)
- Chief Minister of all the states and Chief Ministers of the Union Territories of all the Legislative Assembly shall be the members of this Council.
- Apart from this, 8 Union Ministers have also been appointed permanent invitees.
- Article 263 of the Constitution provides for the creation of Inter-state Council.
- In the year 1988, on the recommendation Commission (Sarkaria Commission) constituted under the chairmanship of Justice R.S. Sarkaria the Inter-state Council was formed in the year 1990.
- The objective is to try to resolve the dispute arising on any issue between two or more states / center administered areas or center and between two or more states / center administered areas.
- Council provides a solution to the issues related to the interests of the interests and investigate the appropriate solutions.
- Apart from this, the policy is also recommended for better cooperation and appropriate action.
- On the same day, the Standing Committee of the Inter-state Council was reconstituted under the chairmanship of Home Minister Rajnath Singh.
- It is known that the Home Minister of India is the ex-officio Chairman of this committee.
- In this reconstituted Standing Committee, four Union Ministers and seven Chief Ministers have been nominated members.
- This committee includes Union Ministers Sushma Swaraj, Arun Jaitley, Nitin Gadkari and Thawar Chand Gehlot.
- There are chief ministers in this committee- N. Chandrababu Naidu (Andhra Pradesh), Amarinder Singh (Punjab), Raman Singh (Chhattisgarh), Manik Sarkar (Tripura), Naveen Patnaik (Odisha), Vasundhara Raje (Rajasthan) and Yogi Adityanath (Uttar Pradesh).

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/inter-state-council-reconstituted-with-pm-as-chairman/1/1079763.html>

LAW & JUSTICE

Draft Regulation of CAR

Question: Recently, Directorate of Civil Aviation announced draft regulations on civil use of Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems. As per the draft Civil Aviation Requirements for Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), the drones have been classified in how many categories on the basis of their maximum take-off weight?

(a) 3 (b) 4 (c) 5 (d) 6

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Directorate General of Civil Aviation announced the regulations on civil use of



Remotely Piloted Aircraft Systems.

- As per the draft Civil Aviation Requirements the drones have been classified in 5 categories as follows on the basis of their maximum take-off weight: (1) Nano- Less than or equal to 250 gm (2) Micro- Greater than 250 gm and less than or equal to 2 kg (3) Mini- Greater than 2 kg and less than or equal to 25 kg (4) Small- Greater than 25 kg and less than or equal to 150 kg (5) Large – Greater than 150 kg.
- As per the draft regulation all drones are proposed to be operated in visual line of sight, during day time only and below 200 feet.
- Dropping of any substance, carriage of hazardous material or animal or human payload will not be permitted.
- All commercial categories of drones except those in the Nano category and those operated by government security agencies, will have to be registered by DGCA as per ICAO proposed policy, in the form of Unique Identification Number (UIN).
- The Mini and above categories will require Unmanned Aircraft Operator Permit (UAOP).
- The draft regulation also specifies certain restricted areas for operations of drones.
- Drones cannot be operated within an area of 5km from airport, within permanent or temporary Prohibited, Restricted and Danger Areas as notified by AAI in AIP and without prior approval.
- Areas or over or near an area, which are densely populated affecting public safety or where emergency operations are underway and within 50 km from international border and beyond 500 m (horizontal) into sea along the coastline.
- Drones cannot be operated within 5 km radius from Vijay Chowk in Delhi and from a mobile platform such as a moving vehicle, ship or aircraft.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173164>

Approval of amendment in the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993

Question: When NCTE Act, 1993 came into effect?

- (a) July, 1995 (b) August, 2005 (c) July, 2009
(d) September, 2014

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for introduction of a Bill in Parliament to amend the National Council for Teacher Education Act, 1993.
- A new amendment act namely; National Teaching Training (Amendment) Act, 2017 was approved in Parliament to present.
- Approval grants retrospective recognition to the Central/State/Universities who are found to be conducting teacher education courses without NCTE permission.
- The amendment will make students studying in these Institutions/Universities, or already passed out from here, eligible for employment as a teacher.
- Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Human Resource Development has brought about this amendment.



- All institutions running Teacher Education Courses such as B.Ed. and D.El.Ed. have to obtain recognition from the National Council for Teacher Education under section 14 of the NCTE Act.
- The courses of such recognised Institutions/Universities have to be permitted under section 15, of the NCTE Act.
- The NCTE Act, 1993 came into force on 1st July, 1995.
- Act is applicable throughout the country, except the State of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The main objective of the Act is to provide for the establishment of a NCTE to achieve planned and coordinated development of the teacher education system, regulation and ensure proper maintenance of norms and standards in the system.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173128>

YEAR, DAY & WEEK

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women

Question: On which date International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is celebrated?

(a) November 22 (b) November 21 (c) November 18 (d) November 25

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women is celebrated on November 25th every year.
- This year's theme for the campaign is 'Leave No One Behind: End Violence against Women and Girls.'
- On 20 December 1993, the General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women and in 1999 the United Nations General Assembly designated 25 November as the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women.
- The purpose of this day is to make people aware of the eradication of violence against women.



Reference:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=58146#.WhkoI9KWbIU>

World Fisheries Day

Question: 'World Fisheries Day' is celebrated on November-

(a) 22 (b) 21 (c) 18 (d) 15

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 21st, 2017; 'World Fisheries Day' was celebrated across the world.
- It is notable that on November 21, 1997, the meeting of



working fishermen and fisherwomen representing the world forum of fisheries and fishery workers in 18 countries was held in New Delhi.

- On this occasion, the 'World Fisheries Forum' (W.F.F.) was founded while advocating a global mandate of sustainable fisheries experiments and policies.
- This day is celebrated on 21 November every year in its memory.
- On this occasion, it was organized by the Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare at the National Agricultural Science Center (N.A.C.C.) Complex, New Delhi.
- In the year 2017, the main theme of this day was (2022 Ka Hai Sapna-Kisan Ki aay ho Duguna-Sankalp se Siddhi).
- In this, an exhibition was organized demonstrating the progress made in the technological advances and fisheries sector so far.

Related links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173666>

World Philosophy Day

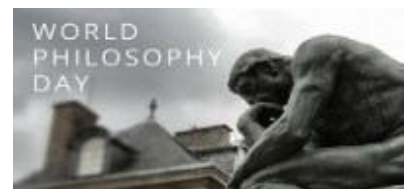
Question: On which date in year 2017 'World Philosophy Day' was celebrated?

(a) 15 (b) 17 (c) 16 (d) 13

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 16th, 2017, World Philosophy Day was celebrated all over the world.
- In 2005 the UNESCO General Conference proclaimed that World Philosophy Day would be celebrated every third Thursday of November.
- The purpose of this day is to encourage all the people of the world to share the philosophical heritage and bring openness to new ideas, as well as intellectuals and civil society to motivate discussions to fight social challenges.
- From the year 2002, UNESCO has started the tradition of celebrating World Day of Visions.
- World Philosophy Day is celebrated in honor of those visitors, who provided the entire world space for independent ideas.



Reference:

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

International Tolerance Day

Question: 'International Tolerance Day' is celebrated on November-

(a) 13th (b) 16th (c) 18th (d) 14th

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- 'International Day of Tolerance' is celebrated on November 16th across the world.
- This day is celebrated to create awareness among people about the dangers of intolerance.



- In 1996, the UN General Assembly (by resolution 51/95) invited UN Member States to observe the International Day for Tolerance on 16 November.
- UN General Assembly in 1993 at the initiative of UNESCO proclaimed year 1995 as United Nations Year for Tolerance.
- In 1995, to mark the United Nations Year for Tolerance and the 125th anniversary of the birth of Mahatma Gandhi, UNESCO created a prize for the promotion of tolerance and non-violence.
- The UNESCO-Madanjeet Singh Prize for the Promotion of Tolerance and Non-Violence rewards significant activities in the scientific, artistic, cultural or communication fields aimed at the promotion of a spirit of tolerance and non-violence.
- The prize is awarded every two years
- The 2016 winner was the Federal Research and Methodological Center for Tolerance Psychology and Education (Tolerance Center) of Russia.

Reference:

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

World Television day

Question: World Television Day is celebrated on November 21st every year across the world. This day was announced by UN General Assembly in which year?

(a) 1995 (b) 1996 (c) 2005 (d) 2006

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 21st, World Television day is celebrated across the world every year.
- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 21 November as World Television Day (through resolution 51/205 of 17 December 1996).
- It is noteworthy that On 21 and 22 November 1996 the United Nations held the first World Television Forum, where leading media figures met under the auspices of the United Nations to discuss the growing significance of television in today's changing world and to consider how they might enhance their mutual cooperation.



Reference:

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

Universal Children's Day

Question: On which date Universal Children's Day is celebrated?

(a) 20 November (b) 14 November (c) 19 November (d) 16 November

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- United Nations Universal Children's Day was established in 1954 and is celebrated on November 20th each year.
- The celebration aims to promote international togetherness, awareness among children worldwide, and improving children's welfare.



- The theme for 2017: It's a #KidsTakeOver
- The date 20th November is important because it is the date in 1959 when the UN General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child. It is also the date in 1989 when the UN General assembly adopted the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Reference:

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

Child Rights Week “Hausala 2017”

Question: Ministry of Women and Child Development recently celebrated the Child Rights Week (Hausla 2017) from-

- (a) 15 to 19 November (b) 16 to 20 November
(c) 14 to 18 November (d) 13 to 17 November

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development celebrated the Child Rights Week (Hausla 2017) from 16th to 20th November, 2017.
- Festival “Hausala 2017” provided an occasion to showcase the talents of children from CCIs from various child care institutions across the country and provide them with a space to express their dreams and aspiration.
- During this children participated in various programs such as Children’s Parliament, painting competition, athletic meet, football, chess competition and speech writing.
- Nearly 500 Children residing in Child Care Institutions from all over the country participated in various events of ‘Hausla 2017’



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=173624>

World Toilet Day

Question: On which day world Toilet Day is celebrated?

- (a) 17 November (b) 19 November (c) 18 November
(d) 21 November

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- World Toilet Day is celebrated on 19 November every year across the world.
- In 2013, the United Nations General Assembly officially designated November 19 as World Toilet Day.
- World Toilet Day is coordinated by UN-Water in collaboration with governments and partners.
- This year the theme of world toilet day is: “Wastewater”
It is notable that 4.5 billion people live without a household toilet that safely disposes of their waste.
- The Sustainable Development Goals, launched in 2015, include a target specifically SDG #6, to ensure everyone has access to a safely-managed household toilet by 2030.



- On World Toilet Day Prime Minister of India Sri Narendra Modi reaffirm our commitment towards improving sanitation facilities across our nation.
- It is also noteworthy that on World Toilet Day, Kimberly-Clark Announces the Expansion of its Toilets Change Lives Program to Assam and Chhattisgarh under second phase of its global Toilets Change Lives program in India.
- Earlier, Kimberly-Clark launched its Toilets Change Lives program, as a global intervention, in 2014.

Reference:

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

World Tsunami Awareness Day

Question: When 'World Tsunami Awareness Day' is celebrated?

- (a) November 4th (b) November 10th (c) November 15th
(d) November 5th

Answer- (d)

Related Facts:

- World Tsunami Awareness Day is celebrated on November 5th across the world.
- The purpose of this day is to create awareness about the warning systems of tsunami and reducing its impact.
- It is notable that in December 2015, the United Nations General Assembly designated 5 November as World Tsunami Awareness Day to promote a global culture of tsunami awareness.



Reference:

<https://www.unisdr.org/we/inform/events/54958>

World Science Day for Peace and Development

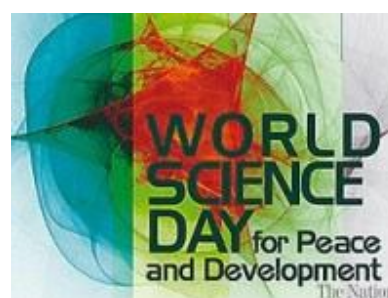
Question: 'World Science Day for Peace and Development' is celebrated on-

- (a) November 14 (b) November 10 (c) November 13
(d) November 5

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- World Science Day for Peace and Development was celebrated on 10th November, 2017 across the world.
- In the year 2017, the theme of this day was 'Science for Global Understanding'.
- It is noteworthy that the General Assembly of UNESCO had announced the celebration of this day in 2001.



Reference:

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

Qaumi Ekta Week

Question: On which date “Cultural Unity Day” is celebrated during “Qaumi Ekta Week” (National Integration week)?

(a) November 19 (b) November 21 (c) November 23 (d) November 24

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- “Qaumi Ekta Week” (National Integration Week) will be observed all over the country, from the 19th to 25th November, 2017.
- With a view to foster and reinforce the spirit of Communal Harmony, National Integration and pride in vibrant, composite culture and nationhood this week was started.
- The week long programmes to be observed during Qaumi Ekta Week will be as under:
- The week long programmes to be observed during Qaumi Ekta Week (November 19-25th, 2017) include National Integration Day (November 19), Welfare of Minorities Day (November 20), Linguistic Harmony Day (November 21), Weaker Sections Day (November 22), Cultural Unity Day (November 23), Women's Day (November 24) and Conservation Day (November 25) .
- It is noteworthy that The National Foundation for Communal Harmony (NFCH), an autonomous organisation with the Ministry of Home Affairs, organises Communal Harmony Campaign coinciding with the Qaumi Ekta Week and observes the Communal Harmony Flag Day on 25th November.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173600>

Legal Service Week

Question: On which date Legal Service Day in the state is celebrated every year by the State Legal Services Authority?

(a) November 8 (b) November 9 (c) November 11
(d) November 12

Answer: (b)

related Facts:

- On 9th November, 2017, Legal Service Day was celebrated in Uttar Pradesh by the State Legal Services Authority. Its main object was 'Access to Justice for All'.
- Indeed, the State Legal Services Act came into existence on November 9, 1987.
- This is why the legal service day is celebrated on 9th November every year.
- Legal Services Week is being organized in the State from 9-19 November, 2017 by Uttar Pradesh State Legal Services Authority. This one week campaign has been named 'Connecting to Serve'. Its purpose is to provide information about the people of the weaker and disadvantaged sections of the society about legal services, utility of legal service clinics, front office, legal aid helpline number etc. and marking such people, is required.



Reference:

<http://upslsa.up.nic.in/news%20Dainik%20jagran.jpeg>

Public Broadcasting Day

Question: On which date 'Public Broadcasting Day' is celebrated?

- (a) November 13 (b) November 11 (c) November 15
(d) November 12

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On November 12th, 2017, 'Public Service' Broadcasting Day was celebrated.
- The day is observed every year to commemorate the first and last visit of the Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi to the studio of All India Radio, Delhi in 1947.



Reference:

<http://www.news Bharati.com/Encyc/2017/11/12/Public-service-broadcasting-day.html>

National Education Day

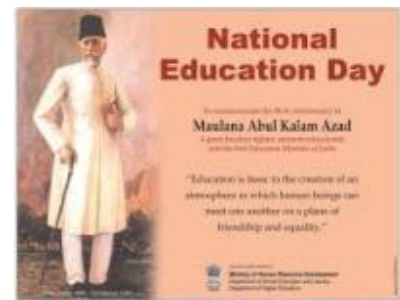
Question: When 'National Education Day' is celebrated?

- (a) November 11 (b) November 13 (c) November 10 (d) November 14

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 11, 2017, National Education Day was celebrated.
- It is remarkable that this day is celebrated on the occasion of the birth anniversary of the great freedom fighter and India's first education minister Bharat Ratna Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.



Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/education/national-education-day-maulana-abul-kalam-azad-four-things-you-need-to-know-4931803/>

World Diabetes Day

Question: On November 14th every year "World Diabetes Day" is celebrated across the world. Which of the following is the theme of this day for year 2017?

- (a) Protect our Future: Diabetes Education and Prevention
(b) Women and diabetes – our right to a healthy future.
(c) Women and diabetes: Protect the Future
(d) Protect our Future: Eyes on Diabetes.

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 14th, World Diabetes Day is celebrated across the world.
- This Year (2017) the theme for World diabetes day is "Women and diabetes – our right to a healthy future."



- The World Diabetes Day campaign; led by International Federation of Diabetes draws attention to issues of paramount importance to the diabetes world and keeps diabetes firmly in the public and political spotlight.
- The campaign is represented by a blue circle logo signifies the unity of the global diabetes community in response to the diabetes epidemic.
- According to International Diabetes Federation statics there are currently over 199 million women living with diabetes.
- This total is projected to increase to 313 million by 2040.
- Two out of every five women with diabetes are of reproductive age, accounting for over 60 million women worldwide.
- Diabetes is the ninth leading cause of death in women globally, causing 2.1 million deaths per year.
- It is noteworthy that World Diabetes Day was created in 1991 by IDF and the World Health Organization in response to growing concerns about the escalating health threat posed by diabetes.
- World Diabetes Day became an official United Nations Day in 2006 with the passage of United Nation Resolution 61/225.

Reference:

<http://www.worlddiabetesday.org/>

First International Day of Diplomats

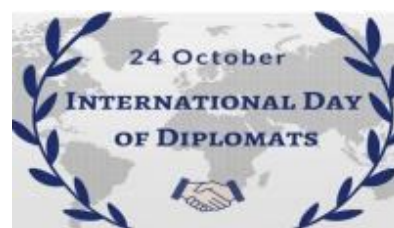
Question: First International Day of Diplomats was celebrated in Brazil on-

(a) October 22 (b) October 24 (c) October 26 (d) October 20

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On October 24, 2017, The First International day of Diplomatic was celebrated in Brazil.
- Diplomats from India, Brazil, Bangladesh, Ghana, France, Italy, Israel, Turkey, Mexico and South Africa participated in this event.
- Celebrating this day was proposed by Indian diplomat Abhay Kumar.'
- The day aims to identify hard work and sacrifice by diplomats and their families.



Reference:

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/first-international-day-of-diplomats-celebrated-in-brasilia201710250945010003/>

World Stroke Day

Question: When World Stroke Day is celebrated every year?

(a) October 25 (b) October 27 (c) October 28 (d) October 29

Answer- (d)

Related Facts:

- World Stroke Day is celebrated on October 29th every year.
- This year's World Stroke Campaign focuses on the prevention of Stroke.



- For year global theme is – ‘What is your reason for preventing the stroke’.

Reference:

<http://www.worldstrokecampaign.org/>

World Space Week

Question: ‘World Space Week’ was celebrated between October 4-10, 2017. What was the main theme of the week this year?

- (a) Space and Climate Change
- (b) The discovery of the new world in space
- (c) Space and Globalization (d) Global development in space

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- During 4-10 October, 2017, World Space Week was celebrated across the world.
- In the year 2017, the theme of ‘World Space Week’ was ‘Exploring New Worlds in Space’.

Reference:

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

<http://www.ist.edu.pk/wsw>



World Teachers Day

Question- When ‘ World Teachers’ Day ‘is celebrated?

- (a) October 1 (b) September 20 (c) September 30
- (d) October 5

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On October 5, 2017, ‘World Teachers Day’ was celebrated across the world.
- For year 2017, the theme of this day was “Teaching in Freedom, Empowering Teachers”.
- It is worth mentioning that this day is being celebrated every year since 1994.

Reference:

<http://en.unesco.org/themes/teachers/world-teachers-day>



World Heart Day

Question: When ‘World Heart Day’ is celebrated?

- (a) September 24 (b) September 29 (c) September 27
- (d) September 25

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On September 29th, 2017, ‘World Heart Day’ was celebrated throughout the world.
- For year 2017, the theme of this day was ‘Share the Power’.
- This day promotes awareness of preventive measures to reduce the risk of cardiovascular disease (CVD).



- Cardio vascular disease is a group of disorders affecting the heart and blood vessels, which supply blood to the lungs, brain, kidneys and other parts of the body.
- WHO has set a target to reduce premature death of up to 25% from non-communicable diseases (NCD) by 2025, of which the largest proportion is of CVDs.

Reference:

https://www.nhp.gov.in/world-heart-day,-2017_pg

BOOKS

Book 'Gita Revisited'

Question: Who is the author of the book 'Gita Revisited'?

- (a) Devendra Pal (b) Hriday Narayan Dikshit (c) Pramod Kumar
(d) Ram Niwas Goyal

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 7th, 2017, Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan released the book 'Gita Revisited' written in English in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- This book is written by Hriday Narayan Dikshit, President of Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly.
- During the inauguration ceremony, along with the Speaker on the Forum, Harshvardhan Shringla, Indian High Commissioner to Bangladesh and President of Uttar Pradesh assembly were present.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/mahajan-unveils-book-on-gita-by-up-assembly-speaker-117110801603_1.html

MISCELLANEOUS

Mandatory Use of Tribal Language on Signboards

Question: In which of the following states, tribes over 60 percent; speaks 'Kokboroka language'?

- (a) Chhattisgarh (b) Tripura (c) Jharkhand (d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On November 20th, 2017, Tripura government has made it mandatory to display the tribal name and language on signboards, name plates and other notice boards in all government buildings.
- A high level committee has been set up in the state to oversee the work of writing tribal names and tribal language 'Kokboroka'.



It is noteworthy that the total population of Tripura is 37 lakhs, out of which one-third is tribal.

- More than 60% of the total 11, 66,813 tribal populations in this state speaks Kokboroka language.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/tripura-makes-using-tribal-language-on-signboards-mandatory-117111900327_1.html

Top 20 Employers List issued by AAAS

Question: Which of the following Indian company has been ranked 9th in the list of Top 20 Employers issued by American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) after a survey conducted?

- (a) Shantha Biotechnics Ltd. (b) Bokhart (c) Biocon
(d) Dr. Reddy Laboratories Ltd.

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On October 19, 2017, the 'American Association for the Advancement of Science' (AAAS) released a survey list of 'Top 20 Employers' for the year 2017.
- In this list, America's Regeneron has been put at first place followed by Denmark's Novozymes and America's Vertex Pharmaceuticals respectively.
- Biocon Limited, India's biotechnology and pharmaceutical company, is ranked 9th in this list. It was also at 9th place in the list for year 2016.
- Biocon has been recognized for 'being an innovative leader in the industry', 'having a clear vision' and 'being socially responsible'.
- The American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is the world's largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal Science.
- Nearly 250 societies and academies of science are affiliated with it.
- AAAS fulfills its mission to "advance science and serve society" through initiatives in science policy, international programs, science education, public engagement, and more.

Rank	Employer	Global Health Score	Other Metrics
1	Regeneron	95	
2	Novozymes	90	
3	Vertex Pharmaceuticals	85	
4	Amgen	80	
5	Moderna	75	
6	Genentech	70	
7	Sanofi	65	
8	AbbVie	60	
9	Biocon	55	
10	Dr. Reddy's Laboratories	50	
11	Shantha Biotechnics	45	
12	Bokhart	40	
13	Dr. Reddy's Laboratories	35	
14	Shantha Biotechnics	30	
15	Bokhart	25	
16	Dr. Reddy's Laboratories	20	
17	Shantha Biotechnics	15	
18	Bokhart	10	
19	Dr. Reddy's Laboratories	5	
20	Shantha Biotechnics	0	

Reference:

<http://www.sciencemag.org/features/2017/10/top-employers-2017-high-marks-innovation-long-term-vision-and-social-responsibility>

Bihar Krishi road map 2017-2022

Question: From which place the President of India Ramnath Kovind launched the Bihar Agricultural Road Map recently?

- (a) Patna (b) Rajgir (c) Gaya (d) Buxar

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On November 9, 2017, President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, launched the Bihar Krishi Road Map 2017-2022 in Patna.
- The third 'Agricultural Road Map' was launched to strengthen the farming community and improve the performance of the agricultural sector.



- First Agricultural Road Map was launched in the year 2008.
- It is known that the centenary year of the Champaran Satyagraha is being commemorated from April 2017.
- Mahatma Gandhi, through this movement emphasized through the Satyagraha that farmers are at the centre of Indian life and policy making.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173341>

“Fraud Risk Management -New Initiatives”

Question: At which of the following places National Seminar on “Fraud Risk Management – The New Initiatives” was organized by EPFO?

(a) Mumbai (b) New Delhi (c) Jaipur (d) Noida

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

On November 3rd, 2017, EPFO organized a national seminar on “Fraud Risk Management- the New Initiatives” at India Habitat Centre, New Delhi.



- This seminar was organized nationwide to promote transparency and probity in public governance as a part of “Vigilance Awareness Week – 2017”.
- The seminar was inaugurated by Dr. T.M. Bhasin, Vigilance Commissioner, CVC.
- Dr. V.P. Joy, Central P.F. Commissioner presided over the function.
- A documentary film on EPFO highlighting its initiatives and achievements was also screened in the seminar.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173208>

<https://orissadiary.com/vigilance-commissioner-cvc-t-m-bhasin-addressing-national-seminar-fraud-risk-management-new-initiatives/>

Mudhol Hunter Dog

Question: Mudhol hunter dog is found in which State?

(a) West Bengal (b) Assam (c) Karnataka (d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Mudhol hunter dog is the first Indian breed of dogs to be included in the Indian Army.
- In Meerut, Army's Remount and Veterinary Corps (RVC) center has completed training of 6 Mudhol hunter dogs and will be included in the army until the end of 2017.
- The first deployment of these predatory dogs will be done in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Mudhol hunter is found in northern Karnataka, which is known for its patience, agility, speed, and stamina.
- Mudhol dog is hybrid of Iranian, turkey and local species.



- In present, Indian Army is been using foreign breed dogs like the German shepherd, Labrador, and Great Swiss Mountain Dogs.

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/canine-breed-mudhol-hound-karnataka-dog-indian-army/1/1080999.html>

Mandatory use of Public Finance Management System (PFMS) for all

Question: How many Central Sector Schemes have come under the purview of the Public Finance Management System (PFMS) for all Central Sector Schemes?

(a) 10 (b) 12 (c) 13 (d) 15

Answer- (c)

Related Facts:

- On 27th October, 2017, the Union Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley launched the mandatory use of Public Finance Management System (PFMS) for all Central Sector Schemes in the National Capital Region.
- It would help in tracking and monitoring the flow of funds to the implementing agencies.
- Due to the monitoring of funds through PFMS, one can know the actual status of utilization of funds by the multiple implementing agencies of the Central and the State Governments.
- PFMS would not only help in complete tracking of funds but would also ensure just in time transfer of funds.
- It is notable that 13 Central Sector Schemes are now under PFMS.
- Schemes through PFMS have brought transparency in system and helped in easy transfer and tracking of funds.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=171984>

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/mandatory-use-of-pfms-to-help-monitor-fund-flow-to-schemes-finance-minister-arun-jaitley/articleshow/61278917.cms>

The Top-Earning Dead Celebrities Of 2017

Question: Who amongst the following ranked top in the list Top-Earning Dead Celebrities Of 2017 released by Forbes magazine recently?

(a) Michael Jackson (b) Elvis Presley (c) Bob Blade (d) Marilyn Monroe

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On October 30, 2017, Michael Jackson (\$ 75 million) remained the top 5th consecutive year in the list of highest paid dead celebrities by the prestigious magazine Forbes.
- Michael Jackson was American pop singer and dancer who died in 2009 due to heart failure.



- Golfer Arnold Palmer (\$ 40 million) is at second, Cartoonist Charles Schulz (\$ 38 million) is at third place, actor and singer and composer Elvis Presley (\$ 35 million) ranked fourth place and singer cum musician Bob Marley is at the fifth place (\$ 23 million).

Reference:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/zackomalleygreenburg/2017/10/30/the-top-earning-dead-celebrities-of-2017/#6456441341f5>

Remaining subsidy payments to fertilizer companies approved

Question: Recently, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs approved the proposal of the Fertilizer Department for the implementation of special banking system for the amount of outstanding subsidy payments to fertilizer companies during the year 2016-17.

This amount is-

- (a) 8,985 crores (b) 9,969 crore (c) 10,000 crores (d) 12,000 crores

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On November 1st, 2017, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs chaired by the Prime Minister has accorded the ex-post facto approval for implementation of Special Banking Arrangement (SBA) for Rs. 10,000 crore for payment of outstanding claims on account of fertilizer subsidy in the year 2016-17.
- It is known that under this special banking arrangement, a loan of Rs 9,969 crore was taken from State Bank of India (SBI) for disposal of outstanding bill of subsidy by the government.
- The government paid the above loan amount to SBI with an interest liability of Rs 80.90 crore.
- It is worth mentioning that Government is making available fertilizers, namely Urea and 21 grades of P&K fertilizers to farmers at subsidized prices through fertilizer manufacturers/importers.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173137>

<http://www.news18.com/news/business/cabinet-approves-special-banking-arrangement-for-paying-subsidies-to-fertiliser-firms-1564037.html>

Grahak Sadak Koyla Vitaran app

Question- Recently 'Grahak Sadak Koyla Vitaran, app' released by Piyush Goyal. Which ministry do he belong to?

- (a) Ministry of Railways and Coal
(b) Ministry of Environment and Forests
(c) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
(d) Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Industries

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- In November 2017, Rail and Coal Minister Piyush Goyal launched the 'Grahak Sadak Koyla Vitaran' app.



- This will benefit the customers of Coal India Limited (CIL) in lifting of coal through road-based means.
- With this 'customer friendly app' there will be transparency in transmission operations. The delivery operation is based on the principle 'First in First Out'.
- The main feature of this app is that through this, data can be obtained according to date and truck that how much quantity of coal has been distributed.
- This app is the initiative of Coal India Limited to achieve Digital India goal.

Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=173288>

Sports Talent Search Portal launched

Question: Who amongst the following recently launched the Sports Talent Search Portal?

(a) Vijay Goyal (b) Narendra Modi (c) Dr. Harshavardhan (d) M. Venkaiah Naidu

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On August 28th, 2017, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and sports has launched Sports Talent Search Portal to spot the best talent from among the young population of the country.
- The portal was launched by the Vice President of India Shri M.Venkaiah Naidu at a function at the Indira Gandhi Stadium in New Delhi.
- This initiative will not only help in identifying the best talent, but will also provide a level playing field to all the applicants and create a competitive environment.
- In addition, the platform will be fast, transparent and provide a mechanism for fair selection.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170270>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/vice-president-launches-national-sports-talent-search-portal-117082800747_1.html