

Website-  dristi.in

NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

Year - 1



Vol. - 3

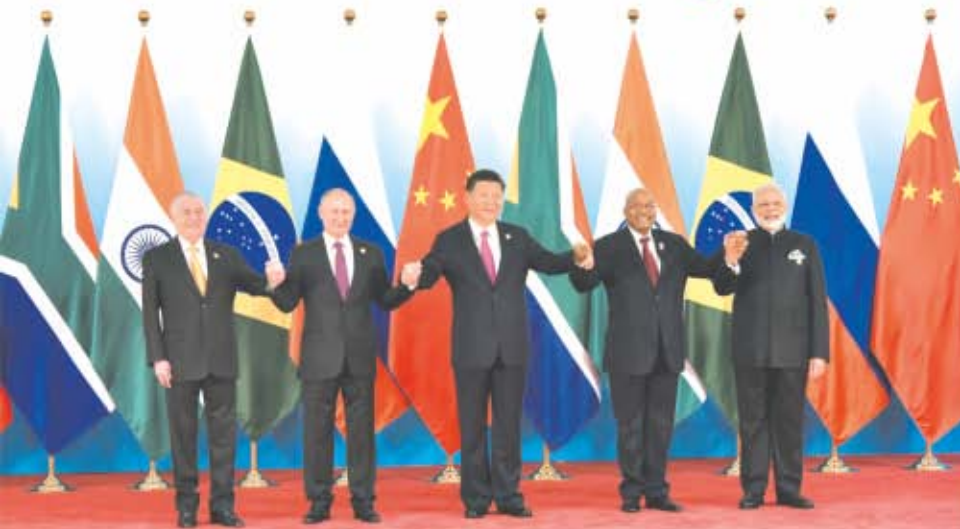


October, 2017



₹ 50.00

9th BRICS SUMMIT, 2017



SUPREME COURT
DECLARES
TRIPLE TALAQ
UNCONSTITUTIONAL



Right to
Privacy is a
Fundamental
Rights

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 December to 31st December) will benefit our beloved readers.

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

Contents

Preface	1
NATIONAL	7
9th BRICS Summit	7
Cabinet Reshuffle	8
Historical decision of the Supreme Court's constitutional bench on Triple Talaq	9
Supreme Court declares Right to Privacy to be Fundamental Right	11
Uttar Pradesh Civil Aviation Promotion Policy, 2017	12
'Mentor India'	13
Ground Water Conservation Mission	13
National Sports Awards – 2017	14
NITI Aayog to partners with 6 states to transform Health & Education.....	15
The Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill 2017.....	15
4th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems ..	16
Ramnath Kovind elected new President of the country.....	17
INTERNATIONAL	19
The 100 Richest Tech Billionaires in the World 2017	19
Forbes's list of the World Highest-Paid Actors.....	20
Fortune's annual '40 Under 40' list	20
List of 'World's Highest Paid Actresses-2017	21
The 15th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting	21
BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meet.....	22
7th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers.....	23
Sanctions on Russia, Iran, North Korea.....	23
ECONOMICS	24
New banknotes of Rs 200 issued by the Reserve Bank of India.....	24
Demerger of home finance from Reliance Capital	25
Lok Sabha passes State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017	25
Government to expand Logistics Data Bank project to South India.....	26
World Economic Outlook Update, July 2017	26
Scientific.....	27
DEFENSE/SCIENCE SHORT NOTES	27
Micropropulsion system based on liquid water	27
NASA's Cassini on final five orbits around Saturn	28
Commissioning of 'IN LCU L52 in Navy	28

Sports.....	29
TENNIS	29
Hall of Fame Tennis Championship	29
Croatia Open Umag-2017	29
Swedish Open-2017.....	30
German Open-2017.....	30
CRICKET	31
Indian cricket team tour of Sri Lanka, 2017 (Test series).....	31
BADMINTON	32
Eurasia Bulgarian Open-2017.....	32
US Open Grand Prix Gold.....	32
Russia Open Grand Prix-2017.....	33
BOXING	34
48th GRAND PRIX Boxing Tournament	34
Hosting rights for 2021 Men's World Boxing Championships awarded to India for the first time	34
GOLF	35
British Open 2017	35
ATHLETICS.....	35
World Para Athletics Championships 2017.....	35
SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS	36
Goodwill ambassador for the Handicap International	36
Common Wealth Youth Games.....	37
Cadet Asian Wrestling Championships, 2017	38
Goodwill ambassador for the Handicap International	38
Short Notes	39
PERSONALITIES.....	39
David Rasquinha	39
N.K. Jemisin	40
Interim CMD of Air India	40
M.K. Damodaran	41
Executive Director of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)	41
New CMD of TCIL.....	41
New Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF)	42
New Chief Financial Officer of Tata Motors Group	42

WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Physical Activity in South-East Asia Region	42
Vishal Sikka	43
New Secretary of Rajya Sabha.....	43
S. Paul	44
Russian New Envoy to India	44
Dr. Ruth Katherina Martha Pfau.....	45
E. Shankara Rao	45
Dr. Chandrakant Devtale.....	46
Dr. Bhakti Yadav	46
New Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL)	47
New Chairman and Managing Director of ITDC	47
Hussain Sayeeduddin Dagar	47
Robert Hardy	48
Santosh Mohan Dev.....	48
New Secretary General of FICCI	49
New Chairperson of Central Board of Film Certification	49
New elected Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board.....	50
Sanwar Lal Jat	50
New Chairman and Managing Director of SIDBI	51
Hassan Rouhani	52
Interim prime minister of Pakistan.....	52
Sam Shepard	53
Brand ambassador of UP cleanliness mission.....	53
N. Dharam Singh.....	53
John G. Morris	54
Inder Kumar	54
PLACES	55
Foundation Stone laid for the Second largest Cricket Stadium in the North-East	55
First overseas military base of China	55
Kerala, Haryana top sanitation survey.....	56
Assam declared as 'disturbed' area for another month	56
FMCG Britannia to set up a largest plant.....	57
AWARDS & HONORS.....	57
Prem Nazir Award.....	57

National Sports Awards – 2017	58
Ramon Magsaysay Award 2017	58
Firoz Merchant honored by the government of UAE	59
OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN	60
Exercise Indra	60
Special Cleanliness Drive.....	60
“Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali” Campaign	60
MMR vaccination campaign	61
COMMISSION & COMMITTEE	62
Cabinet approval for setting up of a Commission to examine the Sub-Categorization within OBCs.....	62
Committee to make drugs more affordable	63
Formation of expert group on data protection framework.....	63
PLANNING & PROJECT	64
‘SheMeansBusiness’ programme	64
Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana for Students	64
Cloud seeding (Varshadhari) project	65
Sanchar Kranti Yojna.....	65
Mobile App MyFASTag and FASTag Partner	66
Mukhya Mantri Medhavi Vidyarthi Yojana	67
Sexual Harassment Electronic-Box (SHE-Box)	67
National Trade Facilitation Action Plan	68
Mobile App ‘Arambh’	68
Website of Uttar Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority	69
BS-VI Emission Testing Facilities inaugurated	69
TREATY & AGREEMENTS	70
Nepal, China sign three pacts	70
Agreement between Rajasthan Government and HPCL.....	70
Agreement between India and Somalia	71
Agreement between Iraq and Iran	72
MoU between Airport Authority of India and Govt. of Uttarakhand	72
CONFERENCE.....	73
India-Asean Youth Summit 2017	73
First National Youth Fest of Ayurveda	73
National workshop on implementation of intellectual property rights	74

8th World Renewable Energy Technology Congress	74
National Water Convention for Drought Free India	75
Global Entrepreneurship Summit -2017	75
Life Style and Food Festival.....	76
8th Mekong Ganga Cooperation Ministerial Meeting.....	76
National Conference for Young SPs of States/UTs and Commandants of CAPFs.....	77
BRICS Youth Forum-2017	77
Meeting of Revenue Heads and Tax Experts of BRICS Countries	78
LAW & JUSTICE.....	78
Amendment in Wakf Act.....	78
Architect (Amendment) Bill-2010.....	79
Supreme Court strikes out immediate arrests in dowry cases	79
YEAR, DAY & WEEK.....	80
Sanskrit Day.....	80
National Deworming Day	80
World Humanitarian Day	81
International Youth Day.....	81
World BioFuel Day 2017	81
World Breastfeeding Week.....	82
International Tiger day	83
Statistics Day-2017	83
MISCELLANEOUS	84
Largest solar eclipse of the century.....	84
Inauguration of office and Residential Premises of National Investigation Agency	84
Namami Gange Jagriti Yatra.....	85
World's first Green Metro.....	85
Global Tiger day.....	86
Indian National Anthem video in sign language.....	86
Aadhaar number is compulsory for death registration	87

NATIONAL

9th BRICS Summit

Question: Where will the 10th BRICS Summit be organized?

(a) New Delhi (b) Johannesburg (c) Nanjing (d) St. Petersburg

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- From September 3rd -5th, 2017; the 9th BRICS Summit was organized in Xiamen, China.
- It is known that prior to this, the 3rd BRICS Summit was held in April 2011 in Sanya, China.
- The 9th summit was chaired by China President Xi Jinping.
- The theme of this summit was 'BRICS: Stronger Partnership for Brighter Future'.
- President of hosting nation Xi Jinping, Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi, Brazilian President Michel Temer, Russian President Vladimir Putin and South African President Jacob Zuma participated in the three-day summit.
- In this Summit, discussions were held to increase cooperation between the member countries in economic areas.
- In this summit, Prime Minister Narendra Modi emphasized on terrorism as a threat to the entire world and adhered to deal it strictly.
- During this summit, BRICS member countries adopted 71-point 'Xiamen Declaration' on September 4, 2017.
- In the joint declaration, without naming the Pakistan, it has been condemned for the terrorist attacks in the member countries, it has been said that this organization condemns every kind of terrorism around the world, including BRICS countries, wherever the attacks are done, whoever did these, terrorist activities cannot be considered as correct in any way.
- Understanding India's concern over Pakistan-induced terrorism, BRICS member-states for the first time bracketed Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Taiba (LeT), Jaish-e-Mohammed (JeM), and Haqqani network with the Islamic State, paving the way for strong future action against these globally outlawed terror outfits and termed these organization as a threat to security, convicted for violence.
- The other groups which have been named include Taliban, ISIS / DAISH and Al Qaeda.
- This is the first time that a BRICS declaration has named these terrorist groups and expressed concern over its activities.
- **During the BRICS summit-2017, the following 4 documents were signed in presence of BRICS leaders on September 4, 2017-**
 - 1- BRICS Action Agenda on Economic and Trade Cooperation
 - 2- BRICS Action Plan for Innovation Cooperation(2017-2020)
 - 3- Strategic Framework of BRICS Customs Cooperation
 - 4- Memorandum of Understanding between the BRICS Business Council and the New Development Bank on Strategic Cooperation



- Significantly, the term BRIC was first used by Goldman Sachs in the context of the study of global economic trends in the coming half-century in 2001, in his global economic paper, "The World Needs Better Economic BRICs".
- BRICS is the acronym for an association of five major emerging national economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
- The first formal summit was held in Yekaterinburg, Russia.
- It was established in 2009. Originally it was known as BRIC before the inclusion of South Africa in 2011 and thereafter it became BRICS.
- Together, they account for 26.46% of world land area, 42.58% of world population.
- According to IMF's estimates, BRICS countries generated 22.53% of the world GDP.
- Johannesburg, South Africa will host the '10th BRICS Summit' in 2018.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170490>

Cabinet Reshuffle

Question- In relation to the expansion of the Union Cabinet on September 3, 2017, consider the following statements-

- (i) 4 Cabinet and 9 Minister of State in the Union Cabinet were included.
- (ii) Piyush Goyal becomes the new railway minister of the country.
- (iii) Nitin Gadkari becomes the new defense minister of the country.
- (iv) Dharmendra Pradhan became the new Commerce and Industry Minister of the country.

Which of the above statements is / are correct?

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

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On September 3, 2017; the Union Cabinet was expanded and reshuffled.
- 4 ministers were promoted to cabinet ministers and 9 new state ministers inducted to the ministry.
- President Ramnath Kovind administered oath of office and secrecy to all these new ministers in a function organized at Rashtrapati Bhavan.
- The 4 ministers who were promoted to cabinet rank are Dharmendra Pradhan, Piyush Goyal, Nirmala Sitharaman and Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi.
- Nirmala Sitharaman, who was previously the Minister of State (Independent Charge) in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, has been given the charge of Defence Ministry.
- Significantly, after 35 years, the country has got the female defense minister.
- Prior to this, Indira Gandhi had held additional charge of the defence ministry while being the Prime Minister.
- Apart from this, Piyush Goyal has been given the charge of Minister of Railways (with additional charge of the Coal Ministry), Dharmendra Pradhan has been given charge of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (with additional charge of Skill Development) and Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi has been given charge of Minority Affairs Ministry.
- Out of the 9 newly appointed State Ministers, three ministers have been given independent charge.



- Hardeep Singh Puri became Minister of State for Housing and Urban Development (Independent Charge), Rajkumar Singh became Minister of State for Power (Independent Charge) and Minister of State for New and Renewable Energy (Independent Charge), and Alphons Kannanthanam has been appointed as Minister of State (independent charge) and Electronics and Tourism Minister of State for Information Technology.
- Apart from this, Rajendra Singh Shekhawat is now the Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Dr. Satyapal Singh, Minister of State for Human Resource Development and Minister of State for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Protection, Shiv Pratap Shukla, Minister of State for Finance, Dr. Virendra Kumar Minister of State in the Ministry of Child Development and Ministry of Minority Affairs, Ashwini Kumar Choubey Minister of State Health and Family Welfare and Ananth Kumar Hegde was made Minister of State for skills development and entrepreneurship.
- **A change has also been made in the departments of some of the Senior Ministers as-**
 1. Suresh Prabhu-Ministry of Commerce & Industry
 2. Uma Bharti- Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation
 3. Nitin Gadkari- Additional charge of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Protection Ministry
 4. Giriraj Singh-Minister of State in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (Independent Charge)).
 5. Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore – Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and Minister of State in the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- After this expansion, now the strength of the Union council of ministers is 76.
- Of these, 27 are Cabinet Ministers, 11 are Minister of State (Independent Charge) and 37 are Ministers of State.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/narendramodi/status/904220665267445760>

Historical decision of the Supreme Court's constitutional bench on Triple Talaq

Question: Recently, a five-member Constitution Bench headed by Chief Justice of the Supreme Court ended triple Talaq (Talaq-e-Biddat). Which was the world's first country to ban the Triple Talaq?

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

Answer: (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 22, 2017, the five-judge constitution bench, by a majority of 3:2 said the practice of “‘talaq-e-biddat’ triple talaq is set aside”.
- Triple Talaq allows Muslim men to divorce their wives by simply uttering the word ‘Talaq’ three times in succession.
- The Supreme Court has marked it unconstitutional under Article 14, 15 of the Indian Constitution.



- The five-judge bench headed by Chief Justice JS Khekar comprises of Justice Kurian Joseph, Justice Rohinton Nariman, Justice Uday Lalit and Justice Abdul Nazeer had begun the hearing on May 11th.
- Justice J. S. Khehar and Justice Abdul Nazir considered three divorces wrong in the minority decision, but refused to cancel/end it.
- The two separate judgements, written for majority by Justices Kurian Joseph and R F Nariman, did not concur with the CJI and Justice S Abdul Nazeer that 'Triple Talaq' was a part of religious practice and the government should step and come out with a law.
- The apex court put a six-month stay on the practice, directing Parliament to enact a law within the given time period.
- The Supreme Court (in the opinion of majority) said that 'three divorces are non-religious and non-Islamic. This is not an integral part of Islam. Any such thing which is illogical cannot be allowed. Which is wrong in religion, cannot be right in law.
- It is worth mentioning that in the year 2016, a Muslim woman 'Shayara Bano' from Dehradun filled this petition.
- On March 30, 2017, the three-member bench of the Supreme Court handed over the case of the triple talaq cases to the constitutional bench of five judges.
- Court friend (Amicus Curiae) senior lawyer Salman Khurshid told the apex court, "The right and the responsibilities of a man and a woman in marriage under Islam are divided.
- Quran prescribes a three-month process for divorce giving opportunity for arbitration and reconciliation. It is difficult to understand the Islamic law by contrasting it to modern day sensibilities."
- **Chief Justice J.S. Khehar clarified that "The matter can be summed up in three points:**
 - Whether triple talaq is fundamental to Islam; if it is fundamental we have to see if we can interfere?
 - Whether it is sacramental or not.
 - Whether there is an enforceable fundamental right that is violated.
- **The following questions were raised before the Supreme Court by the Central Government-**
 1. Under the Constitution, under the authority of Religious Freedom (Article 25), three divorces, Nikah-Halala and polygamy can be allowed or not?
 2. Which should be given priority? The right to equality (Article 14) , right to live with dignity (Article 21) or the right to religious freedom (Article. 25)
 3. The personal law is in accordance with article 13 of the Constitution will be considered as law or not?
 4. Whether the three divorces, Nikah-Halala and polygamy are true under the international laws which India has also signed.
- At present there are at least 22 Islamic countries which have completely abolished this practice.
- These countries include Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Algeria, Tunisia etc.
- Egypt was the first country to end this practice in the year 1929.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/resources/article19539934.ece/BINARY/Triple%20talaq%20verdict>

<http://abpnews.abplive.in/india-news/sc-says-triple-talaq-is->

Supreme Court declares Right to Privacy to be Fundamental Right

Question: On August 24th, 2017, Constitution Bench presided by the CJI Justice J.S. Khehar, unanimously declared the right to privacy as the fundamental right. The bench comprises how many judges?

(A) 5 (B) 8 (C) 9 (D) 6

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- On August 24th, 2017, in a landmark verdict, the right to privacy was declared a fundamental right under the Constitution by the Supreme Court.
- The verdict was delivered by a nine-judge Constitution bench headed by Chief Justice J S Khehar.
- The nine-judge Bench comprised, besides Chief Justice Khehar, Justices J. Chelameswar, S.A. Bobde, R.K. Agrawal, Rohinton F. Nariman, Abhay Manohar Sapre, D.Y. Chandrachud, Sanjay Kishan Kaul and S Abdul Nazeer.
- The judgement, which will have a bearing on the lives of all Indians, said that “the right to privacy is protected as an intrinsic part of the right to life and personal liberty under Article 21 and as a part of the freedoms guaranteed by Part III of the Constitution.”
- The CJI pronounced the summary of concurring verdicts as “the decision in M P Sharma (1950) which holds that the right to privacy is not protected by the Constitution stands over-ruled and “The decision in Kharak Singh (1962) to the extent that it holds that the right to privacy is not protected by the Constitution stands over-ruled”
- Justices J Chelameswar, S A Bobde, Abhay Manohar Sapre, Rohinton Fali Nariman and Sanjay Kishan Kaul wrote separate, but concurring verdicts running into 547-pages.
- It is worth mentioning that this decision is linked to petitions challenging the decision of central government making of Aadhaar card mandatory to take advantage of various public welfare programs.
- Step wise proceeding in the Supreme Court-
- 7th July 2017 – The Bench of three judges said that the final arrangement will give a big back on the issues raised on the basis and the Chief Justice of India will decide on the need to constitute Constitution Bench.
- 7th July – The matter was raised before the Chief Justice, the constitution of the five-member constitution bench for hearing.
- July 18 – A five-judge Constitution bench decided to constitution of a bench of nine judges to decide on the Right of privacy matter and to declare it as fundamental rights under the constitution and to decide about the correctness of the arrangements given in the cases respectively Kharak Singh (1960) and M.P.Sharma (1950).
- According to the decision taken in both the above cases, the Right to Privacy is not the fundamental right.
- 19 July – The Supreme Court said that the Right to Privacy cannot be absolute, it can be regulated.
- 19 July – The Center told the Supreme Court that the Right to Privacy is not the fundamental right.



- 26 July – Four States Karnataka, West Bengal, Punjab and Puducherry, ruled by non-BJP, reached the court in favor of the Right to Privacy.
- 26 July – The Center told the court that the Right to Privacy can be a fundamental right, but with some exceptions / conditions.
- 27 July – The Maharashtra government told the court that the right to privacy is not a 'only' thing, it is a broad idea.
- August 1st – The court said that there should be 'detailed' guidelines for safeguarding the personal information of the person on public platform.
- 2 August – The court said that the principle of safety of privacy in the technology era is a 'lost battle', the decision is kept safe.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/privacy-is-a-fundamental-right-under-article-21-rules-supreme-court/article19551224.ece>

Uttar Pradesh Civil Aviation Promotion Policy, 2017

Question: Which one of the following is not correct regarding 'Uttar Pradesh Civil Aviation Promotion Policy- 2017'?

- (a) The Uttar Pradesh cabinet approved the policy of August 23rd, 2017.
- (b) The policy aims to provide adequate support for the development of Civil Aviation Infrastructure.
- (c) The policy aims to encourage the development of air cargo hubs.
- (d) The policy aims to promote the export of agricultural products of the state.



Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On August 22nd, 2017, Uttar Pradesh Cabinet approved the Uttar Pradesh Civil Aviation Policy, 2017.
- Its purpose is to promote the civil aviation sector in the State.
- **This policy includes the following provisions-**
 - (1) Providing adequate support for the development of Civil Aviation Infrastructure.
 - (2) Attract investment.
 - (3) Incentives to promote air connectivity by developing new routes under the Regional Connectivity Scheme.
 - (4) State's non-RCS Providing facility of inter connectivity between the airport.
 - (5) Encourage the development of air cargo hubs.
 - (6) Promotion of export of state agricultural products etc.
 - (7) Making various provisions for the development of MRO facilities.
- The proposed decision will encourage business activities in the civil aviation sector of the state and the benefits of air services to the public at concessional rates.

Related Links:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=545

‘Mentor India’

Question: Which organization recently launched the ‘Mentor India’ campaign nationwide?

- (a) Ministry of Human Resource Development (b) Prime Minister’s Office
(c) NITI Aayog (d) University Grants Commission

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- On August 23rd, 2017, CEO of the NITI Aayog Launched nationwide initiative ‘Mentor India’ campaign.
- Mentor India is aimed at maximizing the impact of Atal Tinkering Labs, possibly the biggest disruption in formal education globally.
- This campaign a strategic nation building initiative to engage leaders who can guide and mentor students at more than 900 Atal Tinkering Labs, established across the country as a part of the Atal Innovation Mission.
- NITI Aayog is looking for leaders who can spend anywhere between one to two hours every week in one or more such labs to enable students experience, learn and practice future skills such as design and computational thinking.
- It is worth mentioning that Atal Tinkering Labs are dedicated works spaces where students from Class 6th to Class 12th learn innovation skills and develop ideas that will go on to transform India.
- These labs are powered to acquaint students with state-of-the-art equipment such as 3D printers, robotics & electronics development tools, Internet of things & sensors etc.
- It is known that NITI Aayog’s Atal Innovation Mission is among one of the flagship programs of the Government of India to promote innovation and entrepreneurship in the country to set up the Atal Tinkering Labs across the country.
- The Mission has/is in the process of setting up 900+ such labs across India and aims to have 2,000 such labs by end of 2017.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170154>

Ground Water Conservation Mission

Question: Under the Ground Water Conservation Mission, how many development blocks and cities have been selected in Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) 240 development blocks, 15 cities (b) 255 development blocks, 18 cities
(c) 271 development blocks, 22 cities (d) 285 development blocks, 22 cities

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- On August 17th, 2017, Uttar Pradesh cabinet gave its approval to the decision of the Ground Water Department to run a Ground Water Conservation Mission.
- This will be the first of its own kind mission at State level for ground water conservation.



- Its purpose is to implement various programs for rainwater harvesting and integrated management of ground water resources in mission mode with public participation.
- Under this mission 271, developmental blocks and 22 cities have been selected.
- This mission will be operated in 15 development blocks of the Bundelkhand region and 7 development blocks in the eastern region in the financial year 2017-18.
- A master plan based on the watershed principle in these selected development blocks will be built for recharging.
- To convert water conservation into a mass movement, water panchayat at the village level and ground water force at the district level are being set up.
- The Ground Water Force will work to spread awareness of the importance of ground water amongst the general public.
- The main purpose of the Water Panchayat is to ensure water conservation and its proper use in the rehabilitated ponds by encouraging community efforts.
- Most of the members of Water Panchayat will be women and 10-20% will be male members.
- To ensure successful implementation of the mission Geological Water Department will provide with important data and master plan of various departments.
- Under various Schemes (such as MNREGA, Prime Minister Agriculture Irrigation Scheme, National Agricultural Development Scheme, Bundelkhand Package and National Drinking Water Program) through participation by different departments the pond redevelopment, check dam construction, farm pond construction, the reconstruction of the bandhas, the Kantur / Peripheral band etc. will be constructed.

Reference:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=531

National Sports Awards – 2017

Question: Who among the following has been awarded with the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in 2017?

(a) Devendra (b) P.V. Sindhu (c) Virat Kohli (d) Pankaj Advani

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 22 August 2017 National Sports Awards 2017 winners were announced.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2017 has been conferred to Devendra (Para Athlete) and Sardar Singh (Hockey).
- Late Dr. R. Gandhi (Athletics) has been selected for the Dronacharya Award, along with Heera Nand Kataria (Kabaddi), G.S.S.V. Prasad, (Badminton -Lifetime), Brij Bhushan Mohanty (Boxing – Lifetime), P.A. Raphel (Hockey – Lifetime), Sanjoy Chakraverthy (Shooting -Lifetime) Roshan Lal (Wrestling – Lifetime).
- This time seventeen sportspersons will be honoured with the Arjuna Award and three with the Dhyan Chand Award.
- V.J. Surekha (Archery), Khushbir Kaur (Athletics), Arokie Rajiv (Athletics), Prasanthi Singh (Basketball), Sub. Laishram Debendro Singh (Boxing), Cheteshwar Pujara (Cricket), Harmanpreet Kaur (Cricket), Oinam Bembem Devi (Football), S.S.P. Chawrasia (Golf), S.V. Sunil (Hockey), Jasvir Singh (Kabaddi), P. N. Prakash (Shooting), A. Amalraj (Table Tennis), Mr. Saketh Myneni (Tennis), Satyawart Kadian (Wrestling), Mr.

Mariyappan (Para-Athlete), Mr. Varun Singh Bhati (Para-Athlete) will be honoured with the Arjuna Award.

- Bhupender Singh (Athletics), Syed Shahid Hakim (Football) and Sumarai Tete (Hockey) were selected for the Dhyan Chand Award.
- Apart from a medal and a citation, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awardee will receive a cash prize of Rs.7.5 lakh.
- Arjuna, Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand Awardees will receive statuettes, certificates and cash prize of Rs.5 lakh each.
- The awardees will received their awards from the President of India at a specially organized function at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on August 29, 2017.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170149>

NITI Aayog to partners with 6 states to transform Health & Education

Question: Who among the following is the chairman of the NITI Ayog?

(a) The Prime Minister (b) The Finance Minister (c) The Union Home Minister (d) The President

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On August 8, 2017, NITI Aayog announced partnership with three States each to radically transform their Health and Education sectors.
- NITI Aayog has selected Uttar Pradesh, Assam, and Karnataka to improve healthcare delivery and key outcomes in these States.
- In Education, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, and Jharkhand have been selected for support to better learning outcomes.
- The six States have been chosen after a rigorous competitive process based on comprehensive metrics to determine potential for impact and likelihood of success.
- The chosen States have committed to time-bound, governance reforms in both sectors. A Program Management Unit to push for efficiency and efficacy in governance structures and service delivery will now be available in the six chosen States for a period of 30 months.



Resource links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169758>

The Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill 2017

Question:- Recently the Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill, 2017 was passed unanimously by.....

(a) Rajya Sabha (b) Lok Sabha (c) Both (a & b) (d) Legislative assembly of Uttar Pradesh

Answer: (a)

Related facts:-

- On July 24, 2017, the Admiralty (Jurisdiction and Settlement of Maritime Claims) Bill, 2017



Passed Unanimously by Rajya Sabha.

- The Bill aims to establish a legal framework for consolidation of related laws to replace the age old archaic laws with modern Indian legislation and to confer admiralty jurisdiction on all High Courts of the coastal states of the country. The bill was earlier passed by the Lok Sabha in March, 2017.
- The bill when enacted will repeal five different Admiralty Acts which are 126 to 177 years old.
- The Bill provides for prioritization of maritime claims and maritime liens while providing protection to owners, charterers, operators, crew members and seafarers at the same time.
- As per the new Bill, High Courts of all the coastal states shall exercise admiralty jurisdiction over maritime claims which include several aspects not limited to goods imported, but also other claims such as payment of wages of seamen, loss of life, salvages, mortgage, loss or damage, services and repairs, insurance, ownership and lien, threat of damage to environment etc.
- The Bill accords highest priority to payment of wages of the seafarers. The Bill also provides for protection against wrongful and unjustified arrest and has provision for transfer of cases from one High Court to other High Court.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=168943>

4th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems

Question: 4th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems was organized from July 6-8, 2017 in ...

(a) Bangalore (b) Indore (c) New Delhi (d) Jaipur

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- The 4th National Summit on Good, Replicable Practices and Innovations in Public Health Care Systems was organized at Indore, Madhya Pradesh from July 6 -8, 2017.
- It was organized by National Health Mission, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India and National Health Mission, Madhya Pradesh.
- The representatives of all the states and Union Territories of India participated in this conference.
- The Health Ministry awarded various States and Union Territories on the basis of Health Indicators and Service Delivery.
- The award for best performing States in the category of indoor services (based on change of IPD/1000 population from 2015-16 to 2016-17-HMIS) was given to Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gujarat respectively and Daman and Diu got the award among the Union Territories.



- For the best out-patient services, the award was given to Gujarat, Punjab and Jharkhand respectively whereas Dadra and Nagar Haveli got the award amongst the Union Territories.
- For, average out of pocket expenditure per delivery in public health facility, the award was given to Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand and Chhattisgarh respectively. This award was given to Dadra and Nagar Haveli amongst the Union Territories.
- The award for decline in IMR (infant mortality rate) was given to Jammu and Kashmir and West Bengal among the bigger states, Manipur received it amongst the smaller states and Puduchery amongst the UTs.
- Best Performance in Revised National TB Control Programme was given to Assam and Himachal Pradesh respectively.
- Apart from this *Kayakalp Awards* of Madhya Pradesh, 2017 were also given in the program.
- The first prize was given to Bhind and Tikamgarh, the second to Satna and Shivpuri and the third to Khandwa.

Reference:

<http://ccebdm.org/4th%20National%20Summit-Indore.pdf>

Ramnath Kovind elected new President of the country

Question- Consider the following facts related to the President of India:

(I) All doubts and disputes arising out of the Presidential election will be investigated and decided by the Election Commission.

(II) On the nomination papers of the presidential candidate, there must be at least 50 members of the electoral board and as signatories and at least 50 members as the proposers.

(III) The President's electoral board consists of elected and nominated members of the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies.

(IV) The president is elected by single transferable vote according to the proportional representation method.

Which of the above statements is / are correct?

(a) Only (ii) and (iv) (b) Only (i) and (iv) (c) Only (i),(ii) and (iii) (d) Only (iv)

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On July 20, 2017, results of India's 15th Presidential election were announced.
- National Democratic Alliance (NDA) candidate and former Bihar Governor Ramnath Kovind was elected as the 14th President of the country by getting 65.65 percent (702044) votes.
- He defeated United Progressive Alliance (UPA) candidate Meera Kumar, who got around 34.35 percent (367,314) votes.
- On 25th July, 2017 Ramnath Kovind was administered oath of office and secrecy by the Chief Justice of India (CJI), Justice J.S. Khehar.
- Mr Ramnath Kovind succeeded Pranab Mukherjee whose tenure ended on July 24, 2017.
- Ramnath Kovind was born in Parounkh village of Kanpur Dehat district of Uttar Pradesh in the year 1945.
- He practiced law in Delhi High Court and Supreme Court for 16 years.
- He was a Rajya Sabha member from 1994-2006.



- Apart from this, he was the President of the Bhartiya Janata Party's Dalit Morcha from 1998 to 2002.
- He was Governor of Bihar from August, 2015 to 20 June, 2017.
- According to article 52 of Indian Constitution, there shall be a President of India.under Article 53 (1) The executive power of the Union shall be vested in the President and shall be exercised by him either directly or through officers subordinate to him in accordance with the Constitution. According to article 77 (1), All executive action of the Government of India shall be expressed to be taken in the name of the President.
- Under Article 53 (2), the supreme command of the Defence Forces of the Union shall be vested in the President and the exercise thereof shall be regulated by law.
- Thus, the head of state of the Republic of India is the President.
- Notification of 15th Presidential election for the election of India's 14th President was released on June 14, 2017
- Anup Mishra, general secretary of the Lok Sabha, was appointed the Returning Officer for this election by the Election Commission.
- Polling for the election was held on July 17, 2017.
- According to Article 55 (3) of the Constitution, The election of the President shall be held in accordance with the system of proportional representation by means of the single transferable vote and the voting at such election shall be by secret ballot .
- Under Article 54, the electoral college for the President's election is made up of ...
- Elected members of both the Houses of Parliament,
- Elected members of the State Legislatures (including the Legislative Assemblies of National Capital Region of Delhi and Puducherry).
- Nominated members of the Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and State Legislative Assemblies are not included in the electoral board of the Presidential Election.
- By the 70th Constitution Amendment, 1992 members of the, two Union Territories NCR, Delhi and Puducherry, were inducted in the electoral college of the President.
- Under article 324 of the Constitution, the superintendence, direction and control of the elections, for the posts of President and Vice Presidential candidates is also vested in the Election Commission of India, along with the Parliament and each State Legislature.
- On the nomination papers of the presidential candidate, there must be at least 50 members of the electoral board as signatories and at least 50 members as the proposers.
- Under Article 58 (1), a person will be eligible to be elected president only when he is
- a citizen of India,
- 35 years of age,
- Eligible to be elected as member of Lok Sabha.
- Article 58 (2) It is prescribed that a person who holds a post of profit under the control of either the Government of India or any state government or under any local or other authority under any of the said governments, Will not be eligible to be elected as President.
- However, for the purposes of Article 58, a person shall not be deemed to hold any office of profit for this reason only because he is the President of the Union or the Vice President or the Governor of any State or minister of the Union or any State.
- According to article 71 (1) of the Constitution, all doubts and disputes arising out of the election of the President or Vice President will be investigated and decided by the Supreme Court and its decision will be final.

- Among the former Presidents of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad was the only person who was elected twice in the year 1952 and 1957.
- While N. Sanjeev Reddy was the only person to be elected unanimously (year 1977) for this post.

Related Links:-

http://eci.nic.in/eci_main1/current/Result_20072017.pdf

INTERNATIONAL

The 100 Richest Tech Billionaires in the World 2017

Question: On August 23rd, 2017, the list of the 100 richest tech billionaires-2017 is released by 'Forbes'. Who amongst the following is at the top on this list this year?

(a) Mark Zuckerberg (b) Bill Gates (c) Jeff Bezos (d) Larry Page

Answer: (b)

Related facts:



- On August 23rd, 2017, the prestigious American magazine 'Forbes' released the list of 'The 100 Richest Tech Billionaires in the World 2017'.
- For the first time on Forbes' third annual Richest In Tech list, the 100 richest self-made tech billionaires are worth more than \$1 trillion.
- Microsoft founder Bill Gates maintains his spot as the richest person in tech (and the richest person in the world) this year with a net worth estimated at \$85.4 billion.
- Gates is followed by Amazon.com CEO and founder Jeff Bezos with \$ 81.7 billion worth of assets.
- Co-founder, President and CEO of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg got the 3rd position this year with a net worth of \$ 69.6 billion.
- Larry Ellison, founder, and CEO of Oracle secured the fourth position with net worth of \$ 59.3 billion.
- Larry Page, CEO Alphabet (Parent Company of Google), ranked 5th with a net worth of \$ 43.9 billion.
- This list includes two Indian Tech Billionaires.
- Chairman of Wipro Ltd. Azim Premji ranked 15th with an asset of \$ 18.2 billion US dollars in the list.
- HCL co-founder Shiv Nadar got the 18th position in the list with net worth of \$ 13.5 billion.
- 6 women Tech billionaires have been included in this list in which Zhou Qunfei, Head of the Lens Technology, (a flat-glass screen supplier whose customers include Apple) is at the top (overall at 26th).

- It is noteworthy that there are seven male newcomers and one female (Wang Laichun Head of electronics manufacturer Luxshare Precision Industry) newcomer on the list this year.
- The United States continues to dominate the Richest ion Tech list, followed by China.

Reference:

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/katevinton/2017/08/23/100-richest-tech-billionaires-2017/#2642b3722d51>

Forbes' s list of the World Highest-Paid Actors

Question: How many Indian actors have been included in the Forbes list of World Highest-Paid Actors, 2017?

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

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On August 22nd, 2017, prestigious magazine Forbes released the World Highest-Paid Actors list, 2017.
- This list covers the world's top 20 paid actors.
- Famous American actor Mark Wahlberg is at the top of the list with a net worth of \$ 68 million.
- After this, American actor Dwayne Johnson is ranked second with a net worth of US \$ 65 million.
- American actors Vin Diesel with \$ 54.5 million and Adam Sandler with the US \$ 50.5 million are at third and fourth place respectively.
- Chinese actor Jackie Chan with earning of US \$ 49 million is at fifth place.
- In this list of 2017, 3 Indian actors have got a place.
- Famous Bollywood actor Shahrukh Khan was ranked 8th with earnings of US \$ 38 million.
- Bollywood actors Salman Khan with earnings US \$ 37 million and Akshay Kumar with earnings of US \$ 35.5 million ranked at ninth and tenth respectively.



Reference:

<https://www.forbes.com/pictures/599b0ba431358e60d7768f66/the-worlds-highest-paid-a/#1ed040b23960>

Fortune' s annual '40 Under 40' list

Question: Fortune Magazine recently released annual list for the year 2017 '40 Under 40 ', the most influential young people in the business. Who is at the top on this list?

(a) Mark Zuckerberg (b) Emanuel Macron (c) Leo Varadkar
(d) Brian Chesky

Answer- (b)

Related Facts:

- On August 18th, 2017, Fortune Magazine released annual list for the year 2017 '40 Under 40 ', the most influential young people in the business.
- The list comprises disruptors, innovators, rebels, and artists etc. inspiring others



- In this list, Emanuel Macron from France is at the top.
- Macron is the France's youngest leader since Napoleon swept the presidential elections in May 2017.
- Founder of Facebook Mark Zuckerberg is at the second position, founder of Didi Chuxing Cheng Wei and Jean Liu is at third, while the co-founders of Airbnb Brian Chesky, Nathan Blecharczyk, and Joe Gebbia secured the fourth rank in the list.
- Ireland's new Prime Minister Leo Varadkar (Hindu immigrant from India) is put at fifth rank in the list.
- Total five Indian including Varadkar is in the list.
- The other four Indians are –Divya Nag (27th Rank), Rishi Shah and Shradha Agarwal (38th Rank), Leila Janah (40thRank).

Reference:

<http://fortune.com/40-under-40/>

List of 'World's Highest Paid Actresses-2017

Question:-Which of the following Indian actress secured a place in list of the world's highest paid actresses-2017, released by the prestigious magazine 'Forbes' on August 16th, 2017?

(a) Deepika Padukone (b) Priyanka Chopra (c) Kareena Kapoor (d) No Indian actress

Ans: (d)

Related facts:-

- On August 16th, 2017, the list of 'World's Highest Paid Actresses-2017' was released by the prestigious magazine 'Forbes'.
- Famous American actress Emma Stone got the top position in the list with the income of US \$ 26 million.
- After this American actress Jennifer Aniston remained at second place with US \$ 25.5 million.
- Famous American actress Jennifer Lawrence, who remained at top in the last 2 years (2015 and 2016), got the third place with \$ 24 million earnings this year.
- In the list, American actress Melissa McCarthy ranked fourth with a net worth of \$ 18 million.
- American actress Mila Kunis finished fifth with a net worth of US \$ 15.5 million.
- No Indian actress was able to secure a place in this list this year.
- It is worth mentioning that in the last year (2016), the famous actress Deepika Padukone was at 10th position with a net worth of US \$ 10 million.



Related Links:-

<https://www.forbes.com/sites/natalierobehmed/2017/08/16/the-worlds-highest-paid-actresses-2017-emma-stone-leads-with-26-million/#1bf1bd8811e6>

The 15th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting

Question: At which of the places 15th BIMSTEC ministerial meeting of concluded during August 10th-11th, 2017?

(a) Dhaka (b) Thimpu (c) Kathmandu (d) Colombo



Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- During August 10th-11th, 2017, the 15th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting concluded in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- Nepal's Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba inaugurated the meeting.
- Smt. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister of the Government of the Republic of India attended the meeting.
- Apart from this, the Foreign Ministers of Nepal, Bangladesh, Bhutan and Sri Lanka and Minister of State for External Affairs of Myanmar and Deputy Foreign Minister of Thailand attended the meeting.
- In this two-day meeting, the Foreign Ministers of BIMSTEC member countries reviewed the progress made in 16 different areas so far.
- Along with this, discussions have also been taken place to increase mutual cooperation in the future.
- It is notable that BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) is a sub-regional group of seven countries in South Asia and South-East Asia.
- The seven member countries of BIMSTEC include Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- It was founded on June 6th, 1997.
- Its headquarters is located in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- At present, BIMSTEC is headed by Nepal.

Reference:

[http://www.mea.gov.in/outgoing-visit-](http://www.mea.gov.in/outgoing-visit-detail.htm?28862/Joint+Statement+of+the+15th+BIMSTEC+Ministerial+Meeting+August+11+2017)

[detail.htm?28862/Joint+Statement+of+the+15th+BIMSTEC+Ministerial+Meeting+August+11+2017](http://www.mea.gov.in/outgoing-visit-detail.htm?28862/Joint+Statement+of+the+15th+BIMSTEC+Ministerial+Meeting+August+11+2017)

BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meet

Question: Where did the BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meet take place recently?

(a) Shanghai (b) Nanjing (c) Beijing (d) Chongqing

Answer- (d)

Related facts:

- BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meet took place at Chongqing, China on July 26-27, 2017.
- China is the chair for the BRICS Labour & Employment Ministers' Meet for the year 2017.
- The delegation of BRICS countries Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa participated in this two-day meeting.
- Indian delegation was led by Shri Bandaru Dattatreya, the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Labour & Employment.
- The meeting concluded with the adoption of the BRICS Labour and Employment Ministerial Declaration by the BRICS Labour and Employment Ministers.
- The Declaration covered a variety of areas that are of critical importance to all BRICS countries and called upon strengthening collaboration and cooperation on these through appropriate institutionalisation.



- These areas consisted of : “Governance in the Future of Work”, “Skills for development in BRICS”, “Universal and sustainable social security systems”, “BRICS Network of Labour Research Institutions”, “BRICS Social Security Cooperation Framework” and “BRICS entrepreneurship research”.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/LabourMinistry/status/890425578226163713>

7th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers

Question:The 7th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers was held on August 1-2, 2017, in ...

(a) Nanjing (b) Shanghai (c) Beijing (d) Guangzhou

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- The 7th Meeting of BRICS Trade Ministers was held in Shanghai, China on August 1-2, 2017.
- The meeting was presided over by Mr. Zhong Shan, Minister of Commerce from China.
- A six-member Indian delegation was led by Commerce and Industry Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman.
- The other delegations were represented by Mr. Rob Davies, Minister of Trade and Industry (South Africa), Mr. Marcelo Maia Tavares de Araujo, Secretary of Commerce and Services of Ministry of Industry (Brazil) and Mr. Maxim Oreshkin, Minister of Economic Development (Russia).
- The Ministers adopted the following documents at the conclusion of the meeting:
 - 7th BRICS Trade Ministers’ Joint Statement.
 - BRICS Trade in Services Cooperation Roadmap.
 - BRICS E-Commerce Cooperation Initiative.
 - BRICS IPR Cooperation Guidelines.
 - Framework on strengthening the Economic and Technical Cooperation of BRICS Countries.
 - Terms of Reference (ToR) of BRICS Model E-Port Network.
 - Outlines for BRICS Investment Facilitation.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169426>

Sanctions on Russia, Iran, North Korea

Question- Against which of the following countries has the United States imposed sanctions?

(a) China, Pakistan, Russia (b) Russia, Iran, North Korea (c) Iraq, Syria, Lebanon (d) Palestine, Qatar, Iraq

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-



- On August 02, 2017, U.S. President Donald Trump signed into law new sanctions against Iran, North Korea, and Russia.
- The House of Representatives overwhelmingly passed a bill to this effect by 419-3 and the senate passed this bill by 98-2.
- This step has been taken in response to Russia's alleged intervention in the US Presidential election 2016, and Iran and North Korea's nuclear programs.
- According to this bill, the House will have the power to cancel any decision taken by the President.

Related Links:-

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/07/25/politics/iran-sanctions-bill/index.html>

ECONOMICS

New banknotes of Rs 200 issued by the Reserve Bank of India

Question: On August 25, 2017, the Reserve Bank of India issued a new banknote of Rs 200 in the Mahatma Gandhi (new) series. Which of the following depicted on the back portion of this bank note?

- (a) Ashok Pillar (b) Picture of Hampi of the chariot
(c) Picture of Sanchi Stupa (d) Picture of Indian Parliament House

Ans: (c)

Related facts:

- From August 25th, 2017, Reserve Bank of India has started issuing banknotes of 200 denominations in the Mahatma Gandhi (new) series from selected offices of RBI and some banks.
- There will be RBI Governor Urgit R. Patel's signature on the banknote.
- On the back surface of the banknote of new denominations, there is a picture of Sanchi Stupa, which depicts the country's cultural heritage.
- The base color of the note is Bright Yellow.
- Banknote size will be 66 mm × 146 mm.
- Picture of the Mahatma Gandhi In the interior or embossed printing, the Ashok pillar symbol, the identical mark with the Micro-Text ₹ 200, the four angular bleed lines with two circles between the lines on the left and right sides of the note will help visually impaired persons.
- Apart from this, RBI will soon issue a banknote of Rs 50 denomination in Mahatma Gandhi (new) series.
- On the surface of this new denomination banknote, there is a picture of 'Hampi with chariot'.



- The base color of the banknote of Rs 50 denomination is fluorescent blue.

Reference:

https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=41460

Demerger of home finance from Reliance Capital

Question:- Recently Reliance's home finance business demerged from Reliance Capital. What will be the percentage of stakes held by Reliance Capital in the Reliance Home Finance after the demerger?

(a) 41% (b) 62% (c) 51% (d) 30%

Answer:- (c)

Related facts:-

- On August 11, 2017, National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) approved the demerger of home finance business from Reliance Capital.
- NCLT also approved the vesting of the demerged undertaking from the company to Reliance Home Finance Ltd.
- Reliance Capital will hold a 51 per cent stake in Reliance Home Finance, and the company will be adequately capitalised to grow lending in the next 18 months.
- Reliance Home Finance has assets under management (including securitised portfolio) of Rs 13,022 crore as of June 30.



Resource links:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/tribunal-approves-demerger-of-home-finance-from-reliance-capital-117081100348_1.html

Lok Sabha passes State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017

Question: The State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017 provides for....

- (a) Merger of five associate banks with the parent SBI.
- (b) Merger of SBI with Bank of Baroda
- (c) Merger of SBI with Reserve Bank of India
- (d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On August 10, 2017, the Lok Sabha passed the State Banks (Repeal and Amendment) Bill, 2017 .
- This Bill was introduced in Lok Sabha by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Arun Jaitley, on July 21, 2017.
- The Bill seeks to repeal the two Acts: (i) State Bank of India (Subsidiary Banks) Act, 1959, and (ii) State Bank of Hyderabad Act, 1956.
- These Acts established the State Bank of Bikaner, State Bank of Mysore, State Bank of Patiala, State Bank of Travancore, and State Bank of Hyderabad. These banks were subsidiaries of the State Bank of India (SBI).
- This is consequent to the Union Cabinet granting its approval in February 2017, which allowed the SBI to acquire these subsidiaries.



- The Bill seeks to amend the State Bank of India Act, 1955 to remove references related to subsidiary banks.

Resource links:

<http://www.prsindia.org/billtrack/the-state-banks-repeal-and-amendment-bill-2017-4830/>

Government to expand Logistics Data Bank project to South India

Question: The Logistics Data Bank (LDB) project aims to promote

- (a) The use of Information Technology (b) Foreign Direct Investment.
(c) Regional connectivity. (d) None of the above.

Answer:- (a)

Related facts:-

- The Logistics Data Bank (LDB) project, unveiled in July 2016, will soon be expanded to the country's southern region. This project has so covered only the western logistics corridor.
- The Logistics Data Bank (LDB) project is an endeavor to make India's logistics sector more efficient through the use of Information Technology.
- Under this project every container is attached to a Radio Frequency Identification Tag (RFID) and then tracked through RFID readers .
- This helps importers and exporters in tracking their goods in transit.
- The project covers the entire movement of containers through rail or road till the Inland Container Depot and Container Freight Station.
- The LDB is being implemented through a Special Purpose Vehicle called Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Logistics Data Services Ltd. (DLDSL) — that is jointly (50:50) owned by the Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor (DMIC) Trust and Japanese IT services major NEC Corporation.
- The LDB project was launched at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port, Mumbai on July 1, 2016.



Resource links:-

<http://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/logistics-data-bank-project-to-expand-to-south-india/article19452586.ece>

World Economic Outlook Update, July 2017

Question: According to the 'World Economic Outlook Update, July 2017' published by the International Monetary Fund on January 24th, 2017, growth rate of India for year 2017 is estimated at...

- (a) 7.1 (b) 7.2 (c) 7.7 (d) 7.4

Answer- (a)

Related facts:

- On July 24th, 2017, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) has published the World Economic Outlook Update, July 2017.
- According to this update, the global growth rate in year 2016 was 3.2 percent and it predicts global growth of 3.5% in 2017 and 3.6% in 2018.



- India's growth rate in 2016 was 7.1 percent which is expected to remain at 7.2 percent in 2017 and 7.7 percent in 2018.
- India has the highest growth rate (7.1 percent) amongst BRICS countries in the year 2016 followed by China (6.7 percent), South Africa (0.3 percent), Russia (-0.2 percent) and Brazil (-3.6 percent).
- Indian economy is expected to grow faster than other major emerging economies.
- India growth rate will continue to grow faster than China in 2017 as well as 2018.
- The growth rate of China is expected at 6.7 per cent in 2017 and 6.4 per cent in 2018.
- The growth rate of advanced economies was estimated at 1.7% in 2016, which is forecasted to accelerate to 2.0% in 2017 and 1.9% in 2018.
- In these estimates, the growth rate of United States was estimated at 1.6 percent in 2016, which is expected to be 2.1 percent in 2017 and 2018.
- The growth rate in the euro area was estimated at 1.8% in 2016, which is estimated to be 1.9% in 2017 and 1.7% in 2018.
- The growth rate of Emerging Markets and Developing Economics was estimated at 4.3 percent in 2016, which is estimated to be 4.6 percent in 2017 and 4.8 percent in 2018.

Reference:

<http://www.imf.org/external/mmedia/view.aspx?vid=5516540946001>

Scientific

DEFENSE/SCIENCE SHORT NOTES

Micropropulsion system based on liquid water

Question:- Researchers of which of the following universities have succeeded in testing micropropulsion system that uses liquid water as the propellant?

(a) Purdue University (b) Oxford University (c) Yale University (d) Cambridge University

Answer:- (a)

Related facts:-

- According to news published on August 10, 2017, engineers at Purdue University of the United States have designed and tested a micropropulsion system that uses liquid water as the propellant for orbital maneuvering of small satellites.
- These small satellites are called CubeSats and weigh about 2 Kilogram.
- These cubesats can be used for tasks like imaging and remote-sensing which is currently performed by heavier satellites which are expensive to build and launch.
- A propulsion system allows such tiny satellites to correct their orbit or maintain their altitude, thereby prolonging their operating life in space.



- Pure water is chosen as the propellant since it is green, safe, easy to use and free from the risk of contaminating sensitive instruments by the backflow from plumes as in the case of thrusters using chemical propellants.

Reference:-

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/science/now-water-used-as-propellant-for-tiny-satellites/articleshow/60001708.cms>

NASA's Cassini on final five orbits around Saturn

Question:- NASA's Cassini spacecraft started ultra close orbits around ...

(a) Mercury (b) Venus (c) Uranus (d) Saturn

Answer:- (d)

Related facts:-

- NASA's Cassini spacecraft is set to embark on ultra-close passes through Saturn's upper atmosphere during its final five orbits around the planet starting August 14, 2017.
- The spacecraft's point of closest approach to Saturn will be between about 1,630 and 1,710 kilometres above Saturn's cloud tops.
- The spacecraft is expected to face atmosphere dense enough to require the use of small rocket thrusters to maintain stability.
- Cassini instruments will obtain data on the atmosphere, temperature, and the vortexes at the planet's poles.



Reference:-

<https://saturn.jpl.nasa.gov/>

Commissioning of 'IN LCU L52 in Navy

Question: Dr. Jagdish Mukhi, Lieutenant Governor, Andaman, and the Nicobar Islands, commissioned IN LCU L52 into the Indian Navy recently at Port Blair. This ship is built by-

(a) Cochin Shipyard Ltd.(b) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers
(c) Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd. By (d) DRDO

Ans: (b)

Related facts:

- On August 21st, 2017, Dr. Jagdish Mukhi, Lieutenant Governor, Andaman, and the Nicobar Islands, commissioned IN LCU L52; second Landing Craft Utility (LCU) Mk-IV class, into the Indian Navy at Port Blair.
- The ship has been indigenously designed and built by Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata.
- LCU MK-IV ship is an amphibious ship with the primary role to transport and deploys Main Battle Tanks, Armoured Vehicles, troops and equipment from ship to shore.
- These ships would be based in the Andaman and Nicobar Command.
- They can be deployed for multi-role activities like beaching operations, search and rescue, disaster relief operations, supply, and replenishment and evacuation from distant islands.



- The ship, displacing 830 Tons, is capable of transporting various kinds of combat equipment such as Main Battle Tanks Arjun, T72, and other vehicles.
- The ship is fitted with state-of-the-art equipment and advanced systems like Integrated Bridge System (IBS) and Integrated Platform Management System (IPMS).

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170128>

Sports

TENNIS

Hall of Fame Tennis Championship

Question: Which player won the singles title of the recently concluded Hall of Fame Men Tennis Championships?

(a) Ivo Karlovic (b) Purav Raja (c) John Isner (d) Rajiv Ram

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- The ATP World Tour Session-2017 Tennis Competition Hall of Fame Tennis Championship concluded in Newport, America. (17 to 23 July, 2017)
- Due to sponsor reasons, it is also known as Dell Technologies Hall of Fame Open.
- **Competition results:**
- **Men's singles**
- Winner-John Isner (America)
- Runner-up Matthew Ebden (Australia)
- **Men's doubles**
- Winner-Aisam-ul-Haq Qureshi (Pakistan) and Rajiv Ram (United States)
- Runners-up- Matt Ried and John-Patrick Smith (both Australia)



Related Links:-

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/newport/315/2017/draws?matchType=doubles>

Croatia Open Umag-2017

Question-The winner of the men's singles title of the recently concluded Croatia Open Umag is –

(a) Andres Molteni (b) Borna Coric (c) Guillermo Duran (d) Andrey Rublev

Ans: (d)

Related facts:-

- ATP Tour Session 2017 Tennis Tournament Croatia Open Umag (Clay Cort), concluded in Croatia, Umag(17-23 July, 2017)
- **Competition results:**
- **Men's singles**
- Winner-Andrey Rublev (Russia)



- Runner-up – Paolo Lorenzi (Italy)
- **Men's doubles**
- Winner-Guillermo Duran and Andres Molteni (both Argentina)
- Runner-up Marin Draganja and Tomislav Draganja (both Croatia)

Related Links:-

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/umag/439/2017/draws>

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/umag/439/2017/draws?matchType=doubles>

Swedish Open-2017

Question: Who won the men's singles title of the Swedish Open Tennis competition concluded on July 30th, 2017?

(a) Sander Arends (b) David Ferrer (c) Rafael Nadal (d) Roger Federer

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- Swedish Open of ATP world tour session held at Clay Court, Sweden from July 17to 30, 2017.
- It is known as Swedish Open for men category and Ericsson Open for women category (sponsor reasons)
- **Competition Results**
- **Men's singles**
Winner: David Ferrer (Spain)
Runner-up: Alexandr Dolgoplov (Ukraine)
- **Women's singles**
Winner: Katerina Siniakova(Czech Republic)
Runner-up: Caroline Wozniacki(Denmark)
- **Men's doubles**
Winners: Julian Knowle (Austria) and Philipp Petzschner (Germany)
Runner-up: Sander Arends and Mattwe Middelkoop(both Netherlands)
- **Women's doubles**
Winners: Quirine Lemoineand ArantxaRus(both Netherlands)
Runner-up: María Irigoyen(Argentina) and Barbora Krejciikova(Czech Republic).



Reference:

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/bastad/316/2017/draws?matchType=doubles>

German Open-2017

Question: Who won the men's singles title of recently concluded German Open of ATP world tour session?

(a) Ivan Dodig (b) Matthew Pavlik (c) Pablo Cuevas
(d) Leonardo Mayer

Answer- (d)

Related facts:

- German Open of ATP world tour session held at Red Clay Court,Hamburg, Germany from July 24 to 30, 2017.
- This competition is also known as the German Tennis Championship.



- **Competition Results:-**
- **Men's singles**
Winner: Leonardo Mayer (Argentina)
Runner-up: Florian Mayer (Germany)
- **Men's doubles**
Winner: Ivan Dodig and Matthew Pavlik (both Croatia)
Runner-up: Pablo Cuevas (Uruguay) and Marc Lopez (Spain).

Reference:

<http://www.atpworldtour.com/en/scores/archive/bastad/316/2017/draws?matchType=doubles>

CRICKET

Indian cricket team tour of Sri Lanka, 2017 (Test series)

Question: Who was selected as the 'Player of the Series' in the recently concluded India-Sri Lanka Test Series?

- (a) Ravichandran Ashwin (b) Virat Kohli (c) Shikhar Dhawan
(d) Ravindra Jadeja

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- Indian cricket team tour of Sri Lanka (July 20 – September 6, 2017).
- 3 Tests, 5 ODIs, and one 20-20 matches will be played.
- India won the Test series 3-0 with a clean sweep.
- India, for the first time in their Test history, wins 3 Test matches on overseas (foreign), with a clean sweep series 3-0.
- Player of the Series, Shikhar Dhawan (India), Most Runs (358) in the series.
- 'Most Wicket in the series' taken by Ravichandran Ashwin (17 wickets).
- India won the first Test match by 304 runs.
- In terms of runs, it is India's biggest victory in the overseas.
- Ravindra Jadeja became the first left-handed bowler (sixth in the world) to take the fastest 150 wickets in Test matches (32nd Test) in the second Test match of the series.
- Australia Mitchell Johnson had achieved the feat in 34th Test.
- During the series, Ashwin became the fastest player in Test matches by scoring his 2000 runs and 275 wickets (52 Test matches).
- New Zealand's Richard Hadlee had achieved this feat in 58th Test.
- In the third match of the Series, Harder Pandya scored 108 runs became the fifth Indian player to post a maiden first-class hundred in a Test match.
- Virat Kohli has become the first Indian captain to win 8 Test series.
- Out of 29 matches played under the Virat Kohli's captaincy, 19 were won, 3 lost and 7 draws.
- Sri Lankan team captain was Dinesh Chandimal.



Reference:

<http://www.cricbuzz.com/cricket-series/2597/india-tour-of-sri-lanka-2017/matches>

BADMINTON

Eurasia Bulgarian Open-2017

Question: Lakshya Sen has won the men's singles title in Eurasia Bulgarian Open 2017 by defeating –

- (a) Zvonimir Durkinjak (b) Matthias Thierry (c) Alex Vlaar
(d) Jeppe Bay

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- International Badminton Contest “Eurasia Bulgarian Open Badminton Championships-2017”, concluded in Bulgaria (14th -17th August 2017).
 - Tournament Result
 - Men's Singles
Winner- Lakshya Sen (India)
Runner up- Zvonimir Durkinjak (Croatia)
 - Woman Singles
Winner- Nislihan Yigit (Turkey)
Runner up- Luice Heim (Germany)
 - Men's doubles
Winner- Matthias Thierry and Soren Toft (both Denmark)
Runner up- Jeppe Bay and Rasmus Kjaer (both Denmark)
 - Woman doubles
winner- Gabriela Stoeva and Stefani Stoeva (both Bulgaria) Runner up- Bengisu Ercetin and Nazlican Inci (both Turkey)
 - Mixed doubles
winner- Alex Vlaar (Bulgaria) and Iris Tabeling (Netherlands)
Runner up- Matthias Thierry and Emilie Aalestrup (both Denmark)
- This is the first title of Lakshya Sen won outside country in the senior category.



Reference:

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2855/eurasia-bulgarian-open-2017/podium>

US Open Grand Prix Gold

Question: H.S. Pronnony won the men's singles title of the US Open Grand Prix Gold Badminton Competition defeating...

- (a) Sameer Verma (b) Parupalli Kashyap (c) Anand Pawar
(d) Rahul Yadav Chittabotania

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- 2017 YONEX US OPEN concluded in California, USA (July 19-23, 2017).
- **Competition Results:**
- **Men's singles**
- Winner-H.S. Pronnony (India)
- Runners-up – Parupalli Kashyap (India)



- **Women's singles**
- Winner-Aya Ohori (Japan)
- Runners-up-Michelle Li (Canada)
- **Men's doubles**
- Winner-Takuto Inoue and Yuki Kaneko (both Japan)
- Runner-up Lu Ching-Yao and Yang Po-Han (both Chinese Taipei)
- **Women's doubles**
- Winner-Lee So Hee and Shin Seung Chan (both South Korea)
- Runner-up Mayu Matsumoto and Wakana Nagahara (both Japan)
- **Mixed Double**
- Winner- Seung Jae Seo and Kim Ha-Na (both South Korea)
- Runners-up, Kim Won Ho and Shin Seung-Chan (both South Korea)
- Pranay is the first Indian to win the title of the US Open starting from 1954.

Related Links:-

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/2987/2017-yonex-us-open/podium>

Russia Open Grand Prix-2017

Question: Who won the men's singles title of the recently concluded Russia Open Grand Prix Badminton tournament?

- (a) Vladimir Ivanov (b) Ivan Sozonov (c) Vladimir Malkov
(d) Sergei Sirant

Ans: (d)

Related facts:-

- Russian Open Grand Prix 2017 concluded in Vladivostok, Russia. (July 18-23, 2017)
- **Competition Results-**
- **Men's singles:-**
- Winner-Sergey Sirant (Russia)
- Runner-up Vladimir Malkov (Russia)
- **Women's singles:-**
- Winner-Evgeniya Kosetskaya (Russia)
- Runners-up, Sonia Cheah (Malaysia)
- **Men's doubles**
- Winner-Vladimir Ivanov and Ivan Sozonov (both Russia)
- Runner-up- Kah Mingchooi and Low Juan Shen (both Malaysia)
- **Women's doubles:-**
- Winner-Akane Araki and Aoi Matsuda (both Japan)
- Runner-up- Yuho Imai and Minami Kawashima (both Japan)
- **Mixed couple**
- Winner- Peng Soon Chan and Yee See Cheah (both Malaysia)
- Runner-up – Keiichiro Matsui and Akane Araki (both Japan)

Related Links:-

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/3018/russian-open-grand-prix-2017/podium>



BOXING

48th GRAND PRIX Boxing Tournament

Question: How many Gold Medals have India won in the 48th GRAND PRIX Boxing Tournament 2017 held at Usti-nad-Labem?

(a) 3 (b) 7 (c) 9 (d) 5

Answer- (d)

Related facts:

- After the practice session in France (July 13-25, 2017), the Indian boxing team participated in the 48th Grand Prix championship held at Usti-nad-Labem, Czech Republic. (July 25-30, 2017)
- India won 5 gold medals, 2 silver and 1 bronze medal in the championship.
- Indian medalist (including weight class)
- **Gold medal**
 1. Shiva Thapa, (60 kg)
 2. Manoj Kumar, (69kg.)
 3. Amit Fangal, (49-52 kg.)
 4. Gaurav Bidhuri, (56 kg)
 5. Satish Kumar, (+ 91kg.)
- **Silver medal**
 1. Kavinder Singh Bisht, (52kg.)
 2. Manish Panwar, (81kg.)
- **Bronze medal**
 1. Sumit Sangwan (91kg)



Reference:

<http://boxingfederation.in/grand-prix-boxing-tournament/>

Hosting rights for 2021 Men's World Boxing Championships awarded to India for the first time

Question: On July 25th, 2017, hosting rights for 2021 Men's World Boxing Championships have been awarded to India for the first time. At which of the following places the championship will be held?

(a) New Delhi (b) Mumbai (c) Kolkata (d) Chennai

Answer- (a)

Related facts:

- India will host the elite men's World Championship in 2021 besides conducting the women's World Championship for the second time.
- Both the championships will be held in New Delhi.
- On July 25th, 2017, announcement was made by AIBA at the end of its two-day executive committee meeting in Moscow.
- The hosting rights for Women's World Championships for 2018 and 2019 were awarded to Trabzon in Turkey and New Delhi respectively.
- India had earlier hosted the women's World Championship in 2006.



- India will host the men's world championship for the first time in 2021, while Men's World Boxing Championships 2019 will be hosted by Russian city of Sochi.
- Moscow will host the 2018 AIBA Congress.

Reference:

<http://www.aiba.org/blog/aiba-executive-committee-meeting-moscow-addresses-key-developments-boxing-towards-tokyo-2020/>

GOLF

British Open 2017

Question: Who among the following has won the title of the recently concluded Open Championship-2017?

- (a) Kyle Stanley (b) Daniel Berger (c) Jordan Spieth
(d) Brooks Koepka

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- The third championship in four Major category championship of PGA Tour 2017 British Open Championship 2017 concluded on July 23rd, 2017 at the South Port, England.
- American Golfer Jordan Spieth won the championship.
- The prize money was awarded in US dollars rather than sterling (British pound) for the first time.



Reference:

<https://www.theopen.com/Leaderboard#/traditional>

ATHLETICS

World Para Athletics Championships 2017

Question- In recently concluded World Para Athletics Championships 2017 how many gold medals did Indian athletes win?

- (a) One (b) Two (c) Three (d) Four

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- World Para Athletics Championship- 2017 London (U.K.), concluded in London UK. (July 14-23, 2017).
- This is the 8th edition of the championship and before 2017 it was known as the IPC Athletics World Championship.
- About 1300 para athletes from 100 countries participated in 213 competitions in the championship.
- India won one gold medal, two silver and two bronze medals (total 5) and figured at 34th place with Croatia.
- The championship medal table top 5 countries-



Rank	Country	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1.	China	30	17	18	65
2.	America	20	19	20	59
3.	UK	18	8	13	39
4.	Ukraine	12	6	11	29
5.	Australia	11	9	8	28

- **Indian medalist**
- Gold Medal – Sunder Singh Gurjar (Javelin Throw)
- **Silver medal**
- Amit Kumar (Club Throw)
- Sharad Kumar (high jump)
- **Bronze medal**
- Varun Singh Bhati (high jump)
- JyotiKaram (women's Discus Throw)

Related Links:-

<https://www.paraathleticschampionships.com/about>

SPORTS MISCELLANEOUS

Goodwill ambassador for the Handicap International

Question: Which international footballer has been appointed as the new goodwill ambassador of the Handicap International Organization?

- (a) Lionel Messi (b) Cristiano Ronaldo (c) Paul Pogba
(d) Neymar Jr.

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On August 15th, 2017, the Brazilian soccer player Neymar Jr. became the new International Ambassador of the award-winning international NGO Handicap International.
- Neymar will provide support to the organization in empowering the most vulnerable people in the world, people with disabilities living in poor countries, victims of conflicts and natural disasters.
- As his first action, Neymar Jr. as an ambassador of Handicap International sends a message of support to people with disabilities across the world.
- Handicap International is officially founded in 1982 to respond to the needs of 6,000 Cambodian amputees living in refugee camps along the Thai border.
- Handicap International (NGO) is headquartered in France and Belgium.



- The event was followed by a press conference hosted by the United Nations Office in Geneva.

Reference:

https://twitter.com/HI_UnitedStates/status/897474927250608128

Common Wealth Youth Games

Question-In which of the following three games India won gold medal in the 6th Commonwealth Youth Games?

- (A) Judo, Boxing, Cycling (B) Boxing, Tennis, Judo
(C) Beach Soccer, Rugby Sevens, Judo
(D) Judo, Boxing, Tennis

Ans: (d)

Related facts:-

- The 6th Commonwealth Youth Games, 2017 (CYG, 2017) (organizer Commonwealth Games Federation) concluded in the capital of the Bahamas. (July 18-23, 2017)
- Official inauguration of the Games was done by the Prime Minister of Bahamas, Hubert Minnie.
- Approximately 1300 athletes from 64 countries participated in 95 events.
- In this tournament, 9 sports events were organized which included three new games in Beach Soccer, Judo and Beach Volleyball.
- Archery, lawn balls, weightlifting and squash were not included in the Games this year.
- England topped the competition with 23 gold medals and total of 51 medals (16 silver and 12 bronze).
- India got 4 gold, 1 silver, 6 bronze (11 total) and 7th in the medal table.
- India won these medals in judo, boxing and tennis.
- Top 5 place recipients in the medal table Country-
- **Indian medalist and sports**
Judo (1 gold, 3 bronze)
Gold Medal-1-Soni- Boys (73kg)
- **Silver medal**
1. Ashish, -Boys (60 kg)
2. Antim Yadav, – Girls (48kg) 3. Rebina Devi Chanam, – Girls (57kg)
- **Boxing (1 gold, 1 silver, 2 bronze)**
- **Gold medal**
1. Sachin, boys (46-49 kg)
- **Silver medal**
1. Joni, Girls (60 Kgs.)
- **Bronze medal**
1. Muhammad EtashKhan, Boys (56 kg)
2. Ekta, girls (51kg) Flyweight (Girls)
- **Tennis (2 gold, 1 bronze)**



- **Gold medal**
 1. Jeel Mehul Kumar Desai (Girls Singles)
 2. Mixed Doubles, India (Jeel Mehul Kumar Desai and Siddhant Jagdish Banthiya)
- **Bronze medal**
 1. Siddhant Jagdish Banthiya (boys singles)
- The 7th Commonwealth Youth Games will be held in the year 2021 in Northern Ireland, UK

Related Links:-

https://results.bahamas2017cyg.com/static/eng/zz/engzz_general-medal-count.htm

Cadet Asian Wrestling Championships, 2017

Question: How many gold medals did Indian wrestling team win in the recently concluded Cadet Asian Wrestling Championship?

(a) 5 (b) 4 (c) 6 (d) 3

Answer- (a)

Related facts:

- Cadet Asian Wrestling Championship organized by United Kingdom Wrestling, (UWW), concluded in Bangkok, Thailand. (July 20th-23rd, 2017).
- The headquarters of the UWW is located in Lausanne, Switzerland.
- Iran grabbed the freestyle team title by winning four gold medals (79 points).
- India and Kazakhstan remained second and third respectively with 72-72 points.
- Iran team also captured title in Greco-Roman competition with 87 points.
- Kazakhstan (77 points), Kyrgyzstan (75 points and India (65 points) remained Second, Third and Fourth respectively.
- Women's wrestling title was won by Japan with 94 points.
- India (78 points) and Mongolia (73 points) remained second and third respectively.
- Indian wrestling team won a total of 23 medals (5 gold, 2 silver and 16 bronze) in Cadet Asian Wrestling Championship.
- **Indian gold medalist wrestlers-**
 - Tina, 65 kg (Women wrestling)
 - Akash Dahiya, 58kg (Freestyle)
 - Praveen Malik, 76 kg (Freestyle)
 - Arshad, 42 kg (Greco-Roman)
 - Mohit, 85 kg (Greco-Roman)



Reference:

<https://unitedworldwrestling.org/article/iran-claims-4-freestyle-golds-on-final-day-wins-team-title-at-cadet-asian-cships>

Goodwill ambassador for the Handicap International

Question: Which international footballer has been appointed as the new goodwill ambassador of the Handicap International Organization?

- (a) Lionel Messi (b) Cristiano Ronaldo (c) Paul Pogba
(d) Neymar Jr.



Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- On August 15th, 2017, the Brazilian soccer player Neymar Jr. became the new International Ambassador of the award-winning international NGO Handicap International.
- Neymar will provide support to the organization in empowering the most vulnerable people in the world, people with disabilities living in poor countries, victims of conflicts and natural disasters.
- As his first action, Neymar Jr. as an ambassador of Handicap International sends a message of support to people with disabilities across the world.
- Handicap International is officially founded in 1982 to respond to the needs of 6,000 Cambodian amputees living in refugee camps along the Thai border.
- Handicap International (NGO) is headquartered in France and Belgium.
- The event was followed by a press conference hosted by the United Nations Office in Geneva.

Reference:

https://twitter.com/HI_UnitedStates/status/897474927250608128

Short Notes

PERSONALITIES

David Rasquinha

Question: David Rasquinha has been appointed the managing director of ...

(a) Exim Bank of India (b) Union bank of India (c) State bank of India (d) Panjab National Bank

Answer:- (a)

Related facts:-

- On August 11, 2017, David Rasquinha was appointed the Managing Director of the Export-Import Bank of India (Exim Bank).
- Mr. Rasquinha has also served as Deputy Managing Director of the bank.
- This appointment will be valid for a period of three years.
- Mr. Rasquinha has had wide ranging exposure to the broad field of export credit, Treasury, Multilateral Agency Funded Projects, Planning & Research, Risk Management, Trade Finance, Project Finance and Project Exports.



Reference:-

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/david-rasquinha-appointed-as-exim-bank-md/article9814211.ece>

N.K. Jemisin

Question:- Nora K. Jemisin has won which of the following awards for best novel?

(a) The Hugo Award (b) Booker Prize (c) Ramon Magsaysay Award (d) None of the above.

Answer:- (a)

Related facts:-

- African-American author Nora K. Jemisin, won the Hugo Award for Best Novel 2017 for her work 'The Obelisk Gate'.
- The award was presented at the 75th World Science Fiction Convention in Helsinki, Finland.
- The fantasy novel tells a story about the life on a planet where the inhabitants would undergo a "Fifth Season" of catastrophic climate change every a few centuries.
- The novel is about the life on a planet where the inhabitants would undergo a "Fifth Season" of catastrophic climate change every a few centuries.
- The awarded book is the second in the trilogy that started with "The Fifth Season", which was New York Times Notable Book of 2015 and won Jemisin the Hugo Award for Best Novel in 2016.



Reference:-

<https://www.inverse.com/article/35433-hugo-awards-2017-best-novel-winner-scifi-science-fiction-nk-jemisin>

Interim CMD of Air India

Question: Who has recently been appointed by the Central Government as the Interim CMD of Air India?

(a) Ravish Kumar (b) Rajiv Bansal (c) Deepak Gupta
(d) Rajesh Kumar

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- August 23rd, 2017, Central Government has appointed Rajiv Bansal as Interim Chief Managing Director (CMD) of Air India.
- Rajiv Bansal is a 1988 batch senior IAS officer.
- At this post, he will replace Ashwani Lohani, who has become the Chairman of the Railway Board.
- Currently, Rajiv Bansal is serving as Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India.



Reference:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/airlines/-aviation/rajiv-bansal-takes-charge-as-air-india-cmd/articleshow/60208109.cms>

M.K. Damodaran

Question: Recently M.K. Damodaran passed away. He was the former Advocate General of which state?

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Karnataka (c) Rajasthan (d) Kerala

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On August 16th, 2017, Former Advocate General of Kerala M.K. Damodaran passed away.
- He had functioned as Advocate General from 1996-2001.

Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/ex-kerala-a-g-m-k-damodaran-passes-away-4799647/>



Executive Director of Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)

Question: Who amongst the following recently took charge as Executive Director, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI)?

(a) Dr. M.S. Sahu (b) Suman Saxena (c) Dr. Mamta Suri
(d) Dr. Divya Sachan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On August 16th, 2017, Dr. (Ms.) Mamta Suri took charge as Executive Director, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) in New Delhi.
- Before joining IBBI, Dr. Suri was serving as Chief General Manager, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India.
- It is important to know that Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India was set up on 1st October 2016 under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (Code).
- Currently, Dr. M. S. Sahoo is the Chairperson of IBBI.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170033>



New CMD of TCIL

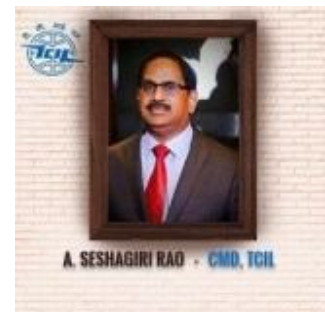
Question: Who amongst the following has recently been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of TCIL by Central Government?

(a) Sanjiv Bhatnagar (b) Anupam Shrivastava (c) A. Sheshagiri Rao
(d) Chitra Banerjee

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On August 17th, 2017, A. Sheshagiri Rao has been appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Telecommunication Consultants India Ltd (TCIL).
- He will serve at this post for 5 years.
- Currently, he is Director of Rail Tel Corporation of India Limited (RCIL).



- TCIL, a prime engineering, and consultancy company are a wholly owned Government of India Public Sector Enterprise under the administrative control of the Department of Telecommunications (DOT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India.
- TCIL was set up in 1978 for providing Indian telecom expertise in all fields of telecom, Civil and IT to developing countries around the world.

Reference:

<http://www.tcil-india.com/new/>

New Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF)

Question: Who amongst the following has recently been appointed as the new Director General of the Railway Protection Force (RPF)?

- (a) Rajiv Bhatnagar (b) Dharmendra Kumar (c) Autumn reader
(d) Dinesh Trivedi

Ans : (b)

Related facts:

- On August 21st, 2017, the Central Government appointed Shri Dharmendra Kumar, senior IPS officer, as the Director General, Railway Protection Force, Railway Board.
- Presently he is working in CISF as Additional DG.
- At this post, he will replace S.K.Bhagat.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170141>

New Chief Financial Officer of Tata Motors Group

Question: Tata Motors has announced the appointment of which one of the following as its new Chief Financial Officer (CFO)?

- (a) Sanjiv Nagar (b) P.B. Balaji (c) Chandresh Kumar
(d) Deepak Agrawal

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On August 14th, 2017, Tata Motors announced the appointment of Mr. P B Balaji as the new Chief Financial Officer of Tata Motors Group.
- He will assume charge from November 2017.
- At this post-Mr. Balaji will replace Tata Motors group, CFO C. Ramakrishnan.



Reference:

<http://www.tatamotors.com/press/tata-motors-announces-appointment-of-new-chief-financial-officer/>

WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Physical Activity in South-East Asia Region

Question: Who amongst the following was appointed as W.H.O.'s new Goodwill Ambassador for physical activity in South-East Asia Region?

- (a) Abhinav Bindra (b) P T Usha (c) Milkha Singh



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

(d) Yogeshwar Dutt

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On August 11th, 2017, India's legendary sportsperson, Mr. Milkha Singh (also known as Flying Sikh), has been appointed WHO Goodwill Ambassador for Physical Activity in South-East Asia Region.
- As WHO Goodwill Ambassador, Milkha Singh will promote WHO South-East Asia Region's NCD Prevention and Control Action Plan which seeks to reduce the level of insufficient physical activity by 10% and NCDs by 25% by 2025.
- According to the World Health Organization, approximately 8.5 million people die in non-infectious diseases every year in Southeast Asia.
- WHO recommends at least 60 minutes of daily physical activity for children and 150 minutes of weekly activity for adults to stave off noncommunicable diseases.
- According to a report an alarming 70% of boys, 80% of girls and nearly 33% adults in the region are doing the insufficient physical activity.

Reference:

<http://www.searo.who.int/mediacentre/releases/2017/1653/en/>

Vishal Sikka

Question: Vishal Sikka resigned from the post of MD and CEO. He was MD and CEO of which of the IT sector companies?

(a) HCL (b) TCS (c) WIPRO (d) INFOSYS Ltd.

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- On August 18th, 2017 Vishal Sikka, MD, and CEO of Infosys Ltd. (Second largest IT company of the country) resigned from the post.
- The company has accepted his resignation on August 25th and appointed him as Executive Vice- Chairman.
- U.B. Pravin Rao will serve as the interim Chief Executive Officer.
- Infosys was established in 1981, headquartered at Bangluru and is a NYSE listed global consulting and IT services company.



Reference:

<http://www.moneycontrol.com/news/business/companies/vishal-sikka-resigns-as-infosys-ceo-md-with-immediate-effect-2363209.html>

New Secretary of Rajya Sabha

Question: Who amongst the following has been appointed as new General Secretary of Rajya Sabha?

(a) Anoop Mishra (b) Desh Deepak Verma (c) Shumsher K Sheriff
(d) Rajeev Sharan

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On August 18th, 2017, the Central Government appointed to Desh Deepak Verma as the new General Secretary of the Rajya Sabha.



- He is a retired IAS officer of the 1978 batch.
- On this post, He will replace Shumsher K Sheriff whose term ends on August 31.
- He is currently posted as chairman of UP Electricity Regulatory Commission (UPERC).

Reference:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/lucknow/retired-up-bureaucrat-appointed-raiya-sabha-secretary-general/story-K8NhILMPZPKqtfTs1qLB4L.html>

S. Paul

Question: S. Paul passed away recently. He was a-

- (a) Journalist (b) Photographer (c) Painter (d) Musician

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On August 16th, 2017, S. Paul, a famous Photographer; passed away at New Delhi.
- He was 88 years and was born in Jhang, Pakistan in 1929.
- After partition, he moved to India and his family settled in Shimla.
- During 1960-1989, he gave service to Indian Express newspaper.



Reference:

<http://indianexpress.com/article/india/photographer-s-paul-passes-away-at-88-4800175/>

Russian New Envoy to India

Question: Who amongst the following has been appointed as Russia's new ambassador to India by President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin?

- (a) Nikolay Maduro (b) Alexander Kadakin (c) Nikolay Kudashev
(d) Vanessa More

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On August 19th, 2017, President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin appointed Nikolay Kudashev as Russia's new ambassador to India.
- Kudashev, a specialist in South East Asia, is currently the Deputy Director General Secretariat of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Russia.
- He is appointed after the seven months of the death of Russia's previous ambassador to India Alexander Kadakin.
- Kadakin passed away on January 26th at a hospital here (India).



Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/8995246_Nikolay-Kudashev-is-Russia-s-new-envoy-to-India.html

Dr. Ruth Katherina Martha Pfau

Question: Dr. Ruth Katherina Martha Pfau passed away recently. She was a-

- (a) German-Bangladeshi physician
- (b) German-Pakistani physician
- (c) American-Pakistani physician
- (d) Canadian-Pakistani physician

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On August 10th, 2017, Dr. Ruth Katherina Martha Pfau; a physician and nun of the Society of Daughters of the Heart of Mary, passed away at the age of 87 in Karachi, Pakistan.
- She was a German-born (on September 9th, 1929) Pakistani.
- She served over 50 years of her life to fighting leprosy in Pakistan.
- Dr. Ruth is also known as Pakistan's Mother Teresa and was awarded Pakistani citizenship in 1988.
- Dr. Ruth received the Hilal-i-Pakistan award for her work with leprosy patients in 1989, Nishan-i-Quaid-i-Azam in 2010, Raman Magsaysay award in 2002 and German Stalker Medal in 2015.



Reference:

<http://dunyanews.tv/en/Pakistan/400706-Mother-Teresa-of-Pakistan-Dr-Ruth-Pfau-hospitali>

E. Shankara Rao

Question: Who amongst the following has recently been appointed as new managing director and chief executive officer of IFCI Ltd, by the Central Government?

- (a) Malay Mukherjee
- (b) E. Shankara Rao
- (c) Deepak Gupta
- (d) Prannoy Roy

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 14th, 2017, the Central Government has appointed E. Shankara Rao as the new managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of IFCI Ltd.
- It is known that IFCI (Formerly Indian Industrial Finance Corporation) was established on July 1st, 1948 as the first Development Financial Institution in the country to cater to the long-term finance needs of the industrial sector.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/sankara-rao-to-be-ifci-chief-executive/article9818079.ece>



Dr. Chandrakant Devtale

Question- Dr. Chandrakant Devtale recently passed away. He was-

(a) Journalist (b) Poet (c) Historian (d) Playwright

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 14th, 2017, Dr. Chandrakant Devtale, famous poet of Hindi, died.
- He was born on November 7, 1936 in Joul Kheda, Betul district of Madhya Pradesh. He was MA in Hindi Literature from Holkar College, Indore and done PhD on Mukti Bodha from Sagar University in 1984.
- He taught in colleges of Panna, Bhopal, Ujjain, Pipariya, Rajgarh, Ratlam, Nagda and Indore under the Higher Education Department, Madhya Pradesh from 1961 to 1996.
- 'Haddiyon me Chipa Jwar', 'Deewaron par Khoon', 'Lakadbaggha hans Raha Hai', 'Roshani ke Maidaan ki taraf' Aag har cheez mai batayi gayi thi ', 'Etani Patthar Roshani ', 'Ujaad mai Sangrahalay', 'Aakash ki jaat bta Bhaiya', 'Patthar fenk raha hoon', 'Kavi ne kaha' and Pratinidhi Kavitaayain etc. are his important poetry collections.
- He was awarded Sahitya Akademi Award for the year 2013 for the collection of poem 'Patthar fenk raha hoon'.
- Apart from this, he also got Shikhar Samman of Madhya Pradesh Government, the Makhan Lal Chaturvedi Poetry Award, Pahar Samman, Bhavbhuti Alankaran,
- Kavita Samay Samman, Kusumagraj National Award and Rachna Samay Samman.



Reference:

http://sahitya-akademi.gov.in/sahitya-akademi/pdf/tribute_chandrakanta_devtale_15-08-17.pdf

Dr. Bhakti Yadav

Question- Dr. Bhakti Yadav recently passed away. She was-

(a) Environmentalist (b) Doctor (c) Writer (d) Singer

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 14, 2017, Dr. Bhakti Yadav, a nonagenarian gynecologist passed away.
- She was also known as 'Doctor Didi' and was of 91 years.
- She was born on April 3rd, 1926, in Ujjain in Mahidpur.
- She had done MBBS from Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Medical College (MGM) Indore and was only female in 1948-1953 batch.
- She was awarded the Padma Shri, by the Central Government, in the year 2017, for her special contribution in the medical field.



Reference:

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/bhakti-yadav-fondly-known-as-doctor-didi-passes-away-in-indore/1/1025651.html>

New Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL)

Question- Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL) by the Central Government?

- (a) Dinesh Sharma (b) Santosh Sharma (c) S.N. Tyagi
(d) Devashish jana

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 14th, 2017, the Central Government appointed Santosh Sharma as new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Hindustan Copper Ltd (HCL).
- His tenure will be of 5 years.
- At present, he is working as Director (Operations) at HCL.
- It is known that HCL is the major copper producing company in the public sector, which was established on November 9th, 1967.



Related Links:-

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/metals-mining/santosh-sharma-appointed-cmd-of-hindustan-copper-limited/articleshow/60061588.cms>

New Chairman and Managing Director of ITDC

Question: Who has recently been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC)?

- (a) Umang Narula (b) Ravneet Kaur (c) Harmeet Kaur
(d) Deepak Chaturvedi

Ans : (b)

Related facts:-

- On July 31st, 2017, the Central Government appointed senior IAS officer Ravneet Kaur as the new Chairman and Managing Director of India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC).
- Ravneet Kaur is the first woman to be appointed.
- She is a 1988 batch Punjab cadre IAS officer.
- At this post, she will replace Umang Narula.
- It is known that ITDC came into existence in October 1966 and has been the prime mover in the progressive development, promotion and expansion of tourism in the country.



Reference:

<http://www.tkbsen.in/2017/07/itdc-appoints-ravneet-kaur-as-chairperson-managing-director/>

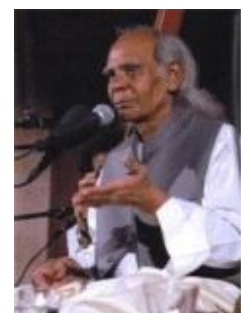
Hussain Sayeeduddin Dagar

Question: Sayeeduddin Dagar recently passed away. He was-

- (a) Historian (b) Musician (c) Environmentalist (d) Artist

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-



- On July 30th, 2017 Ustad Hussain Sayeeduddin Dagar passed away. He was 78 years old.
- He was an Indian classical vocalist belonging to the Dhrupad tradition.
- He was born on April 20th, 1939 in Alwar district of Rajasthan.

Related Links:-

<http://indianexpress.com/article/lifestyle/art-and-culture/ustad-sayeeduddin-dagar-dhrupad-singer-dies-at-78-4775652/>

Robert Hardy

Question: – Robert Hardy passed away recently. He was-

(a) Historian (b) Actor (c) Scientist (d) Composer

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On August 3rd, 2017, England's most successful and enduring character actors Robert Hardy passed away.
- He was 91 years old.
- Hardy got popularity for his performances in Harry Potter movies series.
- He has played role in the first movie of Harry Potter series "Harry Potter and chamber of secrets" and as well as in the other three movies of the series "Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban", "Harry Potter and Goblet of Fire" and "Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix".



Reference:

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0362735/bio>

Santosh Mohan Dev

Question: Santosh Mohan Dev passed away recently. He was-

(a) Musician (b) Politician (c) Historian (d) Environmentalists

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On August 2nd, 2017, former union minister and senior Congress leader Santosh Mohan Dev passed away.
- He was 83 years old.
- He was elected to the Lok Sabha seven times since 1980.
- He represented Silchar five times and Tripura twice.
- He remained Minister of Heavy Industry and Public Enterprises during the period 2005 to 2009 in the Union Cabinet of UPA-I.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/former-union-minister-santosh-mohan-dev-passes-away/article19406824.ece>

New Secretary General of FICCI

Question: Who amongst the following will be the new Secretary General of FICCI?

(a) Dr. Neeru Verma (b) Pankaj Patel (c) Dr. Sanjaya Baru (d) Dr. A. Didar Singh

Answer-(c)

Related Facts:

- On August 1st, 2017, the FICCI Committee has decided to appoint the renowned economist and journalist Dr. Sanjaya Baru at the helm of FICCI as its Secretary General.
- Dr. Baru will assume charge from September 1, 2017.
- He will replace Dr. A. Didar Singh.
- In present Mr. Pankaj Patel is the President of FICCI.



Reference:

<http://ficci.in/press-releases.asp>

New Chairperson of Central Board of Film Certification

Question: Who has been recently appointed as new Chairperson of Central Board of Film Certification?

(a) Shyam Benegal (b) Sharad Joshi (c) Prasoon Joshi (d) Anupam Kher

Answer-(c)

Related facts:

- On August 11, 2017, Prasoon Joshi, an Indian lyricist, screenwriter and poet was appointed as new chairperson of the Central Board of Film Certification by the Central Government.
- His appointment is for a period of three years or until further orders.
- Mr. Joshi has replaced Pahlaj Nihalani on this post.
- Listed below are the new members of the board appointed for a period of three years or until further orders.
- Ms. Gautami Tadimalla
- Shri Narendra Kohli
- Shri Naresh Chandra Lal
- Shri Neil Herbert Nongkynrih
- Shri Vivek Agnihotri
- Shri Waman Kendre
- Ms. Vidya Balan
- Shri T.S. Nagabharana
- Shri Ramesh Patange



- Ms. Vani Tripathi Tikoo
- Ms. Jeevitha Rajasekhar
- Shri Mihir Bhuta
- Central Board of Film Certification (CBFC) is a statutory body under Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- It regulates the public exhibition of films under the provisions of the Cinematograph Act 1952.
- Films can be publicly exhibited in India only after being certified by the Central Board of Film Certification.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169926>

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169928>

<https://www.cbfcindia.gov.in/main/>

New elected Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board

Question: Who amongst the following has been chosen as new Chairman of Pakistan Cricket Board?

(a) Shahryar Khan (b) Najam Aziz Sethi (c) Sharjeel Khan (d) Khalid Latif

Answer-(b)

Related facts:

- On August 9, 2017, in a meeting of PCB's governing Board held at National Cricket Academy, Lahore, Mr. Najam Aziz Sethi was unanimously elected as Chairman PCB.
- Mr. Sethi succeeds Shahryar Khan.



Reference:

<http://www.pcb.com.pk/press-release-detail/mr-najam-aziz-sethi-elected-as-chairman-pcb.html>

Sanwar Lal Jat

Question: Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat, the Member of Parliament recently passed away. He was MP from which of the following Lok Sabha seats?

(a) Agra (b) Ajmer (c) Chhindwara (d) Udaipur

Answer-(b)

Related facts:

- On August 9, 2017, Prof. Sanwar Lal Jat, a Member of Parliament passed away in New Delhi. He was of 62 years old.
- He was elected Member of Parliament from Ajmer (Rajasthan) Lok Sabha Constituency in 2014 elections.



- He was Minister of State for Water Resources from November 2014 to July 2016 in the Narendra Modi government.
- He was also elected as member of 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Rajasthan legislative Assembly from Bhinay Assembly seat (1990-2008).
- Apart from these, he had also served as a minister in Rajasthan government in from 1993-1998 and 2003-2008.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169790>

New Chairman and Managing Director of SIDBI

Question: Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of SIDBI ?

(a) Smasher Gupta (b) Mohammad Mustafa (c) Rajiv Gupta (d) Anil Gupta

Ans: (b)



Related facts:-

- On August 3, 2017, the Central Government appointed senior IAS officer Mohammad Mustafa as the new Chairman and Managing Director of the SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India).
- His appointment has been approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet for a period of three years.
- Mr. Mustafa is a 1995 batch IAS officer and was Joint Secretary in the Department of Financial Services (DFS) in the Finance Ministry.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) was set up on April 2, 1990 under an Act of Indian Parliament. It acts as the Principal Financial Institution for the Promotion, Financing and Development of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) sector and for Co-ordination of the functions of the institutions engaged in similar activities.
- MSME sector is an important pillar of Indian economy as it contributes greatly to the growth of Indian economy with a vast network of around 5.1 crore units, creating employment of about 11.7 crore, manufacturing more than 6,000 products, contributing about 45% to manufacturing output and about 40% of exports in terms of value, about 37% of GDP.
- SIDBI strives to address the financial and non-financial gaps in MSME eco-system.
- As on March 31, 2016, SIDBI has made cumulative disbursements of about `4.50 lakh crore benefitting about 350 lakh persons.

Related Links:-

<http://document.ccis.nic.in/writereaddata/CircularPortal/D2/D02eod/23157-IN.pdf>

Hassan Rouhani

Question: Recently Hassan Rouhani sworn in as the president of which of the following countries?

(a) Iran (b) Iraq (c) Turkish (d) Jordan

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On August 3, 2017, Hassan Rouhani sworn in as the president of Iran for a second term.
- Iran's supreme leader Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Khamenei administered him the oath of office of President.
- He was re-elected after getting 57.14 percent of the votes in the presidential election in 2017.
- In this election, he defeated his rival Ebrahim Raisi.

**Related Links:-**

<http://www.president.ir/en/99889>

Interim prime minister of Pakistan

Question: Who was recently elected as interim prime minister of Pakistan?

(a) Shahbaz Sharif (b) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi (c) Sheikh Rashid Ahmed (d) Naved Qamar

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 1, 2017, Pakistan Muslim League Nawaz (PML-N) leader Shahid Khaqan Abbasi was elected as Interim Prime Minister of Pakistan.
- Shahid Khaqan Abbasi bagged 221 votes in the National Assembly which has total strength of 342.
- His elevation follows the ouster of Nawaz Sharif after the Supreme Court disqualified him from holding public office till life in the wake of corruption charges against him and his family members.
- Former Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif was convicted in the Panama Paper case.
- Mr. Abbasi is expected to hand over power to Shahbaz Sharif once Shahbaz Sharif is elected to the National Assembly in six weeks.
- Mr. Shahbaz Sharif is the younger brother of Mr. Nawaz Sharif and currently is the Chief Minister of Punjab province of Pakistan.

**Related Links:-**

<https://www.geo.tv/latest/151581-shahid-khaqan-abbasi-a-pml-n-loyalist>

Sam Shepard

Question- Recently, the famous playwright and actor Sam Shepard passed away. Which country did he belong to?

(a) Canada (b) UK (c) America (d) Israel

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- On July 27, 2017, America's famous playwright and actor passed away. He was 73 years old.
- Shepard authored more than 40 plays and won the Pulitzer Prize for his drama 'Buried Child' in 1979.
- Shepard was also nominated for Oscar for best supporting actor for his portrayal of pilot Chuck Yeager in the 1983 astronaut drama "The Right Stuff."



Related Links

<http://edition.cnn.com/2017/07/31/entertainment/sam-shepard-dies/index.html>

Brand ambassador of UP cleanliness mission

Question: Who amongst the following is going to be a brand ambassador of cleanliness campaign in the State of Uttar Pradesh?

(a) Nawazuddin Siddiqui (b) Abhishek Bachchan (c) Akshay Kumar (d) Vidya Balan

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- On August 4, 2017, Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath announced the appointment of Bollywood actor Akshay Kumar as the brand ambassador of cleanliness campaign in the state.
- As brand ambassador he will make people aware of the importance of sanitation and promote the use of toilets.
- The government has made his forthcoming film 'Toilet: Ek Prem Katha' tax free in the State.



Reference:

<http://www.livehindustan.com/uttar-pradesh/story-akshay-kumar-will-be-brand-ambassador-of-sanitation-campaign-1231805.html>

N. Dharam Singh

Question: N. Dharam Singh, who passed away recently, was formerly the chief minister of ...

(a) Uttarakhand (b) Bihar (c) Karnataka (d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- On July 27, 2017, former Karnataka Chief Minister N. Dharam Singh passed away. He was 80 of years.
- He served as 17th Chief Minister of Karnataka between May 2004 to February 2006.
- He was chosen as member of the Karnataka Assembly seven times and was a member of the Lok Sabha from the Bidar constituency once (2009).



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/dharam-singh-passes-away/article19369234.ece>

John G. Morris

Question- Famous photo editor John G. Morris passed away recently. Which of the following is his autobiography ?

- (a) Get the Picture: A Personal History of Photojournalism
- (b) Regarding the pain of others
- (d) Eyewitness
- (d) Magnum Degrees

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On July 28, 2017, renowned picture editor John Godfrey Morris died. He was 100 years old.
- He was born on December 7, 1916 in Maple Shade, New Jersey.
- He worked for the weekly Picture Magazine 'Life' during the entire World War II.
- He also worked for The New York Times, The Washington Post, National Geographic and the celebrated cooperative agency Magnum Photos.
- While working for The Times during the Vietnam War, he successfully argued for front-page display of Eddie Adams's photograph of a Saigon police chief shooting a suspected Vietcong insurgent in the head.
- It appeared as the lead picture on Feb. 2, 1968, and became one of the most indelible images to emerge from the war.
- His editing of Mr. Capa's photos of D-Day produced one of the more enduring bits of lore in photojournalism history.
- He was presented with the Légion d'Honneur, in 2009, and an Infinity Award for lifetime achievement given by the International Center of Photography in New York in 2010.
- Mr. Morris published his autobiography, "Get the Picture: A Personal History of Photojournalism," in 1998.

**Related Links:-**

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/07/28/business/john-g-morris-renowned-photo-editor-dies-at-100.html>

Inder Kumar

Question- Inder Kumar, who passed away recently, was a /an...

(A) Actor (B) Politician (C) Reporter (D) Scientist

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On July 28, 2017, Bollywood actor Inder Kumar passed away. He was 43 years old.
- He worked with famous Bollywood actor Salman Khan in films like -'Kanhi Pyaar Na Ho Jaaye', 'Tum Ko Na Bhool Payenge' and 'Wanted'.
- He also appeared in Ekta Kapoor's TV serial 'Kyonki Saas Bhi'.



Kabhi BahuThi'.

Related Links

<http://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/movies/actor-inder-kumar-passes-away/article19377148.ece>

<http://www.imdb.com/name/nm0474812/>

PLACES

Foundation Stone laid for the Second largest Cricket Stadium in the North-East

Question: Where did the foundation stone of the second largest cricket stadium in the North-East is laid in Tripura?

(a) Narasimhgarh (b) Amalia (c) Udaipur (d) Belonia

Ans: (a)

Related facts:

- On August 20th, 2017, Tripura's Chief Minister Manik Sarkar laid the foundation stone of the second largest cricket stadium in the North-East, after Assam's Guwahati stadium.
- The stadium will be built by the Tripura Cricket Association (TCA) in corroboration of BCCI at Narasimhgarh, Agartala.
- The estimated expenditure of the project is 200 crores, of which BCC will bear 50 percent.
- This world class cricket stadium will have a capacity of 25 thousand spectators.



Reference:

<http://www.firstpost.com/firstcricket/sports-news/tripura-cricket-association-to-build-25000-seat-international-stadium-in-agartala-with-bcci-aid-3953521.html>

First overseas military base of China

Question: China has recently established its first overseas military base in which of the following countries?

(a) Sri Lanka (b) Djibouti (c) Pakistan (d) Myanmar

Answer-(b)

Related facts:

- On August 1st, 2017, China has established its first overseas military base in Djibouti.
- Djibouti is a tiny African nation serves as a gateway to the Suez Canal, one of the world's busiest shipping routes.
- Djibouti is bordered by Eritrea in the north, Ethiopia in the west and south, and Somalia in the southeast.
- It makes ease to access to the Red Sea and Indian Ocean.
- US, France and Japan also have bases in the country.
- The base began operations on the same day as the 90th birthday of the people's Liberation Army.



Reference:

http://usa.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2017-08/02/content_30327037.htm

Kerala, Haryana top sanitation survey

Question:- In which of the following states access to toilets was lowest according to the Sanitation survey by Quality Council of India (QCI) during May and June 2017.

(a) Jharkhand (b) Bihar (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Haryana

Answer:-(b)

Related facts:-

- On August 08, 2017, the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation released the findings of the survey of 1.4 lakh rural households, undertaken by the Quality Council of India (QCI) during May and June 2017.
- The survey covered 4626 villages across all States and Union territories. According to the survey 62.45% of the households had access to a toilet.
- The survey also pointed that 91.29% of the people who had access to a toilet also used it.
- The survey found that Haryana and Kerala had the maximum toilet coverage at 99%, followed by Sikkim at 97%. Access to toilets was lowest in Bihar at 30 %, followed by Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand at 37 %.
- Northeastern States of Sikkim, Manipur and Nagaland were top performers with 95% rural households covered by toilets.

**Resource links:**

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala-haryana-top->

Assam declared as 'disturbed' area for another month

Question:- Assam has been declared as 'disturbed' area for another month under ...

(a) Armed Forces Special Power Act 1958 (b) The Code Of Criminal Procedure, 1973
(c) Civil Procedure Code, 1908 (d) None of the above.

Ans: (a)

Related Fact :

- On August 7, 2017, the Central government extended the Armed Forces Special Powers Act, 1958 declaring Assam as disturbed area for one more month (with effect from August 3 till August 31).
- The Union Home Ministry also declared Meghalaya's border areas adjoining Assam and three districts in Arunachal Pradesh as disturbed under the AFSPA for two more months effective from August 3.
- The ministry said the 20 km belt in Meghalaya bordering Assam will also continue to be a "disturbed area" under the AFSPA
- Notably, AFSPA has been continuing in Assam since November 1990. The latest extension is attributed to violent activities by insurgent groups like ULFA and NDFB.

AFSPA

Reference:

<http://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/govt-declares-entire-assam-as-disturbed-area-under-afspa-for-another-month/story-xT2vqSqUkCUt2qAiNOzxYK.html>

FMCG Britannia to set up a largest plant

Question: India's leading Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) company Britannia Industries will set up its largest plant in ...

(a) Deogaon (b) Jamgaon (c) Ranjangaon (d) Bitaka

Answer:- (c)

Related facts:-

- On August 07, 2017, India's leading FMCG (Fast-moving consumer goods) Britannia Industries announced setting up of its largest plant in a food park at Ranjangaon, Maharashtra.
- The park would have the largest biscuits manufacturing plant with six lines, along with cake. It would start functioning from June 2018.
- The company is also planning to set up a dairy project at the food park with a capacity of seven lakh litres per day.

**Reference:**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/fmcc-major-britannia-to-set-up-largest-plant-in-maharashtra/1/1020453.html>

AWARDS & HONORS

Prem Nazir Award

Question: Who amongst the following has been conferred with Prem Nazir Award 2017?

(a) Mahesh Babu (b) Prabhash (c) Nayantara (d) Sharada

Answer- (d)

Related facts:

- On August 3rd, 2017, the Panchayat of Chirayankeezhu announced to confer Prem Nazir Award-2017 to the Veteran actress and national award winner Sharada.
- The award carries a purse of Rs 75,000, a statuette and a citation.
- The award will be presented by state Devaswom Minister Kadakampally Surendran at a function at Chirayankeezhu on August 15.
- Sharada had won three national awards (in the year 1968, 1972 and 1978).
- This award is given by the peoples of his village panchayat Chirayinkiizu (Thiruvananthapuram) in memory of the evergreen actor Prem Nazir (Kerala).

**Reference:**

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/veteran-actress-sharada-selected-for-prem-nazir-award-%C2%A0%C2%A0%C2%A0/1/1018136.html>

National Sports Awards – 2017

Question: Who among the following has been awarded with the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in 2017?

(a) Devendra (b) P.V. Sindhu (c) Virat Kohli (d) Pankaj Advani

Ans: (a)



Related facts:

- On 22 August 2017 National Sports Awards 2017 winners were announced.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award 2017 has been conferred to Devendra (Para Athlete) and Sardar Singh (Hockey).
- Late Dr. R. Gandhi (Athletics) has been selected for the Dronacharya Award, along with Heera Nand Kataria (Kabaddi), G.S.S.V. Prasad, (Badminton -Lifetime), Brij Bhushan Mohanty (Boxing – Lifetime), P.A. Raphel (Hockey – Lifetime), Sanjoy Chakraverthy (Shooting -Lifetime) Roshan Lal (Wrestling – Lifetime).
- This time seventeen sportspersons will be honoured with the Arjuna Award and three with the Dhyan Chand Award.
- V.J. Surekha (Archery), Khushbir Kaur (Athletics), Arokie Rajiv (Athletics), Prasanthi Singh (Basketball), Sub. Laishram Debendro Singh (Boxing), Cheteshwar Pujara (Cricket), Harmanpreet Kaur (Cricket), Oinam Bembem Devi (Football), S.S.P. Chawrasia (Golf), S.V. Sunil (Hockey), Jasvir Singh (Kabaddi), P. N. Prakash (Shooting), A. Amalraj (Table Tennis), Mr. Saketh Myneni (Tennis), Satyawart Kadian (Wrestling), Mr. Mariyappan (Para-Athlete), Mr. Varun Singh Bhati (Para-Athlete) will be honoured with the Arjuna Award.
- Bhupender Singh (Athletics), Syed Shahid Hakim (Football) and Sumarai Tete (Hockey) were selected for the Dhyan Chand Award.
- Apart from a medal and a citation, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Awardee will receive a cash prize of Rs.7.5 lakh.
- Arjuna, Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand Awardees will receive statuettes, certificates and cash prize of Rs.5 lakh each.
- The awardees will received their awards from the President of India at a specially organized function at the Rashtrapati Bhawan on August 29, 2017.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170149>

Ramon Magsaysay Award 2017

Question: Ramon Magsaysay awards are given in the memory of the President of which of the following countries?

(a) Myanmar (b) Thailand (c) Philippines (d) Laos



Answer-(c)

Related facts:

- On July 27, 2017, Ramon Magsaysay awards, popularly known as Nobel of Asia, were declared for year 2017.
- Ramon Magsaysay Award is the Asia's highest honor established by Ramon Magsaysay Foundation in 1957.
- It celebrates the memory and leadership example of the third president of Philippines after whom the award is named.
- **This year the awards will be given to six individuals and organization. Which are following-**
 - (i) Yoshiaki Ishizawa (Japan)
 - (ii) Lilia de Lima (Philippines)
 - (iii) Abdon Nababan (Indonesia)
 - (iv) Philippine Educational Theater Association (Philippines)
 - (v) Gethsie Shanmugam (Sri Lanka)
 - (vi) Tony Tay (Singapore)
- It is noteworthy that till the year 2008 awards were given in six different categories but subsequently category was abolished.
- Last year (2016) T. M Krishna, a carnatic musical vocalist had won the award for "social inclusiveness in culture".
- Presentation ceremony will be held on August 31, 2017, at the Cultural Centre of the Philippines.

Reference:

<http://rmaward.asia/news/the-2017-ramon-magsaysay-awardees-announced/>

Firoz Merchant honored by the government of UAE

Question: Recently Indian businessman Feroz Merchant was honored by the Government of UAE for ...

- (a) Business Accumen (b) Philanthropy (c) Promoting education.
(d) Promoting ethical values in business

Answer:- (d)

Recently facts:-

- On August 07, 2017, Indian businessman and philanthropist Firoz Merchant was honored with UAE's prestigious "Community Service Medal".
- The award was given to Mr. Merchant in recognition of his efforts to serve the community in the country and beyond
- Firoz Merchant has spent more than \$4 millions to help free prisoners languishing in jails due to non-payment of debts.
- This is the first time any expatriate community member has been given this prestigious award.
- Mr. Merchant, founder and chairman of Pure Gold Jewellers, has spent Dh 15 million (USD 4.08 million) in paying off the debts of 10,940 prisoners languishing in the countrys jails due to non-payment of debts since 2008.

Resource link:-

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/story/indian-philanthropist-honoured-by-uae-govt/1/1020240.html>



OPERATIONS & CAMPAIGN

Exercise Indra

Question:- India and Russia will hold Exercise Indra in October in ...

(a) Russia (b) India (c) Australia (d) None of the above

Answer:- (a)

Related facts:-

- Exercise Indra scheduled to be held in Russia from October 19 to 29, 2017, will see a mega war game involving armies, navies and the air forces of India and Russia.
- It will be for the first time India will participate in a tri-services exercise with a foreign country with such a large scale participation.
- The armies, navies and air forces of India and Russia are holding bilateral exercises separately but this is for the first time, both the countries will carry out a tri-services exercise.

Reference:-

http://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/india-russia-to-hold-mega-war-game-indra-to-deepen-military-ties-in-oct-117081300198_1.html



Special Cleanliness Drive

Question: District of Uttar Pradesh not affected by Japanese encephalitis, is –

(a) Maharajganj (b) Kushinagar (c) Sant Kabir Nagar (d) Sandraidas Nagar

Answer- (d)

Related facts:

- On 19th August 2017, a cleanliness drive under 'Clean Uttar Pradesh, Healthy Uttar Pradesh' was launched by the Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath from the Slum Adhiyaribagh Mohalla in Gorakhnath area of Gorakhpur.
- State Government has set a deadline for open defecation free Gorakhpur district by December 31st, 2017 and the whole State by October 2nd, 2018.
- The intensive campaign is being launched against the restricted polyethylene (50 microns) under the Banagar Vikas Sanitary Campaign.
- This campaign will run in the affected districts of Uttar Pradesh by the Japanese encephalitis; namely Gorakhpur, Kushinagar, Deoria, Maharajganj, Basti, Siddhartha Nagar, Sant Kabir Nagar, Gonda, till August 30th, 2017.

Reference:

http://information.up.nic.in/View_Hindinews.aspx?id=535



“Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali” Campaign

Question: At which of the following places “Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali” Campaign is started?

(a) Bangluru (b) New Delhi (c) Bhopal (d) Jaipur

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:



- On August 17th, 2017, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan, launched the “Harit Diwali, Swasth Diwali” campaign at New Delhi.
- As part of the campaign, the ministry will undertake activities to create awareness among various stakeholders and encourage people to participate in combating air pollution.
- Addressing a gathering of about 800 children from schools of Delhi and NCR, the Minister impressed upon the children the importance of their contribution towards reducing pollution by not bursting harmful fire crackers during Diwali.
- He also administered a Pledge for a Green and Healthy Diwali to the gathering of students.
- The Pledge will be widely circulated to the schools/colleges and other educational institutions and the school administration will be requested to administer the said Pledge during their school assembly up to Diwali.
- Suggestion to celebrate this year’s Diwali by not buying fire crackers and instead of buying a gift, food items, or sweets for the poor and underprivileged children is also given.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170055>

MMR vaccination campaign

Question: In which of the following Districts of Himachal Pradesh MMR (Measles, Mumps, Rubella) Vaccination campaign has been recently started?

(a) Kinnaur (b) Kangra (c) Bilaspur (d) Mandi

Answer-(b)

Related Facts:

- A MMR vaccination programme to protect children against measles, mumps and rubella was started in the district of Kangra from August 1st, 2017.
- Under the Measles, Mumps, Rubella (MMR) vaccination programme, all children between the age of nine months to 15 years will be vaccinated.
- All government and private schools as well as aanganwadis shall be covered under the programme by well-trained health officials.
- A signature campaign was also initiated to protect children from major childhood diseases like measles, mumps and rubella in Kangra.
- Campaign was initiated by Dharamshala Municipal Corporation Mayor Rajni Vyas.



Reference:

http://www.ptinews.com/news/8934861_MMR-vaccination-campaign-to-be-launched-in-

COMMISSION & COMMITTEE

Cabinet approval for setting up of a Commission to examine the Sub-Categorization within OBCs

Question: Recently, the Union Cabinet approved a proposal for setting up of a Commission to examine the issue of sub-categorization of the Other Backward Classes (OBCs). Under which Article of Indian Constitution commission is set up?

(a) Article 342 (b) Article 340 (c) Article 338(4) (d) Article 352

Answer- (b)

Related Facts:

- On August 23rd, 2017, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister approved a proposal for setting up of a Commission under article 340 of the Constitution to examine the issue of sub-categorization of the Other Backward Classes (OBCs).
- Article 340 of the Indian Constitution provides for "Appointment of a Commission to investigate the conditions of backward classes".
- The proposed terms of references of the Commission are as follows:
- To examine the extent of inequitable distribution of benefits of reservation among the castes/ communities included in the broad category of OBCs, with reference to the OBCs included in the Central list.
- To work out the mechanism, criteria, norms, and parameters, in a scientific approach, for sub-categorization within such OBCs, and,
- To take up the exercise of identifying the respective castes/communities/ sub-castes/ synonyms in the Central List of OBCs and classifying them into their respective sub-categories.
- The Commission shall be known as the Commission to examine the subcategorization of Other Backward Classes.
- The Commission shall submit its report within 12 weeks from the date of appointment of the Chairperson of the Commission.
- Nine States of the country viz., Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Puducherry, Karnataka, Haryana, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Bihar, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu have already carried out sub-categorization of Other Backward Classes.



Reference:

Committee to make drugs more affordable

Question: Drug Price Control Orders (DPCO) are issued by the Government in accordance with

- (a) Essential Commodities Act, 1955 (b) Consumer Protection Act, 1986
(c) Drugs & Cosmetics Act, 1940 (d) None of the above

Ans: (a)

Related Fact :

- On August 8, 2017, Minister of State for Chemicals and Fertilisers Mansukh L. Mandaviya informed the Lok Sabha that a committee of joint secretaries has been set up for ensuring enhanced affordability, availability and accessibility of drugs for the citizens.
- The committee is designed to suggest ways to make pricing policy in favour of poor patients.
- It will also suggest ways to make existing mechanisms for collection of market based data on prices of medicines more robust and stream lined.
- The committee would also review the scope of Drugs (Price Control) Order 2013 (DPCO 2013) and suggest ways for strengthening the regulatory provisions of the order.



Resource links:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/govt-forms-panel-to-make-drugs-more-affordable/article19450593.ece>

Formation of expert group on data protection framework

Question- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, has set up an expert committee on data protection under the chairmanship of ...

- (A) Justice R.M. Lodha (B) Justice B.N. Sri Krishna
(C) Justice T. S. Thakur (D) Justice Gyan Sudha Mishra

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On July 31, 2017, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India, constituted an expert committee headed by former Judge of the Supreme Court, Justice B. N. Shrikrishna on data protection.
- This committee comprises members of the government, academia and industry.
- This committee has been entrusted with the responsibility of identifying key data protection issues and recommend ways to address them.
- Simultaneously, the committee will also suggest a draft of the Data Protection Bill.
- The preservation of data is expected to give a boost to the digital economy in the country.



Related Links:-

http://meity.gov.in/writereaddata/files/MeitY_constitution_Expert_Committee_31.07.2017.pdf

PLANNING & PROJECT

'SheMeansBusiness' programme

Question: #SheMeansBusiness: E-Business Platform For Women Entrepreneurs is the programme of the government of ...

(a) Odisha (b) Bihar (c) Maharashtra (d) Gujrat

Answer:- (a)

Related facts:-

- On August 11, 2017, Odisha CM Naveen Patnaik launched 'She Means Business' Programme. The programme was launched in partnership with Odisha's MSME (micro, small and medium enterprises) department, Project Mission Shakti and Facebook.
- The objective of this programme to provide training on digital marketing skills within next one year.
- Under this programme the government of Odisha will provide digital training to 25000 women across the state.
- This programme will empower the women to understand and to get opportunity at digital platform.

Reference:-

<http://indiatoday.intoday.in/education/story/odisha-facebook-she-means-business/1/1025899.html>



Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana for Students

Question: Which of the following States Government has recently launched the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana to Students for free?

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

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On August 19th, 2017, Uttarakhand's Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat and Higher Education Minister Dr. Dhan Singh Rawat inaugurated the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana to Students for free and the Bravery Wall in a program organized at MBPG College, Haldwani.
- About 2.50 lakh students taking higher education in all the colleges of the State will be insured under this scheme.
- Poor or economically weak students of the State will get an educational loan from banks up to Rs.10 lakhs for higher education in the State and up to Rs.20 lakhs for study outside the State.
- A loan of Rs.15 lakh loan will be given to teachers and employees on the basis of their wages.
- Chief Minister also distributed passbook of accounts opened under the Bima Yojna to the students.

Reference:

https://twitter.com/DIPR_UK/status/898965523253215232



Cloud seeding (Varshadhari) project

Question: Which state government has recently started the Cloud seeding (Varshadhari) project?

(a) Assam (b) Karnataka (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Rajasthan

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- On August 22nd, 2017, the Karnataka Government has launched Cloud seeding (Varshadhari) project in Bengaluru.
- Cloud seeding is a form of weather modification intent is to increase precipitation (rain or snow).
- This is an experimental project in which the districts of Bangalore, Gadag, and Yadavgi are included in the state.
- Its purpose is to reform small-sized particles (less than 10 μm size) into 50-micron droplets by clouds.
- A special Aircraft will be used to spread aerosols (silver iodide, potassium iodide, and dry ice -solid carbon dioxide) into the clouds to stimulate the precipitation process.
- The aircraft, Beechcraft King Air manufactured by US-based Weather Modifications LLC, is to be used for this project.



Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/karnataka/has-cloud-seeding-project-missed-the-optimal-season/article19535991.ece>

Sanchar Kranti Yojna

Question: Which State government has recently decided to launch the “Sanchar Kranti Yojana (Sky)”?

(a) Jharkhand (b) Assam (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Rajasthan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On August 23rd, 2017, in a cabinet meeting headed by CM Raman Singh, the government of Chhattisgarh has decided to start the “Sanchar Kranti Yojana (Sky)”.
- Yojna aims to reduce the digital divide between Rural and Urban Chhattisgarh.
- Around 55 lakh Smartphone for free will be distributed under the Sanchar Kranti Yojna.
- In the first phase in 2017-18 and 2018-19, 50.8 lakh phones would be distributed to families living in villages having full or partial mobile network coverage with a population of over 1,000 and besides urban poor families and youth enrolled in colleges.
- Rest 4.8 lakh Smartphone will be distributed in villages which have a population of less than 1,000, and lack mobile network coverage.
- If there is a female member of the family, the Smartphone would be issued in her name.
- Phone numbers allotted to beneficiaries with handsets will come pre-linked to Aadhaar number and bank accounts of beneficiaries.



- The Department of Panchayat and Rural Development would select the beneficiaries in rural areas while the urban development department would list out the eligible people in the urban areas.
- The Department of Higher Education would prepare the list of beneficiaries in colleges.
- The government will provide the roof of Government buildings free of cost for installing mobile network tower under the scheme.
- A committee under the chairmanship of Chief Secretary will be constituted for effective implementation of this scheme.
- According to the Social Economic Census 2011, the density of mobile phones in Chhattisgarh is the lowest.
- Only 29 percent of households (national average 72 percent) in rural areas of this State have phones.

Reference:

<https://twitter.com/ChhattisgarhCMO/status/900391423731580928>

Mobile App MyFASTag and FASTag Partner

Question: National Highways Authority of India recently launched two mobile Apps – MyFASTag and FASTag Partner. These apps are concerned with-

- (a) For medical facilities on highways (b) For electronic toll collection
- (c) For monitoring of forests on the highway
- (d) For monitoring the security system on the highway

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- On August 17th, 2017, National Highways Authority of India launched two mobile Apps MyFASTag and FASTag Partner in New Delhi.
- The Apps are to facilitate the availability of FASTags for Electronic Toll Collection.
- MyFASTag is a consumer App that can be downloaded from the App Store for both Android and iOS systems.
- A consumer can purchase or recharge FASTags on this App.
- The App also helps to keep track of transactions and provides for online grievance redressal.
- FASTag Partner is a merchant App which will help agencies like Common Services Centre, banking partners, and vehicle dealers to sell and enroll FASTag through this App.
- In addition to this, the App can also be used to activate the RFID tags that came built in with around 74 lakh cars in the country following the 2013 Gazette Notification in this regard.
- It is important to note that from 1st October 2017, all lanes of all 371 NHAI toll plazas in the country will become FASTag enabled.



Reference:

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

Mukhya Mantri Medhavi Vidyarthi Yojana

Question: Which States government recently launched the 'Mukhya Mantri Medhavi Vidyarthi Yojana'?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Madhya Pradesh (c) Chhattisgarh
(d) Rajasthan

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On August 20th, 2017, the Chief Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and MP and Bharatiya Junta Party president Shri Amit Shah inaugurated 'Mukhya Mantri Medhavi Vidyarthi Yojana' at Lal Parade Ground in Bhopal.
- Around 15,000 students selected for Yojna from different districts received Sweekratie-Patras.
- The scheme is for higher education such as graduation, engineering, medical, law etc.
- An MP domicile student will be beneficiary under this Yojna if-**
 - (i) The income of his father or guardian is less than 6 lakh;
 - (ii) The student has secured a minimum 75% marks in 12th under Madhya Pradesh education board or 85% marks under CBSE/ICSE Board.
- Technical education and skill development department is a Nodal department for the implementation of the scheme.
- The scheme is in operation from session 2017-20108.



Reference:

<http://www.mpachedu.org/files/MMVYojna.pdf>

Sexual Harassment Electronic-Box (SHE-Box)

Question:-According to the census of 2011, the percentage of central government women employees is ...

- (a) 10.05 percent (b) 10.93 percent (c) 10.98 percent
(d) 11.25 percent

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On July 24, 2017, Union Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Sanjay Gandhi launched an online complaint management system called Sexual Harassment Electronics-box (SHE-box) to register complaints related to sexual harassment at work place.
- This system has been developed to ensure the effective implementation of sexual harassment of women (Prevention, Prohibition and Diagnosis) Act, 2013 at the workplace.
- Women employees of Central Government can file complaints related to their harassment at the workplace on this portal.
- This portal will soon be made available to women employees working in the private sector also.



- The Women and Child Development Ministry will conduct an all-India survey to assess the size of the problem related to sexual harassment of women at the workplace.
- Significantly, according to the census of 2011, the number of women employees is 10.93 percent (3.37 lakh) of the total number of regular employees of the Central Government.

Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=168892>

National Trade Facilitation Action Plan

Question: The National Trade Facilitation Action Plan (NTFAP) was released by ...

- (a) Ministry of Consumer Affairs (b) Ministry of Finance (c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
(d) Ministry of Company Affairs

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On July 20, 2017, Finance Minister Arun Jaitley released the National Trade Facilitation Action Plan in New Delhi.
- The National Action Plan aims to transform cross border clearance ecosystem through efficient, transparent, risk based, co-ordinated, digital, seamless and technology driven procedures which are supported by state-of-the-art sea ports, airports and land borders.
- The objectives to be achieved by National Action Plan are improvement in ease of doing business by reduction in cargo release time and cost, move towards paperless regulatory environment, transparent and predictable legal regime and improved investment climate through better infrastructure.
- The Action Plan covers many activities in the areas of infrastructure augmentation, particularly the road and rail infrastructures leading to ports and the infrastructure within ports, airports, ICDs, Land Customs stations that cuts across all stakeholders for which various ministries like Shipping, Civil Aviation, Railways, Road transport and Highways, Home Affairs, Finance, Commerce etc have been assigned specified targets.
- This Action Plan gives a time bound map, not only for implementing TFA, but also for India's initiatives for trade facilitation and Ease of Doing Business which goes beyond TFA.



Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=168777>

Mobile App 'Arambh'

Question: "Arambh" mobile app was recently launched for ...

- (a) registration for elementary education. (b) the maintenance of roads.
(c) information on central government projects.
(d) information related to agriculture.

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On July 24, 2017, Union Minister for Panchayati Raj, Rural Development, Drinking Water & Sanitation, Narendra Singh Tomar and Deputy Labor Director General (Policy) of ILO,



Deborah Greenfield launched mobile app 'Arambh' for road maintenance.

- This Mobile Phone App aims at use of GIS based mapping for making road inventories, condition surveys, and producing cost estimates and other relevant data for preparation and monitoring of annual road maintenance plans.
- Its usage would greatly enhance the service delivery of the state level institutions in planning and implementing performance based rural roads maintenance contracts.
- In addition, Mr. Tomar also launched Concept Note and Guidance Note "Mobilizing Funds for Maintenance of Rural Road".
- This Concept Note outlines innovative ways which can be adopted by the state Governments for mobilizing additional funds for road maintenance and presents some international best practices worldwide.

Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=168904>

Website of Uttar Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority

Question:Uttar Pradesh Real Estate (Regulations and Development) Rules-2016 are in force from –

- (a) July 20th, 2016 (b) October 27th, 2016
(c) November 27th, 2016 (d) March 15th, 2017

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On July 26, 2017, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the fully automated web portal (www.up-rera.in) of Uttar Pradesh Real estate Regulatory authority.
- This website has been started by the State Government for prompt disposal of homebuyers' grievances and boost investments in the real estate industry.
- The Real Estate (Regulation and Development) Act, 2016, came into force from 1st May 2016.
- The act is for the regulation and upgradation of the real estate sector.
- Uttar Pradesh Real Estate (Regulations and Development) rules-2016 has been implemented by the State government from October 27th, 2016.



Reference:

<https://twitter.com/airnewsalerts/status/890121636946599937>

BS-VI Emission Testing Facilities inaugurated

Question:Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas (Independent Charge), Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan recently inaugurated the Petroleum Research and Development facilities for fuel testing in

- (a) Gurgaon (b) Faridabad (c) Greater Noida (d) Jhajjar

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On July 22nd, 2017, Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas (Independent Charge), Mr. Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated the BS-VI Emission Testing Facilities at Indian Oil's R&D Centre in Faridabad.



- The centre is operated by government owned oil manufacturer Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).
- The R&D center is designed to test all types of fuels, such as petrol, diesel, ethanol-blended petrol, bio-diesel, CNG, LNG, Hydrogen-CNG and 2G-ethanol blends, to ensure that they meet the superior BS-VI norms that are to be implemented across the country by April 2020.
- In addition to generating emission data, the facilities will also evaluate the fuel blends for energy efficiency and engine durability.
- Indian Oil's R&D Centre was established in 1972, is the country's foremost centre of excellence in downstream petroleum R&D.

Reference:

<https://www.iocl.com/aboutus/NewsDetail.aspx?NewsID=45339&tID=8>

TREATY & AGREEMENTS

Nepal, China sign three pacts

Question:- Three agreements recently signed by China and Nepal pertain to ...

- (a) Military cooperation (b) Economic and technological cooperation
(c) Cooperation in space technology (d) None of the above.

Answer:- (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 15, 2017, Nepal and China signed three pacts to boost their ties in power and energy sectors and undertake a feasibility study to excavate natural gas and petroleum in Nepal.
- The agreements cover – economic and technological cooperation, China-aid oil and gas resources survey project and framework agreement on promotion of investment and economic cooperation.
- China and Nepal also agreed to establish hydropower projects and transmission lines and take steps for economic and technological development in Nepal.



Reference:-

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/nepal-china-sign-three-pacts-to-boost-energy-economic-ties/articleshow/60075580.cms>

Agreement between Rajasthan Government and HPCL

Question: Recently, an agreement was signed between Rajasthan government and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) to set up a refinery (joint venture) in Barmer.

How much stake will the Rajasthan government have in this joint venture?

- (a) 74 percent (b) 54 percent (c) 48 percent (d) 26 percent

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- On August 17th, 2017, State Government of Rajasthan signed an agreement with the Hindustan Petroleum



Corporation Limited (HPCL) to set up a joint venture company for setting up the project (Barmer Petroleum Refinery-cum-Petrochemical Complex).

- As per the agreement, HPCL will have 74% and the state government 26% partnership in the new firm called HPCL Rajasthan Refinery Limited (HRRL).
- The total cost of this project is Rupees 43,129 crores.
- Barmer refinery would be the country's first refinery project (environmentally friendly) to produce BS-VI emission standards.
- This will be the country's first project where refineries and petrochemicals will be together.
- About 270 MW power would be generated from the waste pet coke generated from the refinery.
- A green zone would be established in the refinery campus.
- The entire construction work of this project would be finished in a record time of four years.
- It is mentionable that Union Government gave approval to the Barmer Petroleum Refinery-cum-Petrochemical Complex on August 16th, 2017.

Reference:

<http://vasundhararaje.in/cm-rajasthan-refinery-joint-venture-17082017.html>

Agreement between India and Somalia

Question: Bilateral agreement between India and Somalia has recently been signed on-

- (a) the exchange of information
- (b) transfer of sentenced persons
- (c) the transfer of convicted persons to promote tourism between the two countries
- (d) the transfer of latest technology for agricultural

Answer-(b)

Related Facts:

- On August 1st, 2017, a bilateral agreement between India and Somalia has been signed for the transfer of sentenced persons.
- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj for India and Foreign Minister Yusuf Garaad Omar for Republic of Somalia signed the agreement.
- Signing the Agreement with Somalia shall facilitate the Indian prisoners imprisoned in Somalia or vice-versa to be near to their families, for serving remaining part of their sentence and shall facilitate their social rehabilitation.
- The signing of the agreement will strengthen the humanitarian cooperation between the two countries.
- Foreign Minister of the Federal Republic of Somalia Yusuf-Garaad Omar arrived on July 31st, 2017, on a five-day visit.
- Earlier, on June 7th, 2017, cabinet had given its approval for signing and subsequent ratification of the Agreement.
- In addition to Somalia, the Government of India has signed bilateral Agreements on Transfer of Sentenced Persons with United Kingdom, Mauritius, Bulgaria, France, Egypt, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, South Korea, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Bangladesh, Brazil, Israel, Bosnia & Herzegovina, UAE, Italy, Turkey, Maldives, Thailand, Russian Federation, Kuwait, Vietnam, Australia, Hong Kong, Qatar, Mongolia, Kazakhstan, Bahrain and Estonia.



Reference:

http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-and-somalia-sign-agreement-on-transfer-of-sentenced-persons-117080100894_1.html

Agreement between Iraq and Iran

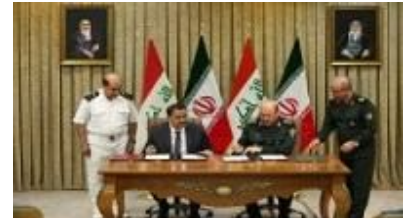
Question: On July 23, 2017, a MoU was signed between Iraq and Iran to ...

- (a) promote bilateral trade. (b) promote Defense and Military cooperation
(c) promote cooperation in education. (d) jointly decide the crude oil prices.

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On July 23, 2017, Iraq and Iran signed a memorandum of understanding to promote defense and military cooperation.
- The MoU was signed by the Iranian Defense Minister Hossein Dehqan and the Iraqi Defense Minister Erfan-al-Hiyali.
- Both the countries will strengthen mutual cooperation and improve the exchange of experience in the fight against terrorism and improve border security according to the provision of the MoU.
- The two countries will provide military training and technical support to the armed forces.

**Related Links**

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-iran-iraq-military-idUSKBN1A80HJ>

MoU between Airport Authority of India and Govt. of Uttarakhand

Question: Which one of the following is not among the sectors for which a MoU is signed between Airport Authority of India and Govt. of Uttarakhand?

- (a) To assess commercial potential of various airports in the state.
(b) To identify the technical considerations for airport operations in the state.
(c) To providing 100% grant funds for the development of civil air sector in Uttarakhand.
(d) Evaluation of site related technical and engineering parameters for development of projects.

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- On July 24, 2017, Airports Authority of India signed a memorandum of understanding with Government of Uttarakhand and Uttarakhand Civil Aviation Development Authority (UCADA) to develop the civil aviation sector in the state.
- The scope of the MoU is to identify relevant factors influencing the development of civil aviation infrastructure in Uttarakhand, assessing commercial potential of various airports of the state, identifying technical considerations, evaluating site related technical and engineering parameters for development of projects.
- In addition to these, work sector of the MoU also includes to make estimate of the capital outlay for the future projects and development of master plan for existing and future civil aviation infrastructure in the state.



- AAI will also assist UCADA in obtaining necessary clearances for airport operations starting with the upgraded airport at Pithoragarh and later at Chiniyalisaur.
- These airports would also be part of the Regional Connectivity Scheme and will boost tourism and air connectivity for the local public.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=168908>

CONFERENCE

India-Asean Youth Summit 2017

Question:- India-Asean Youth Summit 2017 was held in ...

(a) Bhopal (b) Kolkata (c) Mumbai (d) Hubli

Answer:- (a)

Related facts:-

- A five-day India-Asean Youth Summit was organized in Bhopal, Madhy Pradesh from August 14-19, 2017.
- The summit commemorated the 25th anniversary of Association of Southeast Asian Nations – India dialogue partnership.
- Over 175 delegations of youth leaders under 35 years participated from the ruling and opposition political parties, think tank, media, trade, bureaucracy and art and culture sectors.
- Significantly, half of the representatives were women.
- The Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) comprises of Indonesia, Singapore, Philippines, Malaysia, Brunei, Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar and Vietnam.



Reference:-

<http://www.indiafoundation.in/india-asean-youth-summit-2017/>

First National Youth Fest of Ayurveda

Question-From September 14th-16th, where will the first National Ayurveda Youth Festival be held?

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

Ans- (b)

Related facts:

- The first National Ayurveda Youth Festival will be organized at the National Ayurveda Institute in Jaipur from September 14 to 16.
- The festival is being organized in collaboration with the National Ayurveda Institute, Jaipur and the National Ayurveda Students and Youth Association (Nausea), a unit of Jaipur and Science Bharti, with the help of Union Ministry of AYUSH.
- This festival will comprise more than 3000 participants from 21 states.



- This event will help the common people to be aware of the health benefits of the ancient system of medicine in the country and will encourage all students of Ayurveda and for running a campaign at the national level.

Reference:

<http://dipr.rajasthan.gov.in/content/diip/en/news-detail.52635.html>

National workshop on implementation of intellectual property rights

Question: At which of the following places the national workshop on the implementation of intellectual property rights is inaugurated?

(a) Bangalore (b) Chandigarh (c) Jaipur (d) New Delhi

Ans: (d)

Related facts:

- A National Workshop on the implementation of intellectual property rights was held in New Delhi during August 22nd-24th, 2017.
- This three-day workshop was organized by the Cell for IPR Promotion and Management (CIPAM), a professional body under the aegis of the Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India.
- Shri Rajnath Singh, Union Minister of Home Affairs, inaugurated the workshop as the Chief Guest.
- This workshop helps enforcement agencies across the country to understand and appreciate the importance of their role in IPR enforcement.
- Enforcement agencies like police, Customs, as also the prosecution wing, have a major role to play in the effective enforcement of IPRs in the country.
- Creating awareness about IPRs amongst officials of these agencies, while strengthening the enforcement regime, the workshop also assists them in handling cases relating to IPRs in their day to day activities.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170120>

8th World Renewable Energy Technology Congress

Question: Where was the '8th World Renewable Energy Technology Congress' organized between August 21st -23rd, 2017?

(a) Colombo (b) Delhi (c) Kabul (d) Tokyo

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- During 21-23 August 2017, '8th World Renewable Energy Technology Congress' was organized in Delhi.
- The three-day conference was organized by The Energy and Environment Foundation in association with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.
- The main theme of the conference was "Renewable Energy: Global Cooperation for Sustainability".
- The annual conference is visualized and planned in the backdrop of India's vision of achieving "Energy Independence and Power for all by 2022".



- The conference focusses on new Green Technologies to ensure clean, reliable and affordable Renewable Energy supplies.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170124>

National Water Convention for Drought Free India

Question: During August 16-18, 2017, in which of the following States National Water Convention for Drought Free India was organized?

(a) Kerala (b) Karnataka (c) Rajasthan (d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- The National Water Convention for Drought Free India was organized in Vijayapura, Karnataka between August 16th – 18th, 2017.
- This three-day conference was organized by the Karnataka Government.
- The purpose of this conference is to create awareness on water literacy among the people.
- This convergence at Vijayapur highlights efforts of local communities and administration in mitigating drought and achieves self-sufficiency in water.



Reference:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1407093152740290/>

Global Entrepreneurship Summit -2017

Question: Where will the Global Entrepreneurship Summit-2017 organize from 28-30 November 2017?

(a) Mumbai (b) Hyderabad (c) Jaipur (d) Bangluru

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Global Entrepreneurship Summit (GES) will be organized at Hyderabad, Telangana, from 28-30 November 2017.
- India and US will co-host the Summit.
- This year's Summit theme is "Women First, Prosperity for All".
- Ms. Ivanka Trump's (daughter of American President Donald trump) presence will be as the leader of the US delegation.
- The summit is the preeminent annual entrepreneurship gathering that convenes emerging entrepreneurs, investors and supporters from around the world.



Reference:

<https://www.ges2017.org/>

Life Style and Food Festival

Question: Under the aegis of which of the following departments the 'Life Style and Food Festival' was organized in Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) Department of Small Industries and Export Promotion (b) State Information Department
(c) Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department (d) Ministry of Tourism, Government of India

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- During August 11th-15th, 2017, the 'Life style and Food Festival' was organized in the Paryatan Bhawan, Gomti Nagar Lucknow.
- The festival was inaugurated by Minister of Tourism, Women and Family Welfare, Maternal Infant-Welfare, Prof. Rita Bahuguna Joshi on 11th August, 2017.
- Stalls of craft and handmade items, veg/ non-veg foods of cities like Mumbai, Rajasthan, Delhi, Saharanpur, Lucknow etc have been set up.
- It is notable that Nearly 21 million Indians and nearly 31 lakh foreign tourists visit the state every year.

**Related Links:-**

<http://upnews360.in/newsdetail/82346/hi>

8th Mekong Ganga Cooperation Ministerial Meeting

Question: Mekong Ganga Cooperation comprises of ... members.

- (a) Five (b) Six (c) Three (d) Eight

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- 8th Mekong – Ganga Cooperation Ministerial Meeting was held in Manila, Philippines on 7 August 2017.
- The meeting was attended by Mr. Don Pramudwinai, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand, U Kyaw Tin, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Republic Union of Myanmar, and Mr. Vijay Kumar Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs of India, as Co-Chairs of the Meeting.
- The Foreign Ministers of the Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) reviewed the cooperation and future direction of MGC as well as adopted the 8th Joint Ministerial Statement.
- The theme of the meeting was "Build Better Connectivity for Sustainable Development". It was proposed by India.
- In this meeting, chairmanship was transferred to Thailand by Myanmar.
- The MGC was initiated in July 2000 in Bangkok with the objective of promoting economic cooperation and connectivity in the Mekong sub-region. The MGC has 6 members, namely, Thailand, Cambodia, Lao PDR, Viet Nam, Myanmar, and India.



- The cooperation framework has 7 areas of cooperation, tourism, culture, education, transport, health, agriculture, and the development of MSMEs.

Resource link:

<http://www.mfa.go.th/main/en/news3/6886/80000-8th-Mekong-%E2%80%93-Ganga-Cooperation-Ministerial-Meeting.html>

National Conference for Young SPs of States/UTs and Commandants of CAPFs

Question: Where was the National Conference of Young Police Superintendents of states/ UTs and commandants of CAPF organized recently?

(A) Bangalore (B) Jaipur (C) Kurukshetra (D) New Delhi

Answer- (d)

Related facts

- A two-day National Conference for Young SPs of States/UTs and Commandants of CAPFs was organized in New Delhi on August 1-2, 2017.
- The Union Minister of Electronics & Information Technology and Law & Justice, Shri Ravi Shankar Prasad inaugurated the Conference.
- The two-day Conference was organized by Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D), Ministry of Home Affairs stressed upon the use of technology in policing.
- During the conference a book titled 'National Police Research Repository' was also released.
- This conference was attended by Director of Intelligence Bureau (IB) Rajiv Jain and Director of Police Research and Development Bureau, Dr. Meeran C. Borwankar.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=66349>

BRICS Youth Forum-2017

Question: The 2017 BRICS Youth Forum (BYF) was organized in ...

(a) Johannesburg (b) Rio de Janeiro (c) Beijing (d) New Delhi

Answer- (c)

Related facts:

- The 2017 BRICS Youth Forum was organized in Beijing, China from July 25 to 27, 2017.
- The theme of this three-day BRICS forum was- "Enhance BRICS Partnership, Promote Youth Development".
- The Forum was attended by a total of 50 young delegates working as civil servants, scholars, entrepreneurs, artists and journalists from the BRICS countries.
- Before formulating an action plan for the forum the delegates discussed on issues concerning youth policies and entrepreneurship, as well as the roles of BRICS youth in global governance.
- It is noteworthy that the idea of establishing a dialogue mechanism for BRICS youth emerged in 2014 during a meeting between BRICS leaders in South Africa.



Reference:

<https://twitter.com/EOIBeijing/status/890106735259725825>

Meeting of Revenue Heads and Tax Experts of BRICS Countries

Question-Where was the meeting of Revenue heads of BRICS countries concluded during 25-27 July, 2017?

(A) St. Petersburg (B) Rio De Janeiro (C) Hangzhou (D) New Delhi

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- The meeting of the Revenue Heads and Tax Experts of BRICS countries was held in Hangzhou, China from 25-27 July, 2017.
- Indian delegation was led by India's Revenue Secretary Dr. Hasmukh Adhia.
- BRICS countries' Heads of Revenue Meeting appreciated GST Reforms introduced in India.
- In the meeting BRICS countries revenue chiefs and tax experts discussed topics of contemporary international tracks.
- A Memorandum of Cooperation (MOC) in respect of tax matters identifying areas of cooperation, namely, coordination in International Forums, Capacity building, Experience sharing and regular interaction was also signed by the BRICS Heads of Revenue.

**Related Links:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169189>

LAW & JUSTICE

Amendment in Wakf Act

Question: Under which of the following sections of Wakf Act, 1995, as amended in 2013, there is a provision to form Wakf tribunal in Uttar Pradesh?

(a) Section-82 (b) Section-83 (c) Section-84 (d) Section-85

Answer: (b)

Related facts:

- On August 22nd, 2017, the Uttar Pradesh cabinet approved an amendment to the Wakf Act.
- Wakf tribunal formed in Rampur UP has been terminated with this approval.
- The jurisdiction of the Rampur Tribunal has been merged into the jurisdiction of the tribunal at Lucknow.
- The provision to be formed Wakf Tribunal in the state is provided under section 83 of the Wakf Act, 1995, as amended in 2013.
- Under the aforesaid provisions, Wakf tribunals were set up in Lucknow and Rampur in March 2014.

**Reference:**

<https://twitter.com/CMOfficeUP/status/900041956604039169>

Architect (Amendment) Bill-2010

Question- Recently, the Central Government withdrew which of the following bill after its introduction for amendment in the Rajya Sabha?

- (a) Architects Act, 1972 (b) Architects Act, 1973
(c) Architects Act, 1974 (d) Architects Act, 1975

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On July 24, 2017, the Central Government withdrew the bill introduced in the Rajya Sabha for amendment in the Architects Act, 1972.
- The bill was first introduced in the Rajya Sabha by the previous government in 2010, which was later referred to the Standing Committee on Human Resources Development. The committee has not submitted its report yet.
- Some of the important provisions of the bill were- registration of architects, establishment of a Council of Architecture to prescribe minimum standards of architectural education in India and maintenance of the register of architects.

Related Links:-

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/government-withdraws-architects-amendment-bill-2010-from-raiya-sabha/articleshow/59738030.cms>



Supreme Court strikes out immediate arrests in dowry cases

Question: To prevent the misuse of which of the following section of Indian Penal Code the Supreme Court has recently struck out immediate arrests in dowry cases?

- (a) Section 198-A (b) Section 398-A (c) Section 218-A
(d) Section 498-A

Answer- (d)

Related facts:

- On July 27, 2017, the Supreme Court issued comprehensive guidelines to prevent the misuse of dowry prohibition law of 1983 and Section 498-A of the Indian Penal Code.
- The direction was issued by a two-judge Bench of Justices A.K. Goel and U.U. Lalit.
- Simultaneously, the Supreme Court struck out immediate arrests of husband and his family members in cases of dowry harassment filed under Section 498-A of IPC.
- The Supreme Court has directed to constitute one or more Family Welfare Committees in every district by the District Legal Services Authorities.
- The Committees comprising of three members, may be constituted out of para legal volunteers/social workers/retired persons/wives of working officers/other citizens who may be found suitable and willing.
- Every complaint under Section 498A received by the police or the Magistrate will be referred to and look into by such committee.
- Report of such committee will be given to the Authority by whom the complaint is referred to it latest within one month from the date of receipt of the complaint.
- Only after the report of the committee will the investigating officer (IO) or magistrate see whether action should be taken or not.
- Till report of the committee is received, no arrest should normally be effected.



- However, the Committee members will not be called as witnesses.

Reference:

http://www.supremecourtindia.nic.in/supremecourt/2017/6593/6593_2017_Order_27-Jul-2017.pdf

YEAR, DAY & WEEK

Sanskrit Day

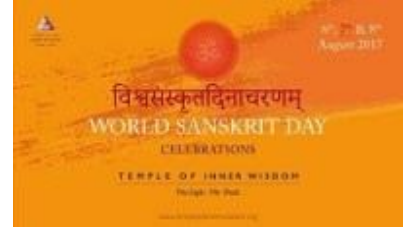
Question: 'Sanskrit Day' is observed across the country on –

(a) 8th August (b) 9th August (c) 7th August (d) 6th August

Answer: (c)

related facts:

- On August 7th, 2017, 'Sanskrit Day' was celebrated across the country.
- It is noteworthy that this day is observed every year on the Shravana Purnima Day (Full Moon Day) from 1969.
- Sanskrit day is celebrated to mark the importance of Sanskrit language, the mother of all Indian languages and first among the ancient languages spoken in India.
- Education of Sanskrit language is being given in universities of many countries, including England, France, and Germany.



Reference:

<http://www.india.com/buzz/sanskrit-diwas-2017-date-timings-history-significance-of-shravan-purnima-tithi-to-celebrate-world-sanskrit-day-2381382/>

National Deworming Day

Question: On which date the Union Health and Family Welfare Ministry started its 2nd round of National Deworming Day?

(a) August 8 (b) August 10 (c) August 11 (d) August 12

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On August 10th, 2017, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare started its 2nd round of National Deworming Day (NDD) 2017 in 33 States/UTs.
- The 1st round of Deworming day was held on February 10th, 2017.
- National Deworming Day is organized twice in a year covering all the children from 1-19 years of age except the States of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh where deworming is carried out once in a year.
- The NDD program has been launched in 2015 as WHO estimates that 220 million children below 14 years of age are at risk of STH infections in India.
- The Deworming program is India's commitment to a comprehensive national response to the public health threat posed by worms.
- This is one of the largest public health programs reaching a large number of children during a short period.

National Deworming Day's second round to target 11 crore children

- These parasites consume nutrients from the children they infect, thus aggravating malnutrition and retarding physical development.

Reference:

<http://www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/national-deworming-day-today/article19459373.ece>

World Humanitarian Day

Question: World Humanitarian Day is observed on-

- (a) August 20 (b) August 19 (c) August 18 (d) August 15

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- World Humanitarian Day (WHD) is observed every year on August 19th.
- This Day is held to pay tribute to aid workers who risk their lives in humanitarian service, and to rally support for people affected by crises around the world.
- 19 August was designated as World Humanitarian Day after a terrorist attack hit the United Nations headquarters in Baghdad, killing 22 people on August 19th, 2003.



Reference:

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

International Youth Day

Question: International Youth Day is observed on ...

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

Answer-(c)

Related facts:

- International Youth Day was observed across the world on August 12.
- International Youth day theme for year 2017 is "Youth Building Peace".
- It is worth mentioning that On 17 December 1999, in its resolution 54/120, the United Nations General Assembly endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth (Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day.

Reference:

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



World BioFuel Day 2017

Question: World BioFuel Day is observed on ...

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

Answer-(b)

Related facts:

- World BioFuel Day was observed on 10th August across the world.



- In 1893, Sir Rudolph Diesel (inventor of the diesel engine) for the first time successfully ran mechanical engine with Peanut Oil on this day.
- Since then to mark this extraordinary achievement, August 10th is observed as World Bio Fuel Day.
- The objective of “World Biofuel Day” is to create awareness about non fossil-fuels (Green Fuels).
- Biofuel is renewable, biodegradable, sustainable and environment friendly.
- Government of India has declared that “The World BioFuel Day” will be celebrated across 100 districts of the country in various states to create awareness about the bio fuel programme.
- These awareness campaigns are scheduled to be held between 11th to 14th August 2017
- It is noteworthy that in continuation to various initiatives in the area of Bioenergy, Government of India celebrated the “Bioenergy Urja Utsav” on 7/8th July 2017 at Pune which was the largest event on Bioenergy in India.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169802>

World Breastfeeding Week

Question: World Breastfeeding Week (WBW) is observed in the first week of ...

(a) August (b) July (c) September (d) October

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- World Breastfeeding Week is being observed throughout the world during 1-7 August, 2017.
- The theme of the World Breastfeeding Week in 2017 is ‘Sustaining Breastfeeding Together’.
- It is worth mentioning that it is celebrated in the first week of August every year to encourage and support breastfeeding.
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has started the program ‘MAA: Mother’s Absolute Affection’ at the national level to promote breastfeeding.
- In addition, “National Guidelines on Lactation Management Centres in Public Health Facilities” have been recently released to facilitate establishment of lactation management centres for ensuring that the sick and pre-term babies are fed with safe human breast milk.
- Breastfeeding is an important efficient and cost-effective intervention promoting child survival and health. Breastfeeding within an hour of birth could prevent 20% of the newborn deaths.
- Infants who are not breastfed are 15 times more likely to die from pneumonia and 11 times more likely to die from diarrhoea than children who are exclusively breastfed, which are two leading causes of death in children under-five years of age.
- As per recent data, initial breastfeeding has been nearly doubled in last decade. i.e from 23.4 per cent to 41.6 per cent (NFHS-3, 2005-06 and 4, 2015-16).



Related Links:-

<http://www.who.int/life-course/news/events/2017-breastfeeding-week/en/>

International Tiger day

Question: The 'Project Tiger' for the protection of tigers was launched by the government of India in ...

(a) Year 1992 (b) Year 1973 (c) Year 1990 (d) Year 1975

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On July 29th, 2017, International Tiger Day was celebrated across the world.
- The objective of the day is to promote a global system for protecting the natural habitats of tigers and to raise public awareness and support for tiger conservation.
- July 29th was designated as International Tiger Day in 2010 at the Saint Petersburg Tiger Summit Russia.
- In 2016, 13 countries had a total 3948 tiger's population.
- The Government of India had taken a pioneering initiative for conserving its national animal, the tiger, by launching the 'Project Tiger' in 1973.
- Currently there are a total of 50 Tiger Reserve and Buffer Areas in India.
- In the year 2016, the total number of tigers in India was 1,706.



Reference:

<https://twitter.com/MODifyingBHARAT/status/891166830810640385>

Statistics Day-2017

Question- On June 29, 2017, the '11th Statistics Day' was observed across the country by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation. What is the theme of the Statistics day for year 2017?

(a) Administrative Statistics (b) Agriculture and Agricultural Welfare
(c) Better numbers better life (d) Social development

Ans: (a)

Related facts:-

- On June 29th, 2017, the '11th Statistical Day' was observed across the country by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- The theme of this day for year 2017 is 'Administrative Statistic'.
- The objective of celebration of this Day is to create public awareness about the importance of statistics in socio-economic planning and policy formulation.
- It is noteworthy that Statistics Day is celebrated in recognition of the notable contributions made by Late Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis in the fields of statistics, statistical system and economic planning.
- Government of India in 2007, designated 29th June the birth anniversary of Prof. Mahalanobis as the "Statistics Day".
- Mahalanobis established the Indian Statistical Institute in Kolkata in 1931.
- The Institute was declared an "Institute of National Importance" and made an autonomous body of Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation, through an act of Parliament in 1959.



Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=65746>

MISCELLANEOUS

Largest solar eclipse of the century

Question: On August 21st, 2017, the largest solar eclipse of the century seen. The name given to this solar eclipse is-

- (a) American 99 Eclipse (b) Great Sun Deep
(c) Great American Eclipse (d) Great American Alix

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- August 21st, 2017, the largest solar eclipse of the century was seen.
- It was mainly seen in the US and Canada.
- This solar eclipse has been named 'Great American Eclipse'.
- It was the complete solar eclipse that appeared in the America 99 years later.
- In a solar eclipse, the moon passes between the sun and Earth and blocks all or part of the sun.
- This was the longest period when the moon completely blocked the sun from any given location along the path for about two minutes and 40 seconds.

**Reference:**

<https://eclipse2017.nasa.gov/eclipse-who-what-where-when-and-how>

Inauguration of office and Residential Premises of National Investigation Agency

Question: Where did the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh recently inaugurate the newly constructed office of the National Investigation Agency and its residential premises?

- (a) New Delhi (b) Lucknow (c) Bhopal (d) Dehradun

Answer- (b)

Related facts:

- On August 20th, 2017, the Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the office and residential premises of National Investigation Agency (NIA) at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh (UP).
- As of now, NIA has 5 Branch offices (Hyderabad, Guwahati, Kochi, Lucknow, and Mumbai) across the country.
- This is the first private (own, not rented) office and residential premises of the agency.
- The agency is established with a mandate to investigate offenses related to terrorist activities and other crimes having national and international importance.
- The National Investigation Agency (NIA) was created in pursuance to the enactment of the NIA Act, 2008, on 31.12.2008 after 2008 Mumbai terror attacks and started functioning from the 19th January 2009.



- The jurisdiction of the NIA Lucknow Branch (sanctioned on March 6th, 2012) spreads over the States of Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=170113>

Namami Gange Jagriti Yatra

Question: Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath recently launched the 'Namami Ganga Jagriti Yatra'. This drive has been organized by-

- (a) Uttar Pradesh Police Organization (b) Homeguards Organization (c) Ganga Chetna Samooh
(d) Department of Rural Development

Ans: (b)

Related facts:-

- On August 9th, 2017, The Uttar Pradesh Government led by Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has launched a new awareness drive called 'Namami Gange Jagriti Yatra'.
- The drive has been organised by Uttar Pradesh Homeguard Organisation.
- Drive will pass through 108 blocks of 25 districts of UP from Bijnore to Ballia alongside the Ganga river covering a total of 1025 Kilometer.
- During this drive, efforts will be made to awaken the public awareness by organizing meetings through more than one lakh Homeguards volunteers in 25 districts of Ganga flow area in the state.
- The journey will conclude on September 6th, 2017.



Related Links:-

<https://twitter.com/myogiadityanath/status/895210600976064513>

World's first Green Metro

Question: The world's first metro to get Green Certificate is-

- (a) Mumbai Metro (b) Hong Kong Metro (c) Delhi Metro (d) Singapore Metro

Ans: (c)

Related facts:-

- On July 28th, 2017, DMRC was awarded the platinum rating for adherence to green building norms by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC).
- Thus Delhi Metro has become the world's first ever Metro system to get green certification for all its major buildings and installations.
- Earlier it has got green certifications for its Phase 3 stations, depots and sub stations, 10 residential colonies of DMRC.
- This certificate was given in 3rd edition of the conference on Green Metro Systems held at Metro Bhawan.
- The conference was organized in association with the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- DMRC also successfully achieved the target of generating 20 MW of solar power by the year 2017 by adding another 2.6 MW of solar power facilities across the Metro network.



- Countries' Energy consumption has increased by 700 percent in the last four decades which will increase three times more by 2030.
- Delhi Metro started its first operation on this 8.3 km. long section between Shahdra and Tis Hazari on December 25, 2002.

Reference:

http://www.delhimetrorail.com/press_reldetails.aspx?id=2Dt8jWU1N2cIld

Global Tiger day

Question: Which of the following States has received the first “Conservation Assured Tiger Standards CATS) accreditation award” distributed on the occasion of Global Tiger Day celebrations at New Delhi?

- (a) Madhya Pradesh (b) West Bengal (c) Uttarakhand (d) Rajasthan

Answer-(c)

Related Facts:

- On July 29th, 2017, Global Tiger Day was celebrated at New Delhi.
- On this occasion India's first Conservation Assured Tiger Standards CATS) accreditation award was presented to the Lansdowne Forest Division of Uttarakhand.
- According to Tiger Population Data (2016-2017) a minimum of around 208 tigers have been indentified in Jim Corbett National Park while Rajaji Tiger Reserve is home to 34 tigers.
- Last year (2015-2016) these numbers were 163 for Jim Corbett National Park and 16 in Rajaji Tiger Reserve.
- The award was given to Lansdowne for managerial standards for effective conservation of Tigers.
- CA|TS has been developed by WWF, working with protected area agencies in tiger range countries.



Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169257>

Indian National Anthem video in sign language

Question: Who amongst the following has recently launched the Indian National Anthem video in sign language?

- (a) Smriti Zubin Irani (b) Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey
(c) Prakash Javedkar (d) Dr. Harshvardhan

Answer-(b)

Related facts:

- On August 10, 2017, Dr. Mahendra Nath Pandey, Minister of State, Ministry of Human Resource Development



launched the Indian National Anthem video in sign language at Films Division Auditorium, New Delhi.

- The film is conceptualised by Satish Kapoor, Founder Director, We Care Film Festival.
- We Care Film Festival produced the Film under the aegis of Brotherhood, an NGO.
- It is directed by Govind Nihalani and the music is scored by late Aadesh Shrivastava.
- The video features Mr. Amitabh Bachchan along with children with disability singing the National Anthem in sign language at the backdrop of the Red Fort.

Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169844>

Aadhaar number is compulsory for death registration

Question- According to the notification issued by the Registrar General of India, 'Aadhaar number' will be mandatory for the death registration w.e.f. ...

(a) September 1, 2017 (b) January 1, 2018 (c) December 1, 2017 (d) October 1, 2017

Ans: (d)

Related facts:-

- From October 1, 2017, the Aadhaar number will be required for the purpose of establishing the identity of the deceased for the purpose of Death registration.
- Registrar General India, Ministry of Home Affairs made the Aadhaar mandatory for Death Certificate through notification dated August 4, 2017.
- It will provide an effective method to prevent identity fraud, help recording the identity of the deceased person and will obviate the need for producing multiple documents to prove the identity of the deceased person.
- This provision shall come into effect immediately for residents of all States except J&K, Assam & Meghalaya for which a date will be notified separately.
- The RGI, in exercise of powers conferred under Section 3(3) of the Registration of Birth and Death Act, 1969, directed that the Aadhaar number will be required for the purpose of establishing the identity of the deceased for the purpose of Death registration.
- Notably, Section 57 of the Aadhaar Act 2016 permits the use of Aadhaar number for establishing the identity of an individual for any purpose pursuant to any law or any contract to this effect.
- The registration of births and deaths are being done under the provisions of Registration of Births and Deaths (RBD) Act, 1969 and the corresponding Rules made thereunder by the State Governments.
- Importantly, the office of the RGI is the central authority to coordinate and unify the activities of Chief Registrar of birth and deaths of States/UT's in respect of registration of births and deaths.



Related Links:-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=169622>