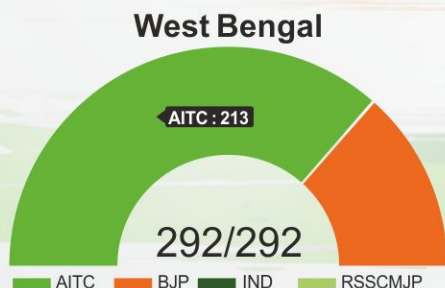
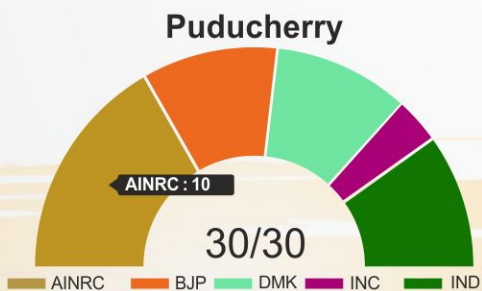
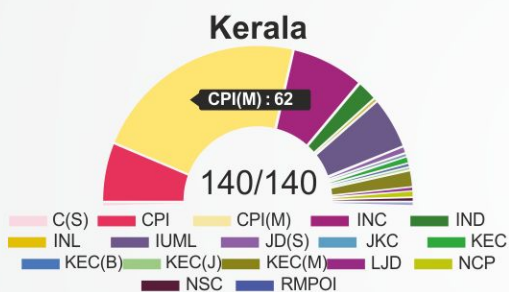
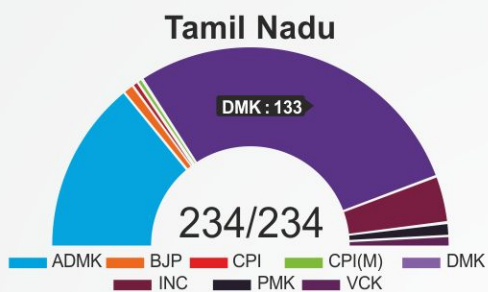
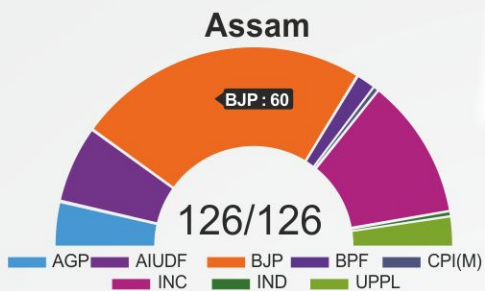


NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

Vol. - 4 >>> Issue - 11 >>> May, 2021



General Assembly Elections Result, 2021

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 29th 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 March to 31st March) 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.

National

Assembly Elections in five States, 2021

Question: Consider the following statements regarding the Assembly Elections held in five States in 2021:

- (i) The Assembly Elections were conducted from 27 March to 29 April 2021.**
- (ii) In West Bengal, the ruling All India Trinamool Congress won 213 seats.**
- (iii) In Kerala, the Communist Party of India (Marxist) won 62 seats.**
- (iv) In Assam, the ruling Bharatiya Janata Party won 60 seats.**

Which of the statements given above is / are correct

- (a) only (i), (ii) and (iv)
- (b) only (ii) and (iii)
- (c) only (i), (iii)) And (iv)
- (d) All of the above

Answer: d

Related facts:

- On 2 May 2021, Election Commission of India announced results of assembly elections in five states.
- These assembly elections were held in Assam, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, West Bengal and Union Territory of Puducherry from 27 March to 29 April 2021.
- In Tamil Nadu, Kerala & Puducherry, elections were held in single phase on 6 April 2021.
- Assembly Elections in West Bengal were held in 8 phases.
- In Assam, the Assembly elections were held in three phases.



Election Results – Assam

- In Assam's 126-member assembly, Bharatiya Janata Party has won the most 60 seats.
- Indian National Congress won 29 seats, All India United Democratic Front won 16 seats, Asom Gana Parishad 9 seats, United People's Party Liberal 6 seats, Bodoland Peoples Front 4 seats, Communist Party of India (Marxist) 1 seat and an Independent 1 seat.
- Bharatiya Janata Party has garnered highest 33.21% vote percentage share.
- Himanta Biswa Sarma was sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Assam on May 10.

Kerala

- Of the 140 member constituent Assembly in Kerala, Communist Party of India (Marxist) won 62 seats.
- Among other major parties, the Indian National Congress got 21 seats, the Communist Party of India got 17 seats and the Indian Union Muslim League got 15 seats.

Puducherry

- Out of 30 assembly seats of the Union Territory of Puducherry, the All India N.R. Congress won highest 10 seats while the Bharatiya Janata Party got 6 seats.
- Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam won 6 seats, Indian National Congress 2 seats and Independents secured 6 seats.
- On 7 May 2021, All India NR Congress chief N Rangasamy sworn-in as the Chief Minister of Puducherry.

Tamil Nadu

- Of the 234-member assembly seats in Tamil Nadu, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam won the highest 133 seats.
- Among other major parties, the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam won 66 seats, Indian National Congress 18 seats and Bharatiya Janata Party secured 4 seats.
- On 7 May 2021, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam(DMK) leader MK Stalin sworn-in as Tamil Nadu Chief Minister.

West Bengal

- The results to West Bengal were declared for 292 seats out of the 294 assembly seats.

The remaining 2 seats elections will be held later.

- All India Trinamool Congress won the highest 213 seats.
- Among other parties, Bharatiya Janata Party got 77 seats, Rashtriya Secular Majlis Party got 1 and an independent won the seat.
- All India Trinamool Congress Chief Mamata Banerjee lost the election to BJP candidate Suwendu Adhikari in the Nandigram constituency.
- On 5 May 2021, Mamata Banerjee sworn in as the Chief Minister of Bengal for the third consecutive time.

Links:

<https://results.eci.gov.in/Result2021/partywiseresult-S03.htm>

93rd Academy (Oscars) Awards, 2021

Question: Consider the following statements with reference to Oscars Awards, 2021:

(a) Oscar award is also known as the Academy award

(b) Nomadland won the best picture award

Choose the correct statement:

(a) Only (1) Only (2) Both (1) and (2) None of the above

Answer: (c)

Related facts:



- **The 93rd Academy (Oscars) awards were given in the Dolby Theatre in Los Angeles, California (USA) on 25th April, 2021.**
- The Oscar List for the year 2021 is listed below:

CATEGORY	WINNER
BEST PICTURE	NOMADLAND (Producers : Frances McDormand, Peter Spears, Mollye Asher, Dan Janvey and Chloé Zhao)
BEST DIRECTOR	Chloé Zhao (Film : NOMADLAND)
BEST ACTOR	ANTHONY HOPKINS (FILM: The Father)

BEST ACTRESS	FRANCES MCDORMAND (Film: Nomadland)
BEST SUPPORTING ACTOR	DANIEL KALUUYA (FILM: Judas and the Black Messiah)
BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS	YUH-JUNG YOUN (FILM: Minari)
BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY	PROMISING YOUNG WOMAN (Written by Emerald Fennell)
BEST ADAPTED SCREENPLAY	THE FATHER (Screenplay by Christopher Hampton and Florian Zeller)
BEST ANIMATED FEATURE FILM	SOUL (BY: Pete Docter and Dana Murray)
BEST INTERNATIONAL FEATURE FILM	ANOTHER ROUND (COUNTRY:Denmark)
BEST DOCUMENTARY (FEATURE)	MY OCTOPUS TEACHER
BEST DOCUMENTARY (SHORT SUBJECT)	COLETTE
BEST SHORT FILM (LIVE ACTION)	TWO DISTANT STRANGERS
BEST SHORT FILM (ANIMATED)	IF ANYTHING HAPPENS I LOVE YOU
BEST MUSIC (ORIGINAL SCORE)	SOUL (BY: Trent Reznor, Atticus Ross and Jon Batiste)
BEST MUSIC (ORIGINAL SONG)	FIGHT FOR YOU (FILM : Judas and the Black Messiah; Music by H.E.R. and Dernst Emile II; Lyric by H.E.R. and Tiara Thomas)
BEST SOUND	SOUND OF METAL
BEST PRODUCTION DESIGN	MANK
BEST CINEMATOGRAPHY	MANK (BY:Erik Messerschmidt)
BEST FILM EDITING	SOUND OF METAL (BY: Mikkel E. G. Nielsen)
BEST COSTUME DESIGN	MA RAINEY'S BLACK BOTTOM- Ann Roth
BEST VISUAL EFFECTS	TENET

LINKS: <https://www.oscars.org/oscars/ceremonies/2021>

Ayushman Bharat Diwas: April 30

Question: Consider the following statement regarding Ayushman Bharat Diwas

- i) It is celebrated on 30 April in India by government of India.
- ii) Ayushman Bharat Yojna was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April, 2018.
- iii) It is celebrated with twin mission of promoting health and wellness to the poor and to provide insurance benefits to them.

Which of the above are correct:

- a) i and ii b) ii and iii c) All of the above
- d) none of the above

Ans: c

Facts

- Ayushman Bharat Yojana was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April, 2018 .
- Since then every year, the Ayushman Bharat Diwas is celebrated on April 30 in India.
- It is celebrated with twin objective of promoting health and wellness to the poor and to provide insurance benefits to them.



Ayushman Bharat Scheme

- The Scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in April 2018.
- According to the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, the Ayushman Bharat Scheme has so far operationalised 75,532 Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centre. It has fixed a target of 1.5 lakh Health and Wellness Centre by 2022.
- The beneficiaries are chosen from the Socio-Economic Census Database.
- It is the largest health cover in the world.
- It aims to provide five lakh rupees of health cover per family per year.
- The scheme subsumed the Senior Citizen Health Insurance Scheme and Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana.

Ayushman Mitra

- The “Ayushman Mitra” initiative was started to provide employment to the unemployed. More than ten lakh jobs were created under the Ayushman Mitra initiative. The Ayushman Mitras were deployed directly in private hospitals and government hospitals.

Reference: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/ayushman-bharat-diwas-2021-10-things-to-know-about-pm-jan-aarogya-yojana-pm-jay-2424821>

National Commission for Women (NCW) launches WhatsApp helpline number for pregnant women

Question: Consider the following statements regarding National Commission of Women (NCW):-

i) It is a statutory body established under the National Commission for Women Act in 1992.

ii) Rashtra Mahila is a monthly newsletter published by the commission regularly on a monthly basis in both Hindi and English.

iii) Rekha Sharma is the current chairwomen of the commission.

Which of the above are correct?

a) only I b) only ii c) All of the above d) none of the above

Ans: c

Context

- The National Commission for Women recently launched the WhatsApp number for pregnant women. The helpline number is 9354954224.
- This number will provide emergency medical assistance to pregnant women.



Facts

National Commission for Women

- It was established under the National Commission for Women Act in 1992.
- Work of the commission generally concerned with advising the government of India on all policy matters affecting women.
- The chairperson of the commission is appointed by the Government of India. Also, the other five members in the commission are also appointed by the Govt. These members should have experience in women voluntary organisation, economic development, legislation, administration, etc.
- Rekha Sharma is the current chairwomen of the commission.

Reference: <http://www.newsonair.com/News?title=NCW-launches-WhatsApp-helpline-number-for-pregnant-women&id=415425>

Sanskrit learning app Little Guru

Question: In which country the High Commission of India has launched the Sanskrit learning app Little Guru?

(a) China (b) Saudi Arabia (c) Israel (d) Bangladesh

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- On 12 April 2021, Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) of the High Commission of India launched a Sanskrit learning app 'Little Guru' in Bangladesh.
- The app is part of the campaign being run by the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) to promote the Sanskrit language among students, religious scholars, Indologists and historians across the world.

About the app:

- Little Guru app is based on an interactive platform that will make Sanskrit learning easy, entertaining and fun.
- This app will help people who are already learning Sanskrit or those who are desirous to learn Sanskrit to do so in an easy manner based on games, competition, rewards, peer to peer interactions, etc.



Links:

<http://www.newsonair.com/News?title=Sanskrit-learning-app-%E2%80%98Little-Guru%E2%80%99-to-be-launched-in-Bangladesh-today&id=413988>

Mental-Health Digital Platform MANAS

Question: Mental-Health Digital platform MANAS was launched on April 14, 2021. Which age group the app MANAS will focus on to promote positive mental health?

(a) 10-15 years (b) 10-25 years (c) 15-35 years (d) 15-45 years

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- On 14 April 2021, K VijayRaghavan, the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India virtually launched the “MANAS” App to promote wellbeing across age groups.

About MANAS:

- MANAS which stands for Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System was endorsed as a national program by the Prime Minister’s Science, Technology, and Innovation Advisory Council (PM-STIAC).
- MANAS is a comprehensive, scalable, and national digital wellbeing platform and an app developed to augment mental well-being of Indian citizens.
- The App integrates the health and wellness efforts of various government ministries, scientifically validated indigenous tools with gamified interfaces developed/researched by various national bodies and research institutions.
- It was initiated by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India. It was jointly executed by NIMHANS Bengaluru, AFMC Pune and C-DAC Bengaluru.
- Catering to the overall wellbeing of people of all age groups, the initial version of MANAS focuses on promoting positive mental health in the age group of 15-35 years.

Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1711860>

Uttar Pradesh won e-panchayat award

Question: Which Indian State has won the E-Panchayat Puraskar 2021 by the the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj ?

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Assam (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Rajasthan

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- The Uttar Pradesh government won the “E-Panchayat Puraskar 2021”, ranking first in Category I.
- North-eastern state Assam and Chhattisgarh were adjudged second while Odisha and Tamil Nadu stood third.
- Every year, the Union Ministry of Panchayati Raj awards those states, which ensure maximum use of information technology to keep a tab on the work done by gram panchayats.



Links:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/lucknow/uttar-pradesh-wins-e-panchayat-award-7272675/>

1 Lakh Portable Oxygen Concentrators to be procured from PM CARES fund

Question: Consider the following statements:

(1) Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sanctioned the procurement of 1 Lakh Portable Oxygen Concentrators from the PM Cares Fund

(2) An oxygen concentrator is a medical device that concentrates oxygen from ambient air

Of the above correct statement/s is/are:

(a) Only (1) (b) Only (2) (c) Both (1) & (2) (d) None of the above

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- On 28 April 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has sanctioned the procurement of 1 Lakh Portable Oxygen Concentrators from the PM Cares Fund.
- The decision came across the measures needed to improve Liquid Medical Oxygen (LMO) Supply for COVID management.

What are Oxygen Concentrators?

- An oxygen concentrator is a medical device that concentrates oxygen from ambient air.



- The oxygen concentrator takes in this air, filters it through a sieve, releases the nitrogen back into the air, and works on the remaining oxygen.
- This oxygen, compressed and dispensed through a cannula, is 90-95 per cent pure.
- According to a 2015 report by the WHO, concentrators are designed for continuous operation and can produce oxygen 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for up to 5 years or more.

Links:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1714641>

RBI Imposes Ceiling of 70 Years & 15 Years Tenure for MD, CEO of Private Banks

Question- Recently, RBI has fixed the tenure of MD,CEO and WTD in private sector banks. Which of the following is the new tenure of MD,CEO and WTD?

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

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has fixed the tenure of Managing Director (MD), Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and whole-time director (WTD) in a private sector bank at 15 years and prescribed the maximum age of 70 years for such functionaries.
- "Subject to the statutory approvals required from time to time, the post of the MD & CEO or WTD cannot be held by the same incumbent for more than 15 years. "Thereafter, the individual will be eligible for re-appointment as MD & CEO or WTD in the same bank, if considered necessary and desirable by the board, after a minimum gap of three years, subject to meeting other conditions,".
- Added that during this three-year cooling period, the individual shall not be appointed or associated with the bank or its group entities in any capacity, either directly or indirectly.
- With regard to the upper age limit for MD & CEO and WTDs in the private sector banks, the RBI said that no person can continue in such positions beyond the age of 70 years. The banks' boards, however, will be free to prescribe a lower retirement age for the WTDs, including the MD & CEO. The maximum age limit for chairman and non-executive directors has been fixed at 75 years.

Reference- https://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/upper-age-limit-for-md-ceo-of-a-pvt-bank-is-70-years-rbi-114090900836_1.html

Kerala Youth Commission to host 'Adalat' for transgenders

Question- Which state is set to conduct a dedicated state-level Adalat for LGBT community?

(a) Telengana (b) Maharashtra (c) Kerala (d) Tamil Naidu

Ans. (c)

Related Facts-



- To encourage the transgender community to open up about various issues faced by them and for speedy grievance redressal, the Kerala State Youth Commission has scheduled a state-level “Adalat”.
- The “Adalat”, exclusively for the LGBT community is being held for the first time in the state.
- Chintha Jerome, chairperson, Kerala State Youth Commission told ANI that the Adalat will be a platform for the transgender community to air their grievances.
- Kerala government has a transgender policy in place from 2015 for improving the lives of the transgender community. There is also transgender cell working under social justice department of Kerala.

Reference- https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/kerala-youth-commission-to-host-adalat-for-transgenders-120010801722_1.html.

Setting up of 551 PSA Oxygen Generation Plants in hospitals

Question: How many oxygen generation plants will be set up using PM CARES Fund?

(a) 551 (b) 250 (c) 331 (d) 467

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 25 April 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given approval for allocation of funds for installation of 551 dedicated Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Medical Oxygen Generation Plants inside public health facilities in the country.
- The Plants will cater the country’s demand of oxygen in medical facilities amid the rising Covid 19 cases.
- These dedicated plants will be established in identified Government hospitals in district headquarters in various States/UTs. The procurement will be done through Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- The PM CARES Fund had earlier this year allocated Rs.201.58 crores for installation of additional 162 dedicated Pressure Swing Adsorption (PSA) Medical Oxygen Generation Plants inside public health facilities in the country.

Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1713904>

Chandler Good Government Index

Question: What is the rank of India in the recently released Chandler Good Government Index 2021?

a) 49 b)50 c)51 d) None of the above

Ans: a

Context

- Chandler Good Governance Index (CGGI) report 2021 was released recently by the Chandler Institute of Governance which is a private



nonprofit organization headquartered in Singapore.

Facts

- The Index classifies 104 countries in terms of government capabilities and outcomes.
- The index is prepared based on seven pillars namely leadership and foresight, strong institutions, robust laws and policies, attractive market place, financial stewardship, helping people rise, global influence and reputation.
- Finland topped the ranking following Switzerland, Singapore, Netherlands, Denmark and Norway.
- India was ranked at 49th Position.
- Pakistan was ranked at 90th place, Sri Lanka at 74th and Nepal at 92nd.
- Among BRICS countries China ranked 140th, Brazil at 67th, Russia at 48th, South Africa at 70th.

About Chandler Good Governance Index

- It aims to strengthen public institutional capacity through research, training and advise. Also it supports governments and public officers world wide in building the nation.

Reference: <https://chandlergovernmentindex.com/country-rankings/>

Water Sports and Adventure Institute

Question: Where did the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) establish Water Sports and Adventure Institute?

(a) Uttarakhand (b) Ladakh (c) Arunachal Pradesh (d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 16 April 2021, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Tirath Singh Rawat and Union Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated a water sports and adventure institute on the bank of the Tehri lake.
- The institute has been established by the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).
- ITBP's Mountaineering and Skiing Institute at Auli will independently run this institution, which will impart training in aero, water and land-related sports and adventure activities.
- The institute will offer training in kayaking, rowing, canoeing, water skiing, para-gliding, para-sailing, scuba diving, paddle boating, speed boating, kite surfing, jet skiing, etc.
- Apart from this, water rescue and life-saving courses will be conducted here.
- The institute has set target to train at least 200 youth in water sports every year.



Links:

https://www.business-standard.com/article/sports/adventure-sports-institute-inaugurated-in-uttarakhand-s-tehri-121041601127_1.html#:~:text=Uttarakhand%20Chief%20Minister%20Tirath%20Singh,Tehri%20lake%20here%20on%20Friday.

Startup India Seed Fund Scheme

Question: Who has launched the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme?

(a) Piyush Goyal (b) Prahlad Singh (c) Jitendra Singh (d) Nirmala Sithraman

Answer:(a)

Related facts:

- On 19 April 2021, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal launched the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS).
- The Fund aims to provide financial assistance to startups for proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market-entry, and commercialization.
- The government has approved Rs. 945 Crore corpus for the fund, which will be divided over the next 4 years beginning April 01, 2021, for providing seed funding to eligible startups through eligible incubators across India.
- The scheme is expected to support an estimated 3,600 startups through 300 incubators.

**Links:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1712699>

Leaders' Summit on Climate

Question: Which country has hosted the Leaders' Summit on Climate programme?

(a) USA (b) United Kingdom (c) Norway (d) Japan

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the "Leaders' Summit on Climate", hosted by the President of the U.S.A. Joe Biden.
- The two-day conference has been organised virtually on 22-23 April 2021.
- The day coincides with the fifth anniversary of the opening of the Paris Agreement on climate change for signature.

**About the summit:**

- Theme of the summit is 'Our Collective Sprint to 2030'.

- A total of 40 national leaders have been invited by Biden to attend the climate summit.
- The Summit is being held in the run-up to the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26) that will take place in November 2021 in Glasgow.

Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1713276>

Italy launches first ever mega food park in India

Question: Which country has launched its first-ever mega food park project in India?

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

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Italy has launched its first-ever mega food park project in India, at Fanidhar in the Mehsana district of Gujarat.
- The project aims to create synergy between agriculture and industry of the two countries and focuses on the research and development of new and more efficient technologies in the sector.
- With this Italy also aims to explore the great opportunities offered by the Indian market.
- This is the first Italian-Indian food park project, an initiative in the food-processing field, which serves as a pillar of the partnership between India and Italy.



Links:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/cons-products/food/italy-launches-first-ever-mega-food-park-food-processing-unit-in-india/articleshow/82116595.cms?>

Varuna-2021: India, France begins naval bilateral exercise in Arabian Sea

Question-Varuna -2021 naval bilateral exercise is held between India and-

(a) France (b) Russia (c) Japan (d) America

Ans.(a)

Related facts-

- The 19th edition of the Indian and French Navy bilateral exercise 'Varuna-2021' has started in the Arabian Sea on April 25, 2021.
- The three-days exercise between the navies of two countries will be seeing high tempo-level operations at the sea, which will include advanced anti-submarine and air defence exercises, tactical manoeuvres, intense fixed and rotary wing flying



operations, underway replenishment, surface and anti-air weapon firings and other maritime security operations.

- The Indian navy will be led by the Flag Officer Commanding Western Fleet Rear Admiral Ajay Kochhar. While, the French navy will be led by the Commander Task Force 473, Rear Admiral Marc Aussedat.
- The units of the two navies in the Varuna bilateral naval exercise will endeavour to enhance their warfighting skills in order to demonstrate their ability as an integrated force to promote security, peace and stability in the maritime domain.

Reference- <https://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/varuna-2021-india-france-begins-naval-bilateral-exercise-in-arabian-sea-1619337290-1>.

Subhash Chandra Garg committee on Cryptocurrency

Question-SC Garg Committee was sometimes seen in the news. Which of the following exactly describes the committee?

- (a) It is a committee appointed by the government of India to suggest measures for improving medical oxygen production
- (b) It is an Inter-Ministerial Committee on Virtual Currencies that demanded ban on cryptocurrencies
- (c) It is a committee that recommended universal access to financial services
- (d) It is a committee formed to solve pollution problem

Ans (b)

Related Facts-

- Inter-Ministerial Committee on Virtual Currencies headed by finance secretary Subhash Chandra Garg has submitted its report to the government. The committee set up by Centre has also proposed a draft bill 'Banning of Cryptocurrency & Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill, 2019'.
- The committee suggested a ban on private digital currencies, but it favors RBI backed National Digital Currency or central bank digital currency (CBDC). Further, the committee also drafted a bill Banning of Cryptocurrency & Regulation of Official Digital Currency Bill.



Reference- https://www.business-standard.com/article/markets/former-dea-secy-garg-proposes-allowing-cryptos-as-commodity-with-rules-120071701246_1.html.

Exercise 'Khanjar'

Question-Consider the following statements regarding Exercise Khanjar

1-It is a Military Exercise between India and Turkmenistan.

2- It is conducted for the first time this year.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 Only (b) 2 Only (c) Neither 1 nor 2 (d) Both 1 and 2

Ans. (c)

Related facts-

- India and Kyrgyzstan Special Forces started a military exercise named “Exercise Khanjar” in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan on 16th April 2021
- It is a joint Special Forces Military Exercise between India and Kyrgyzstan.
- This is 8th edition of exercise.

Reference- <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/indian-kyrgyz-special-forces-begin-two-week-exercise20210416223037/>.

Jagananna Vidya Deevena Scheme

Question: Which state government has launched Jagananna Vidya Deevena scheme?

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

Answer:(a)

Related facts:

- The Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh, YS Jagan Mohan Reddy recently released the first tranche of Rs 672 crores under the Jagananna Vidya Deevena Scheme for the year 2021-22.
- The released money reimbursed the fees for 10.88 lakh students. So far, a total of Rs 4, 879 crores have been disbursed under the Jagananna Vidya Deevena Scheme.

Jagananna Vidya Deevena Scheme:

- Jagananna Vidya Deevena Scheme provides scholarships to all the students who are not able to pay their fees because of their financial burden.
- The fee reimbursement will be credited directly to the student's mothers' accounts instead of college accounts.

Links:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vijayawada/cm-releases-first-tranche-of-vidya-deevena-scheme/articleshow/82149898.cms>

First-ever online exhibition on Ramayana

Question: Who inaugurated the first-ever Online Exhibition on Ramayana on the occasion of World Heritage Day 2021?

(a) Narendra Modi (b) Amit Shah (c) Piyush Goyal (d) Prahlad Singh Patel

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- On 18 April 2021, World Heritage Day, Union Minister of State for Tourism and Culture (I/C), Prahlad Singh Patel virtually inaugurated the first-ever Online Exhibition on Ramayana.
- The online exhibition showcased forty nine(49) miniature paintings collections of National Museum, New Delhi from different art schools of India, dating from the 17th through the 19th century.

- The online exhibition has been titled “Rama Katha: The Story of Rama Through Indian Miniatures”.

Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1712583>

Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court’s Efficiency (SUPACE)

Question- Recently, Chief Justice of India launched the Supreme Court’s ‘SUPACE Portal’. Consider the following statements in this regard-

1-It is an artificial intelligence-based portal

2-The portal will provide the judges with all possible decisions of a case on the basis of inputs.

Which of the statement(s) given above is /are correct?

(a) 1 Only (b) 1 and 3 Only (c) 1,2, and 3 (d) None of the above

Ans. (a)

Related facts-

- The Supreme Court on 6 April 2021 unveiled its Artificial Intelligence (AI) portal SUPACE, designed to make research easier for judges, thereby easing their workload.
- A pet project of Chief Justice of India S A Bobde, the Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court’s Efficiency (SUPACE) is a tool that collects relevant facts and laws and makes them available to a judge.
- SUPACE will produce results customized to the need of the case and the way the judge thinks.
- This will be time-saving. It will help the judiciary and the court in reducing delays and pendency of cases.
- AI will present a more streamlined, cost-effective and time-bound means to the fundamental right of access to justice.
- It will make the service delivery mechanism transparent and cost-efficient.

Reference- <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/cji-launches-top-courts-ai-driven-research-portal-7261821/>.

NanoSniffer- Microsensor based explosive trace detector(ETD)

Question-Consider the following statements related to NanoSniffer-

1-It is a microsensor-based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD).

2- It is developed by NanoSniff Technologies, an IIT Bombay incubated startu

3-NanoSniffer is a 100% ‘Made in India’ product in terms of research, development & manufacturing.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below-

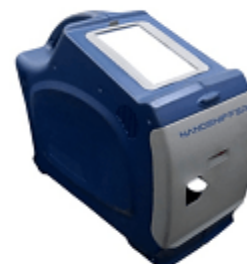
Code:

(a) 1,2,3 (b) 1 and 2 Only (c) 2 and 3 Only

(d) None of the above

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-



- Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' on 9 April 2021 launched NanoSniffer, the world's first Microsensor-based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD).
- The Nanosniffer has been developed by NanoSniff Technologies which is an IIT Bombay incubated startup.
- NanoSniffer is a 100 per cent Made in India product in terms of research, development & manufacturing.
- The completely indigenous Explosive trace detector device (ETD) – NanoSniffer can detect explosives in less than 10 seconds and it also identifies and categorizes explosives into different classes.
- It detects all classes of military, conventional and homemade explosives. NanoSniffer gives visible & audible s with sunlight-readable color display.

Reference- <http://newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=413879>.

Wolf–Rayet stars or WR stars

Question- Which of the following statements is/are incorrect about Wolf–Rayet Stars?

1-They are one of the darkest objects in the universe.

2-They have completely lost their outer hydrogen.

3-The surface temperature of WR stars is lower than the Sun

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

(a) 2 Only (b) 1 and 3 Only (c) 1 and 2 Only (d) None of the above

Ans. (b)

Related facts-

- Indian astronomers have tracked a rare supernova explosion and traced it to one of the hottest kind of stars called Wolf–Rayet stars or WR stars.
- The rare Wolf–Rayet stars are highly luminous objects a thousand times that of the Sun and have intrigued astronomers for long.
- They are massive stars and strip their outer hydrogen envelope which is associated with the fusion of Helium and other elements in the massive core. Tracking of certain types of massive luminous supernovae explosion can help probe these stars that remain an enigma for scientists.
- The scientists also found that the original star was a combination of two stars – one of them is a massive WR star and another is a star much less in mass than the Sun.
- Supernovae (SNe) are highly energetic explosions in the Universe releasing an enormous amount of energy.

Reference- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1709863>.

Lab on Wheel

Question-Which of the following institution has started the 'Lab on Wheel' programme?

(a) Delhi Technological University (b) IIT Delhi

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



(c) Delhi University (d) JNU

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-

- Delhi Education Minister Manish Sisodia on 6th April 2021 inaugurated Delhi Technological University's 'Lab on Wheels' programme.
- It will have students of the university travelling in a bus across Delhi to teach government school students and underprivileged children.
- The idea is to impart education in the fields of Mathematics and Science to those students who come from marginalised and poor economic backgrounds, in order to pique their interests in these subjects while pursuing higher education.
- The 'Lab on Wheels' will comprise 16 computers, two televisions, one 3D printer, one laptop, cameras and one printer. It will be Wi-Fi enabled, with 100 per cent power back up and fully air-conditioned.
- The programme will initially target 12 schools.

Reference- <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/delhi-education-lab-on-wheels-programme-explained-7262498/>.

FDI inflows in India 2020-21

Question- Which of the following country is the top FDI investor from April 2020 to January 2021?

(a) Singapore (b) USA (c) China (d) UAE

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-

- The Government releases data regarding the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows in India from April to January 2021.
- India attracted a total FDI inflow of US\$ 72.12 billion from April to January 2021.
- It is the highest ever for the first ten months of a financial year. Further, it is 15% higher than the similar FDI inflow of 2019-20 (US\$ 62.72 billion).
- Singapore is the top FDI investor followed by the USA and UAE.
- Computer Software & Hardware emerges as the top sector with 45.81% of the total FDI equity inflow. This is followed by Construction (Infrastructure) Activities (13.37%) and Services Sector (7.80%) respectively.



Reference- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1709654>.

IISc, Prorigo build software to automate legal process for IP

Question-Which of the following correctly describes the “ProrIlSe Software”, recently seen in the news?

- (a) It is a software of the Indian Institute of Science to find qualified persons from reserved category for faculty positions.
- (b) It is a software aims to track the applications filed in Production Linked Incentive Scheme.



(c) It is a software to provide online certification for the courses completed during the COVID-19 pandemic.

(d) It is a software aims to automate the legal and bureaucratic part of patent process for intellectual property.

Ans. (d)

Related Facts-

- Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, (IISc) and Prorigo Software Pvt. Ltd. have jointly developed a software that helps automate the legal and bureaucratic part of the patent process for intellectual property developed by Indian academicians in large and small institutes.
- Significance: This software is available at a lesser cost when compared to the software available outside India which was the only choice available until now.
- Version 2.0 of the software, which is slated for release in 2021, would automate the financial part also.
- The next version, which is expected to be release in 2022 will bring in artificial intelligence approaches to processes required to evaluate a patent.

Reference- <https://www.thehindu.com/business/iisc-prorigo-build-software-to-automate-legal-process-for-ip/article34247235.ece>.

Sadabahar: An evergreen mango variety

Question- A new Mango variety named ‘Sadabahar’ is in news recently, which one of the following statements is correct about it?

- (a) This Mango can not be grown round the year.
- (b) Sadabahar is a dwarf variety of mango.
- (c) The plants of this variety are biggest among all mango varieties.
- (d) Its pulp has so much fiber content which differentiates it from other varieties.



Ans. (b)

Related Facts-

- ‘Sadabahar’ mango variety as the name suggests a regular and continuous fruit bearing variety. Mango variety developed by Shree Kishan Suman from Rajasthan blooms throughout the year.
- The fruits are sweeter in taste and it is developed as a dwarf variety which is suitable for kitchen gardening and can be grown in pots for some years.
- It is resistant to most major diseases and common mango disorders.
- It is deep orange with sweet taste, and the pulp has very less fiber content which differentiates it from other varieties.

Reference- <https://nif.org.in/Innovationofday/sadabahar-an-evergreen-mango-variety/27>.

World’s highest rail bridge arch completed on Chenab

Question- On which of the following rivers, World's highest railway bridge is being built?

(a) Chenab (b) Ravi (c) Sutlej (d) Tapti

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-

- The construction of the arch of the world's highest railway bridge that soars 359 metres above the bed of the Chenab river in Jammu and Kashmir was completed on 6th April 2021.
- The 1.3-kilometre-long bridge aims to boost connectivity to the Kashmir Valley and it is being constructed at a cost of ₹1,486 crore as part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Railway Link (USBRL) project.
- The bridge, which is 35-metre higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris, is expected to be completed within a year, officials said.

Salient features of the arch of the Chenab Bridge:

- Indian Railways is constructing the iconic Arch Bridge on River Chenab as a part of the USBRL project to connect the Kashmir valley to the rest of the nation.
- This bridge is 1315m long.
- This is the highest Railway Bridge in the world being 359m above the river bed level.
- It will be 35 meters higher than the iconic Eiffel Tower in Paris (France).
- Construction of Bridge involved fabrication of 28,660 MT steel, 10 Lakh Cum Earthwork, 66,000 Cum Concrete and 26 Km motorable roads.
- Arch consists of steel boxes. Concrete will be filled in boxes of the Arch to improve stability.
- Overall weight of Arch is 10,619 MT.
- The most sophisticated 'Tekla' software used for structural detailing.



Reference- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/railways-completes-arch-closure-of-chenab-bridge/article34246200.ece>.

Tika Utsav

Question: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched 'Tika Utsav' as major vaccination drive across the country against COVID-19. What is the timeline of this vaccination drive?

a) 11-15 April 2021 b) 11-14 April 2021 c) 11-16 April 2021 d) None of the above

Ans: b

Context

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a major vaccination drive against Covid-19 called 'Tika Utsav' on 11th April 2021.
- **Facts**

- This drive will be carried out throughout the country starting from April 11th 2021 and ending on 14th April, i.e., the birth anniversary of Baba Saheb Ambedkar.
- While launching the drive Prime Minister Narendra Modi asked citizens to pay attention to following 4 things:-
- **Each One- Vaccinate One**, that is, help those who are less educated and elderly, who cannot go and get vaccinated themselves.
- **Each One- Treat One**, that is, help people who do not have the means or do not know about the facilities available for vaccination.
- **Each One- Save One**, i.e., Emphasis should be that I should wear a mask and in this way I save myself and save the lives of others also.
- **And the fourth important thing** is that in the event of someone contracting corona, the people of the society should lead in the creation of 'micro-containment zones'. Family members and people of the society should create a 'micro-containment zone' wherever a Corona positive case has been reported.
- This drive has been termed as beginning of another major war against Corona by the government.

Reference: <https://www.narendramodi.in/pm-s-message-for-teeka-utsav-554933>

National Programme on Artificial Intelligence

Question: Consider the following statements regarding National Programme on Artificial Intelligence;

i) Under the programme high value data sets in Public Sector Units are to be identified. These data will then be put under an Artificial Intelligence control framework.

ii) The government will also set up a Centre for Transformational AI to tap the data.

Which of the above statements are correct?

a) only I b) only ii c) i and ii both d) none

Ans: c

Facts

- The Centre is going to launch a National Programme on Artificial Intelligence soon.
- Under the programme, high value data sets in Public Sector Units are to be identified. These data will then be put under an Artificial Intelligence control framework.
- A Centre for Transformational AI will also be launched to tap the data in various sectors and make it available for AI models.
- Government will also be launching Digital India 2.0 in upcoming months with an aim to take the digital service offerings, infrastructure and cyber security to next level.
- Through Digital India 2.0 India will focus on developing indigenous cybersecurity products and robust digital infrastructure. **By kameshwar shukla**



Reference: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/govt-to-launch-national-programme-on-ai-soon/article34284443.ece>

Union Minister of Education presents AICTE Lilavati Awards 2020

Question: What is the field of operation in which AICTE Lilavati Awards 2020 are given?

- a) R&D in the field Science and Tech b) In the field of Technical Education
- c) In the field of women empowerment d) None of the above

Ans: c

Context

- On 11th April 2021, Union Minister of Education Shri Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank' presented the AICTE Lilavati Awards 2020 on women empowerment to the winners in New Delhi.
- **Facts**
 - AICTE (All India Council of Technical Education) Lilavati Awards are instituted by AICTE to recognize efforts being made by AICTE approved institutions to treat women with 'equality and fairness' in all spheres of their lives.
 - This award provides AICTE approved institutions a unique opportunity to present a solution to the prevalent issues of gender discrimination, such as illiteracy, unemployment, economic and nutritional disparities, maternal mortality, human rights, etc.
 - Based on the theme 'Women Empowerment', AICTE finalized the winners from a total of 456 entries who competed across 6 sub themes, which include, Women's Health, Self-Defense, Sanitation and Hygiene, Literacy, Women Entrepreneurship, and Legal Awareness.
 - **Following are the winners:-**
 - SWEAT (Sona Women Entrepreneurship and Training) from Sona College of Technology, Tamil Nadu ' Women Entrepreneurship' sub theme.
 - Under the 'Digital Literacy' sub theme, Bharatiya Vidyapeeth ,Pune.
 - Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development Pune -'Literacy' sub theme.
 - WIT Women Health Coalition from Walchand Institute of Technology, Maharashtra – 'Women's Health' sub theme.
 - Radiant Seetha from Thiagarajar Polytechnic College won the contest in the- 'Legal Awareness' sub theme.
 - Paritrana from St. Joseph's College of Engineering, Tamil Nadu – 'Self Defense' sub theme.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1711054>

'Anamaya – the Tribal Health Collaborative'

Question: On 7th April 2021, 'Anamaya – the Tribal Health Collaborative' was launched by Union Minister Harsh Vardhan. What is the aim of this initiative?

- a) to provide medicine in tribal area at cheap cost
- b) to provide tertiary health care facilities in tribal area

- c) to enhance health and nutrition status of tribals in India
d) none of the above

Ans: c

Context

- On 7th April 2021 Union Minister Harsh Vardhan launched tribal health collaborative 'Anamaya' through video conferencing.
- **Facts**
 - It is multi-stakeholder initiative of government that will converge schemes of various government agencies and organization.
 - In this multi-stakeholders programme ministry of tribal affairs is supported by Piramal foundation along with Bill and Melinda gates foundation.
 - It is a initiative to enhance health and nutrition status of tribal communities in India.
 - It aims to build a sustainable and high-performing health ecosystem for tribals of India.
 - It will begin its operations with 50 tribal, Aspirational Districts (with more than 20% Sheduled Tribe population) across 6 high tribal population states.
 - Over a 10-year period, the work of the THC will be extended to 177 tribal Districts as recognised by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1710256>

Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Urban Premises Tenancy (second) Ordinance 2021

Question: Consider the following statements regarding Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Urban Premises Tenancy (second) Ordinance 2021-

- i) After the promulgation of ordinance, signing of contract will become compulsory to rent out a property.
ii) It envisages setting up of a rent authority and rent tribunal to solve disputes.

Which of the above are correct?

- a) I b) ii c) both d) none

Ans: c

Context

- The Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has recently approved the bringing of Uttar Pradesh Regulation of Urban Premises Tenancy (second) Ordinance, 2021.
- **Facts**
 - Ordinance is promulgated to reduce tenancy dispute.
 - Once it gets promulgated , it will become mandatory to sign rent contract will to rent out a property. This is being done to safeguard the interests of both the tenant and the owner.



- It envisages setting up of a rent authority and rent tribunal to solve disputes. The bodies will be tasked to resolve the issue within 60 days.
- Currently there are no clear mechanisms for conflict resolution.
- This ordinance will replace UP Urban Buildings (Regulation of Letting, Rent and Eviction) Act, 1972 to keep with current and future needs of Uttar Pradesh .
- The ordinance is very much similar to the Draft Model Tenancy Act.
- **Model Tenancy Act**
- The Model Tenancy Act was framed by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. It is yet to be passed in the parliament. The key features of the Model Tenancy Act are as follows:
 - Formation of Rent Authority. Every tenancy agreement should be reported to this rent authority.
 - For non-residential tenancy, the residential housing security deposit is to be capped at one month interval and for residential-housing security deposit is to be capped at two months interval.
 - The landlords cannot hike the property rent in the middle of a tenancy term.
 - The cabinet also cleared a proposal for setting up Uttar Pradesh State Institute of Forensic Sciences in place of the Uttar Pradesh Police and Forensic Science University.

Reference: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/up-cabinet-approves-tenancy-ordinance/articleshow/81926503.cms>

Ethanol blending in India

Question: According to recent report, how much percentage of ethanol blending in petrol India has recorded in the first four months of ethanol supply year 2020-21?

a) 3.4% b) 7.2% c) 4% d) 9.4%

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:-

- India records more than 7.2 per cent Ethanol blending in petrol for the first time.
- It has reached this level in the first four months of the ethanol supply year 2020-21 (December to November),
- This situation has put the country on course to meet the target of 10 per cent blending by 2022.
- According to industry sources, if oil-marketing companies (OMCs) lift the ethanol they had contracted for, in the next few months all-India average blending could be even near 8 per cent by the time the season ends in November 2021.
- The best ever ethanol blend with petrol has been found to be around 5.2 per cent at all-India level.
- Some states in India are close to the 2022 target of 10 per cent ethanol mixed with petrol.



- These states are Goa, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Delhi, Uttarakhand, and Himachal Pradesh (and Daman and Diu, a Union Territory).
- In these states 9.5-10 per cent ethanol is being blended with petrol.

Links:-

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/at-7-2-india-blends-record-ethanol-with-petrol-in-first-4-months-121040500016_1.html

Tika Utsav

Question: Recently Tika Utsav (vaccination festival) has been given by which of the following?

- a) WHO b) UNESCO c) Narendra Modi
- d) Bharat Biotech

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:-

- On 11 April 2021; Tika Utsav (vaccination festival) started all over the country. Earlier the Prime Minister Narendra Modi called on the chief ministers of all states to organize Tika Utsav.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi termed this Tika Utsav (vaccination festival) the beginning of the second big war against COVID-19.
- PM on this occasion laid stress on social and personal hygiene.
- The Utsav started on the birth anniversary of Mahatma Jyotiba Phule and will continue till the birth anniversary of Babasaheb Ambedkar on April 14.
- The PM also noted that India should move towards zero vaccine wastage and stressed for optimum utilisation of vaccination capacity.
- He reminded his advice which he gave frequently, on Dawai bhi, kadai bhi.
- The PM said awareness and responsible behaviour will succeed in containing the virus again.
- “Make targets at personal, social and administration level for these four days of ‘Tika Utsav’ and diligently make effort to achieve them.”
- **The main purpose of the Tika Festival**
 - The main purpose of the festival is to vaccinate as many people as possible. It will also focus on a zero-waste COVID-19 vaccine.
 - Currently, the three states are receiving the largest number of COVID-19 doses. They are Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Gujarat.
 - COVAXIN and COVISHIELD are the two main COVID-19 vaccines currently in use in India.
 - So far, India has shipped 64 million vaccine doses to 84 countries/regions in the Caribbean, Africa and Asia.
 - The main recipients of the COVID-19 vaccine in India are Mexico, Canada and Brazil.



- According to the vaccination plan, the Indian government plans to cover 250 million people in the “high priority” category by July 2021.
- COVAXIN is a government-supported vaccine produced by Bharat Biotech. The effective rate is 81%.
- More than 27,000 participants participated in the Phase III trial of the COVAXIN vaccine. Take COVAXIN in two divided doses.
- The time interval between doses is four weeks. COVAXIN is made from dead COVID-19 virus.
- The COVISHIELD vaccine is produced by Astra Zeneca. Locally, COVISHIELD is produced by the Serum Institute of India.
- It is made from a weakened version of a common virus from chimpanzees (called adenovirus).

Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tika-utsav-beginning-of-second-big-war-on-covid-19-pm-modi/article34294513.ece>

India hosts First Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors April 6, 2021

Question- Which of the following country is hosted the first meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors, recently-

(a) India (b) South Africa (c) Russia (d) China

Ans-(a)

Related facts-

- India hosted a Meeting of BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors virtually on April 6, 2021.
- The meeting was jointly Chaired by Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and Governor, Reserve Bank of India, Shri. Shaktikanta Das. Participants included Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of the BRICS countries.
- This was the first meeting of the BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors under India Chairship in 2021.
- BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors discussed financial cooperation agenda set by India for 2021 – Global Economic Outlook and Response to COVID-19 pandemic, New Development Bank (NDB) Activities, Social Infrastructure Financing and Use of Digital Technologies, Cooperation on Customs related issues, IMF reforms, Fintech for SMEs and Financial Inclusion, BRICS Rapid Information Security channel and BRICS Bond Fund. On the BRICS priorities and agenda for 2021, Finance Minister Smt. Sitharaman informed that the efforts should be made towards delivering outcomes that reflects the needs and aspirations of BRICS in particular and emerging markets and developing economies in general.
- The Finance Minister talked about thematic priorities for New Development Bank for discussion during 2021 and the issues of membership expansion. Smt. Sitharaman also called for greater coordination among BRICS member countries on the issues of 16th general review of Quotas of IMF.



Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) scheme

Question- Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding the recently launched Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) Scheme?

- 1-Land identification number will same as Aadhaar no. of the land owner.
- 2-Every plot of land in the country will be covered under the scheme.
- 3-The government will use the longitude and latitude of a land parcel for land identification.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3 (c) 1 and 3 (d) All of the above

Ans-(b)

Related Facts-

- The ULPIN scheme has been launched in ten States this year(2021) and will be rolled out across the country by March 2022, the Department of Land Resources told the Standing Committee on Rural Development.
- It would allot a 14-digit identification number to every plot of land in the country within a year's time.
- It will subsequently integrate its land records database with revenue court records and bank records, as well as Aadhaar numbers on a voluntary basis.
- The scheme will enhance the service deliveries to the citizen of the country and will also function as inputs to the schemes of the other sectors like Agriculture, Finance Disaster Management etc.
- This is the next step in the Digital India Land Records Modernisation Programme (DILRMP), which began in 2008.
- Proper land statistics and land accounting through ULPIN will help develop land banks and lead towards Integrated Land Information Management System (ILIMS).

Reference- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/unique-id-for-all-land-parcels-by-march-2022-centre/article34184475.ece>.

National Maritime Day 2021

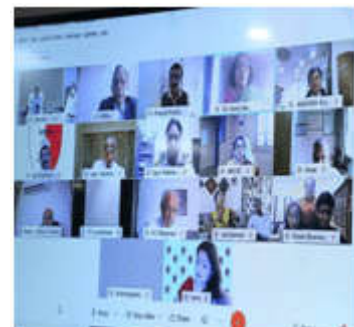
Question: On what date National Maritime Day is celebrated in India?

- a) 5 April b) 1 April c) 5 March d) none of the above

Ans: a

Context

- Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways celebrated 58th National Maritime Day on 5th April 2021.
- **Facts**
 - It is celebrated on 5th of April to commemorate the maiden voyage of the first Indian flag merchant vessel 'S.S.LOYALTY' (Owned by M/s. Scindia



Steam Navigation Company), from Mumbai to London, on the 5th April, 1919.

- The theme of this year National Maritime Day is 'Sustainable Shipping beyond COVID-19' on the lines of 'Aatma Nirbhar Bharat' initiative of the Government of India.
- On National Maritime Day, the National Maritime Day Awards are presented.
- The awards recognise the efforts of people from the Indian Maritime Sector.
- Varuna award is presented for their long and exceptional contribution.
- NMD Award of Excellence is also presented on this day.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1709706>

Consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 Countries

Question: Consider the following statement

i) On 6th April 2021, Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre will attend a consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries.

ii) The E9 is a forum of nine countries, which was formed to achieve the goals of UNESCO's Education For All (EFA) initiative.

iii) Theme of the event is, E9 initiative: Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4.

Which of the above are correct?

- a) only I b) ii and iii c) all of the above
d) none of the above

Ans: c

Context

- On 6th April 2021, Minister of State for Education Sanjay Dhotre will attend a consultation meeting of Education Ministers of E9 countries.
- Theme of the event is, E9 initiative: Scaling up digital learning to accelerate progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4.
- It is a first of a three-phased process to co-create an initiative on digital learning and skills, targeting marginalised children and youth, especially girls.
- Initiative aims to accelerate achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 4 agenda by driving rapid change in education systems in three of the 2020 Global Education Meeting priorities, support to teachers, investment in skills and narrowing of the digital divide.
- **E9 Countries**
 - The E9 is a forum of nine countries, which was formed to achieve the goals of UNESCO's Education For All (EFA) initiative. The "E" stands for education and the "9" represents the following nine countries: Bangladesh, Brazil, China, Egypt, India, Indonesia, Mexico, Nigeria and Pakistan.
 - E-9 Initiative was launched in 1993 at the EFA Summit in New Delhi, India.
- **UNESCO's Education For All (EFA) initiative**



- It is a global movement led by UNESCO. It aims to meet the learning needs of youth, children and adults. The Education for All initiative was adopted by the Dakar Framework in April 2000.

Reference: <http://newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=413609>

Utkal Divas – 2021

Question: Which states foundation day is known as Utkal Divas?

a) Uttar Pradesh b) Odisha c) Harayana d) none of the above

Ans: b

Facts

- Odisha celebrated its 85th foundation day of the state on April 1.
- The day is also known as 'Utkal Divas'.
- Odisha was carved out of the combined Bengal-Bihar-Orissa province on this day in 1936.

Reference: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/utkal-divas-2021-know-all-about-the-85th-foundation-day-of-odisha-2403593>

Mahendragiri: Odisha's Second Biosphere Reserve

Question: Which of the following statements are correct-

i) The Odisha government has proposed a second biosphere reserve in the southern part of the state at Mahendragiri.

ii) It is a hill ecosystem having rich biodiversity.

iii) Similipal Biosphere Reserve is Odisha's first Biosphere reserve.

a) only I b) only ii c) i,ii d) all of above

Ans: d

Context

- The Odisha state government has proposed a second biosphere reserve in the southern part of the state at Mahendragiri.
- **Facts**
 - This biosphere is located at an altitude of 1,501 metres in mountains in the Gajapati district of the state. Mahendragiri is also the second-highest peak in the state.
 - The area of the proposed Mahendragiri Biosphere Reserve is around 470,955 hectares and is spread over Gajapati and Ganjam districts in the Eastern Ghats.
 - As per a feasibility report prepared by the Biosphere Reserve Committee for the proposed project, the hill ecosystem is acting as a transitional zone between the flora and fauna of southern India and the Himalayas. This makes the region an ecological estuary of genetic diversity.
 - The feasibility report has been submitted to the government which will now be taken up by the Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.



Reference: [https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/odisha-government-proposes-state-s-second-biosphere-reserve-at-mahendragiri-76198#:~:text=The%20Odisha%20government%20has%20proposed,hill%20ecosystem%20having%20rich%20biodiversity.&text=The%20area%](https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/odisha-government-proposes-state-s-second-biosphere-reserve-at-mahendragiri-76198#:~:text=The%20Odisha%20government%20has%20proposed,hill%20ecosystem%20having%20rich%20biodiversity.&text=The%20area%20)

SC-appointed panel on farm laws submits report

Question: Among the following who are the members of SC-appointed panel on farm laws which has recently submit its report?

- a) Dr.Parmod Kumar Joshi, Agricultural Economist, Director for South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute
- b) Anil Ghanwat (Shetkari Sanghatana President) and
- c) Ashok Gulati (Agri-economist and former Chairman of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP))
- d) All of the above

Ans: d

Context

- One of the members of Supreme Court-appointed committee to study the three new controversial agricultural laws has said recently that they have submitted their report to the apex court on March 19 in a sealed cover.
- **Facts**
 - The Supreme Court had, on January 11, stayed the implementation of the three laws till further orders and appointed a four-member panel to resolve the impasse.
 - **The Committee comprising of :**
 - (1) Shri Bhupinder Singh Mann, National President, BhartiyaKisan Union and All India Kisan Coordination Committee;
 - (2) Dr.Parmod Kumar Joshi, Agricultural Economist, Director for South Asia, International Food Policy Research Institute;
 - (3) Shri Ashok Gulati, Agricultural Economist and Former Chairman of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices;
 - (4) Shri Anil Ghanwat, President, ShetkariSanghatana
- The committee was given two months to study the laws and consult all stakeholders.

Reference: <https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2021/mar/31/sc-appointed-panel-on-farm-laws-submits-report-court-to-decide-future-course-of-action-2283995.html>

Centre proposes tax concession on purchase of new vehicles on submission of scrappage certificate

Question: What is the percentage of tax concession that is being proposed by government on purchase of new vehicle on submission of scrappage certificate ?

a) Upto 30% b) upto 25% c) Upto 10% d)Upto 5%

Ans: b

Context

- Road, Transport and Highways Ministry on March 30 ,2021 had published the draft rules regarding concession in motor vehicle tax against scrapped vehicles.
- **Facts**
 - Centre has proposed up to 25 percent tax concession on the purchase of new vehicles on submission of scrappage certificate.
 - People will get 25 percent concession on the purchase of personal vehicles with vehicle scrappage certificate.
 - On the purchase of commercial vehicles, the tax relief will be 15 percent on producing scrappage certificate.
 - In case of personal vehicles, the tax concessions will be available up to eight years while for commercial vehicles, it will be up to 15 years. The period will be reckoned from the date of first registration.



Reference: <http://www.newsonair.com/News?title=Centre-proposes-up-to-25%25-tax-concession-on-purchase-of-new-vehicles-on-submission-of-scrappage-certificate&id=413166>

India's biggest floating solar power plant coming up in Telangana

Question- Which one of the following states is going to set up India's biggest floating solar plant?

(a) Telangana (b) Tamil Nadu (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Madhya Pradesh

Ans. (a)

Related facts-

- India's biggest floating solar power plant with a capacity of 100 megawatt is expected to become operational in Telangana in May.
- The project has been set up by the energy conglomerate National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) in the reservoir of its thermal power plant at Ramagundam, Peddapalli district.
- The solar photo-voltaic project, spread over 450 acres, will have 4.5 lakh photovoltaic panels and it can be expanded in the future.
- The project has been set up at a cost of ₹423 crore.
- The NTPC plans solar power plants of the total capacity of 450 MW in the southern region. Of this, 217 MW plants would be floating on water bodies.



- Officials say the solar powers project are in line with the country's commitment to attain the target of 175 GW of installed renewable energy capacity by 2022 including 100 GW of solar installed capacity.

Reference- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/indias-biggest-floating-solar-power-plant-coming-up-in-telangana/articleshow/81874686.cms>.

Tribal TB Initiative

Question: On which of the following date, Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare today launched the Tribal TB Initiative?

a) 26 March 2021 b) 26 April 2021 c) 26 February 2021 d) 16 March 2021

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- On 26 March 2021; Dr Harsh Vardhan, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare today launched the "Tribal TB Initiative".
- This initiative has been launched in the fulfilment of the cherished goal of a "TB Mukht Bharat" envisioned by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.
- Shri Arjun Munda, Union Minister for Tribal Affairs and Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare were also present on the occasion.
- A Guidance Note on Joint Action Plan for Tuberculosis (TB) Elimination, a Special Edition of Tribal Ministry's Publication 'ALEKH' on TB, and a document on Tribal Tuberculosis (TB) Initiative was also released at the event.
- The Union Health Minister noted the topical need to organize the event.
- He highlighted that India witnessed over 18.04 lakh TB notifications, notwithstanding the difficulties presented because of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Even with unforeseen challenges of COVID 19, the Government of India was able to convert all those into opportunities for TB Elimination.
- Dr Vardhan said the health ministry Introduced bidirectional screening for COVID-19 and TB, strengthened diagnostic networks and combining TB screening in COVID surveillance activities.
- Health being a holistic subject influenced by all aspects of life, the necessity to have a multispectral collaboration with various Ministries and Departments.
- Minister said that the efforts should to reach out to the most vulnerable population categories was underscored to achieve the elimination target by 2025.
- Dr Harsh Vardhan reminded that the UT of Lakshadweep and district of Badgam in Jammu & Kashmir have been declared TB Free on World TB Day this year.
- He pointed out that several other States and Districts across the country have been awarded for their progress made towards achieving the SDGs related to TB.
- The Health Minister made it clear that this Government accords top priority to ensuring Universal Access to free treatment and care for TB across the country.

- In India, we have over 10 Cr tribal populations living with a huge diversity in their population dynamics.
- Through constant efforts, our government is able to see developments in their health indicators and overall wellbeing.
- The government has already increased the Budget allocation for TB in India a four-fold in the last 5 years.
- High quality drugs, diagnostics, digital initiatives, innovative private sector interventions and community engagement intervention, are all aligned to rapidly decline TB incidence and mortality in the country.
- The Ministers were apprised that over 104 million tribal population lives in India, across 705 tribes, accounting for 8.6 % of the country's population.
- 177 tribal districts were identified as high priority districts where physical remoteness, malnutrition, poor living conditions and lack of awareness contribute to the vulnerability of the tribal population to TB.
- Initially, the activities of the joint plan will be focusing on 161 districts across 18 identified States.
- The Union Health Minister mentioned that the linking of NIKSHAY Portal of MoHFW and Swasthya Portal of the M/o Tribal Affairs.
- He said this kind of linking will help boost data compilation on TB and pave way for efficient and convergent actions.
- Dr Vardhan said that India will be the textbook guidance to the world in TB elimination, if we could achieve this by 2025, i.e. even before the global SDG target of 2030.

Links:-

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1707909>

India's first state to have two Green Energy Efficient towns by 2023

Question: Which of the following state in India would have two green energy efficient twons by 2023?

a) Kerala b) Bihar c) Gujarat d) Uttarakhand

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:-

- Bihar is set to become the country's first state to have two green energy efficient towns in Rajgir and Bodh Gaya.
- The towns will start getting solar energy through the first of its kind renewable energy project from 2023.
- After Rajgir and Bodh Gaya, state capital Patna is also in the queue for this kind of green energy.
- Many important government offices in Patna including the governor house, the Patna High Court, the Bihar Museum and the Vidhyut Bhawan would also get round the clock green energy supply in future.
- It is being developed with the help of the Solar Energy Corporation of India.
- To implement this project, the state government has decided to use the land available in Lakhisarai and Bhagalpur district to construct solar energy plants.



- Bihar's secretary of energy Sanjeev Hans disclosed that the 500-megawatt solar energy plants will be set up at Lakhisarai and Bhagalpur.
- The Solar Energy Corporation of India has agreed to provide green energy and develop the system.
- The project will get started by June 2023
- Mr. Hans also said that the excess solar energy generated through the proposed plants will also be used to run the turbines for water supply and other power-driven works.

Links:-

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2021/mar/30/bihar-first-state-to-have-twogreen-towns-2283421.html>

International

UK announces regulation of self-driving vehicles on motorways

Question: Which is the first country to announce regulation of the use of self-driving vehicles at slow speeds on motorways?

(a) United Kingdom (b) Norway (c) Sweden (d) Denmark

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- The United Kingdom has become the first country to announce regulation of the use of self-driving vehicles at slow speeds on motorways.
- The country was working on specific wording to update the country's highway code for the safe use of self-driving vehicle systems, starting with Automated Lane Keeping Systems (ALKS) – which use sensors and software to keep cars within a lane, allowing them to accelerate and brake without driver input.
- The use of ALKS would be restricted to motorways, at speeds under 60 km per hour.
- The UK government wants to be at the forefront of rolling out autonomous driving technology and the transport ministry forecasts by 2035 around 40% of new UK cars could have self-driving capabilities, creating up to 38,000 new skilled jobs.
- The regulations will aid drivers misunderstanding the limits of auto-pilot technology and thus voiding crashes.



Links:

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=UK-becomes-first-country-to-announce-regulation-of-use-of-self-driving-vehicles-at-slow-speeds-on-motorways&id=415340>

The Gambia Becomes Second African State to Eliminate Trachoma

Question- Which of the following has become second African state to eliminate Trachoma?

(a) Gambia (b) Namibia (c) Chad (d) Comoros

Ans. (a)

Related facts

- The Gambia has become the second country in Africa to eliminate trachoma, one of the leading causes of blindness.
- The achievement, announced by the World Health Organization on 27 April 2021, came after decades of work on the disease, which has damaged the sight of about 1.9 million people worldwide. Ghana was the first country in Africa to eliminate the disease in 2018.
- Infection is spread from person to person through hands, clothes or bedding, and by flies. According to the WHO, the disease often spreads widely within communities and is common among children.
- Trachoma is one of the WHO's 20 neglected tropical diseases which predominantly affect low-income countries and are historically underfunded in research for treatments.
- Despite a decline in the number of people with the condition, from 1.5 billion to 135,000 over the past 20 years, it remains a problem in 44 countries.



Reference- <https://www.theguardian.com/global-development/2021/apr/22/the-gambia-becomes-second-african-state-to-end-trachoma>.

New Zealand introduces climate law for financial firms

Question: Which country has introduced World's 1st Climate Change Law for Financial Firms?

(a) New Zealand (b) Norway (c) Sweden (d) Denmark

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- New Zealand is considering a new legislation that would require environmental accountability from financial firms.
- The legislation would require banks, insurers and asset managers to disclose the impacts of climate change on their businesses
- The step is a move towards achieving the country's target of becoming carbon neutral by 2050.
- The New Zealand government first revealed its plans to compel the financial sector to make disclosures in September last year, informing that those unable to disclose would have to give explanations.



Links:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/economy/2021/4/13/new-zealand-law-needs-finance-firms-to-report-climate-impact>

Prime Minister of Niger

Question: Who has been appointed the new Prime Minister of West African country Niger?

(a) Mohamed Bazoum (b) Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou (c) Abubakar Tafawa Balewa
(d) Mahamane Ousmane

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- Niger President Mohamed Bazoum appointed Ouhoumoudou Mahamadou to head his new cabinet as the country's new prime minister.
- He has previously served as a minister in charge of the finance and mining portfolios.
- He was the chief of staff to former President Mahamadou Issoufou between 2015 and 2021.
- His appointment marked the country's first-ever transition between elected presidents since the country gained independence from France in 1960.
- President Mohamed Bazoum swearing to the office marked Niger's first-ever transition between elected presidents since the country gained independence from France in 1960.



Links:

<https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2021-04-04/niger-president-bazoum-names-mahamadou-as-new-prime-minister>

International Roma Day

Question: When is the International Roma Day observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 8 April (c) 10 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- International Roma Day is observed every year on April 8.
- The day celebrates Romani culture and raise awareness of the issues facing Romani people.
- The day was officially declared in 1990 in Serock, Poland, the site of the fourth World Romani Congress of the International Romani Union (IRU).



Links:

<https://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/-/8-april-international-roma-day-step-up-human-rights-protection-for-roma-and-guarantee-their-access-to-vital-services-during-covid-19-pandemic->

SIPRI report on Military Spending

Question : As per the SIPRI report on Military Spending 2020 , which country is the highest military spender in the world ?

a) USA b) China c) India d) None of the above

Ans: a

Context

- On 26 April 2021, Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) has released its 2020 report on Military spending trend in the world.

▪ **Facts**

- As per the report total global military expenditure rose to \$1981 billion last year, an increase of 2.6 per cent in real terms from 2019.
- United State is biggest spender with estimated \$778 billion expenditure on military in year 2020, followed by China, India, Russia and the United Kingdom.
- The above biggest spenders in 2020, together accounted for 62 per cent of global military expenditure.
- Military spending as a share of GDP—the military burden—reached a global average of 2.4 per cent in 2020, up from 2.2 per cent in 2019.
- The US spent 3.7% of its GDP on military.
- India and China spent 2.9% and 1.7% of their GDP respectively.

▪ **Arms imports of India**

- According to the report, the arm imports of India came down to one third in 2016-20 as compared to that of 2011-15. Still India remained the second highest arms importer after Saudi Arabia.
- The report also state that US, Russia, France, Germany and China were the top five arms importers in 2016-20.

Reference: <https://sipri.org/media/press-release/2021/world-military-spending-rises-almost-2-trillion-2020>

Project DANTAK is commemorating its Diamond Jubilee in Bhutan.

Question- In which of the following year the project ‘DANTAK’ was established?

(a) April 24,1961 (b) April 21,1961 (c) April 24,1971 (d) April 24,1981

Ans.(a)

Related facts-

- Project DANTAK was established on April 24, 1961 as a result of the visionary leadership of His Majesty the Third King and then Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru. DANTAK was tasBRO's project DANTAK completes 60 years in Bhutan.
- DANTAK completed the road connecting Samdrup Jongkhar to Trashigang in 1968. In the same year, Thimphu was



connected to Phuentsholing by DANTAK. Many Bhutanese had also volunteered to work with DANTAK.

- Over 1200 DANTAK personnel have laid down their lives while constructing important infrastructure in Bhutan and have literally built roads into the hearts of the people.

Reference- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1714170>.

WEF Global Energy Transition Index 2021

Question: What is the rank of India in the World Economic Forum Global Energy Transition Index 2021?

(a) 87 (b) 54 (c) 92 (d) 65

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- India has been ranked 87th in the 2021 Energy Transition Index (ETI).
- The report is published by the World Economic Forum (WEF), in collaboration with Accenture.
- The report assessed 115 countries to track nations on the current performance of their energy systems across various aspects.
- Sweden was ranked first followed by Norway and Denmark at second and third position respectively.

Links:

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/fostering-effective-energy-transition-2021>

United Arab Emirates names its first female astronaut

Question: Which country has named its first female astronaut in its space programme on 10th April 2021?

(a) United Arab Emirates (b) Israel (c) China (d) Canada

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 10 April 2021, the United Arab Emirates named the next two astronauts in its space programme, including the country's first female astronaut.
- Noura al-Matroushi is the UAE's first female astronaut.
- He will be accompanied with her male counterpart Mohammed al-Mulla.
- The announcement gave no biographical information about her or her male counterpart.
- The two will undergo training at NASA's Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas.



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/united-arab-emirates-names-its-first-female-astronaut/article34289510.ece>

Singapore first ratifies mega free trade agreement RCEP

Question: Which is the first country to ratify the mega free trade agreement Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership?

(a) Singapore (b) Japan (c) New Zealand (d) South Korea

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 9 April 2021, Singapore became the first country to ratify the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement, led by China.
- The RCEP will come into effect after ratification by at least six ASEAN and three non-ASEAN member states.
- Once implemented, RCEP would be the world's largest free trade agreement, covering around one-third of the world's population and about 30% of the world's economy.
- **About the RCEP**
- RCEP is a multi-nation trade pact, comprising 10 ASEAN economies as well as Australia, China, Japan, New Zealand and South Korea.
- The RCEP was signed by the 15 participating countries in November 2020.
- India had opted out of it in 2019.

Links:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/economy/singapore-ratifies-mega-free-trade-agreement-rcep/2230174/>

‘World 2030: Public Survey’ Report?

Question- Which of the following organization has released the ‘World 2030: Public Survey’ report ?

(a) UNESCO (b) World Bank (c) World Economic Forum (d) UNDP

Ans.(a)

Related Facts-

- On 31 March, UNESCO publishes its new “The World in 2030” survey report, which presents the results of an interactive survey and consultation collecting responses from more than 15,000 people worldwide in 2020.
- The report shows that climate change and loss of biodiversity was by far the most-selected challenge, chosen by 67% of respondents.
- People who identified this challenge were most worried about increasing natural disasters and extreme weather, biodiversity loss, risk of conflict or violence, impacts on oceans, and, critically, that there was less and less hope to be able to solve the problem.
- To address this challenge, respondents favored investment in green solutions, education on sustainability, promoting international cooperation, and building trust in science.

Reference- <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-world-2030-survey-report-highlights-youth-concerns-over-climate-change-and-biodiversity>.

ANZAC Day in Australia and New Zealand: April 25

- **Question- Which of the following country/countries is/are celebrated ANZAC day on April 25?**

(1) New Zealand

(2) Australia

(3) France

Select the correct option in the given code

(a) Both 1 and 2 (b) Only 1 (c) Only 3 (d) Neither 1 nor 3

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-

- Every year Anzac Day is celebrated on April 25 in Australia and New Zealand. The day is celebrated as a national day of remembrance that commemorates all the New Zealanders and Australians who died in wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations.
- ANZAC is Australian and New Zealand Army Corps.
- The day was originally planned to honour the members of New Zealand and Australian armies who served in the Gallipoli Campaign.
- Gallipoli Campaign was the first military campaign of First World War. It took place in Gallipoli peninsula between 1915 and 1916. It is often considered as the beginning of Australian and New Zealand national consciousness.



Reference- <https://www.army.gov.au/our-heritage/traditions/anzac-day>.

Blue Nature Alliance

Question- 'Blue Nature Alliance' has been launched for-

- (a) To restore 7 million sq. miles of Ocean in 5 years
- (b) To restore 5 million sq. miles of Ocean in 5 years
- (c) To restore 7 million sq. miles of Ocean in 7 years
- (d) To restore 7 million sq. miles of Ocean in 10 years

Ans. (a)

Related facts-

- Blue Nature Alliance has been launched with a goal to restore 7 million square miles of ocean in five years.
- Blue Nature Alliance is a global partnership. It was founded and led by Conservation International, Pew Charitable Trusts, Global Environment Facility (GEF), Minderoo Foundation and Rob & Melani Walton Foundation.
- **The alliance has a target to:**



- Conserve 18 million square kilometres of ocean in five years.
- (2) Protect 5% of the world's ocean in five years.
- (3) Help the world achieve 30% ocean conservation by 2030.

Reference- <https://edition.cnn.com/2021/04/20/world/blue-nature-alliance-ocean-cte-spc-intl-scn/index.html>.

International Day for Monuments and Sites

Question- International Day for Monuments and Sites is celebrated on-

(a) 18th April (b) 7th May (c) 10th June (d) 7th March

Ans. (a)

Related facts-

- Every year, the United Nations marks April 18 as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, in many countries also celebrated as World Heritage Day.
- The theme for this year is “Complex Pasts: Diverse Futures”.
- Globally, the day is promoted by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS).
- ICOMOS in 1982 had decided to celebrate April 18 as the International Day for Monuments and Sites or World Heritage Day. Approved by UNESCO in 1983 during its 22nd General Conference, the day is dedicated to recognising sites of historical importance, raising awareness regarding them, and stressing the need to restore and preserve them.
- Currently, there are 38 World Heritage Sites located in India. Of these, 30 are ‘cultural’, such as the Ajanta Caves, Fatehpur Sikri, Hampi monuments and the Mountain Railways of India, and 7 are ‘Natural’, including Kaziranga, Manas and Nanda Devi National Parks. One is classified as ‘Mixed’, the Khangchendzonga National Park.

Reference- <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/world-heritage-day-april-18-7278757/>.

‘FACT’ Rebel Group

Question-FACT rebel group, who were seen in the news recently, are associated with which country?

(a) Chad (b) Somalia (c) Nigeria (d) Sudan

Ans.(a)

Related facts-

- Fighters of the Front for Change and Concord in Chad (FACT) is a rebel group led by long-time rebel Mahamat Mahadi Ali.
- Mahamat Mahadi Ali had reportedly joined the rebel movement in 1978 at the age of 14 years, essentially as a child rebel soldier.
- The FACT rebels had crossed over into northern Chad from Libya on April 11th when Chad President Idriss Deby sought a sixth term in Presidential Election polls boycotted by main opposition parties.

- The sole agenda of the rebel group has been to topple Deby's government. It said in a statement after the announcement of Deby's death, "Chad is not a monarchy."

Reference- <https://www.jagranjosh.com/current-affairs/chads-president-idriss-dby-dies-during-clash-with-rebels-1619166037-1>.

World Press Freedom Index 2021

Question: What is the rank of India in the World Press Freedom Index 2021?

(a) 142 (b) 121 (c) 104 (d) 92

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- India has been placed at 142nd position in the World Press Freedom Index 2021.
- World Press Freedom Index is published every year by the international journalism not-for-profit body Reporters Without Borders (RSF).
- The report evaluates the press freedom situation in 180 countries and territories.
- Norway has retained its top spot for the fifth year running, followed by Finland and Denmark at second and third place respectively.
- Eritrea is at the bottom of the index at 180th place.

Links:

<https://rsf.org/en/2021-world-press-freedom-index-journalism-vaccine-against-disinformation-blocked-more-130-countries>

Australia announces partnership with India for Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative

Question: Which country has announced a grant of Rs 81.2 million (AUD 1.4 million) under the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)?

(a) Australia (b) USA (c) United Kingdom (d) Japan

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- In order to support a free, open and prosperous Indo-Pacific, Australia has announced a grant of Rs 81.2 million (AUD 1.4 million) under the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI).
- Australia is co-leading New Delhi in the marine ecology pillar of the initiative.
- **About the partnership:**
 - On 4 November 2019 Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) at the East Asia Summit.
 - IPOI seeks to ensure security and stability of the regional maritime domain.
 - IPOI is an open, non-treaty based initiative for countries to work together for cooperative and collaborative solutions to common challenges in the region.
 - To apply for the grant, the company or organization should be located in either India or Australia and have partners in either of the two countries.



- Up to \$350,00 is anticipated to be available for allocation in 2020-21. All applications will be assessed on a competitive basis.

Links:

<https://theguardian.com/australia-announces-the-indo-pacific-oceans-initiative-partnership-with-india/>

World Press Freedom Index 2021

Question- As per recently released World Press freedom Index 2021, India is ranked-

(a) 142th (b) 139th (c) 153th (d) 121th

Ans. (a)

Related facts-

- World Press Freedom Index is published by Reporters Sans Frontieres (RSF) or Reporters Without Borders since 2002
- The purpose of the Index is to rank 180 countries and regions according to the level of freedom available to journalists.
- However, the index neither ranks public policies and nor is it an indicator of the quality of journalism in each country or region.
- India ranks 142nd on the World Press Freedom Index 2021. The rank is the same as in 2020 after it had consistently slid down from 133 in 2016.
- Norway tops the index, followed by Finland and Denmark.
- Nepal is at 106, Sri Lanka at 127, Myanmar (before the coup) at 140, Pakistan at 145, and Bangladesh at 152.
- the report shows that journalism is completely or partially blocked in 73% of all the countries on the index.



Refrence- <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/world-press-freedom-index-india-remains-one-of-the-worlds-most-dangerous-countries-for-journalists-7281362/>.

World Earth Day

Question- The theme of World Earth Day 2021 is –

(a) Restore our Earth (b) Save the Earth (c) Plant trees (d) Save the forest

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-

- Every year, the World Earth Day is celebrated on April 22. The first World Earth Day was celebrated in 1970.
- The World Earth Day celebrations are organised by Earth Society Foundation. It was founded by John McConnell.
- The World Earth Day 2021 is celebrated under the following theme: Restore our Earth.



- This year, US President Joe Biden has invited leaders of forty top economies of the world including Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jing Ping to the Leader's Summit on Climate. The virtual meet is to be held on World Earth Day.

Reference – <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2021/>.

Share this:

Boao forum for Asia

Question- The headquarter of Boao forum of Asia is located in

(a) China (b) USA (c) Russia (d) Japan

Ans. (a)

Related facts-

- The opening ceremony of the Boao Forum for Asia Annual Conference 2021 was held in Boao, south China's Hainan Province.
- This year's conference was attended by more than 2,600 guests from over 60 countries and regions.
- Theme: "A World in Change: Join Hands to Strengthen Global Governance and Advance Belt and Road Cooperation."
- The headquarter of Boao forum is located in China
- The Boao Forum for Asia (BFA) is an international not for profit organization which was jointly initiated by 26 member states in 2001, the members have now increased to 29.
- India is also a member of the BFA.
- Its annual conference is held in Boao, Hainan province of China on a regular basis.
- The main agenda is to strengthen mutual understanding in the post-pandemic era, create additional incentives for overall socio-economic growth and effective global governance.



Reference- <https://english.boaoforum.org/>.

India-Japan: MoU signed for Academic and Research Cooperation

Question: Consider the following statements:

- i) A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL) ,Department of Space, Gol and the Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH), Kyoto University of Japan.
- ii) This MoU was signed for academic and research cooperation and exchange.
- iii) Union Cabinet of India was apprised of the MoU on 7th April 2021.



Which of the above are correct?

a) I b) ii c) iii d) all of the above

Ans: d

Context

- Union Cabinet was apprised of the MoU signed between India and Japan in field of Academic and Research Cooperation on 7th April 2021.
- **Facts**
- The MoU between National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL) ,Department of Space, GoI and the Research Institute for Sustainable Humanosphere (RISH), Kyoto University of Japan was signed in November last year.
- This MoU was signed for academic and research cooperation and exchange.
- According to the MoU signed, the NARL and RISH will continue their cooperation in the areas of technology, atmospheric sciences, collaborative scientific experiments and other related modelling studies.
- The MoU will allow the countries to utilize the facilities such as Middle and Upper atmosphere radar in Japan, Mesosphere-Stratosphere-Troposphere radar available with NARL, Equatorial Atmosphere Radar in Indonesia.
- NARL and RISH have been collaborating in the area of atmospheric research since 2008.

Reference: <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/mou-between-india-japan-to-continue-cooperation-in-atmospheric-science/articleshow/81951614.cms>

Russia sends three men Crew to International Space Station (ISS)

Question: Russia on 9 April 2021 send three men Crew to International Space Station (ISS), among these three men one belongs to which of the following country?

a) India) Canada c) USA d) South Africa

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:-

- On 9 April 2021; Russia's Soyuz MS-18/64S spacecraft successfully launched a 3-member crew to International Space Station (ISS).
- The launching came three days before the 60th anniversary of cosmonaut Yuri Gagarin's historic flight on April 12, 1961,
- In this space journey two Russian Cosmonauts and an American Astronaut has traveled to the ISS.
- They had blasted off from Kazakhstan on and docked with the International Space Station after a two-orbit chase.
- Names of the three space travelers in this trip to ISS are Vande Hei (US), Commander Oleg Novitskiy (Russia) and flight engineer Pyotr Dubrov (Russia)



Links:-

<https://spaceflightnow.com/2021/04/09/soyuz-crew-welcomed-aboard-international-space-station/>

Forests under indigenous people more protected, says new report

Question-Which organisation released the 'Forest Governance by Indigenous and Tribal Peoples' report?

(a) FAO (b) ADB (c) World Bank (d) IMF

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-

- Deforestation rates are significantly lower in indigenous and tribal territories, where governments have formally recognized collective land rights, according to a new report.
- Improving the tenure security of these territories is an efficient and cost-effective way to reduce carbon emissions, showed the report jointly published by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations and the Fund for the Development of Indigenous Peoples of Latin America and the Caribbean (FILAC).
- On an average, indigenous and tribal territories in the Amazon Basin lost 0.17 per cent of the carbon stored in their forests each year between 2003 and 2016 due to deforestation and forest degradation, said the report.
- In contrast, forests outside indigenous territories and protected areas lost 0.53 per cent each year, 0.36 per cent more than the indigenous territories, the report said.

Reference- <http://www.fao.org/news/story/en/item/1391139/icode/>.

Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) 2020

Question: Which Indian institute has been awarded top position among Indian universities in Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU), 2020 also known as Shanghai Ranking?

a) IIT-Delhi b) IISc Bengaluru c) University of Delhi d) University of Calcutta

Ans: b

Context

The ARWU (Academic Ranking of World Universities), also called Shanghai Ranking has recently released its 2020 list of universities.

Facts

- Harvard University of USA topped the list followed by Stanford University (USA) and University of Cambridge (UK).
- Around fifteen Indian Universities have made it to the ARWU, 2020.
- Indian Institute of Science ,Bengaluru was ranked first among Indian institutes and was placed in 500-600 ranks among global institutes. IIT-Madras was



ranked second (2-4 rank) and University of Calcutta was ranked third (2-4 rank) among Indian institution.

- Other Indian institutes making the list are –
- IIT Madras
- IIT Delhi
- IIT Kharagpur
- Jawaharlal Nehru University
- Aligarh Muslim University
- Vellore Institute of Technology
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences
- Anna University
- Bharathiar University
- IIT Kanpur
- IIT Roorkee
- IISER (Indian Institute of Science and Education Research)
- None of the Indian institute made the top 100.
- **About ARWU**
- The Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) was first published in June 2003 by the Center for World-Class Universities (CWCU), Graduate School of Education (formerly the Institute of Higher Education) of Shanghai Jiao Tong University, China.
- Since 2009 the Academic Ranking of World Universities (ARWU) has been published and copyrighted by ShanghaiRanking Consultancy.
- ShanghaiRanking Consultancy is a fully independent organization dedicating to research on higher education intelligence and consultation.

Reference: <http://www.shanghairanking.com/aboutus.html>

Carnivac-Cov Vaccine

Question: First corona vaccine for animals has been registered in which of the following country?

a) India b) USA c) Russia d) China

Ans: c

Facts

- The world's first animal vaccine against the novel coronavirus has been registered in Russia.
- Carnivac-Cov Vaccine for animal has been announced by country's agriculture safety watchdog Rosselkhoznadzor recently.
- **About vaccine**
- Carnivac-Cov, the vaccine for animals was developed by a unit of Rosselkhoznadzor (Federal Service for Veterinary and Phytosanitary Surveillance).
- This vaccine is the world's first and only product for preventing Covid-19 in animals.



- The immunity lasts for six months after the vaccination, but the dose's developers are still analyzing this.
- Mass production of the Covid-19 vaccine could start as early as next month, Rosselkhoznadzor said.
- The use of this vaccine can prevent the development of virus mutations in animals.
- The clinical trials of Carnivac-Cov, has started last October, involved dogs, cats, Arctic foxes, minks, foxes and other animals.

Reference: <https://www.livemint.com/news/world/russia-registers-world-s-1st-covid-vaccine-for-animals-says-report-11617176371144.html>

Cargo ship 'Ever Given' that was blocking Suez Canal traffic freed

Question: What is the name of the cargo ship which was in news for blocking Suez Canal recently?

a) KONO b) Black Pearl c) Ever Given d) None of the above

Ans: c

Facts

- The cargo ship 'Ever Given', which has blocked Suez Canal from March 23, has been finally freed and hence opening the blocked shoreline of the channel.
- Because of this traffic has resumed in Egypt's Suez Canal.
- Navigation in the canal has resumed on 30th March at 6 p.m. local Egyptian time.
- **Suez Canal**
- The Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway in Egypt, connecting the Mediterranean Sea to the Red Sea through the Isthmus of Suez and dividing Africa and Asia.
- It is one of the busiest sea trade route in the world .

Reference: <https://apnews.com/article/suez-canal-ship-freed-live-updates-48f856c9afed58feb908878c2a495287>

Japan to Fund Projects in India

Question: How much is the corpus of grant aid in first ever official development assistance (ODA) project in Andaman & Nicobar (A&N) by Japan?

a) Rs 450 crore b) Rs 500 crore c) Rs 265 crore d) None of the above

Ans: c

Context

- Japan has finalised loans and a grant totalling around 233 billion yen for several key infrastructure projects in India,



including for a project in the Andaman and Nicobar islands.

▪ **Facts**

- Japan has approved grant aid worth ¥4.02 billion, or ₹265 crore, to improve the power supply in the Andaman and Nicobar islands.
- The grant would be used to procure 15MWh batteries as well as power system stabilisers to allow better utilisation of solar power generated in South Andaman.
- Japan has said that Andaman and Nicobar islands holds strategic geopolitical location for an open Indo-Pacific.
- This is first ever official development assistance (ODA) project by Japan.
- Apart from this Japan has also extended yen loans worth ¥229.5 billion, or ₹16,186 crore, for executing four projects, including Delhi Metro's Phase 4 and Bengaluru Metro's Phase 2 expansion plans.
- Loan agreements were signed between the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the government of India for these projects recently.
- **Importance of Andaman and Nicobar Islands**

- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands (ANI) are a group of 572 islands, located at the juncture of the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea.
- Some of the busiest sea trade routes pass along these islands.
- It connects South Asia with South-East Asia. While the northernmost point of the archipelago is only 22 nautical miles from Myanmar, the southernmost point, Indira Point, is a mere 90 nautical miles from Indonesia.
- The Andaman and Nicobar Islands constitute just 0.2% of India's landmass but provide near 30% of its Exclusive Economic Zone.
- Recently, the Prime Minister has declared that the ANI will be developed as a "maritime and startup hub".

Reference: <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/japan-extends-aid-for-andaman-infra-project-to-bolster-indo-pacific-partnership/articleshow/81709068.cms>https://www.drishtiias.com/images/uploads/1617099727_image8.png

Shantir Ogroshena 2021: Indian Army to participate in multinational military exercise in Bangladesh

Question-Which one of the following countries is conducted 'Shantir Ogroshena 2021' a multinational military exercise?

(a) Bangladesh (b) Russia (c) China (d) France

Ans.(a)

Related Facts-

- Indian Army contingent comprising of 30 personnel to participate in military exercise Shantir Ogroshena 2021 (Front Runner of the Peace) in Bangladesh, along with Royal Bhutan Army, Sri Lankan Army & Bangladesh Army from April 4 to April 12.



- The exercise will be for nine days and will start from April 4 to commemorate the birth centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangladesh Father of the Nation, and will mark 50 glorious years of Bangladesh liberation.
- The theme of the multinational military exercise will be ‘Robust Peace Keeping Operations’.
- Military observers from the United Kingdom, the US, Kuwait, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Turkey, and Singapore will also be in attendance through the multinational exercise in Bangladesh.

Reference- <https://www.aninews.in/topic/shantir-ogroshena-2021/>.

Global Gender Gap Report 2021

Question-Which of the following organisation had released the ‘Global Gender Gap Index 2021’ recently-

(a) WEF (b) World Bank (c) IMF (d) UNDP

Ans. (a)

Related Facts-



- India has slipped 28 places to rank 140th among 156 countries in the World Economic Forum’s Global Gender Gap Report 2021, becoming the third-worst performer in South Asia, after Afghanistan and Pakistan.
- In 2020, India had ranked 112th among 153 countries on the index.
- The report is annually published by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- The index benchmarks the evolution of gender-based gaps among four key dimensions – Economic Participation and Opportunity, Educational Attainment, Health and Survival, and Political Empowerment – and tracks progress towards closing these gaps over time.
- While India has declined on the political empowerment index as well by 13.5 percentage points, and a decline in the number of women ministers, from 23.1 per cent in 2019 to 9.1 per cent in 2021, it has still performed relatively well compared to other countries, ranking at 51 in women’s participation in politics. Bangladesh is “the only country where more women have held head-of-state positions than men in the past 50 years,” says the report.
- In the index of education attainment, India has been ranked at 114.
- But the two indices where India has fared the worst are “Health and Survival”, which includes the sex ratio, and economic participation of women.
- The report notes that the economic participation gender gap actually widened in India by 3 percent this year. The share of women in professional and technical roles declined further to 29.2 per cent. The share of women in senior and managerial positions also is at 14.6 per cent and only 8.9 per cent firms in the country have top female managers.
- But it is in the Health and Survival index that India has fared the worst, ranking at 155 — the only country to have fared worse is China. The report points to a skewed sex ratio as a major factor.

Economics

IHS Markit Estimates GDP Growth Rate of India

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by the London-based company IHS Markit for India for 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 11 per cent (b) 9.6 per cent (c) 13 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- IHS Markit has projected the GDP growth rate of the Indian economy to grow at 9.6 per cent in FY2021-22.
- IHS Markit is a London-based financial services company.
- This cut in the GDP is followed by rising Covid 19 cases across country and resulted lockdowns and restrictions.

Links:

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/ihs-markit-sees-india-s-fy22-gdp-growth-at-9-6-amid-rising-covid-cases-121042800131_1.html

ADB forecasts India's GDP Growth Rate

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by Asian Development Bank for India in the 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 11 per cent (b) 10.5 per cent (c) 11 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- The Manila-based Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected the growth rate of India's economy, in its latest flagship Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2021.
- For the financial year 2021-22, the GDP growth rate is estimated at 11 percent.
- GDP growth forecast for the financial year 2022-23 is 7 percent.
- ADB has based the rate on the "strong" vaccine drive being undertaken across the country.
- However, it has also cautioned that the recent surge in COVID cases may put the country's economic recovery at "risk".



Links:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/adb-projects-indias-growth-to-rebound-11-in-fy22-covid-surge-could-hurt-economic-normalization/articleshow/82284881.cms>

UNI-CARBON CARD

Question : Which bank launches “UNI-CARBON CARD” ?

(a)Union Bank of India (b)Uco Bank (c)United Bank (d)None of the above

Ans(a)

Related facts

- Union Bank of India launched “UNI – CARBON CARD”, an HPCL co-branded credit card on the Rupay platform of NPCI today(March 26, 2021).
- It is a unique card designed with association one of the largest Public Sector Bank, Union Bank of India and HPCL, a leader in fuel retail and Rupay – India’s largest card payment network. It will create an opportunity to create value for the customers.
- This card takes us another step closer to making India a less-cash economy, realizing ‘Digital India’ vision of our Honorable Prime Minister.
- The present co-branded card is first of its kind with HPCL, a major player in fuel retail and the cardholder certainly be benefited.
- While using this card at HPCL retail outlets, the cardholder gets Cashback/Rewards in addition to waiver of fuel surcharge provided by the Bank.
- Cardholders will be able to enjoy many freebies and offers brought out by NPCI such as Entertainment, Lifestyle, Travel, Shopping, Food delivery, etc., This card is a contactless – “Tap & Go” and an NCMC card in line with Govt. of India’s directives.
- The card is offered to salaried and others. The card limit offered is 20% of gross Annual income with minimum of Rs 50,000/- with no upper limit.

Link:

<https://www.unionbankofindia.co.in>

India’s best SME Bank

Question : Which bank has been named as the Best SME Bank of India by Asiamoney?

(A) HDFC Bank (B) Icici Bank (C) Axis Bank
(D) Yes Bank

Ans.(A)



We understand your world

- HDFC Bank has been named as the Best SME Bank of India by Asiamoney.
- Asiamoney Best Bank Awards 2021
- This award was presented in March 2021 in which HDFC Bank was adjudged the ‘India’s Best Bank for SMEs’.
- HDFC Bank’s transformation of its micro, small and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) business over the past few years makes it a worthy winner of this award.
- HDFC Bank is the India’s second-largest bank for MSME lending.
- Asiamoney
- It is a financial magazine based in Hong Kong.

Link:

https://www.business-standard.com/content/press-releases-ani/hdfc-bank-named-india-s-best-sme-bank-by-asiamoney-121032500571_1.html

Shivalik Small Finance Bank Limited

Question: Recently which UP-based has commenced operations as a Small Finance Bank (SFB) with effect from April 26, 2021?

- (a) Shivalik Small Finance Bank (b) Jana Small Finance Bank
(c) Utkarsh Small Finance Bank (d) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Shivalik Small Finance Bank Ltd. has commenced operations as a small finance bank with effect from April 26, 2021.
- The Reserve Bank had issued a licence to the bank under Section 22 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- Shivalik SFB area of operation is Uttar Pradesh, Delhi, and parts of Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
- Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank (SMCB) is the first urban co-operative bank (UCB) in India to receive licence from RBI to operate as a Small Finance Bank (SFB).



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/shivalik-small-finance-bank-commences-operations/article34417086.ece>

RBI Caps Tenure of Private Banks MD & CEO

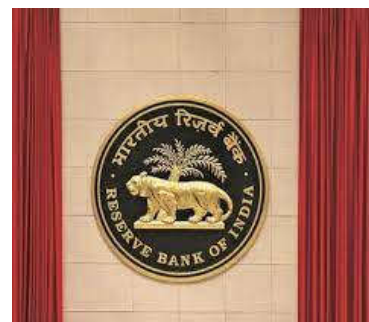
Question: According to the new rule by Reserve Bank of India what is maximum tenure of Managing Director and Chief Executive of commercial banks ?

- (a) 10 years (b) 15 years (c) 8 years (d) 13 years

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has capped the tenure of Managing Director and Chief Executive of commercial banks to 15 years.
- The same limit will also be applicable to whole-time directors (WTD). However, the MD & CEO or WTD who is also a promoter/ major shareholder, cannot hold these posts for more than 12 years.
- The revised instructions will be applicable to all the Private Sector Banks including Small Finance Banks (SFBs) and wholly owned subsidiaries of Foreign Banks. However, it will not be applicable to foreign banks operating as branches in India.



- The upper age limit for MD & CEO and WTDs in private banks has been retained at 70 years.
- The instructions shall come into effect from the date of issue of this circular, that is April 26, 2021, however, in order to enable a smooth transition to the revised requirements, banks are permitted to comply with these instructions latest by October 01, 2021.

Links:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/business/2021/apr/27/reserve-bank-of-india-caps-tenureof-private-bank-ceos-at-15-years-2295354.html#:~:text=MD%20%26%20CEO%20or%20WTD%20who,15%20years%2C%20%E2%80%9C%20it%20noted.>

Oxford Economics downgrades India's GDP Growth Forecast

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by Oxford Economics for India in the 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 11 per cent (b) 10.5 per cent (c) 10.2 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- Oxford Economics degraded GDP growth forecast of India for the fiscal year 2021-22 (FY22) to 10.2 per cent.
- Earlier, the estimated GDP Growth Rate was 11.8 per cent.
- The downward revision is followed by increasing number of Covid 19 and imposed restrictions such as lockdowns.



Links:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/oxford-economics-lowers-indias-2021-gdp-growth-forecast-to-10-2/articleshow/82259251.cms>

Goldman Sachs Downgrade India's GDP Growth Forecast

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by Wall Street brokerage, Goldman Sachs for India in the 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 11 per cent (b) 10.5 per cent (c) 10.1 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- Wall Street brokerage, Goldman Sachs degraded GDP growth forecast of India for the fiscal year 2021-22 (FY22) to 10.5 per cent.
- Earlier, the estimated GDP Growth Rate was 10.9 per cent.



- The downward revision is followed by increasing number of Covid 19 and imposed restrictions such as lockdowns.

Links:

<https://www.cnn.com/2021/04/07/goldman-sachs-downgrades-indias-growth-forecast-as-covid-cases-spike.html>

India Ratings and Research revises India's GDP Growth Rate

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by India Ratings and Research for India in the 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 11 per cent (b) 10.5 per cent (c) 10.1 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) has downgraded the GDP growth forecast of India in FY22 (2021-22) to 10.1 per cent.
- Earlier the GDP growth rate was projected at 10.4 per cent.
- The downward revision in the forecast follows the lockdowns and restrictions which are getting imposed once again due to rising COVID-19 cases.
- For FY21 (2020-21), the economy is estimated to have contracted by 7.6 per cent. Ind-Ra is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Fitch Group.

Links:

<https://www.ndtv.com/business/india-ratings-and-research-ind-ra-revises-gdp-growth-forecast-to-10-1-for-fiscal-2021-22-2420633#:~:text=Amid%20the%20second%20wave%20of,per%20cent%20on%20Friday%2C%20April.>

SBI Research Projects revises India's GDP Growth Rate for FY22

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by the State Bank of India (SBI) Research for India in 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 11 per cent (b) 10.5 per cent (c) 10.4 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- The State Bank of India (SBI) Research has downgraded India's GDP growth rate to 10.4% for FY2021-22.
- Earlier, the research unit estimated this at 11%.
- The downward revision in the forecast follows the lockdowns and restrictions which are getting imposed once again due to rising COVID-19 cases.



Links:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/sbi-cuts-fy22-gdp->

[growth-to-10-](#)

[4/articleshow/82225386.cms#:~:text=NEW%20DELHI%3A%20State%20Bank%20of,in%20most%20of%20the%20states.](#)

RBI cancels licence of Bhagyodaya Friends Urban Co-operative Bank

Question: Which bank's licence has been cancelled by the Reserve Bank of India in April 2021 due to inadequate capital?

- (a) DBS Bank (b) Bhagyodaya Friends Urban Co-operative Bank Ltd
- (c) Bassein Catholic Co-operative Bank Ltd
- (d) Dombivli Nagari Sahakari Bank Ltd

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the licence of Maharashtra-based Bhagyodaya Friends Urban Co-operative Bank Limited due to inadequate capital.
- As per RBI, the lender does not have adequate capital and earning prospects and as such, it does not comply with the various provisions of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- On liquidation, every depositor is entitled to receive deposit insurance claim amount of his/her deposits up to a monetary ceiling of Rs 5 lakhs from the DICGC subject to the provisions of the DICGC Act, 1961.

Links:

<http://www.businessworld.in/article/RBI-Cancels-Licence-Of-Bhagyodaya-Friends-Urban-Co-Operative-Bank/23-04-2021-387424/>

S&P Projects India's GDP Growth Forecast at 11% in FY22

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by the S&P Global Ratings for India for 2021-22 fiscal?

- (a) 11 per cent (b) 10.5 per cent (c) 13 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- The S&P Global Ratings has estimated the Indian economy to grow at 11 per cent in the fiscal year 2021-22 (FY22).
- In terms of the sovereign rating, S&P currently has a 'BBB-' rating on India with a stable outlook.
- For the 2020-21 fiscal, the S&P estimated the Indian economy to contract 8 per cent.



Links:

<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/sp-raises-india-s-fy22-gdp-growth-forecast-to-11-from-10-11616655937723.html>

ICRA cuts India's GDP Forecast by 0.5%

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by domestic rating agency ICRA for India for 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 10-10.5 per cent (b) 10-11 per cent (c) 13-13.5 per cent (d) 11-12 per cent

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- The domestic rating agency ICRA has cut the growth estimate of India for 2021-22 by 0.5 per cent on the upper end.
- As of the updated forecasts the Indian economy is expected to grow 10-10.5 per cent in 2021-22.
- The earlier estimated growth was 10-11 per cent in 2021-22.
- The downward revision in the forecast follows the lockdowns and restrictions which are getting imposed once again due to rising COVID-19 cases.

Links:

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/icra-cuts-its-fy22-gdp-estimate-by-0-5-sees-economy-expanding-by-10-5-121042000793_1.html#:~:text=%C2%ABBack-,Icra%20cuts%20its%20FY22%20GDP%20estimate%20by%200.5,sees%20economy%20expanding%20by%2010.5%25&text=Domestic%20rating%20agency%20Icra%20on,the%20rising%20COVID%2D19%20cases.

Care Ratings Projects India's GDP growth forecast at 10.2%

Question: What is the GDP growth rate forecasted by the Care Ratings for India for 2021-22 fiscal?

(a) 11 per cent (b) 10.2 per cent
(c) 13 per cent (d) 12 per cent

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- Care Ratings has downgraded India's GDP growth forecast to 10.2 per cent in the fiscal year 2021-22.
- Earlier the growth was estimated between 10.7-10.9 per cent.
- This cut in the GDP is followed by rising Covid 19 cases across country and resulted lockdowns and restrictions.



Links:

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/care-ratings-revises-india-s-gdp-growth-forecast-to-10-2-for-fy22-121042100710_1.html

National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules

Question: Which of the following statements regarding National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules are correct?

- a) National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV Modules is a production linked incentive scheme (PLI) in Renewable energy sector.
b) It has an outlay of Rs 4500 crore.

c) PLI will be disbursed for 5 years post commissioning of solar PV manufacturing plants, on sales of high efficiency solar PV modules.

d) All of the above

Ans: d

Context

- Government has recently approved the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy's proposal for implementation of the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme 'National Programme on High Efficiency Solar PV (Photo Voltaic) Modules'.
- **Facts**
- The programme aims to achieve manufacturing capacity in Giga Watt scale in high efficiency solar PV modules with a total outlay of Rs 4,500 crores.
- Currently solar capacity addition in the country largely depends on imported solar PV panels. This scheme aims to reduce import dependence in a strategic sector like electricity.
- The programme aims to bring additional 10,000 MW capacity of integrated solar PV manufacturing units in India.
- It will bring in direct investment of Rs 17,200 crores in solar Photo Voltaic manufacturing projects.
- It will also bring indirect employment of 1,20,00 and direct employment of 30,000.
- It will stimulate research and development that will achieve higher efficiency in solar PV modules.

Reference: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1710114>

RBI Monetary Policy

Question: On 7th April 2021, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced its bimonthly policy review. What is current Repo Rate as per the review?

a)4% b) 3% c)5% d) none of the above

Ans: a

Context

- On April 7, 2021, the Monetary Policy Committee of Reserve Bank of India announced the outcome of its bi-monthly monetary policy review.
- **Facts**
- Amid elevated inflation Monetary Policy Committee of Reserve Bank of India has kept the accommodative policy stance in deciding the various policy rates.
- The repo rate has been kept unchanged at 4%.
- The reverse repo rate has been kept at 3.35%.
- The MSF rate has been kept unchanged at 4.25%.
- The Bank rate has been kept unchanged at 4.25%.
- **Repo Rate**



- The repo rate is the rate at which the Reserve Bank of India lends money to the commercial banks in the country.
- **Reverse Repo Rate**
- The reverse repo rate is the rate at which the Reserve Bank of India borrows money from the commercial banks in the country.
- **MSF Rate**
- MSF is Marginal Standing Facility. It is the rate at which RBI lends funds to scheduled banks against Government securities.
- **Bank Rate**
- Bank Rate is a discount rate at which RBI grants long term loans to commercial banks.

Reference: <https://www.rbi.org.in/>

IMF upgrades India's growth forecast for 2021

Question: In its latest World Economic Outlook report, International Monetary Fund (IMF) has upgraded the growth forecast of India for financial year 2021-22. What is the new forecast of India's growth?

a) 11.5% b) 12.5% c) 13.5% d) 15%

Ans: b

Context

- IMF has recently released its World Economic Outlook report.
- **Facts**
- As per the report IMF has upgraded its growth forecast for Indian economy for financial year 2021-22.
- India is projected to grow at 12.5% in financial year 2021-22.
- This projection is 1% more than the IMF previous report published in January this year.
- Report states that the world economy will expand by 6% in 2021, up from the 5.5% it had forecast in January. It would be the fastest expansion for the global economy in IMF records dating back to 1980.
- Report also states that global economy shrank 3.3% in 2020 after the devastating impact of corona virus on global economy.

Reference: <http://newsonair.com/News?title=IMF-upgrades-India%26%2339%3bs-growth-forecast-to-12.5-percent-in-2021-backed-by-recovery-and-vaccination-drive&id=413685>

Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT)

Question : Which organization has launched a marketplace for Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT) for Indian market?

a) SBI b) Policy Bazar c) Paytm d) WazirX

Ans: d
Context

- WazirX which is a Binance owned cryptocurrency exchange has launched a marketplace for Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT) for Indian market.
- **Facts**
 - This move will enable Indian creators to auction their digital assets over the Blockchain-based platform and earn royalty.
 - A NFT is a cryptographic token. However, unlike cryptocurrencies, the NFTs are not mutually interchangeable, that is, not fungible.
 - NFT is created when a file of art work is uploaded to the NFT auction market. From then on, the file can be bought and resold with crypto currency.
- **Non-Fungible Tokens (NFT)**
 - NFTs are “one-of-a-kind” assets in the digital world that can be bought and sold like any other piece of property, but they have no tangible form of their own.
 - Copies of these assets can not be created after the purchase.
 - Every NFT data represents a unique digital item. It can be audios, art, videos, video games or other forms of creative works.
- **NFT market place**
 - This marketplace enables the exchange of digital assets and intellectual properties such as art pieces, audio files, videos and even tweets apart from other digital goods and services when they are uploaded on this marketplace.

Reference: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/variety/wazirx-launches-nft-marketplace-for-indian-artists/article34243483.ece>

Small Savings Schemes: West Bengal becomes the highest contributor

Question: As per the National Savings Institute which state is second highest contributor in small saving schemes?

- a) West Bengal b) Uttar Pradesh c) Madhya Pradesh
d) Tamil Nadu

Ans: b

Facts

- According to data released by National Institute of Saving which operates under ministry of finance, West Bengal is the top contributor to the various National Savings Schemes offered by the governments at state as well as central level.
- West Bengal has highest collection of about Rs 90,000 crore from small savings schemes such as NSC and PPF among the states and union territories, which is about 15 per cent of the total corpus.
- West Bengal is followed by Uttar Pradesh with a collection of Rs 69,661 crore which is 11.68% of the corpus.



- Maharashtra was ranked third. The state of Maharashtra contributed 10.57%, which is Rs 63,026 crores.
- What are Small Savings Schemes?
- The Small Savings Schemes consist of twelve instruments. The major Small Savings Schemes are as follows:
- National Savings Certificate
- Public Provident Fund
- Kisan Vikas Patra
- Sukanya Samriddhi Scheme

Reference: <https://www.businessinsider.in/india/news/west-bengal-is-the-highest-contributor-to-small-savings-schemes/articleshow/81825902.cms>

India leads in Digital Payments

Question : Consider the following statements-

a) As per the UK based payments system company ACI India has the highest number of real-time online transactions in 2020.

b) Among the top 10 countries, the US was ranked ninth with 1.2 billion transactions.

c) The UPI (Unified Payment Interface) transaction increased by 18.7% in March 2021 as compared to February 2021.

Which of the above are correct?

i) a ii) b iii) c iv) all of the above

Ans: iv

Context

- The UK based payments system company ACI recently released a report on digital payments.

▪ Facts

- As per the report India has the highest number of real-time online transactions in 2020.
- India surpassed China with 25.5 billion real-time payments transactions followed by 15.7 billion in China, 6 billion in South Korea, 5.2 billion in Thailand, and 2.8 billion in the UK.
- Among the top 10 countries, the US was ranked ninth with 1.2 billion transactions.
- According to the report, the share of electronic transactions in India will exceed by 50% by 2024.



Reference: <https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/digital-payments-india-pips-china-us-others-in-2020-leads-global-tally-with-this-many-transactions/2226074/>

Question : Which organization published the “ECONOMIC & SOCIAL SURVEY OF ASIA – PACIFIC, 2021” report ?

(a) UN ESCAP (b) UNCTAD (c) World Bank (d) IMF

Ans.(a)

- UN ESCAP published the “ECONOMIC & SOCIAL SURVEY OF ASIA – PACIFIC, 2021” report on March 30, 2021.
- **UN ESCAP**
- The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) serves as the United Nations’ regional hub promoting cooperation among countries to achieve inclusive and sustainable development.
- **Report**
- Report has highlighted the growth estimates of various regions and countries.
- According to the report India’s FY2021 GDP may grow at the rate of 7%.
- While FY2022 GDP may grow at the rate of 6.5%.
- Total ESCAP region’s growth estimated at the rate of 5.2% in 2021.
- Its growth has further forecasted at the rate of 4.3% in 2022.
- **Estimates as of 9 March 2021**
- India’s GDP is estimated to contract by 7.7 percent in 2020.
- Total ESCAP region’s GDP is estimated to contract by 1.8 percent in 2020.

Link:

<https://www.unescap.org/kp/2021/economic-and-social-survey-asia-and-pacific-2021-towards-post-covid-19-resilient-economies>

Sports

Tennis

Barcelona Open 2021

Question: Who has won the 12th Barcelona Open held from 19-25 April 2021?

(a) Rafael Nadal (b) Stefanos Tsitsipas (c) Andrey Rublev (d) Diego Schwartzman

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Spanish star Rafael Nadal has won Barcelona Open 202 men’s tennis tournament held on 19-25 April 2021.
- He defeated Greece’s Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-4, 6-7 (6), 7-5 to win the Barcelona Open for a record 12th time.
- In the Men’s Doubles, Juan Sebastián Cabal and Robert Farah (both Colombia) claimed the title.

Links:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/tennis/nadal-outlasts-tsitsipas-to-win-barcelona-open-for-12th-time/>

2021 Miami Open

Question: Who has won Men's Singles title at the 2021 Miami Open tennis tournament?

(a) Hubert Hurkacz (b) Jannik Sinner (c) Nikola Mektic (d) Mate Pavic

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- The 2021 Miami Open tennis tournament was played from March 23 to April 4, 2021 on the grounds of Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida.
- **Winners:**
 - Men's Single- Hubert Hurkacz(Poland)
 - Women's Singles- Ashleigh Barty(Australia)
 - Men's Doubles- Nikola Mektic/ Mate Pavic(both Croatia)
 - Women's Doubles- Shuko Aoyama/ Ena Shibahara(both Japan)

**Links:**

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

Monte Carlo 2021 Title

Question: Who has won the 2021 Monte-Carlo Masters tennis tournament?

(a) Stefanos Tsitsipas (b) Andrey Rublev (c) Mate Pavic (d) Dan Evans

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Stefanos Tsitsipas of Greece has won the 2021 Monte Carlo men's tennis tournament.
- He defeated Andrey Rublev of Russia in the finals.
- With this win, Stefanos Tsitsipas became the first Greek to win an ATP Masters 1000 event .
- In the Doubles, Nikola Mektic and Mate Pavic(both Croatia) won the title.

**Links:**

https://www.usopen.org/en_US/news/articles/2021-04-20/2021-04-20_2021_us_open_spotlight_stefanos_tsitsipas.html

Cricket

Kane Williamson

Question: Which sportsperson was recently awarded the Sir Richard Hadlee medal?

- (a) Steve Smith (b) Virat kohli
(c) Kane Williamson (d) Babar Azam

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- New Zealand star cricketer Kane Williamson was recently awarded the Sir Richard Hadlee medal.
- It was his 4th Sir Richard Hadlee award in 6 years.
- Sir Richard Hadlee medal is the New Zealand's highest cricketing honour.
- Kane Williamson had a great test season. He scored 251 against West Indies followed by a century on the boxing day.
- Williamson's staggering performance against Pakistan helped New Zealand book a place in the ICC World Test Championship final. He captained the team to 17 wins out of 20 resulting in victory in all 7 series.



Links:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/cricket/news/new-zealand-cricket-awards-kane-williamson-wins-sir-richard-hadlee-medal-for-fourth-time/articleshow/82049082.cms>

ICC Player of the Month-March 2021

Question: Who has been named ICC Men's Player of the Month award for March 2021?

- (a) Rohit Sharma (b) Johny Bairstow (c) Josh Butler (d) Bhuvneshwar Kumar

Answer : (d)

Related facts:

- India seamer Bhuvneshwar Kumar has been named ICC Player of the Month award for March 2021.
- He has been awarded for his superlative show in the recent limited over series against England in March.
- Bhuvneshwar became the third successive Indian recipient of the award since its inception early this year.
- South African Lizelle Lee, who played four ODIs against India and moved to the top of Women's ODI batting rankings, was named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for March 2021.



Links:

<https://www.icc-cricket.com/media-releases/2104125#:~:text=India's%20Bhuvneshwar%20Kumar%20won%20the,and%20the%20ICC%20voting%20academy.>

Football

2020–21 English Football League Cup

Question: Which football club has won the 2020–21 English Football League Cup?

- (a) Manchester City (b) Tottenham Hotspur (c) Brentford Football Club
(d) Manchester United

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Manchester City won the League Cup for a record-equalling fourth time in succession on 25th April 2021 at Wembley Stadium, London.
- Manchester City defeated Tottenham Hotspur side by 1-0.
- Manchester City secured their eighth League Cup title, the joint-most alongside Liverpool.
- They are the second team to win the competition in four consecutive campaigns (Liverpool, 1981-1984).



Links:

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/football/56790307>

Chess

Arjun Kalyan becomes 68th Indian Grandmaster

Question: Who became India's 68th Chess Grandmaster after beating Dragan Kotic in the fifth round of GM Round Robin Rujna Zore-3 in Serbia?

- (a) Arjun Kalyan (b) Leon Mendonca (c) Akash Ganesan (d) Raunak Sadhwani

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Tamil Nadu's, Arjun Kalyan became India's 68th Chess Grandmaster when he crossed the 2500 ELO mark after beating Dragan Kotic in the fifth round of GM Round Robin "Rujna Zore-3" in Serbia.
- Arjun is coached by IM Saravanan and Ukrainian GM Aleksandr Goloshchapov and began playing chess at the age of nine and got his FIDE rating a year later.
- Viswanathan Anand is the first Grandmaster of India having achieved the feat in 1988.



Links:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/chess/tamil-nadu-teenager-arjun-kalyan-becomes-indias-68th-gm/articleshow/82168201.cms>

Formula One

Bahrain Grand Prix 2021

Question: Who has won the Bahrain Grand Prix 2021?

(a) Max Verstappen (b) Lewis Hamilton (c) Lando Norris (d) Valtteri Bottas

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) won the Bahrain Grand Prix 2021.
- This is Hamilton's 96th career win.
- Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) came second while Valtteri Bottas (Mercedes-Finland) secured third position.



Links:

<https://sports.ndtv.com/formula-1/bahrain-gp-lewis-hamilton-wins-season-opening-bahrain-grand-prix-2401251>

Emilia Romagna F1 Grand Prix 2021

Question: Who has won the Emilia Romagna F1 Grand Prix 2021, in Imola, Italy?

(a) Max Verstappen (b) Lewis Hamilton (c) Lando Norris (d) Valtteri Bottas

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) won the Emilia Romagna F1 Grand Prix 2021, in Imola, Italy.
- This win is his first victory of the season.
- Lewis Hamilton (Mercedes-Great Britain) came second while Lando Norris (McLaren – Great Britain) secured third position.



Links:

<https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/article.verstappen-takes-victory-from-hamilton-and-norris-in-action-packed-grand.4skUwE9rxHf7BE1xI2M1AG.html>

Athletics

Indian women's recurve team bags Gold medal at Archery World Cup

Question: Which country's team has won the gold medal at Archery World Cup in Guatemala city on 25 April 2021?

(a) India (b) Mexico (c) United States (d) Colombia

Answer: (a)

Related facts:



- On 25 April 2021, Indian women's recurve team including Deepika Kumari, Ankita Bhakat and Komalika Bari won a gold medal in the Archery World Cup Guatemala.
- Indian trio shot 27 to edge out their Mexican rivals by one point and claim their first World Cup team gold after seven years.
- This is Deepika's fifth World Cup stage event team gold medal.
- In another match, the Indian mixed recurve team of Atanu Das and Ankita Bhakat won the bronze medal after a 6-2 victory over USA.

Links:

<http://newsonair.com/News?title=Indian-women%26%2339%3bs-recurve-team-bags-Gold-medal-at-Archery-World-Cup&id=415106>

Mirabai Chanu

Question: Who has created a new World Record in the women's 49kg Clean and Jerk with a massive 119 kg lift at Asian Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent?

(a) Mirabai Chanu (b) Punam Yadav (c) Karnam Malleswari (d) Santoshi Matsa

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 17 April 2021, Mirabai Chanu set a new World Record in the women's 49kg Clean and Jerk with a massive 119 kg lift at Asian Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent.
- The 26-year-old Indian won the bronze medal at the event.
- The gold medal went to Hou Zhihui of China who created a new world record in snatch.
- Asian Games, held once every 4yrs, is the 2nd largest multi-sport event after Olympics.



Links:

<http://www.newsonair.com/News?title=Asian-Weightlifting-Championships%3A-India%26%2339%3Bs-Mirabai-Chanu-creates-a-new-Clean-and-Jerk-world-record-in-Tashkent&id=414500#:~:text=India's%20Mirabai%20Chanu%20set%20a,Weightlifting%20Championships%20in%20Tashkent%20yesterday.>

Sports Miscellaneous

2021 Senior Asian Wrestling Championships

Question: What was India's rank in the medals tally of 2021 Senior Asian Wrestling Championships held in Almaty, Kazakhstan?

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



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

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- The 34th Senior Asian Wrestling Championships was held from April 13 to 18, 2021 in Almaty, Kazakhstan.
- India won 14 medals and was ranked third in the medals tally.
- The medals include 5 Gold, 3 Silver & 6 Bronze Medals.
- Iran and Kazakhstan topped the medal tally with 17 medals each.
- **Winners:**
GOLD MEDAL
 - Ravi Kumar Dahiya – 57 kg Men's freestyle
 - Vinesh Phogat – 53 kg Women's freestyle
 - Anshu Malik – 57 kg Women's freestyle
 - Sarita Mor – 59 kg Women's freestyle
 - Divya Kakran – 72 kg Women's freestyle
- **SILVER MEDAL**
 - Bajrang Punia – 65 kg Men's freestyle
 - Deepak Punia – 86 kg Men's freestyle
 - Sakshi Malik – 65 kg Women's freestyle
- **BRONZE MEDAL**
 - Karan Mor – 70 kg Men's freestyle
 - Narsingh Yadav – 79 kg Men's freestyle
 - Sanjeet – 92 kg Men's freestyle
 - Satyawart Kadian – 97 kg Men's freestyle
 - Seema Bisla – 50 kg Women's freestyle
 - Pooja Sihag – 76 kg Women's freestyle

Links:

<https://www.org/event/asian-championships-16?tab=results>

Sports Personality

Ravindra Jadeja

Question: Japanese Sportswear brand ASICS has appointed which Indian sportsperson as its brand ambassador?

(a) Virat Kohli (b) Rohit Sharma (c) Mahendra Singh Dhoni (d) Ravindra Jadeja

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- Japanese Sportswear brand ASICS has appointed Indian cricketer Ravindra Jadeja as its brand ambassador.
- The company, ASICS, focuses on sporting gear for the running category.



- In India, ASICS is promoted by actor Tiger Shroff.
- In Asia, ASICS currently has over 55 stores across India, Sri Lanka and Bhutan.

Links:

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/cricketer-ravindra-jadeja-becomes-asics-brand-ambassador-11619509327036.html>

Chris Gayle

Question: Who became the first player to hit 350 sixes in Indian Premier League?

(a) Chris Gayle (b) AB de Villiers (c) Rohit Sharma (d) Kieron Pollard

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 12 April 2021, Chris Gayle became the first batsman to hit 350 sixes in Indian Premier League.
- He achieved the feat against the IPL franchise Rajasthan Royals.
- AB de Villiers, playing for Royal Challengers Bangalore is past him in hitting most sixes in IPL.



Links:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/cricket/ipl/top-stories/big-hitting-gayle-becomes-first-player-to-hit-350-sixes-in-ipl/articleshow/82035814.cms#:~:text=MUMBAI%3A%20When%20Punjab%20Kings%20batsman,history%20to%20hit%20350%20sixes.>

Short Notes

Personalities

T V Somanathan

Question: Who has been appointed the Finance Secretary by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet on April 28,2021?

(a) T V Somanathan (b) R Krishnamurthi
(c) Vivek Rathore (d) Rajiv Kumar

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 28 April 2021, T V Somanathan has been appointed Finance Secretary by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.
- Currently, he is serving as Secretary, Department of Expenditure in the Finance Ministry.
- T V Somanathan is a 1987 batch IAS Officer of Tamil Nadu Cadre.



Links:

<http://newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=415372>

Michael Collins

Question: Who was Michael Collins?

(a) Economist (b) Astronaut (c) Politician (d) Author

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 28 April 2021, Michael Collins, Apollo 11 astronaut died of cancer.
- He was part of the three-man Apollo 11 mission crew to perform a crewed lunar landing and return to Earth.
- He piloted the ship from which Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin left to make their historic first steps on the moon in 1969.
- The Apollo 11 Mission ended the space race between the United States and Russia and fulfilled President John F Kennedy's challenge to reach the moon by the end of the 1960s.

**Links:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/astronaut-michael-collins-apollo-11-pilot-dead-of-cancer/article34434156.ece>

Manoj Das

Question: Manoj Das who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Author (c) Politician (d) Poet

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- On 27 April 2021, noted educationist, popular columnist and prolific writer Manoj Das passed away. He was 87.
- He made rich contribution to the Odia and English literature.
- Satavdira Artanada, poetry in Odia was the first literary work of Manoj Das. The book was published when he was in high school.
- He was honoured with Padma Shri in 2001 and Padma Bhushan in 2020 for his contributions in the field of literature and education.

**Links:**

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/tamil-nadu/2021/apr/28/noted-odiya-english-writer-and-padma-bhushan-awardee-manoj-das-cremated-with-state-honours-in-puduc-2296024.html>

Arun Raste

Question: Who has been appointed as MD and CEO of National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX)?

(a) Arun Raste (b) Shrinkhala Kriti (c) Rajiv Kumar (d) Rajneesh Kumar

Ans : (a)

Related facts:

- Market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has given approval to the appointment of Arun Raste as MD and CEO of National Commodity & Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX).
- His tenure is of 5 years.
- He is currently associated with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as an Executive Director.
- Prior to NDDB, he has worked with organisations like IDFC First Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, NABARD, ACC Cement, and a non-profit NGO IRFT.



Links:

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/business/arun-raste-named-new-md-and-ceo-of-ncdex-for-5-years>

Dadudan Pratapdan Gadhvi

Question: Dadudan Pratapdan Gadhvi who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Scientist (c) Actor (d) Poet

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- On 26 April 2021, veteran Gujarati poet and folk singer Dadudan Pratapdan Gadhvi has passed away. He was 80.
- Gadhvi, also known as Kavi Dad, was an octogenarian based in Junagadh district and was an active folk artist for the past six decades.
- He has been conferred Gujarat Gaurav Award as well as the Jhaverchand Meghani Award.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2021 for his contribution in literature and education. Besides, he had written songs for 15 Gujarati films.



Links:

<http://www.catchnews.com/national-news/pm-modi-condoled-demise-of-famous-gujarati-poet-dadudan-gadhvi-215273.html>

Amit Banerjee

Question: Who has been selected as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Bharat Earth Movers Limited?

(a) Amit Banerjee (b) Satish Chandra (c) Rajiv Kumar (d) Rajneesh Kumar

Answer: (a)

Related facts:



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

- Public Enterprise Selection Board selected Amit Banerjee as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Bharat Earth Movers Limited, (BEML).
- Currently, he is serving as Director (Rail & Metro), BEML Limited.
- Bharat Earth Movers Limited is a Defence PSU Company, Mining & Construction and Rail Coach manufacturer in India.

Links:

<https://psuwatch.com/pesb-picks-amit-banerjee-for-the-post-of-cmd-of-beml-limited>

Virat Kohli

Question: Chinese smartphone major Vivo has appointed which Indian sportsperson as its brand ambassador?

(a) Virat Kohli (b) Rohit Sharma (c) Mahendra Singh Dhoni (d) Risabh Pant

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Chinese smartphone major Vivo has appointed cricketer Virat Kohli as its brand ambassador.
- Kohli will promote the launch of Vivo's upcoming product series.
- VIVO is the title sponsor of Indian Premier League 2021.

Links:

<https://sports.ndtv.com/ipl-2021/ipl-2021-vivo-back-as-title-sponsor-for-indian-premier-league-2373276>

Rajan Mishra

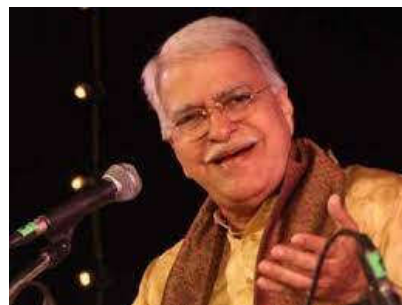
Question: Rajan Mishra who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Scientist (c) Singer (d) Poet

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- Renowned Hindustani classical singer Pandit Rajan Mishra passed away at Ganga Ram Hospital in New Delhi. He was 70.
- He was associated with 'Banaras Gharana' of India.
- He was a vocalist in the khyal style of Indian classical singing.
- Mishra was awarded Padma Bhushan in the field of art in 2007.
- He has also been conferred the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award, the Gandharwa National Award and the National Tansen Samman.



Links:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/lifestyle/people/story/indian-classical-music-padma-bhushan-pandit-rajan-mishra-death-covid-cardiac-arrest-1794887-2021-04-25>

Krishnamurthy Santhanam

Question: Krishnamurthy Santhanam who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Scientist (c) Singer (d) Poet

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- Indian nuclear scientist Krishnamurthy Santhanam, who played a noteworthy role in the 1998 nuclear tests at Pokhran, has passed away.
- He was deeply associated with Defence Research and Development Organization(DRDO), Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA).
- Santhanam was the field director of Defence Research and Development Organization during the tests of Pokhran-II.
- He was awarded with the Padma Bhushan, the third-highest civilian award, in 1999 by the Government of India.



Links:

<http://www.catchnews.com/national-news/rajnath-singh-condoles-demise-of-scientist-dr-k-santhanam-215200.html>

Jagdish Khattar

Question: Jagdish Khattar who passed away recently had worked as Managing Director of which popular Indian automobile company?

(a) Maruti Suzuki (b) Tata Motors (c) Ashok Leyland (d) Eicher Motors

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Jagdish Khattar, the former Managing Director of Maruti Suzuki, has passed away on 26 April 2021. He was 79.
- He had served at Maruti Suzuki India Limited from 1993 to 2007. He is credited for establishing Maruti as India's largest car company.
- He had served in several key Central and State administrative positions before joining Maruti Suzuki in 1993 as its Director (Marketing).
- He was first elevated to the position of Managing Director in 1999 and then retained the position from 2002 onwards as Suzuki Motor Corp's nominee.



Links:

[https://www.autocarindia.com/car-news/jagdish-khattar-former-maruti-suzuki-md-passes-away-420615#:~:text=Jagdish%20Khattar%2C%20the%20former%20managing,as%20its%20Director%20\(Marketing\).](https://www.autocarindia.com/car-news/jagdish-khattar-former-maruti-suzuki-md-passes-away-420615#:~:text=Jagdish%20Khattar%2C%20the%20former%20managing,as%20its%20Director%20(Marketing).)

Shravan Rathod

Question: Shravan Rathod who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Music Composer (c) Politician (d) Poet

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- On 22 April 2021, Veteran music composer Shravan Rathod of popular Nadeem-Shravan duo has passed away due to coronavirus complications. He was 66.
- The iconic composer duo Nadeem-Shravan (Nadeem Saifi and Shravan Rathod), were among the most sought-after composers of the 90s.
- The duo gave some famous Bollywood hits songs in movies like Aashiqui (1990), Saajan (1991), Hum Hain Rahi Pyar Ke (1993), Pardes (1997) and Raja Hindustani (1996), among others.



Links:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/bollywood/composer-shravan-rathod-dies-due-to-covid-19-complications-7285174/>

Rumana Sinha Sehgal

Question: Who has won the Nelson Mandela World Humanitarian Award 2021 by the Diplomatic Mission Global Peace?

(a) Rumana Sinha Sehgal (b) Ashok Lata Singh (c) Krishna Sobti (d) Gauri Lankesh

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Rumana Sinha Sehgal has been awarded the Nelson Mandela World Humanitarian Award 2021 by the Diplomatic Mission Global Peace.
- She is a Software engineer turned entrepreneur from Hyderabad, Andhra Pradesh.
- She was virtually awarded for her contribution to the field of developing innovative and functional green products by recycling varied materials and non-biodegradable materials.



Links:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/cities/hyderabad/2021/apr/20/bizwoman-bags-humanitarian-award-2292105.html>

Mohan M Shantanagoudar

Question: Mohan M Shantanagoudar who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Judge (c) Singer (d) Poet

Answer: (b)

Related facts:



- On 25th April 2021, Supreme Court judge Justice Mohan M Shantanagoudar passed away. He was 62
- He was elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court on February 17, 2017. He would have remained in office till May 5, 2023.
- He became the chief justice of the Kerala High Court on September 22, 2016, before being elevated as an apex court judge.

Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/supreme-court-judge-justice-mohan-m-shantanagoudar-dies-at-gurgaon-hospital/article34404708.ece>

Sushil Chandra

Question: Who has been named the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India?

(a) Rajiv Kumar (b) Umesh Sinha (c) Sushil Chandra (d) Sudeep Jain

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- On 12 April 2021, Sushil Chandra was appointed the next Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India.
- He will assume charge with effect from April 13, 2021.
- He will replace incumbent CEC, Sunil Arora, who will retire on April 12, 2021.
- The Election Commission of India consists of three members, namely Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners.
- The two ECs are Rajiv Kumar and Sushil Chandra.



Links:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/sushil-chandra-appointed-next-chief-election-commissioner-7270575/>

Siddharth Singh Longjam

Question: Who has been appointed Director-General of the National Anti-Doping Agency?

(a) Siddharth Singh Longjam (b) Sushil Kumar (c) MC MaryKom
(d) Praveen Singh

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Siddharth Singh Longjam has been appointed Director-General of National Anti-Doping Agency.
- He will replace Navin Agarwal.
- Longjam is currently serving as joint secretary in the sports ministry and is also the CEO of the currently suspended National Dope Testing Laboratory (NDTL).



- The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA) is the national organisation responsible for promoting, coordinating, and monitoring the doping control program in sports in all its forms in India.

Links:

<https://sportstar.thehindu.com/other-sports/siddharth-singh-longjam-dg-national-anti-doping-agency-navin-agarwal/article34311244.ece>

Shankha Ghosh

Question: Shankha Ghosh who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Actor (c) Singer (d) Poet

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- On 21 April 2021, eminent Bengali poet, Shankha Ghosh passed away following COVID-19 complications. He was known by his pen name Kuntak.
- Considered to be an authority on Rabindranath Tagore, his famous works include Adim Lata – Gulmomay and Murkha Baro Samajik Nay, among other books.
- Among the noted awards, he was conferred Padma Bhushan in 2011, Jnanpith Award in 2016.
- In 1977, he received the Sahitya Akademi Award for his book 'Babarer Prarthana'.

Links:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/books-and-literature/noted-poet-and-critic-shankha-ghosh-passes-away-at-the-age-of-89-7282715/>

S Ramann

Question: Who has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)?

(a) S Ramann (b) Rajiv Kumar (c) Venkatesh Prasad (d) Mayank Agrawal

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Central Government has S Ramann as Chairman and Managing Director of Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
- Ramann, a 1991-batch Indian Audit & Accounts Service officer, is currently the CEO of National E-Governance Services Ltd, India's first Information Utility.
- Banks Board Bureau, the headhunter for state-owned banks and financial institutions, had recommended his name for the post.
- SIDBI is a financial institution for developing and financing micro, small and medium enterprise sector. It was founded on 2 April 1990.



Links:

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/people/govt-appoints-s-ramann-as-sidbi-chairman-managing-director-11617787111734.html>

Rekha M Menon

Question: Who has been appointed as chairperson of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM)?

- (a) Rekha M Menon (b) Manan Vohra
(c) K Chandrashekhar (d) Arjun Kapoor

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Accenture India's chairperson, Rekha M Menon has been appointed as chairperson of the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM).
- She became the first woman to take the top role in the software lobby group's 30-year history.
- She succeeds U B Pravin Rao, chief operating officer of Infosys as Nasscom's chairperson.
- TCS President Krishnan Ramanujam will be the vice-chairperson.

**Links:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/information-tech/accentures-rekha-menon-takes-over-as-first-woman-chairperson-of-nasscom/articleshow/82196177.cms>

Poonam Gupta

Question: Who has been appointed the Director-General of the policy think tank National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)?

- (a) Poonam Gupta (b) Deepak Rawat (c) Akash Bhatia (d) Shekhar Shah

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Poonam Gupta will be the new director-general of the policy think tank National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER).
- She will become the first woman to hold the post.
- She will succeed Shekhar Shah.
- Poonam Gupta is the lead economist at the World Bank in Washington DC.
- Prior to joining the World Bank in 2013, she was the Reserve Bank of India Chair Professor at the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) and a professor of macroeconomics at the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER).



Links:

https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/poonam-gupta-to-head-ncaer-as-its-first-woman-director-general-121040501095_1.html

Murali Natarajan

Question: Who has been appointed as the the Managing Director & CEO of DCB Bank?

(a) Murali Natarajan (b) G Swaminathan (c) Rajiv Kumar (d) Rajiv Shekharan

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Reserve Bank of India has approved the re-appointment Murali M. Natrajan as Managing Director & CEO of Private sector lender, DCB Bank.
- He has received RBI approval for a further period of one year from April 29, 2021.
- He was appointed as MD and CEO of DCB Bank in May 2009.
- Prior to joining DCB, Natrajan has worked with foreign banks Standard Chartered & Citibank.

**Links:**

<https://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/rbi-okays-re-appointment-of-murali-natrajan-as-dcb-bank-md-and-ceo-6779471.html>

Kishore Nandlaskar

Question: Kishore Nandlaskar who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Actor (c) Singer (d) Poet

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- On 20 April 2021, Veteran actor Kishore Nandlaskar passed away due to COVID-19 complications.
- Kishore Nandlaskar was a popular face in both Marathi and Hindi films.
- He has made his debut with Marathi film in 1982 titled 'Navare Sagle Gadhav' and went to act in movies like 'Bhavishyachi Aishi Taishi: The Prediction', 'Gaon Thor Pudhari Chor' and 'Jara Japun Kara'.
- In Hindi cinema, Nandlaskar gained fame for his roles in bollywood movies like Khakee (2004), Vaastav: The Reality (1999), Singham (2011), Jis Desh Mein Ganga Rehta Hain (2000), Simmba (2018) and many more.



Links:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/magazines/panache/veteran-actor-kishore-nandlaskar-passes-away-at-81-due-to-covid-19/articleshow/82173642.cms>

GC Murmu

Question: Who has been chosen as the external auditor by the Hague-based Conference of State Parties of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)?

(a) GC Murmu (b) Rajiv Kumar (c) Arjun Dev (d) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- India's Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG), GC Murmu has been chosen as the external auditor by the Hague-based Conference of State Parties of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW).
- He will hold the office for three-year starting 2021.
- Also, India was selected as a member of the executive council of the OPCW representing the Asia group for another two-year term.

Links:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2021/apr/22/comptroller-and-auditor-general-gc-murmu-selected-as-external-auditor-for-hague-based-opcw-2293027.html>

Farid Sabri

Question: Farid Sabri who passed away recently was-

(a) Film Director (b) Actor (c) Singer (d) Poet

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- On 21 April 2021, renowned Qawwali singer Farid Sabri, of the famous Sabri Brothers duo, passed away in Jaipur. He was 58.
- Sabri Brothers (Farid Sabri and Amin Sabri) were known for their evergreen numbers like 'Der Na Ho Jaye Kahin Der Na Ho Jaye' and 'Ek Mulakat Zaruri Hai Sanam'.
- His qawwali in the movie Sirf Tum (1999) was also a huge hit.
- The brothers and their father Saeed Sabri performed qawwali at several events held in Indian and abroad.

**Links:**

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/entertainment/bollywood/renowned-qawwali-singer-farid-sabri-of-sabri-brothers-fame-passes-away>

Chintan Vaishnav

Question: Who has been appointed the mission director of Atal Innovation Mission?

(a) Chintan Vaishnav (b) Rajiv Kumar (c) Rajneesh Kumar (d) Sarvesh Singh

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Noted socio-technologist, Dr Chintan Vaishnav has been appointed the mission director of Atal Innovation Mission (AIM).
- He will succeed Ramanathan Ramanan . Ramanan is the first mission director since June 2017.
- Atal Innovation Mission is a central government's flagship initiative under NITI Aayog.
- AIM's mission is to create and promote a culture of innovation and entrepreneurship across the length and breadth of our country.
- So far, AIM has established 72,59 Atal Tinkering Labs in schools across 650 districts, providing over 3.5 million students access to emerging technologies.



Links:

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/chintan-vaishnav-appointed-as-mission-director-of-atal-innovation-mission20210405121044/>

Brand Ambassador of Puma

Question: Global sportswear brand Puma has recently signed which sportsperson as its brand ambassador?

(a) Washington Sundar (b) Devdutt Padikkal (c) Both (a) & (b) (d) MS Dhoni

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- Global sportswear brand Puma has picked Indian cricketers Washington Sundar and Devdutt Padikkal as its brand ambassadors.
- Puma India has recently inked its partnership with Royal Challengers Bangalore.
- The duo will be joining the company's roster of brand ambassadors that include Indian captain Virat Kohli; wicketkeeper-batsman KL Rahul; women's national cricketer, Sushma Verma and veteran cricketer Yuvraj Singh.



Links:

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/companies/puma-ropes-in-washington-sundar-devdutt-padikkal-as-brand-ambassadors/article34364573.ece>

Priyanka Mohite

Question:Who became the first Indian woman to scale Mt Annapurna?

(a) Priyanka Mohite (b) Premlata Agrawal (c) Arunima Sinha (d) Santosh Yadav

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- On 16th April 2021,Priyanka Mohite has become the Indian woman to scale Mt Annapurna,the 10th highest mountain peak in the world.
- Mount Annapurna is a massif in the Himalayas located in Nepal that includes one peak over 8,000 metres and is considered to be one of the toughest mountains to climb.
- The 28-year-old Priyanka Mohite is from Satara in western Maharashtra.



Links:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/maharashtras-priyanka-mohite-becomes-first-indian-woman-to-scale-mt-annapurna-101618907738141.html>

Awards & Honors

BAFTA Awards 2021

Question: Which movie won the best film award in 2021 BAFTA Awards?

a) Nomadland b) The White Tiger c) The Father
d) None of the above

Ans: a

Context

- BAFTA Awards 2021 has been announced recently by British Academy of Film and Television (BAFTA).



Facts

- **Following are the winners list:-**
- Best Picture: 'Nomadland'
- Best Director: Chloe Zhao for 'Nomadland'
- Best Actress: Frances McDormand for 'Nomadland'
- Best Actor: Anthony Hopkins for 'The Father'
- Best Animated Film : Soul

Reference: <http://awards.bafta.org/award/2021/film>

Dadasaheb Phalke award 2019.

Question- Who has been honoured with 'Dadasaheb Phalke award 2019'?

(a) Rajinikanth (b) Amir Khan (c) Akshay Kumar
(d) Kangana Ranaut



Ans. (a)

Related facts-

- The prestigious 51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award will be honoured to superstar Rajinikanth, for the year 2019, Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Prakash Javadekar announced on 1 April 2021.
- "India every year gives Dada Saheb Phalke award to a film personality. This year this selection has been made by a jury comprising Asha Bhonsle, Mohanlal, Biswajit Chatterjee, Shankar Mahadevan and Subhash Ghai.
- The Dadasaheb Phalke Awards is India's highest award in cinema and is presented annually at the National Films Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals, an organisation set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- The very first recipient of this award was Devika Rani who received it in 1969 on the occasion of the 17th National Films Awards.
- Dadasaheb Phalke is known as the 'Father of Indian Cinema'. He made India's first full-length feature film Raja Harishchandra in 1913. Hence, to commemorate Dadasaheb Phalke, the Government of India has started the Dadasaheb Phalke Award in 1969.

Reference- <https://www.jagranjosh.com/general-knowledge/list-of-dadasaheb-phalke-award-1484916081-1>.

Conference

Be a Friend of TRIBES INDIA Contest

Question: Consider the following statements-

- i) Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd (TRIFED), has launched, Be a friend of TRIBES INDIA Contest in association with MyGov.in.
- ii) This competition has been launched with the sole objective of promoting tribal craft, culture and lifestyle.
- iii) Tribes constitute 6% of Indian population.

Which of the above are correct?

- a) i,ii b) i,iii c) i,ii,iii d) None of the above

Ans: a

Context

- Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation Ltd (TRIFED), has launched two interesting competitions, Be the Brand Ambassador of Tribes India and Be a friend of TRIBES INDIA Contest in association with MyGov.in.



Facts

- The contests were launched mainly to promote tribal crafts, lifestyle and culture.

- These contests will help in increasing the awareness about tribal heritage, crafts and art among the general public.

Be the Brand Ambassador of Tribes India

- This contest invites stories featuring a tribal product across the country. The story should highlight the experience of the customer in using the tribal product. The contest will be on till 14th May.

Be a “Friend” of TRIBES INDIA

- It is a quiz contest on Indian culture. It went live on MyGov on April 2nd and will be on till May 14th this year .
- It is second edition of the quiz.

Tribes constitutes 8.61% of India’s population.

Reference: <http://www.newsonair.com/News?title=Be-the-Brand-Ambassador-of-Tribes-India-and-Be-a-Friend-of-TRIBES-INDIA-Contest-launched-by-Trifed-in-association-with-MyGov.in&id=413442>

Year, Day & Week

International Dance Day

Question: When is the International Dance Day observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 28 April (c) 10 April (d) 29 April

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- International Dance Day is observed every year on April 29.
- The day celebrates the value and importance of the dance and encourages participation and education in this art form through events and festivals.
- The day, 29 April, marks the birth anniversary of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727–1810), who is known as the creator of modern ballet.
- The theme of International Dance Day 2021: ‘Purpose of dance’.
- The day was created in 1982, by the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the main partner for the performing arts of UNESCO.



Links:

<https://www.timesnownews.com/the-buzz/article/international-dance-day-2021-who-started-it-why-is-it-celebrated/750628#:~:text=The%20day%20is%20celebrated%20annually,the%20creator%20of%20modern%20ballet.&text=The%20day%20aims%20to%20encourage,held%20all%20over%20the%20world.>

World Day for Safety and Health at Work

Question: When is the World Day for Safety and Health at Work observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 28 April (c) 10 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- World Day for Safety and Health at Work is observed every year on April 28.
- The day promotes the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally and raise awareness to ensure health and safety at the workplace.
- 2021 Theme of the day is “Anticipate, prepare and respond to crises – Invest Now in Resilient Occupational Safety and Health Systems”.
- World Day for Safety and Health at Work has been observed by the International Labour Organization (ILO) since 2003.

Links:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/work-safety-day#:~:text=The%20annual%20World%20Day%20for,occupational%20accidents%20and%20diseases%20globally.>

Workers’ Memorial Day

Question: When is the Workers’ Memorial Day observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 28 April (c) 10 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- Workers’ Memorial Day also known as International Commemoration Day for Dead and Injured Workers is observed every year on April 28.
- The day commemorates all those workers across the world that are killed at or around their place of work.
- The day has been organized worldwide by the International Trade Union Confederation since 1996.
- 2021 Theme of the day is ‘Health and Safety is a fundamental workers’ right.’



Links:

<https://www.itfglobal.org/en/campaigns/international-workers-memorial-day-2021>

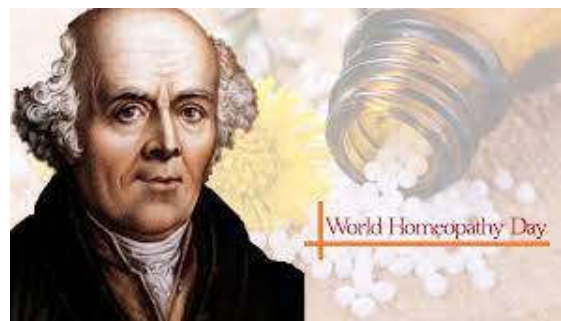
World Homeopathy Day

Question: When is the World Homeopathy Day observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 28 April (c) 10 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (c)

Related facts:



- World Homeopathy Day is observed every year on April 10.
- The day pays tribute to homoeopathy and its contribution to the world of medicine.
- The day marks birth anniversary of German physician Dr Christian Friedrich Samuel Hahnemann, the founder of homoeopathy.
- This year on the occasion of the World Homeopathy Day, the AYUSH ministry, India celebrated the day with the theme- “Homeopathy- Roadmap for Integrative Medicine”.

Links:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/health/world-homeopathy-day-2021-theme-origin-and-significance-of-celebrating-this-branch-of-medicine/2230511/>

World Autism Awareness Day

Question: When is the World Autism Awareness Day observed?

(a) 12 April (b) 2 April (c) 20 April (d) 22 April

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- World Autism Awareness Day is observed every year on April 2.
- The day is being celebrated since 2008.
- 2021 Them of the day is “Inclusion in the Workplace: Challenges and Opportunities in a Post- Pandemic World”.



About Autism:

- Autism can be defined as a complex neurobehavioral condition which causes problems with language and communication skills.
- It also causes a person to have repetitive and rigid behavior.
- It is a complex brain development disability which makes itself visible during the first 3 years of a person's life.
- It is not mental retardation as people with autism may show excellent skills in spheres like art, music, writing etc.

Links:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/autism-day/background>

World Malaria Day

Question: When is the World Malaria Day observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 28 April (c) 17 April (d) 14 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- World Malaria Day (WMD) is observed every year on 25 April.



- The day recognizes the efforts of the people worldwide to control malaria.
- The Day was established in May 2007 at the 60th session of the World Health Assembly, WHO's the decision-making body.
- World Malaria Day 2021 theme is 'Reaching the zero malaria target'.

Links:

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-malaria-day>

World Day For Animals In Laboratories

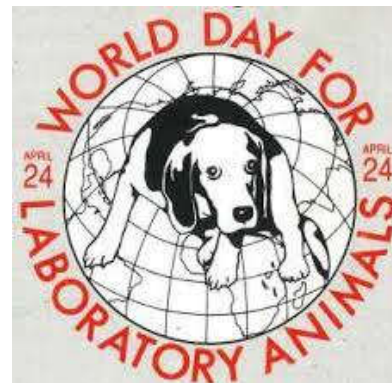
Question: When is the World Day For Animals In Laboratories observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 26 April (c) 17 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- World Day for Laboratory Animals is observed every year on 24 April.
- National Anti-Vivisection Society (NAVS) instituted the day as an "international day of commemoration" for animals in laboratories.
- WDAIL aims to end the suffering of animals in laboratories around the world and promote their replacement with advanced scientific non-animal techniques..



Links:

<https://worlddayforlaboratoryanimals.org/aboutwdla/>

National Panchayati Raj Day

Question: When is the National Panchayati Raj Day observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 28 April (c) 17 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated across India on 24 April every year.
- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj organizes the National Panchayati Raj day.
- The first National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated in April 2010.
- On 24th April in 1993, the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1992 came into force.
- The Act provided Constitutional status to the Panchayati Raj Institutions in India through insertion of Article 243 to Part IX of Indian Constitution.
- There is 3 tier Panchayati Raj System in the country i.e. Gram Panchayat at the village level, Panchayat Samiti at Block level, and Zila Parishad at District level.



- Rajasthan was the first state that carried the Panchayati Raj System in 1959.

Links:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/national-panchayati-raj-day-2021-date-theme-history-significance-all-you-need-to-know/2239444/>

International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace

Question: When is the International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 28 April (c) 17 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- The International Day of Multilateralism and Diplomacy for Peace is observed every year on 24th April.
- The day was first observed by the United Nations (UN) on April 24, 2019.
- The day aims to spread knowledge about the advantages of multilateralism and diplomacy for peace, including through educational and public awareness-raising activities.
- The Day is a reaffirmation of the UN Charter and its principles of resolving disputes among countries through peaceful means.



Links:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/Multilateralism-for-Peace-day>

International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day

Question: When is the International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day observed?

(a) 25 April (b) 26 April (c) 12 April (d) 24 April

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- The International Chernobyl Disaster Remembrance Day is observed every year on April 26.
- The day raises awareness of the consequences of the 1986 Chernobyl disaster and the risks of nuclear energy in general.
- On this day in 1986, a reactor exploded at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine with devastating consequences.
- The day was formally designated by United Nations on April 26, 2016.



Links:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/chernobyl-remembrance-day>

World Book and Copyright Day

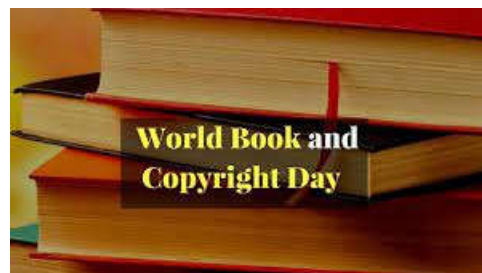
Question: When is the World Book and Copyright Day observed?

(a) 23 April (b) 20 April (c) 15 April (d) 10 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- World Book and Copyright Day (also known as International Day of the Book and World Book Day) is observed every year on 23rd April.
- The day promotes reading, publishing, and copyright.
- The annual event is organized by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).
- The day was originally declared by UNESCO on 23rd April 1995.
- As a part of the Day, UNESCO selects the World Book Capital every year for a one-year period, effective 23 April each year. The World Book Capital for 2021 is Tbilisi, Georgia.

**Links:**

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/book-and-copyright-day>

UN Spanish Language Day

Question: When was the UN Spanish Language Day observed?

(a) 23 April (b) 20 April (c) 15 April (d) 10 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- The UN Spanish Language Day is observed annually on 23 April.
- For the Spanish Language, the Day was chosen because the day is also observed as Hispanic Day in Spain, meaning the Spanish speaking world.
- Spanish is one of the six official languages (Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish) used by the United Nations throughout the Organization.

**Links:**

<https://www.republicworld.com/lifestyle/festivals/what-is-world-spanish-language-day-why-do-we-celebrate.html>

UN English Language Day

Question: When is the UN English Language Day observed?

(a) 23 April (b) 20 April (c) 15 April (d) 10 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- The UN English Language Day is observed annually on 23 April.
- For English, 23 April has been chosen to mark both the birthday and date of death of William Shakespeare.
- They are one of the six official languages used by the United Nations throughout the Organization. These are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish.
- Each language has been assigned a day of celebration by the UN's Department of Public Information in 2010 to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity as well as to promote equal use of all six official languages throughout the Organization.



Links:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/english-language-day>

World Creativity and Innovation Day

Question: When is the World Creativity and Innovation Day observed?

(a) 21 April (b) 20 April (c) 15 April (d) 10 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- World Creativity and Innovation Day is observed every year on 21st April.
- The day raises awareness around the importance of creativity and innovation in problem-solving with respect to advancing the United Nations sustainable development goals.
- The day encourages people to use new ideas, make new decisions, and do creative thinking.
- The day was formally recognized by the United Nations on 27 April 2017.



WORLD
creativity
AND
INNOVATION
DAY

Links:

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/creativity-and-innovation-day>

National Civil Services Day

Question: When is the National Civil Services Day observed?

(a) 21 April (b) 20 April (c) 15 April (d) 10 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- National Civil Services Day is observed every year on 21st April.
- The day appreciates the tremendous work done by officers engaged in public administration, in various departments of the central and state governments.
- April 21 marks the day when the India's first home minister, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the newly appointed Administrative Services Officers in 1947.
- The historic occasion took place at the Metcalf House in Delhi. In his address, he called Civil Servants, the 'Steel Frame of India'.

Links:

<https://darpg.gov.in/relatedlinks/civil-services-day>

International Mother Earth Day

Question: When is the International Mother Earth Day observed?

(a) 22 April (b) 20 April (c) 15 April (d) 10 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- International Mother Earth Day is observed every year on April 22.
- The day spread awareness for Earth's wellbeing and encourages people to support environmental protection.
- The day was officially recognized by the United Nations in 2009.
- The theme of 2021 International Mother Earth Day is Restore Our Earth.

**Links:**

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/earth-day>

International Girls in ICT Day

Question: When was the International Girls in ICT Day 2021 observed?

(a) 22 April (b) 20 April (c) 15 April (d) 10 April

Answer: (a)

Related facts:



- International Girls in ICT Day 2021 was observed on 22nd April.
- The day is marked annually on the fourth Thursday in April.
- International Girls in ICT Day aims to inspire a global movement to increase the representation of girls and women in technology.

Links:

<https://www.un.org/youthenvoy/2016/04/girls-in-ict-day-highlights-need-to-promote-technology-careers-for-women/#:~:text=On%20Girls%20in%20ICT%20Day,the%20world's%20fastest%20growing%20sector.>

Books

Jhumpa Lahiri

Question: Who is the author of Novel Whereabouts?

(a) Sarbpreet Singh (b) Gurukirat Singh (c) Amrita Pritam (d) Jhumpa Lahiri

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- Renowned American author Jhumpa Lahiri has launched her new novel titled “Whereabouts”.
- The book is an English translation of the Italian novel ‘las Dove Mi Trovo’ which was written by the author Jhumpa Lahiri itself and published in 2018.
- The novel has been translated into English by the author herself.
- The book is about an unnamed female protagonist over 45 years as she looks at her life, glancing, sideways, back and forth, chronicling life, relationships and burden of relationships, in short, succinct chapters.



Links:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/books-and-literature/whereabouts-by-jhumpa-lahiri-read-these-other-books-by-the-author-7290941/>

Book-Odisha Itihaas

Question: Who has translated the book Odisha Itihaas written by Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab in Hindi?

(a) Vimal Chaturvedi (b) Shankarlal Purohit
(c) Mahesh Patnaik
(d) Mani Shankar Pradhan

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On 9th April 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the Hindi



translation of the book 'Odisha Itihaas' written by 'Utkal Keshari' Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab.

- The book, available in Odia and English so far, has been translated into Hindi by Shri. Shankarlal Purohit.
- Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab was a notable figure in the Indian Independence Movement. He also served as Chief Minister of Odisha from 1946 to 1950 and from 1956 to 1961.
- He wrote the book 'Odisha Itihaas' in Ahmednagar Fort Jail, where he was imprisoned for more than two years during 1942-1945.

Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1710051>

Book-The Living Mountain

Question: Who is the author of book The Living Mountain?

(a) Disha Ravi (b) Salman Rushdie (c) Sunita Narain (d) Amitav Ghosh

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- Renowned author Amitav Ghosh has written a new book titled The Living Mountain.
- The book is a fable for the current times: a cautionary tale of how humans have systematically exploited nature, leading to an environmental collapse.
- HarperCollins Publishers India is the publisher of book The living Mountain.
- The book will also be published simultaneously in Hindi, and as an ebook and an audiobook.



Links:

<https://theprint.in/ani-press-releases/harpercollins-india-announces-amitav-ghoshs-forthcoming-publication-the-living-mountain-a-fable-for-our-times/645000/>

Book-Climate Change Explained – For One And All

Question: Who is the author of book Climate Change Explained – For One And All?

(a) Disha Ravi (b) Vandana Shiva (c) Sunita Narain (d) Aakash Ranison

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- On Earth Day, 22nd April 2021, Aakash Ranison, has launched e-book titled "Climate Change Explained – for one and all".
- The book explains the impact of climate change and purposes to motivate readers for reducing its consequences with the help of simple sustainable solutions.



- The book comprises facts, data, and information about climate change, the Greenhouse effect, global warming, Carbon footprint, and so on.

Links:

<https://indiaeducationdiary.in/climate-change-activist-sustainability-influencer-and-author-aakash-ranison-launches-his-ebook-climate-change-explained-for-one-and-all/>

Miscellaneous

First aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight on another planet

Question: Helicopter named as Ingenuity is a first aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight on another planet. Which planet is this?

a) Jupiter b) Mars c) Venus d) Mercury

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On 19 April 2021, NASA's Ingenuity Mars Helicopter became the first aircraft in history to make a powered, controlled flight on the planet Mars.
- Ingenuity was attached to the belly of Perseverance rover which touched down the Mars surface on 18 February 2021 traveling 173 million miles of space from the Earth.
- Then Perseverance Deployed the Ingenuity to the surface of Jezero Crater on April 3, 2021.
- Ingenuity is currently on the 16th sol, or Martian day, of its 30-sol (31-Earth day) flight test window.
- Over the next three sols, the helicopter team will receive and analyze all data and imagery from the test.
- It will then formulate a plan for the second experimental test flight, scheduled for no earlier than April 22.
- The Ingenuity team at the agency's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Southern California confirmed the flight succeeded after receiving data from the helicopter via NASA's Perseverance Mars rover.
- Altimeter data indicate Ingenuity climbed to its prescribed maximum altitude of 10 feet (3 meters) and maintained a stable hover for 30 seconds.
- It then descended, touching back down on the surface of Mars after logging a total of 39.1 seconds of flight.
- Ingenuity's initial flight demonstration was autonomous – piloted by onboard guidance, navigation, and control systems running algorithms developed by the team at JPL.
- Because data must be sent to and returned from the Red Planet over hundreds of millions of miles using orbiting satellites and NASA's Deep Space Network,



Ingenuity cannot be flown with a joystick, and its flight was not observable from Earth in real time.

- NASA Associate Administrator for Science Thomas Zurbuchen announced the name for the Martian airfield on which the flight took place.
- According to NASA Now, 117 years after the Wright brothers succeeded in making the first flight on our planet, NASA's Ingenuity helicopter has succeeded in performing this amazing feat on another world.
- NASA now has named the airfield from where Ingenuity hovered on Mars as Wright Brothers Field as an homage to the two innovative bicycle makers from Dayton.

Links:-

<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-s-ingenuity-mars-helicopter-succeeds-in-historic-first-flight>

Advanced Uranium Enrichment Centrifuges

Question: Which of the following country recently has announced that it has started up advanced uranium enrichment centrifuges?

a) Iraq b) Iran c) UAE d) Oman

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:-

- On 10 April 2021 Iran announced that it has started up advanced uranium enrichment centrifuges.
- Iran began this programme in a breach of its undertakings under a troubled 2015 nuclear deal, days after the start of talks on rescuing the accord.
- The United States had said on 9 April 2021 that it had offered very serious ideas on reviving the accord.
- US was waiting for Tehran to reciprocate and in the mean time Iranian action by starting up advanced uranium enrichment centrifuges signally failed our purpose..
- On 10 April 2021; President Hassan Rouhani inaugurated the three cascades of 164 IR-6 centrifuges, 30 IR-5 and another 30 IR-6 devices.
- These equipments were installed at Iran's Natanz uranium enrichment plant in a ceremony.
- Iran's latest move to step up uranium enrichment follows an opening round of talks in Vienna Tuesday with representatives of the remaining parties to the nuclear deal on bringing the U.S. back into it.
- Former President Donald Trump withdrew from the deal in 2018 but his successor Joe Biden has said he is ready to return, arguing the deal had been successful in dramatically scaling back Iran's nuclear activities.
- The Vienna talks are focused not only on lifting crippling economic sanctions Trump reimposed, but also on bringing Iran back into compliance after it responded by suspending several of its own commitments.



- Iran has demanded that the United States first lift all sanctions imposed by Trump, which include a sweeping unilateral ban on its oil exports, before it falls back in line with obligations it suspended.

Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/iran-unveils-advanced-nuclear-centrifuges/article34291761.ece>

Nacaduba sinhala ramaswamii

Question: Recently discovered Nacaduba sinhala ramaswamii species, represents which of the following creature?

a) Butterfly b) Earthworm c) Wild snake d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- A new sub-species of the six line blue butterfly named Nacaduba sinhala ramaswamii has been discovered from the south Western Ghats.
- With this new discovery there is one more addition to the butterfly fauna of India as well as that of the Western Ghats of Tamil Nadu and Kerala.
- Four researchers – Kalesh Sadasivan and K. Baiju from Travancore Nature History Society (TNHS), Rahul Khot from Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and S. Ramasamy Kamaya Naicker of Vanam in Theni described the species.
- It was published in the Journal of Threatened Taxa in March, 2021.
- The new butterfly species is named after Lord Rama, signifying the connection across the sea to Sri Lanka.
- It is also a coincidence that the one of the authors whose efforts led to the discovery is named Ramasamy, an avid butterfly watcher from Tamil Nadu.
- Ramasamy's joint efforts resulted in description of the new taxa.
- This Lycaenid butterfly belongs to Nacaduba genus and its common name is Ramaswami's Six Lineblue and Ceylon Varayanneeli in its vernacular.
- "It was first photographed in 2011 by Dr. Kalesh Sadasivan from Kerala and later in 2015 and 2018 in Tamil Nadu.
- Mr. Ramaswamy said that It took so long to differentiate it from other species of Nacaduba that occur here due to the complexity of this small group.



Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/new-sub-species-of-six-line-blue-butterfly-discovered-from-south-western-ghats/article34198315.ece>

MV-Sindhu

Question: Who will use the MV Sindhu, a recently delivered and indigenously built Vessel by Cochin Shipyard Ltd?

a) Indian Navy b) Coast Guard c) Indian Army d) Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On 27 March, 2021 Cochin Shipyard Ltd. has delivered MV 'Sindhu', for Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- It is a 500 pax passenger-cum-150 MT Cargo Vessel built indigenously.
- The Protocol signing & handing over ceremony was held on board the vessel at Cochin Shipyard on March 27, 2021.
- This is being considered as a world class ship which will prove to be boon in Shipping Service for the far flung Islands.
- The Protocol documents were signed by Capt. Ashutosh Pandey, Director of Shipping Services (DSS), representing A&N Administration.
- General Manager (Ship Building for CSL), Shri Sivakumar A, is the second signatory, who signed.
- The basic design of the vessel has been developed using world renowned Naval Architects Knud E Hansen of Denmark collaborating with M/s Smart Engineering and Design Solution, Kochi.
- The detailed production engineering design created by the CSL, and helped in bringing international technology under 'Make in India' ambit.
- CSL with its expanded facilities in India's East and West coast including new facility in A&N Islands will provide full life cycle support for its efficient operation.
- This vessel which can cruise at 16 knots is built to the highest standards of the Indian Register of Shipping and American Bureau of Shipping.
- This vessel will also be meeting the Indian Merchant Shipping rules and is customized for Indian requirements.
- It is equipped with very high level of safety and comfort comparable to the international standards.
- The vessel manned with a crew of 61 is provided with deluxe cabins, first-class cabins, second class cabins, bunk class and seating class etc.
- In addition to 150 tons of cargo also can be handled by the using an onboard fitted crane. The vessel is equipped with all modern amenities for the passengers.
- The vessel is having amenities like Recreation Rooms, Library, Gymnasium, Hospital, Conference Room etc



Links:-

<https://dt.andaman.gov.in/DetailNews.aspx?newsid=xXzyjd+A2/ZBCJ8ulDLZjewRlcuCDkX+fE69/myVHok=>

<http://www.uniindia.com/cochin-shipyard-ltd-delivers-crucial-passenger-cum-cargo-vessel-mv-sindhu-for-andaman/east/news/2356411.html>

Joint venture plan to install two new undersea cables to connect America with south East Asia

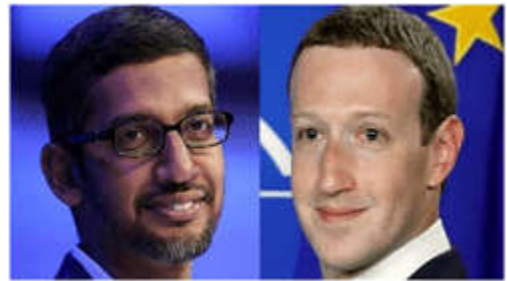
Question: On 26 March 2021; Facebook has announced a Joint venture plan with which of the following company to install two new undersea cables to connect America with south East Asia?

a) Google b) Bhart Airtel c) Reliance Jio d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- On 26 March 2021; Facebook has announced about its joint venture plan with search engine giant, Google to install two new undersea cables to enhance internet services.
- These new undersea cables will be used to connect Singapore, Indonesia with North America.
- This connection will done through regional telecommunication companies to better the internet connection capacity in these regions.
- The two huge subsea cables that will link the U.S. West Coast to Singapore and Indonesia, Southeast Asia's biggest economy and home to a growing number of smartphone users.
- These cables named as Echo and Bifrost trans-Pacific cables, will increase the data capacity between the regions by 70% and improve internet reliability.
- While Facebook is investing in both cables, Google is only investing in Echo.
- The cost of the projects, which are still subject to regulatory approvals, has not been disclosed.
- From Facebook it has been made clear that we the company is committed to bring more people online to a faster internet.
- As part of this effort, the two internet giants said that they are proud to announce that they have partnered with leading regional and global partners to build two new subsea cables — Echo and Bifrost.
- These cables will provide vital new connections between the Asia-Pacific region and North America.
- Partners include Indonesian firms Telin and XL Axiata, and Singapore-based Keppel.
- The aim is for Echo to be completed by late 2023, while Bifrost is set to be finished by late 2024.
- Last May, Facebook announced plans to build a 37,000-kilometer (22,991-mile) long undersea cable around Africa to provide it with better internet access.
- Google is also working on an underwater cable called Equiano, which aims to connect Africa with Europe.
- The web search titan has another unit, Loon, which makes high-altitude balloons that deliver 4G internet to rural communities.
- Facebook previously had plans to beam internet to remote areas using solar-powered drones.



- The company shuttered the project in 2018 but has reportedly been working with Airbus to test similar drones again in Australia.

Links:-

<https://www.cnbc.com/2021/03/29/facebook-google-to-lay-subsea-cables-between-us-and-southeast-asia.html>