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Current
Affairs

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Day to Day



CHEMISTRY



PHYSICS



ECONOMICS



LITERATURE

**NOBEL
PRIZE
2016**



PEACE



MEDICINE



INDIA 2016

QUESTIONS AND RELATED FACTS

1 OCTOBER TO 31 OCTOBER, 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 October to 31st October) will benefit our beloved readers.

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

Contents

National.....	9
8th BRICS Summit-2016.....	9
The Nobel Prize in Literature 2016.....	11
Economic Sciences Nobel Prize 2016.....	12
The Nobel Peace Prize for 2016.....	13
The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016.....	15
The Nobel Prize in Physics 2016.....	16
The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2016.....	17
City Gas Distribution (CGD) project.....	18
National Academic Depository.....	19
Regional Connectivity Scheme.....	20
Shaurya Smarak.....	21
Creation of new district in Telangana.....	21
India ratifies Paris climate pact.....	22
First States to become Open Defecation Free in urban areas.....	22
New Director General of National Security Guard (NSG).....	23
INTERNATIONAL.....	23
Global Gender Gap Report, 2016.....	23
World Giving Index-2016.....	24
India's first international arbitration centre launched.....	25
Global Hunger Index-2016.....	26
Russia suspends plutonium agreement.....	27
11th summit of G20.....	28
2016-17 Global Competitiveness Index.....	29
ECONOMICS.....	30
Doing Business Index- 2017.....	30
Growth in Foreign Tourists Arrival on E-Tourist Visa.....	31
Cabinet approves revision of ethanol price.....	32
India's First Transaction on Blockchain.....	33
Fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2016-17.....	34
Andhra Pradesh has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16.....	35

SCIENTIFIC.....	36
HAL-Safran Helicopter Engines Joint Venture Inaugurated.....	36
Defense/Science Short Notes.....	37
Coordinated Patrol and Second Bilateral Maritime Exercise.....	37
20th ASEAN Heads of Defence Institutions Meet concluded.....	38
6th BRICS Science & Technology Senior Official Meeting (SOM)	39
India's Communication Satellite Launched Successfully.....	40
New species of Pika discovered.....	40
New Protein-rich rice developed.....	41
Indian Coast Guard Ships Aryaman and Atulya commissioned.....	42
Protein-enriched rice.....	42
INS Tihayu Joins the Indian Navy.....	43
Himansh Research station.....	43
Sports	44
TENNIS	44
Shanghai Rolex Masters-2016.....	44
China Open-2016.....	44
U.S Open-2016.....	45
Connecticut Open: 2016.....	45
FOOTBALL	46
FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, 2016.....	46
BRICS U-17 Football Tournament 2016.....	46
Chess.....	47
Hoogeveen Chess Tournament-2016.....	47
BADMINTON	47
YONEX Dutch Open 2016.....	47
Chinese Taipei Masters-2016.....	48
SCG Thailand Open-2016.....	48
Russian Open Grand Prix-2016.....	49
GOLF.....	49
Chennai Open Golf Championship 2016.....	49
FORMULA ONE	50
United States Grand Prix-2016.....	50
2016 Japanese Grand Prix.....	50

SHORT NOTES	51
Personalities	51
Junko Tabei	51
Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej passed away.....	51
New President of World Medical Association.....	52
Kigeli V.....	52
Director General of Naval Operations.....	53
New Member Secretary of the 21st Law Commission of India.....	53
Navdeep Singh Suri	54
New Whole-Time Member of market regulator SEBI	54
Renu Pall	55
Ajay Kumar Bhalla.....	55
Dario Fo passed away.....	56
Professor Nayanjot Lahiri.....	56
Kshatripathi Shivaji.....	57
Heisnam Kanhailal.....	57
New Secretary-General of the United Nations	58
Brand ambassador of 'Haritha Keralam' project.....	58
Chief Guest of 68th Republic Day.....	59
Arjun Vajpai.....	59
New chairman of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).....	60
Shakti Sinha.....	60
New Chairman of PTI.....	61
Taranjit Singh Sandhu.....	61
Syed Shamsul Haq.....	62
Shimon Peres.....	62
Jim Yong Kim	63
Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha.....	63
Appointment of the US ambassador to Cuba	64
New Director General of NDRF.....	64
Appointment of new DG CISF.....	65
PLACES.....	65
Quetta.....	65
New Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Odisha	66

India's first 'happiness junction'	67
Himachal Pradesh declared India's Second Open Defecation Free State	67
SBI declares Silchar as its 5th zone in North East	68
Vice Admiral SV Bhokare	68
Kochi	69
Cabinet approved setting up of IIM Jammu	69
Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the Berhampore Military Station	70
Asia-Pacific's first 'carbon neutral' airport	70
First state to launch Direct Benefit Transfer in Kerosene	71
America declared free of measles	71
Foundation Stone of the Ludhiana Mega Food Park	72
AWARDS & HONORS	73
Yash Bharti Samman-2016-17	73
Man Booker Prize-2016	74
Sakharov Prize-2016	75
International Prize in Statistics-2016	76
29th Moortidevi Award 2015	76
OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN	77
Mitra Shakti 2016	77
Second Joint tactical Exercise between Indian and Chinese Army	77
Foreign visit of INS Sumitra	78
Lalima Abhiyan	78
INS Sumitra on visit to Indonesia	79
COMMISSION & COMMITTEE	80
Center Constitutes Committee for monitoring Bird Flu	80
Justice Reddy committee	80
Report of the Committee formed to study the existence of river 'Saraswati'	81
Judicial probe into Varanasi stampede	81
Interactive Voice Response System of NMDFC Launched	82
High Level Technical Team Constituted for Cauvery Basin	82
PLANNING & PROJECT	83
Kaushalya Setu	83
Krishi Vigyan Kendra	83
Okha-Kanalus and Porbandar-Wansjaliya Sections inaugurated	84

Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India.....	84
Three Hydro Projects dedicated to the Nation	85
Mining Surveillance System (MSS) launched	86
New link between Sahibganj bypass in Jharkhand to Manihari bypass in Bihar.....	87
e-NAM Mobile App	87
Indian Bridge Management System launched	88
Web portal for BPO promotion scheme launched	88
Shri Gadkari Launched Indian Bridge Management System.....	89
West Bengal -Monorail Project	90
Progress panchayat	90
Mega Call Centre	91
Development of islands to attract tourist	91
Development of Gas Infrastructure in Eastern part of the country	92
TREATY & AGREEMENTS	93
Agreement with Estonia on the transfer of sentenced persons	93
NABARD sanctions loan worth Rs. 19,702 crore to National Water Development Agency (NWDA)	94
MoU between NICPR and All India Institute of Ayurveda	94
Agreement between India and Russia	95
Exim Bank's MoU with New Development Bank	96
MoU between India and Hungary.....	97
MoU between Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) and New Development Bank (NDB).....	98
MoU between India and European Union.....	99
Agreement between India and Switzerland.....	99
Memorandum of Understanding between India and the African Asian Rural Development Organization.....	100
India-Canada Annual Ministerial Dialogue	101
Indian Oil and GAIL sign MoU for taking equity stake in upcoming Dhamra LNG terminal.....	102
CONFERENCE.....	103
Western Zonal Council Meeting held in Mumbai.....	103
Naval Commanders' Conference.....	104
19th National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking.....	105
National Consultative Committee meeting on De-addiction and Rehabilitation.....	106
28th Accountants General Conference.....	107
International Conference on Voter Education.....	108
First National Tribal Carnival -2016.....	109

10th India and United States Trade Policy Forum.....	110
Next Ambassador/PR of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament	111
Women of India Festival 2016.....	111
National Summit on Fortification of Food	112
International Conference on Voter Education.....	113
10th India and United States Trade Policy Forum.....	114
Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-2016.....	115
5th edition of India International Silk Fair.....	116
6th Meeting of the BRICS Trade Ministers	117
Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers' and Governing Council meeting of the BRICS.....	119
World Sustainable Development Summit	119
India Economic Summit.....	120
5th International Buddhist Conclave	120
Two day conference of States Power Ministers.....	121
PM inaugurated India Sanitation Conference.....	122
35th Coast Guard Commanders' Conference inaugurated	122
ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS	123
OPEC agrees on oil production curbs.....	123
Apple acquired Tuplejump.....	123
LAW & JUSTICE.....	124
Vehicle manufacturers will have to give details about the emission and noise levels of each vehicle	124
YEAR, DAY & WEEK	125
National Ayurveda Day.....	125
United Nations Day.....	125
Police Commemoration Day.....	126
Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day.....	126
World Osteoporosis Day.....	127
World Egg Day, 2016.....	127
World Sight Day 2016.....	128
World Food Day.....	128
World Standards Day.....	129
International Day of Rural Women.....	129
International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.....	130
First World Tsunami Awareness Day.....	130

International Day for Disaster Reduction.....	131
World Post Day.....	131
World Mental Health Day.....	132
International Day of the Girl Child.....	132
World Space Week.....	133
World Habitat Day.....	133
International Day of Older Persons.....	134
International Day of Non-Violence.....	134
World Maritime Day.....	135
World Heart Day.....	135
BOOKS	136
Full volumes of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's works released	136
Book titled Modi's Midas Touch in Foreign Policy released.....	136
September – October, 2016 Popular Books.....	137
MISCELLANEOUS	138
e-Postal Ballot System.....	138
Inauguration of Sevashram Hospital and Sardar Patel Hospital & Heart Institute.....	138
Irom Shamila launches party.....	139
First Made-in-India electric bus.....	139
Hunar Haat.....	140
MobiKwik launches Unified Payments Interface.....	141
UIDAI'S Challenge drive for Enrolment	142
National Seismic Programme.....	142
Beneficiary of Venture Capital Fund scheme.....	143
Launch of dedicated website for DGAD	144
International cycle rally.....	144
Typhoon Megi.....	145
Delhi Police launches mobile application for senior citizens.....	146
SPORTS PERSONALITY	147
Neeraj Goyal	147
Saina Nehwal.....	147
P.R Sreejesh.....	148
SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS	149
Kabaddi World Cup-2016.....	149

National

8th BRICS Summit-2016

Question : 8th BRICS Summit was organised in which of the following country?

- (a) India (b) China
(c) Brazil (d) Russia

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- India hosted the 8th BRICS Summit during its Chairmanship which was held on 15-16 October 2016 in Goa.
- It may be recalled that the Fourth BRICS Summit was held in 2012 at New Delhi.
- The summit was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The theme of India's BRICS Chairmanship is "Building Responsive, Inclusive and Collective Solutions".
- The summit was attended by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi, Brazilian President Michel Temer, Russian President Vladimir Putin, Chinese President Xi Jinping and South African President Jacob Zuma.
- The summit discussed to enhance cooperation in economic fields among the member States.
- At the end of the summit, 109 point Goa Declaration was released by the leaders.
- The leaders condemned terrorism in all its forms and stressed that there could be no justification for such acts.
- The leaders called upon all nations to adopt a comprehensive approach in combating terrorism.
- BRICS nations reaffirmed the commitment to increase the effectiveness of the UN counter-terrorism framework.
- They condemned the recent attacks against some BRICS countries, including the Uri terror attack in India.
- The Goa Declaration called for the need for reforms of the UN, including its Security Council, to increase representation of developing countries.

- The leaders of BRICS nations appreciated the progress in the implementation of the Strategy for BRICS Economic Partnership and emphasised the importance of the BRICS Roadmap for Trade, Economic and Investment Cooperation until 2020.
- The leaders welcomed the adoption of 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its Sustainable Development Goals and reiterated determination to use all policy tools to achieve the goal of sustainable and inclusive growth.
- The five-nation group of emerging economies BRICS has agreed to set up an independent BRICS Rating Agency in its efforts to challenge Western hegemony in the world of finance.
- At present there are three global agencies (S&P, Fitch, Moody's) based in western countries account for 90% of the rating market.
- The ninth BRICS Summit will be hosted by China in 2017. In 2015, the seventh BRICS summit was held from 8 to 9 July in the Russian city of Ufa in Bashkortostan.
- BRICS is the acronym for an association of five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- It was established in 2009. Originally it was known as BRIC before the inclusion of South Africa in 2011.
- The first formal summit was held in Yekaterinburg, Russia.
- The BRICS members are all developing or newly industrialised countries and all five are G-20 members.
- They are distinguished by their large, fast-growing economies and significant influence on regional and global affairs.
- As of 2015, the five BRICS countries represent over 3.6 billion people, or half of the world population; all five members are in the top 25 of the world by population, and four are in the top 10.
- The five nations have a combined nominal GDP of US\$ 16.6 trillion, equivalent to approximately 22% of the gross world product, combined GDP (PPP) of around US\$ 37 trillion and an estimated US\$ 4 trillion in combined foreign reserves.

Reference :

<http://brics2016.gov.in/content/innerpage/8th-summit.php>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151706>

<http://www.mea.gov.in/bilateral-documents.htm?dt1/27491/Goa+Declaration+at+8th+BRICS+Summit>

The Nobel Prize in Literature 2016

Question: The Nobel Prize in Literature for year 2016 has been given to....

- a) Bob Dylan
- b) Svetlana Alexievich
- c) Patrick Modiano
- d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 13th October, 2016 The Nobel Prize in Literature for 2016 has been awarded to Bob Dylan “for having created new poetic expressions within the great American song tradition”.
- Bob Dylan was born on May 24, 1941 in Duluth, Minnesota. He grew up in a Jewish middleclass family in the city of Hibbing.
- As a teenager he played in various bands. With time his interest in music deepened, with a particular passion for American folk music and blues.
- One of his idols was the folk singer Woody Guthrie. He was also influenced by the early authors of the Beat Generation, as well as by modernist poets.
- He signed a contract with record producer John Hammond for his debut album, called Bob Dylan (1962). In the following years he recorded a number of albums had impact on popular music and brought him fame: Bringing It All Back Home and Highway 61 Revisited in 1965, Blonde On Blonde in 1966 and Blood On The Tracks in 1975.
- His productivity continued in the following decades, resulting in masterpieces like Oh Mercy (1989), Time Out Of Mind (1997) and Modern Times (2006).
- As an artist, Bob is strikingly versatile; he has been active as painter, actor and scriptwriter.
- He has written the autobiography Chronicles (2004), which depicts memories from the early years in New York and provides glimpses of his life at the center of popular culture.

Reference:

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/literature/laureates/2016/bio-bibl.pdf

Economic Sciences Nobel Prize 2016

Question: This year's Nobel Prize in economic sciences has been awarded to Oliver Hart and Bengt Holmström for their contribution to....?

- a) Contract theory
- b) Social justice
- c) Distributive justice
- d) none of the above.

Ans: (a)



Related fact:

- The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel 2016 was awarded jointly to Oliver Hart and Bengt Holmström “for their contributions to contract theory”.
- The Prize amount: 8 million Swedish krona will be shared equally between the two laureates.
- New theoretical tools created by Hart and Holmström are important to the understanding of real-life contracts and institutions as well as potential pitfalls in contract design.
- This year's laureates have developed contract theory which provides a comprehensive framework for analysing many diverse issues in contractual design, like performance-based pay for top executives, deductibles and co-pays in insurance, and the privatisation of public-sector activities.
- In the late 1970s, Bengt Holmström's informativeness principle stated precisely how this contract should link the agent's pay to performance-relevant information.
- In the mid-1980s, Oliver Hart made basic contributions to a new stream of contract theory that deals with the important case of incomplete contracts. Hart's findings on incomplete contracts have shed new light on the ownership and control of businesses and have had a vast impact on several fields of economics, as well as political science and law. His research provides us with new theoretical tools for studying questions such as which kinds of companies should merge the proper mix of debt and equity.
- It is to be noted that the Prize in Economic Sciences is not a Nobel Prize. In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) instituted “The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel”, and it has since been awarded by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences according to the same principles as for the Nobel Prizes that have been awarded since 1901. The first Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969.
- The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel has been awarded 48 times to 78 Laureates between 1969 and 2016.

Reference:

http://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/economic-sciences/laureates/2016/press.html

<https://www.theguardian.com/business/economics-blog/live/2016/oct/10/nobel-prize-in-economics-2016-awarded-live>

The Nobel Peace Prize for 2016

Question: The Nobel Peace Prize for 2016 will be given to which personality or institution?

- a) Juan Manuel Santos
- b) National Dialogue Quartet
- c) Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW)
- d) European Union (EU)



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 7th October, 2016 The Norwegian Nobel Committee has decided to award the Nobel Peace Prize for 2016 to Colombian President Juan Manuel Santos.
- He awarded for his resolute efforts to bring the country's more than 50-year-long civil war to an end, a war that has cost the lives of at least 220 000 Colombians and displaced close to six million people.
- The award should also be seen as a tribute to the Colombian people who, despite great hardships and abuses, have not given up hope of a just peace, and to all the parties who have contributed to the peace process.
- President Santos initiated the negotiations that culminated in the peace accord between the Colombian government and the FARC guerrillas (leader- Rodrigo Londoño) and he has consistently sought to move the peace process forward.
- The civil war in Colombia is one of the longest civil wars in modern times and the sole remaining armed conflict in the Americas.

About ceasefire agreement-

- On 23 June, 2016 the Colombian government and country's rebel group Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) have signed ceasefire agreement to end of one of the world's oldest wars which led to a more than 50 years of bloodshed.
- Colombian president Juan Manuel Santos and Farc commander Timoleon Jimenez signed the agreement in Cuba.

- Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) will disarm within six months under the supervision of United Nations.
- It is the longest running civil war in Latin American countries.
- About 7000 FARC Soldier will be demobilize, who have bases in the mountains and forests.
- Although, the Voters in Colombia's referendum have narrowly rejected a peace accord between the government and the Marxist group, FARC.
- President Juan Manuel Santos, who had promoted the "yes" campaign, said after results were announced that the bilateral ceasefire with FARC "is still in effect and should continue to be in effect. I won't give up. I'll continue to search for peace until the last moment of my mandate".

About Nobel Peace Prize-

- The Nobel Peace Prize has been awarded 97 times to 130 Nobel Laureates between 1901 and 2016, 104 individuals and 26 organizations.
- Since the International Committee of the Red Cross has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize three times (in 1917, 1944 and 1963), and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize two times (in 1954 and 1981), there are 23 individual organizations which have been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.
- It is to be noted that the prize was established by the will of Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel in 1895.
- The prizes in Chemistry, Literature, Peace, Physics, and Physiology or Medicine were first awarded in 1901.
- The related Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences was established by Sweden's central bank in 1968.

Reference:

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/2016/press.html

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/peace/laureates/index.htm

The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016

Question: The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016 has been awarded to ...?

- a) Jean-Pierre Sauvage
- b) Sir J. Fraser Stoddart
- c) Bernard L. Feringa
- d) a, b & c

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 5th October, 2016 The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences decided to award the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2016 to Jean-Pierre Sauvage (University of Strasbourg, France) Sir J. Fraser Stoddart (Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, USA) and Bernard L. Feringa (University of Groningen, the Netherlands) for “ the design and synthesis of molecular machines.”
- The prize share will be one third for each of the laureates.
- The 2016 Nobel Laureates in Chemistry have miniaturised machines and taken chemistry to a new dimension.
- The first step towards a molecular machine was taken by Jean-Pierre Sauvage in 1983, when he succeeded in linking two ring-shaped molecules together to form a chain, called a catenane.
- The second step was taken by Fraser Stoddart in 1991, when he developed a rotaxane. He threaded a molecular ring onto a thin molecular axle and demonstrated that the ring was able to move along the axle. Based on rotaxanes he developed a molecular lift, a molecular muscle and a molecule-based computer chip.
- Bernard Feringa was the first person to develop a molecular motor; in 1999 he got a molecular rotor blade to spin continually in the same direction. Using molecular motors, he has rotated a glass cylinder that is 10,000 times bigger than the motor and also designed a nanocar.
- This year's Nobel Laureates in Chemistry have taken molecular systems out of equilibrium's stalemate and into energy-filled states in which their movements can be controlled.
- It is to be noted that The Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded 108 times to 175 Nobel Laureates between 1901 and 2016. Frederick Sanger is the only Nobel Laureate who has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Chemistry twice, in 1958 and 1980.
- This means that a total of 174 individuals have received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry.

Reference :

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/2016/press.html

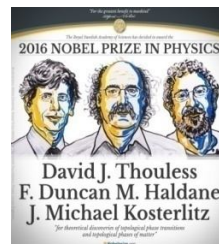
https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/chemistry/laureates/index.html

The Nobel Prize in Physics 2016

Question: Nobel Prize in Physics for this year has been awarded to ...?

- a) David J. Thouless
- b) F. Duncan M. Haldane
- c) J. Michael Kosterlitz
- d) a, b & c

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 4th October, 2016 The Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences has decided to award the Nobel Prize in Physics 2016 jointly to David J. Thouless (Prize share: $\frac{1}{2}$), F. Duncan M. Haldane (Prize share: $\frac{1}{4}$) and J. Michael Kosterlitz (Prize share: $\frac{1}{4}$) “for theoretical discoveries of topological phase transitions and topological phases of matter”.
- Three British physicists working at US universities have won the Nobel Prize in Physics for revealing the secrets of exotic matter.
- This year’s laureates opened the door on an unknown world where matter can assume strange states. They have used advanced mathematical methods to study unusual phases, or states, of matter, such as superconductors, superfluids or thin magnetic films.
- The 8 million Swedish Krona prize (more than US \$931,000) was divided between the three laureates according to their contributions —one half awarded to David Thouless of the University of Washington, and the other half jointly to Duncan Haldane of Princeton University and Michael Kosterlitz of Brown University.
- The Nobel Prize in Physics has been awarded 110 times to 204 Nobel Laureates between 1901 and 2016. John Bardeen is the only Nobel Laureate who has been awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics twice, in 1956 and 1972. This means that a total of 203 individuals have received the Nobel Prize in Physics.

Reference:

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/physics/laureates/2016/

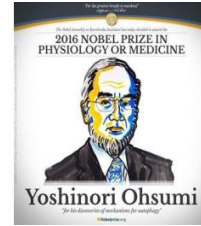
<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/10/04/world/2016-nobel-prize-physics/>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/science-environment-37486373>

The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2016

Question : The Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2016 was awarded to Yoshinori Ohsumi for ...?

- a) Discoveries of mechanisms for autophagy.
- b) Discoveries concerning a novel therapy against malaria
- c) Discoveries of cells that constitute a positioning system in the brain
- d) None of the above.



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 3rd October, 2016 the 2016 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine was awarded to Yoshinori Ohsumi.
- Yoshinori Ohsumi is associated with Tokyo Institute of Technology, Tokyo, Japan.
- He was awarded the honor for his discoveries of mechanisms for autophagy
- The word autophagy originates from the Greek words auto-, meaning “self”, and phagein, meaning “to eat”
- Oshinori Ohsumi used baker’s yeast to identify genes essential for autophagy. He then went on to elucidate the underlying mechanisms for autophagy in yeast and showed that similar sophisticated machinery is used in our cells.
- Ohsumi’s discoveries opened the path to understanding the fundamental importance of autophagy in many physiological processes, such as in the adaptation to starvation or response to infection. Mutations in autophagy genes can cause disease, and the autophagic process is involved in several conditions including cancer and neurological disease.
- Since 1901, 107 Nobel Prizes in Physiology or Medicine have been awarded. It was not awarded on nine occasions: in 1915, 1916, 1917, 1918, 1921, 1925, 1940, 1941 and 1942.
- In total 211 individuals have been awarded between 1901-2016 as the 32 prizes have been shared by two Laureates and 36 between three.
- It is to be noted that the prize was established by the will of Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel in 1895. The prizes in Chemistry, Literature, Peace, Physics, and Physiology or Medicine were first awarded in 1901. The related Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences was established by Sweden’s central bank in 1968.

Reference :

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/medicine/laureates/2016/press.html

https://www.nobelprize.org/nobel_prizes/facts/medicine/index.html

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nobel_Prize

City Gas Distribution (CGD) project

Question: In which of the following city Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the City Gas Distribution (CGD) project?

- (a) Balia (b) Gorakhpur
(c) Varanasi (d) Kanpur

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 24 October 2016 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of the City Gas Distribution (CGD) project in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- The project is part of GAIL (India) Limited's Jagdishpur → Haldia and Bokaro → Dhamra Pipeline project (JHBDPL), popularly known as 'Urja Ganga'.
- GAIL has also been entrusted with developing CGD network in seven cities enroute the pipeline, i.e., Varanasi, Patna, Jamshedpur, Kolkata, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar and Cuttack.
- The Varanasi CGD project will be developed simultaneously with the Jagdishpur → Haldia and Bokaro → Dhamra Pipeline project, which is being done for the first time in the country.
- The project, with an estimated capital investment of Rs.1000 crores, is expected to connect 50,000 households with piped natural gas (PNG) and provide compressed natural gas (CNG) to 20,000 vehicles through 20 CNG stations.
- The 2,540 km JHBDPL project is being executed at an investment of Rs 12,940 crores, which includes 40% capital grant (i.e. Rs 5,176 crores) from the Government of India.
- It will pass through five states, i.e. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal, covering 40 districts.

Reference :

http://www.gailonline.com/final_site/pressrelease-24-10-16.html

http://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pms-speech-in-varanasi-laying-the-foundation-stone-of-urja-ganga-project-png-pipeline-doubling-varanasi-allahabad-rail-track-24-10-2016/?comment=disable

National Academic Depository

Question: National Academic Depository (NAD) is an initiative of ...

- a) Ministry of Human Resources b) NITI Aayog
c) Home Ministry d) NCERT

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- The Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval for establishment and operationalisation of a National Academic Depository (NAD) on 27th October, 2016.
- The NAD would be established and operationalised within the next three months and would be rolled out throughout the country in 2017-18.
- The NAD would be operationalised by National Securities Depository Limited and Central Depository Services (India) Limited.
- NAD shall maintain the authenticity, integrity and confidentiality of its database. It will also train and facilitate academic institutions/boards/ to efficiently lodge academic awards in the database.

What is NAD?

NAD is a unique, innovative and progressive step towards achieving digital enablement of the educational records. NAD aims to make the vision of Digital Academic Certificates for every Indian a reality. NAD is not only a database copy of the certificate records for Academic Institutes but a complete system for Issuing Online Certificates to well identified and registered students. It will provide digital or a printed copy of the academic award with security features to the students or other authorized users. NAD will verify academic awards online on the same day of request initiated by any authorized user. The decision aims at bringing another dimension and enhancement to the vision of Digital India.

Benefits:

Early receipt of online certificates as compared to physical certificates.

- Online, 24/7 access to all certificate records and no risk of losing, mutilation etc.
- Easy acceptability of online verifiable certificates without requiring attested copies, original presentation.
- Easy facility for applying for and obtaining duplicate copy of the certificates.
- Easy facility to submit verifiable copy of the certificate to employers, higher educational institutes

Reference:

<https://nad.ndml.in/about-nad.html>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153035>

Regional Connectivity Scheme

Question: Recently Civil Aviation Minister P Ashok Gajapathi Raju launched the Ministry's much awaited Regional Connectivity Scheme with which of the following name?

- (a) SAFAR (b) UDAN
(c) GARUN (d) VISTAAR

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 21 October 2016 Civil Aviation Minister P Ashok Gajapathi Raju launched the Ministry's much awaited Regional Connectivity Scheme "UDAN" in New Delhi.
- UDAN is an innovative scheme to develop the regional aviation market.
- The objective of the scheme is "Ude Desh Ka Aam Naagrik".
- This scheme ensure affordability, connectivity, growth and development.
- It would provide a win-win situation for all stakeholders – citizens would get the benefit of affordability, connectivity and more jobs.
- The scheme UDAN envisages providing connectivity to un-served and under-served airports of the country through revival of existing air-strips and airports.
- The scheme would be in operation for a period of 10 years.
- UDAN has a unique market-based model to develop regional connectivity.
- Interested airline and helicopter operators can start operations on hitherto un-connected routes by submitting proposals to the Implementing Agency.
- The selected airline operator would have to provide a minimum of 9 and a maximum of 40 UDAN Seats (subsidized rates) on the UDAN Flights for operations through fixed wing aircraft and a minimum of 5 and a maximum of 13 Seats on the Flights for operations through helicopters.
- On each such route, the minimum frequency would be three and maximum of seven departures per week.
- Route networks would also be encouraged under the scheme to achieve economies of scale and optimal usage of aircraft.
- The fare for a one hour journey of appx. 500 km on a fixed wing aircraft or for a 30 minute journey on a helicopter would now be capped at Rs. 2,500, with proportionate pricing for routes of different stage lengths / flight duration.
- A Regional Connectivity Fund would be created to meet the viability gap funding requirements under the scheme.
- The RCF levy per departure will be applied to certain domestic flights.
- The partner State Governments (other than North Eastern States and Union Territories where contribution will be 10 %) would contribute a 20% share to this fund.
- For balanced regional growth, the allocations under the scheme would be equitably spread across the five geographical regions of the country viz. North, West, South, East and North-east.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151850>



Shaurya Smarak

Question: Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the newly built war memorial - Shaurya Samarak in which of the following city?

(a) Bhopal (b) Indore (c) Jaipur (d) Hyderabad

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 14 October 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the newly built war memorial- Shaurya Samarak- in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
- The Shaurya Smarak is spread over an area of 12.67 acre land and the tales of their bravery are on display at this memorial.
- It includes a 62-foot Shaurya Stambh, an amphitheatre and galleries to display history of the armed forces.
- Cost of construction of the memorial is Rs 41 crore.
- Their sacrifices at various stages of life and ultimately of life itself are displayed very vividly.
- The traditional eternal lamp Amar Jyoti, lit in reverence to the martyrs, is represented by a state-of-the-art holographic image at the memorial.



Reference:

<http://www.narendramodi.in/pm-modi-at-a-public-meeting-with-ex-servicemen-in-bhopal-madhya-pradesh-532719>

Creation of new district in Telangana

Question: Recently how many new districts has been created in Telangana?

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On auspicious occasion of Vijaya Dasami, 11 October 2016 Telangana Government had redrawn its map by creating 21 new districts.
- With these, the total number of districts of the youngest state of India went up to 31.
- Telangana Chief Minister K Chandrasekhar Rao formally inaugurated Siddipet district which is carved out of Medak district.
- This move will help in effective monitoring and implementation of welfare schemes.
- The government has also created 25 new revenue divisions, 125 new mandals, four new police commissionerates, 23 new police subdivisions, 28 new circles and 91 police stations.
- Telangana, which has a population of 3.5 crore, was carved out of Andhra Pradesh and it came into existence as India's 29th state on June 2, 2014.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/k-chandrasekhar-rao-inaugurates-siddipet-district/article9207872.ece>

<http://www.ndtv.com/telangana-news/telangana-map-redrawn-adding-21-new-districts-1472800>

https://www.facebook.com/TelanganaCMO/photos/?tab=album&album_id=533494013522122

India ratifies Paris climate pact

Question : When did India had ratified Paris climate pact?

- (a) 1 October 2016 (b) 2 October 2016
(c) 3 October 2016 (d) 4 October 2016

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On the 2 October 2016 India ratified the Paris Agreement on climate change at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.
- Ambassador Syed Akbaruddin submitted India's instrument of ratification on 2 October 2016 to coincide with Mahatma Gandhi's birthday and the International Day of Non-Violence.
- On 28 September 2016, the Union Cabinet approved the ratification of Paris climate agreement.
- Paris Agreement was adopted by 185 nations last year on 12th December 2015 and India signed the Paris Agreement in New York early this year on 22nd April 2016.
- A total of 191 countries have signed to the Paris Agreement so far.
- As per the provisions of the Paris Agreement, the treaty will come into force as and when 55 countries contributing to 55 % of total global emission ratify the agreement.
- So far, 62 countries have deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval accounting in total for 47.79% of the total global greenhouse gas emissions.

Reference :

http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55185#.V_ZMff97IV



First States to become Open Defecation Free in urban areas

Question : Name the first States to become Open Defecation Free in urban areas?

- (a) Karnataka, Gujarat (b) Manipur, Maharashtra
(c) Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat (d) Kerala, Andhra Pradesh

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 2 October 2016 Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh become the first States to declare all cities and towns in respective States as Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- Districts including Porbandar also declared ODF, on the 147th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi which is also the second anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission.
- Porbandar, the native district of Mahatma and all the 180 cities and towns in Gujarat were declared ODF in the presence of Union Minister of Drinking Water & Sanitation Naredra Singh Tomar, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani at a special programme in Porbandar.
- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N.Chandrababu Naidu declared all 110 cities and towns in the State as ODF at a programme in Tirupati.
- Rs.186 cr has been sanctioned for Andhra Pradesh for focusing on solid waste management in urban areas.
- A Postal Stamp on Swachhat was released by Shri Venkaiah Naidu and Minister of Communications Manoj Sinha in New Delhi.
- 405 cities and towns have so far claimed to have become Open Defecation Free along with 20,000 of the 82,000 urban wards in the country.
- Another 334 cities and towns would become ODF by March next year.
- Maharashtra, Kerala, Himachal Pradesh, Mizoram and other North-Eastern States are on course to declare all urban areas as ODF soon.
- Swachh Bharat would be completed on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary of Gandhi Ji on October 2, 2019.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151352>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151353>



New Director General of National Security Guard (NSG)

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the Director General, National Security Guard (NSG)?

(a) P.C Thakur (b) Prakash Mishra (c) O.P Singh (d) Sudhir Pratap Singh

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 Sudhir Pratap Singh has been appointed to the post of Director General, National Security Guard (NSG).
- He is an IPS of Rajasthan cadre 1983.
- He is presently working as ADG, CRPF.
- His appointment is up to the date of this superannuation i.e. up to 31.01.2018 or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151110>



INTERNATIONAL

Global Gender Gap Report, 2016

Question: What is the India's rank in Global Gender Gap Index for 2016?

(a) 95th (b) 87th (c) 65th (d) 105th

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 25 October 2016 World Economic Forum (WEF) released the Global Gender Gap Report 2016.
- Global Gender Gap Report 2016 ranked 144 countries.
- The report measures gender gap as progress towards parity between men and women in four areas:
 - (i) Educational attainment, (ii) Health and survival,
 - (iii) Economic opportunity and (iv) Political empowerment.
- The index ranges from 0 to 1; 0 means complete gender inequality, and 1 means complete gender equality.
- Iceland topped the index with the score of 0.874.
- Then the Index is followed by Finland (2), Norway (3), Sweden (4) and Rwanda (5).
- Five countries with least gender equality are Chad (140), Saudi Arabia (141), Syria (142), Pakistan (143) and Yemen (144).
- India has been ranked 87th out of 144 countries on the World Economic Forum's (WEF) Global Gender Gap Report 2016.
- India has climbed 21 position from 108th position in 2015.
- India's achievements in various areas of this index are:
 - Economic opportunity-136th
 - Educational attainment-113rd
 - Health and survival-142nd
 - Political empowerment-9th
- The highest position in the BRICS countries is attained by South Africa i.e 15th.
- Other BRICS countries are ranked as Russian Federation (75th), Brazil (79th) and China (99th).
- Among the neighboring countries of India, Bangladesh ranked 72nd, Bhutan 121st, Nepal is ranked 110th and Pakistan 143rd.
- In this Index none of the country of the world got score of 1 means that any country in the world has not earned complete gender equality.



Reference:

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-gender-gap-report-2016>

http://www3.weforum.org/docs/GGGR16/WEF_Global_Gender_Gap_Report_2016.pdf

World Giving Index-2016

Question: India ranked at which of the following position in the World Giving Index, 2016 commissioned by UK-based Charities Aid Foundation (CAF)?

(a) 90th (b) 75th (c) 65th (d) 91st

Ans. (d)



Related facts:

- On 25 October 2016 UK-based Charities Aid Foundation (CAF) has released the World Giving Index, 2016.
- The index ranked 140 countries in terms of generosity of its people.
- World Giving Index, 2016 is based on the following three charitable acts:
 1. Donated money to a charity.
 2. Volunteered your time to an organization.
 3. Helped a stranger, or someone they didn't know who needed help.
- This year 148,000 people in 140 countries were surveyed as part of the Gallup World Poll.
- Myanmar is once again ranked first in the World Giving Index 2016.
- Myanmar held the top spot on its own in 2015 and jointly with the USA in 2014.
- Myanmar's 2016 overall score is 70%.
- Index is followed by USA with score of 61% ranked second, Australia with score of 60% ranked third, New Zealand (59%) ranked fourth and Sri Lanka (57%) ranked fifth.
- Last five countries of the list are China (140th place), Palestine (139th place), Yemen (138th place), Greece (137th place) and Congo (136th place).
- In the World Giving Index, 2016 India has been ranked 91st (score -29%).
- Last year (2015) India was ranked 106th among the 145 countries.
- Among the India's neighboring countries Sri Lanka (5th), Bhutan (18th), Nepal (39th), Pakistan (92nd) and Bangladesh has been ranked 94th.
- The World Giving Index (WGI) is an annual report published by the Charities Aid Foundation, using data gathered by Gallup.
- The first edition was released in September 2010.
- The aim of the World Giving Index is to provide insight into the scope and nature of giving around the world.

Reference:

<https://www.cafonline.org/about-us/media-office/new-global-league-table-of-giving-shows-world-becomes-more-generous-than-ever>

https://www.cafonline.org/docs/default-source/about-us-publications/1950a_wgi_2016_report_web_v2_241016.pdf?sfvrsn=4

India's first international arbitration centre launched

Question : India's first international arbitration centre has been established in

a) Mumbai b) Goa c) Lucknow d) Bhopal

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 8th October, 2016 Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated the Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration (MCIA), India's first international arbitration centre.
- The MCIA will be an independent, not-for-profit organisation governed by a council of eminent national and international legal experts.
- It will provide world-class infrastructure for arbitration and will be equipped with sound-proof rooms, access to arbitration rooms only with digital key cards and round the clock functionality.
- It will have a 12-month timeline to complete arbitration seated in India and a prescribed fee structure according to the size of the disputed contract amount.
- A day-long seminar on arbitration was also organized on this occasion.
- An estimated 30 per cent of the arbitration cases are handled by the Singapore and London International Arbitration Centres and in this context MCIA will prove to be a step towards making Mumbai an International Financial Services Centre.
- It will also provide platform for Indian business houses to negotiate commercial disputes.
- Madhukeshwar Desai is the Chief Executive Officer of Mumbai Centre for International Arbitration.
- State Chief Secretary Swadheen Kshatriya briefed on the occasion that the State arbitration policy has made it binding that all government contracts worth more than Rs. 5 crore will have standard arbitration clauses.

Reference :

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/mumbai/cm-launches-indias-first-international-arbitration-centre/article9203594.ece>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/devendra-fadnavis-international-arbitration-centre-in-mumbai-3072690/>

Global Hunger Index-2016

Question: In The Global Hunger Index (GHI) by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in October 2016 India is ranked –

a) 100th b) 97th c) 25th d) 89th

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On October 11, 2016 the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) released The Global Hunger Index-2016.
- Like the previous year report GHI 2016 is based on four indicators that are undernourishment, child mortality, child wasting g (low weight for height) and child stunting (low height for age). This calculation results in GHI scores on a 100-point scale where 0 is the best score (no hunger) and 100 the worst.
- The theme of GHI-2016 report is “GETTING TO ZERO HUNGER”.
- According to GHI-2016 report, from 2000 to 2016 global hunger is fallen by 50%.
- The 2016 GHI has been calculated for 118 countries out of which 50 countries are facing serious or alarming levels of Hunger.
- In this year report, there are 16 countries with lowest GHI score (score-5, Argentina, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Estonia, Kuwait, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Ukraine) and Slovak Republic with 5.3 GHI scores is at the 17th place.
- In global Hunger Index-2016 India is placed at 97th position while last year it was at 80th.
- In GHI-2016 India found placed in serious category with score of 28.5.
- Similar to the last year, this year also India has better condition compared to Pakistan, (107th place) however Nepal (72nd), Sri Lanka (84th) and Bangladesh (90th) are better placed than India.
- According to the GHI-2016 10 countries are identified as cause for significant concern: Burundi, the Comoros, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Libya, Papua New Guinea, Somalia, South Sudan, Sudan, and the Syrian Arab Republic.
- From the 2000 GHI to the 2016 GHI, 22 countries reduced their scores by 50 percent or more. The three that achieved the biggest percentage reductions in hunger of all the countries in the serious and alarming categories are Myanmar, Rwanda, and Cambodia.

Reference:

<http://www.ifpri.org/publication/concept-global-hunger-index-0>

Russia suspends plutonium agreement

Question: Recently Russia has suspended its agreement with which of the following country to reduce their surplus weapons-grade plutonium?

- (a) China
- (b) France
- (c) U.S.A
- (d) Germany



Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 3 October 2016 Russia has suspended an agreement with the U.S.A on the disposal of surplus weapons-grade plutonium.
- The two countries were each required to dispose of 34 tonnes of weapons grade plutonium under a weapons reduction agreement signed in June 2000.
- According to US state department combined 68 tonnes of plutonium is enough material for approximately 17,000 nuclear weapons.
- Russia suspended the agreement because of “the emergence of a threat to strategic stability and as a result of unfriendly actions by the United States of America toward the Russian Federation.”

Reference:

<https://sputniknews.com/world/20161003/1045961547/agreement-russia-us-plutonium.html>

<http://www.world-nuclear-news.org/NP-Russia-suspends-plutonium-agreement-with-USA-04101601.html>

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-37539616>

<http://www.dw.com/en/russia-suspends-plutonium-deal-with-us-amid-worsening-ties/a-35947549>

11th summit of G20

Question : The 11th summit of G20 held on 4–5 September 2016 in which of the following city?

(a) Seoul (b) Brisbane (c) Hangzhou (d) London

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- The 2016 G20 Hangzhou summit was the eleventh meeting of the Group of Twenty (G20).
- It was held on 4–5 September 2016 in the city of Hangzhou, Zhejiang, China.
- It was the first ever G20 summit to be hosted in China.
- The chair of the summit was Xi Jinping, President of China.
- The summit was attended by all the leaders of the G20 including Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Arvind Panagariya was the Sherpa for 2016 G20 Summit.
- The guest invitees in the summit were: Egypt, Kazakhstan, Laos, Senegal, Spain, Singapore and Thailand.
- In the summit Prime Minister Narendra Modi appealed G20 leaders to act decisively to eliminate safe havens for economic offenders, unconditionally extradite money launderers and end excessive banking secrecy.
- He also spoke about India's support to a trade facilitation agreement (TFA) for services, a move that will help in movement of professionals.
- The PM also stressed the need for safeguarding climate justice, which requires affordable financing and environmental sound technology for developing countries.
- The members G20 includes 19 individual countries.
- These are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, United Kingdom and United States—along with the European Union (EU).
- The EU is represented by the European Commission and by the European Central Bank. Collectively, the G20 economies account for around 85% of the gross world product (GWP), 80% of world trade (or, if excluding EU intra-trade, 75%), and two-thirds of the world population.
- It was founded in 1999 with the aim of studying, reviewing, and promoting high-level discussion of policy issues pertaining to the promotion of international financial stability.
- The G20 heads of government or heads of state have periodically conferred at summits since their initial meeting in 2008 in U.S.A.
- The group also hosts separate meetings of finance ministers and central bank governors.
- The heads of the G20 nations met semi-annually at G20 summits between 2009 and 2010. Since the November 2011 Cannes summit, all G20 summits have been held annually.
- The 2017 G20 Summit will be held in Hamburg, Germany.

Reference :

http://www.g20.org/English/about_g20/AboutG20/201511/t20151127_1609.html

http://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/pm-leads-fight-against-safe-havens-at-g20-116090501018_1.html

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/business/8072894.stm>

2016-17 Global Competitiveness Index

Question: Recently World Economic Forum (WEF) has release Global Competitiveness Report for 2016-17. What is the rank of India among the 138 countries in the 2016-17 Global Competitiveness Index (GCI)?

- (a) 40th
- (b) 39th
- (c) 45th
- (d) 65th

Ans (b)

Related facts:

- On 28 September 2016 World Economic Forum (WEF) has release Global Competitiveness Report for 2016-17.
- The Global Competitiveness Report 2016-2017 assesses the competitiveness landscape of 138 economies, providing insight into the drivers of their productivity and prosperity.
- 2016-17 Global Competitiveness Index (GCI) is the part of the report is calculated by aggregating indicators across 12 pillars in the report which covers both business and social indicators.
- The 12 pillars includes institutions, macro-economic environment, infrastructure, health and primary education, higher education and training, labour market efficiency, goods and market efficiency among others.
- Switzerland has been ranked 1st for the eighth times in a row with the score of 5.81.
- Singapore and the United States stayed in second and third place with the score of 5.7 each.
- The Netherlands overtook Germany for fourth place, while Sweden in sixth spot and Britain in seventh leap-frogged Japan, Hong Kong and Finland.
- Last five countries in the Index are Yemen (Rank- 138, score-2.7), Martania (Rank- 137, score-2.9), Chad (Rank- 136, score-2.9), Burundi (Rank- 135, score-3.1) and Malawi (Rank- 134, score-3.1).
- India jumped 16 places to the 39th position with the score of 4.5 in the last year in the WEF's Global Competitiveness Index.
- In the year 2015-16, India was ranked at the 55th place (Out of 140).
- Among neighboring countries of India, Sri Lanka has been ranked 71st in index (score-4.2), Bhutan 97th (score-3.9), Nepal 98th (score-3.9), Bangladesh 106th (score-3.8) and Pakistan 122nd (score-3.5).
- Among the developed countries of the world to Japan has been ranked 8th (score-5.5), the 9th Hong Kong (score-5.5), the United Kingdom 7th (score-5.5) and the France 21th (score -5.2).
- Among the emerging economies of the BRICS countries, China has been ranked 28th (score-5.0), Russia 43rd (score-4.5), South Africa 47th (score-4.5) and Brazil 81th (score -4.1) is achieved.

Reference:

<https://www.weforum.org/reports/the-global-competitiveness-report-2016-2017-1>

<http://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness-index/competitiveness-rankings/>

<http://reports.weforum.org/global-competitiveness-index/country-profiles/#economy=IND>



ECONOMICS

Doing Business Index- 2017

Question: India has been placed at which of the following position among the 190 countries in the recently released World Bank's ease of doing business index for the year 2017?

- (a) 131st
- (b) 125th
- (c) 115th
- (d) 130th

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 25 October 2016; Washington based World Bank Group on released the report titled Doing Business 2017.
- The theme of the report is "Equal Opportunity for All".
- 190 countries were included in the recently released World Bank's ease of doing business index for the year 2017.
- In its global country rankings of business efficiency, the report awarded its coveted top spot to New Zealand with the score of 87.01.
- Followed by Singapore (score 85.05) as second, Denmark (score 84.87) third, Hong Kong SAR (score 84.21) fourth, Republic of Korea (score 84.07) fifth.
- The world's top 10 improvers, based on reforms undertaken, are Brunei Darussalam; Kazakhstan; Kenya; Belarus; Indonesia; Serbia; Georgia; Pakistan; United Arab Emirates (UAE); and Bahrain.
- Bottom five countries are Somalia (190th place), Eritrea (189th place), Libyan (188th place), Venezuela (187th place) and South Sudan (186th place).
- India with the score of 55.27 has been placed at 130th position among the 190 countries.
- Among the BRICS nations India ranks lowest top position is held by Russia (40) followed by South Africa (74), China (78), Brazil (123) and India (130).
- Among the India's Neighbouring countries the rankings are Bhutan (73), China (78), Nepal (107), Sri Lanka (110), Pakistan (144) and Bangladesh (176).
- In this index, ranking of country is based on index averages the country's percentile rankings on 10 indicators each having equal weightage.
- A higher ranking of country in this list means that its regulatory environment is more conducive and favorable for the starting and operation of firms.

Reference:

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/10/25/record-number-of-economies-carried-out-business-reforms-in-past-year-doing-business>

<http://www.doingbusiness.org/~media/WBG/DoingBusiness/Documents/Annual-Reports/English/DB17-Full-Report.pdf>

Growth in Foreign Tourists Arrival on E-Tourist Visa

Question : Which of the following country occupies top slot amongst country availing E-Tourist Visa facility during September 2016 ?

- (a) USA
- (b) China
- (c) UK
- (d) France



Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- A total of 68,809 foreign tourists arrived in September 2016 on e-Tourist Visa as compared to 31,729 during the month of September 2015.
- This results in growth of 116.9%.
- The facility of e-Tourist Visa has been made available by the Government of India to the citizens of 150 countries, arriving at 16 International Airports in India
- During January- September 2016, a total of 6,75,302 tourist arrived on e-Tourist Visa as compared to 2,01,705 during January-September 2015, registering a growth of 234.8%.
- The percentage shares of top 10 source countries availing e-Tourist Visa facilities during September, 2016 were as follows:
 - UK (15.5%), USA (12.4%), China (9.0%), Australia (6.0%), Germany (4.8%), France (4.3%), Spain (3.6%), Canada (3.1%), UAE (2.6%) and Malaysia (2.6%).
- The percentage shares of top 10 ports in tourist arrivals on e-Tourist Visa during September, 2016 were as follows:-
 - New Delhi Airport (51.71%), Mumbai Airport (21.06%), Bengaluru Airport (6.44%), Chennai Airport (6.27%), Kochi Airport (3.50%), Hyderabad Airport (2.45%), Kolkata Airport (2.34%), Trivandrum Airport (1.35%), Amritsar Airport (1.18%) and Dabolim (Goa) Airport (1.11%) .

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151629>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/116-9-growth-in-foreign-tourists-arrival-on-e-tourist-visa/articleshow/54852180.cms>

Cabinet approves revision of ethanol price

Question: Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme was launched by the Government in

- a) 2003
- b) 2005
- c) 2006
- d) 2016

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 13th October, 2016 The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the mechanism for revision of ethanol price for supply to Public Sector Oil Marketing Companies (OMCs) to carry out the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme.
- The administered price of ethanol for the EBP Programme will be Rs.39/- per litre for 2016-17 during ethanol supply period from 1st December, 2016 to 30th November, 2017.
- Additional charges will be paid to the ethanol suppliers as per actual in case of Excise Duty and VAT/GST and transportation charges as decided by OMCs.
- Increase/reduction in the retail selling price of ethanol would proportionately factor in the requirement of maintaining the fixed cost of purchase of ethanol during the ethanol supply year.
- The prices of ethanol will be reviewed and suitably revised by Government at any time during the ethanol supply period that is from 1st December, 2016 to 30th November, 2017 depending upon economic situation.
- The revision in ethanol prices will facilitate the continued policy of the Government in providing price stability and remunerative prices for ethanol suppliers.
- Background to the decision:
- Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) Programme was launched by the Government in 2003 and extended to 21 States and 4 Union Territories to encourage the use of alternative and environment friendly fuels.
- However, since 2006, OMCs were not able to receive the required quantity of ethanol due to various constraints like State Specific issues, Supplier related issues including Pricing issues of ethanol.
- In order to increase the supply of ethanol, need for a new mechanism for pricing of ethanol was felt. Accordingly, the Government on 10th December, 2014 decided that the delivered price of ethanol at OMC depots would be fixed in the range of Rs. 48.50 to 49.50 per litre including Central/State Government taxes and transportation charges.
- The decision has helped in significantly improving the supply of ethanol and it increased to 67.4 crore litres in 2014-15.

Reference:

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

<http://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/cabinet-approves-revision-of-ethanol-price-for-supply-to-oil-firms/54830294>

India's First Transaction on Blockchain

Question: Recently, which Indian bank has performed first successful international transaction on blockchain technology?

- a) ICICI
- b) HDFC
- c) SBI
- d) None of the above

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 12th October, 2016 India's leading private sector bank ICICI announced that it has successfully executed transactions in international trade finance and remittance using blockchain technology in partnership with Emirates NBD, a leading banking group in the Middle East.
- ICICI Bank is the first bank in the India and among the first few worldwide to exchange and authenticate remittance transaction messages as well as original international trade documents related to purchase order, invoice, shipping and insurance, among others, electronically on blockchain technology in real time.
- The use of blockchain technology makes the process easier and makes it almost instant in comparison to the current process which has a complex and lengthy paper trail that needs international shipping and courier.
- ICICI Bank performed these pilot transactions via its blockchain network with Emirates NBD on a custom-made blockchain application.
- The application was created by EdgeVerve Systems which is a subsidiary of Infosys.
- The blockchain application replaces paper and uses an electronic decentralised ledger that gives all the entities, including banks, the ability to access a single source of information.
- This enables all the parties- the importer, ICICI Bank and the exporter abroad along with Emirates NBD, to access the same data in real time and helps to track documentation and authenticate ownership of assets digitally.

Reference:

<https://www.icicibank.com/aboutus/article.page?identifier=news-icici-bank-executes-indias-first-banking-transactions-on-blockchain-in-partnership-with-emirates-nbd-20161210162515562>
<http://www.thehindu.com/business/icici-bank-executes-indias-first-transaction-on-blockchain/article9211604.ece>



Fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2016-17

Question: In the Fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2016-17, on the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation at the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) decided to reduce the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by -

- (a) 20 basis points
- (b) 50 basis points
- (c) 25 basis points
- (d) 35 basis points

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 4 October 2016 the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) headed by newly appointed governor of RBI Urjit Patel released the fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2016-17.
- The six member committee includes the Governor of the Bank—Chairperson, ex officio, Deputy Governor of the Bank, in charge of Monetary Policy (Member), ex officio, One officer of the Bank to be nominated by the Central Board (Member), ex officio, Chetan Ghatge, Professor, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) (Member), Professor Pami Dua, Director, Delhi School of Economics (DSE) (Member), Dr. Ravindra H. Dholakia, Professor, Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Ahmedabad (Member).
- On the basis of an assessment of the current and evolving macroeconomic situation the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) reduce the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 25 basis points from 6.5 per cent to 6.25 per cent with immediate effect.
- On 5 April 2016 Dr. Raghuram G. Rajan, in his First Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement, 2016-17 has reduced the policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) by 25 basis points from 6.75 per cent to 6.5 per cent.
- The reverse repo rate under the LAF stands adjusted to 5.75 per cent, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the Bank Rate to 6.75 per cent.
- Reserve Ratios Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) of scheduled banks remains unchanged at 4.0 per cent of net demand and time liability (NDTL).
- Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) also remains unchanged at 20.75 per cent.
- Inflation target remains 5% for March 2017.
- In the recently released provisional estimate of gross value added (GVA) for 2016-17 has been re-estimated to 7.2 per cent.

Reference:

https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=38224

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151264>

<http://www.livemint.com/Politics/eTA07fSI1HXNq9H095ipRK/Govt-appoints-three-members-to-Monetary-Policy-Committee.html>



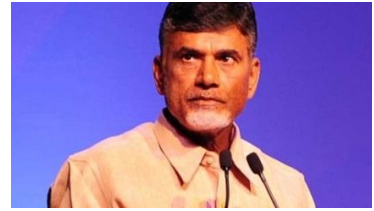
Andhra Pradesh has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16

Question: Which of the following state has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16?

- (a) Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Tamilnadu

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 16 September 2016 Andhra Pradesh has emerged on the top among all other states in attracting industrial investments in 2015-16.
- Andhra Pradesh attracted an investment of Rs 21,914 crore out of the Rs 1,38,700 crore gross investments across India.
- This was 15.8% of the total investments of over Rs 10 crore each unit. In 2014-15, AP's share in the country's investments was 8.1%.
- Gujarat retained the second place attracting 14.5 per cent of investments, up from 9.5 per cent in 2014-15 while Maharashtra was pushed to the third spot with 10.9 per cent in 2015-16, a decline from 14.8 per cent.
- Tamil Nadu also made quantum gains in investment, attracting 9 per cent of the gross and jumping to the fourth spot.
- In 2014-15, investment flow into Tamil Nadu was a mere 2.9 per cent.
- Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh were tied at the fifth spot garnering 7.2 per cent share each in industrial investments, according to the RBI report.
- According to the Industries Department of AP, industrial growth rate in the state shot up from 5.25 per cent in 2014-15 to 11.1 per cent in 2015-16.

Reference:

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-andhra-pradesh-tops-in-attracting-industrial-investments-maharashtra-down-to-third-spot-2255833>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/andhra-pradesh-tops-in-attracting-industrial-investments/1/766285.html>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/andhra-pradesh-tops-in-attracting-industrial-investments-116091601301_1.html

SCIENTIFIC

HAL-Safran Helicopter Engines Joint Venture Inaugurated

Question: A joint venture of HAL and Safran Helicopter Engines was recently inaugurated by Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar in

- a) Goa
- b) Puducherry
- c) Gurgaon
- d) Ambala

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 23rd October, 2016 The Defence Minister Shri Manohar Parrikar inaugurated Helicopter Engines Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul (HE-MRO), Pvt. Limited at Sattari District, North Goa.
- It is a Joint Venture of Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and Safran Helicopter Engines of France.
- The Joint Venture will provide maintenance, repair and overhaul services for Safran TM333 and HAL Shakti engines installed on helicopters operated by the Defence Services.
- Indian defense forces currently operate more than 1,000 French-design helicopters with engines such as the TM 333 and Arden 1 (renamed Shakti), which is produced by HAL under license.
- This partnership will improve customer satisfaction through improved serviceability, reduced cycle time, availability of spares, troubleshooting, field support and modifications to overcome design deficiencies.
- The Joint Venture will also provide employment opportunities and boost economic activities in Goa.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151901>

<http://www.defensenews.com/story/defense/show-daily/famborough/2016/07/12/hal-safran-helicopter-engine/86987082/>

Defense/Science Short Notes

Coordinated Patrol and Second Bilateral Maritime Exercise

Question: India has participated in Coordinated Patrol and Second Bilateral Maritime Exercise, scheduled from 10-27 Oct 2016 in the Andaman Sea with which of the following country?

- (a) United States Of America
- (b) Japan
- (c) Indonesia
- (d) Germany

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- the 28th India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol and Second Bilateral Maritime Exercise, scheduled from 10-27 Oct 16 in the Andaman Sea.
- The two navies have been carrying out Coordinated Patrols (CORPAT) on respective sides of the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) twice a year since 2002.
- The aim of exercise is keeping this vital part of the Indian Ocean Region safe and secure for commercial shipping, International trade and legitimate marine activities.
- Indian Naval Ship Karmuk, an indigenously built missile corvette, based under the Andaman and Nicobar Command, alongwith a Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft, is participating in the exercise.
- These interactions would also provide opportunities for extensive operational and training engagements, and contribute substantively to the maintenance of good order at sea.
- The Exercise seeks to strengthen the existing bonds of friendship between India and Indonesia, and underscore India's partnership and solidarity with friendly countries of the region.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151567>

20th ASEAN Heads of Defence Institutions Meet concluded

Question: 20th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) – Heads of Defence Universities/

Colleges/Institutions was held at...?

- a) National Defence College, New Delhi
- b) Belgaum Military School
- c) Dholpur Military School
- d) none of the above.

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 8th October, 2016 20th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) – Heads of Defence Universities/ Colleges/ Institutions meeting concluded in New Delhi.
- The meeting was held between 5-8 October, 2016 at National Defence College, New Delhi.
- The theme of this meeting was “Transformation of Military Education to meet the challenges of 21st Century.”
- Promotion and maintenance of peace and prosperity in the region and the world at large through collective efforts and counter non-conventional threats and violent terrorism in the South East Asia Region were the key issues of the meeting.
- The participating nations expressed their commitment to reinvigorate professional military education to cope up with the contemporary challenges to military leadership.
- The member states also renewed their pledge to fulfil the core objectives of ARF and enhance its relevance by preventive diplomacy in parallel with strengthening of confidence building measures through dialogue, cooperation and mutual trust.
- The next ARF meet to will be held in Manila in 2017.

Reference :

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

<http://ndc.nic.in/Site/SitePage/upload/THEME.pdf>

6th BRICS Science & Technology Senior Official Meeting (SOM)

Question: 6th BRICS Science & Technology Senior Official Meeting (SOM) was organized at....?

- a) Jaipur
- b) Chandigarh
- c) Gurgaon
- d) Bhopal

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 7th October, 2016 6th BRICS Science & Technology Senior Official Meeting (SOM) was organized at Jaipur.
- This meeting has been organized before the ministerial meeting. It provides a detailed vision and set priority for cooperation & joint action amongst BRICS country in the fields of Science, Technology and Innovation.
- Enterprise model like product development, exploring of market for sustainable development goals, High Performance Computing (HPC), cyber security, nanotechnology, energy, affordable medicine and technology based startups were among the key topics which were given attention at the meet.
- A proposal for affective engagement of young scientists from BRICS country in developing enterprises through partnership with member countries has been developed by India for consideration in this BRICS meeting. The member countries have agreed in principle and implementation strategy is to be finalized soon.
- Russia proposed a partnership in the area of material science at Ural University, Russia. The Chairman appreciated the area which is topical and requested member countries to comment on the proposal.
- The BRICS Ministerial Meeting is scheduled for 8th October, 2016 in which S&T Ministers from the BRICS Member Countries would be participating.
- The detailed report and recommendations of the recently organized 1st BRICS Young Scientist Conclave at Bengaluru was also shared with the member countries and a decision on its continuity every year was also obtained. All the member countries lauded & complimented India for this initiative and hospitality.
- It is to be noted that BRICS is an association of five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Reference:

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

<http://www.dst.gov.in/pressrelease/brics-science-technology-ministers-meeting-begins-today>

India's Communication Satellite Launched Successfully

Question: Name the communication satellite of India that was launched successfully by the European Ariane 5 VA-231 launch Vehicle on 6 October 2016?

(a) GSAT-16 (b) GSAT-14 (c) GSAT-18 (d) GSAT-17

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 India's communication satellite GSAT-18 was launched successfully by the European Ariane 5 VA-231 launch Vehicle.
- It was launched from Kourou, French Guiana.
- The 3404 kg GSAT-18 carries 48 communication transponders in C-band, upper extended C-band and Ku-band for providing various services to the country.
- After a flight of 32 minutes and 28 seconds, GSAT-18 separated from the Ariane 5 upper stage in an elliptical Geosynchronous Transfer Orbit (GTO) with a perigee (nearest point to Earth) of 251.7 km and an apogee (farthest point to Earth) of 35,888 km, inclined at an angle of 6 degree to the equator.
- ISRO's Master Control Facility (MCF) at Hassan in Karnataka took over the command and control of GSAT-18 immediately after its separation from the launch vehicle.
- Preliminary health checks of the satellite revealed its normal health.
- The designed in-orbit operational life of GSAT-18 is about 15 years.
- GSAT-18, built by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), aims at providing telecommunication services by strengthening the space agency's current fleet of 14 operational telecom satellites.
- Ariane 5 also launched Sky Muster™ II for the Australian operator nbn (National Broadband Network).
- The Ariane Passenger Payload Experiment (APPLE), an experimental communication satellite was launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on July 19th 1981.



Reference:

<http://www.isro.gov.in/Spacecraft/gsat-18>

New species of Pika discovered

Question: Recently New species of Pika discovered at which of the following place?

(a) Nepal (b) Sikkim (c) Nagaland (d) Tibet

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 30 September 2016 Researchers at the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS), Bengaluru have identified a new species of Pika, high up in the Sikkim Himalayas.
- The new species has been named Ochotona sikimaria.
- The new species is limited to Sikkim.
- Pikas are members of the rabbit family and live either high up in the mountains or in cold (temperate) places as they are highly cold-adapted.
- This feature of their biology makes them sensitive to habitat loss from increasing global temperature.
- The majority of Pika species described to date are of Asian origin.
- Pikas are particularly important because they are considered indicators of climate change based on studies in North America.



Reference:

<http://news.ncbs.res.in/story/new-species-pika-discovered-sikkim-himalayas>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/new-species-of-pika-found-in-sikkim/1772676.html>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/sikkim-new-species-of-pika-found-3048941/>

New Protein-rich rice developed

Question: Researchers of which of the following institute has developed a protein-enriched rice variety ?

- a) Indian Agriculture Research Institute (IARI), Jharkhand
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru Agriculture University, Jabalpur
- c) Govind Vallabh Pant University of Agriculture & Technology, Pantnagar
- d) Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur



Ans. (d)

Related facts:

- On 21 October 2016 a protein-enriched rice variety has been developed by the researchers at Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV), Raipur.
- It is developed under the guidance of Dr. Grish Chandel, Professor in Department of Plant Molecular Biology and Biotechnology, IGKV.
- Researchers hope it would serve as a boon for malnourished population, especially children, in the tribal-dominated Chhattisgarh.
- This rice is rich in protein along with high zinc content.
- The new developed rice variety has over 10 per cent protein content, which is three per cent more than what is found in any popular variety.
- It has 30 PPM zinc content.
- It should be known that present varieties of rice are not rich in protein content as it mainly consists of carbohydrates.
- The new rice variety's high nutritional content will be helpful in government's efforts to eradicate malnutrition in the state.
- Malnutrition rate in Chhattisgarh has declined to 29.8 per cent from 47.1 per cent registered in the National Family Health Survey 2005-06 (weight-based).

Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/magazines/panache/new-protein-rich-rice-will-help-nourish-you/articleshow/54974678.cms>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/protein-rich-rice-developed-may-help-check-malnutrition-116102100186_1.html

<http://everylifecounts.ndtv.com/to-fight-off-malnutrition-indian-researchers-develop-protein-rich-rice-6129>

Indian Coast Guard Ships Aryaman and Atulya commissioned

Question: The headquarters of Indian Coast Guard is located at....

- a) New Delhi
- b) Kochi
- c) Visakhapatnam
- d) Kolkata

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 21st October, 2016 The Indian Coast Guard Ships 'Aryaman' and 'Atulya' were commissioned at Kochi by Financial Advisor to Defence Services Shri Sunil Kumar Kohli.
- Aryaman' and 'Atulya' have been designed and built by Cochin Shipyard Limited. These are the eighteenth and nineteenth in the series of twenty Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs).
- Equipped with state-of-the-art weaponry, advanced communication and navigational equipment, the ships are ideal for undertaking multifarious missions such as surveillance, search and rescue and interdiction.
- Aryaman' and 'Atulya' are capable of achieving a maximum speed of 33 nautical miles.
- The special features of the ships include an Integrated Bridge Management System and Integrated Machinery Control System.
- Aryaman which literally means 'Possessor of Greatness' will be based at Kochi under the administrative control of the Commander, Coast Guard Region (West).
- Atulya meaning 'Unrivalled' will be based at Visakhapatnam under the administrative control of the Commander, Coast Guard Region (East).



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151863>

<http://www.indiandefensenews.in/2016/10/two-csl-built-fast-patrol-vessels-icgs.html>

Protein-enriched rice

Question: Chhattisgarh was formed on

- a) 1 November 2000
- b) 1 January, 2000
- c) 1 December, 2001
- d) 1 October, 2000

Ans: (a)

- Researchers of Indira Gandhi Krishi Vishwavidyalaya (IGKV) have succeeded in developing a protein-enriched variety of rice.
- The new developed rice variety has over 10 per cent protein content, which is three per cent more than what is found in any popular variety and has 30 PPM (parts per million) zinc content.
- Researchers worked for seven years to develop the variety of rice that is rich in protein along with high zinc content.
- The new rice variety will play a crucial role in fighting protein deficiencies and malnutrition since rice is the main food of the state and consumed on a regular basis.



Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/protein-rich-rice-developed-may-help-check-malnutrition/1/792007.html>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/magazines/panache/new-protein-rich-rice-will-help-nourish-you/articleshow/54974678.cms>

INS Tihayu Joins the Indian Navy

Question: When did the Indian Navy commission the highly maneuverable fast attack craft INS Tihayu at the Eastern Naval Command?

- (a) 18 October 2016
- (b) 19 October 2016
- (c) 20 October 2016
- (d) 21 October 2016

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 19 October 2016 Indian Navy commissioned the highly maneuverable fast attack craft INS Tihayu at the Eastern Naval Command.
- The ship was commissioned into the Indian Navy by Vice Admiral HCS Bisht AVSM, ADC Flag Officer Commanding in Chief Eastern Naval Command at a formal ceremony held at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam.
- INS Tihayu is the second ship of the four follow-on Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (FO-WJFAC).
- INS Tarmugli, the first Follow-on Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (WJFAC), built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE) was commissioned in May, 2016.
- INS Tihayu is built by M/s Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE).
- It is named after Tihayu Island (presently known as Katchal Island) in the Nicobar group.
- The 320-tonne INS Tihayu, measuring 49 meters can achieve speeds in excess of 35 knots.
- INS Tihayu would be deployed for coastal patrol and surveillance operations along the Eastern Coast.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151778>

Himansh Research station

Question: Recently “Himansh” the glaciological research facility has been established in which of the following state?

- (a) Assam
- (b) Uttarakhand
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Manipur

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 9 October 2016 Dr. M. Rajeevan, Secretary to the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Govt of India has unveiled “Himansh” the glaciological research facility.
- It is Located in Spiti Valley of Himachal Pradesh at an altitude of nearly 13,500 feet (4000 m).
- The research lab, established by the National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research (NCAOR).
- It has automatic weather stations, ground penetrating radars, geodetic GPS systems and other sophisticated facilities to study glaciers and their discharge.
- The facility will serve as the base for Terrestrial Laser Scanners and Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to digitise glacier movements and snow cover variations.
- HIMANSH literally meaning, a slice of ice



Reference:

http://moes.gov.in/writereaddata/files/Himansh_Press-V3_0.pdf

Sports TENNIS

Shanghai Rolex Masters-2016

Question : Who has won the men's singles title of the recently held Shanghai Rolex Masters-2016?

- (a) Andy Murray (b) Rafael Nadal
(c) Novak Djokovic (d) Milos Raonic

Ans (a)

Related facts:

- From 9 to 16 October, 2016; the 2016 Shanghai Rolex Masters tennis tournament took place at Qizhong Forest Sports City Arena in Shanghai, China.
- It was the eighth edition of the Shanghai ATP Masters 1000.
- Result of the tournament:
- **Men's Singles:**
 - Winner: Andy Murray(United Kingdom)
 - Runner Up: Roberto Bautista Agut(Spain)
- **Men's Doubles:**
 - Winner: John Isner and Jack Sock(Both are of United States)
 - Runner Up: Henri Kontinen(Finland) and John Peers(Australia)

Reference :

http://en.shanghaierolexmasters.com/?page_id=438

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/shanghai/5014/2016/results>

<http://en.shanghaierolexmasters.com/?p=2707>

China Open-2016

Question : Who among the following has won the men's singles title of the recently held China Open-2016?

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

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- From 3 to 9 October, 2016; the 2016 China Open was held at the National Tennis Center in Beijing, China.
- Result of the tournament:
- **Men's Singles:**
 - Winner: Andy Murray(United Kingdom)
 - Runner Up: Grigor Dimitrov(Bulgaria)
- **Women's Singles:**
 - Winner: Agnieszka Radwanska(Poland)
 - Runner Up: Johanna Konta(United Kingdom)
- **Men's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Pablo Carreño Busta and Rafael Nadal(Both are of Spain)
 - Runner Up: Jack Sock(United States) and Bernard Tomic(Australia)
- **Women's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Bethanie Mattek-Sands(United States) and Lucie Šafářová(Czech Republic)
 - Runner Up: Caroline Garcia and Kristina Mladenovi(Both are of France)

Reference :

<http://www.chinaopen.com.cn/2016-10-10/docen-ixwrhpn9512900.shtml>



U.S Open-2016

Question: Who among the following has won the US Open final in men's singles category?

(a) Rafael Nadal (b) Roger Federer (c) Novak Djokovic (d) Stan Wawrinka

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- The US Open-2016 was a tennis tournament played on outdoor hard courts.
- It was the 136th edition of the US Open, the fourth and final Grand Slam event of the year.
- It took place from 29-08-2016 to 11-09-2016 at the USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center.
- Result of the tournament:
- Men's Singles:
- Winner: Stan Wawrinka (Switzerland)
- Runner Up: Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
- Women's Singles:
- Winner: Angelique Kerber (Germany)
- Runner up: Karolína Plisková (Czech Republic)
- Men's doubles:
- Winner: Jamie Murray (United Kingdom) and Bruno Soares (Brazil)
- Runner Up: Pablo Carreno Busta and Guillermo Garcia-Lopez (Both are of Spain)
- Women's Doubles:
- Winner: Bethanie Mattek-Sands (United States) and Lucie Safarova (Czech Republic)
- Runner Up: Caroline Garcia and Kristina Mladenovic (Both are of France)
- Mixed Doubles:
- Winner: Laura Siegemund (Germany) and Mate Pavić (Croatia)
- Runner Up: Coco Vandeweghe and United States Rajeev Ram (Both are of United States)
- Stan Wawrinka won three Grand Slam singles finals in his career, namely 2014 Australian Open, the 2015 French Open and the 2016 US Open.
- Angelique Kerber won the title, defeating Karolína Plíšková in the final.
- It was Kerber's second Grand Slam singles title and she became the first German to win the US Open since Steffi Graf in 1996.



Reference:

<http://www.usopen.org/index.html>

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>

FOOTBALL

FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, 2016

Question: Which of the following team won the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, 2016?

(a) Japan (b) Venezuela (c) North Korea (d) Spain

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From 30 September to 21 October 2016; The FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup tournament 2016 was held in Jordan.
- It was the 5th edition of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup, the biennial international women's youth football championship.
 - Number of Participating teams were 16.
 - Aseela is an Arabian oryx, the national animal of Jordan, was the mascot of the 2016 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.
- North Korea's women's U-17 team on 21 October 2016 won the 2016 FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup.
- North Korean team defeated Japan in penalty kicks to win the title.
 - Spain and Venezuela got third and fourth place respectively.
 - Some other important awards given in the World Cup are:
 - Golden Boot- Lorena Navarro (Spain, 8 goals)
 - Golden Ball- Fuka Nagano (Japan)
 - Golden Glove- Noelia Ramos (Spain)
 - Fair Play award-Japan



Reference:

<http://www.fifa.com/u17womensworldcup/statistics/index.html>

<http://www.fifa.com/u17womensworldcup/awards/index.html>

BRICS U-17 Football Tournament 2016

Question: Which of the following country has won the first edition of the BRICS U-17 Football Cup?

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

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- The 2016 BRICS U-17 Football Cup was the first edition of the BRICS U-17 Football Cup.
- It held on 5-15 October, 2016 at Goa.
- In the final match, Brazil defeated South Africa by 5-1 goals.
- Brazil's Paulo Henrique Samapaio Filho scored the very first goal of the match in 24th Minute.
- Followed by Vinicius de Oliveira in the 34th minute, Victor de Oliveira scored a brace in the 40th & 61st minute to give Brazil an upper hand.
- South Africa's S'miso Bophela scored the only goal for his team.
- Earlier in the match for the 3rd place between Russia and China, Russia defeated China 2-1.
- The BRICS U-17 Football Cup is a under 17 Football tournament played among teams of five BRICS countries viz. Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151691>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/brazil-wins-inaugural-brics-u-17-football-tournament-116101500752_1.html

Chess

Hoo geveen Chess Tournament-2016

Question: Name the Indian player who recently created history at the Hoo geveen International chess tournament by becoming the first player ever to win the title twice in a row in the FIDE Open?

(a) Sahaj Grover (b) S.L Narayanan (c) Sandipan Chanda (d) Abhijeet Gupta

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- From 15 October to 22 October 2016; Hoo geveen Chess Tournament was held at the Dutch hamlet.
- Grandmaster and Commonwealth champion Abhijeet Gupta created history by becoming the first player ever to win the title twice in a row in the FIDE Open..
- Abhijeet Gupta scored 7.5 points out of a possible nine to win the title solely ahead of second placed Grandmaster Sandipan Chanda.
- Third and fourth places were also bagged by M R Lalith Babu and M Shyam Sundar respectively.



Reference:

<http://www.hoo geveen chess.nl/en/20th-hoo geveen-chess-tournament-2016>

<http://www.hoo geveen chess.nl/en/pairings-open>

BADMINTON

YONEX Dutch Open 2016

Question: Who among the following has won the men's singles title of YONEX Dutch Open 2016?

(a) Tzu Wei Wang (b) Ajay Jayaram (c) Anders Antonsen (d) Emil Holst

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- From 11–16 October 2016; the 2016 Dutch Open Grand Prix badminton tournament held at Topsportcentrum in Almere in the Netherlands.
- It was the 17th grand prix's tournament of the 2016 BWF Grand Prix Gold and Grand Prix.
- Result of the tournament:
 - **Men's singles:**
 - Winner: Tzu-wei Wang (Chinese Taipei)
 - Runner Up: Ajay Jayaram (India)
 - **Women's Singles:**
 - Winner: Zhang Beiwen (United States)
 - Runner Up: Hsu Ya-ching (Chinese Taipei)
 - **Men's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Jhe-huei Lee and Yang Lee (Both are of Chinese Taipei)
 - Runner Up: Mathias Christiansen and David Dugaard (Both are of Denmark)
 - **Women's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Setyana Mapasa and Gronya Somerville (Both are of Australia)
 - Runner Up: Gabriela Stoeva and Stefani Stoeva (Both are of Bulgaria)
 - **Mixed Doubles:**
 - Winner: Mathias Christiansen and Sara Thygesen (Both are of Denmark)
 - Runner Up: Soren Gravholt and Maiken Fruergaard (Both are of Denmark)



Reference:

<http://bwf.tournamentsoftware.com/sport/winners.aspx?id=928C6594-010C-4290-86E7-9F7CA7390C96>

Chinese Taipei Masters-2016

Question : Who among the following has won the men's singles title of the recently held Chinese Taipei Masters-2016?

(a) Sourabh Verma (b) Ajay Jayaram(c) Pranav Jerry Chopra (d) Chetan Anand

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 11-16 October 2016; the 2016 Chinese Taipei Masters Grand Prix badminton tournament was held at the Hsing Chuang Gymnasium in Taipei City, Chinese Taipei.
- It was the 16th grand prix's of the 2016 BWF Grand Prix Gold and Grand Prix.
- Result of the tournament:–
 - **Men's singles:**
 - Winner: Sourabh Verma(India)
 - Runner Up: Daren Liew(Malaysia)
 - **Women's Singles:**
 - Winner: Ayumi Mine(Japan)
 - Runner Up: Saena Kawakami (Japan)
 - **Men's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto(Both are of Indonesia)
 - Runner Up: Chen Hung-ling and Taipei Wang Chi-lin(Both are of Chinese Taipei)
 - **Women's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Fukushima and Sayaka Hirota(Both are of Japan)
 - Runner Up: Shiho Tanaka and Koharu Yonemoto(Both are of Japan)
 - **Mixed Doubles:**
 - Winner: Tang Chun Man and Tse Ying Suet(Both are of Hong Kong)
 - Runner Up: Ryota Taohata and Koharu Yonemoto(Both are of Japan)



Reference:

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2472/chinese-taipei-masters/podium>

SCG Thailand Open-2016

Question : Who among the following has won the men's singles title of the recently held SCG Thailand Open-2016?

(a) Wang Tzu-wei (b) Yang Lee (c) Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk (d) Kazumasa Sakai

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From 4 to 9 October 2016; the 2016 SCG Thailand Open was held at Nimibutr Stadium in Bangkok in Thailand.
- Result of the tournament:
- **Men's Singles:**
 - Winner: Tanongsak Saensomboonsuk(Thailand)
 - Runner Up: Sony Dwi Kuncoro(Indonesia)
- **Women's Singles**
 - Winner: Aya Ohori(Japan)
 - Runner Up: Busanan Ongbamrungphan(Thailand)
- **Men's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Berry Angriawan and Rian Agung Saputro (Both are of Indonesia)
 - Runner Up: Takuto Inoue and Yuki Kaneko(Both are of Japan)
- **Women's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Puttita Supajirakul and Sapsiree Taerattanachai (Both are of Thailand)
 - Runner Up: Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara(Both are of Japan)



Reference:

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2340/scg-thailand-open/podium>

Russian Open Grand Prix-2016

Question: Who among the following has won the women's singles title of the recently held 2016 Russian Open Grand Prix?

- (a) Caroline Garcia (b) Elena Vesnina
(c) Garbine Muguruza (d) Gadde Ruthvika Shivani

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- From 4 to 9 October 2016; the 2016 Russian Open Grand Prix was held in Sports Hall Olympic, Vladivostok, Russia.
- Result of the tournament:
- **Men's Singles:**
 - Winner: Zulfadli Zulkifli (Malaysia)
 - Runner Up: Siril Verma (India)
- **Women's Singles:**
 - Winner: Gadde Ruthvika Shivani (India)
 - Runner Up: Evgeniya Kosetskaya (Russia)
- **Men's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Vladimir Ivanov and Ivan Sozonov (Both are of Russia)
 - Runner Up: Konstantin Abramov and Alexandr Zinchenko (Both are of Russia)
- **Women's Doubles:**
 - Winner: Anastasia Chervyakova and Olga Morozova (Both are of Russia)
 - Runner Up: Evgeniya Kosetskaya and Ksenia Polikarpova (Both are of Russia)
- **Mixed Doubles:**
 - Winner: Pranaav Jerry Chopra and N. Sikki Reddy (Both are of India)
 - Runner Up: Vladimir Ivanov and Valeria Sorokina (Both are of Russia)



Reference:

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2575/russian-open-grand-prix-2016/podium>

GOLF

Chennai Open Golf Championship 2016

Question: Who has won the recently held Chennai Open Golf Championship 2016?

- (a) Shamin Khan
(b) Kapil kumar
(c) Mukesh Kumar
(d) Pradeep Kumar

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- Chennai Open Golf Championship 2016 presented by Express Exclusive was held on 11 Oct – 14 Oct, 2016.
- Result of the Championship:
 - First place-Mukesh Kumar
 - Second place-Honey Basoya



Reference:

http://www.pgtofindia.com/index.php?view=tourdetails&tour_id=279

http://www.pgtofindia.com/index.php?view=tourdetails&tour_id=279

http://www.pgtofindia.com/index.php?view=tourdetails&opt=score&tour_id=279

FORMULA ONE

United States Grand Prix-2016

Question: Who among the following has won the recently held United States Grand Prix-2016?

(a) Nico Rosberg (b) Lewis Hamilton (c) Daniel Ricardo (d) None of these

Ans:(b)

Related facts:

- On 23 October 2016; Mercedes driver Lewis Hamilton won the 2016 United States Grand Prix.
- Nico Rosberg finished second while Red Bull Racing-TAG Heuer's Daniel Ricciardo finished third in the race.
- The race was held at the Circuit of the Americas, Austin, Texas, United States.
- This was 18th race of the Formula -1 of 2016 session.

Reference :

<http://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2016/races/954/united-states/race-result.html>

https://www.formula1.com/en/championship/races/2016/United_States.html



2016 Japanese Grand Prix

Question: Who has won the recently held Japanese Grand Prix-2016?

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

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- The 2016 Japanese Grand Prix formally known as the 2016 Formula 1 Emirates Japanese Grand Prix was a Formula One motor race that was held on 9 October 2016 at the Suzuka Circuit in Suzuka, Mie, Japan.
- Mercedes driver Nico Rosberg of Germany has secured first position in the race.
- Second position was secured by Max Verstappen (Netherlands' Red Bull team driver)
- Lewis Hamilton secured the third place (British driver of Mercedes team)
- It should be known that there are still four races to be held in 2016 season.
- The next race of the season is American Grand Prix-2016 and will be held between 21 October and 23 October 2016.
- It is known that presently maximum 9 races in 2016 season are won by Nico Rosberg.

Reference :

<http://www.formula1.com/en/latest/headlines/2016/10/rosberg-wins-in-japan-as-mercedes-seal-constructors-crown.html>

<http://www.suzukacircuit.jp/en/events/f1/>



SHORT NOTES

Personalities

Junko Tabei

Question: Recently Junko Tabei, the first woman to climb the world's highest peak passed away, she belongs to which one of the following country?

(a) Nepal (b) Bhutan (c) Japan (d) Indonesia

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 20 October 2016 Junko Tabei, the first woman to climb the world's highest peak passed away at age 77.
- She was a Japanese mountaineer.
- She was also the first woman to ascend all Seven Summits by climbing the highest peak on every continent.
- Tabei climbed the 29,000-foot summit of Mount Everest in 1975.

Reference:

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/10/23/asia/junko-tabei-dead-at-77/index.html>



Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej passed away

Question: who is the current Prime Minister of Thailand?

a) Prayut Chan-o-cha b) Abhisit Vejjajiva c) Yingluck Shinawatra d) None of the above

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej (Rama IX), world's longest reigning monarch, died on 13th October, 2016 at the age of 88.
- King Bhumibol ascended the throne on June 9, 1946, after gunshot death of his elder brother, 20-year-old King Ananda Mahidol (Rama VIII).
- He was born in 1927 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, where his father, Prince Mahidol, was studying medicine.
- King Bhumibol spent much of his early life abroad, first in the United States and then in Switzerland.
- He was married to Sirikit and King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit have four children.
- Despite the monarchy's wealth, King Bhumibol was the keen proponent of a "sufficiency economy" philosophy — known in Thai as a "just-enough economy", which drew on Buddhist teachings.
- King Bhumibol was seen as a force for unity for the people of Thailand.
- His son and apparent heir, 63-year old Crown Prince Maha Vajiralongkorn is expected to become the new king.
- It is notable that under 'lese-majeste' laws criticism of the royal family is punishable and criticism of the monarchy can lead to years of jail as punishment.

Reference:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-37643326>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/thailands-king-bhumibol-adulyadej-dies/article9215490.ece>



New President of World Medical Association

Question: Who among the following Indian has been appointed as the president of World Medical Association?

- (a) Dr. Naresh Trehan (b) Dr. Ketan Desai
(c) Dr. Deepak Agarwal (d) Dr. Kartikey Sharma



Ans (b)

Related facts:

- On 21 October 2016 a former President of MCI and the Indian Medical Association (IMA) was appointed as the president of the World Medical Association (WMA).
- This was announced during the annual General Assembly of the WMA in Taipei, Taiwan from 19 to 22 October.
- He will serve as president for the 2016-2017 period.

Reference:

http://www.wma.net/en/40news/20archives/2016/2016_29/index.html

<http://in.reuters.com/article/wma-president-desai-ketan-idINKCN12L0RV>

<http://thewire.in/74869/ketan-desai-world-medical-association/>

Kigeli V

Question: Recently Kigeli V passed away, He was the last ruling King of which of the following country?

- (a) Uganda (b) Rwanda
(c) Bulgaria (d) Haiti



Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 16 October 2016 last king of Rwanda has died in the US aged 80 years old.
- He was born Ndahindurwa on 29 June 1936 in Kamembe, Rwanda.
- He was known for heading the King Kigeli V Foundation, promoting humanitarian work for Rwandan refugees, and for his activities in maintaining the cultural heritage of his formerly reigning royal house.

Reference:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-37676464>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kigeli_V_of_Rwanda

Director General of Naval Operations

Question: Who among the following has assumed the charge of Director General Naval Operations?

- (a) Vice Admiral S.V Bhokare (b) Vice Admiral SN Ghormade
(c) Vice Admiral Deepak Joshi (d) Vice Admiral SN Singh

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 21 October 2016 Vice Admiral SN Ghormade assumed the charge of Director General Naval Operations at the IHQ MoD (N).
- The Flag Officer was commissioned into the Indian Navy on 01 Jan 1984.
- The officer is the recipient of the Nau Sena Medal in 2007 by the President of India and Commendation by Chief of Naval Staff in 2000.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151841>

New Member Secretary of the 21st Law Commission of India

Question: Recently who has been appointed as Member Secretary of the 21st Law Commission of India?

- (a) Deepak Kumar (b) Alok Ranjan
(c) Sanjay Singh (d) Praveen Kumar



Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 17 October 2016 former legislative secretary Sanjay Singh has been appointed as Member Secretary, 21st Law Commission of India.
- He was appointed by President Pranab Mukherjee to the post for a period up to August 31, 2018.
- He is a retired officer of Indian Legal Service was appointed as legislative secretary in August 2014.
- The tenure of Twenty-first Law Commission, which was constituted on September 1, 2015 is until August 31, 2018.

Reference:

http://bureaucracytoday.com/top_news.aspx?id=175217

http://www.ptinews.com/news/7978644_Sanjay-Singh-appointed-Member-Secretary-Law-Commission.html

Navdeep Singh Suri

Question : Recently Navdeep Singh Suri appointed as the next Ambassador of India to which of the following country?

- (a) Russia (b) UAE (c) Saudi Arabia (d) Iran

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- According the press release issued on 17 October 2016 by Ministry of External Affairs Navdeep Singh Suri has been appointed as the next Ambassador to United Arab Emirates(UAE).
- He is a 1983 batch Indian Foreign Service official.
- He is currently serving as Indian High Commissioner in Canberra.



Reference :

[http://www.mea.gov.in/press-](http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27498/Navdeep+Singh+Suri+appointed+as+the+next+Ambassador+of+India+to+UAE)

[releases.htm?dtl/27498/Navdeep+Singh+Suri+appointed+as+the+next+Ambassador+of+India+to+UAE](http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27498/Navdeep+Singh+Suri+appointed+as+the+next+Ambassador+of+India+to+UAE)

<https://www.indembassyuae.org/navdeep-singh-suri-appointed-as-the-next-ambassador-of-india-to-the-uae-h-e-navdeep-singh-suri-presently-high-commissioner-of-india-in-canberra-has-been-appointed-as-the-next-ambassador-of-india/>

New Whole-Time Member of market regulator SEBI

Question : Who has been appointed as the Whole-Time Member of market regulator SEBI?

- (a) G Ramalingam (b) Gurumoorthy Mahalingam
(c) Dinesh Chandra (d) None of These

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 12 October 2016; RBI's Executive Director Gurumoorthy Mahalingam was appointed as Whole-Time Member(WTM) of market regulator SEBI.
- He has been appointed to the post for five years, or till the age of 65 years whichever is earliest.
- He will replace Prashant Saran.
- Besides Chairman, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) can have three WTM's.
- The existing WTM's are Rajeev Kumar Agarwal and S Raman.



Reference :

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/RBIs-G-Mahalingam-appointed-Whole-Time-Member-at-Sebi/articleshow/53673399.cms>

http://www.sebi.gov.in/cms/sebi_data/about_us/Boardpdf

Renu Pall

Question: Recently Renu Pall has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to which of the following country?

- (a) Russia (b) Austria
(c) United States of America (d) Germany

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- According to the release of Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India published on 8 October 2016 Renu Pall has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to Austria.
- She is an IFS officer of 1988 batch.
- She will succeed Rajiva Misra in Austria.
- Presently Renu Pall is serving as Ambassador of India to the Czech Republic.

Reference:

<http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27470/Renu+Pall+appointed+as+the+next+Ambassador+of+India+to+Austria>
<https://www.indianbureaucracy.com/renu-pall-appointed-ambassador-to-austria/>
<http://www.indianmandarins.com/pall-appointed-as-next-ambassador-to-austria/>



Ajay Kumar Bhalla

Question: Recently who has been appointed as Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)?

- (a) Ajay Singh (b) Ajay Tyagi
(c) M.S Sahoo (d) Ajay Kumar Bhalla

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 13 October 2016 Ajay Kumar Bhalla was appointed as the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).
- He is a 1984 batch IAS officer of Assam-Meghalaya cadre,
- He is presently additional secretary in the commerce ministry.
- He has been appointed to the post in place of Anup Wadhawan.
- The DGFT is entrusted with responsibilities for formulating and implementing the foreign trade policy with the main objective of promoting India's exports.

Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/7965707_Ajay-Kumar-Bhalla-appointed-new-DGFT-.html
http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/ajay-kumar-bhalla-appointed-new-dgft-116101300725_1.html



Dario Fo passed away

Question: 'The Accidental Death of an Anarchist' was written by...

- a) Dario Fo b) Harold Pinter
c) Edward Said d) None of the above.

Ans : (a)

Related facts:

- Nobel prize-winning Italian playwright, director and political activist Dario Fo has died aged 90 on 13th October, 2016.
- He was famous for his political satire in plays such as 'The Accidental Death of an Anarchist'. Mr. Fo won the Nobel Prize for literature in 1997.
- 'The Accidental Death of an Anarchist', which brought him international fame, was based on the true story of a railway worker who fell to his death from the fourth floor of a Milan police station where he was being interrogated.
- His subversive humor won him a distinctive status, but also saw him periodically hounded off the stage and television in an attempt by the Italian establishment to muzzle him. He was barred from entering the United States in the early 1980s.
- Mr. Fo wrote more than 80 plays, many of them in collaboration with his wife, Franca Rame
- Through his works and activism Dario Fo always stood by reason and for cause of equality and dignity for all.



Reference :

<http://www.bbc.com/news/entertainment-arts-37641544>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/10/13/europe/italy-playwright-dario-fo-dies/>

Professor Nayanjot Lahiri

Question: Recently Nayanjot Lahiri, Professor of History at the Ashoka University, has been announced as the winner of 2016 John F. Richards Prize for her which of the following book?

- (a) Akbar in Ancient India (b) Ashoka in Ancient India
(c) The Great Ashoka (d) The policy in Ancient India

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 3 October 2016 Nayanjot Lahiri, has been announced as the winner of 2016 John F. Richards Prize for her book Ashoka in Ancient India.
- Nayanjot Lahiri is Professor of History at the Ashoka University
- The Richards Prize is awarded annually by the American Historical Association (AHA) to the best book in South Asian history.
- The prize will be awarded at the Association's 131st Annual Meeting in Denver, January 5–8, 2017.



Reference :

<http://blog.historians.org/2016/10/american-historical-association-announces-2016-prize-winners/>

<https://www.historians.org/awards-and-grants/past-recipients/john-f-richards-prize-recipients>

<https://www.historians.org/awards-and-grants/awards-and-prizes/john-f-richards-prize>

Kshatrapathi Shivaji

Question : Recently Kshatrapathi Shivaji has been appointed as Executive Director of which of the following Global organization?

- (a) World Bank (b) International Monetary Fund
(c) Asian Development Bank (d) BRICS bank

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed Kshatrapathi Shivaji IAS has been appointed as Executive Director, Asian Development Bank.
- He is senior IAS officer of 1986-batch of Maharashtra cadre.
- He will replace Umesh Kumar.
- He has been appointed for tenure of three years from the date of assumption of charge of the post or until further orders.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) is a regional development bank established on 19 December 1966.
- It is headquartered in Manila, Philippines.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151478>

<http://www.indianbureaucracy.com/kshatrapathi-shivaji-appointed-as-executive-director-asian-development-bank/>

Heisnam Kanhailal

Question : Recently Heisnam Kanhailal passed away. He was related to which of the following field?

- (a) Science (b) Arts
(c) Theater (d) Literature

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 Eminent Manipuri theatre personality Heisnam Kanhailal passed away. He was 75.
- He was the founder-director of Kalakshetra Manipur, a theatre laboratory established in 1969.
- Kanhailal's major works include 'Tamnalai' (The hunting spirit), 'Kabui-Keioiba' (Half man-half tiger), and 'Draupadi'.
- He was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in direction in 1985 and in 2011; he was awarded the Sangeet Natak Akademi Ratna Award, the highest-ranked Akademi award.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri in 2004 and the Padma Bhushan in 2016 by the Government of India for his contribution in the field of theatre.

Reference :

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/thespian-heisnam-kanhailal-passes-away-116100601243_1.html

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Heisnam_Kanhailal

New Secretary-General of the United Nations

Question: Who has been selected as the next Secretary-General of the United Nations for a five-year term?

- (a) Margaret Chan (b) Irina Bokova
(c) Antonio Guterres (d) Peter Thompson

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 the Security Council formally chose the former Prime Minister of Portugal, Antonio Guterres, as its nominee to be the next Secretary-General of the United Nations for a five-year term.
- The recommendation, made in a resolution adopted in a private meeting by acclamation, gone to the 193-member General Assembly for formal approval.
- He will replace Ban Ki-moon who will step down on 31 December 2016.
- Guterres was Prime Minister of Portugal from 1995 to 2002. He also served for a time as President of the Socialist International.
- He was the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees from June 2005 to December 2015.

Reference:

<http://www.un.org/apps/news/story.asp?NewsID=55224#.V isB 197IW>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ant%C3%B3nio_Guterres

Brand ambassador of 'Haritha Keralam' project

Question: Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador of its ambitious 'Haritha Keralam' (Green Kerala) project?

- (a) Anil Kapoor (b) Varun Dhawan
(c) K J Yesudas (d) Udit Narayan

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 3 October 2016 popular playback singer Dr KJ Yesudas has become one of the brand ambassadors of "Haritha Keralam" project in Kerala.
- It was announced by State Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan via his official Facebook page.
- 'Haritha Keralam' (Green Kerala) project, a massive initiative envisaged for a garbage-free and clean state.
- Ponds and streamlets will be cleaned in the first phase, while rivers, lakes and other water bodies in the second phase.

Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/PinarayiVijayan/photos/a.560327407392427.1073741828.539381006153734/1131701596921669/?type=3&theater>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/kj-yesudas-to-be-brand-ambassador-pinarayi-vijayan-of-haritha-keralam-green-kerala-project-3063443/>

<http://www.ibtimes.co.in/kj-yesudas-becomes-brand-ambassador-keralas-haritha-keralam-project-696406>

Chief Guest of 68th Republic Day

Question: Who will be the chief guest for the 2017 Republic Day of India?

- (a) Ashraf Ghani (b) Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
(c) Vladimir Putin (d) Barack Obama

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- According to tweet posted by official spokesperson, Ministry of External Affairs on 2 October 2016 the crown prince of Abu Dhabi, Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan will be the chief guest for the 68th Republic Day celebrations on 26 January 2017.
- This is his second visit to India, earlier he came on a three-day-visit in February 2016.
- Previous instances of dignitaries from the Gulf region invited as chief guest at the Republic Day celebrations include Iranian president Mohammed Khatami in 2003 and the Saudi king King Abdullah bin Abdulaziz al-Saud in 2006.
- This acceptance of the invitation by Sheikh Al Nahyan, who is also the Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE armed forces, sends out an important message at a time when tensions between India and Pakistan are escalating.
- In 2016 French President Francois Hollande was the chief guest on the occasion and in 2015 US President Barack Obama was the chief guest.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/MEAIndia/status/782565906090041344?lang=hi>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/abu-dhabi-crown-prince-sheikh-mohamed-bin-zayed-al-nahyan-to-be-chief-guest-on-republic-day/articleshow/54643505.cms>

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/king-abdullah-republic-day-chief-guest/article3241151.ece>

Arjun Vajpai

Question: Recently Professional Indian mountaineer Arjun Vajpai scaled the world's sixth highest mountain, name the mountain-

- (a) Mount Abu (b) Mount Cho Oyu
(c) Mount Manaslu: (d) None of these

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 4 October 2016 Professional Indian mountaineer Arjun Vajpai scaled the world's sixth highest mountain Cho Oyu.
- He became the youngest in the world to scale the Mount Cho Oyu, the sixth highest mountain peak in the world at 8,188 metres (26,864 ft) above sea level.
- He has now climbed five of the 14 highest mountains in the world that tower over 8,000m, including Mt Everest, Mt Manaslu, Mt Makalu and Mt Lhotse.
- He became one of the youngest Indians to climb Mt Everest in 2010.

Reference:

<http://www.arjun-vajpai.com/>

<http://sports.ndtv.com/news/mountaineer-arjun-vajpai-summit-cho-oyu-other-sports-1470532>

New chairman of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

Question: Who has been appointed as the chairman of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)?

- (a) G.S. Yadav (b) M.S. Sahoo
(c) Amar Singh (d) Ajay Tyagi

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 1 October 2016 MS Sahoo has been appointed as the chairman of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).
- He has been appointed as IBBI Chairman for a period of five years.
- Currently he was Competition Commission of India (CCI) Member.
- The members of the IBBI are Ajay Tyagi, Additional Secretary, Finance Ministry ; Amardeep Singh Bhatia, Joint Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs; GS Yadav, Joint Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs; and Unnikrishnan, Legal Advisor, Reserve Bank of India.
- The main activity of IBBI would be to regulate the functioning of insolvency professionals, insolvency professional agencies and information utilities under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code 2016.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/centre-constitutes-insolvency-and-bankruptcy-board-of-india/article9176022.ece>

<http://www.indiacode.nic.in/acts-in-pdf/2016/201631.pdf>

Shakti Sinha

Question: Recently the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of retired IAS officer Shakti Sinha to the post of director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library, It is located in-

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

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 29 September 2016 the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved the appointment of retired IAS officer Shakti Sinha to the post of director, Nehru Memorial Museum and Library in New Delhi.
- He will replace Mahesh Rangarajan.
- The Nehru Memorial Museum & Library (NMML) is a museum and library in New Delhi, India.
- It is an autonomous institution under the Indian Ministry of Culture, and was founded in 1964 after the death of India's first Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/shakti-sinha-to-head-nehru-memorial-museum-and-library/article9163918.ece>

New Chairman of PTI

Question: Who among the following has been elected as the chairman of the Press Trust of India?

- (a) Vineet Jain
- (b) Atul Maheshwari
- (c) Vivek Goenka
- (d) Riyadh Mathew

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 28 September 2016 Riyadh Mathew, Director of Malayala Manorama has been elected as the chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI).
- He will succeed Hormusji N. Cama.
- Viveck Goenka, chairman and managing director of the Indian Express has been elected as the vice-chairman of the Press Trust of India.
- Press Trust of India (PTI) is the largest news agency in India. It was founded in year 1947.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/riyadh-mathew-new-pti-chairman-viveck-goenka-vice-chairman-116092800436_1.html

<http://www.theweek.in/news/india/riyadh-mathew-new-pti-chairman.html>

<http://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/riyadh-mathew-is-new-pti-chairman/article9165094.ece>

Taranjit Singh Sandhu

Question: Recently Taranjit Singh Sandhu has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to which of the following country?

- (a) Sri Lanka
- (b) Maldives
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Nepal

Ans : (a)

Related facts:

- On 22 September 2016; Taranjit Singh Sandhu has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka.
- He is an IFS officer of 1988 batch.
- In this position he will replace Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha who is appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the UK.



Reference:

<http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/27428/Taranjit+Singh+Sandhu+appointed+as+the+next+High+Commissioner+of+India+to+the+Sri+Lanka>

<http://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/taranjit-singh-sandhu-appointed-indias-envoy-to-sri-lanka/386945/>

<http://editorial.ft.lk/2016/09/24/taranjit-singh-sandhu-appointed-indias-envoy-to-sri-lanka/>

Syed Shamsul Haq

Question: Recently famous author, poet and playwright Syed Shamsul Haq has died. He belongs to which of the following country?

- (a) Bangladesh
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Afghanistan
- (d) India

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Bangladeshi author, poet and playwright Syed Shamsul Haq has passed away. He was 81 years old.
- He was born in Kurigram on December 27, 1935; Shamsul Haq rose to fame with his incredible creation of poetry, plays and short stories.
- He was considered to be a pioneer of modern Bangla literature.
- Some of his famous poems are Ekoda Ek Rajjey (1961), Boishakhey Rochito Ponktimala (1969), Birotihin Utsab (1969, Protidh wonigon (1976) and Opor Purush (1978).
- He won the Bangla Academy Award in 1966, Ekushey Padak in 1984 and Independence Award in 2000 for his contribution to Bangla literature.

Reference:

<http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2016/09/27/syed-shamsul-haq-passes-away>

<http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2016/09/27/writer-syed-shamsul-haq-dies/>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/bangladesh-writer-shamsul-haq-dead/article9154841.ece>



Shimon Peres

Question: Recently Shimon Peres passed away. He was the former president of which of the following country?

- (a) Uzbekistan
- (b) Venezuela
- (c) Israel
- (d) Palestine

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 28 September 2016 former president of Israel, Shimon Peres passed away. He was 93 years old.
- He was elected to the Knesset in November 1959
- He served twice as the Prime Minister of Israel and twice as Interim Prime Minister, and he was a member of twelve cabinets in a political career spanning nearly 70 years.
- He was elected as the ninth President of Israel, serving from 2007 to 2014.
- Peres concluded the Oslo Peace Accords, for which he was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1994 with Rabin and Yasser Arafat.

Reference:

<http://www.theweek.co.uk/77033/shimon-peres-israels-warrior-for-peace-dies-aged-93>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/27/middleeast/shimon-peres-obit/>



Jim Yong Kim

Question: Dr. Jim Yong Kim unanimously reappointed to a second five-year term as President of which of the following institution?

- (a) World Trade Organization
- (b) World Bank
- (c) International Monetary Fund
- (d) World Health Organization

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Executive Directors of the World Bank unanimously reappointed Dr. Jim Yong Kim to a second five-year term as President of the World Bank Group.
- His term will begin from July 1, 2017.
- His term will be up to the next 5 years.
- Dr. Jim Yong Kim is a South Korean-American physician and anthropologist who has served as the 12th President of the World Bank since July 1, 2012.
- The World Bank was created at the 1944 Bretton Woods Conference. It is headquartered at Washington D.C.



Reference:

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/press-release/2016/09/27/jim-yong-kim-unanimously-reappointed-to-second-term-as-world-bank-group-president>

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/world-bank-reappoints-jim-yong-kim-as-president/article9157556.ece>

Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha

Question: Recently Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to which of the following country?

- (a) Australia
- (b) United Kingdom
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Bangladesh

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the United Kingdom.
- Presently he is the India's High Commissioner to Sri Lanka.
- He is an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1981 batch.
- He will be replacing Navtej Sarna in the UK.



Reference:

<https://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dt1/27440/Yashvardhan+Kumar+Sinha+appointed+as+the+next+High+Commissioner+of+India+to+the+United+Kingdom>

Appointment of the US ambassador to Cuba

Question : Recently who has been named as the first US ambassador to Cuba in more than 50 years?

- (a) Richard Rahul Verma
- (b) Richard Nixon
- (c) Jeffrey DeLaurentis
- (d) John Shore

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Jeffrey DeLaurentis has been named as the first US ambassador to Cuba by U.S President Barack Obama in more than 50 years.
- This appointment requires confirmation by the Senate
- It may be recalled that in July 2015 US President, in order to establish diplomatic relations with Cuba opened its Embassy .

Reference :

<https://havana.usembassy.gov/ambassador.html>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/09/27/politics/obama-cuba-ambassador/>

<http://www.usatoday.com/story/news/world/2016/09/27/obama-appoints-ambassador-to-cuba-jeffrey-de-laurentis/91185468/>

New Director General of NDRF

Question : Recently who has been appointed as the New Director General of NDRF?

- (a) O.P. Singh
- (b) Sudhir Pratap Singh
- (c) R. K. Pachnanda
- (d) P. C Thakur

Ans (c)



Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 R. K. Pachnanda has been appointed as the New Director General of National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- He is an IPS officer of West Bengal cadre 1983.
- Presently he is working as ADG, CISF.
- His appointment is up to the date of his superannuation i.e. up to 31.01.2018 or until further orders whichever is earlier.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151110>

http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/ApptDGCISF_230916.PDF

Appointment of new DG CISF

Question: Recently who has been appointed as the new Director General, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) by appointments Committee of Cabinet?

- (a) Sudhir Pratap Singh
- (b) R. K. Padnanda
- (c) O.P. Singh
- (d) P.C. Thakur

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 O.P. Singh has been appointed as the new Director General, Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) by appointments Committee of Cabinet
- O.P. Singh is an IPS officer of UP 1983 cadre and presently working as DG, NDRF (ADG level).
- He has been appointed till the date of his superannuation i.e. up to 31.01.2020 or until further orders.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151110>

http://mha1.nic.in/pdfs/ApptDGCISF_230916.PDF

PLACES Quetta

Question: Recently 60 cadets and guards have been killed in an attack by militants on a police training centre in the city of Quetta, Pakistan. Quetta is located in which of the following province of Pakistan?

- (a) Sindh
- (b) Balochistan
- (c) Kabul
- (d) Lahore

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 24 October 2016 at least 60 cadets and guards have been killed in an attack on a police training centre in the city of Quetta in Balochistan province, Pakistan.
- Mir Sarfraz Ahmed Bugti, home minister of Balochistan, said that five to six armed men attacked a dormitory inside the training facility while cadets rested and slept.
- The Lashkar-e-Jhangvi (LeJ) claimed responsibility for the attack.



Reference:

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-asia-37757914>

<http://edition.cnn.com/2016/10/24/world/pakistan-police-academy-attack/index.html>

<http://www.aljazeera.com/news/2016/10/hurt-gunmen-storm-police-centre-quetta-161024192252388.html>

New Indian Institute of Science Education and Research in Odisha

Question : How many Institute of Science Education and Research are there in the country presently?

- a) Five
- b) Seven
- c) Nine
- d) Ten

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 27th October, 2016 The Union Cabinet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the formation of an Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (IISER), at Berhampur Odisha under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.
- The institute will operate in a temporary campus with ex-post facto approval for starting the academic session of 2016-17 from 1st August, 2016.
- The student strength intake for this year in the BS-MS course is 60 which will go up to 665 in the 3rd year, including MS Degree, MS-Ph.D, Ph.D and Post-Doctoral Fellowships.
- The Cabinet also approved accepting land, free of cost, from the State Government and Creation of the post of Director of the Institute in the fixed Pay Scale of Rs.80, 000.
- The total cost of the project for temporary campus is Rs. 152.79 crores.
- A Bill for inclusion of IISER, Tirupati and IISER Berhampur in the Second Schedule of National Institutes of Technology, Science Education and Research (NITSER) Act, 2007 will also be introduced in the parliament.
- With formation of IISER Berhampur the number of IISERs in the country is now seven. These institutes are at Kolkata, Pune, Mohali, Bhopal and Thiruvananthapuram, Tirupati and Berhampur.
- **Importance :**
- The Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research (IISER) have been declared as Institutes of National Importance under the National Institutes of Technology, Science Education & Research (NITSER) Act, 2012.
- These Institutes are envisaged to carry out research in frontier areas of science and to provide quality science education at the Under-Graduate and Post-graduate level.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153037>

http://indiablooms.com/ibns_new/life-details/E/2323/new-indian-institute-of-science-education-and-research-in-odisha.html

India's first 'happiness junction'

Question: Which of the following Indian railway station recently become the first 'Happiness Junction'?

- (a) Danapur Railway Station
- (b) Sonapur Railway Station
- (c) Howrah Railway Station
- (d) Amritsar Railway Station

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 18 October 2016 Divisional railway manager (DRM) Manoj Kumar Agarwal inaugurated a Happiness Junction at the Sonapur railway station.
- This first-of-its-kind experiment aims to provide books and several other entertainment tools to passengers waiting for trains.
- The reading spot has a rich collection of books for waiting passengers, besides TV, journals and a kids zone where playing tools would be made available to the little ones.
- Sonapur railway station is in the East Central Railway (ECR) division.
- Facility would be extended in other stations of the division.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/RailMinIndia/status/790411072041693184>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/patna/First-of-its-kind-Happiness-Jn-at-Sonapur/articleshow/54944840.cms>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/happiness-junction-started-at-sonapur-116101801087_1.html

Himachal Pradesh declared India's Second Open Defecation Free State

Question: Which is the first state of the country to be declared as Open Defecation Free?

- a) Sikkim
- b) Tripura
- c) Goa
- d) Kerala

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 28th October, 2016 The State of Himachal Pradesh was declared Open Defecation Free (ODF).
- Himachal Pradesh is the second State in the country after Sikkim to achieve this feat.
- Himachal Pradesh has successfully achieved total rural sanitation coverage of 100% in the State.
- All 12 districts in the State have been both, declared as well as verified, as ODF.
- The declaration was made by The State government at a public event in Shimla, where the Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Virbhadra Singh, felicitated the respective District Administrators and Local Administrators for successfully achieving this significant milestone.

Reference:

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

<http://himachal.nic.in/en-IN/>

SBI declares Silchar as its 5th zone in North East

Question : Silchar- recently declared SBI's 5th zone in north east, was under which zone earlier?

- a) Silchar
- b) Dibrugarh
- c) Guwahati
- d) None of the above



Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 20th October, 2016 The State Bank of India (SBI) opened its administrative office at Silchar and declared Silchar as its 5th zone in North East.
- Earlier, Silchar was under Guwahati zone and it was tough on the part of the bank to address the complaints and issues of the customers with such a difficult terrain.
- This office has been opened with a view to facilitate banking issues for the customers of the region.
- Other four zones catering the banking needs of people of Mizoram, Tripura and Manipur along with the Barak Valley are Guwahati, Shillong, Dibrugarh and Jorhat.

Reference :

<http://airworldservice.org/english/archives/35254-office-at-silchar>

Vice Admiral SV Bhokare

Question : Recently Vice Admiral SV Bhokare, YSM, NM took over charge as the Commandant of Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala, this is located in which of the following state?

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Andhra Pradesh



Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 20 October 2016 Vice Admiral SV Bhokare, YSM, NM took over charge as the seventh Commandant of Indian Naval Academy (INA), Ezhimala, Kerala.
- He is the first officer from the Submarine arm to take over the reins as Commandant of Indian Naval Academy.
- He is a specialist in Navigation and Direction and a Graduate of National Defence Academy, Khadakvasla and Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, Tamil Nadu.
- He attended the Higher Command Course at Army War College, Mhow and holds a Master Degree in Defence and Strategic Studies from Australian Defence College, Canberra.
- In his illustrious career spanning 32 years, he commanded three frontline Submarines, INS Sindhughosh, Sindhudhvaj and Sindhushastra, as well as Guided Missile Frigate INS Beas and Submarine base INS Vajrabahu.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151816>
<http://ina.gov.in/?q=node/1405>

Kochi

Question : Which of the following country will host FIFA U-17 World Cup 2017?

(a) India (b) Ireland (c) Pakistan (d) Uzbekistan

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- A 23-member high-level delegation comprising experts from FIFA and Local Organising Committee (LOC) ratified Kochi as the venue for 2017 FIFA U-17 World Cup.
- Kochi became the first Indian city to be officially declared as one of the venues for hosting the 2017 FIFA U-17 World Cup.
- This will be the first time India will host an international football competition.
- FIFA U-17 World Cup will held from September to October 2017.
- On 27 September 2016 Local Organising Committee (LOC) of the FIFA U-17 World Cup India 2017 unveiled the Official Emblem for what will be the country's first international football event.
- It was designed as a celebration of the country's richness and diversity of cultures.
- The logo includes elements of the Indian Ocean, the banyan tree, the kite and the starburst, which is an interpretation of the Ashoka Chakra, an integral part of the national identity.



Reference :

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/football/2017-u-17-world-cup/Kochi-gets-FIFA-nod-to-host-U-17-World-Cup/articleshow/54935222.cms>
<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/football/2017-u-17-world-cup/Kochi-gets-FIFA-nod-to-host-U-17-World-Cup/arti>

Cabinet approved setting up of IIM Jammu

Question : How many Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs) are there in the country at present?

a) 10 b) 12 c) 15 d) 19

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, approved the setting up of an Indian Institute of Management (IIM) at Jammu in a transit/temporary campus at Old Government College of Engineering & Technology from the Academic Year 2016-17.
- The project will involve a cost of Rs.61.90 crore for the initial four years from 2016 to 2020. The student strength intake will progressively go up to a cumulative student strength of 120 in the 4th year.
- Meanwhile, steps would also be taken up for setting up campus at Jammu and an out-campus in Kashmir region. The Detailed Project Report for the permanent campuses is under preparation.
- The Cabinet also approved formation of an IIM Jammu Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 which will administer the Institute and would be responsible for establishment and operationalisation of the Institute.
- opening of IIT at Jammu, modernization of NIT Srinagar and opening of two new AIIMS institutions, one each in Kashmir region and Jammu region is a part of Prime Minister's development package for Jammu & Kashmir.
- Indian Institutes of Management are the country's premier institutions providing best quality education in management on globally benchmarked processes of education and training in management education and allied area of knowledge.
- At present, there are nineteen IIMs. Out of these, thirteen IIMs are located at Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Lucknow, Indore, Kozhikode, Shillong, Ranchi, Raipur, Rohtak, Kashipur, Trichy and Udaipur. Another six IIMs which have been started in 2015 are located at Amritsar, Sirmour, Nagpur, Bodhgaya, Sambalpur and Vishakhapatnam.



Reference :

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

Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the Berhampore Military Station

Question: Recently President of India, Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the Berhampore Military Station. This station is located near the border of which of the following country?

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 8 October 2016; President of India, Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the Berhampore Military Station at Berhampore, West Bengal.
- Berhampore Military Station has great importance because it is the only such station between Siliguri and Kolkata which is very near to Bangladesh border.
- The foundation stone of the Berhampore Military Station was laid by Pranab Mukherjee two years back in February, 2014.



Reference:

<http://presidentofindia.nic.in/press-release-detail.htm?2530>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151545>

Asia-Pacific's first 'carbon neutral' airport

Question: Which of the following Airport has been announced as Asia-Pacific's first "carbon neutral" airport by the Airports Council International (ACI)?

- (a) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (b) Raja Sansi International Airport
(c) Indira Gandhi International Airport (d) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi has been announced as Asia-Pacific's first "carbon neutral" airport by the Airports Council International (ACI).
- It was announced during the Airport Carbon Accreditation certificate presentation ceremony in Montreal, Canada.
- It should be noted that Nice Cote d'Azur Airport, Dallas Fort Worth International Airport are North America's first carbon neutral airports.
- The Airport Carbon Accreditation has upgraded Delhi Airport to highest level of certification a level 3+ neutrality available to airports across the world.
- Less than 26 airports in the world, most of them Europe, have earned carbon neutral status.
- According to Prabhakara Rao, chief executive officer of Delhi International Airport Limited (DIAL) is focusing on energy conservation and exploring alternative solution for generating green energy.
- The Delhi airport further aims to increase its solar power generation capacity to 20MW by 2020.



PRESS RELEASE
For media use only
27 September 2016

Reference:

<http://www.aci.aero/News/Releases/Most-Recent/2016/09/27/170-airports-including-new-carbon-neutral-airports-in-North-America-AsiaPacific-and-Europe>

First state to launch Direct Benefit Transfer in Kerosene

Question: Name the first state to launch Direct Benefit Transfer in Kerosene.

(a) Bihar (b) Jharkhand (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Odisha

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 1st October, 2016; Jharkhand has become the first state in the country to implement Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) in Kerosene in four identified districts namely, Chatra, Hazaribagh, Khunti and Jantara.
- Under the DBT K Scheme, Public Distribution System (PDS) kerosene is being sold at non-subsidised price, and subsidy, as admissible, is being transferred to consumers directly into their bank accounts.
- This initiative of the governments is aimed at rationalising subsidy, based on the approach to cut subsidy leakages but not subsidy per se.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151396>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/jharkhand-becomes-first-state-to-implement-direct-benefit-transfer-in-kerosene-116100400107_1.html

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Jharkhand-first-state-to-implement-direct-subsidy-transfer-for-kerosene/articleshow/54661209.cms>

America declared free of measles

Question: Which of the following region has been declared free of measles by WHO?

(a) Region of the Americas (b) Region of China (c) Region of Germany (d) Region of India

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 the Region of the Americas has been declared free of measles by World Health Organisation (WHO).
- Region of the Americas is the first in the world to have eliminated measles.
- The announcement came during the 55th Directing Council of the Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization (PAHO/WHO).
- Measles is the fifth vaccine-preventable disease to be eliminated from the Americas, after the regional eradication of smallpox in 1971, poliomyelitis in 1994, and rubella and congenital rubella syndrome in 2015.
- Measles transmission had been considered interrupted in the Region since 2002.
- Measles, a viral disease that can cause severe health problems, including pneumonia, blindness, brain swelling and even death.



Reference:

http://www.paho.org/hq/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=12528%3Aregion-americas-declared-free-measles&Itemid=1926&lang=en

http://www.nytimes.com/2016/09/28/health/measles-eradication-united-states.html?_r=1

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2016/09/160928093510.htm>

Foundation Stone of the Ludhiana Mega Food Park

Question: Recently Union Minister Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid the Foundation Stone of the Mega Food Park in which of the following state?

- (a) Kapurthala
- (b) Fatehgarh
- (c) Ludhiana
- (d) Gurudaspur



Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 26 September 2016 Union Minister Food Processing Industries Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal laid the Foundation Stone of the Ludhiana Mega Food Park being promoted by Punjab Agro.
- Mega Food Park will be set up with the project cost of Rs. 117.61 crore in an area of 100.20 acres.
- It will give benefit to farmers and processors of Ludhiana, Fatehgarh Sahib, Rupnagar, S.B.S. Nagar, Jalandhar, Moga, Sangrur and Barnala district of Punjab.
- In order to give an impetus to the growth of the Food Processing Sector in Punjab, Ministry has approved three Mega Food Park in the State of Punjab.
- Out of these three Mega Food Park First Mega Food Park located at Fazilka has already become operational.
- The foundation stone laying of a second Mega Food Park in the state promoted by M/s Punjab Agro Industries Corporation Ltd. (PAIC) was done today by Smt. Harsimrat Kaur Badal, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries at Ludhiana.
- A 3rd Mega Food Park (M/s Sukhjit Mega Food Park) has been approved by the Ministry in Kapurthala District of Punjab.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151126>

AWARDS & HONORS

Yash Bharti Samman-2016-17

Question: Who among the following noted film personality has been selected for the prestigious Yash Bharti Samman, for the year 2016-17?

- (a) Aamir Khan
- (b) Salman Khan
- (c) Nawazuddin Siddiqui
- (d) Naseeruddin Shah

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 25 October 2016 Uttar Pradesh government named 65 persons for the coveted 'Yash Bharti' awards given away annually by the state, for the year 2016-17.
- Among those who have made it to the list are Ustad Gulfaam (Classical music), Soni Chaurasiya (Kathak), Kashinath Yadav (Birha singing), Aaftab and Hashmi of the Sabri brothers (Qawwali) and Keval Kumar (Singing and music direction).
- Others include Aslam Warsi (Sufi singing), Anupma Rag (Writing and film direction), Suman Yadav (Sports), Swaroop Kumari Bakshi (Literature) and Mohd Basheer Badra (Education).
- Cricketer Bhuvneshwar Kumar, Begum Habibullah, 'Waterman' Rajendra Singh and Sarvesh Ashana (Writer) have also made it to the list.
- Sabiha Anwar (Education & Literature), Yogesh Mishra (Journalism & Literature), Rajkrishna Mishra (Literature), Manendra Kumar Mishra (Writer), Maheshwar Tiwari (Literature), Sarvesh Ashana (Literature), Oma Dapak (Literature) were some of awardees from field of literature.
- Prof Rakesh Kapoor, Deepak Agarwal, Dr Ramratan Banerjee, Syed Muhammed Hassan were awarded in the field of medicine.
- The other winners are Ashok Nigam (Journalist), Arjun Bajpai (Mountaineer), Gargi Yadav (Wrestling), Dr Ramakant Yadav (Medical University Saifai), Atma Prakash Mishra (Doordarshan Lucknow) and Gaurdas Chaudhary (Doctor).
- Yash Bharti is a coveted award of Uttar Pradesh and is given to eminent people from various walks of life. It carries a citation, a shawl and a cash award of Rs 11 lakh.
- The award is conferred by the Uttar Pradesh Government for excellence in literature, fine arts, folk and classical music and sports.

Reference:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/lucknow/Samajwadi-Party-government-declares-its-last-list-of-Yash-Bharati-awardees/articleshow/55019147.cms>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/54-eminant-persons-named-for-up-s-yash-bharti-awards-116102300494_1.html

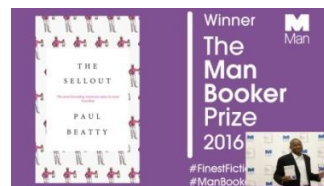


Man Booker Prize-2016

Question: Who among the following has won the 2016 Man Booker Prize?

- (a) Madeleine Thien
- (b) Graeme Macrae Burnet
- (c) Paul Beatty
- (d) Deborah Levy

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 25 October 2016 Paul Beatty, an author from the United States of America won the Man Booker Prize for his novel ‘The Sellout’.
- He becomes the first US author to win this prestigious literary award.
- His name was announced at a ceremony in London’s Guildhall.
- The Sellout is published by small independent publisher Oneworld, who had their first win in 2015 with Marlon James’ A Brief History of Seven Killings.
- The Sellout is a searing satire on race relations in contemporary America.
- The book is narrated by African-American ‘Bonbon’, a resident of the run-down town of Dickens in Los Angeles county, which has been removed from the map to save California from embarrassment.
- His previous novels includes Slumberland (2008), Tuff (2000) and The White Boy Shuffle (1996).
- Man Booker Prize was first awarded in 1969, the Man Booker Prize is recognised as the leading award for high quality literary fiction written in English.
- In addition to his £50,000 prize and trophy, Beatty also receives a designer bound edition of his book and a further £2,500 for being shortlisted.
- 2016 Man Booker shortlist included the following six books:
 1. The Sellout – Paul Beatty (US)
 2. Hot Milk – Deborah Levy (UK)
 3. Eileen – Ottessa Moshfegh (US)
 4. His Bloody Project – Graeme Macrae Burnet (UK)
 5. All That Man Is – David Szalay (Canada-UK)
 6. Do Not Say We Have Nothing – Madeleine Thien (Canada)

Reference:

<http://themanbookerprize.com/news/sellout-wins-2016-man-booker-prize>

<http://themanbookerprize.com/fiction>

Sakharov Prize-2016

Question: Who among the following has been awarded with 2016 Sakharov Prize?

- (a) Kan Dunder
- (b) Nadia Murad Basee and Lamiya Aji Bashar
- (c) Mustafa Dzhemilev
- (d) Raif Badawi

Ans. (b)



Related facts:

- On 27 October 2016 Sakharov Prize awarded by the European Parliament as a means to honour individuals and groups of people who have dedicated their lives to the defense of human rights and freedom of thought to Two Yazidi women, Nadia Murad Basee and Lamiya Aji Bashar.
- The decision was taken by Parliament President Martin Schulz and the political group leaders.
- Nadia Murad and Lamiya Aji Bashar were among thousands of Yazidi girls and women abducted by ISIS militants and forced into sexual slavery in 2014
- The two young Iraqis who escaped sexual slavery by the Islamic State and became advocates for women's rights.
- In the 2014, they were enslaved when the Islamic State overran their home village, Kocho, near the northern Iraqi city of Sinjar.
- Murad is also a promoter for recognition of the Yazidi genocide.
- The Sakharov Prize, officially known as the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought and named after Russian scientist and dissident Andrei Sakharov.
- It was established in December 1988 by the European Parliament as a means to honour individuals and groups of people who have dedicated their lives to the defense of human rights and freedom of thought
- The prize is accompanied by a monetary award of €50,000.
- The Sakharov award ceremony will be held in Strasbourg on 14 December.
- In 2015, the prize was awarded to Raif Badawi.

Reference :

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/en/news-room/20161024STO48414/nadia-murad-and-lamiya-aji-bashar-winners-of-2016-sakharov-prize>

International Prize in Statistics-2016

Question: International Prize in Statistics was firstly awarded in which of the following year?

(a) 2010 (b) 2015 (c) 2016 (d) 2011

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 20 October 2016 Noted British statistician Sir David Cox was awarded inaugural recipient of the International Prize in Statistics.
- The International Prize in Statistics is the highest honor in its field.
- It will be bestowed every other year to an individual or team for major achievements using statistics to advance science, technology and human welfare.
- The award includes a monetary award of \$75,000.
- He has been awarded for his 1972 paper in which he developed the proportional hazards model that today bears his name.
- The Cox Model is widely used in the analysis of survival data and enables researchers to more easily identify the risks of specific factors for mortality or other survival outcomes among groups of patients with disparate characteristics.



Reference:

<http://statprize.org/pdfs/Press-Release-International-Prize-Winner.pdf>

29th Moortidevi Award 2015

Question: Who was honoured with the 29th Moortidevi Award 2015 for his novel Ananta Jeevanam?

(a) Jayant Parmar (b) Dr. Vishwanath Tripathi
(c) Kolakaluri Enoch (d) Veer Sagar Jain

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 29 September 2016 Telugu author, and eminent scholar Prof Kalakaluri Enoch was conferred with the 29th Moortidevi Award of Bharatiya Jnanpith for the year 2015.
- He has been awarded for his novel Ananta Jeevanam.
- He was honoured by the Government of India, in 2014, by bestowing on him the Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award, for his contributions to the field of literature.
- The Moortidevi Award carries a shawl, Saraswati Statue, Citation and a cheque of four lakh rupees.
- The 28th Moortidevi Award for 2014 has been awarded for 'Vyomkesh Darvesh' written by noted Hindi writer Vishwanath Tripathi.



Reference:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Telugu-author-Kolakaluri-Enoch-bags-Moortidevi-Award/articleshow/54594317.cms>

<http://www.sakshipost.com/news/2016/09/30/prof-kalakaluri-enoch-bags-moorti-devi-award-for-anantajivanam>

<http://english.newsmirchi.in/telugu-author-kolakaluri-enoch-bags-moortidevi-award/>

http://www.avkf.org/BookLink/display_author_books.php?author_id=29

OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

Mitra Shakti 2016

Question: The fourth edition of the India-Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise 'MITRA SHAKTI 2016' is being conducted at-

- (a) Pune (b) Malabar (c) Visakhapatnam (d) Ambepussa

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- The fourth edition of the India-Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise 'MITRA SHAKTI 2016' is being conducted at Sinha Regimental Centre in Ambepussa, Sri Lanka.
- It will held from 24 October to 06 November 2016.
- The Indian Contingent is represented by a platoon from the RAJPUTANA RIFLES Regiment and the Sri Lankan Army will be represented by a platoon from the Sinha Regiment.
- The main focus of this edition of the joint exercise is to enhance inter-operability while carrying out Counter Insurgency (CI)/Counter Terrorism (CT) operations under the United Nations Mandate.
- The previous exercise with the Sri Lankan Army was successfully conducted in the month of September 2015 at Pune in India.
- "Mitra Shakti" series of bilateral exercises is one of the major bilateral defence cooperation initiatives between India and Sri Lanka since 2013.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151954>

Second Joint tactical Exercise between Indian and Chinese Army

Question: Recently India and China have conducted second joint military exercise "Sino India Cooperation 2016" on -

- (a) 16 October 2016 (b) 17 October 2016 (c) 18 October 2016 (d) 19 October 2016

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 19 October 2016 India and China have conducted second joint military exercise "Sino India Cooperation 2016" in Ladakh region along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in Jammu and Kashmir.
- The joint exercise is part of the ongoing initiative to enhance interaction and cooperation between India and China under the provisions of Border Defense Cooperation Agreement (BDCA) 2013.
- The exercise was held at Chushul Garrison of Eastern Ladakh, along with Chinese troops of Moldo Garrison.
- The day long joint exercise was based on Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR).
- A fictitious situation of earthquake striking an Indian Border village was painted and the joint teams carried out rescue operations, evacuation and rendering of medical assistance.
- The Indian team was led by Brigadier R.S Raman and the Chinese were led by Sr. Col. Fan Jun.
- The exercise compliments Hand in Hand series of India-China joint military exercises that aims to enhance cooperation and maintain peace and tranquility along border areas of both countries.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151789>

<https://sputniknews.com/asia/201610201046526372-india-china-earthquake-drills/>

Foreign visit of INS Sumitra

Question: Recently the Indian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessel Sumitra was on foreign visit to which of the following country?

(a) China (b) Myanmar (c) Malaysia (d) Indonesia

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- The Indian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessel Sumitra was on a two day visit from 10-12 Oct 2016 of Surabaya, Indonesia.
- The visit is aimed at strengthening bilateral ties and enhancing maritime security cooperation between the two countries.
- India and Indonesia have extensive historic, cultural and maritime linkages.
- Sumitra, is the fourth of the Saryu class ships, based on an indigenous design and constructed by M/s Goa Shipyard Ltd, India.
- Since commissioning in 2014, the ship has been deployed for multiple operational tasks, the most notable being 'Operation Rahat', which entailed the evacuation of personnel of various nationalities from war-torn Yemen in 2015.
- The ship has a range of 6,500 nautical miles and is capable of embarking one Dhruv/Chetak helicopter.



Reference:

<http://indiannavy.nic.in/content/ins-sumitra-visits-surabaya-indonesia>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/printrelease.aspx?relid=151568>

Lalima Abhiyan

Question: Recently Madhya Pradesh state government has decided to launch 'Lalima Abhiyan' to make the state free from which of the following disease?

(a) Malaria (b) Anemia (c) Leprosy (d) Cholera

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 9 October 2016 Minister for Women and Child Development Madhya Pradesh, Archana Chitnis announced that "Lalima" Abhiyan will be launched in the state to make children, girls and women free of anemia problem from November 1.
- Free iron folic acid tablets will be provided in aanganwadis, academic institutions and hospitals during the campaign.
- In this subject, Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has urged the Union Minister for Health Jagat Prasad Nadda through letter to distribute ferrous ascorbate tablets in place of ferrous sulphate tablets.
- Lalima Abhiyan will be conducted on Mission-Mode in the state.
- Beside women and child development, cooperation of public health engineering, ayush and school education department will be taken.
- Natural, Modern and traditional measures will be publicized to keep anemia away in the campaign.
- Anemia is a common health problem in women, teenage girls and children.
- If pregnant woman suffers from anemia, the newborn will be of low weight and weak.
- This anemia is a basic problem of malnutrition.
- As per the figures of National Family Health Survey-4, 52.5 percent teenage girls and women in the age group of 15 to 49 years and 25.5 percent men are suffering from anemia.



Reference:

<http://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20161009NI7&LocID=1&PDt=10/9/2016>

INS Sumitra on visit to Indonesia

Question : ‘Operation Rahat’ is associated with ...?

- a) Evacuation of personnel of various nationalities from war-torn Yemen in 2015
- b) Relief operation to Nepal Earthquake victims
- c) Evacuation of Indian citizen from Libya
- d) None of the above



Ans: (a)

Related fact:

- The Indian Navy's Offshore Patrol Vessel Sumitra, has arrived at Surabaya, Indonesia on a two day visit from 10-12 October, 16 as part of its deployment to the South Western Pacific Ocean.
- During the visit various activities like meeting and interaction with dignitaries of the Indonesian government and Navy, onboard visits by local populace and professional interaction between personnel of both navies are planned.
- On departure, the ship would also undertake a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Indonesian Naval ships.
- The visit is aimed at strengthening bilateral ties and enhancing maritime security cooperation between the two countries and part of country's 'Act East' policy.
- Regular maritime interaction through training exchanges, port calls, PASSEXs, biannual Coordinated Patrols (CORPATs) and the recently initiated annual bilateral maritime exercise have reinforced the historic maritime relationship between the two countries.
- It is to be noted that Sumitra, is the fourth of the Saryu class ships, based on an indigenous design.
- Since commissioning in 2014, the ship has been deployed for multiple operational tasks the most notable being 'Operation Rahat', which entailed the evacuation of personnel of various nationalities from war-torn Yemen in 2015.

Reference :

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

<http://scigazette.com/2016/10/ins-sumitra-visits-surabaya-indonesia-10-12-oct-16/>

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE

Center Constitutes Committee for monitoring Bird Flu

Question: Who is the head of the Committee constituted by Centre for monitoring Bird Flu?

- (a) Secretary, Environment, Ministry of Forests and Climate Change
- (b) Joint Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (DADF)
- (c) Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- (d) Secretary, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 26 October 2016 Center has constituted a Committee to maintain constant vigil on the situation arising out of avian influenza (H5N8).
- It will be headed by Joint Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries (DADF)
- The Committee will have representatives from Ministry of Health, Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change and Department of Agriculture Research and Extension (DARE) and representative of the Delhi Government.
- Besides, monitoring the situation, the Committee will assist the State Government in taking steps to contain the spread of Avian Influenza.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151980>



Justice Reddy committee

Question: Recently committee headed by Justice Reddy has submitted its report to the Defense Minister Manohar Parrikar, the Central Government had appointed the committee for which of the following purpose?

- (a) Welfare of ex-servicemen
- (b) One Rank One Pension (OROP)
- (c) Environmental protection
- (d) Child Protection Rights

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- On 26 October 2016 one-man judicial committee on One Rank One Pension (OROP) submitted its report to the Defense Minister, Manohar Parrikar.
- It may be recalled that the Central Government had appointed the committee under the Chairmanship of Justice L Narasimha Reddy, retired Chief Justice of Patna High Court .
- The judicial committee had held hearings at around 20 cities/towns across the country and interacted with cross sections of Ex-Servicemen as well as their associations.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=152003>



Report of the Committee formed to study the existence of river 'Saraswati'

Question: Who headed the Committee formed to find the existence of the river 'Saraswati'?

- (a) Prof. Madhav Chitale (b) Prof. K.S. Valdiya
(c) Prof. A.K. Valdiya (d) Prof. Deepak Bhadoria

Ans: (b)

Reference:

- On 15 October 2016 Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Uma Bharti released a Report on Palaeo Channel of North West India (In particular the existence of river Saraswati): Review & Assessment by Expert Committee.
- The seven-member committee, headed by Professor K.S. Valdiya of the Jawaharlal Nehru Centre for Advanced Scientific Research (JNCASR).
- According to a senior Central Ground Water Board (CGWB), Saraswati passed through Pakistan before meeting Western Sea through Rann of Kutch and was approximately 4,000 km in length.
- One-third of the river stretch fell in present-day Pakistan. The longer, two-third stretch measuring nearly 3000 km in length fell in India.
- This river was once upon a time the lifeline of North-Western states of India and a vibrant series of civilizations from Mahabharata period to Harappa had flourished on the banks of this river.
- In its report, the seven-member committee has stated that the river had two branches: western and eastern.
- The Himalayan-born Satluj "of the PAST", which flowed through the channels of present-day Ghaggar-Patiali rivulets, represents the western branch of the ancient river.
- Whereas, Markanda and Sarsuti (corruption of Saraswati) represented the eastern branch of Saraswati, known as Tons-Yamuna.
- During its six-month research period, the committee studied piles of sediments, their shapes and features which appeared to have been brought by a "big river" and are reminiscent to ones found in present-day Ghaggar, Ganga and Yamuna.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151687>

Judicial probe into Varanasi stampede

Question: Recently the chief minister of Uttar Pradesh has constituted a one-man inquiry commission to probe into the Varanasi stampede, the commission is headed by-

- (a) Justice Giridhar Malviya (b) Justice Rajmani Chauhan
(c) Justice R.S. Sahai (d) Justice Manoj Mishra

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 17 October 2016 Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav has constituted a one-man inquiry commission to probe into the Varanasi stampede.
- The commission will be headed by retired Judge of Allahabad High Court, Justice Rajmani Chauhan.
- The report will be submitted within two months.
- On 15 October 2016 as many as 25 people, mostly women, were killed in the stampede on the overcrowded Rajghat Ganga bridge in Varanasi.



Reference:

<http://www.uniindia.com/news/states/up-govt-sets-up-judicial-commission-to-probe-into-identity-of-gunnam-baba/536024.html>

Interactive Voice Response System of NMDFC Launched

Question: Recently an MoU was signed between Ministry of Minority Affairs and NMDFC for the year 2016-17. NMDFC has been assigned the targets to disburse how much amount?

(a) Rs. 450 crores (b) Rs. 455 crores (c) Rs. 467 crores (d) Rs. 470 crores

Ans (c)

Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi, the Union Minister of State for Minority Affairs (Independent Charge) & Parliamentary Affairs emphasized to give priority to “development agenda” regarding progress of poor, weaker sections and minorities to defeat any form of negative agenda.
- He launched Interactive Voice Response System of National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC) and inauguration of annual conference of its State Channelising Agencies.
- An MoU was also signed between Ministry of Minority Affairs and NMDFC for the year 2016-17.
- NMDFC has been assigned the targets to disburse Rs. 467 crores during 2016-17 to its State Channelizing Agencies (SCAs) for onward lending at concessional rates to the eligible poor members of the Minority Community.
- On the occasion, a toll-free number to provide information regarding programmes and schemes of NMDFC was launched by Shri Naqvi.
- He also released first Urdu edition of NMDFC’s magazine “Parwaz”.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151155>

High Level Technical Team Constituted for Cauvery Basin

Question: Who will be the chairman of technical team constituted by Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation to visit the Cauvery basin area to assess the ground realities in the basin?

(a) R.K Gupta (b) S. Masood Husain (c) G.S Jha (d) Madhav Chitale

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 5 October 2016 Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation has constituted a high level technical team to visit the Cauvery basin area to assess the ground realities in the basin.
- G.S Jha, Chairman, Central Water Commission (CWC) will be the Chairman of this team.
- The other member of the team are S Masood Husain, Member (WP&P), CWC, RK Gupta, Chief Engineer, Krishna and Godavari Basin Organization, CWC, Hyderabad, Chief Secretary or his representative from the States of Tamil Nadu and Karnataka and One Chief Engineer each from the States of Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and UT of Puducherry.
- The expert team has been constituted in pursuance to the Supreme Court order of October 04, 2016.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151448>

PLANNING & PROJECT

Kaushalya Setu

Question: Which of the following state government has launched 'Kaushalya Setu', its skill development programme for students?

- a) Government of Uttar Pradesh b) Government Maharashtra
c) Government of Madhya Pradesh d) Government of Rajasthan

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 19 October 2016; Maharashtra government has launched 'Kaushalya Setu', its skill development programme for students.
- Chief Minister Devendra Fadnis, Union Minister of State Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge) Rajiv Pratap Rudy and state Education Minister Vinod Tawde has launched the scheme.
- Under the Kaushalya Setu initiative, students of Maharashtra State Board of Secondary & Higher Secondary Education, who fail to clear Class X or SSC exam, would be accommodated in the skill development courses, so that they do not lose a year.
- No student (of Class X) will be termed failed in the exam, but will be provided training as per his skills under this initiative.
- Under this programme, no student will sit at home after matriculation and will receive skill-oriented training.
- The programme will give a big boost to Modi's dream of skill development as about 24,000 students will be provided training under 'Kaushalya Setu' initially.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/mah-govt-launches-kaushalya-setu-skill-development-programme-116101901231_1.html

Krishi Vigyan Kendra

Question: The first Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) on a pilot basis was established in 1974 at

- a) Puducherry c) Dharwad c) Agra d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 20th October, 2016 The Central Government announced opening of at least one Krishi Vigyan Kendra in all districts of the country besides opening Apiary Development Centers in ten states.
- Krishi Vigyan Kendra was envisioned as innovative institutions for imparting vocational training to the practicing farmers, school dropouts and field level extension functionaries.
- This will provide advanced Agriculture technical assistance to the farmers near their farms itself.
- The first KVK, on a pilot basis, was established in 1974 at Puducherry under the administrative control of the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore.
- Krishi Vigyan Kendra is deemed to play a vital role because of its following unique features:
 - Creation of valuable resources in terms of technical manpower and assets
 - Confirmation of technologies to suit local specificity
 - Showcasing the frontier technologies
 - Capacity building among stakeholders
 - Front runner in technological application, information and inputs
 - Participatory approaches in planning, implementing, executing and evaluation

Reference:

<http://agricoop.nic.in/>

Okha-Kanalus and Porbandar-Wansjaliya Sections inaugurated

Question: Recently Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu inaugurated the Okha-Kanalus and Porbandar-Wansjaliya Sections in Gujarat as Green Corridor Sections (Free from human waste discharge from trains), the section belongs to which of the following Railway Zone?

- (a) North Western Railway (b) Western Railway
(c) Eastern Railway (d) South Western Railway

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 19 October 2016; Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu inaugurated Okha-Kanalus (141 Kms) and Porbandar-Wansjaliya (34 Kms) sections of Gujarat in Western Railway as the Green Train Corridors.
- For this, 29 trains consisting of nearly 700 coaches have been provided with bio toilets.
- It is a further move to accelerate green initiatives as also to implement Prime Minister's Swacchh Bharat Abhiyan.
- It should be noted that Ministry of Railways have taken up a mammoth task of providing human discharge free bio-toilets in all its coaches and the same would be completed by 2021-22.
- Ministry of Railways has already provided around 48,000 bio-toilets in about 14,000 passenger coaches.
- Before this Rameswaram-Manamadurai (114 Kms) section of Tamil Nadu in Southern Railway was identified to make it a Human Waste Discharge Free Train Corridor (free from human waste discharge from trains).
- Accordingly, 10 passenger trains consisting of 286 coaches moving over this section have been provided with bio-toilets.
- Subsequently, Jammu-Katra (78 Kms) section of Northern Railway would also be taken up for making it free from human waste discharge from trains and the target for completion is by March 2017.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151790>

Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India

Question: Which of the following is not a UNESCO world heritage site?

- a) Sun Temple, Konark b) Nalanda c) Takshashila d) Bodh Gaya

Ans (c)

Related Facts:

- Implementation of the Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI) was launched on 19th October, 2016 by Shri Vinod Zutshi, Secretary Ministry of Tourism in association with Ecotourism Society of India (ESOI).
- STCI were defined and launched on 26th August 2014 by the then Tourism Minister in Hyderabad after elaborate discussion with all stakeholders.
- India is one of the few countries in the world to have a criteria of its own.
- These criteria are specific to India and cater to the specific environment that India's tourism industry operates in.
- The Sustainable Tourism Criteria for India (STCI) has been developed for accommodation, tour operators, beaches, backwaters and lakes sectors of the tourism industry.
- The STCI follow the guidelines set by the Global Sustainable Tourism Criteria (GSTC) that has been evolved under the guidance of the United Nations' agencies like UNEP and UNWTO.



Reference:

<http://tourism.gov.in/sustainable-tourism-criteria-india-principles-and-indicators-tour-operator-and-accommodation-secto-0>

Three Hydro Projects dedicated to the Nation

Question: Recently Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated three hydro-electric projects to the nation in ...

- a) Himachal Pradesh.
- b) Haryana
- c) Chandigarh
- d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 18th October, 2016 Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi dedicated three flagship hydro-electric power projects to the Nation in Mandi, Himachal Pradesh.
- Details of the three power projects are as follows— Koldam hydro-electric project (HEP) (4×200 MW) of NTPC, Parbati Stage-III project (4×130 MW) of NHPC and Rampur Hydro Electric projects (6×68.67 MW) of SJVN.
- NTPC- Koldam has capacity of 800 MW and provides peaking capacity to the Northern grid.
- A total 13.62 percent of electricity generated from the plant is supplied free of cost to Himachal Pradesh.
- Parbati III plant is designed to generate 1963.29 Million Units annually.
- The power generated from the Parbati-III Power Station is distributed to beneficiary states i.e. Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Union Territory of Chandigarh
- This Power Station supplies 13% free power to home state i.e. 12% as home state share and 1% for Local Area Development fund
- SJVN's Rampur Project (412MW) in Kullu district will be operated in tandem with Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (HPS). This project will provide 13 percent free power to the state of Himachal Pradesh
- It is notable that Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) has provided generating equipment for operation of these three projects.
- BHEL has a vast experience in hydro-electric projects and has contracted more than 500 hydro generating sets with a cumulative capacity of more than 29,000 MW of various ratings in India and abroad.
- BHEL's hydro installations are in operation in India and across the world in Azerbaijan, Bhutan, Malaysia, Nepal, Taiwan, Tajikistan, Rwanda and Vietnam.

Reference:

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

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/himachal-pradesh-pm-narendra-modi-dedicates-three-hydro-projects-to-nation-3089299/>



Mining Surveillance System (MSS) launched

Question: Who is the Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines?

- (a) M. Venkaiah Naidu (b) Nitin Jairam Gadkari
(c) Kalraj Mishra (d) Piyush Goyal

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- On 15 October 2016 Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines, Piyush Goyal launched the Mining Surveillance System (MSS) in New Delhi.
- MSS is a satellite-based monitoring system which aims to establish a regime of responsive mineral administration, through public participation, by curbing instances of illegal mining activity through automatic remote sensing detection technology.
- Ministry of Mines, through Indian Bureau of Mines (IBM), has developed the MSS in coordination with Bhaskaracharya Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics (BISAG), Gandhinagar and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY), to use space technology for curbing illegal mining activity in the country.
- It has been developed under the Digital India Programme.
- MSS is one of the first such surveillance systems developed in the world using space technology.
- The current system of monitoring of illegal mining activity is based on local complaints and unconfirmed information.
- There is no robust mechanism to monitor the action taken on such complaints.
- A user-friendly mobile app has been created which can be used by these officials to submit compliance reports of their inspections.
- The mobile app also aims to establish a participative monitoring system where the citizens also can use this app and report unusual mining activity.
- Automatic software leveraging image processing technology will generate automatic triggers of unauthorized activities.
- These triggers will be studied at a Remote Sensing Control Centre of IBM and then transmitted to the district level mining officials for field verification.
- A check for illegality in operation is conducted and reported back using a mobile app.
- The advantages of remote sensing technology based monitoring system are:
 1. Transparent (Public will be provided an access to the system);
 2. Bias-free and Independent (The system has no human interference);
 3. Deterrence Effect ('Eyes watching from the sky');
 4. Quicker Response and Action (The mining areas will be monitored regularly. Sensitive areas will be monitored more frequently);
 5. Effective Follow-up (action taken on triggers will be followed-up at various levels like DMG, State Mining Secretary, State Office and Headquarters Office of IBM and Ministry of Mines, GoI).
- There are in total 3843 mining leases of major minerals in India.
- Out of which, there are 1710 working mines and 2133 non-working mines. Most of the working mines have been digitized.
- Efforts for completing the digitization of non-working mines are being made through the State Governments, which would be completed in 3 months' time.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151684>

New link between Sahibganj bypass in Jharkhand to Manihari bypass in Bihar

Question: Vikramshila Setu at Bhagalpur is situated over river.

a) Ganga b) Yamuna c) Hubli d) None of the above

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 13th October, 2016 The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the construction of new link between Sahibganj bypass in Jharkhand to Manihari bypass in Bihar including four lane bridge on river Ganga.
- The cost is estimated to be Rs.1954.77 crore including cost of land acquisition, resettlement and rehabilitation.
- The total length of the road would be approximately 22 kms. This work will be done under the National Highways (Others) on Hybrid Annuity Mode.
- The project will help in improving the infrastructure in Bihar and Jharkhand and also in reducing the time and cost of travel.
- It would also raise employment potential for local labourers for project activities. It has been estimated that a total number of 4,076 mandays are required for construction of one kilometer of highway.
- As such, employment potential of 89,000 (approx.) mandays will be generated locally during the construction period.
- The new project highway is formation of the missing link at NH-131A to NH-133B connecting Sahibganj in Jharkhand and Manihari in Bihar. Presently, the vehicular traffic uses Vikramshila Setu at Bhagalpur on Farakka barrage (Ganga River) which increases distance to North Bihar.



Reference:

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

e-NAM Mobile App

Question: Recently Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Radha Mohan Singh launched e-NAM Mobile App in New Delhi, this scheme was started on-

(a) 25 September 2015 (b) 28 February 2016 (c) 14 April 2016 (d) 15 August 2016

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Shri Radha Mohan Singh launched e-NAM Mobile App in New Delhi.
- He also announced successful completion of e-NAM first phase.
- E-National Agriculture Market (e-NAM) is a pan-India electronic trading portal which networks the existing APMC mandis to create a unified national market for agricultural commodities.
- E-Nam was launched on 14 April 2016; in the initial stage 21 mandis in 8 states have been linked to e-NAM.
- In which Government has the targeted for connecting 200 markets (mandis) by 30 September 2016.
- Now e-NAM platform is connected to 250 markets across 10 States as of now (Andhra Pradesh (12), Chhattisgarh (05), Gujarat (40), Haryana (36), Himachal Pradesh (07), Jharkhand (08), Madhya Pradesh (20), Rajasthan (11), Telangana (44), and Uttar Pradesh (67)).
- A total number of 585 markets are targeted to be integrated in first phase with e-NAM by March 2018, out of which 400 markets will be integrated by March 2017.
- e-NAM will significantly contribute towards enhancing the farmer's income by providing the provision of online payment of the sale proceeds to the farmers.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151502>

http://www.enam.gov.in/NAM/home/about_nam.html

Indian Bridge Management System launched

Question: Recently Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Shri Nitin Gadkari formally launched the Indian Bridge Management System (IBMS) in-

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

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 4 October 2016 Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Shri Nitin Gadkari formally launched the Indian Bridge Management System (IBMS) in New Delhi.
- IBMS is being developed to create an inventory of all bridges in the country and rate their structural condition so that timely repair and rehabilitation work can be carried out based on the criticality of the structure.
- IBMS is the largest platform in the world owned by a single owner, with database that could exceed 1,50,000 bridge structures.
- So far 1,15,000 bridges have been inventorised, of which 85,000 are culverts and the rest are bridges.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151406>

Web portal for BPO promotion scheme launched

Question: Recently in order to create employment opportunities and promotion of BPO operations across the country to secure balanced regional growth of IT/ITES industry in India, IT ministry has launched India business process outsourcing promotion scheme (IBPS) with an outlay of how much amount?

- (a) Rs 500 Crore
- (b) Rs 493 Crore
- (c) Rs 300 crore
- (d) Rs 250 crore

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 3 September 2016 IT minister Ravi Shankar Prasad has launched Dedicated Web Portal for the India business process outsourcing promotion scheme (IBPS).
- IBPS aims to create employment opportunities and promotion of BPO operations across the country to secure balanced regional growth of IT/ITES industry in India.
- It was launched under the Digital India programme of the government, the IBPS, with an outlay of Rs 493 crore.
- The scheme provides capital support along with special incentives upto Rs 1 lakh/seat, and the initial plan is to support about 48,300 seats across States and union territories based on population percentage as per Census 2011.
- More than 50 companies will set up BPO/ITES operations in 60 Locations across 18 States & 2 UT.



Reference:

<http://meity.gov.in/ibps>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151377>

Shri Gadkari Launched Indian Bridge Management System

Question: What is IBMS?

- a) Indian Bridge Management System
- b) Indian Border Management System
- c) Indian Bank Management System
- d) None of the above.



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 4th October, 2016 Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Shri Nitin Gadkari formally launched the Indian Bridge Management System (IBMS) in New Delhi.
- IBMS is being developed to create an inventory of all bridges in the country and rate their structural condition so that timely repair and rehabilitation work can be done.
- IBMS is the largest platform in the world owned by a single owner, with database that could exceed 1, 50,000 bridge structures.
- So far, 1, 15,000 bridges have been inventorized, out of which 85,000 are culverts and the rest are bridges.
- During inventory creation each bridge is assigned a unique identification number or National Identity Number based on the state, RTO zone and whether it is situated on a National Highway, State Highway or is a district road.
- Then the precise location of the bridge in terms of latitude-longitude is collected through GPS and based on this, the bridge is assigned a Bridge Location Number.
- After collecting information like the design, materials, type of bridge, its age, loading, traffic lane, length, width of carriage way etc a structural rating of the structure on a scale of 0 to 9 is done and each bridge is assigned a Structural Rating Number.
- In addition to the structural rating, the bridges are also being assigned Socio-Economic Bridge Rating Number which will decide the importance of the structure in relation to its contribution to daily socio-economic activity of the area in its vicinity.
- Based on this inventory IBMS will analyse data and identify bridges that need critical attention, or which needs to be rebuilt or repaired to improve the operational availability of the structure.
- This will help improving the condition of bridges as poor bridges hamper efficient transport and has also led to accidents and loss of lives on several occasions.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151406>

West Bengal - Monorail Project

Question: Recently West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has announced that the state govt is in the process of signing an MoU for the monorail service with which of the following company?

- (a) Burn Standard Company Limited
- (b) Larsen & Toubro
- (c) Central Japan Railway Company
- (d) Shikoku Railway Company

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 28 September 2016 West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has announced that the state govt is in the process of signing a MoU for the monorail service with Burn Standard Company Limited (BSCL).
- It will cost around Rs 4,216 crore.
- The 14-kilometre-long monorail route has been finalised between Budge in South 24-Parganas and Ruby crossing on the eastern metropolitan bypass in south Kolkata.
- The new service will also connect commuters to the proposed metro rail network between New Garia to Kolkata airport.
- BSCL is headquartered in Bengal; BSCL was formed with the merger of Burn & Company founded in 1781 and Indian Standard Wagon founded in 1918.
- It was nationalised in 1975.

Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/kolkata-monorail-service-mumbai-west-bengal-cm-mamata-banerjee-memorandum-of-understanding-south-24-parganas-taratola-new-alipore/1776428.html>
<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/City/Kolkata/Light-at-end-of-tunnel-for-Kolkatas-monorail-project/articleshow/54575036.cms>
<http://www.dailypioneer.com/nation/monorail-project-in-kolkata-soon.html>



Progress panchayat

Question: Recently Union minister of state for minority affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has launched nationwide social welfare outreach programme 'progress panchayat' from which of the following place?

- (a) Karnal
- (b) Bhiwani
- (c) Mewat
- (d) Jind

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 29 September 2016 Union minister of state for minority affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi launched nationwide social welfare outreach programme 'progress panchayat' from village Bichor in Mewat.
- The programme will be organised in 100 places across the country in the coming days where union ministers will interact with people about the several schemes.
- Progress Panchayat was launched to reach out to the minority community and publicise the various welfare measures taken by the NDA government for their betterment.

Reference:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/gurgaon/naqvi-invokes-pakistan-at-progress-panchayat-launch-in-mewat/story-MdFpMOL6cGCQMRWL1D0ByI.html>
<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-news-india/minority-affairs-minister-mukhtar-abbas-naqvi-holds-interactive-session-with-muslim-community-in-haryana-3056768/>



Mega Call Centre

Question: Recently Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav inaugurated Mega Call Centre in which of the following city?

(a) Kannauj (b) Allahabad (c) Lucknow (d) Agra

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 27 September 2016 Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav inaugurated the mega call centre at Indira Nagar, Lucknow.
- The responsibility of running the call centre has been handed to Karvy Data Management Services and there are 325 employees working and the number is likely to go up to 500 so that in a short span, maximum and direct feedback from people can be taken.
- The call centre would be used to take feedback from beneficiaries of 20 schemes run by 13 state government departments.
- The call centre would further ring in transparency in the schemes run by the government.

Reference:

<http://www.upnews360.in/E/35003700380035003800/Chief-Minister-inaugurates-Mega-Call-Centre>

Development of islands to attract tourist

Question: How many Islands are initially proposed for holistic development?

(a) 20 (b) 22 (c) 25 (d) 26

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- According to an official release on 20 September 2016 from Prime Minister's Office, PM was given a presentation on the vision for holistic development.
- India has a total of 1,382 offshore islands, out of which officials have initially proposed 26, which could be considered for holistic development.
- These 26 islands are located along different parts of India's coastline, including some in the Andamans and Lakshadweep.
- Developmental activities shall be centred around basic infrastructure, tourism, agriculture (including organic agriculture and fisheries), and carbon-neutral energy generation.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150962>

<http://www.ptinews.com/news/7894178-PM-directs-speedy-development-of-islands-26-identified->

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/26-islands-to-be-developed-to-attract-tourists/articleshow/54455151.cms>

Development of Gas Infrastructure in Eastern part of the country

Question: Which of the following project will connect Eastern part of the country with National Gas Grid?

- (a) JHBDPL Gas Pipeline project.
- (b) JSPL gas grid project.
- (c) Nunmati-Siliguri pipeline project.
- (d) Salaya-Mathura Pipeline project

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 21 September 2016 Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved viability gap funding / partial capital grant at 40 percent (Rs. 5,176 crore) of the estimated capital cost of Rs. 12,940 crore to GAIL for development of 2539 km long Jagdishpur-Haldia and Bokaro-Dhamra Gas Pipeline (JHBDPL) project.
- Government of India has taken this historic decision to provide Capital Support for developing this gas pipeline. JHBDPL project will connect Eastern part of the country with National Gas Grid.
- It will ensure the availability of clean and eco-friendly fuel i.e. Natural Gas to the industrial, commercial, domestic and transport sectors in the States of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, Odisha and West Bengal.
- This Capital Grant will encourage the supply of eco-friendly fuel at affordable tariffs to industries and will encourage industrial development in these states.
- Further, the CCEA has approved the simultaneous development of City Gas Distribution (CGD) networks in cities namely Varanasi, Patna, Ranchi, Jamshedpur, Bhubaneswar, Kolkata, Cuttack etc. en-route of JHBDPL project.
- These distribution networks will be developed by GAIL in collaboration with the concerned State Governments.
- It will bring clean cooking fuel at the door step of Domestic households as well as provide clean fuel to transport sector in the eastern region.
- About 1.25 crore population living in these cities will be directly benefitted by the establishment of these CGD networks.
- All these projects will generate direct as well as indirect employment for about 21,000 people and will boost socio-economic development in the eastern part of the country.
- Cabinet earlier had approved the revival of three Fertiliser Units (FCIL- Gorakhpur, HFCL- Barauni and FCIL-Sindri) along the route of this pipeline project.
- On revival, these units will be the anchor gas customers for JHBDPL project and gas to these plants will be supplied under the Gas Pooling Scheme for urea sector at pooled price.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150960>

<http://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/oil-and-gas/cabinet-approves-capital-grant-to-gail-for-development-of-gas-infrastructure-in-eastern-india/54443291>

TREATY & AGREEMENTS

Agreement with Estonia on the transfer of sentenced persons

Question : The Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 was enacted to ...

- a) enable the government to enter into agreement with foreign countries for transfer of sentenced person.
- b) extradition of UN designated terrorists.
- c) make arrangement for welfare of prisoners.
- d) None of the above.



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 27th October, 2016 The Union Cabinet under the chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved signing and ratification of an Agreement between India and Estonia on the transfer of sentenced persons.

Background:

- Prior to 2004, there was no domestic Legislation to transfer foreign prisoners to their respective country to serve the remaining part of their sentence, nor was there a provision for the transfer of prisoners of Indian origin convicted by a foreign court to serve their sentence in India.
- Therefore, the Repatriation of Prisoners Act, 2003 was enacted for serving the above purpose. For achieving the objectives of the Act, a Treaty/Agreement is required to be signed with countries having mutual interest with India and later to be notified in the Official Gazette.
- The Government of India has so far signed bilateral Agreements on Transfer of Sentenced Persons with United Kingdom, Mauritius, Bulgaria, France, Egypt, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Bangladesh, Brazil, Israel, Bosnia & Herzegovina, UAE, Italy, Turkey, Maldives-, Thailand, Russian Federation, Kuwait, Viet Nam, Australia, Hong Kong, Qatar, Mongolia, Kazakhstan and Bahrain.
- So far total 65 prisoners have been exchanged, out of which 55 were Indians.

Benefit:

- Signing the Agreement shall facilitate the Indian prisoners imprisoned in Estonia or vice-versa to be near to their families, for serving remaining part of their sentence and shall facilitate their social rehabilitation.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=153038>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/government-press-release/cabinet-approves-agreement-between-india-and-estonia-on-the-transfer-of-116102700839_1.html

NABARD sanctions loan worth Rs. 19,702 crore to National Water Development Agency (NWDA)

Question: Recently NABARD sanctioned loan worth Rs. 19,702 crore to National Water Development Agency (NWDA) for how many irrigating project?

(a) 50 (b) 40 (c) 30 (d) 20

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 21 October 2016 National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard) has sanctioned Rs 19,702 crore loan to National Water Development Agency (NWDA) for 50 irrigation projects.
- The loan is sanctioned under Long Term Irrigation Fund (LTIF).
- This would help create additional irrigation potential of 39.14 lakh hectares under these projects in 11 states.
- This loan would be part of the Central share of assistance to State Governments and will ensure front loading of resources so that the identified incomplete irrigation projects under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojna (PMKSY) are executed in time.
- This unique initiative would help complete not only the irrigation projects but also the Command Area Development works which are central to ensure full utilisation of irrigation potential so created.
- National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) is an apex development bank in India, headquartered at Mumbai with branches all over India.
- The Bank has been entrusted with “matters concerning policy, planning and operations in the field of credit for agriculture and other economic activities in rural areas in India”. NABARD is active in developing financial inclusion policy and is a member of the Alliance for Financial Inclusion.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151864>

MoU between NICPR and All India Institute of Ayurveda

Question: Recently an MoU was signed between the National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR) and All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) for which of the following purpose?

(a) Dengue Prevention and Research (b) Chikungunya Prevention and Research
(c) Cancer Prevention and Research (d) Malaria Prevention and Research

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 19 October 2016 an MoU was signed here today between the National Institute of Cancer Prevention and Research (NICPR), an autonomous institute under Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), an autonomous institute under the Ministry of AYUSH.
- The main objective of the MoU is to set up a Center of Integrative Oncology at NICPR-Noida as joint venture of Ministry of AYUSH and Department of Health Research, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare for collaboration in the areas of cancer prevention, research and Care.
- The MoU was signed by Prof. Abhimanyu Kumar, Director- AIIA and Prof. Ravi Mehrotra, Director- NICPR.
- This MoU would pave the way to carry forward the ongoing bilateral dialogue and facilitate collaboration with National Cancer Institute, USA.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151794>

Agreement between India and Russia

Question : Recently India and Russia has signed an agreement in which of the following field?

- (a) Defence (b) Space
(c) Information and Technology (d) None Of the Above



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 15 October 2016 India and Russia signed a multi-billion dollar deal for S-400 'Triumf' long-range air defence missile systems and Kamov helicopters and to replace the existing aging fleets and build new frigates.
- The three projects are collectively worth an estimated \$10.5 billion (over Rs 72,000 crore).
- Ka-226T helicopters — Kamov 226T choppers will replace the aging Cheetah and Chetak choppers.
- Kamov is a light multipurpose helicopter designed for work in difficult conditions like high mountains, hot climate and marine areas.
- It allows for reconnaissance, targeting and monitoring of transportation.
- It also boasts of incredibly precise hovering ability, excellent maneuverability and high safety standards, and has proved to perform better than its western counterparts in Indian heat.
- The chopper is equipped with two Arrius 2G1 engines made by the Turbomeca company.
- The passenger version of the chopper can carry up to seven people, while the transport version can carry one tonne of cargo inside the fuselage or via an external sling.
- The deal is worth more than \$1 billion. The helicopters will be made by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) with Russian cooperation.
- Frigates — An inter-governmental agreement for four frigates through partnership between Russian and Indian shipyards was signed.
- While two frigates will come from Russia, two others will be constructed at an Indian shipyard with Russian cooperation.
- The frigates will be improved versions of Krivak or Talwar class stealth frigates, and the deal is worth more than \$3 billion.
- S-400 Air Defence System — The over \$5-billion deal to purchase the long-range air defence missile system, which has the capability to destroy incoming hostile aircraft, missiles and even drones at ranges of up to 400 km, will prove to be a game changer for India.
- It should be noted that China inked a deal with Russia in November 2014 for the supply of six S-400 systems.

Reference :

<http://www.thestatesman.com/mobi/news/business/russia-india-ink-rs-43k-cr-defence-deals/170983.html>
http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-russia-ink-big-ticket-defence-deals-116101500637_1.html

Exim Bank's MoU with New Development Bank

Question : 8th BRICS Summit will be organized on 15-16 October, 2016 in

- a) Goa
- b) Chennai
- c) Bengaluru
- d) Bhopal



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 13th October, 2016 The Union Cabinet under the Chairmanship of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on General Cooperation with New Development Bank (NDB).
- The New Development Bank (NDB) is a multilateral development bank established by the BRICS nations.
- This MoU will be signed through the BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism established by five banks from the BRICS nations to enhance trade and economic relations among the BRICS countries and enterprises.
- There is no financial implication involved with signing of the MoU. The participating institutions from the BRICS nations will be benefitted by this MoU.
- The MoU is a non-binding umbrella agreement aimed at establishing a cooperation framework in accordance with the national laws and regulations, besides skills transfer and knowledge sharing amongst the signatories.
- Further, establishment of the NDB reflects the close relations among the BRICS countries and provides a powerful instrument for increasing economic cooperation and help India play an enhanced international role.
- The BRICS Interbank Co-operation Mechanism also proposes to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on General Co-operation with the New Development Bank.

Reference :

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

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/cabinet-nod-for-exim-banks-mou-with-new-development-bank/article9214626.ece>

MoU between India and Hungary

Question: Recently Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Hungary on -

- (a) Cooperation in the field of water management.
- (b) Cooperation in the field of Space Technology.
- (c) Cooperation in the field of Solar Energy.
- (d) Cooperation in the field of Agriculture.



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 13 October 2016 the Union Cabinet has given its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Hungary on cooperation in the field of water management.
- The MoU will be signed between Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Government of India and the Ministry of Interior, Government of Hungary.
- It will enhance bilateral cooperation in the field of water management, on the basis of equality and mutual benefits.
- This will encourage the development of bilateral relations between public and private organizations concerning water resources of both the countries.
- Both the countries will get benefited by joint activities and mutual exchange of scientific delegations and experts in the field of water resources development and management.
- The cooperation, particularly on river basin management/ integrated water resources management, efficiency in water supply and irrigation technology innovation and flood & drought management will help improve the socio-economic conditions of the people of both the countries.
- Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation is entering into a MoU with Hungary with wide-ranging area on water sector for the first time.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151604>

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/india-hungary-to-cooperate-in-water-management/article9214653.ece>

MoU between Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank) and New Development Bank (NDB)

Question: The New Development Bank(NDB) bank is headquartered in-

- (a) Shanghai, China
- (b) New Delhi, India
- (c) Moscow, Russia
- (d) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 13 October 2016; Union cabinet has given its approval for signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on General Cooperation with New Development Bank (NDB) through the BRICS Interbank Cooperation Mechanism by Government at the level of Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs/ Export Import Bank of India.
- The proposal will enhance trade and economic relations among the BRICS countries.
- There is no financial implication involved with signing of the MoU.
- The participating institutions from the BRICS nations will be benefitted by this MoU.
- The MoU is a non-binding umbrella agreement aimed at establishing a cooperation framework in accordance with the national laws and regulations.
- MoU is necessary in the context of cooperation extended by the Members in various forms for promoting and facilitating trade of goods and services as well as investments in mutual projects among the BRICS countries.
- The New Development Bank (NDB), formerly referred to as the BRICS Development Bank, is a multilateral development bank established by the BRICS states (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa)
 - The bank is headquartered in Shanghai, China.

Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/cabinet-approves-pact-between-exim-bank-new-development-bank/articleshow/54828411.cms>
<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151616>

MoU between India and European Union

Question: Recently the Union Cabinet has given its approval for the signing of MoU between India and European Union in which of the following field?

- (a) Water Resources (b) Energy Resources
(c) Business (d) Education

Ans: a)

Related facts:

- On 5 October 2016 Union Cabinet has given its approval for the signing of an MoU between India and European Union in the field of water resources.
- The MoU envisages strengthening the technological, scientific and management capabilities of India and the European Union in the field of water management on the basis of equality, reciprocity and mutual benefit.
- It provides technical exchange on water issues, including on integrated water resource management plans within river basins and through study visits.
- The MoU aims to identify key environmental issues and approaches to sustainable development where exchange of experiences and cooperation could be mutually beneficial to strengthen and further develop cooperation between India and the European Union in the field of water management.
- It envisions a more sustainable management of water resources in India with an objective of tackling the challenges posed by water management in the context of growing population, competing water demands and a changing climate.
- A Joint Working Group shall be formed to monitor the activities to be carried out in fulfillment of the MoU.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151433>



Agreement between India and Switzerland

Question: Recently three agreements were signed between India and Switzerland, which of the following agreement is not included in the above list?

- (a) Mutual Visa Exemption
(b) Defense cooperation
(c) Return of Illegal Migrants
(d) Arrangement for Dependent Persons of Diplomatic and Consular Mission to Perform Gainful Employment

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh met the visiting Minister for Justice and Police of Swiss Confederation, Simonetta Sommaruga.
- On the occasion, the two sides signed three agreements including Mutual Visa Exemption Agreement for Holders of Diplomatic Passports, Technical Arrangements on Identification and Return of Illegal Migrants and Arrangement for Dependent Person of Diplomatic.
- The Union Home Minister proposed training facilities for Indian Police Officers in Switzerland Police Academies/other Training Institutes in the fields of Anti-Hijacking and Cyber Forensic.
- India looks forward for cooperation with Switzerland on the issue of exchange of tax information since the black money issue is the main corruption issue which needs to be tackled.
- Rajnath Singh also sought a more liberal visa regime for Indian business people since India has been offering multi-year multiple entry visas to Swiss businesses in a bid to enhance bilateral trade and investment.
- Other subjects of interest to the two countries were also discussed. These included cooperation in transfer of sentenced persons and Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty in Criminal matters that would help in combating terrorism, transnational organized crimes and corruption including money laundering.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=151479>



Memorandum of Understanding between India and the African Asian Rural Development Organization

Question: Recently the Union Cabinet has given its approval to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and the African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) for capacity building programmes in the field of-



- (a) Agricultural development
- (b) Agricultural credit
- (c) Rural development
- (d) Environment development

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 5 October 2016 the Union Cabinet has given its approval to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and the African Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) for capacity building programmes in the field of rural development.
- The MoU for the triennium 2015 – 2017.
- Under this capacity building programmes for AARDO member countries will be organized every year during the triennium at various Institutions of Excellence in India such as National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayati Raj (NIRD & PR), institutions governed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), Indian Institute of Management (IIM) and others.
- The duration of each training programme shall be of two to three weeks.
- The Post Graduate Diploma in Rural Development Management Course at NIRD & PR under this scheme is for one year.
- The AARDO, which has its headquarters in New Delhi.
- It is an autonomous, inter-Governmental organization established in 1962.
- Its objective is promoting cooperation among the countries of the African – Asian Region in the direction of eradicating thirst, hunger, illiteracy, disease and poverty in the region.
- India is one of the Founder Members of the Organization.
- AARDO currently has 31 countries of the African – Asian Region under its fold.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151435>

<http://www.aninews.in/newsdetail-MTA/MjgyMzAw/cabinet-approves-rural-development-mou-with-african-asian-rural-development-organisation.html>

India-Canada Annual Ministerial Dialogue

Question: In which one of the following cities was the third India-Canada Annual Ministerial Dialogue held?

a) Toronto b) Edmonton c) Ottawa d) Hamilton

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- On 29th September, 2016 the third India-Canada Annual Ministerial Dialogue was held between the Commerce and Industry Minister Mrs. Nirmla Sitharaman and the Trade Minister of Canada Ms Chrystia Freeland at Toronto.
- The discussion was focused on outstanding trade and investment related issues like expanding bilateral trade, having more business to business interface.
- Canada will also constitute CEO Forum which will have regular interaction with the CEOs on Indian side and try to expedite the free trade and investment negotiations.
- This was the first high level meet led by a Ministerial level delegation from India after the new Government came to power in Canada.
- Both the countries expressed their strong commitment for taking forward the negotiations relating to the Foreign Investment Promotion and Protection Agreement (FIPA) and expeditiously conclude a progressive and balanced Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), as a basis for expanding two-way trade and investment.
- Both the sides recognized the importance of FIPA as tool for higher transparency and stability of investments providing greater protection.
- India also took up the issues of Canada's Temporary Foreign Workers Entry programme.
- This programme has acted as a barrier for the Indian IT companies invested in Canada to source Indian IT professionals as the norms for temporary entry have become more and more difficult.
- The Trade Minister of Canada assured that a Parliamentary Committee is examining these issues and some of these concerns are likely to be addressed.
- Both sides appreciated the need for early setting up of the CEO Forum mechanism which would be instrumental in forming an organic link and suggest the issues concerning the trade to the Governments.
- They could also meet prior to the proposed visit of Canadian Prime Minister to India sometime in 2017 and form Groups for identified sub-sectors and come out with a set of recommendations. This would greatly benefit the discussions during the PM level meeting.
- India and Canada agreed to cooperate at the International Forum on Trade Facilitation Agreement on Services as well as the unfinished agenda items of Doha Round given the common view of both the nations on these issues.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151234>

Indian Oil and GAIL sign MoU for taking equity stake in upcoming Dhamra LNG terminal

Question : Recently Indian Oil and Gail has signed MoU for taking equity stake in Dharma LNG terminal. In this Indian Oil acquires what percent of equity?

- (a) 49%
- (b) 39%
- (c) 30%
- (d) 40%



Ans (b)

Related facts:

- On 21 September 2016 Indian Oil Corporation Limited and GAIL (India) Limited signed an MoU with Dhamra LNG Terminal Private Limited (DLTPL) for taking equity in the 5 MMTPA capacity LNG Receiving, Storage and Regasification Terminal, being put up at Dhamra Port, Odisha.
- The agreement was signed in New Delhi in the presence of Minister of State (I/C) for Petroleum and Natural Gas Sh Dharmendra Pradhan.
- As per the MoU, DLTPL shall be an equal Joint Venture of Indian Oil and GAIL on one hand and Adani Group on the other. Indian Oil and GAIL would acquire 39% and 11% equity respectively in DLTPL, with the balance 50% being held by Adani group.
- Indian Oil and Adani group will each divest 1% of their respective stake to a credible financial institution which will then have 2% stake in the terminal.
- Apart from equity, Indian Oil and Gail intend to book regasification capacity of 3.0 and 1.5 million metric tonnes per annum (MMTPA) respectively in the terminal.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=150995>

http://www.business-standard.com/content/b2b-manufacturing-industry/indian-oil-and-gail-pick-up-stakes-in-adani-group-s-dhamra-lng-terminal-116092200331_1.html

CONFERENCE

Western Zonal Council Meeting held in Mumbai

Question: Who is the chairman of Zonal Councils?

- a) The Union Home Minister
- b) The President
- c) The Prime minister
- d) Cabinet Secretary

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- The 22nd meeting of the Western Zonal Council was held in Mumbai on 21st October, 2016 under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh.
- Western Zone consists of the States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Goa and Union Territories of Daman & Diu and Dadra & Nagar Haveli.
- The meeting was attended by the Chief Ministers and Ministers of these States and Administrators of Union Territories as well as senior officers of Central and State Governments.
- The Council reviewed the progress of implementation of previous recommendations and took up issues related to coastal security, internal security, issuance of bio-metric identity cards to fishermen, plans for countering terrorism and modernization of police force etc.
- Issues relating to setting up of Regional Development Authority for development of infrastructure in the region and international museum of Indus – Valley civilization in Kutch District were also discussed.
- These issues of Indian fishermen languishing in Pakistan Jails, Internal Security, education and Aadhaar, Pollution control and environmental related issues were also discussed.
- Out of the 21 items discussed most of the items were resolved in the meeting.

What is Zonal Council

The idea of Zonal Councils was promoted by Prime Minister Jawahar Lal Nehru in 1956 during debate on the report of the States Re-organisation Commission. It was aimed to foster Inter-State co-operation among the States of the Union which were re-organised on linguistic pattern.

- It is notable that Five Zonal Councils (Northern, Western, Eastern, Central and Southern) were set up under the States Reorganization Act, 1956.
- The Zonal Councils are mandated to discuss and make recommendations on economy and social planning, border disputes, inter-State transport and linguistic minorities related issues.
- With initiative of Union Home Minister, Shri Rajnath Singh, all the meetings of the five Zonal Councils (Eastern, Western and Southern and Central) were held last year 2015. In fact, other than 2015, it was only in the years 1972 and 2005 that the meetings of all the Zonal Councils could be held during a calendar year over the last 50 years.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151862>

http://mha.nic.in/zonal_council

Naval Commanders' Conference

Question: The three(25-27 Oct 16) day Naval Commanders' Conference is scheduled to be held in which of the following city?

(a) Kochi (b) Visakhapatnam (c) New Delhi (d) Jaisalmer

Ans: (c)

Related facts:



- From 25-27 Oct 16, A three day Naval Commanders' Conference held at New Delhi.
- The Hon'ble defense minister Manohar Parrikar had addressed the Naval Commanders.
- Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral Sunil Lanba chaired the meeting and addressed the Naval Commanders on various important issues pertaining to operational readiness, capability enhancement, infrastructure development and human resource management.
- The second edition of this year's bi-annual Naval Commanders' Conference concluded with some of fruitful deliberations.
- The Conference provided an opportunity for the top-level leadership of the Navy to review the prevailing as well as emerging operational and functional issues.
- The Conference assumes greater significance in the backdrop of recent events that have brought issues related to the country's defence under sharper focus.
- Indian Navy, like the other two Armed Forces, is required to maintain a high degree of operational preparedness to deter or neutralise any threat aimed at the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity.
- The Conference was also used as a platform for institutionalised interaction between the naval top-brass and other government officials.
- The Commanders also delve on the Navy's roadmap for the future, including key technology enablers, improved logistics and digitisation.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151908>

19th National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking

Question: The 19th National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking – NACLIN 2016 was inaugurated at-

- (a) Central University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
- (b) Jamia Millia Islamia University, Delhi
- (c) Central University of Nagaland, Nagaland
- (d) Central University of Tezpur, Assam



Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 26 October 2016; Vice President of India, M. Hamid Ansari inaugurated the 19th National Convention on Knowledge, Library and Information Networking (NACLIN 2016)
- It is organized jointly by the Tezpur University and Developing Library Network, New Delhi.
- It is being organised by DELNET-Developing Library Network in collaboration with Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam from October 26-28, 2016 at Tezpur University, Tezpur, Assam.
- DELNET was established with the prime objective of promoting resource sharing among the libraries through the development of a network of libraries.
- It aims to collect, store, and disseminate information besides offering computerised services to users. It has become an invaluable tool in promoting quicker access to information.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151972>

<http://www.naclin.org/>

<http://www.naclin.org/brochure2016.pdf>

National Consultative Committee meeting on De-addiction and Rehabilitation

Question: Cabinet Minister for Social Justice & Empowerment is

- a) Thawarchand Gehlot
- b) Vijay Sampla
- c) Krishan Pal Gurjar
- d) Ramdas Athawale

Ans:(a)



Related facts:

- The Meeting of “National Consultative Committee on De-addiction and Rehabilitation (NCCDR)” was held on 24th October, 2016 under the chairmanship of Shri Vijay Sampla, Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment.
 - Representatives of States and Union territories, Regional Resource & Training Centres and many NGOs participated in the meeting.
 - The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is the nodal Ministry for drug demand reduction.
 - It coordinates and monitors all aspects of drug abuse prevention including assessment of the problem, preventive action, treatment and rehabilitation of addicts and raising public awareness.
 - The Ministry provides community-based services for the identification, treatment and rehabilitation of addicts through voluntary organizations.
- Some of the issues discussed during the meeting:
- Evolving appropriate models for the prevention of alcoholism, drug addiction and treatment and rehabilitation of drug dependent individuals.
 - Ensuring the facility of De-addiction Centres in each District.
 - Separate and specialised de-addiction treatment centres for females and children.
 - Awareness generation programmes and preventive education in schools and colleges.
 - Formulation of National Alcohol Policy.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151910>

<http://socialjustice.nic.in/>

28th Accountants General Conference

Question : Who is the Comptroller and Auditor General of India?

- a) Shashi Kant Sharma
- b) Vinod Rai
- c) T S Thakur
- d) None of the above



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 20th October, 2016 President Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the 28th Accountants General Conference organized by the Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India.
- The Accountants General Conference is a prime platform where the entire top level management of the Indian Audit and Accounts Department (IA&AD) come together once in two years to review, discuss and recommend the direction in which the IA&AD needs to move in order to discharge its duties in the best possible manner.
- The Comptroller and Auditor General is seen as the agency which is mandated to keep a watch on economic, efficient and effective governance.
- The foundation of sound governance with accountability rests on a system of robust public financial reporting.
- A regular internal and external consultative process facilitates effort to adapt and upgrade professional practices and methods of functioning.
- About 200 Accountants General from all over the country, former CAGs of India, members of Audit Advisory Board and senior government officials participated in the conference and reviewed the international best practices prevalent in audit and accounting.
- There were four sessions to deliberate on:
 - Auditing the programmes related to Sustainable Development Goals
 - Meeting Challenges in Revenue Audit
 - Impact of Integrated Financial Management System on Accounts & Entitlement Functions
 - Audit of Local Bodies: Perspectives & Concerns

Reference :

http://newsonair.nic.in/full_news.asp?type=bulletins&id=110

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151784>

<http://www.indianbureaucracy.com/inauguration-of-the-28th-accountants-general-conference/>

International Conference on Voter Education

Question: Election Commission of India will organize International Conference on Voter Education in which of the following cities?

- a) New Delhi
- b) Raipur
- c) Pune
- d) Bengaluru

Ans: (a)



Related Facts:

- The first ever Global Conference on Voter Education titled “Voter Education for Inclusive, Informed and Ethical Participation” is being organized by the Election Commission of India in association with UNDP from 19th to 21st October, 2016 at New Delhi.
- The main purpose of the conference is to learn from the experiences of Election Management Bodies by way of sharing the best practices, policies and initiatives of voter education.
- **Highlights:**
- Election Management Bodies of 27 countries from across the globe will converge at this Conference to share experiences and develop novel practices.
- The Conference will be inaugurated by the Hon’ble Chief Election Commissioner of India.
- The Conference will deliberate upon 5 topics ranging from Electoral Literacy to Enhanced participation by special categories of voter’s, role of information and communication technology in Voter Education and Strategies for Informed and Ethical Voting.

Importance:

- **Global Platform:**
The Conference shall provide the first ever global platform for sharing best practices in voter education. This diverse variety of knowledge and experience would enable to bring out ‘best of the best’ global practices in the Conference.
- **Overseas Indian Survey cum Competition:**
It aims to not only get useful data through the survey but also attract and engage NRIs about their voting eligibility and rights. This will also help the Commission in formulating further voting initiatives especially designed for the Overseas Indian population.
- **The VoICENET:**
This network will provide an innovative platform to share knowledge, interact on discussion board, sharing platform for events and practices in member countries and also extend experience to stakeholders.
- **The Exhibition:** An exhibition showcasing Voter Education tools and materials from India and across the world consisting of informational material, model polling station, provision of live voting on EVM, photos etc. shall be on show.
- **The Resolution:** The Conference will also aim to achieve a Resolution to strengthen Inclusive, Informed and Ethical electoral participation.

Reference:

<http://eci.nic.in/eci/eci.html>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151788>

First National Tribal Carnival-2016

Question: The first National Tribal Carnival will be organised on October 25-28, 2016 in which of the following city?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Jaipur
- (c) Kohima
- (d) Raipur

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- From 25 to 28 October, 2016; the First National Tribal Carnival will be organised in Delhi.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate First National Tribal Carnival in Delhi on October 25, 2016.
- This was announced by Union Tribal Affairs Minister Shri Jual Oram in New Delhi on 18 October 2016.
- The main purpose of this carnival is to promote a sense of inclusiveness amongst the tribals.
- The underlying idea is to preserve and promote various facets of the tribal life relating to culture, tradition, customs and their skills and to expose it to the general public with a view to utilizing the potential for overall holistic development of the Scheduled Tribes.
- Activities like displaying documents on traditional socio-culture aspects, exhibition of art/artifacts, cultural performances, demonstration of skills like sports, paintings, traditional healing practices etc. will be part of the four day event.
- Workshop on issues like Panchayats (Extension to the Scheduled Areas) Act, 1996 (PESA)- its implementation, benefit to tribal community and its drawbacks, Forest Rights Act (FRA) 2006 and its implications and reservation in politics and recruitment will also be part of the carnival.
- About 1600 tribal artists and around 15000 tribal delegates from across the country are expected to take part in the carnival.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151744>

10th India and United States Trade Policy Forum

Question: The 10th India-United States Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meetings scheduled from 19th October, 2016 to 20th October, 2016 at-

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



Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- From 19 to 20 October, 2016; the 10th India-United States Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meetings scheduled at New Delhi.
- A high level delegation led by Ambassador, Michael Froman, United States Trade Representative will attend the 10th India-United States Trade Policy Forum (TPF).
- The previous 9th TPF was held in October, 2015 at Washington D.C, USA.
- Trade Policy Forum meeting will focus on increasing bilateral interaction and momentum on resolving trade concerns.
- Under TPF there would be technical level discussions on 18th October, 2016 between the two sides on issues concerning with Agriculture, Services and Goods, IPR and Manufacturing.
- Technical Discussions would be followed by Secretary and Dy. USTR level discussions on 19th October, 2016.
- Ministerial Level Meeting is scheduled for 20th October, 2016 forenoon which will be led by Ambassador Michael Froman, United States Trade Representative from US side and Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry Nirmala Sitharaman on the Indian side.
- The bilateral commercial ties between the United States and India are growing stronger as reflected by increased bilateral trade in Goods and Services of \$109 billion and highest ever FDI inflows in 2015-16.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151742>

<http://www.uniindia.com/high-level-us-delegation-to-attend-10th-trade-policy-forum/business-economy/news/658404.html>

Next Ambassador/PR of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament

Question : Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador/PR of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament?

(a) Amandeep Singh Gill (b) RenuPal (c) Navdeep Singh Suri (d) Deepak Kumar

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On October 2016 Amandeep Singh Gill has been appointed as the next Ambassador/PR of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament, Geneva.
- He is an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of 1992 batch.
- He has replaced D.B. Venkatesh Verma.

Reference :

[http://mea.gov.in/press-](http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dt1/27485/Amandeep_Singh_appointed_as_the_next_AmbassadorPR_of_India_to_the_UN_Conference_on_Disarmament_Geneva)

[releases.htm?dt1/27485/Amandeep Singh appointed as the next AmbassadorPR of India to the UN Conference on Disarmament Geneva](http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dt1/27485/Amandeep_Singh_appointed_as_the_next_AmbassadorPR_of_India_to_the_UN_Conference_on_Disarmament_Geneva)

<http://meaindia.nic.in/cdgeneva/?1470?000>



Women of India Festival 2016

Question : Women of India Festival 2016 to be held from October 14-23 in which of the following city?

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

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- From 14-23 October, 2016; “Women of India Festival- 2016” of organic products by women to be held at Dilli Haat at INA, New Delhi.
- Minister of Women & Child Development, Smt Maneka Sanjay Gandhi inaugurated the festival.
- It will be organised and sponsored by the Union Ministry of Women & Child Development to celebrate and promotes women entrepreneurs from across India.
- Festival will offer on sale the biggest selection of organic products ranging from food, fabrics and furniture to wellness, personal care and solar products.
- This year’s Festival will have 230 stalls and about 372 participants. The list includes producers from Delhi, NCR and 23 states/UTs.
- Last year’s edition of ‘Women of India Festival’ selling organic produce saw thousands of people thronging to Dilli Haat each day.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151628>



National Summit on Fortification of Food

Question: Recently National Summit on Fortification of Food was inaugurated in which of the following city?

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

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 16 October 2016 Anupriya Patel, Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare inaugurated National Summit on Fortification of Food in New Delhi.
- She also released the standards on fortification of foods and launched the food fortification logo at the event.
- The Summit was inaugurated to address interventions in combating micronutrient malnutrition in the country.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is co-hosted the two day Summit in partnership with related central ministries / departments and development partners.
- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has formulated a comprehensive regulation on fortification of foods namely 'Food Safety and Standards (Fortification of Foods) Regulations, 2016'.
- These regulations set the standards for food fortification and encourage the production, manufacture, distribution, sale and consumption of fortified foods.
- The regulations also provide for specific role of FSSAI in promotion for food fortification and to make fortification mandatory.
- The Summit will bring together experts from the nutrition and development communities as well as representatives from state governments, academics, technical supporters and donors to beneficiaries past and present to discuss and debate – presenting in-depth analysis and impact assessments, important and case study examples of food fortification programs as well as learnings and challenges to build on so effective food fortification efforts can carry on delivering in the future.
- There was number of themes including the roles of industry, government, academia and civil society; improving compliance and measurement; cost-benefit analysis; modeling potential for impact and the required investments.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/mbErel.aspx?relid=151709>

<http://www.uniindia.com/anupriya-patel-inaugurates-national-summit-on-fortification-of-food/india/news/656734.html>

International Conference on Voter Education

Question: Election Commission of India will organize International Conference on Voter Education in which of the following cities?

- a) New Delhi
- b) Raipur
- c) Pune
- d) Bengaluru

Ans: (a)

Related facts:



- The first ever Global Conference on Voter Education titled “Voter Education for Inclusive, Informed and Ethical Participation” is being organized by the Election Commission of India in association with UNDP from 19th to 21st October, 2016 at New Delhi.
- The main purpose of the conference is to learn from the experiences of Election Management Bodies by way of sharing the best practices, policies and initiatives of voter education.

Highlights:

- Election Management Bodies of 27 countries from across the globe will converge at this Conference to share experiences and develop novel practices.
- The Conference will be inaugurated by the Hon’ble Chief Election Commissioner of India.
- The Conference will deliberate upon 5 topics ranging from Electoral Literacy to Enhanced participation by special categories of voter’s, role of information and communication technology in Voter Education and Strategies for Informed and Ethical Voting

Importance:

- **Global Platform:**
The Conference shall provide the first ever global platform for sharing best practices in voter education. This diverse variety of knowledge and experience would enable to bring out ‘best of the best’ global practices in the Conference.
- **Overseas Indian Survey cum Competition:**
It aims to not only get useful data through the survey but also attract and engage NRIs about their voting eligibility and rights. This will also help the Commission in formulating further voting initiatives especially designed for the Overseas Indian population.
- **The VoICENET:**
This network will provide an innovative platform to share knowledge, interact on discussion board, sharing platform for events and practices in member countries and also extend experience to stakeholders.
- **The Exhibition:** An exhibition showcasing Voter Education tools and materials from India and across the world consisting of informational material, model polling station, provision of live voting on EVM, photos etc. shall be on show.
- **The Resolution:** The Conference will also aim to achieve a Resolution to strengthen Inclusive, Informed and Ethical electoral participation.

Reference:

<http://eci.nic.in/eci/eci.html>

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

10th India and United States Trade Policy Forum

Question: 9th Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meeting was held in October, 2015 at ...

- a) Washington
- b) New York
- c) California
- d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- 10th India-United States Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meeting is scheduled from 19th October, 2016 to 20th October, 2016 at New Delhi.
- It is a part of the annual work plan agreed between India and US working groups. The discussion will be focused on agriculture, trade and promotion of investment. It will also provide an opportunity to understand the best practices, facilitate investment and raise concerns relating to the trade.
- Under TPF there would be technical level discussions on 18th October, 2016 between the two sides on issues concerning with Agriculture, Services and Goods, IPR and Manufacturing. Technical Discussions would be followed by Secretary level discussions on 19th October, 2016.
- Ministerial Level Meeting is scheduled for 20th October, 2016 forenoon which will be led by Ambassador Michael Froman, United States Trade Representative and Hon'ble Minister of Commerce and Industry Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman.
- Both sides would review the progress achieved on the issues agreed upon in work plans for 2016, under all the four work streams and would be working out the way forward for 2017.
- The previous 9th TPF was held in October, 2015 at Washington D.C, USA.

Significance:

The commercial ties between the United States and India are growing stronger as reflected by increased bilateral trade in Goods and Services of \$109 billion and highest ever FDI inflows in 2015-16.

The bilateral cooperation under trade policy forum has resulted in resolving several market access issues and cooperation in services, manufacturing and IPR. India is looking forward to maintain the momentum further in the current forum.

Reference :

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

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/india-us-meeting-to-discuss-trade-investments-1475792>

Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav-2016

Question: The “Second Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM)-2016” will be held in which of the following places?

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

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- The “Second Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav (RSM)-2016” will be held from 15th to 23rd October, 2016 in the premises of Indira Gandhi National Centre for Arts (IGNCA), Janpath, New Delhi.
- Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav was conceived by the Ministry of Culture in the year 2015.
- The First Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav was celebrated in November-2015.
- Its intent is to showcase the rich cultural heritage of the Country in all its rich and varied dimensions, viz Handicrafts, Cuisine, Painting, Sculpture, Photography, Documentation and Performing Arts-Folk, Tribal, Classical and Contemporary- all in one place.
- The Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsav would showcase all these aspects of Indian Culture in different areas designated for the same.
- Accordingly, there will be a ‘Shilp Haat’ in which pavilions called “Aaangans” would be put up by each of the seven Zonal Cultural Centers (ZCCs) of the country as well as the Academies and IGNCA.
- The Aaangans will be decorated by expert traditional painters and sculptors, in styles most representative of the regions that each of the ZCCs represents.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151578>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151652>

<http://www.rsmindia2016.in/>

5th edition of India International Silk Fair

Question: India occupies which of the following position among silk producing countries in the world?

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

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 15th October, 2016 The 5th edition of India International Silk Fair has begun at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- The 3-day exhibition (15-17 October, 2016) inaugurated by the Union Textiles Minister Smriti Zubin Irani.
- It provides an opportunity to small and medium entrepreneurs in showcasing their unique products to visiting overseas buyers.
- The Indian Silk Export Promotion Council is sponsoring the visit of around 100 buyers from various overseas countries to visit stands of 120 exhibitors of silk and silk blended products, which are manufactured in various parts of the country and exported all over the world.
- The Indian Silk Industry is very important, being rural and agriculture-based, providing livelihood to around 7 million people in the country.
- India is the second largest producer of silk in the world. While silk production in all other silk-producing countries is in decline, the silk production in India has consistently been on the rise.
- India is the only country in the world which produces all major varieties of silk, namely, Mulberry, Tasar, Eri and Muga.
- Fair is expected to generate a business of over US \$50 million for SMEs engaged in producing silk and silk blended garments, fabrics, accessories and floor coverings.

Reference:

http://www.indiainternationalsilkfair.com/fair_detail.php

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151626>

6th Meeting of the BRICS Trade Ministers

Question: 1st BRICS Trade Fair from 12-14 October, 2016 was held in

- a) New Delhi
- b) Kolkata
- c) Patna
- d) None of the above

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 13th October, 2016 the 6th meeting of the BRICS Trade Ministers was held in New Delhi on the threshold of the 8th BRICS Summit on 15-16 October, 2016 in Goa.
- Trade Ministers recognized the importance of preserving policy space to promote industrialization, industrial upgrading and value addition as a core pillar for structural transformation and sustainable development.
- The Ministers agreed that close cooperation among the Contact Group on Economic and Trade Issues (CGETI), the BRICS Business Council and New Development Bank is useful for taking the BRICS Economic Cooperation to a new level.
- The Ministers recognised the importance of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) to the balanced economic development of the BRICS countries.
- The ministers acknowledged it as the engines of export led growth and employment generation as it offers highest rate of employment per unit of investment.
- Taking note of the issues faced by MSMEs they stressed on the need for cooperation among the BRICS countries to effectively address the barriers to trade and investment amongst the MSMEs and welcomed the “BRICS Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Cooperation Framework”
- Trade Ministers urged the BRICS Business Council (BBC) to speed up the development of the BRICS Roadmap for Trade, Economic and Investment Cooperation and implement suitable projects.

- The Ministers emphasized that the increase in Non-tariff measures (NTMs) restrict the participation of developing countries in global trade. The Ministers commended the CGETI for developing a working document on ‘BRICS Mechanism for NTM Resolution.
- The Ministers endorsed the “Framework for Cooperation on Standardisation. The Ministers urged the CGETI to ensure that the cooperation leadsto a better understanding of each other standards.
- The Ministers recognised that the Services sector remains important and contributes to more than half of the GDP of many BRICS countries and emphasized on cooperation. The Ministers endorsed the “Framework for Cooperation on Trade in Services”.
- The Ministers appreciated that India held the 1st BRICS Trade Fair from 12-14 October, 2016 in New Delhi as part of trade promotion.
- The Ministers noted that Article 10.4 of the WTO Agreement on Trade Facilitation instructs that WTO Members shall endeavour to establish or maintain a single window. They also appreciated the work being carried out in the BRICS countries for development of national single windows.
- The Ministers highlighted the importance of cooperation on intellectual property rights (IPR). In this context, they appreciate the formation of and endorse the BRICS IPR Cooperation Mechanism (IPRCM).
- The ministers stressed on the need to cooperate in E-commerce and appreciated the progress achieved since the adoption of the Framework for BRICS E-commerce Cooperation in 2015.

Reference :

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

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/policy/brics-trade-ministers-resolve-to-boost-cooperation-among-msmes/article9215536.ece>

Meeting of Commonwealth Finance Ministers' and Governing Council meeting of the BRICS

Question: Recently the meeting of the Commonwealth Finance Ministers' and Governing Council meeting of the BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) was held in which of the following city?

(a) Melbourne (b) Washington DC (c) New York (d) Mexico

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 Commonwealth Finance Ministers' Meeting and the Governing Council Meeting of the BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA) held at IMF Headquarters in Washington D.C.
- Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley chaired both the meetings.
- During the meeting, two important issues- the 'Economics of Climate Change and Financing Climate Adaptation and Mitigation'; and 'International Taxation-a Commonwealth Conversation around the Panama Papers' were discussed and deliberated.
- In the presence of the Finance Minister, Arun Jaitley, the Standard Chartered Bank and Bank of Baroda signed an MoU on Commonwealth Small States Trade Finance Facility.
- In the presence of the Finance Minister, Shri Arun Jaitley, the Standard Chartered Bank and Bank of Baroda signed an MoU on Commonwealth Small States Trade Finance Facility.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151514>

<https://twitter.com/FinMinIndia/status/784276573838987264>



World Sustainable Development Summit

Question: The first edition of World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) was organised in which of the following Indian City?

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

Ans: (d)

Related fact:

- From 6 to 8 October 2016; the first edition of World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) was organised in New Delhi.
- It was organised by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI).
- President Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated the first edition of the World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS)
- The theme of the Summit is 'Beyond 2015: People, Planet and Progress'.
- Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the threat of climate change is real and immediate.
- As a developing country with shared concerns on climate vulnerability, India has a vital stake in an equitable and multi-lateral approach towards climate change.
- India ratified the landmark Paris Agreement four days ago. This will be a major boost to our fight against climate change.
- On the occasion, the President presented the Sustainable Development Leadership Award to Shri Pawan Kumar Chamling, Chief Minister of Sikkim.

Reference:

<http://wsds.teriin.org/>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151488>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151489>



India Economic Summit

Question: Annual India Economic Summit was organised on October 6-7 in which of the following city?

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

Ans: (b)

Related fact:

- World Economic Forum (WEF), hold its annual India Economic Summit on October 6-7 in New Delhi.
- It was attended by over 600 business and political leaders including top policymakers and CEOs spanning 30 countries.
- The theme for this year was 'Fostering an Inclusive India through Digital Transformation'.
- The summit addresses key issues of national and regional importance under three thematic pillars: Mastering the Fourth Industrial Revolution, Driving Sustainable and Equitable Growth and, Improving the Ease of Doing Business.

Reference:

<https://www.weforum.org/events/india-economic-summit-2016/about>

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/wef-india-economic-summit-in-delhi-on-oct-6-7/1/731122.html>

http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/wef-india-economic-summit-in-delhi-on-oct-6-7-116080300993_1.html



5th International Buddhist Conclave

Question: Ministry of Tourism organized the “5th International Buddhist Conclave from 2nd to 6th October 2016 at which of the following place?

- (a) Bodh Gaya
- (b) Sarnath
- (c) Kushinagar
- (d) Kapilvastu

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- Ministry of Tourism has organized the “5th International Buddhist Conclave (from 2nd to 6th October 2016)” in Varanasi-Sarnath.
- The conclave was organised in collaboration with the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.
- The Conclave was inaugurated by Dr. Mahesh Sharma, Minister for Tourism & Culture on 2nd October, 2016 in New Delhi.
- The Assoc. Professor Chavane Tongroach, Vice Minister of Tourism & Sports, Govt. of the Kingdom of Thailand, Mr. Macio Favilla, Executive Director, World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) and Mayor of Varanasi amongst others attended the opening session of the conclave.
- Ministry of Tourism will invest in tourism infrastructure for development of Buddhist Circuit in India under its Swadesh Darshan Scheme.
- An amount of Rs. 132.17 crore has been sanctioned till date.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151333>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151409>



Two day conference of States Power Ministers

Question: A two-day conference of Ministers for Power, New & Renewable Energy & Mines of States & Union Territories will be held on 7th & 8th of October in?

- a) New Delhi
- b) Bhopal
- c) Raipur
- d) Vadodara

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- A two-day conference of Ministers for Power, New & Renewable Energy & Mines of States & Union Territories will be held on 7th & 8th of October in Vadodara, Gujarat.
- The Conference will be inaugurated by Mr. Piyush Goyal, Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines.
- The aim of this two-day conference is to review the implementation of various ongoing Schemes/ Programmes & deliberate on a host of issues related to Power, Coal, Renewable Energy and Mines sectors.
- The conference will be organized on the sidelines of the International Energy Conference-SWITCH Global Expo organized by Government of Gujarat from 06th to 10th October, 2016 at Vadodara.
- Ministers and Secretaries will discuss issues like implementation of Ujwal DISCOM Assurance Yojana (UDAY), 24x7 Power for All, IT enablement of urban & rural feeders, Rural Electrification Programme, Energy conservation, Right of Way (RoW) compensation for transmission lines in urban areas, National Power Demand & National Electricity Plan.
- They will also discuss introduction of Mobile Apps for increasing transparency.
- In the area of Renewable Energy, State wise review will be taken on issues regarding Solar Power, Wind Power as well as the compliance of Renewable Purchase Obligations (RPOs) and Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs).
- In the Coal sector, deliberations will focus upon issues like Import Substitution of coal, third party sampling and flexibility in utilization of coal will be among other outstanding issues of coal companies.
- In the Mining sector, discussion will concentrate upon important issues such as preparedness for e-auctions of major mineral blocks, setting up of District Mineral Funds (DMF) in the States, exploration policy, star rating of Mines and curbing of illegal mining through Mining Surveillance System (MSS).

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151398>

<http://energy.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/power/state-power-ministers-to-discuss-energy-conservation-in-switch-global-expo/54673773>



PM inaugurated India Sanitation Conference

Question: What is INDOSAN?

- a) satellite b) a branch of Prasar Bharti
c) India Sanitation Conference d) none of the above.

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 30th September, 2016 PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India Sanitation Conference-INDOSAN.
 - Ahead of the second anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission on 2nd October, 2016, Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed chief ministers, ministers, elected representatives of people, district collectors, municipal commissioners of 500 AMRUT cities and other stakeholders in New Delhi.
 - The day long INDOSAN (India Sanitation Conference) was meant for taking stock of the progress made under the Swachh Bharat mission.
 - After the inaugural session, Urban Development Minister M. Venkaiah Naidu and Drinking Water and Sanitation Minister Narendra Singh Tomar co-chaired a plenary session on 'Behavioral Change' - Aspects of Swachh Bharat Mission.
- Swachh Bharat Mission was launched on October 2, 2014. It aims at creating a Clean India by October 2, 2019 which coincides with the 150th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.—

Reference:

<http://www.narendramodi.in/pm-modi-in-augurates-the-indo-san-in-dia-san-itation-conference-in-new-delhi-532407>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151284>

35th Coast Guard Commanders' Conference inaugurated

Question: Indian Coast Guard (ICG) Headquarters is located at..?

- a) New Delhi b) Kolkata
c) Chennai d) Visakhapatnam

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 28th September, 2016 Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar inaugurated the 35th Coast Guard Commanders Conference at Coast Guard Headquarters in New Delhi.
- Mr. Parrikar appreciated the efforts of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) in raising maritime and coastal security not only by deployment of assets but also by efficient use of Coastal Security Network Phase I.
- He also expressed hope that Coastal Security Network (CSN) Phase II would also be implemented on time.
- Mr. Parrikar congratulated the ICG on their protracted efforts with Pakistan and Sri Lankan security agencies which resulted in reduced apprehension of Indian fishing boats.
- The Defence Minister promised all assistance of the Ministry of Defence for cases relating to the operational efficiency and those pertaining to the growth of the service, be it the manpower or new acquisitions.
- The conference was attended by senior officers of the Defence Ministry and Indian Coast Guard (ICG) including the Director General Rajendra Singh, Additional Directors General and Coast Guard Regional Commanders.
- The conference is held annually, where all regional commanders put forth the roadmap for future; discuss various policy and strategic issues. The three-day conference aims to carve out a futuristic vision for the service and to determine the modalities to overcome the challenges efficiently.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151214>

ASSOCIATIONS & ORGANIZATIONS

OPEC agrees on oil production curbs

Question : OPEC is an organization of ... oil-exporting countries.

- a) 10
- b) 14
- c) 12
- d) 9

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 29th September, 2016 Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries -OPEC reached a consensus to reduce oil production for the first time since 2008 after an informal meeting in Algiers, Algeria.
- It was decided that OPEC would reduce oil production to a range of 32.5 to 33.0 million bpd (barrels per day) from its current output at 33.24 million bpd.
- However the quantity of reduction by each country will be decided in OPEC's next formal meeting scheduled in November 2016. In this meeting, Russia (non-OPEC member) will also be invited to join cuts in production.
- Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) is an intergovernmental organization of 14 nations, founded in 1960 in Baghdad. It is headquartered since 1965 in Vienna.
- As of July 2016, it has 14 members- Algeria, Angola, Libya, Nigeria and Gabon (from Africa); Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Saudi Arabia (the de facto leader) Kuwait, Qatar, United Arab Emirates (from Asia); Ecuador and Venezuela (from Latin America)
- As of 2015, these 14 countries accounted for an estimated 43 percent of global oil production and 73 percent of the world's "proven" oil reserves.

Reference :

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/opec-agrees-on-modest-oil-production-curbs/article9163898.ece>

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-opec-meeting-idUSKCN11Y18K>



Apple acquired Tuplejump

Question : Recently Apple acquired Tuplejump. It is located in which of the following state?

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

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- According to the press release issued by Apple on 23 September 2016 Apple Inc. has acquired Indian machine-learning startup Tuplejump Software Pvt Ltd.
- Tuplejump is Hyderabad-based startup.
- Known in the trade as an acqui-hire, nearly all of Tuplejump's 16 employees are in the process of becoming Apple staffers.
- Tuplejump is Apple's first acquisition in India.
- Tuplejump was founded in 2013 by Rohit Rai, Satyaprakash Buddhavarapu and Deepak Alur.

Reference :

<http://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-09-22/apple-buys-tuplejump-to-expand-machine-learning-capabilities>



LAW & JUSTICE

Vehicle manufacturers will have to give details about the emission and noise levels of each vehicle

Question: According to the release made by Ministry of Road Transport & Highways the manufacturers of all kinds of motor vehicles will have to give detailed declaration about the emission and noise levels of the vehicle they have manufactured, this will be applicable from -

- (a) 1 January 2017
- (b) 1 April 2017
- (c) 1 December 2016
- (d) 1 March 2017

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- According to the Ministry of Road Transport & Highways manufacturers of all kinds of motor vehicles as also E-rickshaws and E-carts will have to give detailed declaration about the emission and noise levels of the vehicle they have manufactured from 1 of April 2017.
- Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has amended Form 22 under the Central Motor Vehicles Act, 1989.
- Through which manufacturers provide the Initial Certificate of Compliance with Pollution Standards, Safety Standards of Components Quality and Road –Worthiness certificate for all vehicles.
- Earlier, Form 22 only certified that the vehicle in question complied with the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act and rules there under, including the relevant emission norms – Bharat Stage I/II/III etc.
- From 1st April, 2017 however, the vehicle manufacturers will have to provide emission details for each vehicle in the revised Form 22.
- The Form will include the brand, chassis number, engine number (motor number, in case of battery operated vehicles) and emission norms – Bharat Stage – IV / VI /Bharat (Trem) Stage- III/III etc of the vehicle.
- The form also specify the levels of each pollutant like carbon monoxide, hydro carbon, non-methane HC, NO_x, HC + NO_x, PM etc for petrol and diesel vehicles and also sound level for horn and pass by noise values.
- The amended rules will apply to all vehicles run on petrol, CNG, LPG, electric, diesel and hybrid, including agricultural and construction vehicles, as well as E-rickshaws and E-carts.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151751>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/mumbai/Vehicle-manufacturers-will-have-to-give-details-about-the-emission-and-noise-levels/articleshow/54933742.cms>



YEAR, DAY & WEEK

National Ayurveda Day

Question: When was the National Ayurveda Day celebrated in 2016?

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

Ans. (c)

Related facts:

- On 28 October 2016 first National Ayurveda Day was celebrated across the country.
- The theme of the Day was “Prevention and Control of Diabetes through Ayurveda”.
- The Ministry of AYUSH has launched “Mission Madhumeha through Ayurveda” on the occasion.
- The Minister of State (IC) PMO, DoNER, DOPT, Dr. Jitender Singh inaugurated the seminar on ‘Prevention and Control of Diabetes through Ayurveda’
- The national treatment Protocol was also released on the occasion of National Seminar.
- Government of India has decided to celebrate National Ayurveda Day every year on the occasion of Dhanwantari Jayanti.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=152010>



United Nations Day

Question: United Nations Day is celebrated on -

- a) 23 October
- b) 25 October
- c) 27 October
- d) 24 October

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- 24 October 2016 was celebrated as United Nations Day across the world.
- UN Day marks the anniversary of the entry into force in 1945 of the UN Charter. With the ratification of this founding document by the majority of its signatories, including the five permanent members of the Security Council
- 24 October has been celebrated as United Nations Day since 1948.
- The theme of this year's concert is “Freedom First”.

Reference:

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



Police Commemoration Day

Question : Police Commemoration Day is observed on-

(a) 22 October (b) 21 October (c) 23 October (d) 19 October

Ans (b)

Related facts:

- On 21 October 2016 Police Commemoration Day was observed across the country.
- The day commemorates the sacrifices of ten policemen while defending our borders with China in 1959.
- On 21st October 1959 Chinese Army personnel were seen on a hillock who opened fire and threw grenades at the party led by Shri Karam Singh in which most personnel were injured. Ten of them died, seven were taken prisoners by the Chinese and the remaining managed to escape.
- The Annual Conference of Inspectors General of Police of States and Union Territories held in January 1960 decided that October 21 would henceforth be observed as 'Commemoration Day' in all Police Lines throughout India.
- Union Home Minister, Rajnath Singh paid homage at the Police Memorial Ground, Chanakyapuri, New Delhi.
- Since 1961, more than 33,000 police personnel have sacrificed their lives for security of the nation and service to the society.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151831>



Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day

Question : Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day is celebrated on-

(a) 24 October (b) 22 October (c) 21 October (d) 23 October

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 21st October Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Prevention Day or World Iodine Deficiency Day observed across the world.
- The aim behind this day is to generate awareness of adequate use of iodine and to highlight the consequences of iodine deficiency.
- The iodine deficiency disorders have become a major public health problem worldwide.
- In today's scenario one third of the world population is at the risk of iodine deficiency disorders.
- According to the WHO around 54 countries are still iodine – deficient. Iodine is a micro nutrient which is required for the human growth and development.
- Deficiency of iodine may cause disorders like Enlargement of the thyroid gland, Mental illness : subnormal intelligence, mental retardation, impaired cognitive development in children and brain damage
- Iodized salt is the most common source of Iodine.
- Iodized salt is a common salt containing iodine compound.
- The average daily requirement of iodine for a normal person is 150 micrograms (1,000,000 micrograms = 1 gm) in a day.

Reference :

http://www.nhp.gov.in/global-iodine-deficiency-disorders-prevention-day_pg



World Osteoporosis Day

Question : World Osteoporosis Day is celebrated on -

(a) 20 October (b) 21 October (c) 23 October (d) 22 October

Ans: (a)

Reference:

- On 20 October 2016 World Osteoporosis Day (WOD) was celebrated across the world.
- The theme for this year is “Love your Bones: Protect your future”.
- This day is celebrated for raising global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.
- It aims to put bone, muscle and joint health on the global health agenda and reaches out to health-care professionals, the media, policy makers and the public at large.
- Osteoporosis is a disease where decreased bone strength increases the risk of a broken bone.
- It is the most common reason for a broken bone among the elderly.
- Bones that commonly break include the back bones, the bones of the forearm, and the hip.
- The bone diseases among women are a common occurrence, but of late, Osteoporosis, is fast affecting men, mostly after they turn 60.
- Green-leafy vegetables like broccoli and spinach, turnip and cabbage contain calcium and Vitamin D good for bones.
- Milk and milk products contain Vitamin B12 and zinc which makes the bones strong.

Reference:

<https://www.iofbonehealth.org/node/2016>

<http://worldosteoporosisday.org/about>

<https://www.nof.org/about-us/building-awareness/world-osteoporosis-day/>

World Egg Day, 2016

Q:- On which date World Egg Day in 2016 was celebrated?

(A) 12 October (B) 13 October (C) 14 October (D) 15 October

Ans: (c)

Related Facts:

- On 14 October, 2016; World Egg Day was celebrated across the world.
- On this occasion Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh inaugurated a program at Pusa Institute in New Delhi organised by DADF..
- The ceremony was attended by various stakeholders, mainly farmers and poultry.
- The availability of eggs per capita per annum in India is 63.
- According to the National Institute of Nutrition per capita availability of eggs should be about 180.
- India ranks third in the world in the production of eggs.
- India annually produces approximately 83 billion eggs.
- China ranks first in Egg production in the world and the US is at second place.
- Most nutrients present in high amounts in eggs are protein, vitamin A, vitamin B-6, B-12, amino acids and iron, phosphorus, selenium, etc.
- The International Egg Commission Conference in Vienna (1996), decided to celebrate the second Friday of October each year as World Egg Day.

See related links :

<https://www.internationalegg.com/representing-the-industry/egg-industry/wed-world-egg-day/>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151658>



World Sight Day 2016

Question : 2016 World Sight Day was celebrated on which of the following day?

(a) 14 October (b) 13 October (c) 16 October (d) 12 October

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 13 October 2016; World Sight Day 2016 was celebrated across the world.
- The theme for this year is 'Stronger Together'.
- World Sight Day (WSD) is an annual day of awareness held on the second Thursday of October.
- It is celebrated to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment.
- According to World Health Organization (WHO) approximately 285 million people worldwide live with low vision and blindness.
- Of these, 39 million people are blind and 246 million have moderate or severe visual impairment.
- VISION 2020 is a global initiative that aims to eliminate avoidable blindness by the year 2020.



Reference:

<http://www.iapb.org/wsd16>

<http://www.who.int/blindness/partnerships/vision2020/en/>

World Food Day

Question : World Food Day is celebrated on -

(a) 5 October (b) 15 October (c) 16 October (d) 21 October

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- World Food Day was celebrated on 16 October 2016 across the world.
- It was celebrated to commemorate the founding of the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO).
- This year, the theme is "Climate is changing. Food and agriculture must too."
- On 16 October 1945, 42 countries assembled in Quebec, Canada, to create the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO).
- Their goal was to free humanity from hunger and malnutrition, and to effectively manage the global food system.
- The Day is celebrated to promote worldwide awareness and action for those who suffer from hunger and for the need to ensure food security and nutritious diets for all.



Reference:

<http://www.fao.org/world-food-day/2016/theme/en/>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/world-food-day-observed-annually-on-october-16-facts-to-consider/articleshow/54872133.cms>

World Standards Day

Question : World Standards Day is celebrated on -

- (a) 13 October
- (b) 16 October
- (c) 15 October
- (d) 14 October

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 14 October 2016 World Standards Day was celebrated across the world.
- The theme for the World Standards Day is “Standards build Trust”.
- Since 1970, World Standards Day has been celebrated in various ways throughout the world.

Reference :

<http://www.iso.org/iso/world-standards-day2016>

<http://www.ses-standards.org/?page=WSD>

<http://www.worldstandardscooperation.org/world-standards-day/>



International Day of Rural Women

Question : When the International Day of Rural Women is celebrated?

- (a) 16 October
- (b) 15 October
- (c) 17 October
- (d) 13 October

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 15 October 2016 International Day of Rural Women was celebrated across the world.
- The Theme for this year is-”Climate is Changing Food and Agriculture must too”.
- The aim of this day is to recognize “the critical role and contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security and eradicating rural poverty.”
- In developing countries, rural women represent approximately 43 per cent of the agricultural labour force, and produce, process and prepare much of the food available, thereby giving them primary responsibility for food security.
- Bearing in mind that 76 per cent of the extreme poor live in rural areas, ensuring rural women’s access to productive agricultural resources contributes to decreasing world hunger and poverty, and make rural women critical for the success of the new Sustainable Development agenda for 2030.
- The first International Day of Rural Women was observed on 15 October 2008.
- This new international day, established by the General Assembly in its resolution 62/136 of 18 December 2007.



Reference :

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

<http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/rural-women-food-poverty>

<https://www.ifad.org/topic/resource/tags/gender/2170125>

International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

Question: International Day for the Eradication of Poverty celebrated on -

- a) 16 October
- b) 17 October
- c) 18 October
- d) 12 October

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- The United Nations' (UN) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed on October 17 every year since 1993.
- Through resolution 47/196 adopted on 22 December 1992, the General Assembly declared 17 October as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty.
- It is celebrated to promote people's awareness of the need to eradicate poverty and destitution worldwide, particularly in developing countries.
- Theme of the year 2016 is: "Moving from humiliation and exclusion to participation: Ending poverty in all its forms".

Reference:

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



First World Tsunami Awareness Day

Question: Recently United Nations has decided to celebrate First World Tsunami Awareness Day on -

- (a) November 5, 2016.
- (b) November 6, 2016.
- (c) November 10, 2016.
- (d) November 15, 2016.

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- The First World Tsunami Awareness Day will be celebrated on November 5, 2016.
- To commemorate the occasion, an event will be organised with Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Champions at the Asian Ministerial Conference for Disaster Risk Reduction (AMCDRR) 2016.
- The Conference is being organised from November 3-5, 2016 at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi by the Government of India in collaboration with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).
- The observance of the day would help to spread awareness among people across the world in matters related to the dangers of tsunami and shall stress on the importance of early warning systems in order to mitigate damage from the often devastating natural hazard.
- It also aims at reviving traditional knowledge about tsunamis.
- The significance of this day, the 5th November, to tsunami awareness can be traced back to the year 1854. A villager in Wakayama Prefecture, Japan, was concerned about an impending tsunami after a high-intensity earthquake on November 5, 1854.
- To commemorate that day of "Inamura no Hi" (the burning of rice sheaves), a resolution was jointly proposed by 142 countries including Japan as a follow up of the third UN World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The United Nations designated the 5th November as World Tsunami Awareness Day.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151595>

<http://www.ndtv.com/india-news/first-world-tsunami-awareness-day-to-be-observed-on-november-5-1473219>



International Day for Disaster Reduction

Question: International Day for Disaster Reduction is celebrated on-

- a) 11 October 2016
- b) 9 October
- c) 13 October
- d) 10 October

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 13 October 2016; International Day for Disaster Reduction was celebrated across the world.
- The 2016 Theme is “Live To Tell: Raising Awareness, Reducing Mortality”.
- The International Day for Disaster Reduction began in 1989, after a call by the United Nations General Assembly for a day to promote a global culture of risk-awareness and disaster reduction.
- It was originally celebrated on the second Wednesday of October (Resolution 44/236, 22 December 1989), but after two decades the UN General Assembly formally designated 13 October as the annual date (Resolution 64/200, 21 December 2009).

Reference:

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

<https://www.unisdr.org/we/campaign/iddr>



World Post Day

Question: World Post Day is celebrated on-

- (a) 8 October
- (b) 6 October
- (c) 9 October
- (d) 10 October

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- World Post Day is celebrated each year on 9 October across the world.
- The 2016 Theme is “Innovation, Integration and Inclusion”.
- The anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern.
- It was declared World Post Day by the UPU Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969. Since then, countries across the world participate annually in the celebrations.
- The purpose of World Post Day is to create awareness of the role of the postal sector in people's and businesses' everyday lives and its contribution to the social and economic development of countries.

Reference:

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

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

World Mental Health Day

Question: When did the World Mental Health Day is celebrated?

- (a) 12 October
- (b) 9 October
- (c) 10 October
- (d) 11 October

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 10 October 2016 World Mental Health Day was observed across the world.
- The theme of this year's World Mental Health Day is "psychological first aid".
- World Mental Health Day (WMHD) is a day for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy.
- According to WHO depression is a common illness worldwide, with an estimated 350 million people affected.
- Women are more affected than men.
- It was first celebrated in 1992.

Reference:

http://www.who.int/mental_health/world-mental-health-day/2016/en/

http://www.who.int/mental_health/world-mental-health-day/paper_wfmh_2016.pdf?ua=1

http://apps.who.int/iris/bitstream/10665/44615/1/9789241548205_eng.pdf

International Day of the Girl Child

Question: When the International Day of the Girl Child is celebrated?

- (a) 12 October
- (b) 11 October
- (c) 9 October
- (d) 17 September

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 11 October 2016 International Day of the Girl Child was celebrated across the world.
- The theme for this year's International Day of the Girl child is "Girls' Progress = Goals' Progress: What Counts for Girls."
- On December 19, 2011, United Nations General Assembly adopted Resolution 66/170 to declare October 11 as the International Day of the Girl Child, to recognize girls' rights and the unique challenges girls face around the world.

Reference:

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

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



World Space Week

Question : When the World Space Week is celebrated?

- (a) 3-6 October
- (b) 4-10 October
- (c) 2-8 October
- (d) 3-9 October

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- World Space Week is an annual event, observed during the week of 4-10 October.
- 2016 World Space Week Theme: “Remote sensing: Enabling Our Future”.
- The dates recall the launch, on 4 October 1957, of the first artificial satellite, Sputnik I, and the entry into force, on 10 October 1967.
- By Resolution 54/68 of 6 December 1999, the General Assembly proclaimed World Space Week, to celebrate the contributions of space science and technology to the betterment of the human condition.
- The United Nations General Assembly declared in 1999 that World Space Week (WSW) will be held each year from October 4-10.
- World Space Week is the largest annual space event in the world. It builds the workforce of tomorrow by inspiring students, demonstrates visible public support for the space program, educates the public about space activities, and fosters international cooperation into space outreach and education.

Reference:

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

<http://www.unoosa.org/oosa/en/outreach/events/wsw/index.html>

<http://www.shar.gov.in/wsw/theme.jsp>



World Habitat Day

Question : The 2016 World Habitat Day was celebrated on -

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- The World Habitat Day was celebrated on 3 October 2016 across the world.
- The 2016 Theme is “Housing at the Centre”.
- In Resolution 40/202 of 17 December 1985, the UN General Assembly designated the first Monday of October of every year as World Habitat Day.

Reference:

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

<http://unhabitat.org/world-habitat-day-logos/>

http://www.urbanoctober.org/index_1.asp?pcd=2



International Day of Older Persons

Question: International Day of Older Persons is celebrated on -

- (a) 29 September
- (b) 3 October
- (c) 1 October
- (d) 30 September

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 1 October 2016; International Day of Older Persons was celebrated across the world.
- On December 14, 1990 the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish October 1 as the International Day of Older Persons as recorded in Resolution 45/106.
- On this occasion President of India Pranab Mukharjee presented the National Awards for Senior Citizens "Vayoshreshtha Samman-2016" to eminent senior citizens and institutions in recognition of their service towards the cause of elderly persons, especially indigent senior citizens.
- Vayoshreshtha Samman is a Scheme of National Awards instituted by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment (D/o Social Justice & Empowerment) initially in 2005 and was upgraded to the status of National Awards in 2013.
- The segment of our population that is aged above 60 years, numbers about ten and half crores.
- Of these, 5.1 crore are male and 5.3 crores are female.
- Current projections indicate that by the year 2026, the number of senior citizens, male and female, will be 8.4 and 8.8 crores respectively i.e. a total of 10 percent of our population.

Reference:

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

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

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151331>

International Day of Non-Violence

Question: International Day of Non-Violence is celebrated on -

- (a) 1 October
- (b) 2 October
- (c) 24 October
- (d) 29 September

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 2 October 2016 International Day of Non-Violence was celebrated across the world.
- The International Day of Non-Violence is marked on 2 October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian independence movement and pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence.
- On 15 June 2007 the United Nations General Assembly voted to establish 2 October as the International Day of Non-Violence.

Reference:

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

<http://www.indian-embassy.dk/pdf/Notice-for-Gandhi-Jayanti-celebrations.pdf>

World Maritime Day

Question : World Maritime Day is celebrated on -

- (a) 26 September
- (b) 24 September
- (c) 29 September
- (d) 28 September

Ans: (c)



Related facts:

- On 29 September 2016 World Maritime Day was celebrated across the world.
- The World Maritime Day theme for 2016 is “Shipping: indispensable to the world”.
- The theme was chosen to focus on the critical link between shipping and global society and to raise awareness of the relevance of the role of IMO as the global regulatory body for international shipping.

Reference :

<http://www.imo.org/en/About/Events/WorldMaritimeDay/Pages/WMD-2016.aspx>

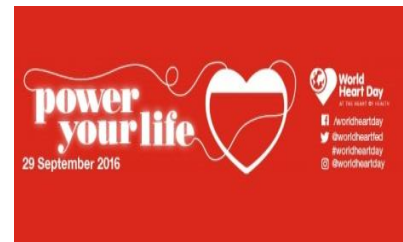
<http://www.un.org/en/events/maritimeday/>

World Heart Day

Question : World Heart Day is celebrated on -

- (a) 28 September
- (b) 29 September
- (c) 26 September
- (d) 25 September

Ans: (b)



Related facts:

- On 29 September 2016 World Heart Day was celebrated across the world.
- The Day serves as the biggest platform for raising awareness about cardiovascular disease (CVD).
- The Day is being celebrated since 2000.
- Cardiovascular disease (CVD), including heart disease and stroke, is accountable for nearly half of all NCD deaths making it the world's number one killer and claiming 17.5 million lives each year.

Reference :

<http://www.world-heart-federation.org/what-we-do/world-heart-day/>

<http://worldheartday.org/world-heart-day-2015/>

<http://heart.cochrane.org/ask-a-question?platform=hootsuite>

BOOKS

Full volumes of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's works released

Question: Who among the following has released full volumes of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya's works?

- (a) Pranab Mukherjee
- (b) Narendra Modi
- (c) Amit Shah
- (d) Lal Krishna Advani

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 9 October 2016 Prime Minister Narendra Modi released 15 volume Complete works of former Jan Sangh Chief Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.
- The 15-volume work 'The Complete Works of Deendayal Upadhyaya' highlights the key events in the life of Upadhyaya, the journey of Jana Sangh and of the country and includes events like the 1965 Indo-Pakistan war, Tashkent agreement, and Goa's liberation.
- The 15-volume work 'The Complete Works of Deendayal Upadhyaya' was edited by Mahesh Chandra sharma, former MP and chairman of Research and Development Foundation for Integral Humanism.

Reference:

<http://www.narendramodi.in/prime-minister-narendra-modi-to-inaugurate-full-volume-of-pt-deendayal-upadhyay-s-literature-at-vigyan-bhavan-new-delhi-532672>

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/prime-minister-narendra-modi-talks-about-indias-surgical-strikes-against-pakistan-in-new-delhi/article9204229.ece>

<http://www.bjp.org/hi/media-resources/press-releases/salient-points-of-speech-by-hon-ble-prime-minister-shri-narendra-modi-on-the-occasion-of-release-of-complete-literature-of-pandit-deen-dayal-upadhyay-at-vigyan-bhawan-new-delhi-09-10-2016-hi>



Book titled Modi's Midas Touch in Foreign Policy released

Question: Who is the author of the book "Modi's Midas Touch in Foreign Policy"?

- (a) Arun Shourie
- (b) Vijayakanth
- (c) Surendra Kumar
- (d) Partha Sarathi

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 4 October 2016; M. Venkaiah Naidu, Minister for Information and Broadcasting released the book titled Modi's Midas Touch in Foreign Policy.
- The book has been authored by Ambassador Surendra Kumar.
- The book outlines the progress and the indelible imprint on the conduct of India's Foreign Policy by the Hon'ble Prime Minister in the last two and a half years.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151423>



September – October, 2016 Popular Books

1. Citizen and Society – **Mohd. Hamid Ansari**
2. Far and Away : Reporting from the Brink of Change – **Andrew Solomon**
3. Karachi, You're Killing Me! – **Saba Imtiaz**
4. All That Man Is – **David Szalay**
5. The Sellout : A Novel – **Paul Beatty**
6. Do not Say We Have Nothing – **Madeleine Thien**
7. Rekha : The Untold Story – **Yasser Usman**
8. One Indian Girl – **Chetan Bhagat**
9. Democrates and Dissenters – **Ramachandra Guha**
10. One and a Half Wife – **Meghna Pant**
11. Santi Ki Talash Mein Zindagi – **Radhika Nagrah**
12. Anything But Khamosh : The Shatrughan Sinha Biography – **Bharathi S. Pradhan**
13. His Bloody Project – **Graeme Macrae Burnet**
14. Hot Milk – **Deborah Levy**
15. The Girls – **Emma Cline**
16. Six Machine : I Don't Like Cricket I Love It – **Chris Gayle**
17. Imagine Me Gone – **Adam Haslett**
18. Leaping Poetry : An Idea With Poems and Translations – **Robert Bly**
19. Munnu! A Boy From Kashmir – **Malik Sajad**
20. The Ocean of Churn : How the Indian Ocean Shaped Human History – **Sanjeev Sanyal**



MISCELLANEOUS

e-Postal Ballot System

Question : Recently e-Postal Ballot System has been started for-

- (a) All government employees
- (b) Receiving Indian citizenship for people living abroad
- (c) Service voters, including armed forces personnel
- (d) Armed forces personnel

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 21 October 2016 Government by amending rule 23 of the Conduct of Elections Rules, 1961 has enabled service voters, including armed forces personnel, to cast their vote in elections through e-postal ballot.
- This will resolve the difficulties and hardships encountered by the service voters, especially by the armed forces personnel serving the border and remote areas of the country.
- Under this system a blank postal ballot paper would be transmitted to them electronically.
- This would cut short the delay experienced in the present system in two-way transmission of ballot paper by the postal services.
- The armed forces personnel serving in remote and border areas would be greatly benefitted since the present system of two-way transmission of ballot paper by the postal services has not been able to meet the expectations of the service voters.
- The Election Commission proposed that the categories of voters mentioned at rule 18 of the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961 may be made eligible for e-postal ballot system.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151934>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/hindirelease.aspx?relid=55775>

Inauguration of Sevashram Hospital and Sardar Patel Hospital & Heart Institute

Question : Recently Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated Sevashram Hospital and Sardar Patel Hospital and Heart Institute in which of the following state?

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

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 23 October 2016 President of India, Shri Pranab Mukherjee inaugurated Sevashram Hospital at Bharuch and Sardar Patel Hospital and Heart Institute at Ankleshwar, Gujarat.
- The President said that both Sevashram Hospital and the Sardar Patel Hospital are driven by similar ethos, a desire to serve humanity and take care of the health of people.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151894>



Irom Sharmila launches party

Question: Name the political party announced by activist Irom Sharmila?

- (a) People's Democratic Alliance
- (b) Liberal Democratic Alliance
- (c) People's Resurgence and Justice Alliance
- (d) People's Justice Alliance

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 18 October 2016 Activist Irom Sharmila began her political journey by announcing a new political party.
- The name of the party is People's Resurgence and Justice Alliance (PRJA).
- It should be known that she broke her 16-year-long fast demanding withdrawal of the Armed Forces Special Powers Act on 9 August 2016.
- She will be the co-convenor of the party, which includes a number of activists and entrepreneurs. Academician Erendro Leichombam is the convenor of the party.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/irom-sharmila-foats-new-political-party-peoples-resurgence-and-justice-alliance/article9234887.ece>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Irom-Sharmilas-new-party-Peoples-Resurgence-Justice-Alliance/articleshow/54915182.cms>



First Made-in-India electric bus

Question: Which of the following company has unveiled first Made-in-India electric bus “Circuit”?

- (a) TATA motors
- (b) Mahindra and Mahindra
- (c) Ashok Leyland
- (d) Volvo

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On 17 October 2016 Ashok Leyland has unveiled first Made-in-India electric bus “Circuit”.
- The initial investment is around Rs 22 crore. The company had earmarked as much as Rs 500 crore for the product to be done in phases.
- It is designed and engineered in India; it's in line with the company's vision for the future of mass mobility.
- The electric bus will have a minimum seating capacity of 35 to a maximum of 65, and can run up to 120 kilometers on a single recharge under standard test conditions.
- Currently, these buses are now being manufactured in Alwar, Rajasthan and also in our Viralmalai facility in Tamil Nadu.
- The bus is zero-emission vehicle.

Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/make-in-india-ashok-leyland-launches-india-s-1st-electric-bus-116101700239_1.html

<http://www.livemint.com/Industry/apnWZDtHxp90DxWq6MYAcP/Ashok-Leyland-unveils-Indias-first-indigenous-electric-bus.html>

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/auto/news/commercial-vehicle/ashok-leyland-unveils-indias-first-indigenous-electric-bus/articleshow/54894000.cms>



Hunar Haat

Question : ‘Hunar Haat’ is being organized by... .

- a) The Ministry of Minority Affairs
- b) Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
- c) Human Resource Development Ministry
- d) None of the above

Ans: (a)



Related Facts:

- The Ministry of Minority Affairs is going to organise ‘Hunar Haat’ at the India International Trade Fair from 14th November, 2016 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi.
- ‘Hunar Haat’ is an exhibition of handicrafts, embroidery etc. made by the artisans from the Minority Communities.
- The special feature of this unique ‘Hunar Haat’ is that besides providing free of cost stall to artisans/craftsmen, the Ministry will also make arrangements for their transportation.
- The exhibition will include artefacts made by cane and bamboo in North eastern states; cloth work and embroidery (chikan) work, brass artefacts, Jardoji clothes work of Uttar Pradesh; collection of pottery work of Southern states; sandalwood and other wooden artefacts; handicrafts from Bihar-Jharkhand; indigenous goods for domestic use from Bengal-Odisha.
- It will also display other arts/crafts like marble work from Rajasthan; beautiful handicrafts from Gujarat; Pashmina and bronze work from Kashmir. Besides, centuries old Ayurvedic, Unani health care; glass artefacts; Indian silk-cotton work will also be a part of the exhibition.
- Chief Ministers of all the states have been requested to direct the concerned Department to make aware talented artisans and craft persons about this exhibition and encourage them to send their applications to National Minority Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC).
- NMDFC will be participating in the India International Trade Fair on behalf of the Ministry of Minority Affairs under the banner of USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts Crafts for Development) scheme.
- The exhibition ‘Hunar Haat’ will provide opportunity to artisans from every corner of the country to display their art on national & international level.

Reference :

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151745>

<http://www.nmdfc.org/>

MobiKwik launches Unified Payments Interface

Question: What is MobiKwik?

- (a) Bank
- (b) Mobile wallet and online payment system
- (c) Multinational company
- (d) Information Provider

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 12 October 2016 India's largest independent mobile payments network and mobile wallet MobiKwik has launched Unified Payments Interface (UPI) on its platform.
- MobiKwik users can now load their wallet with e-cash using UPI.
- Mobile wallet company MobiKwik has tied up with ICICI Bank to launch the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) on its platform
- The company already has options of net-banking, credit and debit card and the exclusive cash pick up and cash deposit service for wallet loading.
- MobiKwik users now have an additional option for real time wallet loading with UPI.
- Users can use their MobiKwik e-cash at over 100000 online and offline merchants across India.
- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is an additional layer of payment architecture built upon the IMPS (Immediate Payment Service) mobile payments system which allows customers to transfer money across different banks with the use of a single identification and password.
- MobiKwik is also the only wallet in India that has a cash pick up facility.
- With which users can get their MobiKwik wallet loaded with e-cash from their location within 25 minutes in major Indian cities.

Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/small-biz/money/mobikwik-partners-with-icici-bank-to-let-users-fill-wallets-through-upi/articleshow/54810886.cms>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/technology/social/mobikwik-launches-unified-payments-interface-on-its-app-3085455/>

UIDAI'S Challenge drive for Enrolment

Question: Recently the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched Challenge drive to enroll leftover population for Aadhaar, in how many States/UTs ?

- (a) 18 (b) 20
(c) 22 (d) 24

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From October 15 to November 15, 2016; the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) has launched a challenge drive to enroll the leftover population for Aadhaar in 22 states/Union Territories.
- It is aimed at targeting the floating population and leftover residents.
- As part of the drive, the residents of these states/UTs, who have not yet enrolled for Aadhaar, are being asked to register themselves at <https://www.wenrol.uidai.gov.in>.
- The challenge drive enrolment scheme will be only for the adult population.
- The 22 States/UTs are Delhi, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Lakshadweep, Puducherry, Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Chhattisgarh, Andaman & Nicobar Island, Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Goa, Maharashtra, Jharkhand, Sikkim, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151655>

<http://www.deccanherald.com/content/575890/special-drive-aadhaar-enrolment-22.html>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/pune/UIDAIS-challenge-drive-for-enrolment-in-22-states/UTs/articleshow/54901118.cms>
<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151655>



National Seismic Programme

Question: Recently Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the National Seismic Programme (NSP) in which of the following state?

- (a) Odisha (b) Andhra Pradesh
(c) Kerala (d) Maharashtra

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 12 October 2016 Union Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the National Seismic Programme (NSP) in Odisha.
- The programme was launched to trace hydrocarbon resources like oil and natural gas in Mahanadi basin.
- The programme was launched at Taranga village under Soro block in Balasore district.
- The NSP aims to undertake a fresh appraisal in all sedimentary basins across India, especially where no/scanty data is available, to have a better understanding of the hydrocarbon potential of India.
- Under this programme, Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) and Oil India Limited (OIL) have been entrusted to conduct 2D seismic Acquisition, Processing and Interpretation (API) across India.
- The ONGC will carry out the survey of 40,835 Line Kilo Meter (LKM) in onland part of 26 sedimentary basins in 18 States and Union Territories including Odisha's Mahanadi basin.
- The OIL will carry out 2D seismic API of 7,408 LKM in Assam, Manipur, Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram and Nagaland.
- The survey project will be completed by March 2019.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/petroleum-minister-launches-national-seismic-programme-in-odisha/article9213335.ece>

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/odisha/2016/oct/13/union-min-launches-national-seismic-programme-in-state-1527484.html?pm=179>



Beneficiary of Venture Capital Fund scheme

Question: Recently Shripad Yesso Naik, Minister of State (I/C) for AYUSH launched which of the following Ayurvedic Proprietary Medicine?

- (a) Real For Life
- (b) Elixir for Life
- (c) Amrit Dhara
- (d) Casamrit

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 11 October 2016 Shripad Yesso Naik, Minister of State (I/C) for AYUSH launched “Elixir for Life”, an Ayurvedic Proprietary Medicine .
- This product has been produced by a beneficiary of the Venture Capital Fund Scheme for Scheduled Caste (SC) Entrepreneurs launched by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment in 2014-2015.
- The beneficiary M/s Mallur Flora & Hospitality Ltd. No. 11, RBI Colony, Bengaluru has been financed by Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India (IFCI) and Department of Welfare Govt. of Karnataka (KFSC).
- The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment launched the Venture Capital Fund Scheme for Scheduled Caste (SC) Entrepreneurs in 2014-2015.
- 50 SC entrepreneurs have till now benefitted from the scheme. The Scheme has helped the entrepreneurs in achieving economic empowerment.
- The objective of the Venture Capital Fund Scheme for Scheduled Caste are as follow:-
 1. It is a Social Sector initiative to be implemented nationally in order to promote entrepreneurship among the scheduled caste population in India.
 2. Promote entrepreneurship amongst the Scheduled Caste who are oriented towards innovation and growth technologies.
 3. To provide concessional finance to the scheduled caste entrepreneurs, who will create wealth and value for society and at the same time will promote profitable businesses. The assets so created will also create forward/ backward linkage. It will create chain effect in the locality.
 4. To increase financial inclusion for SC entrepreneurs and to motivate them for further growth of SC communities.
 5. To develop SC entrepreneurs economically.
 6. To enhance direct and indirect employment generation for SC population in India.
- As per Census 2011, the SC population is 20.13 crore, which constitutes 16.62% of the total population in India.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=151586>

<http://www.shripadnaik.in/shripad-naik-elixir-for-life/>

Launch of dedicated website for DGAD

Question: Identify the correct website address for DGAD.

- a) www.dgtr.gov.in
- b) www.dgtr.com
- c) www.dgtr.co.in
- d) none of the above.

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On 7th October, 2016 Rita Teautia, Commerce Secretary launched a more efficient, informative, user-friendly and dedicated website for Directorate General of anti dumping and allied duties (DGAD).
- She also inaugurated the additional office space developed by NBCC to meet the requirements of increased work responsibilities of the Directorate.
- Working commitments and standards of DGAD have always been high which are reflected in the record number of 51 cases of findings issued by DGAD in 2015-16. In the current FY 2016-17, DGAD has already issued 18 cases of final findings and 3 cases of preliminary findings.
- DGAD also organized a Regional Anti-Dumping Workshop in New Delhi in collaboration with Centre for WTO Studies and WTO Secretariat, India during 3rd to 5th October, 2016.
- The aim of this workshop was to exchange information and views on laws and regulations relating to trade.



Reference:

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

<http://www.newsbharati.com/Encyc/2016/10/7/DGAD-Website-Launch>

International cycle rally

Question: Recently Uttar Pradesh government decided to organise an international cycle rally between-

- (a) Noida-Agra
- (b) Agra-Etawah
- (c) Noida-Etawah
- (d) Etawah-Lucknow

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 3 October 2016 with an aim to promote environment and lion safari, Uttar Pradesh government decided to organise an international cycle rally between Agra and Etawah every year.
- The rally will start from next year. It will be organised by the Forest department, which will act as a nodal agency and work in tandem with other departments.
- UP Government Cabinet has given approval to the department to renovate forest guest houses at Agra, Firozabad and Etawah, which will fall en route the cycle rally.
- A monitoring committee will set up for the new policy.



Reference:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=3101

<http://news.webindia123.com/news/Articles/India/20161003/2960641.html>

<http://www.unindia.com/up-to-hold-international-cycle-rally/states/news/643867.html>

Typhoon Megi

Question: Typhoon Megi was named by..?

- a) Japan Meteorological Agency
- b) Chinese Meteorological Agency
- c) Taiwan Meteorological Agency
- d) None of the above.



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- Typhoon Megi, known in the Philippines as Typhoon Helen, was a large and powerful tropical cyclone which affected Taiwan and China in late September 2016.
- It is the seventeenth named storm and the seventh typhoon of the annual typhoon season.
- A tropical disturbance formed northeast of Pohnpei (island) on September 19.
- Two days later the Japan Meteorological Agency (JMA) upgraded the low-pressure area to a tropical depression early on September 21, and the Joint Typhoon Warning Center (JTWC) also issued a Tropical Cyclone Formation Alert shortly after that.
- The JMA upgraded the system to a tropical storm and named it Megi early on September 23.
- However, despite being under excellent environmental conditions, Megi stopped intensifying further since September 25.
- Located in an area of low vertical wind shear and above warm sea surface temperatures near 30°C, diurnal weakening of convection continued to occur, especially over the northern half of the system.
- Shortly before Megi made landfall over Hualien City it had already intensified into a stronger typhoon with one-minute maximum sustained winds at 205 km/h (125 mph) indicated by the JTWC, equivalent to Category 3 of the Saffir–Simpson hurricane wind scale.
- Subsequently, interaction with the high mountains of Taiwan caused Megi to weaken significantly and it made landfall over Hui'an County of Quanzhou, China as a minimal typhoon.
- Megi has caused widespread disruption in Taiwan and China. Thirteen people have been confirmed dead in two landslides in southeastern China and 20 people missing. In Taiwan, five people died in falls and other accidents during the storm and three in a landslide in southern Kaohsiung County.

Reference:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/us-asia-storm-china-idUSKCN11Y1Y6>

<http://mashable.com/2016/09/26/typhoon-megi-hits-taiwan/#5FVcGodLm8qj>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Typhoon_Megi_\(2016\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Typhoon_Megi_(2016))

Delhi Police launches mobile application for senior citizens

Question: Name the mobile application launched by Delhi Police for senior citizens to enable them to reach out to the police quickly in emergency situations?

- (a) Delhi Police
- (b) Delhi Police Senior Citizen
- (c) Police Senior Citizen
- (d) Himmat

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On 1 October 2016 on the occasion of the International Day of Older Persons, the app 'Delhi Police Senior Citizen' was launched by mobile application for senior citizens to enable them to reach out to the police quickly in emergency situations.
- It was launched by Delhi Lt Governor Najeeb Jung and Police Commissioner Alok Kumar Verma.
- It will serve as an aid to the elderly in times of distress or in case of medical emergencies.
- They will be able to send an SOS through the application that will immediately be transferred to the SHO and beat constable concerned.
- Those registered on the app will have the facility of pressing an SOS button for emergency call to the senior citizens helpline 1291.
- An alert will go to 24X7 control room with location of the caller and a simultaneous alert in the form of an SMS will go to the area SHO, beat officer and a pre-assigned contact.
- Presently, 27,645 senior citizens are registered with Delhi Police.

Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/technology/tech-news-technology/delhi-police-launches-mobile-application-for-senior-citizens-3059800/>

<http://www.aninews.in/newsdetail-MTA/MjgxODU4/delhi-police-launches-mobile-app-for-senior-citizens.html>

<https://twitter.com/DelhiPolice/status/782179831630868480>

<https://twitter.com/DelhiPolice/status/782179831630868480>



SPORTS PERSONALITY

Neeraj Goyat

Question: Neeraj Goyat is related to which of the following sports?

- (a) Shooting
- (b) Boxing
- (c) Weightlifting
- (d) Gymnastics

Ans. (b)

Related facts:

- Indian boxer Neeraj Goyat has retain the WBC welterweight Asia title
- He won the title by defeating Australia's Ben Kite.
- WBC Asia Welterweight Championship was held at Talkatora stadium in New Delhi, India

Reference:

<http://www.asianboxingcouncil.com/result.php>

<http://indianexpress.com/article/sports/sport-others/indian-boxer-neeraj-goyat-retains-wbc-asia-welterweight-title-3085003/>

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/boxing/Neeraj-Goyat-retains-WBC-Asia-welterweight-title/articleshow/54871645.cms>



Saina Nehwal

Question: Who has been appointed as a member of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Athletes' Commission?

- (a) Sakshi Malik
- (b) Saina Nehwal
- (c) PV Sindhu
- (d) Abhinav Bindra

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- Indian Shuttle player Saina Nehwal has been appointed as a member of the International Olympic Committee's (IOC) Athletes' Commission.
- She received a letter to the effect from IOC President Thomas Bach on 17 October 2016.
- The Commission is chaired by Angela Ruggiero and comprises nine vice presidents and 10 other members.
- It may be recalled that in August, 2016 Chairperson of Reliance Foundation, Nita Ambani was elected as an individual member of International Olympic Committee.
- Nita Ambani became the first Indian woman to join the prestigious body which governs Olympic sports in the world.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/saina-nehwal-appointed-member-of-iocs-athletes-commission/article9233879.ece>



P.R Sreejesh

Question: Who will lead the Indian men's hockey team in the fourth Asian Champions Trophy (ACT)?

- (a) Sardar Singh
- (b) SV Sunil
- (c) Pradeep More
- (d) P.R Sreejesh



Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On 6 October 2016 Goalkeeper PR Sreejesh has been selected to lead an 18-member Indian men's hockey team in the fourth Asian Champions Trophy (ACT) to be held in Kuantan, Malaysia.
- The fourth Asian Champions Trophy (ACT) will be held from 20 October to 30 October 2016.
- Midfielder Manpreet Singh has been named as the vice-captain of the side for this tournament in place of SV Sunil.
- Asian Champions Trophy will see participation from India, Korea, Japan, China, hosts Malaysia and defending champions Pakistan.

Reference :

http://www.espn.in/field-hockey/story/_/id/17727101/sreejesh-lead-indian-men-asian-champions-trophy

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/hockey/top-stories/Sreejesh-to-lead-India-in-Asian-Champions-Trophy-Manpreet-named-vice-captain/articleshow/54711414.cms>

SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

Kabaddi World Cup-2016

Question : Who has won the recently held Kabaddi World Cup-2016?

- a) Iran
- b) Pakistan
- c) Nepal
- d) India

Ans: (d)



Related facts:

- From 7 to 22 October 2016; The 2016 Kabaddi World Cup was played in Ahmedabad, India.
- This is an international kabaddi tournament governed by the International Kabaddi Federation.
- Twelve countries had competed in the tournament.
- The participating teams are India, Australia, Bangladesh, England, Iran, Japan, Kenya, Poland, South Korea, Thailand, Argentina and the US.
- Pakistan was also going to be a part of the event, but due to ongoing tension between India and Pakistan, the latter was not allowed to participate.
- Result of the Tournament:
- India defeated Iran by a margin of 38-29 in the final.
- This was India's third consecutive Kabaddi World Cup in the Standard Style version of Kabaddi. Earlier India had won in 2004 and 2007.
- Anup Kumar was the captain of Indian team and Meraj Sheikh was the captain of Iranian team.
- Most Successful Raids Ajay Thakur, India (54 raids)
- Most Raid Point-Ajay Thakur (64 points)
- Kabaddi World Cup 2016 Best Emerging team-Kenya
- Most Valuable Player-Zhang Kun Lee (South Korea)

Reference :

<http://www.2016kabaddiworldcup.com/matchcentre/282-scorecard>

<http://www.2016kabaddiworldcup.com/news/1103-anup-kumar-coach-s-tactics-helped-us-win>