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**Current  
Affairs**

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**Day to Day**

**QUESTIONS AND RELATED FACTS**

**INDEX : (A) Chronological Order (B) Current Affairs Sections**



**Rio2016™**



**1 AUGUST TO 31 AUGUST, 2016**

# Preface

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

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

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

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

Reader's satisfaction is our utmost priority so requesting you to provide your valuable feedback to us. We will warmly welcome your appreciation/criticism given to us. It will surely show us the right direction to improve the content quality. Hopefully the current affairs PDF (from 1st August to 31st August) will benefit our beloved readers.

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

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# NATIONAL

## Rio Olympics 2016

**Question:** In the recently concluded Rio Olympics-2016, which of the following player has scored the most individual medals?

- (a) Usain Bolt
- (b) Michael Phelps
- (c) Rafaela Silva
- (d) Katie Ledecky

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- The 2016 Summer Olympics officially known as the Games of the XXXI Olympiad and commonly known as Rio 2016 was a major international multi-sport event held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, from 5 August to 21 August 2016.
- In November 2014 Vinicius and Tom are announced as the official mascots of the 2016 Summer Olympics and Paralympics respectively in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.
- More than 11,000 athletes from 207 National Olympic Committees, including first time entrants Kosovo, South Sudan, and the Refugee, took part.
- With 306 sets of medals, the games featured 28 Olympic sports.

### India at the Rio Olympics 2016

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) had sent a total of 123 athletes.
- This was the nation's largest ever delegation in Summer Olympic history.
- Badminton player P V Sindhu won historic silver medal in women's singles badminton event.
- With this, she became the first Indian woman to clinch a silver medal in Olympics.
- Sindhu become the fifth female athlete from India to a medal in Olympics.
- Wrestler Sakshi Malik secured a bronze in the 58 kg category to become India's first female wrestler to win an Olympic medal.
- Dipa Karmakar became the first Indian female ever to book an Olympic spot in the apparatus events and all-around event at the Olympic Test Event.
- Indian athletes have won a total of 28 medals so far, all at the Olympic Games

## Michael Phelps

- Michael Phelps has won the most individual medals including 5 Gold and 1 silver.
- Phelps was chosen as the American flag bearer at the opening ceremony, the first Olympic opening ceremony that he would attend.
- He is 18-time Olympic gold medalist, who currently holds seven world records in swimming.
- He is the most decorated Olympian of all time, with a total of 28 medals 23 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze medals.
- Phelps also holds the all-time records for Olympic gold medals (18, double the second highest record holders), Olympic gold medals in individual events (11), and Olympic medals in individual events for a male (13).
- In his first event on August 7, the 4 × 100 m freestyle relay, he won his first gold medal of the 2016 Games and his 19th Olympic gold medal overall.
- In his second event on August 9, the 200-meter butterfly, he became the first swimmer in history to make five finals in the same event, after finishing 5th in 2000, 1st in 2004 and 2008, and 2nd in 2012.
- On August 9, Phelps won his 21st gold medal in the 4 × 200 m freestyle relay together with Conor Dwyer, Townley Haas, and Ryan Lochte.
- On August 11, Phelps won his 22nd gold medal in the 200 m individual medley.
- On August 13, in the 4 × 100-meter medley relay, Phelps ended his career with another gold medal, his 23rd at the Olympics and his 28th medal overall.
- Katie Ledecky won the second highest number of medals in the Olympics.
- She won a total of 5 medals including 4 gold and 1 silver medal.
- At the 2016 Rio Olympics, Bolt won the 100 metres gold medal with a time of 9.81 seconds. With this win, Bolt became the first athlete to win the event three times at the Olympic Games.
- He also won the gold medal in the 200 m, which also makes him the first athlete to win the 200 m three times at the Olympic Games.
- With the winning 4 x 100 m relay and he secured his third consecutive gold medal in the event.
- With that win, Bolt obtained the “triple-triple”, three sprinting gold medals in three consecutive Olympics.

## 2016-Summer Olympics medal table

Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	United States (USA)	46	37	38	121
2	Great Britain (GBR)	27	23	17	67
3	China (CHN)	26	18	26	70
4	Russia (RUS)	19	18	19	56
5	Germany (GER)	17	10	15	42
6	Japan (JPN)	12	8	21	41
7	France (FRA)	10	18	14	42
8	South Korea (KOR)	9	3	9	21
9	Italy (ITA)	8	12	8	28
10	Australia (AUS)	8	11	10	29

- Indian bagged a total of two medals, one silver and one bronze, in the games, and stood at the 67th place in the medal tally.
- The 2020 Summer Olympics will be held in Tokyo, Japan.

### Reference:

<https://www.rio2016.com/en/medal-count-country>

<https://www.rio2016.com/en/medal-count-athletes>

<http://www.olympic.ind.in/images/Athletes-qualified-India-Rio-2016.pdf>

<https://www.rio2016.com/en/search-athletes?q=&c=India>

## The Factories (Amendment) Bill, 2016

**Question:** Recently the Lok Sabha on passed the Factories (Amendment) Bill, 2016 that seeks to increase the working overtime hours per quarter up to-

- (a) 115 Hours
- (b) 150 Hours
- (c) 100 Hours
- (d) 50 Hours

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 10 August 2016; the Lok Sabha passed the Factories (Amendment) Bill, 2016.
- The Bill amends the Factories Act, 1948. The Act regulates the safety, health and welfare of factory workers. The Bill amends provisions related to overtime hours of work.
- The Act permits the state government to prescribe rules on a range of matters, including double employment, details of adult workers to be included in the factory's register, conditions related to exemptions to certain workers, etc.
- The Bill gives such rule making powers to the central government as well.
- Under the Act, the state government may make rules to-
  - (i) define persons who hold management or confidential positions; and
  - (ii) Exempt certain types of adult workers (e.g. those engaged for urgent repairs) from fixed working hours, periods of rest, etc.
- The Bill gives such rule making powers to both, the central and state governments.
- Under the Act, such rules will not apply for more than five years.
- The Bill modifies this provision to state that the five-year limitation will not apply to rules made after the enactment of this Bill.
- The Act permits the state government to make rules related to the regulation of overtime hours of work.
- However, the total number of hours of overtime must not exceed 50 hours for a quarter.
- The Bill raises this limit to 100 hours. Rules in this regard may be prescribed by the central government as well.
- The Bill introduces a provision which permits the central or state government to extend the 115-hour limit to 125 hours.
- It may do so because of (i) excessive work load in the factory and (ii) public interest.

**Reference:**

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/the-factories-amendment-bill-2016/](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/the-factories-amendment-bill-2016/)

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148706>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/lok-sabha-passes-factories-amendment-bill-2016-116081001776\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/lok-sabha-passes-factories-amendment-bill-2016-116081001776_1.html)

## Employee's Compensation (Amendment) Bill 2016

**Question:** In the recently passed Employee's compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2016 there is provision for removal of which of the following section from the original Act?

- (a) Section -28
- (b) Section -29
- (c) Section -30
- (d) Section -31

**Ans: (c)**

**Related fact:**



- On 9 August 2016 the Lok Sabha passed the Employee's Compensation (Amendment) Bill 2016 by voice vote.
- It was presented in the Lok Sabha by Labour and Employment Minister Bandaru Dattatreya on 5 August 2016.
- The Bill amends the Employee's Compensation Act, 1923. The Act provides payment of compensation to employees and their dependants in the case of injury by industrial accidents, including occupational diseases.
- Under the amendments Section 30 of the Employees' Compensation Act 1923 provides for appeal in high courts whenever the disputed amount of compensation is more than Rs 300.
- The bill seeks to raise this to Rs 10,000, which may be further increased through a notification later.
- The bill also provides for increase in penalty for contravention of the Act to Rs 50,000 from the current Rs 5000 that may be later raised to Rs 1 lakh.
- The Bill introduces a provision which requires an employer to inform the employee of his right to compensation under the Act.
- Such information must be given in writing (in English, Hindi or the relevant official language) at the time of employing him.
- In this there is provision for removal of section-30 from the original Act.
- The Law Commission of India, in its reports in 1974 and 1989 related to the Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923, (now known as Employees' Compensation Act, 1923), had recommended to review/amend/repeal various provisions of the Act.

**Reference:**

<http://www.prsindia.org/billtrack/the-employees-compensation-amendment-bill-2016-4363/>  
<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-employees-compensation-amendment-act-2016-passed-by-lok-sabha-employee-s-to-get-higher-compensation-on-injury-2243264>  
<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/lok-sabha-passes-employees-compensation-amendment-bill-2016/articleshow/53618872.cms>



## Amendments to the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given its ex-post facto approval for amendments to the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 by introducing the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2016 in Parliament. In these amendments there is increase in Maternity Benefit from 12 weeks to how many weeks for two surviving children?

- (a) 20 Weeks
- (b) 22 Weeks
- (c) 24 Weeks
- (d) 26 Weeks

**Ans: (d)**

### Related facts:

- On 10 August 2016 the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has given its ex-post facto approval for amendments to the Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 by introducing the Maternity Benefit (Amendment) Bill, 2016 in Parliament.
- The maternity benefit Act 1961 protects the employment of women during the time of her maternity and entitles her of a 'maternity benefit' – i.e. full paid absence from work – to take care for her child.
- The act is applicable to all establishments employing 10 or more persons.
- The amendments will help 1.8 million (approx.) women workforce in organised sector.
- It Increases Maternity Benefit from 12 weeks to 26 weeks for two surviving children and 12 weeks for more than two children.
- 12 weeks Maternity Benefit to a 'Commissioning mother' and 'Adopting mother'.
- It facilitate' Work from home'.
- There should be mandatory provision of Creche in respect of establishment having 50 or more employees.
- The 44th, 45th and 46th Indian Labour Conference recommended enhancement of Maternity Benefits to 24 weeks.
- Ministry of Women & Child Development proposed to enhance Maternity Benefit to 8 months.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148712>



## First unit of the Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project (KKNPP) dedicated to the nation

**Question:** Recently the first unit of the Kudankulam Nuclear plant was dedicated to the nation jointly by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin through video conferencing. The project is located in which of the following state?

- (a)Gujarat
- (b)Tamil Nadu
- (c)Karnataka
- (d)Kerala

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 10 August 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin jointly dedicated the first unit of the Kudankulam Nuclear plant to the nation via video conferencing.
- The project is located in the Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu state.
- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister J Jayalalithaa also participated in video conferencing from Chennai.
- While the Prime Minister of India and Russian President Vladimir Putin participated from New Delhi and Moscow respectively.
- The plant is connected to the southern grid.
- The operation of the first 1,000 MW units at Kudankulam Nuclear Power Project started from midnight of the December 31, 2014 generating 1,000 MW.
- Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited. (NPCIL) is setting up two Russian reactors of 1000 MW capacity at Kudankulam.
- The Kudankulam 1 has been jointly built by the Nuclear Power Corporation of India and Russia's Rosatom and it had started generating electricity in 2013.
- The unit 1 and 2 of Kudankulam plant were built at a cost of Rs 20,962 crore. A major share of power generated in the plant goes to Tamil Nadu, followed by Karnataka, Kerala and Puducherry.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148683>

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7750769\\_1st-unit-of-Kudankulam-dedicated-to-nation-](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7750769_1st-unit-of-Kudankulam-dedicated-to-nation-)

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/modi-putin-jayalalithaa-dedicate-kknpp1-to-the-nation/article8968903.ece>

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



## Annual report on “Registration of Births and Deaths in Delhi- 2014

**Question:** Recently Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Delhi, Manish Sisodia released “Annual report on “Registration of Births and Deaths in Delhi- 2014” prepared by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics. According to this what is the average number of births per day in Delhi?

- (a) 1050
- (b) 1040
- (c) 1025
- (d) 1030

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 3 August 2016 Deputy Chief Minister, Govt. of Delhi, Manish Sisodia released “Annual report on “Registration of Births and Deaths in Delhi- 2014” prepared by the Directorate of Economics and Statistics.
- The Sex Ratio (Number of females per thousand males) at birth increased from 895 in the year 2013 to 896 in the year 2014.
- Institutional births have increased from 3.02 lakhs (81.75%) in 2013 to 3.10 lakhs (82.83%) in the year 2014.
- The birth rate worked out to 20.50 per thousand Populations during 2015 as against 20.88 for the year 2014
- Moreover, about 66% of institutional births were occurred in the Government hospitals and 34% in private hospitals. Average number of birth per day in Delhi works out to 1024 in the year 2014 as compared to 1014 in 2013.
- The Infant Mortality Rate per thousand live births has reduced from 22.37 in 2013 to 21.66 in 2014.

- The Death Rate per thousand of population worked out to 6.82 during 2015 as against 6.77 in 2014.
- Maternal mortality rate per thousand live births was 0.37 in 2015 while it was 0.43 in 2014.
- Average number of births per day in Delhi worked out to 1025 in 2015 as against 1024 in 2014.
- Of the total births registered 197080 (52.69%) were male and 176932 (47.31%) female.
- The average number of deaths per day in Delhi worked out to 341 in the year 2015 as against 332 during 2014.
- 62.70% of the total deaths were reported by the medical institutions and the remaining 37.30% were domiciliary deaths during 2015.
- The analysis of major causes of institutional deaths during 2015 as per ICD 10 (i.e. International Classification of Diseases-10th Revision) reflect that 8.31% deaths were due to septicemia, 4.98% due to hypertensive, 4.66% due to tuberculosis, 4.28% due to shock (n.e.c.) and 3.84% due to disease of pulmonary circulation and other forms of heart diseases. The remaining MCCD deaths were due to other causes.

#### **Reference:**

<http://www.delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/fbf461804db49ab688388860df6178b3/final+annual+report+2015.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&Imod=1166129787&CACHEID=fbf461804db49ab688388860df6178b3>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/1.25-lakh-deaths-in-delhi-in-2015-62-pc-at-hospitals-report/1/731502.html>

[http://delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/doit\\_publicity/Information+and+Publicity/Press+Release/Chief+Minister/Deputy+Chief+Minister+Releases+Annual+Report+on+Registration+of+Births+and+Deaths+in+Delhi2014+,+27th+August+2015](http://delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/doit_publicity/Information+and+Publicity/Press+Release/Chief+Minister/Deputy+Chief+Minister+Releases+Annual+Report+on+Registration+of+Births+and+Deaths+in+Delhi2014+,+27th+August+2015)

## Swachh Survekshan-2017

**Question:** Recently Minister of Urban Development M.Venkaiah Naidu launched 'Swachh Suvekshan-2017' to assess and rank how many cities and towns based on levels of sanitation and efforts made by respective urban local bodies?

- (a) 400
- (b) 300
- (c) 500
- (d) 200

**Ans: (c)**

### Related facts:

- On 6 August 2016 Minister of Urban Development M.Venkaiah Naidu launched 'Swachh Suvekshan-2017' to assess and rank 500 cities and towns based on levels of sanitation and efforts made by respective urban local bodies and also to capture progress towards achieving 'Open Defecation Free' status.
- He also launched a web portal 'Swachhata App' and 'Swachhta Helpline 1969' to enable citizens associate more and more with Swachh Bharat Mission in urban areas.
- Cities with a population of one lakh and above each, heritage and tourism cities, capital cities with less than one lakh population are included in this survey, the second since the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission.
- He launched 'Asli Tarakki' campaign highlighting the need for construction of toilets and using them well.
- This campaign to be mounted on TV channels and in print media soon brings out that having two wheelers, air coolers, TV sets etc., is not 'Asli Tarakki' (real development) if such people did not either have toilets or don't use them.



- Since the launch of Swachh Bharat Mission in October, 2014, construction of 21 lakh household individual toilets has been completed and construction of another 21 lakh toilets is in progress.
- The mission target in this regard is construction of 1.04 cr toilets by 2019.
- Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala will become ODF by March, 2017
- Since the last survey, the Government of India has taken several policy and other initiatives to give a further momentum to the Swachh Bharat Mission. Briefly, these include:
  - Waste to Energy power of 411 MW by 2018, as against the present generation of 53 MW;
  - To promote conversion of Waste to Compost, Market Development Assistance of Rs.1500/- per ton of such compost has been announced.
  - Swachh Bharat Mission Guidelines have been revised enhancing Viability Grant Funding(VGF)/Grant from Rs.26,000/- to Rs.39,200/- per each community toilet seat to be built;
  - Over 150 Waste Management equipment have now been notified with DGS&D.
  - Quality Council of India which conducted the last Survey in 73 cities will conduct the survey in 500 cities and towns.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148459>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148457>



# INTERNATIONAL

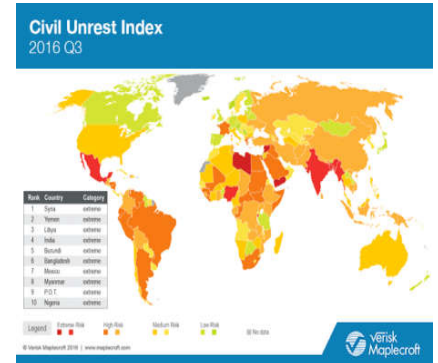
## Global Civil Unrest Index (CUI)

**Question: Which of the following firm has released its latest quarterly Civil Unrest Index (CUI)?**

- (a) Verisk Maplecroft
- (b) Microsoft
- (c) Forbes
- (d) None of the Above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 3 August 2016 London-based risk analysis firm Verisk Maplecroft has released its latest quarterly Civil Unrest Index.
- The index tracked changes in social or political unrest that could disrupt business operations across 197 countries.
- In this list Syria is ranked first followed by Yemen and Libya at second and third place respectively.
- India has been ranked 4 in Verisk Maplecroft's list of countries losing out on business opportunities due to civil unrest, after Syria, Yemen and Libya.
- The country features among emerging markets such as India (4th), Mexico (7th), Nigeria (10th), South Africa (13th), Argentina (15th) and Brazil (21st).

**Reference:**

<https://maplecroft.com/portfolio/new-analysis/2016/08/03/civil-unrest-companies-face-higher-risk-disruption-france-any-other-western-economy-global-index/>

<https://www.gtnews.com/2016/08/03/french-civil-unrest-threatens-business-disruption/>

<http://www.businessinsider.in/These-Are-The-Countries-That-Have-Destabilized-The-Most-Over-The-Past-3-Months/articleshow/44775609.cms>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/indicators/india-is-riskier-for-business-than-bangladesh-according-to-this-index/articleshow/53570906.cms>

## 7th Meeting of SAARC Ministers of Interior/Home

**Question:** The 7th Meeting of SAARC Ministers of Interior/Home was held at-

- (a) Thimphu
- (b) Kathmandu
- (c) Islamabad
- (d) Dhaka

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 4 August 2016; the 7th Meeting of SAARC Ministers of Interior/Home concluded in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- This was preceded by the seventh meeting of the SAARC secretaries of Interior/Home on August 3. In which Union home secretary Rajiv Mehraishi has led the Indian delegation at the meeting.
- Apart from terrorism, other key issues discussed includes liberalisation of visa, illegal trafficking in narcotic drugs, psychotropic substances and small arms and how to make coordinated and concerted efforts to combat such menace.
- Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh led the Indian delegation in 7th Meeting of SAARC Ministers of Interior/Home.
- In addition, on India's behalf he had placed the following suggestions
  1. The will and the mandate of the international community against proscribed and wanted terrorists and their organizations must be respected and implemented.
  2. Attempts to distinguish between good and bad terrorists should be done away with, as this would be a mistake.
  3. Immediate and effective action is required against all those who support or encourage international terrorism in any way, whether they are state or non-state actors.
  4. Effective measures to be taken to ensure that those involved in terrorist acts do

not escape prosecution and punishment, and are extradited so that they cannot escape prosecution.

5. All member states, which have not ratified SAARC convention on Mutual Assistance on Criminal Matters, need to ratify the same.

6. Member states who have not yet given their acceptance to set up SAARC Terrorist Offences Monitoring Desk (STOMD) should give their concurrence for the same.

7. He made a special mention at the Conference on the number of new initiatives taken in India such as “Track Child” and “Operation Smile”. In addition, I brought to the notice of the participants the measures taken by the Indian Government for honest, transparent and accountable governance through schemes such as “Jan Dhan Yojana” and “Aadhaar”.

- The following initiatives were declared on India’s behalf in the SAARC meeting of Home Ministers and Home Secretaries:-
  1. Technical assistance for effective implementation of STOMD and SDOMD
  2. To seek the concurrence of member states to participate in the second High Level Group of eminent experts to strengthen the SAARC Anti-Terrorism Mechanism being hosted by India on September 22-23, 2016. Fortunately all member states agreed.
  3. Capacity Building Programmes in India to strengthen drug control mechanisms of member States.
  4. Offered to host the first meeting of SAARC Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs).

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148343>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/pakistan-committed-to-work-with-saarc-to-combat-terror-sharif/article8942560.ece>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148393>

# ECONOMICS

## List of 20 'World's Highest Paid Actors 2016

**Question:** How many Indian actors are included among the world's highest paid actors of 2016?

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

**Ans:** (a)



**Related facts:**

- On 25 August 2016 Forbes magazine published the list of the world's highest paid actors.
- Wrestler cum actor Dwayne Johnson topped a Forbes magazine list of the world's highest paid actors with an estimated 2016 pay day of USD 64.5 million
- Jackie Chan, the most recognized Chinese actor in the world, is second on the list with USD 61 million.
- Matt Damon came in third with USD 55 million dollars.
- Tom Cruise is placed at the number four spot with earnings of USD 53 million and Johnny Depp at the fifth with USD 48 million.
- Bollywood stars Shahrukh Khan, Amitabh Bachchan, Salman Khan and Akshay Kumar are also among the world's highest paid actors of 2016.
- Shahrukh Khan is ranked 8th on the list of 20 of the 'World's Highest Paid Actors 2016', tied with 'Iron Man' Downey Jr with earnings of USD 33 million.
- Akshay is tied with Hollywood heartthrob Pitt for the 10th position with earnings of USD 31.5 million.
- Salman is ranked 14th on the list with earnings of USD 28.5 million.
- Amitabh Bachchan is on the 18th rank with earnings of USD 20 million.

**Reference:**

<http://www.forbes.com/pictures/emjl45efhje/the-worlds-highest-paid/#6422fe848831>

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/natalierobehmed/2016/08/25/the-worlds-highest-paid-actors-2016-the-rock-leads-with-knockout-64-5-million-year/#68e2596145da>

## 10 wealthiest countries in the world

**Question:** In the report by New World Wealth, India is ranked at which of the following position among the 10 wealthiest countries in the world?

- (a) Fourth
- (b) Sixth
- (c) Seventh
- (d) Third

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 23 August 2016 Johannesburg (South Africa) based New World Wealth released the list of The 10 Wealthiest Countries in the World.
- The U.S is the wealthiest in the world in terms of total individual wealth held (\$ 48,900 billion).
- While China stood second and Japan third, with total individual wealth of \$ 17,400 billion and USD 15,100 billion, respectively.
- Others in the top 10 club include the United Kingdom (4) with a total individual wealth of \$ 9,200 billion, followed by Germany (5th, \$ 9,100 billion) and France (6th, \$ 6,600 billion).
- India ranked seventh wealthiest country in the world.
- It figures among the 10 wealthiest countries, with a total individual wealth of \$ 5,600 billion.
- Canada (4,700 billion US dollars) ranked eighth, Australia (4500 billion US dollars) ninth and Italy (4,400 billion US dollars) at the tenth position.

**Reference:**

<http://nebula.wsimg.com/d4beceb6ff29162908c2fb5ded56490?AccessKeyId=70E2D0A589B97BD675FB&disposition=0&alloworigin=1>

## India Post Payments Bank Incorporated

**Question: When did the India Post Payments Bank Limited has received the Certificate of Incorporation from the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs yesterday under the Companies Act 2013?**

- (a) 18 August 2016
- (b) 17 August 2016
- (c) 13 August 2016
- (d) 19 August 2016

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 18 August 2016 the India Post Payments Bank Limited has received the Certificate of Incorporation from the Registrar of Companies, Ministry of Corporate Affairs yesterday under the Companies Act 2013.
- This would be the first PSU under the Department of Posts.
- The new bank is expected to commence operations by March 2017 and will set up 650 branches and 5000 ATMs across the country.
- Coupled with the physical presence across 1.55 lakh post offices and the reach of “The Dakiya”, the India Post Payments Bank aims to become a powerful and effective vehicle of real financial inclusion in the country.
- The aspiration for the India Post Payments Bank is to become the most accessible bank in the world riding on state of the art banking and payments technology.
- This would be set up as public limited company with 100% shareholdings of the government of India.
- It may be recalled that India Post Payments Bank Limited has obtained banking licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in March 2016.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149001>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/india-post-payments-bank-receives-certificate-of-incorporation/articleshow/53756730.cms>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/india-post-payments-bank-set-for-2017-start/article9003901.ece>



## Cabinet approves foreign investment in other Financial Services sector

**Question:** In which of the following year's budget Speech, the Hon'ble Finance Minister had announced that "FDI will be allowed beyond the 18 specified NBFC activities in the automatic route in other activities which are regulated by financial sector regulators?"

- (a) Year 2014-15
- (b) Year 2015-16
- (c) Year 2016-17
- (d) Year 2013-14

**Ans:** (c)

### Related facts:



- On 10 August 2016 Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval to amend regulation for foreign investment in the Non- Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs).
- The amendment in the existing Foreign Exchange Management (Transfer or Issue of Security by the Person Resident Outside India) regulations on Non- Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) will enable inflow of foreign investment in "Other Financial Services" on automatic route provided such services are regulated by any financial sector regulators (RBI, SEBI, PFRDA etc.) / Government Agencies.
- Foreign investment in "Other Financial Services", which are not regulated by any regulators / Government Agency, can be made on approval route.
- Further, minimum capitalisation norms as mandated under FDI policy have been eliminated as most of the regulators have already fixed minimum capitalisation norms.
- This will induce FDI and spurt economic activities.
- It will cover whole India and is not limited to any State/Districts.
- In the Budget 2016-17 Speech, the Hon'ble Finance Minister had announced that "FDI will be allowed beyond the 18 specified NBFC activities in the automatic route in other activities which are regulated by financial sector regulators".
- The present regulations on "Non-Banking Finance Companies" stipulates that FDI would be allowed on automatic route for only 18 specified NBFC activities after fulfilling prescribed minimum capitalisation norms mentioned therein.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148699>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/cabinet-nod-for-changes-to-fdi-regulations-in-nbfc/article8969847.ece>

## List of Americas top wealth advisors by Forbes Magazine

**Question:** How many Indian-origin persons have been named among America's top wealth advisors by Forbes Magazine on a list of 200 members who collectively manage USD 675 billion?

- (a) Four
- (b) Five
- (c) Six
- (d) Seven

**Ans: (a)**



### Related facts:

- On 3 August 2016 list of America's top wealth advisors was released by Forbes Magazine.
- The 200 members on the list collectively manage USD 675 billion.
- Jeffrey Erdmann associated with Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has topped the list.
- Four Indian-origin persons have been named among America's top wealth advisors by Forbes.
- Raj Sharma and Ash Chopra, both working in Merrill Lynch – Private Banking & Investment Group, have been ranked 17th and 129th respectively.
- While Sonny Kothari of Merrill Lynch Wealth Management has been ranked 176th, Raju Pathak of Morgan Stanley Wealth Management is placed at 184th position.

### Reference:

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/steveschaefer/2016/08/03/americas-top-wealth-managers-2016-the-advisors-millionaires-and-billionaires-trust-with-their-money/#b64a8777c5da>  
<http://www.forbes.com/top-wealth-advisors/#59360d1b7051>  
<http://www.forbes.com/sites/antoinagara/2016/08/03/how-jeff-erdmann-became-forbes-top-ranked-wealth-manager/#33dd9341d691>  
<http://www.theindianpanorama.news/2016/08/05/07/featured/indians-abroad/4-indian-americans-among-us-top-wealth-advisors-forbes-66944/>

## Fourth Advance Production Estimates of Major Crops During 2015-16

**Question: Recently the 4th Advance Estimates of production of major crops for 2015-16 have been released by-**

- (a) Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare
- (b) Ministry of Agriculture
- (c) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
- (d) None of the above

**Ans (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 2 August 2016 the 4th Advance Estimates of production of major crops for 2015-16 have been released by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare.
- As per the 4th Advance Estimates for 2015-16 total foodgrains production in the country has been higher than that in the last year.
- Total foodgrains production during 2015-16, estimated at 252.22 million tonnes, has been higher by 0.20 million tonnes over the production of 252.02 million tonnes during 2014-15.
- Total production of rice during 2015-16 is estimated at 104.32 million tonnes, which is lower by 1.16 million tonnes than its production of 105.48 million tonnes during 2014-15.
- Production of wheat estimated at 93.50 million tonnes is higher by 6.97 million tonnes than the production of 86.53 million tonnes of wheat during 2014-15.
- Total production of coarse cereals is estimated at 37.94 million tonnes which is lower by 4.92 million tonnes as compared to their production of 42.86 million tonnes during 2014-15.
- Total pulses production of 16.47 million tonnes during 2015-16 is marginally lower than the previous year's production of 17.15 million tonnes.
- With a decline of 2.207 million tonnes over the previous year's production's total oilseeds production in the country during 2015-16 is estimated at 25.304 million tonnes.
- Production of sugarcane estimated at 352.16 million tonnes, is lower by 10.17 million tonnes than its production during 2014-15.
- Production of Cotton estimated at 30.147 million bales (of 170 kg each) is also lower by 4.658 million bales than its production of 34.805 million bales during 2014-15.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148215>

# SPORTS

## TENNIS

### Connecticut Open: 2016

**Question: Who among the following has won the women's singles title of the recently held Connecticut Open-2016?**

- (a) Elina Svitolina      (b) Sania Mirza  
(c) Monica Niculescu   (d) Agnieszka Radwańska

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- The 2016 Connecticut Open (also known as the 2016 Connecticut Open presented by United Technologies for sponsorship reasons) was a tennis tournament played from August 21 through to August 27 at the Cullman-Heyman Tennis Center in New Haven, Connecticut, United States.
- Result of the tournament:
  - Women's Singles:
    - Winner: Agnieszka Radwańska(Poland)
    - Runner Up: Elina Svitolina(Ukraine)
  - Women's Doubles:
    - Winner: Sania Mirza(India) and Monica Niculescu(Romania)
    - Runner Up: Kateryna Bondarenko(Ukraine) and Chia-jung Chuang (Chinese Taipei)



**Reference:**

<http://www.wtatennis.com/tournaments/tournamentId/535/title/connecticut-open>

<http://www.wtatennis.com/SEWTATour-Archive/posting/2016/602/MDS.pdf>

<http://www.wtatennis.com/SEWTATour-Archive/posting/2016/602/MDD.pdf>

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/sport/sania-monica-win-connecticut-open/287125.html>

## Rogers Cup-2016

**Question: Who among the following has won men's singles title of the recently held Rogers Cup-2016?**

- (a) Andy Murray
- (b) Novak Djokovic
- (c) Daniel Nestor
- (d) Mike Bryan

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- The 2016 Rogers Cup presented by National Bank was a tennis tournament played on outdoor hard courts. It was the 127th edition (for the men) and the 114th (for the women) of the Canadian Open.
- The men's event was held at the Aviva Centre in Toronto, from 25 to July 31 and the women's event was held at the Uniprix in Montreal, from July 25 to July 31.
- Result of the tournament is as follows:
- Men's Singles:
  - Winner: Novak Djokovic(Serbia)
  - Runner Up: Kei Nishikori(Japan)
- Women's Singles:
  - Winner: Simona Halep(Romania)
  - Runner Up: Madison Keys(United States)
- Men's Doubles:
  - Winner: Ivan Dodig (Croatia) and Marcelo Melo(Brazil)
  - Runner Up: Jamie Murray(United Kingdom) and Bruno Soares(Brazil)
- Women's Doubles:
  - Winner: Ekaterina Makarova and Elena Vesnina(Both are from Russia)
  - Runner Up: Romania Simona Halep / Romania Monica Niculescu

**Reference:**

<http://37enjo1vi51p36jxpo2ascud.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/MDD-4.pdf>

<http://37enjo1vi51p36jxpo2ascud.wpengine.netdna-cdn.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/MDS-6.pdf>

<http://www.couperogers.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2016/07/MDS-3.pdf>

## German Tennis Championships 2016

**Question: Who among the following has won men's singles title of recently held German Tennis Championships-2016?**

- (a) Martin Klizan (b) Henri Kontinen  
(c) Pablo Cuevas (d) Daniel Nestor

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- From 11 to 17 July 2016; German Tennis Championships-2016 has been taken place.
- It took place at the Rothenbaum in Hamburg, Germany.
- The 2016 German Open was a men's tennis tournament.
- It was the 109th edition of the German Open and part of the ATP World Tour 500 series of the 2016 ATP World Tour.
- Result of the tournament is as follows:
- Men's Singles:
- Winner: Martin Klizan (Slovakia)
- Runner Up: Pablo Cuevas (Uruguay)
- Men's Doubles:
- Winner: Henri Kontinen (Finland) and John Peers (Australia)
- Runner: Daniel Nestor (Canada) and Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi (Pakistan)

**Reference:**

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/tournaments/hamburg/414/overview>

<https://german-open-hamburg.de/app/uploads/mdd-2016.pdf>

<https://german-open-hamburg.de/app/uploads/mds-2016.pdf>

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/news/klizan-cuevas-hamburg-2016-sunday>



# GOLF

## Travelers golf Championship

**Question: Who among the following has won the title of recently held Travelers golf Championship?**

- (a) Russell Knox      (b) Jason Day  
(c) Adam Scott      (d) Jim Furyk

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- The Travelers Championship is a professional golf tournament on the PGA Tour held in Cromwell, Connecticut, United States.
- The tournament was played from 4 to 7 August for the 2016 season.
- Russell Knox of Scotland has won the title of Travelers golf Championship
- Jim Furyk, an American golfer made history after becoming the first man to card a round of 58 at a PGA Tour event.



**Reference:**

<http://www.pgatour.com/tournaments/travelers-championship.html>

<http://www.pgatour.com/daily-wrapup/2016/08/07/knox-wins-travelers-championship.html>

<http://www.pgatour.com/tournaments/travelers-championship/leaderboard.html>

## PGA Championship

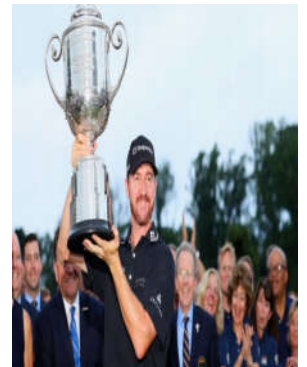
**Question: Who among the following has won the title of the PGA Championship-2016?**

- (a) Shane Lowry      (b) Jason Day  
(c) Jimmy Walker      (d) Ricky Fowler

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- From 25–31 July 2016; The 2016 PGA Championship tournament was played.
- It was the 98th PGA Championship which took place at Baltusrol Golf Club on the Lower Course in Springfield Township, New Jersey, U.S.A.
- Jimmy Walker won his first major championship title with a score of 14 under par.
- Second place was secured by 2015 champion Australian golfer Jason Day.



**Reference:**

<http://www.pga.com/pgachampionship/scoring/scorecard/25632>

<http://www.pga.com/pgachampionship/scoring/undefined/25632>



## The Open Championship

**Question: Who among the following has won the title of the recently held Open Championship-2016?**

- (a) Jordan Spieth
- (b) Dustin Johnson
- (c) Adam Scott
- (d) Henrik Stenson

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- From 14 to 17 July; 2016 the 2016 Open Championship was played at Royal Troon Golf Club in Ayrshire, Scotland.
- It was the 145th Open Championship in the series.
- The Open Championship was won by Henrik Stenson who achieved a record 20 under par.
- He became the first Scandinavian man to win a major title.



**Reference:**

<http://www.pgatour.com/tournaments/the-open-championship.html>

<http://www.pgatour.com/news/2016/07/17/henrik-stenson-phil-mickelson-duel-in-the-sun-II.html>

## Canadian Open

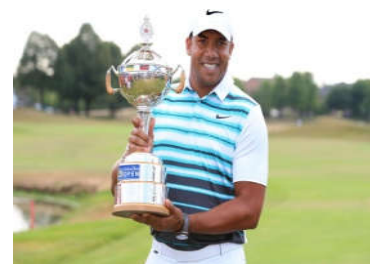
**Question: Recently who among the following has won the title of the RBC Canadian Open-2016?**

- (a) Henrik Stenson
- (b) Tiger Woods
- (c) Luke Donald
- (d) Jhonattan Vegas

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- From 21-24 July 2016; RBC Canadian Open-2016 was held at Ontario, Canada.
- Venezuela's professional golfer Jhonattan Vegas has won the competition.



**Reference:**

[http://rbccanadianopen.com/news\\_details.aspx?ID=3095](http://rbccanadianopen.com/news_details.aspx?ID=3095)

<http://www.pgatour.com/tournaments/rbc-canadian-open.html>

# FORMULA ONE

## Belgian Grand Prix-2016

**Question:** Who among the following has won the title of the Belgian Grand Prix-2016?

- (a) Lewis Hamilton
- (b) Nico Rosberg
- (c) Sebastian Vettel
- (d) Romain Grosjean

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- The 2016 Belgian Grand Prix (formally known as the 2016 Formula 1 Belgian Grand Prix) was a Formula One motor race held on 28 August 2016 at the Circuit de Spa-Francorchamps in Stavelot, Belgium.
- It was the thirteenth round of the 2016 Formula One season.
- German driver of Mercedes team Nico Rosberg has won the competition.

**Reference:**

<http://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2016/races/949/belgium.html>

<https://www.formula1.com/en/latest/headlines/2016/8/rosberg-wins-frenetic-spa-race-as-hamilton-recovers-to-third.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/live/2016/aug/28/f1-belgian-grand-prix-live>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/08/28/motorsport/belgian-grand-prix-chaos/>

## German Grand Prix

**Question: Who has won the title of the recently held German Gran Prix -2016?**

- (a) Lewis Hamilton
- (b) Sebastian Vettel
- (c) Ivan Sozonov
- (d) Nico Rosberg

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 31 July 2016; The 2016 German Grand Prix, a Formula One motor race took place in Hockenheim, Germany.
- British driver of Mercedes team, Lewis Hamilton has won the title of the 2016 German Grand Prix.
- This was 12th race of 2016 session and the 6th race, which is won by Lewis Hamilton.
- The next Formula One race, "The Belgium Grand Prix" will be held on 28 August 2016 in Belgium.
- German driver of Mercedes team, Nico Rosberg who won 5 out of 12 races secured 4th place in the race.

**Reference:**

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2016/races/948/germany.html>

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/jul/31/lewis-hamilton-wins-german-grand-prix-f1-championship-lead-nico-rosberg>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/07/31/motorsport/lewis-hamilton-nico-rosberg-daniel-ricciardo-max-verstappen-german-grand-prix/>

# SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

## Five sports added to Tokyo 2020 Olympics

**Question:** Which of the following five sports were added to Tokyo 2020 Olympics?

- (a) Surfing, Karate, Baseball/Softball, Sport climbing and Skateboarding
- (b) Hockey, Cricket, Baseball, Softball, Karate
- (c) Formula One race, Boxing, Karate, Surfing, Ice skate
- (d) Baseball / Softball, Karate, Skateboard, Surfing, Sports climbing



**Ans: (a)**

### Related facts:

- On 3 August 2016 the the Organising Committee for the Tokyo 2020 Games proposed the five new sports in response to the new flexibility provided by Olympic Agenda 2020.
- International Olympic Committee approved Surfing, Karate, Baseball/Softball, Sport Climbing and Skateboarding to the programme for the Tokyo Games.
- The decision was taken by the 129th IOC Session in Rio de Janeiro.
- The inclusion of the new sports will add 18 events and 474 athletes.

### Reference:

<https://www.olympic.org/news/ioc-approves-five-new-sports-for-olympic-games-tokyo-2020>

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/aug/03/baseball-surfing-five-sports-added-tokyo-olympics>

## Run for Rio

**Question:** Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 'Run for Rio' from which of the following stadium as a means to encourage the Indian contingent at the Olympics?

- (a) Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi
- (b) Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, New Delhi
- (c) Vijay Chowk, New Delhi
- (d) India Gate, New Delhi

**Ans: (b)**



### Related facts:

- On 31 July 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 'Run for Rio' from Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium to the Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium as a means to encourage the Indian contingent at the Olympics.
- Thousands of school children and youth participating in 'Run for Rio'.
- Run for Rio, "was organized by the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs.
- It should be known that 119 Indian athletes have qualified for the Olympics.

### Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/narendra-modi-flags-off-run-for-rio/article8924532.ece>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/slideshows/events/run-for-riopm-modi-wishes-luck-to-rio-bound-indian-athletes/pm-modi-wishes-luck-to-rio-bound-indian-athletes/slideshow/53474047.cms>

<http://indianexpress.com/videos/news-video/rio-2016-olympics-are-more-than-winning-and-losing-pm-narendra-modi-at-run-for-rio/>

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/pm-narendra-modi-to-flag-off-run-for-rio-in-delhi-1438365>

# Short Notes

## PERSONALITIES

### S.R Nathan

**Question:** Recently S. R Nathan passed away. He was the former president of which of the following country?

- (a) Thailand
- (b) Singapore
- (c) Cambodia
- (d) Mauritius

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 22 August 2016 Former Singapore President S.R Nathan has passed away. He was 92.
- He served as Singapore's President from 1999 to 2011.
- In 2012 he was awarded the 'Pravasi Bharatiya Samman' by the Government of India.



**Reference:**

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-singapore-nathan-death-idUSKCN10X1GX?il=0>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/political-leaders-condole-death-of-sr-nathan/article9022696.ece>

### George E. Curry

**Question:** Recently George E. Curry passed away. He was a -

- (a) Writer
- (b) Historian
- (c) Journalist
- (d) Singer

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 20 August 2016 famous American journalist and columnist George E. Curry passed away. He was 69.
- He was born in Alabama, worked for a variety of publications throughout his career, including Sports Illustrated.
- He served as the Tribune's New York bureau chief before founding Emerge magazine in 1993.



George E. Curry  
Media Columnist

**Reference:**

<http://money.cnn.com/2016/08/21/media/george-curry-obituary/>

<http://chicagocrusader.com/trusted-comrade-black-press-legend-george-curry-dies-69/>

## New Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as the 24th Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- (a) Kaushik Basu
- (b) Rakesh Jain
- (c) Arvind Subramanian
- (d) Dr. Urjit Patel



**Ans:** (d)

### Related facts:

- On 20 August 2016 Urjit R Patel has been appointed as the 24th Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) by Union Government.
- He has been appointed for a period of three years with effect from 4th September, 2016.
- Patel is currently the deputy governor of Reserve Bank of India.
- Urjit Patel has become the eighth Deputy Governor in Reserve Bank's history to be made its Governor and the sixth with an experience at the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- He joined as RBI deputy governor on January 7, 2013.
- Patel, born on October 28, 1963, received his doctorate in economics from Yale University in 1990 and M Phil from Oxford in 1986.
- He has worked with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) between 1990 and 1995 covering the US, India, Bahamas and Myanmar desks. He will be the eighth Deputy Governor to be made Governor at RBI.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149065>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/finance/urjit-patel-to-be-8th-dy-guv-to-become-governor-at-rbi-116082000668\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/finance/urjit-patel-to-be-8th-dy-guv-to-become-governor-at-rbi-116082000668_1.html)



## Neera Tanden

**Question:** Name the Indian American who has been appointed as one of the four co-chairs to the Clinton campaign's Transition Project?

- (a) Amit Gupta
- (b) Neera Tanden
- (c) Vijay Krishnamoorthy
- (d) Meera Dass

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 16 August 2016 an Indian-American, Neera Tanden has been appointed as one of the four co-chairs to the Clinton campaign's Transition Project.
- The Clinton-Kaine Transition Project, headed by the former Interior Secretary Ken Salazar, has been tasked to ensure "smooth transition of power".
- Ken Salazar, former Interior Secretary, is the chairman of the team.
- Former national security adviser Tom Donilon, former Michigan Governor Jennifer Granholm and Ms. Clinton's 2008 campaign manager Maggie Williams are the other co-chairs.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/indian-american-appointed-co-chair-of-clinton-transition-116081601098\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/indian-american-appointed-co-chair-of-clinton-transition-116081601098_1.html)

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/tanden-is-cochair-of-hillary-team/article8995468.ece>

## New Chief Minister of Gujarat

**Question: Who has sworn in as the 16th Chief Minister of Gujarat after Anandiben Patel had resigned from the post?**

- (a) Nitin Patel
- (b) Vijay Rupani
- (c) Nitin Gadkari
- (d) Om Prakash Mathur

**Ans: (b)**



### Related facts:

- On 7 August 2016, Vijay Rupani was administered the oath of post and secrecy by the Gujarat governor O.P. Kohli at the ceremony held at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhi Nagar.
- He is a first time MLA in the present Gujarat Assembly.
- While Nitin Patel was named his deputy
- It may be recalled that Anandiben Patel, Outgoing Gujarat Chief Minister had resigned from the post on 1 August 2016.
- She was sworn in as the Chief Minister on May 22, 2016.
- Currently, Vijay Rupani is a member of the Gujarat Legislative Assembly and represents Rajkot West and presently the state president of the BJP.

### Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/vijay-rupani-chosen-gujarat-chief-minister/article8948898.ece>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/vehicle-carrying-beef-set-on-fire-in-saharanpur/article9023107.ece>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Vijay-Rupani-named-Gujarat-chief-minister-Nitin-Patel-to-be-deputy-CM/articleshow/53559312.cms>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/gujarat-bjp-president-vijay-rupani-becomes-new-cm-of-state/articleshow/53559478.cms>

## Bardish Chagger

**Question:** Recently Bardish Chagger has been named as the new Leader of the government in which of the following country's House of Commons?

- (a) Australia
- (b) Canada
- (c) Indonesia
- (d) Thailand

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 19 August 2016; Indo-Canadian Sikh MP Bardish Chagger has been named as the new Leader of the government in Canada's House of Commons.
- She is the first woman to hold the post in the country's history.
- Chagger also the first visible minority Canadian to hold the job of government House leader in the Commons.
- She had replaced Dominic LeBlanc.
- She is one of the four Sikh Canadians inducted into Trudeau's Cabinet besides Defence Minister Harjit Sajjan, Infrastructure Minister Amarjeet Sohi and Innovation Minister Navdeep Singh Bains
- She was also appointed Minister of Small Business and Tourism in November 2015.

**Reference:**

<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/news/2016/08/19/prime-minister-canada-announces-changes-ministry>

<http://pm.gc.ca/eng/minister/honourable-bardish-chagger>  
[tml](#)

<https://www.thestar.com/news/canada/2016/08/19/trudeau-promotes-waterloo-mp-to-house-leader.html>



## Appointments of New Governor and Lieutenant Governor by President of India

**Question:** Recently President of India has appointed New Governors and Lieutenant Governor. Former Union Minister Najma Heptulla has been appointed as the Governor of which of the following state?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Manipur
- (c) Punjab
- (d) Haryana

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 17 August 2016 President of India has appointed New Governors in 3 states and Lieutenant Governor in one Union Territory.
- Former Union Minister Najma Heptulla was made Governor of Manipur.
- Banwarilal Purohit has been appointed as the Governor of Assam and V.P. Singh Badnore appointed as the Governor of Punjab.
- Delhi-based BJP leader and former MLA, Prof. Jagdish Mukhi as the Lieutenant Governor of Andaman and Nicobar Islands vice Lt. Gen. (Retd.) A.K. Singh, PVSM, AVSM, SM, VSM.
- The above appointments will take effect from the dates the incumbents assume charge of their respective offices.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148969>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/najma-heptulla-appointed-manipur-governor/articleshow/53739924.cms>

## Gurdial Singh

**Question:** Recently eminent Punjabi writer and novelist Gurdial Singh passed away. He was awarded with Jnanpith in which of the following year?

- (a) 1998
- (b) 1999
- (c) 2003
- (d) 2000

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 16 August 2016 eminent Punjabi writer and novelist Gurdial Singh passed away in Bathinda. He was 83.
- He has contributed towards the promotion of Punjabi language, literature and culture.
- He was awarded with Jnanpith in year 1999.
- He got Sahitya Academy award for his novel 'Marhi Da Diva'.
- He received the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1975, followed by the Soviet Land Nehru Award in 1986, Shiromani Sahitkar award in 1992, Paash Award in 1995, and Padma Shri in 1998.
- The film 'Marhi Da Deewa', based on his novel, received the national award in the Best Feature Film in Punjabi category in 1989.
- 'Marhi Da Diva' and 'Anhe Ghore Da Daan', two novels of Gurdial Singh were made into films. His other noted novels are 'Parsa', 'Dukhiya Daas Kabir Ha', 'Adh Chanini Raat', 'Anhoe'.
- 'Anhe Ghore Da Daan', was shortlisted for India's official entry to the Oscar Awards.



**Reference:**

<http://www.tribuneindia.com/news/punjab/jnanpith-awardee-punjabi-writer-gurdial-singh-dies-at-83/281038.html>

<http://www.ndtv.com/people/gurdial-singh-noted-punjabi-writer-dies-at-83-1445130>

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/punjab/eminant-punjabi-writer-gurdial-singh-passes-away/story-zCOiKXiZm vlfMldaoMzJUI.html>

## Administrator of Union Territory of Lakshadweep appointed

**Question: Who has been appointed as Administrator of Union Territory of Lakshadweep?**

- (a) Alok Ranjan (b) Pradeep Singhal  
(c) Deepa Mitra (d) Farooq Khan

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On 17 August 2016; Farooq Khan, IPS (Retd.) has been appointed as Administrator of Union Territory of Lakshadweep.
- He was a 1994 batch IPS officer who retired in 2013.
- His appointment is effective from the date he assumes charge of his office.
- He will be succeeding Vikram DevDutt, an IAS officer of 1993 batch.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148973>

## Vietnam Veedu Sundaram

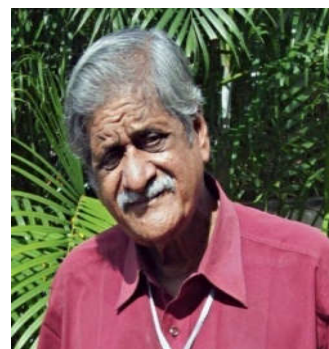
**Question: Vietnam Veedu Sundaram was born in-**

- (a) Tiruchirappalli (b) Chennai  
(c) Krishnagiri (d) Vellore

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 6 August 2016 script writer and director Vietnam Veedu Sundaram passed away.
- 76-year-old Sundaram was born in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu.
- Vietnam Veedu became part of his name after he wrote the script, first for the eponymous play and then for the film, starring Sivaji Ganesan.
- He also wrote the script for former superstar M G Ramachandran (MGR) starrers 'Naan Yaen Piranthen' and 'Naalai Namathey.'
- He later directed Ganesan in 'Gouravam' where the actor played a dual role of an uncle and nephew, both lawyers.
- He won the Tamil Nadu State Film Award for Best Dialogue Writer for his magnum opus, Vietnam Veedu in 1970.
- He also won the Arignar Anna Award in the Tamil Nadu State Film Honorary Award in 1991.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/tamil-actordirector-vietnam-veedu-sundaram-passes-away/article8952364.ece>

## A.R. Rahman

**Question:** Recently Oscar-winning music maestro A.R. Rahman has been honoured by which of the following award?

- (a) Tamil Ratna Award
- (b) Bharat Ratna award
- (c) Awadh Samman
- (d) None of These

**Ans: (a)**



### **Related facts:**

- On 17 August 2016 Oscar-winning music maestro A.R. Rahman has been honoured by the America Tamil Sangam with its Tamil Ratna Award.
- The award was presented after Rahman's concert at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) chamber.
- The concert was sponsored by India's UN Mission and Sankara Nethralaya, a Chennai-based charity devoted restoring vision through treatment and medical education and research.
- Previous recipients of Tamil Ratna award include Tamil movie director Bharathi Raja; Bharatha Natyam exponent Kamala Lakshman and Srinivasa Varadhan.

### **Reference:**

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/entertainment/tamil/A.R.-Rahman-honoured-with-Tamil-Ratna-Award/2016/08/17/article3583841.ece>

<http://www.abplive.in/movies/a-r-rahman-honoured-with-tamil-ratna-award-39988>



## Manjula Chellur

**Question: Recently Ministry of Law and Justice has appointed Justice Manjula Chellur as the next Chief Justice of which of the following High Court?**

- (a) Bombay High Court
- (b) Patna High Court
- (c) Kerala High Court
- (d) Karnataka High Court

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 10 August 2016 the Ministry of Law and Justice has notified the appointment of Justice Manjula Chellur as the next Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court.
- Justice Chellur, who is currently the Chief Justice of Calcutta High Court, will take charge of Bombay High Court on or before August 24, 2016.
- This will be the second time when the Bombay High Court has a woman judge as the Chief Justice.
- The first being Justice Sujata Manohar, who served as Chief Justice in 1994.
- She was born on December 5, 1955, Justice Chellur, was the first woman advocate to practice in Bellary.
- She was appointed as the first woman judge of Karnataka High Court, Bangalore, in February 2000.
- She became the Acting Chief Justice of the Kerala High Court in November 2011 and was sworn-in as the Chief Justice on September 26, 2012.

**Reference:**

<http://doj.gov.in/sites/default/files/Transfer%20of%20Justice%20Manjula%20Chellur,%20CJ%20Calcutta%20to%20Bombay%20HC.pdf>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/Manjula-Chellur-is-new-chief-justice-of-Bombay-high-court/articleshow/53653216.cms>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/justice-manjula-chellur-to-become-new-chief-justice-of-bombay-high-court-2969306/>

## Irom Chanu Sharmila

**Question:** Who among the following is known as the Iron Lady of Manipur?

- (a) Irom Chanu Sharmila    (b) M. C. Mary Kom  
(c) Kim Gangte            (d) None of the above

**Ans:** (a)

**Related facts:**



- On 9 August 2016 nearly 16 years after Irom Sharmila started her hunger strike to protest against the misuse of the Armed Forces Special Power Act (AFSPA) ended her fast.
- On November 2000, the Assam Rifles military forces shot and killed 10 innocent civilians at a bus stop in a small town called Malom triggered Irom Sharmila to go on a hunger strike against AFSPA.
- She is often called as the 'Iron Lady of Manipur'.
- Irom Sharmila has expressed his desire to become the chief minister of Manipur.
- Sharmila was awarded the 2007 Gwangju Prize for Human Rights.
- In 2010, she won a lifetime achievement award from the Asian Human Rights Commission.
- In 2010, she also won the Rabindranath Tagore Peace Prize of the Indian Institute of Planning and Management, which came with a cash award of 5100000 rupees.
- On International Women's Day 2014, she was voted the top woman icon of India by MSN Poll.
- Irom Chanu Sharmila was born on 14 March 1972.
- Irom Sharmila has written a poem of 1000 words with the title 'Birth'.

**Reference:**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/aug/09/indian-campaigner-irom-chanu-sharmila-end-16-year-hunger-strike>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/irom-sharmila-ends-fast-wants-to-be-chief-minister-of-manipur/article8964760.ece>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/All-you-need-to-know-about-Irom-Sharmila-the-Iron-Lady-of-Manipur/2016/07/26/article3548232.ece>

## Barendra Krushna Dhal

**Question:** Recently Narendra Krushna Dhal passed away. He was a-

- (a) Actor
- (b) Journalist
- (c) Poet
- (d) Singer

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 9 August 2016 legendary Odia Journalist and Columnist Narendra Krushna Dhal passed away at his residence He was 77.
- Dhal has authored 19 books.
- His famous literary works include novels like 'Nisheda Prema' (1960), 'Naika' (1970) and 'Mukha' (2012).
- He has also translated six Bengali novels.
- He used to write in newspapers and magazines under the title 'khola bichar' on different issues of public interest.
- He was born on March 17, 1939 at Banki in Cuttack district.
- He started the Bhubaneswar Book fare, an annual book fair in Bhubaneswar.
- He was editor of Odia daily Swaraj for a brief period.
- He was also elected as the president of the National Union of Journalists.
- He received Sahitya Akademi award in 1993.

**Reference:**

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/Veteran-scribe-Barendra-Dhal-passes-away-at-77/2016/08/10/article3572199.ece>

<http://www.odishanewsinsight.com/odisha/veteran-odia-journalist-barendra-krushna-dhal-dies-at-77/>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bhubaneswar/Veteran-journalist-Barendra-Krushna-Dhal-passes-away/articleshow/53619220.cms>

## Sree Sreenivasan

**Question:** Recently Sree Sreenivasan has been appointed as the chief digital officer of which of the following city?

- (a) Washington, DC
- (b) New York
- (c) San Francisco
- (d) California

**Ans: (b)**



**Related facts:**

- On 1 August 2016 Noted Indian American tech maven and former chief digital officer at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, Sree Sreenivasan has been appointed as the chief digital officer of New York City.
- Sreenivasan is a former teacher of journalism and Dean at Columbia University, and one of the most renowned social media experts globally is the first Chief Digital Officer of Columbia University.
- He has also been a mayoral appointee on the Commission on Public Information and Communication (COPIC) since October 2015.

**Reference:**

<http://www.news18.com/news/india/indian-origin-tech-pundit-appointed-chief-digital-officer-of-new-york-city-1276532.html>

<http://www.americanbazaaronline.com/2016/08/02/indian-american-sree-sreenivasan-named-chief-digital-officer-of-new-york-city415861/>

<http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/636-16/mayor-de-blasio-sree-sreenivasan-city-s-new-chief-digital-officer#/0>

## Kalikho Pul

**Question:** Recently Kalikho Pul passed away. He was the Former Chief Minister of which of the following state?

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

**Ans:** (d)



### Related facts:

- On 9 August 2016 Former Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Kalikho Pul passed away. He was 47 years old.
- He was found hanged from the ceiling fan in his bedroom.
- He was the chief minister of Arunachal Pradesh from February, 2016 to July, 2016.
- He became the 9th Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh in 2016 with the support of the BJP.
- He was elected five times from the constituency representing the Indian National Congress.

### Reference:

[http://ptinews.com/news/7744655\\_Former-Arunachal-CM-Kalikho-Pul-found-dead.html](http://ptinews.com/news/7744655_Former-Arunachal-CM-Kalikho-Pul-found-dead.html)

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/former-arunachal-cm-kalikho-pul-found-dead/article8963512.ece>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/former-arunachal-cm-kalikho-pul-cremated-no-minister-from-state-present-2968859/>

## T.K.V. Desikachar

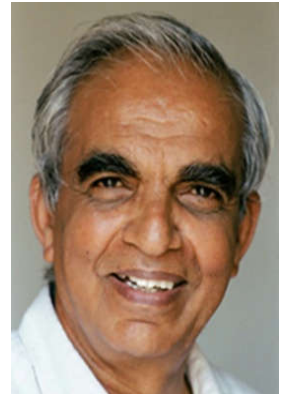
**Question:** Recently T.K.V. Desikachar passed away. He was a -

- (a) Writer                      (b) Yoga Guru  
(c) Architect                  (d) Artist

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 8 August 2016 Yoga Guru T.K.V. Desikachar passed away. He was 78.
- He was popularly acknowledged as the 'father of modern yoga'.
- He was as student of engineering before he learnt yoga from his father.
- He taught Yoga to famous philosopher J. Krishnamurti in January 1966.
- He founded the Kirshnamacharya Yoga Mandiram in 1976 to honor and continue his father's teachings.



**Reference:**

<https://www.facebook.com/TKrishnamacharya/photos/a.439471036174543.1073741828.439225986199048/1008644279257213/?type=3&theater>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/tkv-desikachar-yoga-master-passes-away/article8958761.ece>

## Rina Mitra

**Question:** Recently Senior IPS officer Rina Mitra has been appointed as the new Additional Director General of which of the following forces?

- (a) Border Security Force    (b) Indo-Tibetan Border Force  
(c) Sashastra Seema Bal    (d) Railway Protection Force

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 2 August 2016 Senior IPS officer Rina Mitra has been appointed as the new Additional Director General of the Border Security Force.
- She is a 1983 batch IPS officer of Madhya Pradesh cadre.
- She will retire in August, 2019.
- The Border Security Force (BSF) is the primary Border guarding force of India.
- It is one of the five Central Armed Police Forces of the Union of India; it was raised in the wake of the 1965 War on 1 December 1965, "for ensuring the security of the borders of India and for matters connected there with".



**Reference:**

[http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/IPSApptRinaMitra\\_030816.pdf](http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/IPSApptRinaMitra_030816.pdf)

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/bsf-gets-woman-ips-officer-as-adg-116080201694\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/bsf-gets-woman-ips-officer-as-adg-116080201694_1.html)

## Anandiben Patel

**Question:** Recently Anandiben Patel has resigned from the Office of Chief Minister from which from the following state?

- (a) West Bengal (b) Tamil Nadu  
(c) Gujarat (d) Maharashtra

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**

- On 1 August 2016 Anandiben Patel, first female prime minister of Gujarat has resigned from the Office of Chief Minister of Gujarat.
- It may be recalled that on 22 May 2014 she was sworn in as chief minister.
- Anandiben Patel was born on 22 November 1941, in Kharod village of Vijapur taluka of Mehsana district, Gujarat.
- From 1994 to 1998 she was a member of the Rajya Sabha.
- In September 2009 in London (UK) she had attended as a representative of the Government of Gujarat in 'Village India' conference.



**Reference:**

[http://www.gujaratindia.com/whos-who/chief\\_ministers\\_gujara2.htm](http://www.gujaratindia.com/whos-who/chief_ministers_gujara2.htm)

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/gujarat-cm-anandiben-patel-resigns/article8928748.ece>

## Ahmed Hassan Zewail

**Question:** Recently Ahmed Hassan Zewail passed away. He was a -

- (a) Scientist (b) Politician  
(c) Actors (d) Writer

**Ans:** (a)

**Related facts:**

- On 2 August 2016 Nobel Prize-winner, Egyptian-American scientist Ahmed Hassan Zewail passed away in California, United States of America. He was 70.
- He is known as the "father of femtochemistry".
- He won the 1999 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for his work on femtochemistry.
- He became the first Arab to win a Nobel Prize in a scientific field.
- He was a science and technology advisor to President Barack Obama.



**Reference:**

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle\\_east/egyptian-chemist-zewail-noble-prize-winner-dies-at-70/2016/08/02/a5ac355a-58fb-11e6-8b48-0cb344221131\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/world/middle_east/egyptian-chemist-zewail-noble-prize-winner-dies-at-70/2016/08/02/a5ac355a-58fb-11e6-8b48-0cb344221131_story.html)

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-nobel-egypt-zewail-idUSKCN10D2CP>



## Rani Singh Nair

**Question: Recently who has been appointed as the new chairperson of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)?**

- (a) Ratan P Watal      (b) Rani Singh Nair  
(c) Rakesh Jai        (d) Arvind Panagariya

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 1 August 2016 Senior Indian Revenue Service (IRS) officer Rani Singh Nair has been appointed as the new chairperson of Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT).
- Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) is the policy-making body of the I-T department under the Union Finance Ministry.
- She is 1979-batch IRS officer of the Income Tax cadre.
- She will succeed then acting chairman Atulesh Jindal who retired on 30 July 2016.



**Reference:**

[http://www.incometaxindia.gov.in/\\_layouts/15/dit/mobile/who-we-are/central-board-of-direct-taxes.aspx](http://www.incometaxindia.gov.in/_layouts/15/dit/mobile/who-we-are/central-board-of-direct-taxes.aspx)

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/rani-singh-nair-appointed-cbd-t-chairperson/1/729248.html>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/rani-singh-nair-appointed-cbd-t-chairperson-116080100865\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/rani-singh-nair-appointed-cbd-t-chairperson-116080100865_1.html)

## Justice Iqbal Ahmed Ansari

**Question: Recently Justice Iqbal Ahmed Ansari was sworn in as the Chief Justice of which of the following High Court?**

- a) Allahabad High Court      (b) Patna High Court  
c) Rajasthan High court      (d) Delhi High court

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 July 2016 Justice Iqbal Ahmed Ansari was sworn in as the Chief Justice of Patna High Court by Bihar Governor Ramnath Kovind at a function held in Raj Bhawan.
- Justice Ansari had worked twice as Acting Chief Justice of Patna High Court since December 2014 before being sworn in as its 39th Chief Justice.



**Reference:**

<http://www.uniindia.com/justice-iqbal-ahmed-ansari-takes-oath-as-chief-justice-of-patna-high-court/other/news/571742.html>

<http://www.ndtv.com/bihar/justice-iqbal-ahmed-ansari-sworn-in-as-chief-justice-of-patna-high-court-1437816>

## Yuriko Koike

**Question:** Recently Former Defence Minister Yuriko Koike has been elected as the governor of which of the following Province of Japan?

- (a) Osaka
- (b) Yakohama
- (c) Tokyo
- (d) Hiroshima

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 31 July 2016 former Defence Minister Yuriko Koike has been elected as the governor of Tokyo become the first woman to lead Japan's capital.
- Koike, running as an independent candidate, received more than 2.9 million votes.
- One of her key challenges will be curbing the financial problems plaguing Tokyo's preparations to host the 2020 Olympic Games.
- Koike is a member of Prime Minister Shinzo Abe's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), but it did not endorse her so she ran as an independent.
- Her main rivals were former internal affairs minister Hiroya Masuda and veteran journalist Shuntaro Torigoe.

**Reference:**

<http://www.yuriko.or.jp/english/profile/personal-history/>

<http://www.japantimes.co.jp/news/2016/08/01/national/politics-diplomacy/tokyo-elects-former-environment-minister-yuriko-koike-as-citys-first-female-governor/#.V6KLZfl97IV>



## Vishal Bharadwaj

**Question:** Which of the following film director has been awarded by Yash Bharti Samman by U.P Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav?

- (a) Anurag Kashyap
- (b) Prakash Jha
- (c) Vishal Bhardwaj
- (d) Sanjay Leela Bhansali

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 1 August 2016 film director Vishal Bhardwaj has been awarded by Yash Bharti Samman by U.P Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav.
- He was given a shawl, a certificate of appreciation and a cheque of 11 lakhs.
- He has been awarded for his exemplary contribution to the field of film making.

**Reference:**

[http://information.up.nic.in/View\\_engnews.aspx?id=1035](http://information.up.nic.in/View_engnews.aspx?id=1035)



## James Alan McPherson

**Question:** Recently James Alan McPherson passed away. He was a-

- (a) Author      (b) Scientist  
(c) Politician   (d) Actor

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 27 July 2016 the famous American author James Alan McPherson passed away. He was 72 years old.
- The prestigious Pulitzer Prize was given for his short story collection 'elbow room' in 1978.
- He was the first black writer to win Pulitzer Prize in fiction.

**Reference:**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/28/books/james-alan-mcpherson-pulitzer-prize-winning-writer-dies-at-72.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2016/07/28/books/james-alan-mcpherson-pulitzer-prize-winning-writer-dies-at-72.html?_r=0)

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/books/james-alan-mcpherson-first-black-writer-to-win-pulitzer-prize-in-fiction-dies-at-72/2016/07/28/b07edb6c-54c9-11e6-88eb-7dda4e2f2aec\\_story.html](https://www.washingtonpost.com/entertainment/books/james-alan-mcpherson-first-black-writer-to-win-pulitzer-prize-in-fiction-dies-at-72/2016/07/28/b07edb6c-54c9-11e6-88eb-7dda4e2f2aec_story.html)



## Air Marshal NJS Dhillon

**Question:** Recently Air Marshal NJS Dhillon has taken over as Senior Air Staff Officer of which of the following command?

- (a) Southern Air Command   (b) West Central Air Command  
(c) Northern Air Command   (d) Western Air Command

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On 31 July 2016 Air Marshal NJS Dhillon takes over as Senior Air Staff Officer, Western Air Command.
- He took charge from Air Marshal B Suresh, who assumes appointment of Air Officer-in-Charge Personnel at Air Headquarters.
- Air Marshal NJS Dhillon is a graduate of National Defence Academy, Defence Service Staff College, and National Defence College.
- He was commissioned as a fighter pilot in the Indian Air Force in Dec 1981.
- He was awarded Ati Vishisht Seva Medal in the year 2013.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148068>



## New chief justice of Allahabad high Court

**Question: Recently who has taken the oath as chief justice of Allahabad high Court?**

- (a) Justice V. K Shukla                      (b) Justice Dilip Babasaheb Bhosale  
(c) Justice D.Y.Chandrachud   (d) Justice Manoj Mishra

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 30 July 2016 Justice Dilip Babasaheb Bhosale has taken the oath as 46th chief justice of Allahabad high Court.
- Uttar Pradesh governor Ram Naik today administered the oath.
- He will succeed Justice D Y Chandrachud.



**Reference:**

<http://www.allahabadhighcourt.in/service/judgeDetail.jsp?id=239>

<http://www.uniindia.com/news/states/justice-d-b-bhosale-takes-oath-as-chief-justice-of-allahabad-high-court/572930.html>

## K.J Ramesh

**Question: Recently who has been appointed as the new Director General of the India Meteorological Department (IMD)?**

- (a) Atmaram Nadkam  
(b) K.J Ramesh  
(c) Rakesh Jain  
(d) Ratan P. Patel

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 26 July 2016 Cabinet Committee on Appointments has appointed K. J Ramesh will be the new Director General of the India Meteorological Department (IMD).
- He will replace Laxman Singh Rathore.
- He is currently serving as an advisor in the Ministry of Earth Science.



**Reference:**

<https://www.facebook.com/India.Meteorological.Department/photos/a.524231507659771.1073741826.111425708940355/1049547918461458/?type=3&theater>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/kj-ramesh-to-be-the-new-imd-chief/1/725575.html>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/kj-ramesh-to-be-the-new-imd-chief-116072701361\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/kj-ramesh-to-be-the-new-imd-chief-116072701361_1.html)

## A.K. Mittal

**Question:** Recently, A.K Mittal, which has been reappointed as the chairman of which of the following board?

- (a) Railway Board
- (b) Central Pollution Control Board
- (c) Coffee Board
- (d) Central Board of Direct Taxes

**Ans: (a)**



**Related facts:**

- On 29 July 2016 present Railway Board Chairman A.K. Mittal has been reappointed.
- His tenure has been extended for another two years.
- He was appointed on December 31, 2014, his tenure was supposed to end on July 30 this year.
- He is an Officer of 1976 batch of Indian Railways Service of Stores (IRSS).

**Reference :**

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/mittal-to-continue-as-railway-board-chairman-for-two-years/article8918200.ece>

<http://www.uniindia.com/ak-mittal-reappointed-chairman-railway-board/india/news/572624.html>

<http://railsamacharenglish.com/news/344/read>

# PLACES

## World's highest and longest glass bridge

**Question:** Which of the following country has opened “world's highest and longest” glass-bottomed bridge to visitors?

- (a) Japan
- (b) United States Of America
- (c) Mexico
- (d) China

**Ans:** (d)

**Related facts:**

- On 20 August 2016 “world's highest and longest” glass-bottomed bridge has opened to visitors built in Zhangjiajie Grand Canyon in Hunan Province, Central China.
- This is a 430-meters long and 6-meters wide bridge
- It has been paved with 99 panes of three-layered transparent glass.
- It costs \$3.4m (£2.6m) to build.
- Maximum of 8,000 visitors will be allowed on the bridge each day.



**Reference:**

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/08/22/travel/china-glass-bridge-zhangjiajie/>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-china-37127725>

[http://sputniknews.com/art\\_living/20160820/1044466425/china-glass-bottom-bridge.html](http://sputniknews.com/art_living/20160820/1044466425/china-glass-bottom-bridge.html)



## Mumbai

**Question:** Which of the following court in a landmark verdict lifted the ban and ruled 'Women be permitted to enter the sanctum sanctorum of the Haji Ali Dargah at par with men'?

- (a) Madras High Court
- (b) Calcutta High Court
- (c) Bombay High Court
- (d) Allahabad High Court

**Ans:** (c)



### Related facts:

- On 26 August 2016 the Bombay High Court in a landmark verdict lifted the ban and ruled 'Women be permitted to enter the sanctum sanctorum of the Haji Ali Dargah at par with men'.
- The court said that the ban order by the Trust contravened Article 14 (equality before law), 15 (prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth) and 25 (freedom of conscience and free profession, practice and propagation of religion) of the Constitution.
- The court issued the order on a PIL filed by Noorjehan Naiz and Zakia Soman, who are office bearers of the Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan.
- It should be known that the entry into the sanctum sanctorum prior to 2011-2012, when the trustees imposed the restriction without any justification.

### Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/bombay-high-court-verdict-on-women-entering-haji-ali-dargah/article9035710.ece>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/bombay-high-court-allows-entry-of-muslim-women-at-haji-ali-dargah/>



## Kabul

**Question: Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi Inaugurated Renovated 'Stor Palace' via video-conferencing located in which of the following city?**

- (a) Baghdad
- (b) Dhaka
- (c) Kabul
- (d) New Delhi

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 22 August 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Afghan President Ashraf Ghani Inaugurated Renovated 'Stor Palace' via video-conferencing located in Kabul, Afghanistan.
- It was built in the 1880 by Amir Abdul Rehman Khan.
- The Stor Palace also known as Star Palace or Kasre-estar brought back fond memories for Afghans, in and outside of the country ravaged by war and internal strife for decades.
- This place witnessed history in 1919 as the Rawalpindi Agreement that recognised Afghanistan as an independent sovereign state, was signed in one of its rooms.
- Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh had committed to renovate and restore the Palace, during his Kabul visit in 2011.
- The project was entrusted to the renowned Agha Khan Trust for Culture.
- The work was completed in nearly 48 months instead of the scheduled 36 months with an Indian grant of 5.7 million USD.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149070>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/kabul-stor-palace-afghanistan-india-prime-minister-narendra-modi-ashraf-ghani/1/746094.html>

## Indian Institute of Technology inaugurated at Jammu

**Question:** Recently Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India inaugurated the Indian Institute of Technology at Jammu. Its temporary campus will function at-

- (a) Paloura
- (b) Agar
- (c) Alora
- (d) Badwal

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 6 August 2016 Prakash Javadekar, Union Minister for Human Resource Development, Government of India inaugurated the Indian Institute of Technology at Jammu.
- The institution is the first IIT for the state set up to create a learning environment and will be built over 500 Acres of land near Jammu city.
- Jammu is among the six cities across the country which were set to get IITs.
- Meanwhile, in the first year, the institute will function from a well-equipped temporary campus in Paloura, Jammu that will have all the facilities to meet the standards.
- The institution will offer a set of programmes across various academic streams that will follow a credit system and the performance in a course will be continuously evaluated.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148463>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/education/javadekar-inaugurates-iit-jammu-campus/article8953269.ece>

## Terror attacks in Assam

**Question:** Recently terrorists dressed in army fatigue attacked in which of the following district of Assam?

- (a) Dhubri
- (b) Kokrajhar
- (c) Kamarupa
- (d) Jorhat

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 5 August 2016; 3-4 Bodo terrorists dressed in army fatigue opened fire in Kokrajhar district of Assam.
- Police suspect the involvement of the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB).
- At least 14 people, including one militant were killed in the attack.
- The terrorist attacked in Balajan Tiniali market of Kokrajhar district in Assam .



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/bodo-rebels-attack-market-in-kokrajhar-assam/article8949514.ece>

## Assam

**Question:** Which of the following state became the first state in the country to ratify the constitution amendment bill on the Goods and Services Tax (GST)?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Madhya Pradesh
- (d) Karnataka

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- Assam on 12 August 2016; became the first state in the country to ratify the constitution amendment bill on the Goods and Services Tax (GST) as the assembly unanimously passed the bill.
- It may be recalled that the Constitution (122nd Amendment) Bill for GST was passed by the Lok Sabha on 8 August 2016, with 443 members present in the House voting in favour of the legislation.
- At least 50 per cent of the states have to pass what is technically the Constitution (One Hundred and Twenty Second Amendment) Bill, 2014, for the next steps of legislative action to follow, to ultimately introduce a pan-India Goods and Services Tax regime.
- The deadline for the rollout of the GST is April 1, 2017.



**Reference:**

<https://twitter.com/sarbanandsonwal/status/763984865255526400>

## Rameswaram

**Question:** Recently the National Memorial Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was held at-

- (a) Chennai
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Rameswaram
- (d) Bangalore

**Ans:** (c)



### Related facts:

- On 27 July 2016 the National Memorial Foundation Stone Laying Ceremony of former President Dr APJ Abdul Kalam was held at Peikarumbhu, Rameswaram in Tamil Nadu.
- The Defence Minister Shri Manohar Parrikar and Union Minister for Urban Development and Information and Broadcasting Shri M Venkaiah Naidu jointly laid the foundation stone and paid rich tributes to the late President on his death anniversary.
- The Ministers also inaugurated the statue of Dr. Kalam.
- It may be recalled that the former Indian President APJ Abdul Kalam was passed away after he collapsed following a massive heart attack, at the IIM Shillong campus on 27 July 2015.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147841>

# AWARDS & HONORS

## National Sports Awards – 2016

**Question: Who among the following has been awarded with the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in 2016?**

- (a) Abhinav Bindra
- (b) Jitu Rai
- (c) Virat Kohli
- (d) Pankaj Advani

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 22 August 2016 National Sports Awards 2016 winners were announced.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2016 has been conferred to Olympic medalists P.V. Sindhu and Sakshi Malik; ace gymnast Dipa Karmakar, and shooter Jitu Rai.
- Dipa Karmakar's coach, Bishweshwar Nandi, has been selected for the Dronacharya Award, along with Nagapuri Ramesh (athletics), Sagar Mal Dhayal (boxing), Raj Kumar Shama (cricket), S. Pradeep Kumar (swimming) and Mahabir Singh (wrestling).
- This time fifteen sportspersons will be honoured with the Arjuna Award and three with the Dhyan Chand Award.
- Rajat Chauhan for Archery, Lalita Babar for Athletics, Sourav Kothari for Billiards & Snooker, Shiva Thapa for Boxing, Ajinkya Rahane for Cricket, Subrata Paul for Football, Rani for Hockey, Raghunath VR for Hockey, Gurpreet Singh for Shooting, Apurvi Chandela for Shooting, Soumyajit Ghosh for Table Tennis, Vinesh for Wrestling, Amit Kumar for Wrestling, Sandeep Singh Mann for Para-Athletics and Virender Singh for Wrestling (Deaf) will be honoured with the Arjuna Award.

- Athlete Satti Geetha, hockey player Sylvanus Dung Dung and Rower Rajendra Pralhad Shelke were selected for the Dhyan Chand Award.
- Rashtriya Khel Protsahana Purushkar, 2016 will be given in four categories.
- Seven organisations were selected for Rashtriya Khel Protsahana Purushkar, 2016 and they are Reserve Bank of India (Employment to sportspersons and other welfare measures).
- India Infrastructure Finance Corporate Limited (Encouragement to sports through corporate social responsibility), and Subroto Mukherjee Sports Education Society (Sports for Development).
- Four organisations who were chosen for the award for identification and nurturing of budding and young talent includes Hockey Citizen Group, Dadar Parsee Zoroastrian cricket club, Usha School of Athletics and STAIRS.
- Punjabi University of Patiala will be awarded the Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2015-16.
- The awardees will receive their awards from the President of India at a specially organized function at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on August 29, 2016.
- Apart from a medal and a citation, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awardee will receive a cash prize of Rs.7.5 lakh.
- Arjuna, Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand Awardees will receive statuettes, certificates and cash prize of Rs.5 lakh each.
- Recipients of Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar will be given Trophies and certificates.
- Overall top performing university in inter-university tournaments will be given MAKA Trophy, award money of Rs. 10 lakh and certificate.

#### **Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149084>

## A.R. Rahman

**Question:** Recently Oscar-winning music maestro A.R. Rahman has been honoured by which of the following award?

- (a) Tamil Ratna Award
- (b) Bharat Ratna award
- (c) Awadh Samman
- (d) None of These



**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 17 August 2016 Oscar-winning music maestro A.R. Rahman has been honoured by the America Tamil Sangam with its Tamil Ratna Award.
- The award was presented after Rahman's concert at the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) chamber.
- The concert was sponsored by India's UN Mission and Sankara Nethralaya, a Chennai-based charity devoted restoring vision through treatment and medical education and research.
- Previous recipients of Tamil Ratna award include Tamil movie director Bharathi Raja; Bharatha Natyam exponent Kamala Lakshman and Srinivasa Varadhan.

**Reference:**

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/entertainment/tamil/A.R.-Rahman-honoured-with-Tamil-Ratna-Award/2016/08/17/article3583841.ece>

<http://www.abplive.in/movies/a-r-rahman-honoured-with-tamil-ratna-award-399884>



## ICC Hall of Fame

**Question:** Recently who has become the first player from Sri Lanka to be voted into the ICC Hall of Fame ?

- (a) Arjuna Ranatunga
- (b) Aravinda de Silva
- (c) Muttiah Muralitharan
- (d) Sanath Jayasuriya

**Ans:** (c)



**Related fact:**

- On 27 July 2016 The International Cricket Council announced the name of the four players who will be inducted into the ICC Cricket Hall of Fame later this year.
- The names includes Record-breaking off-spinner Muralidaran, twice ICC Women's World Cup winner and former Australia women's captain Karen Rolton, Arthur Morris and England's George Lohmann,
- Muralidaran becomes the first Sri Lankan player to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame.
- England's George Lohmann, the 19th century fast bowler who took 100 wickets in just 16 Tests. Is still a world record.

**Reference:**

<http://www.icc-cricket.com/news/2016/media-releases/95463/lohmann-morris-muralidaran-and-rolton-to-be-inducted-into-the-icc-cricket-hall-of-fame>

<http://www.cricbuzz.com/cricket-news/81610/sri-lanka-cricket-offspinner-muttiah-muralitharan-to-be-inducted-into-icc-hall-of-fame>

<http://www.espnricinfo.com/ci-icc/content/story/1039767.html>

# OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

## National campaign on Medicinal Plants

**Question:** National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) of the Ministry of AYUSH launched a National campaign on Medicinal Plants at which of the following place?

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

**Ans:** (c)

### Related facts:

- On 20th – 21st August, 2016; National Medicinal Plants Board (NMPB) of the Ministry of AYUSH launched a National campaign on Medicinal Plants at Jaipur..
- The campaign was organised at State Institute of Agriculture Management (SIAM), Durgapura, in Jaipur.
- Approximately 500 farmers who are cultivating medicinal plants from across the country participated.
- During the event, an Interactive Meet cum Seminar was also organized on Medicinal Plants involving farmers, experts, traders, industries and other stakeholders of medicinal plants sector.
- Most of the stakeholders were benefited through this event.
- NMPB has been working for the growth and development of medicinal plants in the country since its inception in year 2000.
- At present, NMPB promotes medicinal plants conservation, cultivation, research, marketing, quality.



### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=14899>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148994>

## Tiranga Yatra to mark the launch of 70th Freedom Year Celebrations

**Question:** Name the place of Madhya Pradesh state from where Prime Minister flags off Tiranga Yatra to mark the launch of 70th Freedom Year Celebrations?

- (a) Bhabra
- (b) Goraya
- (c) Jobat
- (d) Varkheda

**Ans: (a)**



**Related facts:**

- On 9 August 2016 the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, paid homage to the great freedom fighter Chandrashekhar Azad at his birthplace at Bhabra in Alirajpur District of Madhya Pradesh and flags off Tiranga Yatra to mark the launch of 70th Freedom Year Celebrations.
- The Prime Minister garlanded the statue of Shahid Chandrashekhar Azad and visited the memorial at his birthplace.
- He also released a theme song '70 Saal Azadi, Yaad Karo Kurban' for Tiranga Yatra which is being organised to mark the 70th anniversary of India's Independence from the British rule.
- He is the country's first Prime Minister to visit the birthplace of Chandrashekhar Azad post-independence.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148610>

<http://www.narendramodi.in/prime-minister-narendra-modi-at-a-public-meeting-to-mark-launch-of-70th-freedom-year-celebrations-in-bhabra-madhya-pradesh-511478>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/Modi-launches-theme-song-70-Saal-Azadi-Yaad-Karo-Kurbani/2016/08/09/article3571185.ece>

## Programme to promote breastfeeding launched

**Question:** Who is the Brand Ambassdor of MAA (Mother's Absolute Affection), a flagship programme to ensure adequate awareness is generated among masses, especially mothers, on the benefits of breastfeeding?

- (a) Diya Mirza
- (b) Madhuri Dixit
- (c) Riya Sen
- (d) Saina Nehwal

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 05 August 2016 J P Nadda, Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare has launched the MAA (Mothers Absolute Affection).
- It is a flagship programme to ensure adequate awareness is generated among masses, especially mothers, on the benefits of breastfeeding.
- Bollywood actress Madhuri Dixit has been selected as the Brand Ambassdor of this programme.
- It should be known that Madhuri Dixit is also the brand ambassador of the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign.

**Reference:**

<http://unicef.in/PressReleases/416/Health-Minister-launches-MAA-programme-to-promote-breastfeeding>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148531>

## Quit India Movement 2-‘Swaraj’ into ‘Suraj’

**Question:** Which of the following state has launched Quit India Movement 2 against social evils to convert our ‘Swaraj’ into ‘Suraj’?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Tamil Nadu

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 9 August 2016 Commemorating the Platinum Jubilee anniversary of the Quit India Movement the Government of Maharashtra launched the Quit India Movement 2 against various social ills, in the presence of Union Minister M Venkaiah Naidu.
- The launch took place at the historic August Kranti Maidan in Mumbai, from where Mahatma Gandhi had given the clarion call of Quit India in 1942.
- It aims to eradicate illiteracy, discrimination, disunity and disharmony, terrorism and anti-nationalism from country and take the country from ‘Swaraj’ to ‘Suraj’.
- It should be known that on this day Mahatma Gandhi had given the clarion call of Quit India in 1942 against British rulers.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148605>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/maharashtra-launches-quit-india-movement-2-against-social-evils/342642/>

# COMMISSION & COMMITTEE

## High-level committee to discourage cash transactions

**Question:** The 11-member committee formed with the aim to discourage cash transactions asked to suggest steps to promote card payments through incentives like tax rebates and cash back schemes is headed by-

- (a) Dr. Urjit Patel
- (b) Ratan P Watal
- (c) Kaushik Basu
- (d) Arvind Subramanian

**Ans: (b)**

### **Related facts:**

- On 26 August 2016 with an aim to discourage cash transactions, the Finance Ministry has set up a high-level committee to suggest steps to promote card payments through incentives like tax rebates and cash back schemes.
- The 11-member committee, headed by former Finance Secretary Ratan P Watal, will recommend various measures to “incentivise transactions through cards and digital means.
- Other committee members include former RBI Deputy Governor H R Khan, Chairman of Indian Banks Association, President of Nasscom and CBDT Chairperson.
- The panel will submit its report in one year.



### **Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-business/centre-sets-up-panel-to-suggest-steps-to-promote-card-payments/article9038122.ece>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/finmin-sets-up-panel-to-suggest-steps-to-promote-card-payments/1/749549.html>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/finance-ministry-sets-up-panel-to-suggest-steps-to-promote-card-payments-116082600882\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/finance-ministry-sets-up-panel-to-suggest-steps-to-promote-card-payments-116082600882_1.html)

## Review committee by the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)

**Question:** Who has been named as the Chairman of a five-member review committee set up by National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) to probe the shooters' Rio Games debacle?

- (a) Jitu Rai
- (b) Abhinav Bindra
- (c) Rajiv Bhatia
- (d) Manisha Malhotra

**Ans:** (b)



### Related facts:

- On 25 August 2016 India's first and only individual Olympic gold-medallist Abhinav Bindra was named as the Chairman of a five-member review committee set up by The National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) to probe the shooters' Rio Games debacle.
- Other members of the committee include former tennis player Manisha Malhotra, who has also been appointed Convenor of the committee, NRAI Secretary Rajiv Bhatia and two journalists.
- NRAI Review Committee will submit its report to the NRAI within a maximum period of four weeks.

### Reference:

<http://www.deccanchronicle.com/sports/in-other-news/260816/bindra-to-head-nrai-review-committee-on-rio-debacle.html>

<http://www.firstpost.com/sports/abhinav-bindra-named-chairman-of-nrai-committee-to-review-indias-shooting-debacle-in-rio-2976682.html>



## Two Member Committee to inquire into the allegations of Marathon runner O.P.Jaisha

**Question:** Recently sports Minister Constituted a Committee to inquire into the allegations of Marathon runner O.P.Jaisha. The committee constituted-

- (a) Three-member
- (b) Two-member
- (c) Four-member
- (d) Five-member

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 23 August 2016 Sports Minister Constitutes Two Member Committee to inquire into the allegations of Marathon runner O.P.Jaisha.
- Jaisha, who represented India in a 42-km long run at Rio Olympics, alleged that negligence of the Indian officials led to her collapsing at the finish line during the race.
- Slamming Indian officials for their apathy during the event, the runner said that there was no deployment at the designated stations to provide basic refreshments, most importantly water.
- The Minister of State (I/C) Youth Affairs & Sports Vijay Goel has constituted a two-member Committee consisting of Onkar Kedia, Joint Secretary (Sports) and Vivek Narayan, Director (Sports) to enquire into the allegations of Ms. O.P. Jaisha.
- The two member committee will submit its report in 7 days.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149121>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/sports/rio-2016-olympics/rio-olympics-2016-ministry-sets-up-inquiry-to-probe-apathy-in-op-jaishas-case/355306/>

## National Steering Committee to be setup on Fodder Development

**Question: Recently Government has decided to constitute a National Steering Committee. It will be headed by-**

- (a) Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.
- (b) Secretary, Department of Agriculture and Cooperation
- (c) Director, Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi
- (d) Director, National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology, Bangalore



**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 18 August 2016 Government has decided to constitute a National Steering Committee headed by Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.
- Also, a Technical Committee headed by Director, National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology (NIANP) Banguluru, on issues related to Feed and Fodder Development in the country.
- The decision has been taken in a review meeting held by the Secretary (ADF), Shri Devendra Chaudhry with National Institute of Animal Nutrition and Physiology (NIANP) Banguluru, Indian Grassland and Fodder Research Institute, Jhansi, National Dairy Development Board, Anand and ICAR.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148996>

## Committee for Development of Electric Car Tech in India

**Question:** Currently in India which of the following company manufactures electric car?

- a) Tata Motors
- b) Maruti Suzuki
- c) Mahindra and Mahindra
- d) Hindustan Motors limited

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 8 August 2016 Union government of the country has formed a 30-member committee which would keep an eye on the development of technology for the manufacturing of electric and hybrid vehicles in India.
- The committee includes automobile industry executives, experts and government officials.
- This move aims to boost 'Make in India' programme and put more green vehicles on the roads at a time when the country is struggling to cut down on pollution.
- As of now, there is only one company, -Mahindra Reva Electric Vehicles, which manufactures electric cars in India.
- All critical components of electric vehicles, be it batteries, motors and motor controllers etc. are imported, which makes their costs go up.
- This also causes a roadblock in government's programme towards Faster Adoption and Manufacturing of Hybrid and electric vehicles in India (FAME).
- The government has rolled out incentives to promote utilisation of green vehicles under the FAME scheme.
- The set committee will be responsible for monitoring the work of the Technology Platform for Electric Mobility (TPEM), set up under the Department of Heavy Industry and Ministry of Science and Technology to develop an indigenous technology for electric vehicles.

**Reference :**

<https://www.cardekho.com/india-car-news/new-committee-for-development-of-electric-car-tech-in-india-19106.htm>

<http://www.businessinsider.in/Central-govt-sets-up-panel-for-electric-vehicles/articleshow/53595564.cms>

## RBI constitutes a Committee on Household Finance

**Question:** Recently the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a committee to look at the various facets of household finance in India and to benchmark India's position vis-à-vis both the peer countries and advanced countries. The committee will be chaired by-

- (a) Dr. Arvind Kumar
- (b) Arundhati Bhattacharya
- (c) Dr. Tarun Ramadorai
- (d) Shikha Sharma

**Ans:** (c)

### Related facts:



- On 4 August 2016 the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a committee to look at the various facets of household finance in India and to benchmark India's position vis-à-vis both the peer countries and advanced countries.
- The Committee will be chaired by Dr. Tarun Ramadorai, Professor of Financial Economics in the University of Oxford.
- It will also have representation from the financial sector regulators, namely, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI), Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) apart from Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- The Committee is expected to submit its report by end July 2017.

### Reference:

[https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS\\_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37694](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37694)

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/562275/rbi-constitutes-committee-household-finance.html>

# PLANNING & PROJECT

## Maharashtra government to develop 10 airports in the state

**Question:** Recently the Maharashtra government signed an agreement with Civil Aviation Ministry and the Airports Authority of India for developing 10 airports in the state under the centre's regional connectivity scheme (RCS). Which of the following place is not included?

- (a) Kolhapur
- (b) Shirdi
- (c) Amravati
- (d) Pune

**Ans: (d)**



### Related facts:

- On 23 August 2016 Maharashtra government signed an agreement with Civil Aviation Ministry and the Airports Authority of India for developing 10 airports in the state under the centre's regional connectivity scheme (RCS).
- The MoU signed in presence of Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapati Raju and the Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnis.
- Maharashtra becomes the first state in the country to do so.
- The 10 airports – Kolhapur, Shirdi, Amravati, Gondia, Nashik, Jalgaon, Nanded, Solapur, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg will be developed,
- State will contribute 20 per cent cost of Viability Gap Funding, whereas the centre will bear the remaining 80 per cent cost.
- As per the MoU, the state government will reduce the Local Body Tax (LBT) on air fuel from existing 10 per cent to 1 per cent for a period of 10 years.
- The MoU states that government will provide essential land free of cost.
- These airports will be provided with roads, rail, Metro and waterway connectivity.
- The state government will also provide electricity, water and necessary facilities at concessional rates.
- For development of Greenfield international airport at Rajgurunagar (New Chakan), the Airport Authority will send a team for preliminary study in first week of September 2016.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149131>

[https://twitter.com/Dev\\_Fadnis/status/768020827593928704](https://twitter.com/Dev_Fadnis/status/768020827593928704)

<http://www.businesstoday.in/sectors/aviation/aai-to-develop-10-airports-in-maharashtra/story/236437.html>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/maharashtra-signs-mou-with-centre-aai-to-develop-10-airports-116082300939\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/maharashtra-signs-mou-with-centre-aai-to-develop-10-airports-116082300939_1.html)

## List of the World's Highest-Paid Actresses 2016

**Question:** Which of the following Indian actresses is included in the recently released Forbes list of the World's Highest-Paid Actresses 2016?

- a) Kangana Ranaut
- b) Deepika Padukone
- c) Priyanka Chopra
- d) Alia Bhatt

**Ans: (b)**



### Related facts:

- On 23 August 2016 Forbes released the list of The World's Highest-Paid Actresses 2016.
- Jennifer Lawrence topped the Forbes magazine list for the second straight year with earnings of 46 million US dollars.
- The second position is secured by Melissa McCarthy (33 million US dollars) followed by Scarlett Johansson (25 million US dollars) and Jennifer Aniston (21 million US dollars) at third and fourth position respectively.
- Chinese actress Fan Bingbing (17 million US dollars) ranked fifth in the list and the only Chinese actress in the list.
- Indian actress Deepika Padukone is the only newcomer to the World's Highest-Paid Actresses list and the only Indian actress to be included in the list.
- Actress Deepika Padukone joined the list of highest paid actresses in the world with earnings of 10 million US dollars and ranked 10th.

### Reference:

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/natalierobehmed/2016/08/23/indian-star-deepika-padukone-joins-ranks-of-the-worlds-highest-paid-actresses/#190f613f7a29>

<http://www.forbes.com/sites/natalierobehmed/2016/08/23/the-worlds-highest-paid-actresses-2016-jennifer-lawrence-banks-46-million-payday-ahead-of-melissa-mccarthy/#649f65ef44d6>



## Wi-Fi Services at Mumbai Suburban Railway Stations

**Question:** Recently Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu Inaugurated Wi-Fi Services at how many Mumbai Suburban Railway Stations?

- (a) 10
- (b) 8
- (c) 5
- (d) 7

**Ans:** (b)

**Related facts:**



- On 22 August 2016 Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu Inaugurated Wi-Fi Services at 8 Mumbai Suburban Railway Stations.
- The stations are Churchgate, Bandra, Bandra Terminus, Dadar Western Railway, Dadar Central Railway, Khar Road, Kalyan and Lokmanya Tilak.
- The Wi-Fi facility for the visitors & rail users of these 8 busy stations of Mumbai Suburban Rail Network has been commissioned by a Railway PSU, RailTel in association with Google.
- This will provide high speed State-of-the-art world class INTERNET experience to the commuters.
- The Wi-Fi facility is being provided at a speed of 1 GBps.
- In addition to 8 stations being launched on 22 August 2016, RailWire Wi-Fi has been soft launched at 8 more stations namely Sealdah, Allahabad, Pune, Puri, Tambaram, Chennai Egmore, Hazrat Nizamuddin and Chandigarh.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149088>

<http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2016/08/22/after-mumbai-central-8-suburban-railway-stations-get-free-wifi/>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/technology/story/railway-adds-8-new-stations-to-free-wi-fi-list-in-mumbai/1/746646.html>



## Web Portal for Star Rating of Major Mineral Mines launched

**Question: When did the Minister of State (Independent charge) for Mines, Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy Piyush Goyal, launched Web Portal for Star Rating of Major Mineral Mines?**

- (a) 11 August 2016                      (b) 18 August 2016  
(c) 29 August 2016                      (d) 14 August 2016

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 18th August, 2016; Web Portal for Star Rating of Major Mineral Mines launched by the Minister of State (Independent charge) for Mines, Power, Coal and New & Renewable Energy, Piyush Goyal.
- This web enabled online system for evaluation of measures has been developed with the help of National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG), Hyderabad.
- The main objective of this system is to bring all mines to a minimum standard of Star Rating in the shortest possible time frame to adopt sustainable practices.
- The star rating will be based on the following parameters:
  - Scientific and systematic mining to mitigate environmental impact.
  - Addressing social impacts of resettlement and rehabilitation of mining affected people.
  - Local community engagements and welfare programmes for socio-economic development of local community.
  - Progressive and final mine closure to ensure for restoration of mined out land in better conditions than original.
  - Adoption of international standards for mining operations and reporting.
- The main advantages of the Star Rating of Mines will be:
  - Comprehensive mitigation of environmental impacts on land, air and water by mining activities.
  - Reduced delays in obtaining various clearances (environmental, forest, mining plan, etc.) for mines. Self-certification to be allowed for the approvals for scheme of mining.
  - Encourage adoption of highest standards and sharing and good practices.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149017>

<http://www.odishanewsinsight.com/india-news/piyush-goyal-launches-web-portal-for-star-rating-of-major-mineral-mines/>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/metals-mining/govt-unveils-portal-for-star-rating-of-mines/articleshow/53761632.cms>

## Country's first Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System launched

**Question:** Which of the following state has launched the country's first comprehensive 'Crime and Criminal Tracking Network System'?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Maharashtra
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Andhra Pradesh

**Ans:** (b)

**Related facts:**



- On 15 August 2016 Maharashtra government has launched a Crime and Criminal Tracking Network and System (CCTNS).
- It was launched through 42 cyber labs simultaneously in every police station, with an aim to adopt a paperless working mechanism.
- Under the CCTNS, the state government will raise a special cyber police force of around 1,000 policemen well trained to handle the growing incidents of cyber crimes.
- With this system, claimed to be the first such initiative by a state, the police will now be able to register an FIR with a single click.

**Reference:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/crime-and-criminal-tracking-network-and-system-launched-in-maharashtra-police-station/articleshow/48984915.cms>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/maharashtra-launches-crime-tracking-system-116081500649\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/maharashtra-launches-crime-tracking-system-116081500649_1.html)

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/good-governance/maharashtra/Maharashtra-police-go-live-with-crime-tracking-system/articleshow/48982760.cms>

## Majhi Kanya Bhagyashri

**Question:** Recently which of the following state has relaunched its “Majhi Kanya Bhagyashri” scheme?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Gujarat

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 15 August 2016 In order to achieve its objective of improving the skewed girl child ratio in Maharashtra, the state government relaunched its “Majhi Kanya Bhagyashri” scheme.
- The scheme was relaunched at all district headquarters with the guardian ministers handing over certificates of encouragement to couples, who have registered under the scheme.
- This relaunched initiative is a mix of “Sukanya” scheme that was implemented in February 2014 and Centre’s “Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao” scheme implemented the same year.
- In the 2011 census, the proportion of girls and boys in Maharashtra state is 894:1000.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-miscellaneous/tp-others/maharashtra-relaunches-scheme-to-improve-girl-child-ratio/article8992990.ece>



## Cabinet approves financial support to BHEL for R&D project

**Question:** Which of the following public sector company proposed to develop the advanced ultra super critical technology R & D project?

- (a) BHEL
- (b) IGCAR
- (c) NTPC
- (d) All of the above

**Ans:** (d)

**Related facts:**



- On 10 August 2016 the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved a proposal of R&D project for development of Advanced Ultra Super Critical (AUSC) Technology for Thermal Power Plant with an estimated cost of Rs.1554 crore and providing one time budgetary support of Rs.900 crore spread over a period of three years, commencing from 2017-18, to be provided as plan Gross Budgetary Support to BHEL for implementation of the R&D project.
- A Consortium of three Government Entities, namely Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Indira Gandhi Centre of Atomic Research (IGCAR) and National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have proposed a R&D project for development of AUSC Technology for Thermal Power Plants of future, envisaging reduced coal consumption as well as Carbon Di-Oxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emission.

- The project will enable Indian industries to design, manufacture and commission higher efficiency coal fired power plants with indigenously developed technology and manufacturing processes.
- This will be the first time large power plant equipment will be manufactured with advanced technologies, but without any Technological Collaboration/ Licensing Agreement with foreign companies.
- The proposed technology is still in research stage in all countries working on it. It is still not matured and demonstrated anywhere in the world.
- Power generation from coal contributes to about 38% of CO<sub>2</sub> pollution in the atmosphere.
- 20% reduction in CO<sub>2</sub> emission at source combined with 20% saving in coal consumption compared to a sub-critical plant and by about 11% compared to a supercritical plant are the primary reasons justifying this project.
- Use of this technology in all future large power plants will ensure energy security for the country for a longer period, along with a greener environment.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148697>

<http://www.uniindia.com/cabinet-approves-financial-support-to-bhel-for-advanced-ultra-super-critical-technology/india/news/586132.html>

## Metro Rail Project for Allahabad

**Question:** Recently Uttar Pradesh government approved a Metro Rail project for Allahabad. Which of the following company has been assigned to present DPRs (Detailed Project Report) for Allahabad?

- (a) Railtel
- (b) Power Grid
- (c) RITES
- (d) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 17 August 2016 the Uttar Pradesh government approved a Metro Rail project for Allahabad. The decision was taken at a cabinet meeting chaired by Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav.
- The DPRs (Detailed Project Report) for Allahabad will be presented by RITES, a Public sector engineering consultancy company, specializing in the field of transport infrastructure.
- The Union Government will bear 50% of the cost of the preparation of DPR for rest all the cost will be bear by Allahabad Development Authority (ADA).
- It should be known that the work of construction of Metro is going on in Lucknow and the DPRs (Detailed Project Report) for Varanasi and Kanpur have already been approved.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/up-cabinet-approves-metro-rail-project-for-allahabad/article9000536.ece>

<https://tactstorage.blob.core.windows.net/docnews/task-doc-8063c28c-0b1c-47bd-8e83-ac2a33f7e0da.pdf>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/allahabad/CM-announces-metro-rail-other-projects-for-city/articleshow/48784127.cms>

## First BIO-CNG project in India

**Question:** Recently the first ever BIO-CNG project in India was inaugurated at which of the following city?

- (a) Agra
- (b) Pune
- (c) Delhi
- (d) Goa

**Ans:** (b)



### Related facts:

- On 14 August 2016 the first ever BIO-CNG project in India was inaugurated in Pune.
- The project was inaugurated by the Union Minister of surface Transport Nitin Gadkari and Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar.
- The plant has been commissioned by city-based Primove Engineering Private Limited, and will use agricultural residue to generate CNG that can be used as fuel in automobiles.
- Bio-Fuel will help in reducing the import of diesel up to 50 % and therefore the huge amount of Foreign Exchange will be saved.
- The plant located in Pirangut, Pune, has been set up as a Proof of Concept (PoC) which can be replicated elsewhere.
- The company has invested around Rs 4.5 crore in the plant and has applied for a process patent for it. At least Rs 15 crore of investment is necessary for a 5-tonne standalone plant.

### Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/countrys-first-bio-cng-plant-to-be-inaugurated-in-pune-on-sunday-2969150/>

<http://www.uniindia.com/india-s-first-bio-cng-plant-to-be-inaugurated-tomorrow-in-pune/other/news/588753.html>

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/31601>



## Smart Ganga City Scheme

**Question:** Recently Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti and Union Urban Development Minister M Venkaiah Naidu launched Smart Ganga City Scheme in how many cities?

- (a) 15
- (b) 10
- (c) 12
- (d) 18

**Ans: (b)**



**Related facts:**

- On 13 August 2016 Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti and Union Urban Development Minister M Venkaiah Naidu launched Smart Ganga City Scheme in ten important cities through video conference.
- These cities are – Haridwar, Rishikesh, Mathura-Vrindavan, Varanasi, Kanpur, Allahabad, Lucknow, Patna, Sahibgunj and Barrackpore.
- National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) has chosen these cities in the first phase for infrastructure development for sewage treatment.
- This will be on hybrid annuity mode based on PPP model.
- In the first phase only ten cities have been taken up but gradually more and more cities will be taken up.
- In previous schemes, Centre and states borne 70:30 ratios of the costs for setting up STPs. Now the programme will be completely Centre-sponsored.
- District level mentoring committees will be constituted to monitor the speedy implementation of Namami Gange programme.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148890>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/smart-ganga-city-programme-launched-in-10-cities/articleshow/53686473.cms>

## MSME Databank Portal and Online Finance Facilitation Web Portal launched

**Question: Who among the following is the Minister of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises?**

- (a) Kalraj Mishra
- (b) Piyush Goel
- (c) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (d) Prakash Javadekar

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 11 August 2016 Arun Jaitley, Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs launched two important initiatives of the Ministry of MSME, viz. MSME Databank Portal and Online Finance Facilitation Web Portal on the sidelines of 14th Meeting of the National Board of MSME at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Kalraj Mishra, Union Minister for MSME, Giriraj Singh and Haribhai Parthibhai Chaudhary, Minister of State for MSME were present on the occasion.
- Ministry of MSME is making online Census of the MSMEs in the country for the first time by launching a comprehensive databank on <http://www.msmedatabank.in>
- This will not only save the efforts and money required for physical Census but will also enable the MSME units and the various Associations to furnish data on click of the button and sitting in their units.
- The NSIC, which provides suitable credit support to the various MSME units for purchase of raw material, has started an online Finance Facilitation Centre on <http://www.nsicffonline.in>
- To start with, the Finance Facilitation Centres will become operational at Jalandhar, Peenya, Ludhiana, Guwahati, Lucknow and Delhi from 11 August 2016.
- The portal will allow the MSMEs to apply for loans from the various banks on the NSIC portal itself.
- NSIC has also signed MoUs with 33 banks, 14 of whom have agreed to associate with online Finance Facilitation Web Portal.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148729>

<http://msme.gov.in/WriteReadData/DocumentFile/MSME-Databank-Notifications.PDF>

## Haryana govt approves NCR Taxi Scheme 2016

**Question:** Recently the Haryana government approved the NCR Taxi scheme 2016. The scheme would be implemented in how many districts of the state falling in the National Capital Region (NCR)?

- (a) 18
- (b) 15
- (c) 13
- (d) 20

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 8 August 2016 the Haryana government approved the NCR Taxi scheme 2016.
- The scheme would be implemented in 13 districts of the state falling in the National Capital Region (NCR).
- The districts are Gurgaon, Faridabad, Jhajjar, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Sonapat, Panipat, Karnal, Mewar, Palwal, Rewari, Jind and Mahendragarh.
- The licenses to operate under the new scheme would be granted under section 74 and 76 of the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988.
- Under the scheme, the firms and societies, registered under Haryana Societies Registration Act, 2012 would be eligible for licenses. Further, companies that are formed to provide public transport services, and are registered under the Companies Act, 2013 would also be eligible for license.
- The scheme states that the licensee would be a taxi service operator and would have to abide by all relevant statutes as may be applicable including rules made under the Motor Vehicle Act, 1988 and rules made under the IT Act, 2000.

- He would have to ensure adequate space for parking the vehicles and would also have to ensure that GPS or GPRS device is fitted in the vehicle.
- Further, the licensee under group category such as firms, societies or companies would have to ensure that they have a registered office in Haryana. Details of the office such as telephone number, email id and details of office incharge would have to be provided to the Transport Department at the time of application.
- The licensee, who maintains a call centre or operate as an aggregator through an authorized call centre, web portal or app, will have to provide details of the same to the Transport Department.
- The scheme also contains provisions for rights of women employees under the Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace (Prevention, Prohibition and Redressal) Act, 2013.
- The scheme requires that the licensee display the women helpline number 1091 and police helpline number 1073, inside and outside of the taxi.
- The scheme also does not allow the use of tinted glass, curtains or films on the taxi.
- The cab would have a seating capacity of six people, excluding the driver. Open type or non-hard top vehicles would not be allowed to run.
- The taxis would be white in colour with blue colour strip on both sides displaying the name of the licensee.

**Reference:**

<https://haryanatransport.gov.in/srservices/vahan/gui/jsp/notificationsandcirculars.jsp>

<https://www.cmie.com/kommon/bin/sr.php?kall=warticle&dt=2016-08-09%2016:39:31&msec=060>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/haryana-to-implement-ncr-taxi-scheme/articleshow/53599140.cms>

## BHEL commissions 500 MW Thermal Unit in Chhattisgarh

**Question:** Name the recently BHEL commissioned 500 MW Thermal Unit in Chhattisgarh?

- (a) Marwa Thermal Power Station
- (b) Korba Thermal Power Station
- (c) Bhilai thermal power station
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**



**Related facts:**

- On 3 August 2016 Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has successfully commissioned the second 500 MW thermal units at Marwa Thermal Power Station in Chhattisgarh.
- Located in Janjgir-Champa district of Chhattisgarh, Marwa TPS has been set up by Chhattisgarh State Power Generation Company Ltd. (CSPGCL).
- The first unit of Marwa TPS was also commissioned earlier by BHEL. BHEL has been associated with power projects of CSPGCL (and the erstwhile Chhattisgarh State Electricity Board), from the time when the 120 MW Korba TPS Extension-I was commissioned in March 1976.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) owned by the Government of India, is a power plant equipment manufacturer and operates as an engineering and manufacturing company based in New Delhi, India.
- Established in 1964, BHEL is India's largest engineering and manufacturing company of its kind.
- It has been granted the prestigious Maharatna (big gem) status in 2013 by Govt of India for its outstanding performance.

**Reference:**

[http://www.bhel.com/press\\_release/press\\_pop.php?press\\_id=872](http://www.bhel.com/press_release/press_pop.php?press_id=872)

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/BHEL-commissions-500MW-Marwa-Thermal-Power-stn-in-Chhattisgarh/articleshow/53520074.cms>

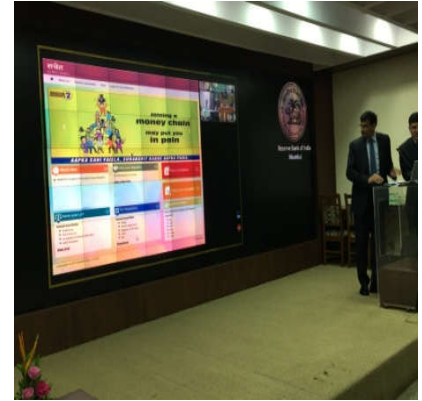
## Portal 'Sachet'

**Question: Which of the following Institution has launched a website from which the members of public are allowed to accept deposits, lodge complaints and also share information regarding illegal acceptance of deposits by unscrupulous entities?**

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) State Bank of India
- (c) SEBI
- (d) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority

**Ans: (a)**

### **Related facts:**



- On 4 August 2016 Reserve Bank of India has launched- 'Sachet' ( ) a website from which the members of public would be able to obtain information regarding entities that are allowed to accept deposits, lodge complaints and also share information regarding illegal acceptance of deposits by unscrupulous entities.
- The website would also help enhance coordination among regulators and State Government agencies and thus be useful in curbing instances of unauthorised acceptance of deposits by unscrupulous entities.
- The URL of the website is [www.sachet.rbi.org.in](http://www.sachet.rbi.org.in)
- Members of the public can on the website check whether or not a particular entity seeking to accept public deposits is registered with any regulator and whether the entity is permitted to accept deposits.
- The website also incorporates regulations prescribed by all financial regulators that different entities have to follow.

- Further, members of public can file and track a complaint on this website if any entity has illegally accepted money from them and/or defaulted in repayment of deposits.
- They can also share information regarding any such entity on this portal.
- The website also has a section for closed user group for SLCCs, on which they would be able to share market intelligence and other information relating to their activities, including agenda and minutes of their meetings, across the country on a real time basis.
- The website will act as a “force multiplier” and go a long way in making the functioning of SLCCs more effective and curbing the menace of unauthorised money raising activities
- All States/Union Territories have State Level Coordination Committees (SLCCs). SLCCs comprise various regulators, namely, Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), National Housing Bank (NHB), Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDA), Registrar of Companies (ROC) and concerned State Government departments, such as, Home Department, Finance Department, Law Department and various Police Authorities.
- SLCCs were reconstituted in 2014 in each State to monitor unauthorised collection of deposits and they meet more frequently under the chairmanship of Chief Secretaries/Administrators of the concerned States/Union Territories (UTs) with participation of senior level officials of the States and the regulators.

**Reference:**

[https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS\\_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37689](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=37689)

<http://sachet.rbi.org.in/Aboutus/AboutUs>

<http://www.uniindia.com/rbi-governor-launches-website-sachet-to-curb-illegal-collection-of-deposits/business-economy/news/579924.html>



## Mission Bhagiratha

**Question:** Recently the Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, launched Mission Bhagiratha in which of the following state?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Jharkhand
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Rajasthan

**Ans: (a)**



### Related facts:

- On 7 August 2016 the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, launched Mission Bhagiratha at Komatibanda Village, Gajwel, in Medak District of Telangana.
- The scheme has been launched by the State Government with an objective to provide safe drinking water to all.
- The Prime Minister unveiled plaques to lay Foundation Stones for following important development projects:
  - I. 1600 MW Thermal Power station of NTPC at Ramagundam.
  - II. Fertilizer Plant at Ramagundam.
  - III. Kaloji Narayana Rao University of Health Sciences, Warangal.
  - IV. Manoharabad-Kothapalli Railway line.
- He also dedicated to the nation the 1200 MW Thermal Power Station of Singareni Collieries at Jaipur, in Adilabad district.

### Reference:

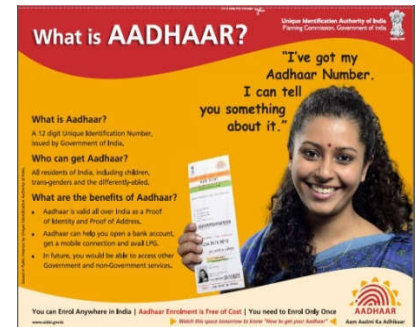
<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148476>

## Aadhaar related e-signature launched

**Question: Who is the Director General of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?**

- (a) A. B.P Pandey
- (b) A. K Kaushal
- (c) Dr. Vijaylaxmi Gupta
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (a)**



**Related facts:**

- On 3 August 2016 Online legal documentation startup LegalDesk.com has announced the launch of its electronic signing feature, eSignDesk.
- The eSignDesk will allow people to sign documents from remote places.
- Built on the Aadhaar platform, eSign is an initiative of the Government of India and meant to save money and time for citizens.
- It was launched on 3 August 2016 by Nandan Nilekani, former Chairman of UIDAI which rolled out the identification number for civic services.
- Users need to have a registered mobile number associated with the Aadhaar card. The service will be available through the website [www.eSignDesk.com](http://www.eSignDesk.com) and will be offered free of charge to the first 1,000 users.
- Documents signed electronically using it will be legally valid in the country.
- The e-signature deters fraud to a large extent as it cannot be replicated or forged; and the content of the document cannot be tampered with.

**Reference:**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/trend-tracking/Aadhar-linked-eSignature-facility-launched/articleshow/53542930.cms>  
<http://ccagov.in/ccs/sites/default/files/files/ESIGNFAQFeb26022015.pdf>  
<http://www.aadhaarnews.com/aadhar-linked-digital-signature-facility-launched/>  
<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/bangalore/aadhaarbased-esignature-launched/article8938115.ece>

## First phase of Sebi's new enterprise portal inaugurated

**Question: SEBI is abbreviation of-**

- a) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- b) Standard Exchange Board of India
- c) SMART Exchange Board of India
- d) None of these

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 July 2016 Sebi has initiated the first phase of its new enterprise portal.
- It was started to facilitate accurate and timely dissemination of information to the watchdogs' internal and external stakeholders.
- The portal provides an e-Platform to registered and prospective intermediaries to communicate in secure, simplified, transparent and paperless way with SEBI.
- It is being developed by IT major Tech Mahindra.

**Reference:**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/first-phase-of-sebis-new-enterprise-portal-goes-live/1/728463.html>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/markets/sebis-first-phase-of-new-enterprise-portal-goes-live/article8924721.ece>



## Ministry of Communications launched Twitter Sewa

**Question: Presently who is the Minister of Communications?**

- (a) Manoj Sinha                      (b) Smriti Irani
- (c) Prakash Javedkar              (d) Dharmendra Pradhan

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 2 August 2016 Minister of Communications Manoj Sinha launched "Twitter Sewa" for addressing the complaints and concerns of common man and other stake-holders in the telecom and postal sectors.
- The twitter handle of the Minister will be @manojsinhabjp.
- According to the Minister this will connect Indian citizens through live communications platform to provide a transparent, clean and responsive and accountable administration.
- It should be known that India has world's largest postal network.
- The number of mobile-phone subscribers had already crossed 1 billion in January, 2016.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/printrelease.aspx?relid=148163>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/govts-twitter-sewa-to-address-telecom-users-complain/article8933168.ece>

## Mission Harita Andhra Pradesh

**Question:** Recently the Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N Chandrababu Naidu launched Mission Harita Andhra Pradesh, by planting saplings at which following village under Nuzividu mandal in Krishna district?

- (a) Chilampaadu
- (b) Kambhampadu
- (c) Madhavaram
- (d) Sunkollu

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**



- On 29 July 2016; Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh N Chandrababu Naidu launched Mission Harita Andhra Pradesh, with the theme green cover for a happy living, by planting saplings at Sunkollu village under Nuzividu mandal in Krishna district.
- It should be known that Harita Andhra Pradesh was a pet project of late chief minister Y S Rajasekhara Reddy.
- He has now made it a mission with a new slogan Vanam-Manam (forest and we).
- The objective of the mission is to increase the green cover in the state to 50 per cent by the year 2029.
- Andhra Pradesh currently has 23 per cent green cover (forest area) and another 3 per cent non-forest, besides 13 lakh hectares of degraded forest.
- According to CM the green cover will be doubled by taking up plantation in four lakh acres per annum in the next 10 years.
- Women self-help groups would be entrusted with the task of dibbling for growth of seedlings and they would be given 100 days of work every year for this under the MGNREGA.

**Reference:**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/naidu-launches-mission-harita-andhra-pradesh/1/726969.html>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/cm-launches-ap-green-mission/article8917748.ece>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/venkaiah-naidu-launches-mission-harita-andhra-pradesh-2942170/>

## Foundation stone laid for Agartala (India) – Akhaura (Bangladesh) railway project

**Question:** Recently Indian Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu and his Bangladeshi counterpart Mazibul Hoque jointly laid the foundation stone for Agartala (India) – Akhaura (Bangladesh) railway project. It would be a part of the following Rail network?

- (a) Indian Railway
- (b) Trans-Siberian Railway
- (c) Bangladesh Railway
- (d) Trans-Asian Railway

**Ans:** (d)

**Related facts:**



- On 31 July 2016 Indian Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu and his Bangladeshi counterpart Mazibul Hoque jointly laid the foundation stone for the 15 km Agartala (India) – Akhaura (Bangladesh) railway project.
- The project will be developed at a cost of Rs 968 crore,
- It will be totally funded by the Indian government.
- The Agartala-Akhaurha railway project would be part of the Trans Asian Railway network.
- It would provide a much shorter connectivity from northeastern states to Kolkata via Bangladesh.
- The project was finalised during Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's meeting with the then Indian Prime Minister Manmohan Singh at New Delhi in January 2010.
- In Railway Budget for the year 2012-13, the project was approved.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/foundation-stone-laid-for-india-bangladesh-new-rail-project-116073100163\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/foundation-stone-laid-for-india-bangladesh-new-rail-project-116073100163_1.html)

<http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/agartala-akhaura-broad-gauge-rail-line-indian-railways-suresh-prabhu-trip-ura-bangladesh/334760/>

<http://bdnews24.com/neighbours/2016/07/31/india-bangladesh-lay-foundation-stone-for-agartala-akhaurha-rail-link>

## Uttar Pradesh Information Technology and Start up Policy 2016 has been released

**Question: When was the Uttar Pradesh Information Technology & Start-UP Policy 2016 released?**

- (a) 24 July 2016
- (b) 25 July 2016
- (c) 26 July 2016
- (d) 23 July 2016

**Ans: (a)**



**Related facts:**

- On 24 July 2016, Uttar Pradesh Information Technology & Start-UP Policy 2016 was released.
- This new policy, which will be executed by the Uttar Pradesh Electronics Corporation Limited, would remain effective for five years from the date of issuance of its notification.
- Earlier the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh with a set goal to take Information Technology into the entire land of UP released IT Policy 2012 focusing on Tier-II & Tier-III cities of the state leveraging the experience of Noida/G.Noida as IT Hub.
- IT/ITeS Mega Unit investments projects with the proposed investment of more than INR 200 Crores shall be considered for special incentives.
- In order to promote 'Ready to Move In' facility for IT/ITeS companies in the state, IT Infrastructure Private developers with IT Infrastructure development experience of more than 10 acres or investment of more than INR 200 Cr. in last 5 years may be considered for incentives on case to case basis for establishing more than 5 acres IT Park in Tier-II & Tier-III Cities in the state.
- The incentives shall be made available to the developer on the condition of 75% utilization of FAR for IT facility for 10 years from the date of commercial operation.
- The above mentioned incentives shall be provided with due approval from the Empowered committee.

**Reference:**

[http://www.itpolicyup.gov.in/pdf/english\\_Final\\_010416.pdf](http://www.itpolicyup.gov.in/pdf/english_Final_010416.pdf)

[http://information.up.nic.in/View\\_Hindinews.aspx?id=2941](http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=2941)



## Red Corridor to be redrawn

**Question:** How many districts of the 106 districts that have been described as being Maoist-affected and are part of the Red Corridor may soon no longer be part of the list?

- (a) 50
- (b) 40
- (c) 25
- (d) 20

**Ans: (d)**

### Related facts:



- On 24 July 2016 Union government decided to remove around 20 of the 106 Maoist-affected districts that are part of the Red Corridor.
- In these 20 districts on removal from the list financial support shall also be terminated.
- The 106 districts that span 10 States — Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Telangana, West Bengal, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh.
- These are described as those affected by Left Wing Extremism (LWE) and constitute the 'Red Corridor.'
- Of these, 44 districts are said to be the worst-affected.

### Reference:

[http://mha.nic.in/naxal\\_new](http://mha.nic.in/naxal_new)

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/red-corridor-to-be-redrawn/article8894304.ece>

[http://zeenews.india.com/news/india/red-corridor-to-be-redrawn-by-bjp-led-nda-number-of-maoist-affected-districts-to-be-reduced\\_1911267.html](http://zeenews.india.com/news/india/red-corridor-to-be-redrawn-by-bjp-led-nda-number-of-maoist-affected-districts-to-be-reduced_1911267.html)



# TREATY & AGREEMENTS

## MoU between India Myanmar

**Question:** Recently Union Cabinet has given its approval for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Myanmar in the field of-

- (a) Grassroots Innovation
- (b) Cultural
- (c) Traditional Systems of Medicine
- (d) Agriculture

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 24 August 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Myanmar in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine.
- The MoU will provide structured frame work for cooperation between the two countries for promotion of AYUSH/Traditional Systems of Medicine in Myanmar.
- It will boost the importance of AYUSH systems of medicine and conservation, production and standardisation.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149204>



## Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between AYUSH and the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP)

**Question:** Recently the Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) under the Ministry of AYUSH and the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for-

- (a) Financial support for research
- (b) Cooperation in the field of Traditional medicine
- (c) Promoting Ayurveda
- (d) Technical assistance for research

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 24 August 2016 the Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) under the Ministry of AYUSH and the United States Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in New Delhi.
- The MoU was signed for cooperation in the field of Traditional medicine and to collaborate in the identification, development, and dissemination of science-based standards in this field at an international level.
- The aim of this historic MoU is to promote the safety, quality and integrity of traditional medicines and botanical dietary supplements.



- The goal of the MOU is:
  1. To enhance public health in India, USA, and globally by working together to:
  2. To increase the awareness and understanding of quality traditional /herbal medicines, botanical dietary supplements, and their products;
  3. To increase the availability and access to needed public standards for traditional / herbal medicines, botanical dietary supplements, and their products;
- The MoU was signed by Dr. Rajiv Kumar Sharma, Director, PCIM & H and Dr. K.V. Surendra Nath, Senior Vice President, Global Sites, USP in the presence of Shri Ajit Mohan Sharan, Secretary, and AYUSH.
- Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) is an autonomous organization under Ministry of AYUSH, Govt. of India with a primary mandate to develop pharmacopoeial standards for drugs/formulations used under Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani (ASU) and Homoeopathic systems of Medicine.
- The U.S. Pharmacopeial Convention (USP) is a global health organization that improves lives through public standards and related programs that help ensure the quality, safety, and benefit of medicines and foods.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149197>

## Cabinet approved MoU between India and South Africa

**Question:** Recently cabinet approved Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and South Africa to establish cooperation in which of the following field?

- (a) Agriculture
- (b) Grassroots Innovation
- (c) Space
- (d) Industry

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 24 August 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has been apprised of the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and South Africa to establish cooperation in Grassroots Innovation.
- The MoU was signed on July 07, 2016 at Pretoria in pursuance to the Inter-Government Agreement between two countries for cooperation in Science & Technology.
- Under this MoU, both countries will jointly organise various programmes such as forums, seminars, workshops, and training on matters related to innovation; share open source technologies with each other and jointly develop projects.
- The MoU will provide a mechanism and help in creating an ecosystem that will promote inclusive innovation and entrepreneurship at the grassroot level in both countries with particular focus on Indigenous knowledge systems and Agriculture Biotechnology.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149191>

## BARC and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology sign MoU

**Question:** Recently Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram (an institute of national importance under DST) have signed an MoU for which of the following purpose?

- (a) Power Plant
- (b) Atomic Clock
- (c) Deep Brain Stimulator
- (d) Heavy water

**Ans: (c)**

**Related fact:**



- On 11 August 2016 Bhabha Atomic Research Centre and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences & Technology (SCTIMST), Thiruvananthapuram (an institute of national importance under DST) have agreed to join hands to develop 'Deep Brain Stimulator' (DBS).
- DBS involves implanting electrodes within certain areas of brain and the regular electrical pulses generated by a pacemaker-like device placed under the skin in upper chest regulates the abnormal impulses of the brain.
- DBS is used in typical neurological conditions of Essential tremor, Parkinson's disease and Dystonia.
- The DBS consists of implanted pulse generator, electrodes and extension cables which interface with external Programmer module and wireless battery charger.
- These devices are currently being imported, limiting its wider usage due to the high cost. The planned joint development is targeted to provide an affordable alternative.
- As per the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between BARC & SCTIMST yesterday, BARC will develop the device as per specifications provided by SCTIMST and SCTIMST will be responsible for clinical trials, testing and qualification. Electronics Division, Reactor Control Division and Centre for Design & Manufacture of BARC will participate in the development of various subsystems.
- The 1st prototypes are planned to be available in 3 years.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148789>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/science/BARC-signs-MoU-to-develop-Deep-Brain-Stimulator/articleshow/53671204.cms>

## Agreement for India's first energy data agency

**Question:** Recently NITI Aayog has signed statement of principle with which of the following two countries to set up India's first energy data agency?

- (a) Japan and Malaysia
- (b) U.S and U.K
- (c) China and Russia
- (d) U.K Germany

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 10 August 2016; as a step towards setting up India's first energy data agency, government's premier think-tank NITI Aayog signed statement of principle with US and UK.
- It will be used to host all the data related to energy sector in the country including oil and gas, coal, solar and thermal energy, much on the lines of the Energy Information Administration of US.
- NITI Aayog vice chairman Arvind Panagariya said that the regulatory bottlenecks in the past have resulted in lower than expected domestic production in the country.
- According to Panagariya, energy is extremely important to help India maintain over 8% growth.
- The first draft of the National Energy Policy is ready and is being discussed with stakeholders.

**Reference:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/niti-aayog-signs-statement-of-principle-with-us-and-uk-to-set-up-indias-first-energy-data-agency/articleshow/53631568.cms>  
[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/niti-aayog-ties-up-with-us-eia-to-set-up-portal-on-energy-data-116081000876\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/niti-aayog-ties-up-with-us-eia-to-set-up-portal-on-energy-data-116081000876_1.html)



## MoU between National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)

**Question:** Recently MoU was signed between National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for which of the following purpose?

- (a) For industrial use of treated water
- (b) For eliminating waste sewage
- (c) For helping in creating action plans
- (d) None of these

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 17 August 2016 MoU was signed to this effect between National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).
- Nine kilometer pipeline from Laxmi nagar to Gokul barrage will carry the treated water to Mathura refinery.
- Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Uma Bharti has said that a new beginning has been made with the foundation laying of STP in Mathura which will provide treated water for industrial use.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148978>



## National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IIT-Kharagpur

**Question:** Recently National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for research project on Laboratory and Field investigations on Paneled Cement Concrete Pavements for Highways with which of the following Institute?

- (a) IIT, Kharagpur
- (b) IIT, Roorkee
- (c) IIT, Kanpur
- (d) IIT, New Delhi

**Ans: (a)**

### Related facts:

- On 9 August 2016 National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with IIT-Kharagpur for research project on Laboratory and Field investigations on Paneled Cement Concrete Pavements for Highways.
- The duration of the research project is 3 years.
- NHAI have paid Rs. 1.25 crore for the project, excluding cost of construction of trial pavement section on NH.
- NHAI in collaboration with IIT Kharagpur shall promote to develop a technology to construct Paneled Cement Concrete (Pre-fabricated in a small panel size) which can replace the design of construction of existing cement concrete road.
- In India, the highways are generally paved with Bituminous (Asphaltic Concrete) material produced from refineries.
- However, it has been experienced that these highways are prone to damage and need frequent maintenance due to adverse climatic conditions such as rain and hot weather prevailing in the country.
- Therefore, to overcome this problem, the Government of India has recently announced a policy for the construction of concrete pavements for all major highways due to their longevity and maintenance free life.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148606>

<http://www.uniindia.com/nhai-inks-mou-with-iit-kharagpur-for-highway-research-project/india/news/584910.html>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/infrastructure/nhai-signs-mou-with-iit-kharagpur-to-develop-technology-to-construct-maintenance-free-highways-in-india/articleshow/53619961.cms>



## Signing of Bilateral Advance Pricing Agreement by CBDT

**Question: Who is the chairperson of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)?**

- (a) Rani Singh Nair
- (b) Atulesh Jindal
- (c) Anurag Thakur
- (d) None of These

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) entered into a Bilateral Advance Pricing Agreement (APA) on 2nd August, 2016 with the Indian subsidiary of a Japanese trading company.
- This is the first Bilateral Advance Pricing agreement with a Japanese company having a “Rollback” provision in it
- Overall, it is fourth bilateral APA signed by CBDT.
- Signing of this bilateral APA is an important step towards ascertaining certainty in transfer pricing matters of multinational company cases and dispute resolution.
- The APA Scheme was introduced in the Income-tax Act in 2012 and the “Rollback” provisions were introduced in 2014.
- The scheme endeavours to provide certainty to taxpayers in the domain of transfer pricing by specifying the methods of pricing and setting the prices of international transactions in advance.
- The progress of the APA Scheme strengthens the Government’s mission of fostering a non-adversarial tax regime.
- The CBDT expects more APAs to be concluded and signed in the near future.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148327>

## Agreement between Lava International Ltd. and the UP Skill Development Mission

**Question:** Recently an agreement between Lava International Ltd. and the UP Skill Development Mission has been signed for which of the following purpose?

- (a) For investments
- (b) For Training and Employment
- (c) To set up industries
- (d) To make executing agency

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 2 August 2016 a flex-agreement between Lava International Ltd. and the UP Skill Development Mission has been signed for Training and Employment.
- The agreement was signed by Technical Education and Skill Development Minister Mr. Mehboob Ali and Managing Director of Lava International Mr. Hari Om Rai.
- The company would train 10,000 youngsters in four years at their training institute located at Yamuna Expressway Authority, Gautambudha Nagar and will give jobs to at least 80% of the trained youth in their ventures.
- The UP Skill Development Mission in May 2016 was given the Best State in Empowering Youth through Skill Development under the aegis of Europe-India Foundation For Excellence at the UNESCO headquarter in Paris .

**Reference:**

[http://information.up.nic.in/View\\_engnews.aspx?id=1036](http://information.up.nic.in/View_engnews.aspx?id=1036)

<http://www.ndtv.com/noida-news/noida-to-be-developed-as-electronics-hub-akhilesh-yadav-1439566>

## Agreement between India and Lao

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing agreement in which of the following field between India and Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR)?

- (a) Financial Services Agreement
- (b) Air Services Agreement
- (c) Health Services agreement
- (d) Tourism Services Agreement

**Ans: (b)**



### Related facts:

- On 3 August 2016; the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has given its approval for signing of new Air Services Agreement (ASA) between India and Lao People's Democratic Republic (Lao PDR).
- The Agreement is expected to spur greater trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchange between the two countries bringing it in tune with the developments in the civil aviation sector.
- It will provide enabling environment for enhanced and seamless connectivity while providing commercial opportunities to the carriers of both the sides ensuring greater safety and security.
- Under the agreement, the designated airlines of the two countries shall have fair and equal opportunity to operate the agreed services on specified routes. T
- The routes and frequencies shall be decided subsequently. ASA is the basic legal framework for any air operation between the two countries.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148303>

## BOB ties up with start-up Fisdom

**Question: Fisdom is a -**

- (a) Start-up of financial sector
- (b) Textile Company
- (c) IT company
- (d) None of these



**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 1 August 2016 India's public sector lender, Bank of Baroda has tied up with a fintech start-up Fisdom for personal wealth management services.
- Besides, the bank has entered into pact with six other fintech companies, proficient in different areas; these are CreditMantri, FundsTiger, Probe42, Power2SME, IndiaLends and KredX
- Fisdom app will help users make financial investments in an easy and paperless manner by blending cutting-edge technology with personalised financial advice.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/bank-of-baroda-ties-up-with-start-up-fisdom-116080100966\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/bank-of-baroda-ties-up-with-start-up-fisdom-116080100966_1.html)

[http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/bankbaroda-ties-upstart-up-fisdom\\_7164501.html](http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/bankbaroda-ties-upstart-up-fisdom_7164501.html)

<http://bankingfrontiers.com/bob-ties-up-with-fintech-company/>

## MoU between Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, NTPC Ltd. and NHPC

**Question:** Recently Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, NTPC Ltd. & NHPC signed an MoU for setting up Hydro Engineering College in the State of Himachal Pradesh at which of the following place?

- (a) Kullu                      (b) Bandla (Bilaspur)  
(c) Mandi                    (d) Unna

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 29 July 2016 Govt. of Himachal Pradesh, NTPC Ltd. & NHPC signed a MoU for setting up Hydro Engineering College in the State of Himachal Pradesh.
- This is first of its kind joint venture in the Country.
- This ambitious project with the financial support of NHPC and NTPC would be set up at Bandla in Bilaspur District at the cost of Rs. 125 crore.
- NTPC & NHPC are committed to contribute Rs. 37.50 crore each (total Rs. 75 Crore) in the first tranche for setting up of Hydro Engineering College at Badla, District Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh.
- NTPC & NHPC will also consider to release Rs. 12.5 crore each (total 25 crore) in the second tranche. NTPC and NHPC will also contribute Rs. 2.5 crore each (total Rs. 5 crore) per year for five years (total Rs. 25 Crore) towards operating expenses.
- Initially five disciplines having 60 seats each would be started in this college.
- Setting of the first Hydro Engineering College at Bilaspur shall boost regional development and provide more job opportunities for local educated youth and make available specialized work force to NTPC and NHPC.
- Hydro Engineering College was conceived in the year 2009.
- The State of Himachal Pradesh possesses more than 20,000 MW Hydropower potential and NTPC and NHPC are engaged in operation and construction of many projects in the State.

**Reference:**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7707932\\_Hydro-engg-college-in-HP-will-boost-regional-development-](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7707932_Hydro-engg-college-in-HP-will-boost-regional-development-)

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

<http://www.ntpc.co.in/en/media/press-releases/details/mou-signed-setting-hydro-engineering-college-0>

<http://www.uniindia.com/hydro-engineering-college-to-be-set-up-in-himachal-pradesh/india/news/571896.html>

## Agreement between India and Cambodia

**Question:** Recently the Union Cabinet has approved Bilateral Treaty between India and Cambodia in which of the following field?

- (a) Business
- (b) Investment
- (c) Import-Export
- (d) Cultural Exchange

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 27 July 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) between India and Cambodia.
- The Treaty is the first Bilateral Investment Treaty in accordance with the text of the Indian Model BIT, approved by the Cabinet in December, 2015.
- The Treaty seeks to promote and protect investments from either country in the territory of the other country with the objective of increasing bilateral investment flows.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=147849>

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/cabinet-approves-bilateral-investment-treaty-between-india-and-cambodia-to-boost-investment/?comment=disable](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/cabinet-approves-bilateral-investment-treaty-between-india-and-cambodia-to-boost-investment/?comment=disable)



# CONFERENCE

## 22nd Delhi Book Fair

**Question:** What is the theme of the 22nd edition of the Delhi Book Fair?

- (a) Swachh Bharat Abhiyan
- (b) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan
- (c) Skill India
- (d) Digital India

**Ans:** (b)

**Related facts:**



- On 28 August 2016 22nd edition of the Delhi Book Fair was inaugurated by Union Minister of Science and Technology and Earth Sciences, Harsh Vardhan.
- The theme of the 22nd edition of the Delhi Book Fair is 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan'.
- It is organised by Indian Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO) in association with Federation of Indian Publishers.
- With over 250 national and international publishers exhibiting at the fair, the event this year seeks to highlight initiatives undertaken by the central government for its 'Sarva Shiksha Abhiyaan' flagship programme to promote higher education and computer literacy.

**Reference:**

[http://indiatradefair.com/uploads/editor\\_images/1464787000\\_1464252689\\_Circular\\_letter.PDF](http://indiatradefair.com/uploads/editor_images/1464787000_1464252689_Circular_letter.PDF)

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7807190\\_22nd-Delhi-Book-Fair-inaugurated-.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7807190_22nd-Delhi-Book-Fair-inaugurated-.html)

## BRICS women parliamentarian's forum

**Question:** Recently the two-day meeting of BRICS women parliamentarian's forum held in which of the following city?

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

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- The two-day (20-21 August 2016) meeting of BRICS women parliamentarian's forum held in Jaipur.
- Lok Sabha Speaker Sumitra Mahajan has inaugurated the forum.
- 43 Parliamentarians from BRICS countries including 28 MPs from Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha have participated in the meeting.
- It should be known that India will host the eighth annual Summit of BRICS from October 15-16 in Goa.

**Reference:**

<http://keralanews.gov.in/index.php/nationalnews/9108-brics-women-parliamentarian-s-forum-begins-in-jaipur>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/brics-women-parliamentarians-forum-adopts-jaipur-declaration/articleshow/53797283.cms>

## First SAARC Young Parliamentarians Conference

**Question:** The first SAARC Young Parliamentarians Conference was held on August 16-18, 2016 in which of the following city?

- (a) Kathmandu
- (b) Islamabad
- (c) New Delhi
- (d) Jaipur

**Ans: (b)**



### Related facts:

- On August 16-18, 2016; the first SAARC Young Parliamentarians Conference was held in Islamabad, Pakistan.
- The Conference was held on theme 'Peace and Harmony for Development'.
- Lok Sabha MP Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo has led the three member Indian delegation.
- The conference was hosted by the Pakistan National Assembly and was inaugurated by National Assembly Speaker Ayaz Sadiq.
- As many as 50 members from Afghanistan, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka participated in the conference.
- The 1st SAARC Young Parliamentarians Conference (SYPC 2016), was hosted by National Assembly of Pakistan and supported by the Improving Parliamentary Performance IP3 European Union Project and country's exclusive research and training institute for parliamentarians, Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services (PIPS).

### Reference:

<http://www.pips.gov.pk/1st-saarc-young-parliamentarians-conference-peace-and-harmony-development>

<http://www.dawn.com/news/1277852>

<http://www.ft.lk/article/561966/First-two-day-SAARC-Young-Parliamentarians-Conference-kicks-off-in-Islamabad>

## First National Conference of Investigation Agencies

**Question:** The first National Conference of Investigation Agencies on 12-13th August, 2016 will be held at-

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

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 12-13th August, 2016; The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) in coordination with National Investigation Agency (NIA) is organizing the 1st National Conference of Investigation Agencies at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- The conference has originated from the mandate of the BPR&D and the recommendations of Directors General of Police (DGPs)/Inspectors General of Police (IGPs) conferences which stipulated "To organize the All India Conference of Police and Law Enforcement officers engaged in investigation tasks".
- The conference envisages to provide an annual national platform to all the officers of law enforcement agencies engaged in investigation tasks.
- The objective of Conference is to discuss the latest laws and judgments and their implications for investigation and prosecution and to deliberate on new legislation/ criminal law amendments and systematic changes for meeting new challenges in investigation.
- The conference also envisages about adoption of latest technology in forensic sciences for expeditious and professional investigation and to share best practices followed by different investigation agencies which could be implemented by others.
- The conference offers sessions by investigation experts of national repute on themes of Combating Economic and Organized crime, Digital and Technology driven crime, Terrorist Crime Investigation, Legal issue relating to Investigation and Ideas from States: Sharing good practices.
- There will be sessions on show-casing the best practices in investigation being followed in various States/UTs and investigation agencies. Leading experts and practitioners in these areas would present their views.
- The DGs of States/UTs, Central Police Organisations (CPOs) and the Heads of Crime Branches/ATS/Economic Offences Wing (EOW)/STF of States/UTs and other investigative agencies will participate in the Conference. Superintendents of Police and other investigators too shall participate.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148567>

<http://www.livemint.com/Politics/APJSfz4UZH9ElmA0zf6ljN/First-National-Conference-of-Investigation-Agencies-to-be-he.html>

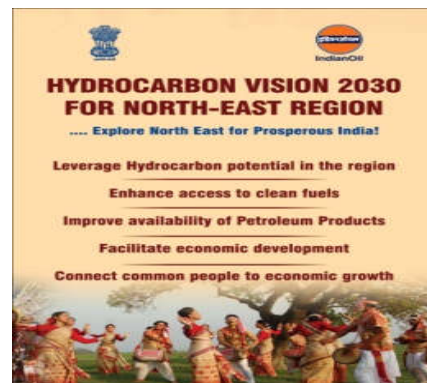
## First Tech Meet of Hydrocarbon Vision 2030

**Question: When was the Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for Northeast India released?**

- a) 9 February 2016
- b) 1 January 2016
- c) 15 February 2016
- d) 7 July 2016

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 4-5 August 2016; the first technology meet under the Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for Northeast India held in Guwahati.
- The meet is being considered as a stepping stone to put the north-east region on top of Indian energy map by utilising its hydrocarbon potential in line with the Hydrocarbon Vision 2030.
- Under the Hydrocarbon Vision 2030 for the northeast, oil and natural gas output from the region will be doubled besides ramping up refining capacity entailing an investment of Rs 1,30,000 crore over the next 15 years.
- Experts from different PSUs and private sector oil firms will attend the two-day technology meet.
- All major operators, including ONGC, OIL, GeoEnpro, Jubilant, Exploration Company, ACIL along with global service providers like Schlumberger, Weatherford, Halliburton, Baker Hughes and Al Mansoori among others will participate in the meet.
- It may be recalled that the “Hydrocarbon Vision 2030” for Northeast India was released by the government of India on 9 February 2016.

**Reference:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/first-tech-meet-of-hydrocarbon-vision-2030-to-begin-tomorrow-116080301072\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/first-tech-meet-of-hydrocarbon-vision-2030-to-begin-tomorrow-116080301072_1.html)

<http://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/tech-meet-of-oil-companies-from-today/53534036>

<http://www.arunachaltimes.in/first-tech-meet-of-hydrocarbon-vision-2030-to-begin-tomorrow/>

<http://www.petroleum.nic.in/docs/visiondoc2030.pdf>

## HAL-Western Air Command Conference Held

**Question:** Recently one day Conference on HAL supported airborne platforms and systems was held at-

- (a) Visakhapatnam
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Kochi

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 29 July 2016 one day Conference on HAL supported airborne platforms and systems was held at Headquarters, Western Air Command, Subroto Park, New Delhi.
- The conference was co-chaired by T Suvama Raju, Chairman & Managing Director, HAL and Air Marshal S.B Deo PVSM AVSM VM VSM ADC, Air Officer Commanding- in-Chief, WAC. Heads of all HAL Divisions and Senior Operational and Maintenance Staff Officers at HQ WAC attended the Conference.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148069>

# ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

## Unilever acquired Blueair

**Question:** Recently the Unilever has signed an agreement to acquire the world's leading supplier of innovative mobile indoor air purification technologies and solutions Blueair. Blueair is a company of which of the following country?

- (a) France
- (b) Sweden
- (c) China
- (d) Finland

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 16 August 2016 Unilever has signed an agreement to acquire Blueair, the world's leading supplier of innovative mobile indoor air purification technologies and solutions.
- Blueair is launched in 1996 in Stockholm, and is a leading player in the premium category of air purifiers.
- Blueair had a turnover of US\$106m in 2015.
- It is present in markets like China, US, Japan, South Korea and India.

**Reference:**

<https://www.unilever.com/news/press-releases/2016/unilever-to-acquire-Blueair.html>

<http://uk.reuters.com/article/uk-unilvr-m-a-blueair-idUKKCN10R0JG>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/unilever-acquires-blueair/article8995378.ece>



## Randstad to acquire Monster Worldwide

**Question:** Recently Randstad a leading human resources services provider announced to acquire Monster Worldwide in a total purchase price of approximately-

- (a) \$305 million
- (b) \$500 million
- (c) \$429 million
- (d) \$470 million

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 9 August 2016 Randstad a leading human resources services provider announced to acquire Monster Worldwide in a total purchase price of approximately \$429 million.
- Randstad will pay \$3.40 per share in cash.
- Randstad specializes in solutions in the field of flexible work and human resources services.
- Randstad Group is one of the leading HR services providers in the world, with top-three positions in Argentina, Belgium & Luxembourg, Canada, Chile, France, Germany, Greece, India, Mexico, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland, the UK, and the United States, as well as major positions in Australia and Japan.
- In 2015, Randstad had approximately 29,750 corporate employees and around 4,473 branches and inhouse locations in 39 countries around the world.
- Monster Worldwide is a global leader in connecting jobs and people.

**Reference:**

<http://www.ir.randstad.com/news-and-events/press-releases/pr-2016/2016-08-09.aspx>

<http://www.monster.com/about/a/Randstad-To-Acquire-Monster-Worldwide-To-Transform-The-Way-People-And-Jobs-Connect>

<http://www.wsj.com/articles/randstad-to-buy-monster-worldwide-for-429-million-1470728247>

## Aditya Birla Nuvo Ltd (ABNL) to merge with Grasim Industries Ltd

**Question:** Recently the Aditya Birla Group announced a plan to merge Aditya Birla Nuvo Ltd (ABNL) with which of the following companies?

- (a) Grasim Industries Ltd
- (b) Ultra Tech Cement
- (c) Birla Sun Life Insurance
- (d) Aditya Birla Financial Services Ltd

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 11 August 2016 the Boards of Directors of Grasim Industries Limited (“Grasim”), Aditya Birla Nuvo Limited (“ABNL”) and Aditya Birla Financial Services Limited (“ABFSL”) at their respective meetings approved the merger of ABNL into Grasim.
- Under this plan, the financial services business will be demerged into a newly formed company — Aditya Birla Financial Services Ltd (ABFSL), which will be listed separately.
- The subsequent demerger & listing of its financial services business through a composite scheme of arrangement (“Scheme”).
- In aggregate, anyone holding 100 ABNL shares will receive 30 shares in Grasim and 210 shares in ABFSL
- The board of Grasim has also recommended sub-division of its equity shares of Rs 10 each into five equity shares of Rs 2 each.
- Kumar Mangalam Birla, Chairman, Aditya Birla Group, said that the transaction was aimed at finding synergies between the various companies in the group and at unlocking value.
- Post-restructuring, promoters will own 17 per cent in the financial services business; Grasim will own 57 per cent.

**Reference:**

<http://www.adityabirla.com/media/press-releases/creating-a-premier-play-on-Indias-growth>

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7755950\\_Aditya-Birla-Nuvo-to-merge-with-Grasim-Industries.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7755950_Aditya-Birla-Nuvo-to-merge-with-Grasim-Industries.html)

# LAW & JUSTICE

## Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2016

**Question:** Recently the Lok Sabha has passed the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2016 it seeks to increase the tariff rate of customs duty on rough marbles and granite blocks/slabs from current 10 per cent to-

- (a) 40 Percent
- (b) 30 Percent
- (c) 25 Percent
- (d) 20 Percent

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 10 August 2016 the Lok Sabha has passed the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2016.
- It seeks to amend the Income Tax Act, 1961, and Customs Tariff Act, 1975.
- The Companies Act, 1956, allows companies to demerge (split) into multiple companies.
- As a result of the demerger, the income, expenses and profits of the parent company are transferred to the resultant companies.
- The Income Tax Act, 1961 takes into account these transfers from the parent company for taxation of resultant companies.
- Now the new bill clarifies that these provisions will apply in case a public sector company demerges, and the resultant company is no longer a public sector company.
- The Income-tax Act, 1961 state that in the case of certain assesseees, in computing profits and gains derived from business, deduction shall be allowed of an amount equal to 30% of additional employee cost incurred in the course of such business in the previous year for the specified period.
- One of the conditions provides that the employee should be employed for a period of not less than 240 days during the previous year.
- In the present bill in view of the seasonal nature of the business of manufacturing of apparel, the period of employment of an employee who is employed in this business has been reduced from 240 days to 150 days during the previous year.
- It also seeks to increase the tariff rate of customs duty from current 10 per cent to the WTO-bound rate of 40 per cent on rough marbles and granite blocks/slabs.

**Reference:**

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/business/news/Lok-Sabha-passes-Taxation-Laws-Amendment-Bill-2016/2016/08/10/article3573133.ece>

## Lokpal and Lokayuktas (Amendment) Bill, 2016

**Question:** According to recently passed Lokpal and Lokayuktas (Amendment) Bill, 2016 a public servant shall make declaration of his assets and liabilities within a period of-

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

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 28 July 2016 Lokpal and Lokayuktas (Amendment) Bill, 2016 has been passed by Rajya Sabha.
- The Lok Sabha on 27 July 2016 passed the Lokpal and Lokayukta (Amendment) Bill, 2016.
- The bill amends section 44 of the 2013 Act and says that every public servant shall make a declaration of his assets and liabilities in such form and manner as may be prescribed.
- According to present bill every public servant shall make declaration of his assets and liabilities in the manner as provided by or under this Act within a period of thirty days from the date on which he makes and subscribes an oath or affirmation to enter upon his office, furnish to the competent authority.
- In addition to that every public servant shall file declaration, information and annual returns pertaining to his assets and liabilities as well as of his spouse and dependent children as on March 31 on or before July 31 of that year.
- It also includes that the competent authority in respect of each Ministry or Department shall ensure that all such statements are published on the website of such Ministry or Department by 31st August of that year.
- The form and manner of declaration of assets and liabilities by public servants will be decided by Union Government.

**Reference:**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Deadline-for-govt-employees-to-declare-assets-extended/articleshow/53436515.cms>

<http://www.prsindia.org/uploads/media/Lokpal/Lokpal%20and%20Lokayuktas%20Bill,%202016.pdf>

## Mental Health Care Bill

**Question: When did the Rajya Sabha passed Mental Health Care Bill ?**

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

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 8 August 2016 the Rajya Sabha passed Mental Health Care Bill 2013 seeking to provide better healthcare for people suffering from mental illness.
- There were 134 official amendments to the bill, which took almost an hour to be passed clause by clause.
- The Mental Health Care Bill 2013 says that any person who attempts to commit suicide shall be presumed, unless proved otherwise, to be suffering from mental illness at the time of attempting suicide and shall not be liable to punishment under section 309 of Indian Penal Code (IPC).
- Around 6-7 percent of the country's population suffered from some kind of mental illnesses, while 1-2 percent suffers from acute mental disease.
- According to WHO figures, around 27 per cent of India's population suffered from depression.
- India had only 5000 psychiatrists whereas at least 8,500 more were needed.
- The bill provides for ensuring healthcare, treatment and rehabilitation of persons with mental illness "in a manner that does not intrude on their rights and dignity."
- Bengaluru based NIMHANS: National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro sciences has started survey to know the population suffering from some kind of mental illnesses.

**Reference:**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/7743410\\_Rajya-Sabha-passes-Mental-Health-Care-Bill.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/7743410_Rajya-Sabha-passes-Mental-Health-Care-Bill.html)

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/rajya-sabha-passes-mental-health-care-bill-116080801436\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/rajya-sabha-passes-mental-health-care-bill-116080801436_1.html)

<http://www.firstpost.com/politics/mental-health-care-bill-decriminalising-suicide-passed-in-rajya-sabha-2943898.html>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/rajya-sabha-passes-mental-health-care-bill-116080801436\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/rajya-sabha-passes-mental-health-care-bill-116080801436_1.html)

## No govt accommodation for former chief ministers

**Question:** Recently the Supreme Court held that former Chief Ministers are not entitled for government accommodation for lifetime. The judgment of the apex court came on a plea filed by Uttar Pradesh-based NGO named-

- (a) Lokbandhu
- (b) Samay Prahari
- (c) Lok Prahari
- (d) Lok Kalayan

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 1 August 2016 the Supreme Court held that former chief ministers are not entitled for government accommodation for lifetime.
- The judgment of the apex court came on a plea filed by Uttar Pradesh-based NGO Lok Prahari which had sought a direction against allotment of government bungalows to former CMs.
- The Supreme Court gave its verdict on a 2004 plea and rule that any such government accommodation should be vacated within two to three months.
- The NGO had also contended that the rules framed in 1997 for allotment of government bungalows to ex-chief ministers were unconstitutional and illegal, and those occupying them were allegedly unauthorised occupants under the purview of the UP Public Premises (Eviction of Unauthorised Occupants) Act.
- It contended that that the rule was without statutory basis and in breach of Uttar Pradesh Minister Salaries, Allowances and other Facilities Act, 1981.
- The judgment on the plea was reserved on November 27, 2014.

**Reference:**

<http://judis.nic.in/supremecourt/imgs1.aspx?filename=43830>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/No-government-accommodation-for-former-chief-ministers-Supreme-Court/articleshow/53485707.cms>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/supreme-court-cracks-down-on-vvip-squatters-no-govt-bungalow-for-ex-cms/1/728914.html>



## Cabinet approves Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill 2016

**Question:** In the present Motor Vehicle Act, there are how many Sections?

- (a) 223
- (b) 212
- (c) 219
- (d) 192

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 3 August 2016 the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its approval for Motor Vehicle (Amendment) Bill 2016.
- The bill address the issue of road safety and to improve the facilitation of the citizens while dealing with transport departments and proposes hefty penalties for violation of traffic norms including up to Rs 10,000 fine for drunken driving and Rs 2 lakh compensation for hit-and-run cases.
- In the present Motor Vehicle Act, there are 223 Sections out of which the Bill aims to amend 68 sections.
- Whereas Chapters 10 has been deleted and a Chapter 11 is being replaced with new provisions to simplify third party insurance claims and settlement process.
- The important provisions include increase in compensation for Hit & Run cases from Rs. 25000 to Rs. 2 lakhs. It also has provision for payment of compensation upto Rs 10 lakh in road accidents fatalities.
- The Bill also proposes insertion of 28 new sections. The amendments mainly focus on issues relating to improving road safety, citizens' facilitation while dealing with the Transport Department. Strengthening rural transport, last mile connectivity and public transport, automation and computerization and enabling online services.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148308>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/good-governance/centre/Motor-Vehicle-Amendment-Bill-to-make-roads-safe/articleshow/53535845.cms?>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/economy/cabinet-gives-nod-to-new-motor-bill-steep-penalties-proposed-for-violation-of-traffic-norms/337522/>



## Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2016, and the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2016

**Question:** When did the Rajya Sabha passed the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2016, and the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2016?

- (a) 31 July 2016
- (b) 30 July 2016
- (c) 1 August 2016
- (d) 2 August 2016

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 1 August 2016 the Rajya Sabha passed the Indian Medical Council (Amendment) Bill, 2016, and the Dentists (Amendment) Bill, 2016.
- The Lok Sabha had already passed the bill.
- Under this bill NEET will be conducted in place for admission to medical and dental courses across the country from next year.
- The bills provide for a Constitutional status to the 'National Eligibility-cum-Entrance Test (NEET) and seek to amend the Indian Medical Council Act, 1956, and the Dentists Act, 1948.
- This examination will be conducted in Hindi, English and some other languages.
- Under the new system the entrance in private medical colleges will be taken through NEET examination.
- It will be applicable for both undergraduate and postgraduate courses.

**Reference:**

<http://www.livemint.com/Politics/tHtbLolo8hZUDGieiwwkxK/NEET-bills-get-Parliaments-approval.html>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/rajya-sabha-passes-bills-to-put-in-place-neet-116080101438\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/rajya-sabha-passes-bills-to-put-in-place-neet-116080101438_1.html)

# YEAR, DAY & WEEK

## National Sports Day

**Question: National Sports Day is celebrated on-**

- (a) 28 August
- (b) 25 August
- (c) 29 August
- (d) 30 August

**Ans: (c)**



**National Sport Day**

### Related facts:

- On 29 August 2016 National Sports Day was celebrated across the country.
- This day marks the birthday of Dhyan Chand, the hockey player who won gold medals in Olympics for India in the years 1928, 1932 and 1936.
- Dhyan Chand was born on 29 August 1905 in Allahabad.
- On this day President of India presented the Sports and Adventure Awards at a function held at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- The award includes Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, Dhyan Chand and Dronacharya Awards in addition to the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award and Arjuna Award.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149280>

<http://www.presidentofindia.nic.in/press-release-detail.htm?1724>

[http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news\\_updates/pm-pays-tributes-to-major-dhyan-chand-on-national-sports-day-congratulates-the-sportspersons-and-coaches-to-be-honoured-with-various-sports-awards/](http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pm-pays-tributes-to-major-dhyan-chand-on-national-sports-day-congratulates-the-sportspersons-and-coaches-to-be-honoured-with-various-sports-awards/)

# World Humanitarian Day

**Question: World Humanitarian Day is celebrated on-**

- a) 20 August 2016
- b) 18 August 2016
- c) 16 August 2016
- d) 19 August 2016

**Ans: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- World Humanitarian Day was celebrated across the world on 19 August 2016.
- The theme of the day was 'One Humanity'.
- World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is held every year on 19 August to pay tribute to aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service, and to mobilize people to advocate for a more humane world.
- The day was designated by the General Assembly seven years ago to coincide with the anniversary of the 2003 bombing of the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, Iraq.

**Reference:**

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

<https://worldhumanitarianday.org/>

<http://www.unocha.org/whd2016>

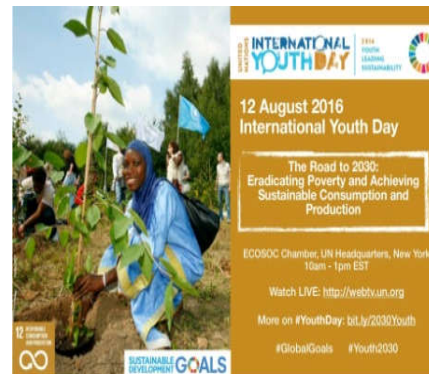


# International Youth Day

**Question: International Youth Day is celebrated on-**

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

**Ans: (b)**



**Related facts:**

- On 12 August 2016 International Youth Day was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of the 2016 International Youth Day is “The Road to 2030: Eradicating Poverty and Achieving Sustainable Consumption and Production”.
- This year’s Day is about achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- It focuses on the leading role of young people in ensuring poverty eradication and achieving sustainable development through sustainable consumption and production.
- On 17 December 1999, in its resolution 54/120, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day.

**Reference:**

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

## National Handloom Day

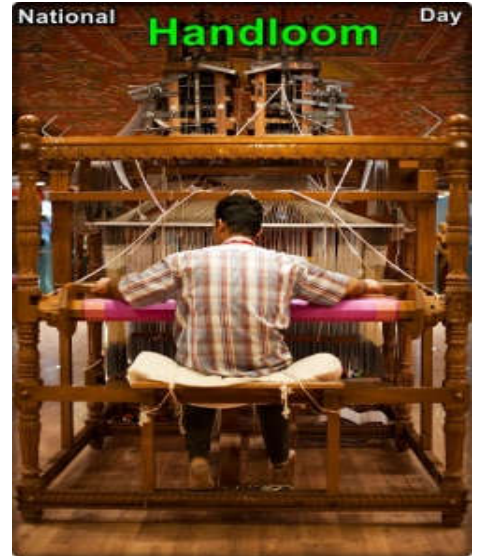
**Question:** National Handloom Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 6 August
- (b) 8 August
- (c) 10 August
- (d) 7 August

**Ans:** (d)

**Related facts:**

- On 7 August 2016 second National Handloom Day was celebrated across the country.
- The date August 7 has been chosen due to its special significance in India's history; it was on this day that the Swadeshi Movement was launched in 1905.
- The formal proclamation of Swadeshi Movement was made on August 7, 1905 in a massive meeting in the Calcutta Town hall.
- The movement involved revival of domestic products and production processes.
- The Government of India on 29 July 2015 has declared August 7 as National Handloom Day every year to commemorate the pre-independence era moment.
- The observance of National Handloom Day will not only provide an impetus to the handloom industry of India but would also serve to promote handloom as a genuine international product of good quality.



**Reference:**

<http://www.narendramodi.in/pm-s-message-on-national-handloom-day-511340>

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/second-national-handloom-day-celebrated-in-varanasi-1441390>

## International Tiger Day

**Question:** International Tiger Day is celebrated on-

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

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 29 July 2016 International Tiger Day was celebrated across the world.
- The goal of the day is to promote a global system for protecting the natural habitats of tigers and to raise public awareness and support for tiger conservation issues.
- The day was created in 2010 at the Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit.
- In the summit 13 countries had pledged, that they will double the tiger population.
- Currently 13 countries have a total 3948 tiger's population.
- While the total number of tigers in India is 1,706.

**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=54586#.V523wfl97IV>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/rest-of-world/International-Tiger-Day-2016-Tiger-facts-you-need-to-know/articleshow/53445105.cms>

# MISCELLANEOUS

## Online library for persons with visual disabilities launched

**Question:** Name the online library for persons with visual disabilities recently launched by Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister for Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology?

- (a) Di vyang Pustakalaya
- (b) Sugamya Pustakalaya
- (c) Drishtiheen Pustakalaya
- (d) Atal Pustakalaya

**Ans: (b)**

### Related facts:

- On 24 August 2016 Ravi Shankar Prasad, Minister for Law & Justice and Electronics & Information Technology has launched Sugamya Pustakalaya: an online library for persons with visual disabilities.
- “Sugamaya Pustakalaya” is an online platform that makes accessible content available to print-disabled people.
- The library houses publications across diverse subjects and languages and multiple accessible formats.
- It has been created by Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan), Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with member organizations of Daisy Forum of India and powered by TCS Access.
- Books are available in Accessible formats for people with visual impairment and other print disabilities.
- Over 2 lakhs books in diverse languages. Integrating libraries across India and the Globe, including the largest international library, ‘Bookshare’.

### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149198>





## World's first self-driving taxi

**Question:** The world's first self-driving taxis began in-

- (a) China
- (b) Mexico
- (c) Singapore
- (d) Japan

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**

- On 25 August 2016 the world's first self-driving taxis began picking up passengers in Singapore.
- It was launched by nuTonomy.
- The company, nuTonomy was established in 2013.



**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/worlds-first-selfdriving-taxis-debut-in-singapore/article9031339.ece>

<https://www.theguardian.com/technology/2016/aug/25/hail-progress-singapore-launches-worlds-first-self-driving-taxi-service>

## Telangana issues draft notification for creation of new of districts

**Question:** Recently Telangana government issued a draft notification for the reorganisation of districts, revenue divisions and mandals under which how many more districts are proposed to be formed ?

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

**Ans:** (d)

**Related facts:**

- On 22 August 2016 Telangana government issued a draft notification for the reorganisation of districts, revenue divisions and mandals under which 17 more districts are proposed .
- The new districts will be formed from the existing 10 districts in the state.
- The government invokes a 1974 Act that provides for the reorganisation.
- The new districts will come into being in October 2016.
- After the completion of the process, the number of districts in the State will go up to 27 from the present 10.
- The government has given a month's time for people to send their feedback on the break-up of districts and formation of new revenue divisions.



**Reference:**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/telangana-issues-draft-notification-for-reorganisation-of-districts-2991498/>

<http://newdistrictsformation.telangana.gov.in/FirstPage.do>

## Successful Flight Testing of Scramjet Engine

**Question: Recently the Successful Flight Testing of ISRO's Scramjet Engine Technology Demonstrator was held on-**

- (a) 28 August 2016                      (b) 19 August 2016  
(c) 26 August 2016                      (d) 27 August 2016

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 28 August 2016 the first experimental mission of ISRO's Scramjet Engine towards the realisation of an Air Breathing Propulsion System was successfully conducted from Satish Dhawan Space Centre SHAR, Sriharikota.
- The solid rocket booster carrying the Scramjet Engines, lifted off at 0600 hrs (6:00 am) IST.
- The important flight events, namely, burn out of booster rocket stage, ignition of second stage solid rocket, functioning of Scramjet engines for 5 seconds followed by burn out of the second stage took place exactly as planned.
- With this flight, critical technologies such as ignition of air breathing engines at supersonic speed, holding the flame at supersonic speed, air intake mechanism and fuel injection systems have been successfully demonstrated.
- The Scramjet engine designed by ISRO uses Hydrogen as fuel and the Oxygen from the atmospheric air as the oxidiser.
- ISRO's Advanced Technology Vehicle (ATV), which is an advanced sounding rocket, was the solid rocket booster used for today's test of Scramjet engines at supersonic conditions.
- ATV carrying Scramjet engines weighed 3277 kg at lift-off.
- India is the fourth country to demonstrate the flight testing of Scramjet Engine.
- Earlier, the US, Russia and the European Union had tested Scramjet Engine.
- The successful technology demonstration of air-breathing Scramjet engines in flight by ISRO is a modest yet important milestone in its endeavour to design and develop advanced air breathing engines including engines for ISRO's future space transportation system.
- Reference:

<http://www.isro.gov.in/update/28-aug-2016/successful-flight-testing-of-isros-scramjet-engine-technology-demonstrator>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=149271>



## Akashvani Maitree' radio service launched

**Question:** Recently a special Bengali channel launched by President Pranab Mukherjee targeted at the Bengali-speaking audience of which of the following neighboring country?

- (a) Bhutan      (b) Nepal  
(c) Bangladesh (d) Pakistan

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 23 August 2016 President Pranab Mukherjee has launched a special Bengali channel named "Akashvani Maitree" by All India Radio (AIR) targeted at the Bengali-speaking audience of India, Bangladesh.
- This channel is launched to strengthen ties between India and Bangladesh.
- The channel is launched to strengthen cultural, economic, political & emotional bonding between India and Bangladesh.

**Reference:**

<http://www.narendramodi.in/president-of-india-launches-akashvani-maitree-channel-at-raj-bhawan-513270>

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/president-pranab-mukherjee-launches-akashvani-maitree-channel-1449320>



## Dubai plane crash-lands

**Question:** Recently a plane crash-landed at the Dubai airport. The plane was coming off from which of the following city?

- (a) Thiruvananthapuram  
(b) New Delhi  
(c) Moscow  
(d) New York

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 3 August 2016 an Emirates flight from Thiruvananthapuram crash-landed at the Dubai airport.
- There were 282 passengers and 18 crew on board from 20 nationalities, most of them Indian, with 24 Britons and 11 people from the United Arab Emirates.
- Emirates flight EK521 evacuated seconds before the plane went up in flames.

**Reference:**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-36963112>

<http://www.ndtv.com/world-news/exclusive-emirates-pilots-list-the-seconds-before-dubai-crash-landing-1443021>



## Jammu-Haridwar Express

**Question: Recently Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu and Minister of State in the PMO Jitendra Singh flagged off which of the following train through video conferencing?**

- (a) Jammu-Haridwar Express
- (b) Jammu-Dehradun Express
- (c) Katra -Kamakhya Express
- (d) Katra -Haridwar Express

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 14 August 2016 Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu and Minister of State in the PMO Jitendra Singh flagged off the Jammu-Haridwar Express train through video conferencing from Baroda House, Railway headquarters.
- The regular services was commence as per its set schedule from August 15 from Haridwar.
- This is a weekly train bearing number 14606/14605 will depart from Haridwar at 5.10 PM every Monday to reach Jammu at 4 AM the next day, while in the return direction, the Jammu Haridwar Weekly Express will depart from Jammu at 10.10 PM every Sunday from August 21 to reach Haridwar at 10.25 AM the next day.
- It may be recalled that, less than three months ago, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi had flagged off the historic Kamakhya (Assam) to Katra (Vaishno Devi) train covering a distance of more than 2,000 Km and connecting the two destinations of religious pilgrimage.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148913>

<http://www.greaterkashmir.com/news/jammu/new-jammu-tawi-haridwar-weekly-express-train-flagged-off/225699.html>



## Country's first repository on tigers

**Question:** The Wildlife Institute of India (WII) is situated at which of the following place?

- (a) Bhopal
- (b) Dehradun
- (c) Indore
- (d) Satna

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On 6 August 2016 the country's first repository on tigers was opened in Wildlife Institute of India (WII) under its new Tiger Cell.
- In this regard a memorandum of understanding (MOU) regarding the setting up of the cell will be signed between the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) and WII.
- The cell will be headed by YV Jhala, senior scientist at WII, who will be supported by four other scientists.
- The Tiger Cell will assist in population assessment of tigers, law enforcement, wildlife forensics, infrastructural development and mitigation, smart patrolling and advisory role in policy formulation.
- The Dehradun-based WII has about 23,000 images of tigers.



**Reference:**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/dehradun/Indias-first-tiger-cell-to-be-set-up-in-Dehradun/articleshow/53546701.cms>

<http://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/india-gets-its-first-tiger-repository/article8953924.ece>

[http://zeenews.india.com/environment/dehradun-to-get-countrys-first-tiger-cell-at-wildlife-institute-of-india-campus-report\\_1915373.html](http://zeenews.india.com/environment/dehradun-to-get-countrys-first-tiger-cell-at-wildlife-institute-of-india-campus-report_1915373.html)



## Uttarakhand has emerged as the top state in the country in terms of growth in the industry and service sectors

**Question:** According to which of the following institution Uttarakhand has emerged as the top state in the country in terms of growth in the industry and service sectors in the last ten years?

- (a) Assocham
- (b) FICCI
- (c) CII
- (d) None of the above

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- On 5 August 2016 according to Assocham study Uttarakhand has emerged as the top state in the country in terms of growth in the industry and service sectors during the decadal period between 2004-05 and 2014-15 among states across India.
- Uttarakhand growth in the industry and service sectors much better than national average growth of about seven per cent.
  - Uttarakhand has emerged on top by clocking highest compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) of 16.5 per cent and 12.3 per cent in industry and services sectors respectively.
- Uttarakhand has registered remarkable economic growth and industrial development as the state has recorded CAGR of over 12 per cent during the aforementioned period.
- This is highest among major states in India.
- The ASSOCHAM study titled as 'Uttarakhand on expressway to growth.'
- Uttarakhand's contribution to India's economy has also marginally increased from just about 0.8 per cent in 2004-05 to 1.2 per cent 2013-14.
- Service sector accounted for 51 per cent share in gross state domestic product (GSDP) in 2014-15 thereby increasing from 49.5 per cent in 2004-05.
- Services sector includes hospitality & tourism, hotels & restaurants, transport, storage, communication, banking and finance and other such activities.
- While industrial sector accounted for about 39 per cent share in the GSDP in 2014-15 thereby increasing from 27 per cent a decade ago.
- However it is noted that Uttarakhand's performance on agriculture and allied activities decreased.
- As its share in the GSDP has declined sharply from over 22 per cent in 2004-05 to just over nine per cent in 2014-15.

**Reference:**

<http://www.assochem.org/newsdetail.php?id=5847>

<http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-cm/u-khand-emerges-number-one-clocking->

## Parliament approved the establishment of six new Indian Institutes of Technology

**Question:** On 2 August 2016 Parliament approved the establishment of how many new Indian Institutes of Technology?

- (a) Five
- (b) Six
- (c) Seven
- (d) Four

**Ans: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- On 2 August 2016 Parliament approved the establishment of six new Indian Institutes of Technology.
- The Institutes of Technology (Amendment) Bill 2016 was approved by the Rajya Sabha by voice vote on 2 August 2016.
- The Bill has been passed in the Lok Sabha on 25 July 2016.
- The new IITs will be started in Palakkad (Kerala), Goa, Dharward (Karnataka), Bhilai (Chhattisgarh), Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir) and Tirupati (Andhra Pradesh).
- All these institutions will be declared institutions of national importance.

**Reference:**

[http://www.prsindia.org/uploads/media/Institutes%20of%20technology/Institutes%20of%20Technology%20\(A\)%20Bill,%202016-%20hindi.pdf](http://www.prsindia.org/uploads/media/Institutes%20of%20technology/Institutes%20of%20Technology%20(A)%20Bill,%202016-%20hindi.pdf)

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/home/education/news/Jammu-Tirupati-among-6-places-to-get-IITs/articleshow/53508115.cms>



## Essential drugs get cheaper

**Question:** Recently National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed/revised ceiling prices of how many essential drugs including drugs used for treatment of cancer and HIV?

- (a) 30      (b) 35  
(c) 24      (d) 40

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**

- On 29 July 2016 National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) has fixed/revised ceiling prices of 24 essential drugs including drugs used for treatment of cancer and HIV by reducing the cost by an average of around 25 per cent.
- It has also capped the retail price of 31 formulations under Drugs (Price Control) Amendment Order (DPCO), 2013.
- In some cases the reduction is 10 to 15 per cent while for others it is up to 30 to 35 per cent.
- The government fixes the prices of essential drugs based on the simple average of all medicines in a particular therapeutic segment, having sales of more than 1 per cent.
- NPPA controls the maximum retail price of drugs.

**Reference:**

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/nppa-cuts-drug-prices-of-cancer-hiv-cardiac-by-25/article8928508.ece>



**NPPA**

ISO 9001:2008 Certified

Affordable Medicines for All

## Inauguration of IIT Goa Campus

**Question:** Recently Union Minister of Human Resource Development Prakash Javdekar inaugurated Indian Institute of Technology, Goa. The permanent campus of IIT Goa will be developed at which of the following place?

- (a) Aldona      (b) Loliem  
(c) Agonda      (d) None of the above

**Ans:** (b)

**Related facts:**

- On 30 July 2016 Union Minister of Human Resource Development Prakash Javdekar inaugurated Indian Institute of Technology, Goa.
- He also laid the foundation stone for IIT Goa Students' Hostel.
- The newly set up IIT Goa shall function from temporary campus at Goa Engineering College, Farmagudi and will be mentored by IIT Mumbai.
- The permanent campus of IIT Goa will be developed at Loliem, a village located in the southernmost region of the Canacona taluk, in Goa.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=148058>

# SPORTS PERSONALITY

## Pusarla Venkata Sindhu

**Question:** Who among the following has scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman to bag a silver medal at the Olympics?

- (a) Sapna Punia
- (b) P.V Sindhu
- (c) Dipa Karmakar
- (d) Heena Sidhu

**Ans: (b)**

### Related facts:



- On 19 August 2016 Rio Olympics women's singles badminton final event concluded.
- P.V Sindhu lost to World No 1 Carolina Marin 21-19 12-21 21-15 in the summit clash of the women's singles competition at the Rio Games.
- PV Sindhu had become the first Indian to reach the final of a badminton event at the Olympics by beating Japanese Nozomi Okuhara in the semifinal.
- Sindhu, at 21, has also become the youngest Indian individual to win a medal at Olympics.
- Before this medalist Vijender Singh of India was the youngest individual to win a medal at Olympics.
- She has scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman to bag a silver medal at the Olympics.
  - With this she also becomes the fifth female athlete to win a medal in any Olympics.
- This was 7th silver medal in the Olympic Games for India.
- This was the 28th medal at the Olympics Games for India.
- P.V Sindhu was born on 5 July 1995 in Hyderabad.
- His badminton coach (Trainer) is Pullela Gopichand.

### Reference:

<http://bwfbadminton.com/2016/08/19/latina-cardolina-reigns-womens-singles-final-rio-2016/>

## New Brand Ambassador of 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign in Haryana

**Question:** Recently who has been appointed as the New Brand Ambassador of Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao campaign in Haryana by Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar?

- (a) Dipa Karmakar
- (b) Dia Mirza
- (c) Sakshi Malik
- (d) P. V Sindhu

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**



- On 24 August 2016 Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has been appointed Rio Olympics bronze medallist Sakshi Malik as the New Brand Ambassador of Beti Bachao, Beti Padho campaign in Haryana.
- She was awarded a cheque of Rs 2.5 crore by the Chief Minister.

**Reference:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/magazines/panache/sakshi-malik-comes-home-to-a-rousing-reception-haryana-cm-appoints-her-beti-bachao-ambassador/articleshow/53838436.cms>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/Haryana-announces-Rs.-2.5-crore-award-govt.-job-for-Rio-medallist-Sakshi-Malik/2016/08/18/article3585717.ece>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/sakshi-malik-reaches-haryana-presented-rs-2-5-crore-cheque-116082400264\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/sakshi-malik-reaches-haryana-presented-rs-2-5-crore-cheque-116082400264_1.html)

## Sakshi Malik

**Question:** Name the player who become first to win medal for India in Rio Olympics in 2016?

- (a) P. V. Sindu
- (b) Saina Nehwal
- (c) Sakshi Malik
- (d) Dipa Karmakar

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 17 August 2016 Indian Freestyle wrestler Sakshi Malik creates history by winning bronze medal at Rio Olympics 2016.
- With this victory she created history by becoming the first Indian woman wrestler to win an Olympic medal
- She won in the 58 kilo freestyle wrestling category against Kyrgyzstan's Aisuluu Tynybekova by 8-5.
- The first bronze medal match was contested between Tunisian Marwa Amri and Yuliya Ratkevich of Azerbaijan. The Marwa Amri won it 6-3.
- The gold medal in the 58 kilo freestyle wrestling category won by Kaori Icho of Japan and silver by Valeriia Koblova Zholobova of Russia.
- With this she becomes the fourth woman athlete from India to win an Olympic medal.
- Weight-lifter Karnam Malleshwari was the first Indian to win an Olympic medal. She had won a bronze medal in weight lifting event at the 2000 Sydney Games.
- Boxer MC Marykom and Shuttler Saina Nehwal also had won a bronze medal each in boxing and badminton respectively at the 2012 London Games.
- This is India's 25th Olympic medal so far.
- Originally Sakshi hails from Haryana.
- Earlier she won silver medal in 2014 Commonwealth Games and bronze in 2015 Asian Championship.



**Reference:**

<https://www.rio2016.com/en/wrestling-standings-wr-womens-freestyle-58-kg>

<https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/766069551574487040?lang=hi>

<https://www.rio2016.com/en/india>

<http://indianexpress.com/sports/rio-2016-olympics/sakshi-malik-india-wrestler-bronze-medal-wrestling-2984112/>

## Five sports added to Tokyo 2020 Olympics

**Question: Which of the following five sports were added to Tokyo 2020 Olympics?**

- (a) Surfing, Karate, Baseball/Softball, Sport climbing and Skateboarding
- (b) Hockey, Cricket, Baseball, Softball, Karate
- (c) Formula One race, Boxing, Karate, Surfing, Ice skate
- (d) Baseball / Softball, Karate, Skateboard, Surfing, Sports climbing

**Ans: (a)**

### Related facts:

- On 3 August 2016 the the Organising Committee for the Tokyo 2020 Games proposed the five new sports in response to the new flexibility provided by Olympic Agenda 2020.
- International Olympic Committee approved Surfing, Karate, Baseball/Softball, Sport Climbing and Skateboarding to the programme for the Tokyo Games.
- The decision was taken by the 129th IOC Session in Rio de Janeiro.
- The inclusion of the new sports will add 18 events and 474 athletes.

### Reference:

<https://www.olympic.org/news/ioc-approves-five-new-sports-for-olympic-games-tokyo-2020>

<https://www.theguardian.com/sport/2016/aug/03/baseball-surfing-five-sports-added-tokyo-olympics>



## Hanif Mohammad

**Question:** Recently Hanif Mohammad passed away . He was related to which of the following sports?

- (a) Cricket
- (b) Hockey
- (c) Rugby
- (d) Tennis

**Ans: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On 11 August 2016; Hanif Muhammad, former Pakistani cricketer has died at the age of 81 in Karachi's Aga Khan Hospital.
- He was also known as the Pakistan's "Little Master".
- He scored 3915 runs at an average of 43.98.
- His best was 337 runs as Pakistan saved the Barbados Test in 1958 while following on. It was the longest first-class innings then.
- At 970 minutes, it is still the longest Test innings.
- Hanif was named a Wisden Cricketer of the Year in 1968, and in January 2009 along with Imran Khan and Miandad.
- He was one of three Pakistanis to be inducted in the inaugural batch of 55 players into the International Cricket Council's Hall of Fame.



**Reference:**

<http://www.espncricinfo.com/pakistan/content/story/1044219.html>

<http://www.espncricinfo.com/pakistan/content/player/40373.html>

<http://www.wisdenindia.com/cricket-article/hanif-mohammad-the-milestone-man/218978>



## Gaurika Singh

**Question: Who is the youngest athlete at Rio 2016?**

- (a) Mary Hanna
- (b) Dimitrios Loundras
- (c) Gaurika singh
- (d) None of These

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- Swimmer Gaurika Singh is the youngest athlete at Rio 2016 aged 13 years and 255 days.
- She was born on 26 November 2002. It should be noted that in the 12th South Asian Games Gaurika won a silver and three bronze medals in the swimming events.
- Dimitrios Loundras, who is a Greek gymnast, is the youngest ever Olympic athlete.
- He competed at the 1896 Summer Olympics in Athens and received a bronze medal in a team event.

**Reference:**

<https://www.olympic.org/news/youngest-rio-2016-olympian-singh-makes-a-splash>

<https://www.rio2016.com/en/news/youngest-athlete-rio-2016-olympic-games-nepal-earthquake-Gaurika-Singh>

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/olympics/2016/08/07/rio-olympics-2016-nepals-gaurika-singh-making-waves-at-the-tende/>



## Harmanpreet Kaur

**Question:** Recently who became the first India Women's cricketer to be signed by an overseas Twenty20 franchise?

- (a) Mithali Raj
- (b) Harmanpreet Kaur
- (c) Jhulan Goswami
- (d) Ekta Bisht

**Ans: (b)**

### Related facts:

- Harmanpreet Kaur became the first India Women's cricketer to be signed by an overseas Twenty20 franchise.
- She had signed a deal with the Women's Big Bash League (WBBL) champions Sydney Thunder for the 2016-17 season.
- Harmanpreet, India's vice-captain, had received offer from three teams, including the Sydney Sixers, the runners-up in the inaugural season but she zeroed in on the Thunder.
- Harmanpreet has played 2 Test, 55 ODIs and 61 Twenty20 matches for India.
- She scored 992 runs at an average of 22.04 of 61 innings in 53 matches in the Twenty20 tournament.

### Reference:

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/women/content/story/1040897.html>

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/india/content/player/372317.html>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/harmanpreet-kaur-womens-big-bash-league-sydney-thunder/1/728342.html>



## Angela Ruggiero

**Question:** Recently who has been elected as the new Chair of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Athletes' Commission?

- (a) Dennis Oswald
- (b) Thomas Beck
- (c) Anita De Frank
- (d) Angela Ruggiero

**Ans:** (d)

**Related facts:**



- American ice hockey Olympic champion Angela Ruggiero was elected as the new Chair of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Athletes' Commission.
- IOC President Thomas Bach officially appointed Ruggiero during joint meeting between the IOC athletes' commission and the IOC executive board.
- She will replace Claudia Bokel.
- She played 256 games for the U.S. Women's National Team over the course of 15 years which is the most in the team's history.
- She is the current Vice-Chair of the IOC Athletes' Commission.
- She is a 1998 Olympic gold medalist, 2002 Olympic silver medalist, 2006 Olympic bronze medalist and 2010 Olympic silver medalist.

**Reference:**

<https://www.olympic.org/news/angela-ruggiero-to-head-ioc-athletes-commission>

<https://twitter.com/iocmedia/status/760114589853945856>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/olympics2016/story/angela-ruggiero-international-olympic-committee-athletes-commission/1729627.html>

<http://www.sportsnet.ca/hockey/nhl/career-by-the-numbers-hhof-inductee-angela-ruggiero/>

## Misbah-ul-Haq

**Question: Recently who becomes the oldest captain to score Test hundred?**

- (a) Bob Simpson
- (b) Jack Hobbs
- (c) Misbah-ul-Haq
- (d) Younus Khan

**Ans: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- On 14 July 2016 Misbah-ul-Haq become the oldest captain to score Test hundred.
- He scored hundred in the series against England at Lord's which is being played currently.
- His age was 42 years & 47 days on this day.
- He reached his century off 154 balls with 17 fours.
- His innings was ended in 114 runs (199 balls).
- He broke Bob Simpson's (41 years 359 days) long-standing record as the oldest to score a Test century as captain.
- Bob Simpson made this record against India in Adelaide on 28 January 1978.
- After the age of 40, Misbah as captain has made five centuries.
- Hundreds scored by Misbah as the captain of Pakistan is the most by any. He overtakes Inzamam-ul-Haq's record of seven hundreds as captain of Pakistan.
- At 46 years and 82 days, England cricketer Jack Hobbs is still the oldest player to score a Test century.
- He scored 142 runs on 8 March 1929 in Melbourne against Australia at the age of 46 years, 82 days.

**Reference:**

<http://www.cricbuzz.com/cricket-news/81254/misbah-ul-haq-pakistan-cricket-team-captain-becomes-oldest-captain-to-score-test-hundred>

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/england-v-pakistan-2016/content/story/1034679.html>

<http://tribune.com.pk/story/1141770/pakistan-bat-england-amir-returns/>

## Neeraj Chopra

**Question:** Recently IAAF World U20 Championships was held. Which of the following Indian athletes made history by making the world record?

- (a) Anil Kumar
- (b) Suresh Raina
- (c) Neeraj Chopra
- (d) Abhay Singh

**Ans:** (c)

**Related facts:**

- On 23 July 2016 Neeraj Chopra made a history by smashing the junior world record in javelin throw en route to a gold medal with a stunning effort of 86.48m at the IAAF World Under-20 Championships in Bydgoszcz, Poland.
- Earlier world Under-20 record of 84.69m was in the name of Latvia's Zigismunds Simais.
- He became the first ever Indian to hold a world record in athletics (junior and senior).



**Reference:**

<https://www.iaaf.org/competitions/iaaf-world-u20-championships/iaaf-world-u20-championships-bydgoszcz-2016-5680/medaltable>

<https://www.iaaf.org/athletes/india/neeraj-chopra-277499>

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/neeraj-chopra-smashes-junior-world-record-im-javelin-throw-116072400141\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/neeraj-chopra-smashes-junior-world-record-in-javelin-throw-116072400141_1.html)

## Kagiso Rabada

**Question:** Recently who has become the youngest player to win the Cricketer of the Year award?

- (a) Imran Tahir
- (b) Kagiso Rabada
- (c) Stephen Cook
- (d) Simon Harper

**Ans:** (b)



### Related facts:

- Kagiso Rabada, the South African fast bowler was being named the Cricketer of the Year.
- He became the youngest player (21 Years) to win the Cricketer of the Year award.
- Additionally, He won five prizes at the awards ceremony in Johannesburg are as follows:
  - Test cricketer of the Year
  - One-Day International Cricketer of the Year
  - Players' Player of the Year (selected by the players)
  - Fans' Player of the Year (selected by fans)
  - T20 Best Ball (Delivery) of the Year
- Kagiso Rabada became the first player to win six awards at CSA's annual dinner held in in Johannesburg.
- Earlier, Hashim Amla and AB de Villiers won five awards.
- The only major award Rabada did not win was the T20 cricketer of the year, which went to leg spinner Imran Tahir.

### Reference:

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/southafrica/content/story/1039711.html>

<http://www.cricbuzz.com/cricket-news/81596/kagiso-rabada-sweeps-annual-cricket-south-africa-awards>