

Website- **e**dristi.in

# NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

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**PEACE**



**MEDICINE**



**NOBEL PRIZE 2018**



**ECONOMICS**



**PHYSICS**



**CHEMISTRY**



**NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS, 2018**



## 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 September to 30th September) 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.

## **Noble Prize- 2018**

**Question-** In which of the following area of medicine this year's Noble prize for medicine has been awarded?

- (a) AIDS
- (b) CANCER
- (c) HEPATITIS
- (d) ZIKA

**Answer-** b

**Related facts-**

- **James .P. Allison** and **Tasuku Honjo** have been awarded this year's noble prize in physiology or medicine for their discovery of cancer therapy by inhibition of negative immune regulation.
- The Laureates has shown how different strategies for **inhibiting the brakes on the immune system** can be used in the treatment of cancer. Their discoveries are a landmark in our fight against cancer.

**Noble laureates' 2018**

**Physics-** Laser physics (**Tools made for light**).

- **Arthur Askin**
- **Gerard Mourou**
- **Donna Strickland**

**Chemistry-** "For the directed evolution of enzymes" and "For the phage display of peptides and antibodies".

- **Frances H. Arnold**
- **George P. Smith**
- **Sir Gregory P. Winter**

**Peace-** a crucial contribution to focusing attention on, and combating, war crimes

- **Denis Mukwege**
- **Nadia Murad**

**Economic sciences-** "for integrating climate change into long-run macroeconomic analysis"

- **William D. Nordhaus**
- **Paul M. Romer**

**Links-**

<https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/medicine/>



## **National Sports Awards 2018**

**Question-Who among the following was honoured with Rajiv Gandhi khel Ratna award-2018?**

- (a) M. S. Mirabai Chanu
- (b) Virat Kohli
- (c) Vijay Sharma
- (d) Both a and b

**Answer. (d)**

### **Related Facts-**

- National Sports Awards 2018 were announced on **September 20, 2018**
- Here are the complete list of National sports award 2018-

#### **(i) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna 2018**

- (a) Ms. S. Mirabai Chanu (Weight lifting)
- (b) Virat Kohli (Cricket)

#### **(ii) Dronacharya Award 2018**

- (a) Subedar chenanda Achaiah Kuttappa (Boxing)
- (b) Vijay Sharma (weightlifting)
- (c) A. Srinivasa Rao (Table Tennis)
- (d) Sukhdev Singh Pannu (Athletics)
- (e) Clarence Lobo (Hockey)
- (f) Tarak Sinha (Cricket)
- (g) Jiwan Kumar Sharma (Judo)
- (h) V.R. Beedu (Athletics)

### **Arjun Award 2018-**

Neeraj Chopra (Athletics), Naib Subedar Jinson Johnson (Athletics) Hima Das (Athletics), Ms. NelaKurthi Sikki Reddy (Badminton), Subedar Satish Kumar (Boxing), Ms. Smriti Mandhana (Cricket), Shubhankar Sharma (Golf), Manpreet Singh (Hockey), Ms. Savita (Hockey), Col. Rahi Rathore (Polo), Ms. Rahi Sarnobat (Shooting), Ankur Mittal (Shooting), Ms. Shreyasi Singh (Shooting), Ms. Monika Batra (Table Tennis), Rohan Bopanna (Tennis), Sumit (Wrestling), Pooja Kadian (Wushu), Shri Ankur Dhama (Para - Athletics), Manoj Sarkar (Para - Badminton), G. Sathiyar (Table Tennis)

### **Dhyan Chand Award - 2018**

- (a) Satyadev Prasad (Archery)
- (b) Bharat Kumar Chetri (Hockey)
- (c) Bobby Aloysius (Athletics)
- (d) Chowgale Dadu Dattatray (Wrestling)

## **Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puskar 2018**

- To Rashtriya Ispat Nigam limited for identification and nurturing of budding & young talent.
- To JSW sports for encouragement to sports through corporate social responsibility.
- To Isha outreach for sports of Development.
- **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (Maka) Trophy 2017-18** is awarded to Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar.
- The awardees will receive their awards on 25th September from President of India at the Rashtrapati Bhawan.

## **About National Sports Awards**

- National Sports Awards are given every year to recognize and reward excellence in sports.
- Rajiv Gandhi Khel Award is given for the spectacular and most outstanding performance in the field of sports by a sportsperson over a period of four year.
- It is conferred in the memory of late Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi.
- It is the highest rank National Sport's Award in India started in year 1991.
- The recipients of Rajiv Gandhi Khel Award were given a cash prize of Rs. 7.5 lakh a medal and citation are given along with cash prize to the sportsperson.
- Pankaj Advani is the only player to receive this award for two different games - Snookers and Billiards
- Arjun, Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand Awardees will receive statute, certificates and cash prize of Rs. 5 Lakh each.
- Arjun award is given for consistency outstanding performance for four years.
- Dronacharya Award is given for coaches for producing medal winners at prestigious International sports events.
- Dhyan chand Award is given for life time contribution to sports development.
- Rashtriya Khel protshan Puruskar is given to the corporate entities and individuals who has played a visible role in the area of sports promotion and development.
- Top performing university is award with maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy in inter-university tournaments.

### **Reference-**

- <http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183589>

## National

### 4th India International Science Congress (IISF)

**Question-** In which of the following place the 4<sup>th</sup> “India International Science Festival” will be held?

(A)Varanasi (B)Lucknow (C)Kanpur (D)Delhi

**Answer. B**

**Related facts-**



- Resident Ram Nath Kovind will inaugurate the fourth “**India International Science Congress**” on 6th October in Lucknow. This 4-day event will be organized by Ministry of science tech, Earth sciences and Vijnana Bharti (VIBHA).
- Minister of Science and tech Harsh Vardhan has said that this year’s “India International Science Festival” will be dedicated to Former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and will work for the theme “Vigyan se Vikas”.
- Vajpayee is known for his slogan of “Jai Vigyan” in addition to Former PM Lalbahadur Shastri’s “Jai Jawan Jai Kisan”. The first and second IISF were held in New Delhi and the third in Chennai.
- IISF-4 will be attended by 10,000 delegates, including a scientist from India and abroad, startups and students mainly from the northeast
- IISF-2018 with its focal theme “Science for Transformation” will have 23 special events. The Global Indian Science & Technology Stakeholders Meet (GIST), Science & Technology for Harnessing Innovations (SATHI) – A National startup entrepreneurship summit and Student Science Village are some of the important events, being organized.
- The Science Village program is linked with the Pradhan Mantri Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana to reach out to the rural masses and propagate science and for seeking scientific solutions to the diverse challenges facing our society, particularly rural India.
- As **World record attempts** have been a key part of IISF since 2015, in IISF 2018, a World Record attempt will be made to “isolate DNA” by 500 students from class 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>

**Links-**

<https://www.firstpost.com/tech/science/president-kovind-to-inaugurate-india-international-science-festival-on-6-october-5255681.html>

### Special kit to aid rape case probe

**Question.** What is the name of the device which will be used as a Special kit to aid rape case probe?

(A)SAFE (B)SAECK (C)RCPD (D)TUNE

**Answer. B**

**Related facts-**



- Union home ministry has announced a Special kit to aid rape case probe in each police station of the country. The cost of the project will be shared between the center (Nirbhaya fund) and states in 60:40 ratios.
- The Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits (SAECK) or ‘rape investigation kits’ are designed to carry out an immediate medico-legal investigation.
- The home ministry initially will procure 3960 devices at a cost 79.20 lacs. 100 such kits will be given to each state and UTs.

- The police station will soon have special kits to collect blood and semen samples, besides other evidence, to carry out an immediate investigation into sexual assault cases, officials said on Sunday.

#### References-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/special-kits-to-aid-rape-case-probe/article25022084.ece>

## Village Rockstars

**Question. Who among the following is the director of the film 'Village Rockstars' India's official entry to Oscar for 2019?**

**(a) Nandita Das (b) Rima das (c) Satyajit Ray (d) Mira Nair**

**Answer. B**

**Related facts-**

- Film '**Village Rockstars**' is an **Assamese language** film released in 2017. It was edited, written, co-produced and directed by **Rima das**.
- This film was premiered in Toronto film festival in 2017. It has won the best feature film award at 64<sup>th</sup> National Film Award.
- The coming-of-age film had bagged the Best Feature Film trophy at the 65th National Film Awards, besides also winning Best Child Artist, Best Location Sound Recordist and Best Editing. It has won 'Swarna Kamal' award.
- Film Federation of India (FFI) has been chosen this film for India's official entry to 91 Academy Awards (Oscars). Hindi film Newton by director Amit Masurkar and starring Rajkummar Rao was India's official submission to the Oscars last year.



#### Reference:

[http://ptinews.com/news/10058529\\_-Village-Rockstars-is-India-s-official-entry-to-Oscars-2019.html](http://ptinews.com/news/10058529_-Village-Rockstars-is-India-s-official-entry-to-Oscars-2019.html)

## World Alzheimer's day

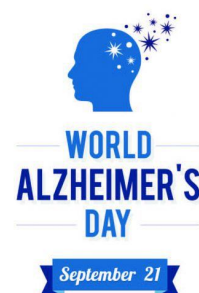
**Question: World Alzheimer's day is observed on-**

**(a) 21 September (b) 23 September (c) 24 September (d) 22 September**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Alzheimer's Day is observed on 21 September every year in order of raising awareness of the impact of Alzheimer's disease and dementia throughout the world.
- This day is the focus of World Alzheimer's Month, held annually every September since its inception in 2012.
- The theme for 2018 is "Every 3 Second".
- According to the report about 47 million people live with Alzheimer's
- Alzheimer's is a progressive and chronic neurodegenerative disease that causes problems with memory, thinking and behavior. Symptoms usually develop slowly and get worse over time, becoming severe enough to interfere with daily tasks.



#### Reference:

<https://www.alzinfo.org/articles/world-alzheimers-day/>

## Bellanddur Lake

**Question.** In which of the following states Bellanddur Lake is located?

(A)Andhra Pradesh (B)Karnataka (C)Kerala (D)Tamilnadu

**Answer.** B

**Related facts-**

- Bellandur Lake is infamous for its pollution located in the IT capital of the country, Bengaluru (Karnataka).
- In recent days it was flooded with froth and foam of about 10 feet height across the 900-acre lake and was spreading on the neighboring streets and localities.
- The toxic froth in Bellandur and the other lakes of Bengaluru has persisted for at least two decades and has become a regular phenomenon of sorts whenever it rains heavily. Three other lakes – Yemalur, Varthur, and Byramangala lake – also saw heavy frothing recently.
- Chemicals and pollutants had the lakes frothing for decades but made international headlines when the lakes started breathing fire and smoke too in the recent years.



**Links-**

<https://www.ndtv.com/bangalore-news/rain-leaves-bengalurus-bellandur-lake-with-10-feet-high-snowy-froth-1921821>

## UNICEF REPORT ON INFANT AND CHILD MORTALITY RATE

**Question.** Which of the following statements are NOT correct regarding infant and child mortality rate?

(A)Under 5 mortality rate (U5MR) is 43.

(B)8.02 lacs infants died in the year 2017.

(C)Infant mortality rate(IMR) is 35.

(D)7 states are likely to achieve MDG-4 GOAL.

**Answer.** D

**Related facts-**

- There has been a consistent decline in Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) and Under-Five Mortality Rate (U5MR) in India.
- Six states of India though are likely to achieve the IMR and U5 MR target of MDG-4: Tamil Nadu and Kerala in the South, Maharashtra in the West, West Bengal in the East, and Punjab and Himachal Pradesh in the North.
- Currently, India has an infant mortality rate (IMR) is 35 and under 5 child mortality (U5MR) rate is 43. For India MDG-4 goal of IMR and U5MR is 39 and 26 respectively, which we to achieve it till 2030.
- About 8, 02,000 infant deaths were reported in India in 2017.



**Links-**

<https://data.unicef.org/country/ind/>

## Swayangsiddha initiative

**Question.** Which of the following states is associated with 'swayangsiddha initiative'?

(a)Madhya Pradesh (b)Andhra Pradesh (c)West Bengal (d)Karnataka

**Answer-**(c) West Bengal

**Related facts-**



- Swayangsiddha means self-reliance. This initiative is launched by West Bengal Police to combat the menace of child trafficking and child marriage which is very much prevalent in West Bengal.
- Swayangsiddha means self-reliance. It envisions empowering young girls and boys with knowledge and skills so that they are aware, alert, able to make informed choices and are less vulnerable to violation and abuse of their rights. It aims to combat human trafficking and prevent child marriage.
- Swayangsiddha Groups have been formed in schools and colleges with interested students in the age group of 12 to 21 years. This group consists of 69% girls and 31% boys. 200 Teachers of different have chosen as mentors of this group.
- Child Protection Committee is monitoring and guiding these groups.
- This Group submits its report and shares their activities once in every two months with the help of nominated teachers.
- It is an initiative of West Bengal Police.



#### Links-

<http://www.swayangsiddha.org/about-us/>

### ‘Ease of Living Index ’2018 under AMRUT

**Question- Which state has topped the list of ‘Ease of Living Index ’2018 under AMRUT ?**  
**(a)Andhra Pradesh. (b)Odisha (c)Karnataka (d)Tamil Nadu.**

**Answer-(a)**

#### Related facts-



- **Andhra Pradesh** has topped the chart among States in terms of “Ease of Living Index” rankings launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).
- Second and Third rank in the list are **Odisha** and **Madhya Pradesh**
- These three States were awarded the three best performing States under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) at the National Dissemination Workshop on Ease of Living Index, 2018.
- The ‘Ease of Living’ Index will encourage all the cities to move towards an outcome based approach to urban planning & management and promote healthy competition among the cities.

#### About AMRUT–

- The scheme was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in June 2015 with the focus to establish infrastructure that could ensure adequate robust sewage networks and water supply for urban transformation by implementing urban revival projects.
- About ₹1 lakh crore investment on urban development under Smart Cities Mission and the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation of 500 cities has already been approved by the government.<sup>1</sup>

#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183647>

## National Register of Citizens (NRC)

**Question- National Register of Citizens was first prepared in which state of India?**

**(a) Assam (b) Manipur (c) Punjab (d) Rajasthan**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- The Supreme Court (a bench comprising **Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice R F Nariman**) ordered the continuation of filing of claims and objections by people (around 40 lakh) who were left out in the draft **National Register of Citizens (NRC)** of Assam.

**Background –**

- The **first draft** National Register of Citizens list was published on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2017 and had names of 1.9 crore people out of the 3.29 crore total applicants in Assam recognizing them as legal citizens of India.
- The **second and final draft** of Assam's National Register of Citizens was published on 30 July 2018, in this list 2,89,83,677 out of 3,29,91,385 applicants was recognized as legal citizens of India. And remaining **40, 07,708** people did not appear in the NRC draft.



**About NRC-**

- National Register of Citizens (NRC) is a register containing names of all genuine Indian citizens residing in Assam. It was first prepared after the 1951 Census of India.
- The NRC is now being updated in Assam to include the names of those persons or their descendants who appear in the NRC, 1951, or in any of the Electoral Rolls up to the midnight of 24 March 1971 or in any one of the other admissible documents issued up to mid-night of 24 March 1971, which would prove their presence in Assam or in any part of India on or before 24 March 1971.
- The purpose of NRC is to identify illegal migrants in Assam, who entered the Indian territories after the midnight of 24 March 1971. And also to determine the citizenship of the applicants who have applied for inclusion of their names in the updated NRC.

**History of NRC-**

- In the 19<sup>th</sup> century and 20<sup>th</sup> century, migration happened in colonial Assam from various provinces of British India particularly after **Yandabo Treaty** (signed on 24 February 1826).
- Due to the liberal attitude of the colonial authorities resulted in the migration of peasants from Bengal to Assam in search of fertile lands.
- Considering the continuous influx of illegal migrants, the Government of India formulated the **Immigrants (Expulsion from Assam) Act, 1950**. This Act came into effect on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1950 mandated for the expulsion of illegal immigrants from the state of Assam.
- For the identification of illegal immigrants, **National Register of Citizens (NRC)** was prepared for the first time in Assam.
- It was carried out under a directive of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- Guidelines and funds for NRC updates are provided by the Central Government of India, but its implementation is done through the State Government machinery under the Registrar General of India.
- It was first updated in 1951 but since then it has been not updated due to various political tensions such as Assam Movement of the 1980s, language movement and other ethnic movements.

- But now it is being updated in time bound manner after Supreme Court judgment (2014) to include **Assam Accord of 1985** to deal with the issue of illegal immigration from Bangladesh.

#### References-

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National\\_Register\\_of\\_Citizens\\_of\\_India](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/National_Register_of_Citizens_of_India)

### Boost to the vulnerable rural families in Jammu & Kashmir

**Question-**“National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) was launched by-  
(a)Ministry of Rural Development (b)Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
(c)Ministry of women and child development (d)Ministry of Defence

**Answer- (a)**

#### Related facts-

- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the extension of timeline for implementation of the Special Package under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (**DAY-NRLM**) for Jammu & Kashmir for another period of one year during 2018-19.
- The Cabinet also approved allocation of funds to the State under DAY-NRLM on a need basis for implementation of the Special Package without linking it with poverty ratio.



#### Impact–

- This will help in covering all the vulnerable rural households in the State (estimated at two thirds of the total number of households) within a definite time frame.
- It will ensure mobilization of households under the auto inclusion category and households with at least one deprivation category listed in the Socio Economic Caste Census – 2011.
- It will also ensure coverage of all the blocks in Jammu & Kashmir under DAY-NRLM and ensures social inclusion, social development, and promotion of livelihoods leading to poverty alleviation in the State.

#### About DAY-NRLM –

- National Rural Livelihoods Mission (NRLM) is a poverty alleviation project was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) in June 2011.
- This scheme is focused on promoting self-employment and organization of rural poor.
- In November 2015, the program was renamed as **Deendayal Antayodaya Yojana (DAY-NRLM)**.

#### References-

<https://aajeevika.gov.in/content/welcome-deendayal-antyodaya-yojana-nrilm>

### Kundalaiya dam

**Question:**“Kundaliya Dam” has been constructed on which river?  
(a) Amravati (b) Tapi (c) Kali Sindh (d) Parvati

**Answer- (c)**

#### Related facts-

- On September 12, 2018, Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chauhan dedicated the **Kundaliya dam** and laid the foundation stone of the micro irrigation system in Rajgarh district, Madhya Pradesh.
- At the ceremony, Shivraj Singh Chauhan announced to change the name of dam to "**Atal sagar dam**".
- The height of this dam is 44.50 meters.
- Irrigation facility will be provided on 3.25 lakh acre agriculture land of 535 villages of Rajgarh and Agar-Malwa district from this dam.
- The construction of Kundaliya Dam had been started in the year 2015.
- This dam has been constructed by the Water Resources Department, Madhya Pradesh Government.
- Kundaliya dam has been constructed on **Kali Sindh River**.



#### References-

<https://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180907N32&LocID=1&PDt=9/7/2018>

## National Register of Citizens (NRC)

**Question- National Register of Citizens was first prepared in which state of India?**

**(a) ASSAM (b) MANIPUR (c) PUNJAB (d) RAJASTHAN**

**Answer- (a)**

#### Related facts-

- The supreme court (a bench comprising **Justice Ranjan Gogoi and Justice R F Nariman**) ordered continuation of filing of claims objections by people (around 40 lakh) who were left out in the draft **National Register of Citizens (NRC)** of Assam.



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- It was carried out under a directive of the Ministry of Home Affairs.
- It was first updated in 1951 but since then it has been not updated due to various political tensions such as Assam Movement of 1980s, language movement and other ethnic movements.
- But now it is being updated in time bound manner after Supreme Court judgment (2014) to include **Assam Accord of 1985** to deal with the issue of illegal immigration from Bangladesh.

## References-

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/assam-nrc-supreme-court-orders-resumption-of-filing-of-claims-and-objections-by-those-left-out/articleshow/65870839.cms>

## Chiller star labelling program

Question-“chiller star labelling program” has been launched by –

(a)Ministry of power (b)Ministry of defence (c)Ministry of finance (d)Ministry of railways

Answer-(a)

Related facts–

- On **14 September 2018**, Ministry of power, government of India launched an ambitious program to encourage the development of energy efficient chiller systems in the country.
- The program has been formulated by bureau of energy efficiency (BEE).
- The program envisages for providing star rating in terms of its energy performance.
- Initially, it is launched on voluntary basis and will be valid upto 31<sup>st</sup> december 2020.
- The initiative will promote advancement in technology for central HVAC (**heating, ventilation and air conditioning**) **system** and will also helpful in energy efficient solutions for the large commercial and industrial applications.



## Bureau of energy efficiency (BEE)-

- It is an agency of the government of India, under ministry of power.
- It was created in March 2002 under the provisions of the Energy conservation act 2001.
- Function of this agency is to develop programs which will increase the conservation and efficient use of energy in India.

## Chillers-

- Chiller is a heat transfer device that uses refrigeration system to remove heat from a process load and transfers the heat to the environment.

- They are used to lower the temperature of all kinds of equipment and processes.
- Chillers are used extensively for space conditioning of buildings and for industrial process cooling applications.
- Chillers are energy intensive system which contributes more than 40 % of the total energy consumption in commercial buildings.
- So, it is important to optimize energy performance of chillers and create awareness amongst the end users to adopt energy efficient chillers.

#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183458>

## 328 FDCs DRUGS BANNED

### Question- Which of the following statements is NOT correct regarding FDCs DRUGS?

- A. FDCs DRUGS are a combination of two or more active drugs packed in a single dose.
- B. FDCs DRUGS are recommended for non-communicable diseases (NCDs) only.
- C. Painkiller Saridon and skin cream Panderm are among the banned drugs.
- D. Unnecessary use of FDCs DRUGS makes the human body resistant to treatment.

**Answer. B**

#### Related facts-

- In an order to prevent irrational use of Fixed-dose combination drugs (FDCs) DRUGS, the union ministry of health and family welfare on Wednesday banned the manufacturing and distribution of 328 varieties of FDCs.
- In compliance with the directions given by the honorable Supreme Court in a judgment examining the DTAB report on FDCs, it was necessary and expedient in public interest to ban these drugs.
- This step has been taken on the recommendation of Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB) an advisory works under Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), the national regulatory body for Indian pharmaceuticals and medical devices.
- FDCs are the combination of two or more active drugs packed in a single dose. In Indian market more than 2,000 FDCs are marketed, which is 4 times more than the US pharmaceuticals market.
- Fixed dose combination of aceclofenac + paracetamol + rabeprazole was used as Anti-pyretic and Anti-biotic and Nimesulide + Paracetamol used as painkiller and anti-pyretic. Many popular drugs such as Painkiller Saridon and skin cream Panderm are among the banned drugs.
- Banning of these drugs was pending for more than 2 years since March, 2016. Keeping in view the unnecessary use of FDCs DRUGS makes the human body resistant to treatment, government has taken the decision and advised physician to be aware of usages of FDCs.



#### Links:

<https://www.businesstoday.in/sectors/pharma/what-are-fdc-drugs-and-why-has-the-govt-decided-to-ban-them/story/282350.html>

## Initiatives for Disabled Persons

### Question- Which ministry is organizing 'National conference of District Disability rehabilitation centers (DDRC)'?

- (a) Ministry of Human Resource and Development
- (b) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- (d) None of the above

**Answer-(b)**  
**Related Facts-**

- Under the ministry of social justice and empowerment, department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan) 'National conference of District Disability rehabilitation centers (DDRC) is being organized.
- This one day conference include principal Secretaries Social Welfare reputed NGOs ,District Social welfare officers, eminent Doctors and District magistrates of 263 districts where DDRCs have been set up.
- This conference is held on 14th September 2018.



**Salient Features of DDRC-**

- DDRCs provide comprehensive services to persons with disabilities and facilitate creation of infrastructure and capacity building at the district level for awareness generation, rehabilitation and training of rehabilitation professionals.
- 310 districts have been identified and 263 DDRCs have been set up
- Awareness generation, early intervention and assessment of the need of assistive devices to divyangjans.
- Therapeutic services such as Physiotherapy, Occupational Therapy and Speech Therapy etc. to divyangjans through rehabilitation professionals.
- Equipment for rehabilitation services.
- Cost norms of the Scheme has been revised and enhanced to 2.5 times.

**References-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183439>

## Shakambari board approved by Chhattisgarh Cabinet

**Question- Which of the following is true about Shakambari board of Chhattisgarh?**

- (a) It will benefit farmers engaged in cultivation of horticulture crops.  
(b) It constitutes a chairman and five non-government members nominated by the state government. (c) Both (d) None of the above.

**Answer-(c)**

**Related facts-**



- Chhattisgarh Cabinet approved for the constitution of Chhattisgarh Shakambari Board to benefit farmers engaged in cultivation of horticulture crops like vegetables, fruits, and flowers etc.
- Cultivation of vegetables, fruits and flowers are carried out on the banks of rivers and rivulets on a large scale in Chhattisgarh.
- Large numbers of small and marginal farmers are engaged in this type of cultivation.
- In Chhattisgarh 80% of farmer families come under small and marginal category.
- The Board is being constituted with an objective to address the problems being faced by these farmers and provide an effective solution to them.
- It will take up the issues like their inclusive development, initiations of new schemes for them, reforms in the existing schemes, logistic support, direct accessibility in the market etc.
- The Board will comprise of a Chairman and five non-government Members who will be nominated by the state government.

**Reference-**

<http://thehitavada.com/Encyc/2018/9/11/Shakambari-Board-gets-cabinet-nod.aspx>

## “Apsara-upgraded”

**Question –The research nuclear reactor “Apsara” was –**

- (a) Asia's first research reactor. (b) World's first research reactor.  
(c) Asia's second research reactor. (d) None of the above.

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- On 11 September 2018, Research reactor “Apsara-Upgraded”, of higher capacity established at Trombay.
- This comes after Apsara, Asia's first research nuclear reactor.
- Chicago Pile-1 (CP-1) was the world's first nuclear reactor.
- According to Department of Atomic Energy, the indigenously made reactor uses plate type dispersion fuel elements made of Low Enriched Uranium (LEU).
- On the basis of higher neutron flux, this reactor will increase indigenous production of radio-isotopes for medical application by about fifty percent and would also be extensively used for research in nuclear physics, material science and radiation shielding.



### About Apsara-

- Apsara, the first research reactor in Asia became operational in Trombay campus of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in August 1956.
- After providing more than five decades of dedicated service to the researchers, the reactor was shut down in 2009.
- Research nuclear reactor-
- Small fission reactors designed to produce neutrons for a variety of purposes, including scientific research, training, and medical isotope production.
- They are not designed to generate power.

### References-

<http://www.news Bharati.com/Encyc/2018/9/12/Apsara-nuclear-reactor-operational.html>

## e-AarogyaBharati (e-VBAB) Network Project

**Question- Agreement for the implementation of e-VidyaBharati and e-AarogyaBharati (e-VBAB) Network Project have signed between the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd (TCIL) and –**

- (a) Ministry of External Affairs (MEA). (b) Ministry of information and technology.  
(b) Ministry of defence. (c) Ministry of corporate affairs.

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd (TCIL) have signed an Agreement for the implementation of e-VidyaBharati and e-AarogyaBharati (e-VBAB) Network Project.
- The project is hailed as a digital bridge of knowledge and health between India and Africa.



**e- VBAB Network project–**



- E-VBAB Network Project is primarily a technological upgrade and extension of the Pan-African e-Network Project (Phase 1) which was implemented in 48 partner countries across Africa from 2009 till 2017.
- The Phase 1 of the Project successfully imparted tele-education (e-VidyaBharti) and tele-medicine (e-AarogyaBharti) by linking educational institutions and hospitals in India with those from the participating African countries.
- The e-VBAB Network Project will be completely funded by the Government of India for its entire duration and will be open for participation to all our partner countries in Africa.
- The Project will be another important milestone in our development partnership with Africa.

#### References-

<https://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/30373/Signing+of+Agreement+between+MEA+and+TCIL+for+the+eVBAB+Network+Project>

### First Airport set to use Face Recognition in Asia

**Question-Which Airport in Asia is first set to use face recognition as “boarding pass”?**

- (A) Indira Gandhi International Airport Delhi
- (B) Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) Bengaluru
- (C) Beijing Capital International Airport China
- (D) Kansai International Airport Japan

**Correct Answer-(b) Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) Bengaluru**

#### Related Facts

- **Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) Bengaluru** is going to become the **first airport in Asia** to use face recognition as the boarding procedure for passengers from next year 2019.
- The goal of this program is to use **Biometric technology** to simplify the journey by making it paperless from registration to boarding.
- A **Portuguese** software firm signed an agreement to this effect in Lisbon on September 5 to introduce face recognition technology at the airport from 2019.
- Jet Airways, Air Asia and Spice Jet passengers as first users will start this project.



#### References By:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/in-a-first-in-asia-bengaluru-airport-set-to-use-face-recognition-as-boarding-pass-next-year-5345887/>

### Odisha Assembly passes the resolution for creation of legislative council

**Question- Consider the following statements regarding the creation of legislative council in Odisha-**

- A. Recently Odisha Assembly passes the resolution for creation of legislative council.
- B. There are 7 states which have legislative council.

**Of the above which statements is/are correct:**

1. A
2. B
3. Both A & B
4. None of the above

### Answer-3

#### Related facts-

- Odisha state assembly has given the nod for creation of legislative council on **6<sup>th</sup> September**. The proposed council will have 49 members which is  $\frac{1}{3}^{\text{rd}}$  of the number of legislative assembly.
- **104 out of 147 members have cast their votes**. Biju Janta dal leader, Naveen Patnayak, CM of Odisha has claimed that this step will bring more democratic environment in the policy making.



#### Legislative Council-

- **Under article 169 of the constitution**, a legislative council can be formed “ if the legislative assembly of the state passes a resolution to that effect by a majority of the total membership of the assembly and by a majority of not less than two-thirds of the members of the assembly present and voting”. Parliament can then pass a law to this effect.
- **Under Article 171 of the constitution**, the legislative council of a state shall not have more than one-third of the total number of MLAs of the state, and not less than 40 members.
- An exception is there in **Jammu& Kashmir where MLAs are 89(87+2 nominated)** in numbers while the legislative council has only **36 members**.

#### References-

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/odisha-plans-legislative-council-how-states-create-a-second-house-and-why-5342010/>

### Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)

**Question- Which of the following alternative is true about Animal welfare board of India?**

- (a)It is under Ministry of Environment, forest and climate change.  
(b)It is a statutory advisory body. (c)Both (d)None of the above.

**Answer-(c)**

#### Related facts-

- Union Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi accused the AWBI for not enforcing rules that specify how animals can be depicted in films and television shows.
- The board is India's apex body for ensuring that animals are not mistreated.
- She alleged that the committee did not seek details of the species being used, which were required to determine whether they were protected.



**Animal Welfare  
Board of India**

#### About Animal Welfare Board of India:-

- It was established under Section 4 of **The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960**, in 1962.
- The board is a statutory advisory body of government of India on animal welfare laws.
- The Board was initially within the jurisdiction of the Government of India's Ministry of Food and Agriculture.
- In 1990, the subject of Prevention of Cruelty to Animals was transferred to the Ministry of Environment, forest and climate change.

#### References-

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

## Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains bill 2017

**Question- Which of the following statement is true about Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains act 1958. ?**

- (a) The Act defines a 'prohibited area' as an area of 100 meters around a protected monument or area.
- (b) The central government can not extend the prohibited area beyond 100 meters.
- (c) Both
- (d) None of the above.

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Historians have opposed amendment in the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.
- The changes propose to allow the construction of Centre-approved public infrastructure within a 100 metre radius of protected monuments under Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).



**Key features of Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains (Amendment) Bill, 2017:**

- The bill amends the provision of **AMASR act 1958** related to construction in 'prohibited areas' to permit the construction of public work in the prohibited areas for **public purposes**.
- It introduces definition for 'public works', which includes construction of any infrastructure that is financed and carried out by central government.

**About Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains act 1958(AMASR)-**

- AMASR Act provides for preservation of ancient and historical monuments and archaeological sites and remains of national importance.
- The Act defines a 'prohibited area' as an area of 100 meters around a protected monument or area.
- The central government can extend the prohibited area beyond 100 meters.
- It does not permit construction in such prohibited areas even if it is for public purposes, except under certain conditions.

**References–**

<http://www.prsindia.org/billtrack/the-ancient-monuments-and-archaeological-sites-and-remains-amendment-bill-2017-4822/>

## Kartarpur Sahib Pilgrim corridor

**Question- Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara is located in –**

- (a) Pakistan (b) India (c) Afghanistan (d) Arab**

**Answer-(a)**

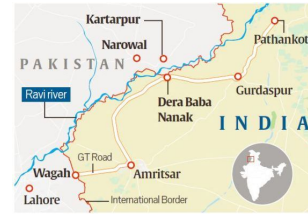
**Related facts-**

- Punjab Minister Navjot Singh Sidhu has written to the Centre, asking for steps to realize a **"Kartarpur Sahib corridor"** for pilgrims.

- The visa hassle have deprived numerous pilgrims of reaching this gurdwara over the years.

#### About Gurdwara–

- Kartarpur Sahib Gurdwara is located on the bank of the river Ravi in Gurdwara is close to the International Border.
- Here **Guru Nanak** assembled a Sikh community and lived for 18 years until his death in 1539.
- The shrine is visible from the Indian side.
- Binoculars are installed at Gurdwara Dera Baba Nanak for Indian Sikhs to view from the Indian side.



#### References-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/sidhu-bats-for-kartarpur-sahib-pilgrim-corridor/article24909478.ece>

### India to generate 100 GW solar energy by 2022

**Question. Consider the following statements regarding India's renewable energy infrastructure:**

1. India has planned to generate 175GW renewable energy by 2022.
2. Solar energy will constitute 100 GW
3. Currently we have 20 GW installed solar power.

**Of the above statements which are correct:**

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- India started the world largest renewable energy expansion program, which will have target of 175 GW by 2022; it has 100 GW solar power components. Currently installed capacity of solar power is around 20 GW.
- India is a founder member of **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** consists of **121 member countries**, these countries lie in the tropical region (**between tropic of cancer and tropic of Capricorn**). ISA has its headquarter located in Gurugram, India.
- The idea of solar alliance was conceived by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, in 2015 as a treaty based international intergovernmental organization.



#### References-

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/india-will-generate-100-gw-of-solar-power-by-2022-says-modi/article23042063.ece>

### Memorandum of Understanding for Biotechnology Park in Chhattisgarh

**Question- Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of Biotechnology Park in Chhattisgarh recently, what is not true in this regard?**

- (a) This Agreement on Sept. 4, 2018, Department of Biotechnology, Government of India; Signed between the Department of Agriculture and Biotechnology, Government of



**Chhattisgarh and Indira Gandhi Agricultural University (Raipur).**

**(b) This park is being set up at Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur.**

**(c) This park is being set up with the financial assistance of the Government of India.**

**(d) The total cost amount of biotechnology project is Rs. 30 crores.**

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts:**

- Tripartite Memorandum of Understanding for the establishment of Biotechnology Park in Chhattisgarh, **September 4, 2018**, was signed by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India the Department of Agriculture and Biotechnology, Government of Chhattisgarh and Indira Gandhi Agricultural University, Raipur (Chhattisgarh) was signed.
- Bio Technology Park is being set up at Indira Gandhi Agricultural University in Chhattisgarh. This park is being developed with the financial support of the Government of India. The total cost of the biotechnology project is Rs **44 crores**.
- The implementation of this Five Year Plan will be implemented in two phases. Biotech Incubation Centre will be established in the first phase. In the second phase, Business Enterprise Zone will be set up.



**References-**

<https://www.dailypioneer.com/2018/state-editions/bio-tech-park-would-open-new-avenues-brijmohan.html>

## Centenary of the battle of Haifa celebrated

**Question-Which three British Indian Cavalry regiments, helped in the liberation of Haifa city of Israel?**

**(a) Mysore, Hyderabad and Jodhpur Lancers.**

**(b) Mysore, Hyderabad and Jaipur Lancers.**

**(c) Mussoorie, Hyderabad and Jodhpur Lancers.**

**(d) None**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- **September 6<sup>th</sup> was celebrated as the centenary year** of the liberation of northern Israeli city Haifa from ottoman rule during World War 1.
- Every year on 23<sup>rd</sup> September, Indian army celebrate this day as Haifa day to pay the tribute to the three Indian cavalry regiments – **Mysore, Hyderabad and Jodhpur Lancers**, which had taken part in the Haifa war.
- Battle of Haifa took place in
- These three Indian cavalry considered as “**the last great cavalry campaign in military history**”.
- The **Teen Murti Chowk** was constructed in **1922** in the memory of the Indian soldiers from three princely states namely Jodhpur, Hyderabad and Mysore who served present day Gaza strip, Israel and Palestine during the World War I under British India Army.



**References-**

<http://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183311>

<https://www.dnaindia.com/india/photo-gallery-100-years-of-battle-of-haifa-indian-army-israel-honour-troops-who-were-martyred-in-last-great-cavalry-campaign-2660306>

## Annual Review of MPLADS Program

**Question-** The 21<sup>st</sup> All India Review Meeting on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was recently held under the Chairmanship of-

- (a) Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment.
- (b) Union Minister of Statistics & Program Implementation.
- (c) Union Minister of law and justice.
- (d) Union Minister of Health and family Welfare.

**Answer-(b)**

**Related facts-**



- The 21<sup>st</sup> All India Review Meeting on Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS) was held under the Chairmanship of **Union Minister of Statistics & Program Implementation D. V. Sadananda Gowda** in New Delhi.
- The focus was on issues related to the implementation of MPLADS with the States/UTs so that the Ministry can take steps to address these for further improvements in its implementation.

**Performance-**

- Best performing States/UTs in terms of uploading the information (Monthly Progress Report and Work-wise details) on the MPLADS web Portal are Haryana, Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, Punjab, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, West Bengal, Gujarat, Odisha.
- UTs like Lakshadweep, A& N Islands and States of Kerala, Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu are amongst the higher side of the performance having maximum percentage utilization of funds over release.

**About MAPLAD scheme–**

- MAPLAD stands for **Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme**.
- It is a scheme formulated by Government of India on **23 December 1993** that provides that each Member of Parliament of India to spend certain amount on the development of his/her constituency.
- The main idea is creation of durable community assets and for provision of basic facilities including community infrastructure, based on local requirements.

**References-**

<http://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183153>

## New IIM Permanent Campus

**Question-** In which of the following city the Union Cabinet has approved the establishment and operation of new IIM permanent campus-

- (a) Bodhgaya (b) Allahabad (c) Durgapur (d) Bhatinda

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts**



- **On September 5, 2018**, the Union Cabinet approved the establishment and operation of seven new IIM permanent campuses.
- These will be established in **Amritsar (Punjab), Bodhgaya (Bihar), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Sambalpur (Odisha), Sirmaur (Himachal Pradesh), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) and Jammu (Jammu and Kashmir)**.

- These IIMs were established in the year 2015-16 / 2016-17. Presently these institutions are working in temporary campuses.
- A total of 3775.42 crores of rupees have been estimated in the construction of these projects.
- Out of which 09 crores will be spent on the construction of permanent premises of these institutions.
- The construction of permanent premises of these institutions will be completed by June, 2021.

#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183286>

## Mile-Baanche Programme

**Question-** Recently 'Mile-Baanche Madhya Pradesh' program was organized-

- For communication with the public
- For communication with government employees
- For communicating with students
- For women to communicate

**Answer-** (c)

**Related facts**



- On the **31st August, 2018**, the 'Mile-Baanche Madhya Pradesh' program was organized in the Government schools in Madhya Pradesh.
- Volunteers, registered under this program went to schools and communicated with the students.
- This event was organized for the third time in the state.
- The purpose of this program was to develop language skills, interest in reading different books (other than textbooks) and to develop multi-dimensional development of children through co-educational activities.
- Earlier this program was scheduled to be held on August 17, but on August 16, it was postponed due to the demise of former Prime Minister **Atal Bihari Vajpayee**.
- More than 2.5 lakh people participated in this program.

#### References-

<https://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180831N24&LocID=1>

## Cabinet approves the continuation of Jan Dhan yojna

**Question–** Union Cabinet in a recent decision headed by PM Narendra Modi has decided the continuation of Pradhan Mantri jan dhan yojna (PMJDY) launched on 28<sup>th</sup> August; 2014. which of the following feature is not added in the decision?

- Over draft limit to be raised from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000
- Age limit was revised from 18-60 to 18-65 age group
- Accidental insurance have been raised from 1 lakh to 2 lakh
- No condition on over draft up to Rs. 4000.

**Answer** (d)

**Explanation**



- In a recent decision taken by union cabinet the scheme for the National Mission for Financial Inclusion , Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojna will be continue beyond **14<sup>th</sup> Aug, 2018**. Following provision have been added in the recent decision:
- Focus on opening account from 'every Household to every Adult'.
- Existing over draft limit to be raised from **5000 to Rs. 10,000**.
- Age limit for availing over draft rose from earlier **18-60 years to 18-65 age-groups**.
- Accidental insurance cover for new RuPay card holders to be raised from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 2 lakh to new PMJDY accounts opened after 28<sup>th</sup> Aug 2018.
- There will no condition for overdraft up to Rs. 2000.
- **Achievements of PMJDY**
- 32.41 crore bank accounts have been opened, with more than Rs.81,200 crore in deposits, nearly 13.16 accounts are Aadhar enabled
- More than 7.5 crore accounts receiving DBTs, 1.11 crore subscribers of Atal Pension Yojna and more than 5.47 crore subscribers of Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) and 13.98 crore subscribers under Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY) benefitted by this.
- Banking Correspondents (BCs) have been deployed in 1.26 lakh Sub Service Areas (rural areas). 53% women Jan Dhan account holders and 59% Jan Dhan accounts are in rural and semi urban areas. More than 83% operative Jan Dhan accounts (except states of Assam, Meghalaya, J&K) are Aadhaar seeded, with issuance of approx 24.4 crore RuPay cards to these account holders.

#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1545090>

### PM launches India Post Payments Bank

**Question-** on September 1, 2018 PM Narendra Modi launched the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), which of the following products will be offered by the IPPB.

(i) Savings and current accounts (ii) Money transfer & direct benefit transfers  
(iii) Bill and utility payments (iv) Enterprise and merchant payments

Choose correct option from the above given options –

(a) A and B (b) A, B and D (c) Only A and C (d) All of the above

**Answer. (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- On **September 1st, 2018**, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, launched the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) at Talkatora Stadium in New Delhi.
- IPPB has been envisioned as an accessible, affordable and trusted bank for the common man, to help speedily achieve the financial inclusion objectives of the Union Government.
- IPPB will offer a range of products such as savings and current accounts, money transfer, direct benefit transfers, bill and utility payments, and enterprise and merchant payments.
- The payments bank, where the Indian government holds 100 per cent equity, will leverage the vast network of the Department of Posts (DoP) that has more than three lakh postman.
- The IPPB will leverage tech platforms. It will use Aadhaar to open accounts, while a QR cards and biometric devices will drive authentication, transaction and payments.
- IPPB will have 650 Branches and 3250 Access Points spread across the country. All the 1.55 lakh Post Offices in the country will be linked to the IPPB system by December 31, 2018.



## Other Benefits of IPPB

- These are zero-balance accounts there are no minimum balance rules.
- The payment bank will accept deposits of up to Rs 1 lakh. Deposit in any account that exceeds Rs 1 lakh would be automatically converted into post office saving account.
- All IPPB accounts attract an interest rate of 4% per annum. Calculated on your daily closing balance, the interest rate is paid quarterly.
- Doorstep banking from India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) comes at a cost of Rs 25 for cash transactions and Rs 15 for digital transactions. You have to use your QR card (the one in the photo) for doorstep banking.

## References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183218>

## India –ADB Loan agreement

**Question: How much amount of loan agreement was signed to improve the irrigation potential between the Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in Madhya Pradesh?**

- (a) 275 million US dollars (b) 295 million US dollars (c) 325 million US dollars  
(d) 375 million US dollars

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts-**



- On **August 30, 2018**, a loan agreement was signed between the **Government of India** and the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** for **US \$ 375 million** to improve irrigation potential in **Madhya Pradesh**.
- The objective of this agreement is to contribute in doubling the agricultural income of farmers by expanding the irrigation network and efficiency of irrigation system in Madhya Pradesh.
- This Irrigation Improvement Project will develop a new, highly efficient and irreversible irrigation network of 125000 hectare, unaffected from climate change and will improve the efficiency of water usage in more than 400 villages.
- This will benefit more than 8 lakh people in the state.
- The amount received from the Asian Development Bank will be used to develop the pressurized and automatic irrigation system on a widespread scale to promote irrigation potential.
- This project will support institutional innovations through the **design-manufacturing-operation contract approach**.
- This project will focus on two major irrigation systems.
- Before this – **125,000 hectares** of new, highly efficient and climate unaffected irrigation network will be developed under **Kundalia Irrigation**
- This includes the construction of two large pumping stations, which will supply water to a large reservoir, from where the water will be supplied in the fields through the network of underground pipes.
- This project will also help farmers to adopt micro-irrigated farming practices which include crops with highest value.
- The second major irrigation system will prepare a comprehensive modernization programme to develop the existing Sanjay Sarovar irrigation project.
- The Asian Development Bank was established in the year of 1966; currently it has 67 member members.



#### References-

<https://www.adb.org/news/adb-india-sign-375-million-loan-improve-irrigation-madhya-pradesh>

### Government Releases fund to increase Forest Cover

**Question: How much of fund has been allocated by Indian Government for enhancing forest cover?**

**(a) Rs. 66000 crore (b) Rs 66200 crore (c) Rs 66400 crore (d) Rs 62000 crore**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- In order to boost afforestation government has released a fund of Rs.66000 crore; this fund is a collection of contribution made by user agencies as a compensation for diverging land for non-forest purpose, since the past 10 years.
- The government has notified the rules for efficient utilization of money by the states and Union territories and competent authority to monitor in this regard.



#### Some Major highlights:

The rules were notified on 10 august 2018. According to the directives 80% of the green fund will be utilized for green activities under 13 permissible activities.

The remaining 20% will be used for enhancing wildlife infrastructure.

#### Area under Forest Cover:

- According to India State of forest Report (SFR) 2017, there is a marginal 0.21% increase in area under forest between 2015&2017.
- Report specifies that forest cover is about 21.53% of the geographical area of the country.
- At present, 15 states and Union Territories have 33% of their available land under forest. However, declining rate is shown by north-east state than 2015 report.

#### References-

[http://www.cpreecenviis.nic.in/KidsCentre/Governmentunlocksgreen\\_5417.aspx](http://www.cpreecenviis.nic.in/KidsCentre/Governmentunlocksgreen_5417.aspx)

### AYUSH Reported 732 Complaints

**Question: Ministry of AYUSH has signed MoU with which of the following agency for monitoring misleading advertisements?**

**(a) Directorate of Air intelligence (b) Signals Intelligence Directorate**

**(c) Advertising Standard Directorate of India (d) Advertising Standard Council of India**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On **7 August 2018** in Rajya Sabha Yesso malik, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for AYUSH told that **ASCI (Advertising Standard Council of India)** has reported **732 complaints** of misleading Advertisement regarding herbal medicines from **20<sup>th</sup> January 2018 to 19<sup>th</sup> January 2018**. After consuming herbal medicine products 1 individual each in Tamilnadu and Kerala died.
- It is worth to note that ASCI is the agency with which Ministry of AYUSH has signed a MoU for monitoring of AYUSH advertisements.



- GAMA (Grievances against Misleading Advertisement) portal maintained by Department of Consumer Affairs (DoCA) also registers such type of advertisement complaints.
- About 809 complaints of advertisement has been received by GAMA during the period from April 2015-March 2018. A major part (573 instances) has been done by six States/UT including Delhi, Maharashtra, Gujrat, Kerala, Karnatka and Chandigarh.

#### **Provisions for Redressal of Misleading Advertisement:**

- Although “herbal medicines” and “clinical trials” are not prescribed in the provision of Drug and Cosmetic Act, 1940 however, the provision of Rule 158B of the same act provides for pilot studies for generating proof of safety and effectiveness in order to grant license for manufacturing Ayurveda, Siddha and Unani drugs.
- About 621 Gazzeted Officers are appointed in 22 states provided with power to enter, search any premises or examine or seize any record in case of misleading the Act.
- Complaints are forwarded to the concerned States Licensing Authorities for action in according with the provisions of Drug and Cosmetic Act, 1940. In this regard, out of 809 complaints reflected, 274 have been solved and 585 complaints have been forwarded to concerned states.
- On the request of Ministry of AYUSH an advisory to all media channels have been issued by Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. It is directed to advertise only those AYUSH products which have valid manufacturing license and to ensure strict compliance of the provisions of Drug and Cosmetic Act, 1940 and Drugs and Magic Remedies (Objectionable Advertisement) Act, 1954.

#### **References-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181628>

### **India's National Redd+ Strategy**

**Question-** With reference to 'Forest Carbon Partnership Facility', which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (i) It is global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society and indigenous peoples
- (ii) It provides financial aid to universities, individual scientists and institutions involved in scientific forestry research to develop eco-friendly and climate adaptation technologies for sustainable forest management
- (iii) It assists the countries in their 'REDD+ (Reducing Emission from Deforestation and Forest Degradation+)' efforts by providing them with financial and technical assistance.

Select the correct answer using the code given below

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

**Answer-(c)**

#### **Related Facts:**

- On **30 August, 2018**, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan has released National **Reducing Emissions from Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD+)** strategy for India.
- The United Nations Collaborative Programme on Reducing Emissions from **Deforestation and Forest Degradation (REDD)** in Developing Countries was launched in **2008**.



- **REDD+** stands for countries efforts to reduce emission from deforestation and forest degradation, and foster conservation, sustainable management of forests and enhancement of forest carbon stocks.
- **The Forest Carbon Partnership Facility** is a global partnership of governments, businesses, civil society, and Indigenous Peoples focused on REDD+ programs of developing countries.

### **REDD+ Strategy of India:**

The REDD+ Strategy guided by the National REDD+ Policy is designed to address critical gaps in the capacity and institutional framework towards creating REDD+ Readiness in the country. The important programmes areas identified for REDD+ implementation are as under:

#### **National Forest Monitoring System**

#### **National REDD+ Architecture and Governance**

#### **Platform for Stakeholder engagement**

#### **National REDD+ information system**

#### **Transparent, equitable and accountable management**

#### **Valuation and equitable sharing of multiple benefits of forests**

- **Capacity Building**

#### **The objectives of the National REDD+ Policy:**

- To create REDD+ architecture at National and Sub-National levels to support REDD+ actions.
- To manage the forests for a bouquet of ecosystem services, including but not limited to biodiversity, that are flowing to local communities from the forests and not for carbon services only.
- To safeguard the rights and interests of local communities including improvement of their livelihood.
- To develop appropriate mechanism for channelizing REDD+ funding and transferring the accrued financial benefits to the communities in a fair, equitable and transparent manner.
- To provide adequate technical and financial resources to implement various phases and action plan of REDD+.

#### **References:**

<https://www.cbd.int/forest/redd-plus/default.shtml>

## **New rule for official job in Meghalaya**

**Question-Which state has made mandatory for married people to produce marriage certificate for official works?**

**(a)Meghalaya (b)Assam (c)Manipur (d)Tripura**

**Answer-(a)**

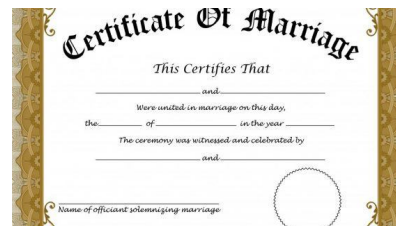
**Related facts-**

- Meghalaya Government has necessitated married people to produce marriage certificate for all official works.

- It also decided to prohibit government jobs and benefits to men who have abdicated their family.

### Why this step is taken-

- This step has been taken because of increasing cases of marriage conflicts.
- The families which have abdicated by men lead to increase in school dropouts and juvenile crimes.
- In the khasi society of Meghalaya most marriages are not registered which makes difficult for abdicated women to fight for the welfare of their families.



### References-

<https://nenow.in/north-east-news/no-marriage-certificate-no-official-work-meghalaya.html>

## First Bollywood Movie in Saudi Arabia

**Que1. Which is the first ever Bollywood movie to release in the Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia?**

**(a)Dangal (b)Gold (c)Newton (d)Three Idiot**

**Answer-b**

**Related facts:**



- On 30 August, 2018, Akshay Kumar's Movie Gold became the first ever Bollywood movie to release in the Kingdom Of Saudi Arabia.
- Before this, Rajinikanth's hit social drama Tollywood movie Kaala was released in the Gulf country.
- Tollywood Movie Kaala released in Saudi Arabia after the country lifted its decades-old ban on cinemas last December.
- In April, **Black Panther** became the first film ever to screen in the kingdom at the first movie theater to open there in 35 years.

### Reference:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/entertainment/tamil/movies/news/rajinikanths-kaala-becomes-first-indian-film-to-release-in-saudi-arabia/articleshow/64491924.cms>

## State Investment Potential Index

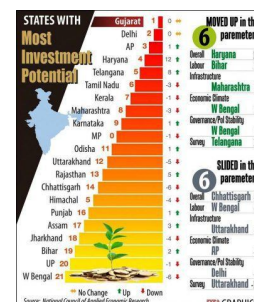
**Que1. Which among the following state topped in N-SIPI-2018.?**

**(a)Delhi (b)Uttar Pradesh (c)Maharashtra (d)Kerala**

**Ans. (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On **August 3, 2018**, The National Council of Applied Economic Research, NCAER, released **State Investment Potential Index-2018**.
- It is third edition of NCAER State Investment Potential Index (N-SIPI) covering **20 states and Delhi**.
- The index does not include the six North- Eastern states, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram Nagaland and Tripura, as well as Sikkim, Goa and Jammu & Kashmir.
- NCAER launched the N-SIPI series in March 2016 and the second N-SIPI 2017 was released in July 2017.



- The index ranks competitiveness of states on six pillars: Land, Labour, Infrastructure, Economic climate, Political stability & Governance and Business perceptions.
- These Pillars classified under following four broad categories: Factor Driven (labour & land), Perceptions Driven (Survey based responses), Efficiency Driven (Infrastructure) and Growth Driven (Economic climate, Political stability & Governance).
- NCAER contacted 1,049 business enterprises of different sizes in manufacturing and services sector for the survey.
- Delhi, Tamil Nadu, Gujarat, Haryana, Maharashtra and Kerala are the top six most favorable states for business investment.
- Delhi jumps one spot to lead N-SIPI 2018; Gujarat loses its first spot and slips to the third position; Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu move into the top five.
- Delhi tops the rankings under the third and fourth pillars on infrastructure and economic conditions in the state.
- Tamil Nadu comes in second place and tops the rankings in labour and governance.
- Assam, Jharkhand and Bihar are ranked among the least favorable states for investment, they are ranked higher under individual pillars, with Bihar doing better in the labour pillar, Assam in the land pillar, and Jharkhand in the economy pillar.
- Chhattisgarh and Karnataka maintain their ranks from last year at the 14th and 9th positions, respectively.
- Uttar Pradesh ranked 18 in N-SIPI-2018.

#### References:

<http://www.ncaer.org/uploads/photo-gallery/files/1533372388N%20SIPI%202018%20Press%20Release.pdf>

## State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index

**Question1- Which of the following state became top achiever in State Energy Efficiency Index-2018?**

**(a)Kerala (b)Uttar Pradesh (c)Jharkhand (d)West Bengal**

**Ans. (a)**

**Related facts:**

- On **1 August, 2018 Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE)** and Alliance for an **Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE)**, released the 'State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index.
- The index is released to create awareness about energy efficiency as a resource and to develop an action plan for energy conservation initiatives.
- The nationwide Index is a joint effort of the NITI Aayog and Bureau of Energy Efficiency.
- The State Energy Efficiency Preparedness Index has 63 indicators across Building, Industry, Municipality, Transport, Agriculture and DISCOM with 4 cross-cutting indicators.
- The State Energy Efficiency Index categorizes states based upon their efforts and achievements towards energy efficiency implementation as 'Front runner' (points greater than 60), 'Achiever' (points between 50-60), 'Contender' (point between 30-49) and 'Aspirant' (points below 30).
- The 'Front runner' states in the inaugural edition of the State Energy Efficiency Index are Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Punjab and Rajasthan.
- Kerala is top among states and union territories with 77 points.



#### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181378>



## International

### Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), 2018

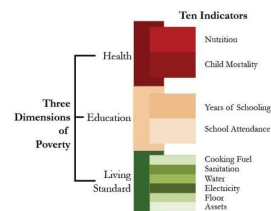
**Question-** Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2018 released by the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) and –

(a)United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). (b)United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP). (c)International Labour Organization (ILO). (d)None of the above.

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI) have released the 2018 Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).
- India has reduced its Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by almost half between 2005-06 and 2015-16.
- According to MPI, there are **271 million** people in India have come out of the clutches of poverty in this period. It demonstrates that India has made tremendous progress in reducing poverty.



#### About Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI)-

- It is an index that looks beyond income poverty to take into account deprivations in **health, education, and living standards**.
- MPI measures multiple deprivations in the same households in education, health and living standards and 10 indicators, namely nutrition, child mortality, years of schooling, school attendance, sanitation, cooking fuel, drinking water, electricity, housing and assets.
- Person who found to face deprivations in at least a third of the MPI's components are multidimensionally poor.
- About 196 million MPI poor people in India, accounting for more than half of all multidimensionally poor in India, live in the four states of Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh.

#### References-

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/undp-report-lauds-indias-strides-in-reducing-poverty-in-past-decade/>

### Global TB report 2018

**Question-**‘Global TB report’ is published by-

(a)World Health Organization. (b)International Labour Organization.  
(c)World Food Organization. (d)None of the above.

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Global TB Report 2018 is been published by **World Health Organization** (WHO) every year since 1997.
- The main aim of the report is to provide a comprehensive and up-to-date assessment of the TB epidemic, and of progress in prevention, diagnosis and treatment of the disease at global, regional and country levels.
- According to the report, among the 10 million people who developed tuberculosis in the year 2017, India accounted for 27 % of it.



- India has highest number of people having tuberculosis among the top 30 high TB burden countries in the world.
- Of these 10 million people who developed TB, 5.8 million are men, 3.2 million women and one million children.

#### About Tuberculosis-

- Tuberculosis is an infectious disease caused by bacteria (**Mycobacterium tuberculosis**) that affects the **lungs**. It can also spread to other parts of the body, such as, Brain and Spine.
- It can spread through air from person to person. It is an airborne pathogen.
- There are two kind of tuberculosis-
- **Latent tuberculosis**– In this type, bacteria remain in the body in an inactive state. They cause no symptoms and are **not contagious**. But they can become active.
- **Active tuberculosis**– In this type, bacteria cause symptoms and can be transmitted to others.
- Diagnosis of active TB is based on chest X-rays, as well as microscopic examination and culture of body fluids. Diagnosis of latent TB relies on the tuberculin skin test (TST) or blood tests.

#### References-

[http://www.who.int/tb/publications/global\\_report/en/](http://www.who.int/tb/publications/global_report/en/)

### ‘Typhoon Mangkhut’

**Question-Which of the following countries was impacted by ‘Typhoon Mangkhut’?  
(A)China (B)Hong Kong (C)Taiwan (D)Philippines**

**Answer. D**

#### Related facts-

- Typhoon Mangkhut was originated near the International Date Line and traveled west ward, after crossing the Guam and Mariana it first touched the ground in Cagayan province of Philippines on Sunday.
- Next destination was Hong Kong and neighboring Taiwan and some area of southern China. In the Philippines this typhoon is known as ‘typhoon Ompong’.
- It’s a **category 5 typhoon** on ‘Saffir-Simpson scale of hurricane and storm’ as it touches the top speed of 285 km/hr.
- Earlier this month another typhoon Jeb also hit the Japan and Taiwan.



#### How a typhoon formed-

**Like any tropical cyclone, there are six main requirements for typhoon formation:**

- Sufficiently warm sea temperature
- Atmospheric instability
- High humidity in the lower to middle levels of the troposphere
- Enough Coriolis force to develop a low-pressure center
- A pre-existing low-level focus or disturbance
- Low vertical wind shear.

#### References-

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

## International Day of Democracy

**Question- Consider the following statements on International Day of Democracy 2018.**

**(i) The theme of international Day of Democracy 2018 was 'Democracy under strain: solutions for a changing world'.**

**(ii) It is celebrated on 15<sup>th</sup> of September every year.**

**(iii) World celebrated 11<sup>th</sup> International Day of Democracy in the year 2018.**

**Correct statements-**

**(a) Only (i) (b) Only (ii) (c) Only (i) and (ii)**

**(d) All the above**

**Answer-(d) all the above**

**International Day of Democracy-**



- World celebrated the **11<sup>th</sup> International Day of Democracy 2018** in pursuance of UN resolution.
- The theme of international Day of Democracy 2018 was '**Democracy under strain: Solutions for a changing World**'.
- It is celebrated on **15<sup>th</sup> of September** every year.
- More than 120 of the 192 countries in the world have some form of democracy.
- The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly through a resolution in 2007 to strengthen national programmes devoted to the promotion and consolidation of democracy.
- It was observed for the first time in 2008.

### Global state of Democracy Index (GSoD)

- **International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA)**, an inter-country organization publishes the Global state of Democracy index (GSoD).
- According to the GSoD report analyses India's performance on all the above-mentioned indicators and shows that the country has done moderately well.
- **It looks at the trends in democratization from 1975 to 2017.**
- **IDEA** aims to study the factors which threaten democracy throughout the world and those that make it strong and resilient.

### Challenges to democracy

- One of the major challenges to democracy is people losing faith in it.
- The reasons for such are **disillusionment, corruption, Nepotism, Poverty, Gender injustice and Unemployment.**
- This often leads to people disengaging with key public policies issues which, in turn, makes those in power less accountable.

### Factors responsible for robust democracy in India

- **Election commission** has played an important role in conducting free and fair elections in the country.
- An **independent judiciary** is another reason for the resilience of democracy in India. The apex court has given judgments that keep a check on government and ensure a transparent and accountable system.

## Connecting the dots

- Democracy does not merely mean voting rights for people but also empowering people by granting them equality.
- It also means the creation of mechanism to resolves differences through dialogue and with mutual respect and understanding.

## References

<https://indianexpress.com/article/opinion/columns/democracy-un-election-commission-performing-moderately-5357204/>

## New prime minister of Sudan

**Question-Recently, who is elected as a Sudan's new prime minister?**

**(a)Omar al-Bashir. (b)Moutaz Mousa Abdallah. (c)Mohamed Osman Kibir. (d)None of the above.**

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts-**

- Recently, **Moutaz Mousa Abdallah** has been appointed as a new prime minister of Sudan and **Mohamed Osman Kibir** as a Second-Vice President.
- President Bashir sacked the 31 –member cabinet and appointed the new prime minister.
- The move is taken to tackle the growing economic crisis.
- The economy of Sudan is struggling with an acute foreign exchange shortage and inflation of above 65 % as well as increased trade deficit.
- Mousa served as the minister of electricity and irrigation before his appointment to PM.
- Kibir formerly served as governor of North Darfur state.



**Reference-**

<http://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/news/africa/New-Sudanese-PM-sworn-in/4552902-4753010-mlqg5kz/index.html>

## International day for preservation of ozone layer 2018

**Question-International day for preservation of ozone layer is celebrated on-**

**(a)16 September (b)16 August (c)14 September (d)14 July**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- **On 16 September, 2018**, International day for preservation of ozone layer was celebrated.
- Theme of this year was –‘**Keep Cool and Carry on the Montreal Protocol**’
- It is celebrated on 16<sup>th</sup> of September every year to spread awareness and bring attention to the depletion of the ozone layer.



**Background-**

- In 1994, the UN General Assembly proclaimed 16 September as the International Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer, commemorating the date of the signing, in 1987, of the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer.

- This date was designated as the international Day for the Preservation of the Ozone Layer by United Nation on 19 December, 2000.

#### Why celebrated-

- The day is celebrated not only to commemorate the date on which the Montreal Convention was signed, but to create awareness about how fast the ozone layer is getting depleted.
- To make people aware about formation of ozone layer and methods to stop its depletion.

#### Montreal protocol-

- Montreal Protocol is a protocol to the Vienna Convention for the Protection of the Ozone Layer.
- It is a global agreement, finalized in **1987**, to protect the stratospheric ozone layer by phasing out the production and consumption of ozone-depleting substances (ODS).
- The stratospheric ozone layer prevents the harmful ultraviolet radiation from coming into the earth's atmosphere.

#### References-

<http://drustage.unep.org/ozonaction/international-day-preservation-ozone-layer-2018>

## Human Development Index

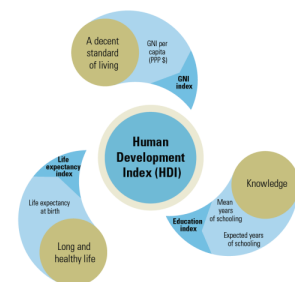
Question-Human development index (HDI) is released by-

- (a) United Nation Development Programme (UNDP)
- (b) World Health Organization (WHO)
- (c) Food and agricultural organization (FAO)
- (d) International labour organization (ILO)

Answer- (a)

Related facts-

- India is ranked **130 out of 189 countries** in the latest human development index released by the **United Nations Development Programme**.
- HDI for Bangladesh and Pakistan is **136 and 150 respectively**.
- Between 1990 and 2017, India's HDI value increased from **427 to 0.640**, an increase of nearly 50 per cent which indicates country's remarkable achievement in lifting millions of people out of poverty.
- The HDI is measured on the basis of long-term progress in three basic dimensions of human development-
- **Life expectancy.**
- **Income per capita.**
- **Norway got first rank in HDI.**
- Norway, Switzerland, Australia, Ireland and Germany lead the HDI ranking of 189 countries and territories.
- Niger, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Chad and Burundi have the lowest scores in the HDI's measurement of national achievements in health, education and income respectively.



#### References-

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/2018-update>



## HURRICANE FLORENCE

**Question- Which of the following statements is NOT true regarding HURRICANE FLORENCE?**

- (a) Hurricane Florence is a temperate cyclone originated in Atlantic ocean
- (b) Hurricane is supposed to hit the US eastern sea board.
- (c) This is the first major hurricane of year 2018 in Atlantic.
- (d) The most affected states in the cyclone would be Carolina and Virginia.

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts:**

- Hurricane Florence is a tropical cyclone generated over Atlantic .The hurricane will affect the mostly the US eastern sea board. It's a tropical cyclone generated over Atlantic. . Winds are blowing with the speed of 185km per hour.
- More than a million residents from coastal areas of north/south Carolina, Virginia and South Georgia have been evacuated. Hurricane is the first major hurricane of this year expected to land fall on Thursday.
- Tropical cyclones are a region of low pressure inside and pressure gradient is very high. Tropical cyclones were named mostly after female names vis. Katarina, Florence etc. tropical cyclones are known by different names in different region of the world, vis. Hurricane in Atlantic, Typhoon in Japan Sea, Willy Willy in Australian region.



**Ramayan Upadhyay**

**References-**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/world/hurricane-florence-live-updates-us-capital-under-state-of-emergency-evacuation-ordered-5351264/?#liveblogstart>

## Saudi may turn Qatar into an island

**Question –Which project of Saudi Arab will affect the geographical structure of Qatar?**

**(a) Salwa project (b) Dukkai Project (c) Omni Project (d) Al-Badr Project**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Recently, Saudi Arabia may launch the creation of a canal project (**Salwa canal**) along the border areas of Qatar, which 38 mile.
- The canal is expected to be 650 feet wide and about 130 feet deep to allow ships to pass.
- The entire project would be under Saudi sovereignty as the canal would build at least 0.6 miles from the border with Qatar.
- After the completion of the project Qatar will be surrounded by water from all sides and will complete the definition of



**Reference-**

[https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2018/06/21/saudi-media-says-kingdom-could-turn-qatar-its-neighbor-and-rival-into-an-island/?noredirect=on&utm\\_term=.36cecb147e26](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/worldviews/wp/2018/06/21/saudi-media-says-kingdom-could-turn-qatar-its-neighbor-and-rival-into-an-island/?noredirect=on&utm_term=.36cecb147e26)

## Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty

**Question-Which of the following statement is correct?**

**(a)India has ratified the CTBT. (b)India is signatory of CTBT.**

**(c)India has not signed CTBT. (d)None of the above.**

**Answer-(c)**

**Related facts-**

- UN chief Antonio Guterres reiterated his appeal to eight nations, including India and the US, to ratify the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty.
- He said that the failure to bring CTBT into force undermines global efforts to ensure a world free of atomic weapons.
- The treaty can only enter into force after it is ratified by eight countries with nuclear technology capacity, i.e. **China, Egypt, India, Iran, Israel, North Korea, Pakistan and the United States.**
- CTBT has an essential role within the nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime.



**About CTBT–**

- The Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT) is the Treaty banning all nuclear explosions – everywhere, by everyone.
- The Treaty was negotiated at the Conference on Disarmament in **Geneva** and adopted by the United Nations General Assembly.
- It opened for signature on **24 September 1996.**
- 182 countries have signed the Treaty.
- 154 countries have ratified the Treaty.

**References-**

<http://www.defencenews.in/article/Ratify-Comprehensive-Nuclear-Test-Ban-Treaty–UN-Chief-To-India,-US-570466>

## Jebi typhoon

**Question-Recently in which country “Jebi typhoon” hit?**

**(a)Japan (c)China (c)India (c)Pakistan**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- Jebi Typhoon struck the Japanese cities of Kobe, Osaka and Kyoto.
- Its current strength of 216kmh (135mph) it would be the first “very strong typhoon” to strike Japan since 1993.



**About typhoon-**

- A **typhoon** is a mature tropical cyclone that develops between 180° and 100°E in the Northern Hemisphere. This region is referred to as the Northwestern Pacific Basin.
- A typhoon differs from a **cyclone or hurricane** only on the basis of location.
- A hurricane is a storm that occurs in the Atlantic Ocean or northeastern Pacific Ocean.
- A typhoon occurs in the northwestern Pacific Ocean.
- A tropical cyclone occurs in the south Pacific or Indian Ocean.

## Venezuela Crisis

Consider the following statements related to Venezuela.

1. According to I.M.F. forecast, inflation rate in Venezuela is expected to be 1 million percent by December 2018.
2. The North American country Venezuela's economy is going through a crisis this time.
3. Venezuela's economy mainly depends on the export of edible oil.

Which of the above statement is/are correct?

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

Answer- (a)

Related facts

- The South American country Venezuela's economy is currently undergoing crisis.
- Lot of citizens has been forced out of the country due to excessive inflation, power cuts, food and a huge reduction in drugs.
- It is important that Venezuela's population is approximately 32.4 million, out of which 2.3 million people have left the country since 2014.
- On average, prices of goods are doubling every 26 days.
- Where inflation rate was 25000% in May 2018, at the end of June it increased to 40000%.
- According to a recent study by the National Assembly in Venezuela's opposition, the annual inflation rate was 83,000 percent in July 2018.
- According to the International Monetary Fund (I.M.F.), the inflation rate in Venezuela is likely to be 1 million (1 million) percent till December 2018.
- On the official exchange rate, 1 US dollar is approximately 248,000 Venezuelan Bolivars.
- Venezuela's economy mainly depends on revenues derived from the export of oil (petroleum). Its oil revenue, 95 percent of its export earnings.
- This country is very rich in petroleum reserves.
- Venezuela has faced a severe shortage of foreign currency due to a fall in oil prices in 2014.
- On August 20, 2018, the government removed five zeros from the old '**Strong Bolivar**' currency and gave it a new name '**Sovereign Bolivar**'.
- This currency also starts with eight new bank notes (2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200 and 500) and two new coins.
- It is notable that in Venezuela, from the year 2010 (from the reign of Hugo Chavez) the socio-economic and political struggle began, which is also continuing during the reign of current President Nicolas Maduro.
- The economy is currently going through the worst phase in the history of Venezuela.



Reference:

<https://www.bbc.com/news/world-latin-america-36319877>

## Facebook to build first Asian data centre

Question. Facebook is planning to build its first Asian data centre in which of the following countries?

(A)Malaysia (B)Singapore (C)South Korea (D)India

Answer. A

Related facts:

- Facebook is planning to invest \$1.4 Billion build first Asian data centre in Singapore, slated to open by 2022.



- Google has already a data centre in Singapore and expanding it upto mobile growth, e-commerce and cloud computing on the same line Facebook is building its data centre on the west of the island.
- Facebook has data centre in US, Sweden and Ireland and building another in Denmark.

#### Links:

<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-facebook-singapore/facebook-to-build-first-asian-data-center-in-singapore-idUSKCN1LM051>

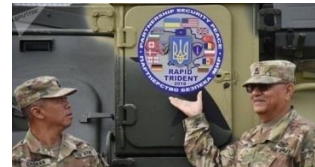
## Rapid Trident

**Question- Which country has launched annual joint military exercise named Rapid Trident with United States and other NATO member countries?**

**(a)Uzbekistan (b)Germany (c)Ukraine (d)Mongolia**

**Ans. (c)**

**Related Facts-**



- On 2 Sep 2018, Ukraine has launched annual joint military exercise named **Rapid Trident with United States and other NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization) member countries.**
- This exercise is taking place in the western Ukrainian village of Starychi until September 15;
- It involves some 2,200 soldiers from 14 countries as tensions with Russia remain high over the Kremlin-backed insurgency in the country's east.

#### References-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/ukraine-launches-joint-military-drills-with-nato/article24857550.ece>

## Economics

### Family-owned business list

**Question-what is the rank of India on family-owned business list-**

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

**Answer-(b)**

**Related facts-**



- As per the recent report of **Credit Suisse Research Institute (CSRI)**, India's rank is **third** on family –owned business list.
- India has totaled **111 companies** (total market capitalization of **\$839 billion**) china has 159 and first rank in the list.
- US have 121 firms and got second rank in the list.
- According to Credit Suisse Research Institute (CSRI), the number of family owned businesses within the non-japan Asian region, the list is dominated by China, India and ,hong kong.

#### References-

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/india-ranks-3rd-on-family-owned-business-list/articleshow/65817744.cms>

**MCLR has been increased by SBI and ICICI Bank**

**Question:** Recently, MCLR has been increased by SBI and ICICI Bank. In this regard, consider the following statements.

(1) This increase will be effective from September 1, 2018.

(2) This is the minimum interest rate provided by MCLR banks.

(3) MCLR has been implemented from July 1, 2015.

Select the correct option given below?

(a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3 (c) 1, 2 and 3 (d) None.

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts**

- State Bank of India (SBI), the largest public sector bank in India and ICICI Bank, the largest private sector bank, has increased its MCLR-Marginal Cost of Funds based Lending Rate.
- This increase will come into effect from September 1, 2018.
- SBI has increased by 20 basis points and ICICI has increased by 15 basis points in MCLR.
- Loans will be expensive by these banks.



**About MCLR-**

- MCLR stands for **Marginal Cost of Funds Based Lending Rate**.
- It refers to the minimum interest rate of a bank below which it cannot lend, except in some cases allowed by the RBI.
- It is an internal benchmark or reference rate for the bank.
- It was implemented by the Reserve Bank of India from **April 1, 2016**.
- It was launched in place of the '**base rate**' system in July, 2010.

**Reference-**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/sbi-icici-banks-hike-benchmark-lending-rate-by-up-to-0-2/articleshow/65639657.cms>

## Cashless economy

**Question-**Which of the following is true about cashless economy?

- A. The flow of cash within an economy is non-existent.
- B. All transactions have to be made through electronic channels such as , credit and debit cards, electronic clearing, payment systems such as Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT),and Real Time Gross Settlement(RTGS).
- C. Both (a) and (b).
- D. None of the above



**Answer-(c)**

**Related facts-**

- Second annual report of Reserve bank of India shows that cash transactions have increased since demonetization.
- About 99.3% of the notes which had been sucked out of circulation have been returned after two years of demonetization.

**Why demonetization was needed –**



- To tackle black money in economy. It was believed that with the help of demonetization black money will flush out and corruption will end.
- To lower cash circulation in country this is directly related to corruption.
- Demonetization will help to open the way to a cashless economy and the new world of digital India.
- To eliminate fake currency and dodgy funds which have been used by terror groups to fund terrorism in India.

#### **About cashless economy–**

- Cashless economy is the economy in which the flow of cash is non-existent and all transactions have to be made through electronic channels i.e., debit and credit cards, electronic clearing, and payment systems such as Immediate Payment Service (IMPS), National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT) and Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS).

#### **Advantages of cashless economy–**

- It will plug the loopholes in public systems.
- Due to this cashless mechanism intended beneficiaries will enjoy the benefits.
- It will reduce the costs of transaction across the economy which leads to efficiency gains.
- With the decrease in use of cash it will restrain the grey economy, prevent money laundering.
- Increase tax compliance.
- There will be no need of carrying currency notes in the wallet.
- There will be no queues outside the ATMs.
- During holidays there will be no cashout.

#### **Constraints of cashless economy in India–**

- A high inclination towards saving and use of cash.
- Gender imbalance in use of digital payments has further dissipated the problem. This is due to insufficient focus on financial literacy.
- Costs of point-of-sale terminals and operating costs are still high in India.

#### **References-**

<https://scroll.in/article/892428/the-daily-fix-rbis-latest-report-is-clinching-evidence-that-demonetisation-was-a-failure>

## **Scientific**

### **Defense/Science Short Notes**

#### **Sagarmatha Friendship-2 Military Exercise**

**Question: Sagarmatha Friendship-2 is a Military Exercise between which of the following countries?**

**(a) India & Nepal (b) India & China (c) Nepal & China (d) Nepal & USA**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- Sagarmatha Friendship-2 is the second joint Military Exercise between Nepal and China. This is a platoon level training that will be led by captains from Nepal Army and Chinese People's Liberation Army.
- It is a 10 days military exercise which will start from 17<sup>th</sup> September and will be held in Chengdu, the capital of China's southwestern Sichuan Province.
- This second joint military exercise aims at sharing experiences, skills and professional knowledge as well as sharing expertise in disaster management and fighting terrorism.
- Around 15 personnel are likely to participate from both sides.

#### About Sagarmatha Friendship-1:

- The first joint exercise was conducted at the Army's Para Training School in Maharajgunj, Nepal in April 2017.
- It has nursed in developing mutual understanding and cordiality between armies of both the countries to tackle the terrorist activities and strengthening military ties.

#### About Surya Kiran:

- Nepal has been conducting battalion-level exercises named 'Surya Kiran' with the Indian Army for the last 13 years, engaging some 300 personnel from both sides.

#### References-

<http://kathmandupost.ekantipur.com/news/2018-07-21/nepal-china-military-drill-in-sept.html>

## Exercise Aviaindra-18

**Question-Exercise Aviaindra is an Air Force level exercise between India and-**  
**(a)The Russian Federation (b)Japan (c)Australia (d)Chin**

**Answer-(a)**

#### Related facts-

- **Exercise Aviaindra 18** is being conducted at **Lipetsk, Russia** from **17 Sep to 28 Sep 2018**.
- And from **10 Dec to 22 Dec 2018** it will be conducted in **Jodhpur, India**.
- The Indian contingent for Exercise Aviaindra departed for Russia on 15 Sep 2018, it consists of 30 officers from different branches and streams of IAF including four women officers of Flying, Admin and Medical Branch.
- And aircraft that would participate in the exercise include Su-30 SM, Mig-29, Su-25, Mi-8 and An-26.
- The aim of the exercise is focused towards anti-terrorist operations in a bi-lateral scenario.
- Exercise Aviaindra is an Air Force level exercise between India and the Russian Federation. First Aviaindra was conducted in 2014 and has been planned as a bi-annual exercise.



#### Reference-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183578>

## Global Warming

**Question –Which gas emitted by paddy fields is responsible for Global Warming?**

**(A)Carbon Dioxide (B)Nitrous oxide (C)Sulphur Dioxide (D)None of the above**



## Answer-(B)

### Context

- According to a new study published in **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences (PNAS)** found that intermittently (random) flooded rice farms can emit **45 times more nitrous oxide** as compared to the maximum from continuously flooded farms that primarily emit methane.
- According to **Environmental Defense Fund (EDF)**, methane and nitrous oxide emissions from rice farms could have the same long-term warming impact as about 600 coal plants (1,900 MMT per year CO<sub>2</sub>e100).

### What is Global warming?

- Gradual increase in overall temperature of the Earth's atmosphere due to green house effect is called Global Warming.
- The problem we now face is that human activities – particularly burning fossil fuels (**coal, oil and natural gas**), agriculture and land clearing – are increasing the concentrations of greenhouse gases. This is the enhanced greenhouse effect, which is contributing to warming of the Earth.

### What is green house effect?

- The greenhouse effect is a natural process that warms the Earth's surface. When the Sun's energy reaches the Earth's atmosphere, some of it is reflected back to space and the rest is absorbed and re-radiated by greenhouse gases. This trapping of extra heat and causing the Earth's temperature to rise.
- Greenhouse gases include **water vapor, carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, ozone and some artificial chemicals such as chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)**.

### Possible Solutions-

- Researchers have found that Chosen farming techniques at individual farms reduced net greenhouse gas emissions from **rice cultivation** by as much as **90 percent** by integrating shallow (mild-intermittent) flooding with co-management of nitrogen and organic matter.

### References

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/greenhouse-gas-emissions-from-indian-paddy-fields-very-high-study/article24925357.ece>

## Man portable anti tank guided missile (MPATGM)

Question-First successful trails of indigenously developed third generation Man Portable Anti- Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) conducted by-  
(a)DRDO (b)ISRO (c)BARC (d)None of the above.

Answer-(a)

Related facts-



- Recently, first successful trials of indigenously developed third generation **Man Portable Anti- Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM)** conducted by Defence Research and development organisation (DRDO).

About MPATGM-

- It is a third generation anti –tank guided missile, which has been under development by DRDO in partnership with India defence a contractor VEM technology Ltd.
- The missile is fitted with a **high-explosive anti-tank (HEAT)**
- The missile boasts a top attack capability and has a maximum engagement range of **5 km**.
- Mass production of the missile is expected to start in

#### References-

<https://thediplomat.com/2018/09/indias-drdo-test-fires-indigenous-man-portable-anti-tank-guided-missile/>

## LCA Tejas first ever mid air refueling

**Question-Consider the following statements regarding LCA Tejas:**

**A.LCA Tejas was inducted in January, 2015 in Indian Air force.**

**B.It is a single seat, single jet and multi-role light fighter.**

**C.It takes its first flight in January, 2001 and first air to air refueling on 10 September, 2018.**

**Of the above which statements is/are correct:**

1. **A & B**
2. **B & C**
3. **Only B**
4. **All of the above**



**Answer. 4**

**Related facts:**

- LCA Tejas was indigenously designed by aeronautics development agency and Hindustan aeronautics limited for Indian air force. The LCA program was launched in late 1980s in the wake of ageing Mig-21.It has completed his maiden flight in Bengaluru in January, 2015.
- It was introduced in Indian air force in January, 2015. Yesterday it achieved another feather in its cap by successfully completing the mid air refueling. This flight was piloted by wing commander Siddharth singh.

**Links:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tejas-clears-maiden-mid-air-re-fuelling-trial/article24918603.ece>

## Superbug

**Question-What is 'Staphylococcus epidermidis'?**

**(a)Bacteria (b)Virus (c)Fungus (d)Parasites**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- Australian scientists said that **Staphylococcus epidermidis** is a **superbug resistant** to all known antibiotics that can cause "severe" infections or even death and it is spreading undetected through hospital wards across the world.



### About staphylococcus epidermidis–

- It is a Gram- positive bacterium and belonging to the genus **staphylococcus**.
- It is found naturally on human skin and infects the people who have had prosthetic materials implanted.
- It is related to deadly MRSA (Methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus) superbug.

### About superbugs–

- It is a strain of bacteria that has become resistant to antibiotic drugs.
- These strains can make a small change in DNA which is responsible for resistance to antibiotics.
- If a bacterium carries several resistance genes (through mutation and trading genetic material), it is called superbug or multi drug resistant.

### Recent developments in stopping antibiotic resistant–

- According to recent studies, experts said that nanotechnology will be helpful in checking antibiotic –resistance bacteria.
- Scientists have developed light-activated nano-particles — each roughly 20,000 times smaller than the thickness of a single human hair and have shown in lab tests that these “quantum dots” are more than 90% effective in cleaning antibiotic-resistant germs like Salmonella and E.coli.

### References-

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/drug-resistant-superbug-spreading-in-hospitals-study/article24857593.ece>

## Sports

### Tennis

#### Novak Djokovic claims US Open 2018

**Question: Novak Djokovic bagged US Open 2018 by defeating which of the following?**

(a) Stan Wawrinka (b) Juan Martin Del Potro (c) Alexander Zverev (d) Tomas Berdych

**Answer: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- Novak Djokovic of Serbia bagged US Open 2018 Men's Singles title by defeating Juan Martin Del Potro (Argentina) with 6-3, 7-6, and 6-3.
- Djokovic marks his 14th Grand Slam title and third US Open crown with a victory over Potro.
- The 31-year-old Serb equals American great Pete Sampras' haul of 14 major trophies.
- Only great rivals Roger Federer (20) and Rafael Nadal (17) have won more Grand Slams.
- In majors, he has won six Australian Open titles, four Wimbledon titles, three Us Open titles and one French Open title.





# Cricket

## Paytm Quadrangular Series

Question: Who is the 'Man of the Match' of Paytm quadrangular series, 2018?

(a) Mayank Augural (b) Ankur singh (c) Shubhaman Gill (d) Manish Pandey

Answer- (d)

Related facts-

- Paytm Quadrangular Series, 2018 has been completed at M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, in Bangalore on August 29, 2018.
- The teams of India 'A', India 'B', Australia 'A' and South Africa 'A' participate in the competition.



Result-

- Winner-India 'B' (9 wickets) Captain-**Manish Pandey**
- Runner-up: Australia 'A', Captain-**Travis Head**
- Manish Pandey, who scored an unbeaten 73 in the final, was elected 'Man of the Match'.
- India 'A' defeated South Africa 'A' by 24 runs in the third place play-off match.

References-

<http://www.espncriinfo.com/series/18745/game/1150082/india-b-vs-australia-a-final-india-a-team-quadrangular-series-2018>

## India Blue Wins Duleep Trophy

Question- Consider the following statements regarding Duleep Trophy:

A.Duleep Trophy is associated with Cricket.

B.North zone and west zone are the most successful teams in Duleep Trophy.

Of the above which statements is/are correct?

1. A only
2. B only
3. Both A & B
4. None of the above



Answer. 3

Related facts:

- In 57<sup>th</sup> season of the tournament of Duleep Trophy held from 17 August to 9 September, 2018.
- India Blue defeated the defending champion, India Red by an innings and 187 runs.
- N R Gangta was declared Man of the Match.

Duleep Trophy:

- Duleep Trophy is named after Kumar Shri Duleepsinhji. It was first played in 1961-62.

- North zone and west zone are the most successful teams in Duleep Trophy; both teams have claimed the Trophy 18 times.

**Links:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duleep\\_Trophy](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Duleep_Trophy)

## Football

### SAFF Suzuki Cup 2018

**Question: Who has won the SAFF Suzuki Cup 2018?**

**(a)India (b)Nepal (c)Maldives (d)Bhutan**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:**



- SAFF Suzuki Cup is a football championship between the South Asian countries sponsored by Suzuki.
- Maldives defeated defending champions India by 2-1 to lift the SAFF Suzuki Cup 2018 at the Bangabandhu National Stadium in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- It was organized between 4-15 September. Prior to this, Maldives had grabbed this title in 2008.
- India had clashed three times with the Maldivese. in 1997, 2008, 2009 in order to hold this prestigious Cup.
- Indian team was led by Subhasish Bose while Akram Abdul Gani was the Captain of Maldivian team.

**Awards:**

**Most Valuable Player**-Mohamed Faisal (Maldives)

**Top Goalscorer**-Manveer Singh (India)

**Fair Play Award**-Bhutan

**Reference:**

<https://www.maldivesfootball.com/story/SAFF-Suzuki-Cup-Preview-Maldives-vs-India-344>

### FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup

**Question: Which of the following country was defeated by Japan in Under-20 Women's World Cup Football?**

**(a) France (b) Germany (c) Brazil (d) Spain**

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts**



U-20 WOMEN'S WORLD CUP  
FRANCE 2018

- Japan defeated Spain 3-1 to win their first-ever FIFA U-20 Women's World Cup crown in **Vannes** on Friday evening.
- The tournament was held in Brittany, France between August 5-24, 2018.
- This was the ninth edition of the Women Under-20 World Cup football.
- In France, will again the FIFA Women's World Cup Football, 2019 held.
- In this World Cup 16 teams participated and 32 matches were played.
- The tournament's award of Golden Boot was given to **Patricia Guijarro** of Spain and award of best goal keeper was given to England's **Sandy Maciver**.

# **Badminton**

## **Yonex Japan Open-2018**

**Question: Who bagged the Men's Singles title in the Yonex Japan Open-2018?**

**(a) Kento Momota (b) Lin Dan (c) Lee Yong-Dae (d) Hashiru Shimono**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- BWF World Tour Super 750 Series Daihatsu Yonex Japan Open 2018 held from 11-16 September in Japan.



**Results:**

**Men's Singles-**

- Winner-Kento Momota (Japan)
- Runner Up-Khosit Phetpradab (Thailand)

**Women's Singles-**

- Winner-Carolina Marin (Spain)
- Runner Up-Nozomi Okhura (Japan)

**Men's Doubles-**

- Winner-Marcus Fernaldi Gideon & Kevin Sanjaya Sukamuljo (both Indonesia)
- Runner Up-Li Junhui & Liu Yuchuan (both China)

**Women's Doubles-**

- Winner-Yuki Fukushima & Sayaka Hirota (both Japan)
- Runner Up-Chen Qingchen & Jia Yifan (both China)

**Mixed doubles-**

- Winner-Zheng Siwei & Huang Ya-qiong (both China)
- Runner Up-wang Yilyu & Huang Dongping (both China)

**References:**

<https://bwfbadminton.com/results/3152/daihatsu-yonex-japan-open-2018/draw/xd>

## **Hyderabad Open-2018**

**Question-Who won the men's Singles title of Hyderabad Open?**

**(a) Kidambi Srikanth (b) Sameer Verma (c) Sai Praneeth (d) Ajay Jayaram**

**Answer: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- The 2018 Hyderabad Open badminton tournament held from 4-9 September at G.M.C. Balayogi SATS Indoor Stadium, Hyderabad.
- This tournament was organized by Badminton Association of India and sanctioned by Badminton World Federation (BWF) and Badminton Asia.



- This tournament holds prize money of USD 75,000.

**Results:**

- **Men's Singles**-Sameer Verma(India)
- **Women's Singles**– Kim Ga-Eun(South Korea)
- **Men's Doubles**– Satwiksairaj Rankireddy & Chirag Shetty( India)
- **Women's Doubles**-Ng Tsz Yau & Yuen Sin Ying(Hongkong)
- **Mixed Doubles**-Akbar Bintang Cahyono & Winny Oktavina Kandow(both Indonesia)

**References-**

<https://bwfbadminton.com/results/3231/idbi-federal-life-insurance-hyderabad-open-2018/podium>

## Formula One

### Singapore Grand Prix

**Question: Who among the following Formula One driver has won the recently concluded “Hungarian Grand Prix, 2018”?**

**(a) Daniel Ricciardo (b) Sebastian Vettel (c) Lewis Hamilton (d) Max Verstappen**

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts:**

- Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes bagged top spot in the Singapore Grand Prix organized between 14-16 Sep 2018 in Marina Bay Street Circuit, Singapore.
- Max Verstappen (Netherland) of Red Bull team maintained the second
- In this competition, the Italian team Ferrari driver Sebastian Vettel (Germany) finished third.



**References:**

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2018/races/993/singapore.html>

### Italian Grand Prix

**Question: How many times Lewis Hamilton won the title of Italian Grand Prix?**

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

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts-**

- Formula One World Race Championship, the 14th race of the 2018 Italian Grand Prix Monza, completed **on 2 September** in Italy.
- Winner-Lewis Hamilton (U.K.), Team-Mercedes (Germany)
- Lewis Hamilton has won this race five times.
- Lewis Hamilton's fifth win in Italy brought him level with seven-time champion Michael Schumacher.
- Hamilton defeated Kimi Raikkonen, with the difference of 8.7 sec.



**References-**

<https://sports.ndtv.com/formula-1/lewis-hamilton-wins-italian-grand-prix-as-ferrari-flounder-1910148>

## Athletics

### IAAF continental cup

Question-Who created history by becoming the first Indian to win a medal at the IAAF continental cup held in Czech Republic,?

(a)Arpinder Singh (b)Upinder singh (c)Mohammad Anas (d)Neeraj Chopra

Answer- (a)

Related facts-

- **Arpinder singh** has won a bronze medal at the IAAF continental cup held in Ostrava, Czech Republic.
- He won the medal in triple jump event and become the first Indian to win a medal at the IAAF continental cup.
- Gold and silver medal won by **Christian Taylor** and **Hugues Fabrice Zango**
- Arpinder came into the event by winning the gold medal at Asian Games in Indonesia.



Reference-

<https://www.iaaf.org/competitions/iaaf-continental-cup/iaaf-continental-cup-ostrava-2018-6020/news/report/men/triple-jump/final>

## Sports Miscellaneous

### Income Tax bags PSG Trophy

Question: Income Tax bagged PSG Trophy 2018 by defeating which of the following?

(a) Vijaya Bank (b) Integral Coach Factory (c) Indian Army (d) IAF

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Income Tax (Chennai) bagged the 54th All India basketball tournament for men for the PSG Trophy defeating Vijaya Bank (Bengaluru) by 82-78 in finals at the PSG Indoor Sports Complex, Coimbatore. Indian Bank (Chennai) maintained third spot.
- Jeevanandham was the man of the final as he shot three crucial baskets before the final whistle to win the title. He was awarded the 'Player of the Tournament'.
- The Tournament comprises eight leading teams viz. Indian Army (Delhi), who finished runner-up in 2017, Indian Bank (Chennai), Indian Railways, Income Tax (Chennai), Vijaya Bank (Bengaluru), Customs (Kochi), ICF (Chennai) and IAF (Delhi)..
- Defending champion Indian Overseas Bank is not participating in the tournament.
- This tournament was a five day event held from 9-13 September 2018.
- The matches were played on league basis till September 11 and semi-finals and finals were held on September 12 and 13 respectively.
- The winner was awarded with prize money of Rs one lakh, runner-up with Rs 50,000 while the best player received Rs 10,000.



Links:

<https://www.sportstarlive.com/basketball/income-tax-chennai-lifts-psg-trophy/article24946730.ece>



## World Shooting Championship-2018

**Question: 52<sup>nd</sup> World championship was hosted by which of the following city?**

**(a)Changwon (b)Granada (c)Doha (d)Palembang**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- The 52<sup>nd</sup> ISSF (International Shooting Sport Federation) World Championship was organized from 31<sup>st</sup> to August -15<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at the Changwon International Shooting Range in Changwon, South Korea.
- A total of 1806 athletes competed in 59 shooting sport events and four disciplines, representing 90 nations and piling up 3457 starts. India fielded 142 shooters that includes 63 juniors.
- China (20 gold, 15 Silver & 8 Bronze) catch up the top spot while Korea (11 Gold, 14 Silver, 11 Bronze) settled at second count.
- India was at the third position having a total of 27 medals (11 Gold, 9 Silver & 7 Bronze).
- This championship marks a giant leap by the Indians who had won merely silver and bronze at previous ISSF World Championship held in Granada, Spain.
- India previous best was recorded in 2006 in Zagreb when it clinched gold medals through Abhinav Bindra, Manavjeet Singh Sandhu and Junior Navnath Fartade.



### Medalists Catalogue:

Event	Date	Medal	Name
25m Standard Pistol (Men)	14 Sept	Silver	Gurpreet Singh
50m Pistol Men	4 Sept	Gold Mitharval	Om Prakash
Double Trap Men	8 Sept	Gold	Ankur Mittal
10m Air Rifle Women	3 Sept	Silver	Anjum Moudgil
10m Air Rifle Men Junior	7 Sep	Gold	Hriday Hazarika
10m Air Pistol Men Junior	6 Sept	Gold	Saurabh Chaudhary
10m Air Pistol men Junior	6 Sept	Bronze	Arjun Singh Cheema

25m Stand Pistol Men Junior	14 Sept	Gold	Vijayveer Sidhu
25m Pistol Men Junior	13 Sept	Gold	Udhayveer Sidhu
50m Pistol Men Junior	2 Sep	Gold	Arjun Singh Cheema
50m Pistol Men Junior	2 Sep	Bronze	Gaurav Rana
Skeet men Junior Garcha	11 Sept	Bronze	Gurnihal Singh
10m Air Rifle Women Junior	7 Sept	Silver	Elavenil Valarivan
10m Air Rifle Women Junior	7 Sept	Bronze	Shreya Agrawal
Trap Women Junior	3 Sept	Silver	Manisha Keer

**Medalist by Team Event:**

Event	Date	Medal	Country
10m Air Pistol Men Team	6 Sept	Silver	India
Double Trap Men Team	8 Sept	Bronze	India
10m Air rifle Women Team	3 Sept	Silver	India
10m Air Pistol Men Junior Team	6 Sept	Silver	India

25m Standard Pistol Men	14 Sept	Gold	India
Junior Team			
25m Pistol Men Junior Team	13 Sept	Gold	India
50m Pistol Men Junior Team	2 Sept	Gold	India
Trap Men Junior Team	6 Sept	Silver	India
10m Air Rifle Women Junior Team	7 Sept	Gold	India
Skeet Men Junior Team	11 Sept	Silver	India
10m Air Rifle Mixed Team	5 Sept	Bronze	India
2			
Junior Team			
10m Air Pistol Mixed Team	4 Sept	Bronze	India1

### 14th Hero MTB Himalaya Biking Race

**Question-** In which state 14th Hero MTB Himalaya biking race from 27 September to 6 October 2018 will be held?

(a) Uttarakhand (b) Jammu and Kashmir (c) Himachal Pradesh (d) Arunachal Pradesh

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts-**

- The 14th Hero MTB Himalaya Biking Race will be organized from **September 27, 2018 to October 6, 2018** in **Himachal**



### Pradesh.

- The event is organized by **Himalayan Adventure Sports and Tourism Promotion Association in association (HASTPA)** with Discovery channel and **Times of India**.
- HASTPA is a registered society under Society's Act of 1860.
- It has been successfully organized India's premier mountain biking race –MTB Himalaya for the past eleven years in Himachal Pradesh.
- Hero MTB Himalaya Biking Race is held annually.

### Reference-

<https://www.cityairnews.com/content/programme-14th-annual-hero-mtb-himalaya-india%E2%80%99s-most-challenging-cycling-extravaganza>

## Saurabh Chaudhary bags Gold at ISSF World Championship

**Question: Saurabh Chaudhary won Gold Medal at ISSF World Championship in which of following shooting event?**

**(a) 50 metre pistol (b) 10 meter air pistol(c) 10 metre air rifle (d) 25 metre rapid fire pistol**

**Answer: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- On **6 September, 2018**, Saurabh Chaudhary bagged 10m Air Pistol Men junior title at **the 52nd ISSF** (International Shooting Sports Federation) World Championship in Changwon, Korea.
- The 2018 Asian Games Champion marked this achievement with an outstanding score of 245.5 points, setting a new junior world record.
- The 16-year old shattered the previous world record of 243.7 points which he had recorded on 26th June 2018 at the ISSF Junior World Cup in Germany (USA).
- With his record score, he finished 2.4 points ahead of silver medalist Lim Honjin (KOR), second with 243.1 points.



### Reference-

<https://www.issf-sports.org/news.ashx?newsid=3137>

## Arpinder Singh

**Question: Arpinder Singh from India has won the gold medal of men's triple jump event in Asian Games, 2018. Player from which of the following country, got the silver medal of this event?**

**(a)Uzbekistan (b)Indonesia (c)Malaysia (d)Sri Lanka**

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On **29th August, 2018**, Arpinder Singh from India has won gold medal of men's triple jump event Asian Games, 2018.
- He made a jump of **77m**.
- He is the first man to win gold of this game after 48 years. Before this gold of this game was snatched by Mohinder Singh in 1970.
- Ruslan Kurbanov of Uzbekistan got the silver medal in this event by jumping **62m** and Shuo Cao of China remained at the third position with a jump of 16.56m in this triple jump event.



## Asian Games

**Question-** In the context of the recently concluded Asian Games, consider the following facts:

- (a) India received a total of 69 medals including 15 gold.
- (b) India won the most 7 gold medals in athletics.
- (c) Bajrang Poonia gave India the first gold medal in Asian Games, 2018.
- (d) India has won 2 gold medals in boxing.

Which of the above statement is/are false?

**Answer-** (d)

**Related facts**



- The **18th Asian Games** was held from **August 18 to September 2, 2018** in **Jakarta and Palembang cities of Indonesia**.
- Jakarta also hosted Asian Games in the year
- This is the first time that Asian Games were organized in two cities.
- The theme of Asian games 2018 was '**Feel the Energy of Asia**'.
- India got **15 Gold, 24 Silver and 30 Bronze** medals with a total of **69 medals** and grabbed **8th place** in the medal standing.
- This was India's best performance ever in Asian Games.
- In the first Asian Games (**1951, New Delhi**), India won **15 gold, 16 silver and 20 bronze medals**, including a total of **51 medals** and secured **second position** in the medal standing.
- China received a total of **289 medals including 132 Gold, 92 Silver and 65 Bronze medals** and topped in Medal standing consecutive **10<sup>th</sup> times**.
- In addition to China, Japan is the only country that has topped the medal standing of Asian Games.
- In 2018 Asian games, India won the most medals in athletics, **including 7 Gold, 10 Silver and 2 Bronze medals**.
- In the Asian Games, in 2018 the shooter **Ravi Kumar and Apurvi Chandela** got the first medal (Bronze) for India.
- The duo won 429.9 points in the 10-meter mixed team air rifle event.
- Indian wrestler Bajrang Poonia got first gold medal for India was won by defeating Takatani Daichi of Japan under 65 kg weight categories by 11-8.
- Indian women wrestler Vinesh Phogat became the first Indian woman wrestler to win gold medal in Asian Games.
- Vinesh won Gold medal by defeating Japanese wrestler Irei Yuki by 6-2 under 50kg category.
- Meerut's 15-year-old shooter, Shardul Vihan, won silver medal (240.7 points) in double trap competition and became the youngest player to win a medal for India in Asian Games.
- Rahi Sarnobat won gold medal in women's 25 meter pistol event
- With this, Rahi became the first Indian shooter to win a gold medal in the Asian Games.
- The bronze medal won by Indian men's table tennis was the first medal in the history of Asian games in table tennis.
- In the semi-finals of the table tennis event, India defeated by S Korea.
- Tennis player Ankit Raina became India's second female tennis player to win medal in women's singles event in Asian Games.
- Earlier, Sania Mirza won silver medal in Doha in 2006 and won the bronze medal in Guangzhou in 2010.
- Indian boxer Amit Panghal won the only gold medal for India in boxing.
- In the final of the 49 kg weight category, Amit defeated 2016 Rio Olympic champion Hasanboy Dusmatov by 3-2.



- India got the 15th and final gold medal from Pranav Vardhan and Shivnath Sarkar duo in the bridge competition.
- In the final, Pranav and Shivnath scored 384 points.
- 60-year-old Pranav has become the oldest player to win a medal for Indian team.
- India won its 69th and final medal in men's hockey competition.
- After losing 7-6 in the penalty shootout from Malaysia in the semi-finals, the Indian team defeated Pakistan by 2-1 and secured Bronze Medal.
- 18 year old young swimmer Rikako Ikki of Japan was selected as the most valuable player of the 18th Asian Games (MVP).
- Rikako received 8 gold medals and 2 silver medals.
- Indian flag bearer in the inaugural ceremony, Neeraj Chopra gave India the first gold medal of the Asian Games in a javelin throw event.
- Neeraj won the gold medal by javelin throw at 88.06 meters.
- 21-year-old Swapna Burman became the first Indian athlete to win a gold medal in the Heptathlon Games.
- Swapna collected a total of 6026 points in this seven game event.
- Rani Rampal, the captain of the women's hockey team, was the Indian flag keeper in the finale.
- India sent a total of 804 members including 572 athletes to participate in 36 sports in the 18th Asian Games.
- Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh, President of Indian Wrestling Association was the head of the Chef de Mission.
- After the announcement of the closing of the Games, the Asian Games torch was handed over to the chairman of the Olympic Council of China.
- 2022 Asian Games will be held in Hangzhou, China.
- Indian gold medalist in 18th Asian Games
  - Bajrang Poonia (Wrestling), Men Freestyle (65kg Weight Category)
  - Vinesh Phogat (wrestling), women's freestyle (50kg weight category)
  - Saurabh Chaudhary (shooting), male 10 meter air pistol
  - Rahi Sarnobat (shooting), female 25 meter pistol
  - Swarn Singh, Dattu Baban Bhokanal, Om Prakash and Sukamit Singh (Rowing), Male Quadruple Sculls
  - Rohan Bopanna and Divij Sharan (lawn tennis), men's doubles
  - Tejinder Pal Singh (Athletics), (Shot Put)
  - Neeraj Chopra (athletics), javelin throw
  - Manjit Singh (athletics), male 800 meter race
  - Arpinder Singh (athletics), men's trilogy
  - Swapna Burman (athletics), women's heptathlon
  - Jinson Johnson (athletics), men's 1500 meter race
  - MR Poovamma, Saritaben Gaikwad, Hima Das and Vishmaiah (athletics), Women's 4x400m Relay Race
  - Amit Panghal (boxing)

#### References-

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018\\_Asian\\_Games](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2018_Asian_Games)

## Sports Personality

Sardara Singh

Question- Sardara Singh was related to which of the following sport?



A. Cricket B. Football C. Hockey D. Tennis

**Answer. C**

**Related facts-**

- Former captain of Indian hockey team, Sardara Singh has taken retirement on 12th September from international hockey. He was youngest player to lead the side in 2008 Sultan Azlan Shah Cup.
- In 12 year long career he played 314 matches. He made his debut year 2004-05 in Poland tour. In 2015 he was awarded with the fourth highest civilian award, Padma shri.
- He was one among the 6 players who has played more than 300 matches for India. He was also honored with Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Purashkar.

**Links-**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sardara\\_Singh](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sardara_Singh)

## Most Number of Catches in a Series

**Question-Which Indian cricket player has taken most number of catches for India in a series?**

(a) K L Rahul (b) Rahul Dravid (c) Yuvraj Singh (d) Sachin Tendulkar

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- K L Rahul became the first Indian cricket player who has taken most number of catches for india (14 catches) in a test series.
- He left behind Rahul Dravid after taking 14th catch of Ben Stokes in the second inning of the fifth and final test match at Kia Oval.
- Maximum number of catches in a Test series belongs to JM Gregory of Australia. He took 15 catches in five matches during the Ashes series in 1920-21.
- Greg Chappell had also taken 14 catches in six tests during Ashes series in 1974-75.



**Reference-**

<https://www.newsworldindia.in/sports/kl-rahul-breaks-rahul-dravid-s-record-of-most-number-of-catches-in-a-series/308740/>

## Short Notes

### Personalities

Charles K. Kao

**Question:** Charles Kao was awarded Nobel Prize in-

(a)Physics (b)Peace (c)Literature (d)Medicine

**Answer:** (a)

**Related facts:**

- Eminent Scientist Charles Kuen Kao passed away on 23 September after the prolonged illness. He was 84 years old.
- He was battling with Alzheimer's disease diagnosed in 2004. Later he, together with his wife, created the Charles K. Kao Foundation for Alzheimer's Disease in 2010 to help other patients and raise public awareness about this progressive disease.
- He was awarded the Nobel Prize for physics in 2009 for his work on fiber optics bringing revolutionary changes to modern telecommunication technology.
- He studied at the University of London where he earned his Bachelor of Science degree and his D. in electrical engineering.



**References:**

<http://chinaplus.cri.cn/news/china/9/20180923/187553.html>

### SAIL NEW CHAIRMAN

**Question.** Who among the following is appointed as SAIL's new chairman?

(A)Anil Kumar Chaudhary (B)Prashant Kumar (C)Dilbagh Singh (D)Anil Baijal

**Answer.** A

**Related facts-**

- Anil Kumar Chaudhary has taken charge as new chairman of Steel Authority of India (SAIL), prior to this he was director of sail.
- An associate member of the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) and the Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI), Chaudhary is an alumni of the Faculty of Law Studies (FLS), from where he completed his bachelor's degree in law.
- SAIL is a maharatna company, currently, there are 8 mahartna public sector undertakings-
  - Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
  - GAIL (India) Limited
  - NTPC Limited
  - Steel Authority of India Limited
  - Coal India Limited
  - Indian Oil Corporation Limited
  - Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited
  - Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited



**Links-**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/anil-kumar-chaudhary-takes-charge-as-chairman-of-steel-authority-of-india-118092200479\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/anil-kumar-chaudhary-takes-charge-as-chairman-of-steel-authority-of-india-118092200479_1.html)

## Goodwill Ambassador for Nepal tourism

**Question. Who among the following Bollywood actress appointed as Ambassador for Nepal tourism?**

**(a)Hema Malini (b)Sonali Bendre (c)Jaya Prada (d)Manisha Koirala**

**Answer. C**

**Related facts-**

- According to a press release from the ministry of tourism, culture and civil aviation Jaya Prada has been appointed as Goodwill Ambassador for four years.
- The appointment of Jaya Prada as goodwill ambassador will strengthen the relationship between India and Nepal and promote the tourism activities in both the countries.
- The government of Nepal has announced the year 2020 as 'Visit Nepal year' with a target of at least 20 lakh visitors every year.
- Tourism is an important source of revenue and employment generation in Nepal. India is the biggest source market for Nepal tourism.



**Links-**

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/indian-cine-artist-jaya-appointed-nepals-tourism-goodwill-ambassador201809221702080001/>

## B S Mubarak

**Question: Who has been appointed as the next ambassador of India to Guatemala?**

**(a)T Rajeshwari (b)T Venkatesh (c)Rajneesh Kumar (d) B S Mubarak**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- According to a press release by Ministry of External Affairs on 20 September 2018, S. Mubarak has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Guatemala.
- Currently, he is Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- At this post, he will replace Sajeev Babu Kurup who has been the ambassador of India to Guatemala since 2015.
- It is worth to note that the capital of Guatemala is Guatemala City and its currency is Quetzal



**Links:**

<https://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/30418/B+S+Mubarak+appointed+as+next+Ambassador+of+India+to+Republic+of+Guatemala>

## K N Vyas

**Question: Recently, K N Vyas has been appointed as the Chief of –**

**(a)Atomic Energy Commission (b) Law Commission of India  
(c) Medical Counseling Committee (d) National Commission on Farmers**



**Answer: (a)**  
**Related Facts:**

- Renowned Scientist Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas has been appointed as the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission on September 19, 2018. He replaced Shekhar Basu on this post.
- At present, he is Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC).

**About Atomic Energy Commission:**

- Atomic Energy Commission has been engaged in the development of nuclear power technology, applications of radiation technologies in the fields of agriculture, medicine, industry and basic research.
- The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) came into being on August 3, 1954, under the direct charge of the Prime Minister through a Presidential Order.
- Its headquarter is in Mumbai.
- According to the Resolution constituting the AEC, the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Atomic Energy is ex-officio Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission.

**References:**

<https://dae.nic.in/?q=node/394>

## Prashant Kumar

**Question: Prashant Kumar was recently appointed as the new Chief Financial Officer (C.F.O) of which public sector bank?**

**(a) Bank of Baroda (b) Punjab National Bank (c) State Bank of India (d) Union Bank Opu India**

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts**

- On September 17, 2018, Prashant Kumar has been appointed as the new Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of State Bank of India (S.B.I.).
- At this post, he replaced Anshula Kant.
- Prior to this, he was Deputy Managing Director (Human Resources) and Corporate Development Officer of SBI.
- He has also worked as DMD and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the State Bank of India.



**Links:**

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/prashant-kumar-takes-charge-as-sbi-cfo/article24966736.ece>

## S. Jaishankar

**Question: Recently S. Jaishankar joined the US India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) board. He was former-**

**(a) Home Secretary (b) Defense Secretary (c) Foreign Secretary**





**(d) National Security Advisor**

**Answer (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On September 17, 2018, former Foreign Secretary Subrahmanyam Jaishankar was added to the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) board.
- Currently, he is the president of Global Corporate Affairs for the Tata Group.
- He was the Foreign Secretary of India from January 2015 to January 2018.
- He is widely respected for playing a significant role in negotiating the Indo-U.S. civilian nuclear agreement.

**About US- India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF):**

- The US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF) is a non-profit organization, with the primary objective of strengthening the U.S.-India bilateral and strategic partnership.
- It aims to achieve the goals of driving economic growth, job creation, innovation, inclusion, and entrepreneurship by mutual cooperation

**Links:**

<https://www.usispf.org/pr/usispf-announces-new-board-additions>

## Captain Raju

**Question: Captain Raju passed away recently. He was-**

**(a) Environmentalist (b) Agricultural scientist (c) Actor (d) Painter**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- Veteran Malayalam actor Captain Raju passed away on September 17, 2018. He was 68 years old.
- Earlier he was a Captain in the Indian Army. He has starred in over 500 films in Malayalam, Hindi, Tamil, Telugu 'Kannada' and English languages.
- Some of his notable movies comprise *Nadodikattu*, *Oru Vadakkan Veeragadha* and *Pavam Krooran*.
- Malayalam film 'Masterpiece' is the last movie that features Captain Raju.



**References:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/movies/noted-malayalam-actor-captain-raju-passes-away/article24965447.ece>

## Satya Prakash Malaviya

**Question: Satya Prakash Malaviya was former Union-**

**(a) Coal minister (b) Petroleum Minister (c) MHRD Minister (d) Coal minister**

**Answer: (b)**

**Related facts:**



- Former Union petroleum Minister Satya Prakash Malaviya died on 16 September 2018 after prolonged illness.
- He has served as the petroleum minister in the cabinet headed by former Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar.
- He has also served as the Environment minister of Uttar Pradesh Cabinet.
- He was born at Malviyanagar in the city of Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh.
- He began his political career as a member of Praja Socialist Party. He later joined the Congress led by Sonia Gandhi.

#### Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/former-union-minister-satya-prakash-malviya-passes-away/article24960557.ece>

## Justice Ranjan Gogoi

**Question: Justice Ranjan Gogoi has served as Chief Justice of which of the following High Court?**

**(a) Orissa High Court (b) Uttarakhand High Court (c) Bombay High Court (d) Punjab & Haryana High Court**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Justice Ranjan Gogoi is appointed as the next Chief Justice of India. He will succeed current CJI Justice Dipak Misra as of his superannuation.
- He will serve country as 46th CJI from 3rd November 2018. His tenure will end in November 2019.



#### About Justice Ranjan Gogoi:

- He was born on 18<sup>th</sup> November 1954. He is son of Keshab Chandra Gogoi, former Chief Minister of Assam.
- He practised in the Gauhati High Court on constitutional, taxation and company matters and was appointed as a Permanent Judge of the Gauhati High Court on February 28, 2001.
- On September 9, 2010, he was transferred to the Punjab & Haryana High Court and as a Chief Justice on February 12, 2011.
- He was appointed as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India on April 23, 2012.

#### Controversy:

- He criticized Chief Justice Deepak Misra on various issues, especially on the manner of allocation of cases to certain benches by calling a press conference.
- Justices J Chelameswar (since retired), Madan B Lokur and Kurian Joseph have also attended the press conference.
- These types of allegations were posted for first time in Indian Judiciary indicting its glorious past.

#### Tenure:

- There is no fix tenure of Chief Justice of India. Once appointed, CJI remains in office until the age of 65 years i.e. till superannuation.

## Procedure for Appointment as CJI:

- The Chief Justice of India is appointed by the President under clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution.
- For appointment as Chief Justice of India, one should be the senior most Judge of the Supreme Court and considered fit to hold the office. The Union Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs would, at the appropriate time, seek the recommendation of the outgoing Chief Justice of India for the appointment of the next Chief Justice of India.
- Whenever there is any doubt about the fitness of the senior most Judge to hold the office of the Chief Justice of India, consultation with other Judges as envisaged in Article 124 (2) of the Constitution would be made for appointment of the next Chief Justice of India.
- After receipt of the recommendation of the Chief Justice of India, the Union Minister of Law, Justice and Company Affairs will put up the recommendation to the Prime Minister who will advise the President in the matter of appointment.

## LINKS:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183450>

## New Chairman of Indian Bank's Association

**Question- Who has been appointed as a new Chairman of Indian Banks Association?**

**(a)Sunil Mehta. (b)Madhav Nair. (c)Rajnish kumar. (d)Deepak mishra.**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Indian Banks Association (IBA) has elected Managing Director and Chief Executive of Punjab National Bank, Sunil Mehta, as the new chairman of India Bank's Association for the year 2018-19.
- It has also elected Bank of India's Managing Director and Chief Executive, Dina Bandhu Mohapatra, as the deputy chairman.



## About India bank's Association-

- It was established on 26 September 1946 as a representative body of management of banking in India operating in India is based in Mumbai with an initial membership of 22 Banks. Currently IBA is represented by 237 Banks.
- It is managed by a Managing Committee, and the current Managing committee consists of 1Chairman, 3 Deputy Chairmen, 1 Honorary Secretary and 26 Members.

## References-

<https://www.deccanchronicle.com/business/economy/310818/indian-banks-association-elects-pnbs-sunil-mehta-as-chairman.html>

## Tran Dai Quang

**Question- "Tran Dai Quang has died at the age of 61, who was the president of which country?**

**(a)Vietnam (b)Laos (c)Singapore (d)Cambodia**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- President **Tran Dai Quang** of Vietnam has died at the age of



61.

- Tran Dai Quang was born in the northern province of Ninh Binh in 1956; two years after Vietnam shook off colonial rule by defeating the French at the Battle of Dien Bien Phu.

#### Reference-

<https://www.nytimes.com/2018/09/21/obituaries/tran-dai-quang-dead.html>

### Vishnu khare

**Question-On 19 September, 2018, Vishnu khare died, he was?**

**(a)A Hindi poet (b)A veteran journalist (c)Both (d)None of the above**

**Answer-(c)**

#### Related facts-

- Renowned Hindi poet, veteran journalist and film critic **Vishnu Khare** died at the age of 78 in Delhi on September **19, 2018**.
- He was born in Chhindwara, Madhya Pradesh.
- He started his journalism career with Hindi daily **Dainik Indore**, published from Indore, and later joined **Navbharat Times**.
- He is even better-known for his poetry.
- Khare was a recipient of many awards and honors. He was awarded with an Order of the **White Rose of Finland** for his Hindi translation of the national epic of Finland, **Kalevala**.
- He was also awarded with many prestigious Hindi literary awards like the **Rahguveer Sahay Samman**, **Maithilisharan Gupt Samman** as well as the **Shikhar Samman**.



#### Reference-

<https://www.nationalheraldindia.com/india/hindi-poet-and-veteran-journalist-vishnu-khare-breathes-his-last-at-90>

### Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas

**Question-Who has been appointed by the government as a new chairman of Atomic Energy Commission and secretary of department of Atomic Energy (DAE)?**

**(a)Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas (b)Shekhar Basu (c)Kamlesh Basu (d)None of the above**

**Answer-(a)**

#### Related fact-

- The government has appointed **scientist Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas** as chairman of Atomic Energy Commission and secretary of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).
- He has been appointed in place of **Shekhar Basu**.

#### About Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas-

- Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas is a Mechanical Engineering graduate from MS University, Vadodara.
- He is a scientist.
- He completed his training in BARC training school in 1979 and after he joined fuel design and development section of reactor engineering in BARC.
- He is at present Director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC).



## Atomic Energy Commission-

- It was established in August 1948 in Department of Scientific Research.
- The Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) was setup on August 3, 1954 under the direct charge of the Prime Minister through a Presidential Order.
- Later, on government resolution, the Atomic Energy Commission (AEC) was established in the Department of Atomic Energy on March 1, 1958.
- According to the Resolution constituting the AEC, the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Atomic Energy is ex-officio Chairman of the Commission.
- The other Members of the AEC are appointed on the recommendation of the Chairman, AEC and after that approved by the Prime Minister.

## The functions of the Atomic Energy Commission–

1. To organise research in atomic science in the country;
2. To train, atomic scientists in the country;
3. To promote nuclear research in commission's own laboratories as well as in India;
4. To undertake searching of atomic minerals in India and to extract such minerals for use on industrial scale.

## References-

<https://dae.nic.in/?q=node/394>

## Prashant kumar

**Question-Who is appointed as a Chief Financial officer (CFO) of SBI?**

**(a)Prashant kumar (b)Suresh kumar (c)Anshula kant  
(d)None of the above**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- State Bank of India has appointed Prashant Kumar as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of the Bank.
- He replaced Anshula Kant as she was promoted to Managing Director of the SBI.
- Anshula kant has been promoted as Managing director of SBI.
- Prior to this, Kumar was designated as DMD (HR) & CDO of the bank.



## Reference-

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/prashant-kumar-takes-charge-as-sbi-cfo/article24966736.ece>

## Man Kaur

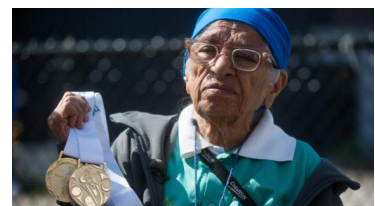
**Question-What is the name of 102 year old female athlete who won the gold medal at World Masters Athletics Championships?**

**(a)Man Kaur (b)Harpreet kaur (c)Sonia kaur (d)Dipika Kaur**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- The 102-year-old female athlete, **Man Kaur**, made the





country proud by winning a gold medal at the **World Masters Athletics Championships** in **Malaga, Spain**.

- Kaur won the **200 m** race medal in the age group of **100 – 104**. She completed 200m race in **3 minutes and 14.65**
- Kaur started her career at the age of **93**.
- In the year 2017, he won a gold medal in the 100 meters race at World Masters Games held in Auckland, New Zealand.
- She completed **100m race in 1 minute and 14 seconds**.

#### References-

<https://www.indiatoday.in/sports/athletics/story/102-year-old-man-kaur-from-patiala-wins-200m-gold-at-world-masters-athletics-1340147-2018-09-14>

### Dr. Raj Narayan Shukla

**Question: Who was recently named as the full-time Executive Chairman of the Uttar Pradesh Languages Institute?**

- (a) Dr. Rameshwar Dayal (b) Dr. Girish Chandra Tripathi  
(c) Dr. Raj Narayan Shukla (d) Dr. Yogendra Pratap Singh

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts-**

- On 10th September, 2018, Dr. Raj Narayan Shukla was nominated by the Uttar Pradesh Government for full term executive chairman of U.P. language institute for a period of 1 year.
- Prior to this, Dr. Shukla was nominated as the full-time Executive Chairman of the Institute on September 13, 2017.
- Dr. Shukla is an associate professor in Shambhu dayal postgraduate college.



#### Reference-

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b9674f5-e0ec-4598-9d6e-4bf80af72573.pdf>

### Anshula Kant

**Question: Recently, Anshula Kant was appointed Managing Director (MD) of which public sector bank?**

- (a) Canara Bank (b) Punjab National Bank (c) State Bank of India (d) Dena Bank

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On September 6, 2018, Anshula Kant was appointed Managing Director (MD) of the India's largest bank, State Bank of India (SBI). At this post she replaced B Sriram.
- She done her graduation in Economic Honours from Lady Shri Ram College for Women and Post-Graduation in Economics from Delhi School of Economics
- She joined State Bank of India as a probationary officer in 1983.
- Earlier, she was Deputy Managing Director and Chief Financial Officer of India's leading public sector bank.
- His tenure is till 30 September, 2020.
- Apart from Anshula Kant, there are three other managing directors (MD) PK Gupta, DK Khara and Arijit Basu. According to the State Bank of India Act, 1955, the Bank can have a maximum of 4 Managing Directors.
- About SBI-
- Established on 1 July, 1955.



- It was formerly known as Imperial Bank of India.
- President-Rajneesh Kumar
- Headquarter-Mumbai

#### References-

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/anshula-kant-appointed-sbi-managing-director-heres-her-journey-from-probationary-officer-to-md/1305656/>

## Hima Das

**Question: Hima Das has been appointed as Sports Ambassador of which of the following state?**

(a)Assam (b)Manipur (c)Sikkim (d)Orissa

**Answer :(a)**

**Related Facts:**

- India's ace sprinter Hima Das was appointed as the first Sports Ambassador of Assam. She will inspire budding players of Northeast for achieving their aims regardless of tremendous sufferings.
- Her appointment was confirmed by Sarbanand Sonowal, Chief Minister of Assam after grabbing gold in women's 400m race at IAAF World U-20 Athletics Championships in Tampere, Finland clocked in 51.46s.
- In Asian Games 2018she had won silver medal in women's individual 400 m track events.
- She is the first Indian (Male/female) sprinter to bag International gold in the track events.
- She was born on 9 January 2000 at Kandhulimari village near Dhing Town of Nagaon district of Assam.
- She is nicknamed 'Dhing Express' after her village in Assam.



#### References-

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/other-sports/hima-das-to-be-assam-s-first-ever-sports-ambassador-confirms-cm-sarbananda-sonowal/story-FmGXL7ACszZ5ySXwCw1iXK.html>

## Chairman of Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha

**Question-Who is nominated as the chairman of the Ethics Committee of Lok Sabha?**

(a)L K Advani. (b)Arun jaitely (b)Ramesh Pokhriyal (c)Chandrakant Khaire

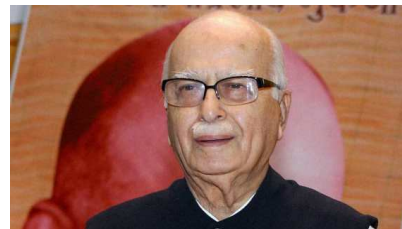
**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Senior BJP leader **L K Advani** has been renamed as the chairman of the Ethics Committee of the Lok Sabha by Speaker Sumitra Mahajan.
- Work of this committee is to examine complaints related to any unethical conduct by members of the Lower House and also initiate  **suo- motu** investigation into matters related to unethical conduct of a member and make recommendations.

#### Other nominations-

- Former Uttarakhand CM **Ramesh Pokhriyal** "Nishank" of the BJP was renamed the chairman of the Lok Sabha Committee on Government Assurances.
- **Chandrakant Khaire** of the Shiv Sena was reappointed as the chairman of the Committee on Papers Laid on the Table.



- BJP's **Dilip kumar Mansukhlal Gandhi** has been given another term as the chairman of the Committee on Subordinate Legislation.
- **P Karunakaran** of the **CPI (M)** will continue serving as the chairman of the Committee on Absence of Members from the Sitzings of the House.

#### References-

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/advani-renominated-as-chairman-of-lok-sabha-ethics-panel-5353455/>

### Lance Klusener

**Question: Which former cricketer has recently been appointed as a consultant coach of Delhi Ranji team?**

**(a) Lance Klusener (b) Gary Kirsten (c) Steve Smith (d) Brian Lara**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts**

- In the beginning of September 2018, South Africa's all-rounder Lance Klusener has been appointed as the consultant coach of Delhi's Ranji Trophy team for the upcoming 2018-19 season.
- Former Delhi captain Mithun Manhas will be the chief coach of the team.
- Klusener's appointment is being considered as the most important appointment to the support staff of domestic teams.
- According to the DDCA, Klusener will be the Delhi Cricket consultant in the ODI T-20 (Vijay Hazare Trophy and Deodhar Trophy) and the domestic T20 tournament to be held in February, 2019 starting on September 19.



#### References-

<https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/cricket/lance-klusener-named-consultant-coach-of-delhi-ranji-team-5337302/>

### Vibha Padalkar

**Question- Who is the new MD and CEO of HDFC life insurance?**

**(a)Vibha Padalkar (b)Amitabh Chaudhry (c)Amitabh Thakur (d)None of the above**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- HDFC Standard Life Insurance has appointed, Vibha Padalkar, to the post of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer.
- Her period of office is for 3 years.
- She was and Executive Director and Chief Financial Officer of HDFC.
- She replaced Amitabh Chaudhary, who resigned on September 8 to join the Axis bank as MD and CEO for a period of three years



#### Reference-

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/hdfc-life-elevates-vibha-padalkar-as-md-ceo/article24934220.ece>

## Amitabh Chaudhary

**Question:** “Amitabh Chaudhary” has been appointed as new MD and CEO of which bank?  
(a)HDFC (b)Axis (c)SBI (d)PNB

**Answer-** (b)

**Related facts-**

- On September 8, 2018, Amitabh Chaudhary has been appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Axis bank.
- His tenure will be of 3 years.
- Their appointment will be effective from January 1, 2019.
- He is currently serving as MD & CEO of HDFC Standard Life Insurance Company.
- The bank is a major private sector bank of India.
- Established in 1993 (as UTI Bank) and its headquarter is at Mumbai.



**References-**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/amitabh-chaudhry-of-hdfc-life-appointed-ceo-md-at-axis-bank/articleshow/65734137.cms>

## Kovai Senthil

**Question-**Recently ‘Kovai Senthil’ has passed away, He was a –  
(a) Politicians (b) Tamil actor (c) Musicians (d) Literature

**Answer-** (b)

**Related facts**

- The famous Tamil actor Kovai Senthil Aka “Kumarasamy” died on 9th September, 2018. He was 74 years old.
- He made his debut in director K Bhagyaraj’s **Oru Kai Osaiin** 1980.
- After that he acted in more than 200 films including superstar Rajinikanth’s hit venture **Padaiyappa** (1999).



**References-**

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/entertainment/tamil/2018/sep/09/veteran-tamil-film-actor-kovai-senthil-passes-away-at-74-1869735.html>

## Purna Chandra Thapa

**Question-**Who is the new chief of Nepal army?

(a)Puran Chandra Thapa (b)Bidya Devi Bhandari (c)Rajendra Chhetri (d)None

**Answer-**(a)

**Related facts-**

- **General Purna Chandra Thapa**, a decorated officer of the Nepal Army, was appointed as the new Chief of Army Staff (CoAS) of the Nepal.
- He replaced General Rajendra Chhetri.
- He was to a military family in **Lamjung** district of Nepal.
- He has served across the globe as part of the UN peacekeeping operations.



- Besides military courses at home, Thapa has also completed training in the United States and India.

#### References-

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/general-purna-thapa-is-new-chief-of-nepal-army/articleshow/65740999.cms>

### Jalaluddin Haqqani

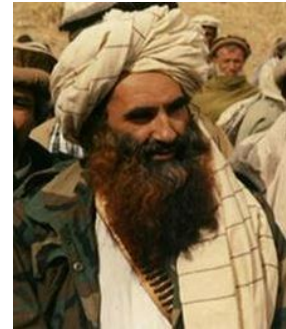
**Question-Who was the founder of militant group Haqqani Network?**

(a)Jalaluddin Haqqani. (b)Mohammad Haqqani. (c)Aladdin haqqani.  
(d)Osama –bin –laden.

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- **Jalaluddin Haqqani**, the founder of the **Haqqani Network**, one of Afghanistan's most feared militant groups, has died after a long illness.
- He was a former anti-Soviet commander in Afghanistan.
- He was a important militant figure in Afghanistan who maintained close ties with both the Taliban and al-Qaida
- He became famous in 1980s because of guerrilla leader in the US-backed campaign against soviet forces who occupied Afghanistan .
- He founded the Haqqani Network in 1970 to fight the Soviet forces.



#### References–

<https://indianexpress.com/article/world/haqqani-network-founder-jalaluddin-haqqani-dead-afghan-taliban-5338477/>

### B. Vanlalvawna

**Question- Recently, who is appointed as the next ambassador of India to the republic of Azerbaijan?**

(a) B. Vanlalvawna (b) B. Kumarswamy (c) B. Subramanian (d) B. chinna swami

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Shri B. Vanlalvawna has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Azerbaijan.
- He is the **IFS officer of 1998 batch**.
- Currently he is serving as Consul General in the Consulate General of India in Sydney.
- Azerbaijan is a country in the South Caucasus region of Eurasia at the crossroads of Eastern Europe and Western Asia.
- Its capital is Baku, which is famous for the mineral oil.
- Ilham Alyiev is currently the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.



#### References-

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Azerbaijan>



## Death of Iconic Hollywood actor

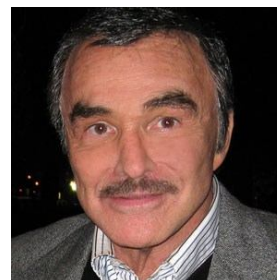
**Question- Which Iconic Hollywood actor has recently died?**

**(a)Burt Reynolds. (b)Quentin Tarantino. (c)Steven Spielberg (d)None**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- Hollywood icon Burt Reynolds has died at Jupiter Medical Center in Florida.
- He was 82 years old.
- He was actor of the famous film "Smokey and the Bandit".
- He was considered as very attractive person in front of the camera.
- He also tried in the field of direction, and later earned a reputation for philanthropy after founding the Burt Reynolds Institute for Film and Theatre in Florida.



**References-**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/hollywood-icon-burt-reynolds-of-smokey-and-the-bandit-dead-118090700204\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/hollywood-icon-burt-reynolds-of-smokey-and-the-bandit-dead-118090700204_1.html)

## New DGP of Jammu and Kashmir

**Question-Who is appointed as a new DGP of Jammu and Kashmir?**

**(a)Dilbag Singh (b)S P Vaid (c)Diljit singh (d)None**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- **Dilbag Singh** appointed as the new Director General of Jammu and Kashmir police.
- He replaced S.P.Vaid.
- He is a **1987 –batch IAS officer** from the state.
- He served the state police in various capacities.
- He said that he would also work for the welfare of police personnel, who have been at the forefront of anti-militancy operations.



**References-**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/defence/dilbag-singh-takes-over-as-new-jammu-and-kashmir-police-chief/articleshow/65719308.cms>

## Alastair Cook

**Question: Alastair cook is the cricket player of which country?**

**(a)England (b)Australia (c)South Africa (d)Pakistan**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- In the beginning of September 2018, former England captain **Alastair Cook** announced he would retire from international cricket after the fifth and final match of the ongoing Test series against India (September 7-11).
- Although he will play in league matches and will be associated with Essex as the captain in the upcoming season.
- Cook made his Test debut against India in the year 2006.



- In his career, he has scored 12,254 runs in 160 Tests, including 32 centuries and 56 fifties.
- Cook is also the sixth batsman in the world to score most runs (12254) in the history of international cricket.
- ODI matches – 92 matches, total 3204 runs.

#### References-

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/cricket/45388727>

## Mary Kom signed as Brand Ambassador of BSNL

**Question: Recently famous Indian woman boxer MC Mary Kom was appointed as brand ambassador of which telecom company?**

**(a) Jio (b) Vodafone (c) BSNL (d) MTNL**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 4 September, 2018, the legendary boxer and five-time world boxing champion MC Mary Kom was appointed as brand ambassador of public sector telecom company Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL).
- He will serve as brand ambassador of BSNL for two years.
- BSNL will run television commercials, print advertisements and tariff plan endorsement with Mary Kom that will enhance BSNL brand image in the competitive market scenario.



#### About BSNL:

- Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is an Indian State-owned telecommunication company established on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2000 with its headquarter in New Delhi.
- It is one of the largest & leading public sector units providing comprehensive range of telecom services in India.
- At present, Anupam Srivastava is the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of BSNL.

#### References-

[http://www.bsnl.co.in/opencms/bsnl/BSNL/about\\_us/company/about\\_bsnl.html](http://www.bsnl.co.in/opencms/bsnl/BSNL/about_us/company/about_bsnl.html)

## Naomi Osaka

**Question: Naomi Osaka grabbed his first Grand Slam title by defeating which of the following?**

**(a) Angelique Kerber (b) Caroline Wozniacki (c) Simona Halep (d) Serena Williams**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Naomi Osaka of Japan bagged US Open 2018 Women's singles title by defeating his ideal star tennis player Serena Williams by 6-2, 6-4.
- It is worth to note that she is the first Japanese player to win a major singles title in the history of the sport.
- This title marks the second consecutive Grand Slam final lost by 23 times Grand Slam winner Serena Williams.



## New chairman of Pakistan cricket board

**Question: Who has been appointed the new chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board on September 4, 2018?**

**(a) Shoaib Akhtar (b) Muhammad Hussain (c) Waqar Younis (d) Ehsan Mani**

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts-**

- **Ehsan Mani**, former chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC), has been appointed as the new chairman of the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB).
- All members voted unanimously in the Board of Governors (BOG) meeting held on 4th September, 2018 at the Gaddafi Stadium in Lahore.
- Ehsan Mani replaced **Najam Sethi**, who resigned from the post of PCB chairman on August 20, 2018.
- Ehsan was the only nominee to nominate for the vacant post of the President.



**References-**

<https://www.dawn.com/news/1428218>

## Jain Muni Tarun Sagar Passed Away

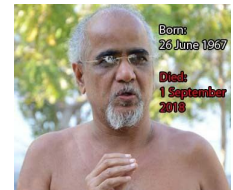
**Question-The series of sermons by Jain Muni Tarun Sagar was known by-**

**(a)Kadve Shlok (b)Kadve Strota (c)Kadve Vachan (d)Kadve Pravachan**

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts-**

- Renowned Jain Muni Tarun Sagar passed away on **1<sup>st</sup> September, 2018** after prolonged illness at Radhapuri Jain Temple, New Delhi. **He was 51 years old.**
- Muni Tarun Sagar was born on 26 June 1967 in a small village Guhanchi in Damoh, Madhya Pradesh.
- **He was an Indian Digambara monk** and was known for his lecture '**KadvePravachan**', which was critical of common practices and beliefs.
- His discourses are published in book series "Kadve Pravachan" which had eight volumes.
- He accepted celibacy and decided to lead a life of a monk in the year 1981.



**References:**

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/jain-monk-tarun-sagar-passes-away-after-prolonged-illness-1909561>

## UEFA Players Award 2017-18

**Question- Who has been bestowed with 'UEFA Male Player of the Year' in the recently released UEFA Players Award, 2017-18?**

**(a) Cristiano Ronaldo (b) Antoine Griezmann (c) Lionel Messi (d) Luka Modric**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- The UEFA Players Award, 2017-18 was announced on 30 August 2018 in Monaco.
- Real Madrid and Croatia football player **Luka Modric** beat off competition from former Madrid team-mate **Cristiano Ronaldo** to grab the title of 'UEFA Male Player of the Year' with a score of 313 points.



- **Pernille Harder** of Wolfsburg and Denmark has won the 2017-18 UEFA 'Women's Player of the Year' award.
- Other awardees are as follows:

**Best Goalkeeper** – Keylor Navas (Real Madrid and Costa Rica)

**Best Defender** – Sergio Ramos (Real Madrid and Spain)

**Best Midfielder** – Luka Modric (Real Madrid and Croatia)

**Best Forward** – Cristiano Ronaldo (Real Madrid now Juventus and Portugal)

**UEFA President's Award** – David Beckham (England)

**UEFA Equal Game Award** – Guram Kashia (Georgia)

**UEFA Europa League Player of 2017-18 Seasons** – Antoine Griezmann (France)

**References-**

<https://www.uefa.com/insideuefa/mediaservices/mediareleases/>

## Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh

**Question: How many countries are included in the WHO South-East Asia Region?**

**(a) 11 (b) 12 (c) 10 (d) 13**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related facts:**



- **On 5 September, 2018**, Dr Poonam Khetrapal Singh was nominated for a **second five-year term as Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia**.
- She was unopposed by the 11 Member countries of WHO South-East Asia Region met at the Regional Committee session.
- It is worth to note that she is the first woman to become Regional Director of WHO South-East Asia Region (first term 1 February 2014) that accounts for one quarter of the world's population.
- She is serving since four decades in health services and has graced on numerous distinguished senior post such as in IAS, World Bank and WHO.

**Achievements as Office Bearer:**

- During his tenure the region was certified polio free status in 2014 which is maintained yet.
- The Region eliminated maternal and neonatal tetanus becoming only the second WHO Region to do so. Countries in the Region have reduced maternal, under-5 and neonatal mortality rates to levels below the SDG targets.
- Four countries in the Region have eliminated measles and six have controlled rubella.
- The maternal mortality rates in the Region have reduced by 69%, the steepest decline in any WHO Region during the MDG era.
- Among neglected tropical diseases, India eliminated yaws; Nepal eliminated trachoma, while Maldives, Sri Lanka and Thailand have eliminated lymphatic filariasis. Two countries – Maldives and Sri Lanka have eliminated malaria.

**About WHO in South-East Asia:**

- WHO SEARO (South-East Asia Regional Office) provides leadership on health matters, articulates evidence-based policy options, provides technical support to countries and monitors health trends.
- The region comprise 11 member countries named Bangladesh, Bhutan, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Timor-Leste.

#### References-

<http://www.searo.who.int/mediacentre/releases/2018/1698/en/>

### Arthur Pereira

**Question-**Consider the following statement regarding former Indian footballer Arthur Pereira:

1. He represented Maharashtra in the Santosh Trophy from 1971 to 1976.
2. He also played for club Orkay mills.
3. He went to Russia as a defender.

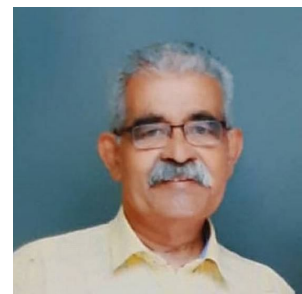
Of the above which the correct statement is/are:

(a)1& 2 only (b)1 Only (c)1 & 3 only (d)All of the above

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- **Former Indian footballer Arthur Pereira** passed away on **Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September**; he was kept on ventilator in a suburban hospital in Borivali.
- Pereira went to Russia as a striker with the Indian football team in **1971**.
- He Represented Maharashtra in the national championships for the **Santosh Trophy from 1971 to 1976**.
- Pereira played for the famous city club **Orkay Mills**.
- Pereira also worked as a Physical Education teacher at St Joseph's School in suburban Malad.



#### Reference-

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/sports/former-footballer-arthur-pereira-passed-away/article24854808.ece>

## Places

### Coins recovered from Khirki Masjid

**Question-** Where is Khirki Masjid located-

(a)New Delhi (b)UP (c)Punjab (d)Haryana

Answer (a)

Related facts-

- Recently, 254 medieval coins in the Khirki Masjid have been recovered.
- A few of the coins were scrutinized by the science





branch of ASI, and it has been confirmed that they belong to the era of Sher Shah Suri and his successors.

- The coins are made of copper with a small percentage of silver.
- This is the second time that ASI has found medieval-era coins at Khirki Masjid.
- 2003, 63 coins were discovered there, but ASI is not clear about the exact location where they were found.

#### Khirki Masjid–

- Khirki Masjid is located in New Delhi.
- The Khirki Masjid was commissioned by **Khan-i- Jahan Junan Shah**, a high ranking official in the court of **Tugluq Sultan Firoz Shah**.

#### References-

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/254-coins-out-asi-to-dig-deep-at-khirki-masjid/articleshow/65789911.cms>

### Chabahar port

**Question- “Chabahar port” of Iran is located on –**

**(a)Gulf of Oman (b)Gulf of Mannar (c)Gulf of Khambhat (d)Gulf of Hormuz**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Iran will hand over the strategic Chabahar port to an Indian company within a month for operation as per an interim pact.
- Chabahar port is the only oceanic port of Iran and is located on **gulf of Oman**.
- The port gives access to the energy-rich Persian Gulf nations' southern coast.
- It is helpful for India in bypassing Pakistan and transporting goods to Afghanistan.



#### References-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/india-chabahar-port-hand-over-on-track/article24896782.ece>

### Kerala Tourism wins two Pacific Asia Travel Association gold awards

**Question- Which state has won two gold awards of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA)?**

**(a)Kerala (b)Himachal Pradesh (c)Tamil Nadu (d)Sikkim**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts–**

- Kerala tourism has won **two gold** awards of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) ,one for its '**Yalla kerala**' travel advertisement print media campaign in the gulf countries and second for an **innovative poster for kochi-muziris biennale**.
- The awards were presented at a function in langkawi during PATA Travel Mart 2018.
- Yalla kerala campaign triggered a lot of interest for God's own country as a tourism destination in the Gulf countries by showcasing the state's greenery and backwaters.
- The life inspired poster featured a colourful boat and fishermen.



## About PATA awards—

- The **Pacific Asia Travel Association**(PATA) is a membership association working to promote the responsible development of travel and tourism in the Asia Pacific region.
- The awards supported and sponsored by the Macao government tourism office (MGTO) since 1995.
- The Awards are presented to outstanding entries in four principal categories: Marketing; Education and Training; Environment, and Heritage and Culture.
- These awards are presented in recognition of the achievements of 25 different organizations and individuals each year.

## References-

<http://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2018/sep/16/kerala-tourism-wins-two-pacific-asia-travel-association-gold-awards-1872732.html>

## UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) Award

**Question- Prestigious UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) Award is given to-**

a) Shri Manoj Jhalani b) Ajay Narayan Jha c) Rajiv Gauba d) None of the above

**Answer-(a)**



- **Context of UNIATF Award**
- Shri Manoj Jhalani, Additional Secretary & Mission Director (NHM), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, has been conferred with the prestigious UN Interagency Task Force (UNIATF) Award for his outstanding contribution towards prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and related Sustainable Development Goals.
- This award will be conferred on Shri Manoj Jhalani during the forthcoming Third High-level meeting of the UN General Assembly at the event organized by the Task Force on 27th September 2018 to be held at New York.
- **United Nations Interagency Task Force (UNIATF)**
- For prevention and control of Non-communicable Diseases, UNIATF was established by the UN Secretary General in June 2013 under WHO.
- It supports governments, in particular low and middle-income countries, to tackle Non-communicable Diseases such as cardiovascular disease, cancer, diabetes and chronic respiratory disease.
- The World Health Organization acts as a secretariat and lead for the task force.
- Its terms of reference were adopted by Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) in July 2014.
- The Task Force reports once a year to the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).
- **India's effort for prevention and control of NCDs**
- National Health Mission and Aayushman Bharat scheme has been launched in which free diagnosis, treatment follow up, referral and back referral have been integrated into the program.

## References

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183433>

## Mukul Mudgal

**Question: The National Sports Awards ceremony which marks the distribution of highest sports awards like Dronacharya and Dhyan Chand Award is celebrated on-**



(a)29 August (b)25 September (c)6 April (d)24 August

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Justice Mukul Mudgal will preside over the 11 member selection committee in order to pick this year's Dronacharya and Dhyanchand awardees.
- It is worth to mention that he the retired Chief Justice of Punjab and Haryana High Court.
- He headed three-member committee(Mukul Mudgal Committee) appointed by Supreme Court of India to probe 2013 IPL spot fixing scandal making arrest of three Indian cricketers Srisanth,Ajeet Chandila and Ankeet Chavan on grounds of spot fixing.
- **Other members of the Committee:**
- The 11 member panel also comprises former Commonwealth Games gold medalist Samresh Jung, Indian badminton ace Ashwini Ponnappa, former national boxing coach G S Sandhu, hockey coach AK Bansal and archery coach Sanjeeva Singh apart from Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Special Director General Onkar Kedia, Joint Secretary (Sports) Inder Dhamija, two sports journalists and Target Olympic Podium Scheme CEO Commander Rajesh Rajagopalan.
- **National Sports Award Ceremony:**
- National Sports Awards Ceremony is conducted on 29 August (National Sports Day) every year in order to commemorate birth anniversary of Major Dhyanchand for their valiant efforts and sacrifices towards promotion of sports.
- This day marks delivering highest sports awards like Arjuna Award, Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna,Dronacharya and Dhyanchand Awards by the President of India to outstanding sportspersons.
- **About Dronacharya and Dhyanchand Award:**
- Dronacharya Award is given to the outstanding coaches in sports and games who have produced outstanding achievement over a period of four years.
- Dhyanchand Award is bestowed to a sportsperson who holds not only good performance at international level but also have continued to contribute to promotion of sports in his/her individual capacity even after ending of his/her career.

**References:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/more-sports/others/justice-mudgal-to-head-selection-committee-for-dronacharya-and-dhyanchand-award/articleshow/65767855.cms>

## Nominations invited for Nari Shakti Puraskar 2018

**Question: Nari Shakti Puraskar is given annually on-**

**(a)March 8 (b)March 12 (c)March 10 (d)March 6**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development has invited nominations for the 2018 Nari Shakti Puraskar, the Highest Civilian Honour for Women in India. Nominations are open till 31st October, 2018.
- There is also provision for self nomination other than those recommended by the State Governments/Central Ministries.
- After scrutiny and short listing by Screening Committee, the final selections of the Awardees are made by the National Selection Committee which takes into account the recommendations of the Screening Committee.



**About Nari Shakti Puruskars:**

- Nari Shakti Puruskasr is conferred annually by President on the occasion of International Women's Day on March 8 every year since 1999.
- **“Nari Shakti Puruskars”** is conferred to eminent women and institutions rendering distinguished service to the cause of women especially belonging to the vulnerable and marginalized sections of the society.
- Ministry of Women and Child Development announces these awards every year to eminent women, organizations and institutions.
- From the year 2016, 20 Nari Shakti Puruskars is conferred every year to the awardees.
- The Award in each category carries a Certificate and a Cash Amount of 2 Lakh Rupees.

#### References-

[http://www.wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Paraforwebsite\\_0.pdf](http://www.wcd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Paraforwebsite_0.pdf)

## Commission & Committee

### Central zonal council

**Question. Which of the following statements are true regarding Central zonal council?**

- (A) Union minister of home affairs is the chairman of the council
- (B) Governor of the states is its members.
- (C) It is a constitutional body.
- (D) Recently 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Central zonal council was held



**Answer. A**

Related facts-

- 21<sup>st</sup> Central zonal council was held in Lucknow on 24<sup>th</sup> September and was chaired by Union Minister of Home affairs Rajnath Singh.
- Various issues discussed in the council as follows-
  - Road transport
  - Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna
  - Measure to tackle the Naxal problem
  - Modernization of police
  - Infrastructure development of airports
  - Minimum support price
  - National health mission and issues related to primary schools.

Central zonal council-

- To promote cooperation and coordination among states
- A statutory body established under the state reorganization act, 1956.
- It is a deliberative and advisory body.

There are 5 zonal council-

1. Northern zonal council- Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and, Kashmir, Punjab, Rajasthan, the national capital territory of Delhi and Chandigarh
2. Central zonal council- Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh
3. Eastern zonal council- Bihar, Jharkhand, Orissa and West Bengal

4. Western zonal council- Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Daman & Diu, Dadra, and Nagar Haveli
5. Southern zonal council- Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, and Puducherry.

**Reference:-**

<http://www.newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=353223>

## Planning & Project

### Citizens science initiative to save hornbills

**Question.** In which of the following states Hornbill Festival is celebrated?

(A) Nagaland (B) Manipur (C) Arunachal Pradesh (D) Sikkim

**Answer.** A

**Related facts-**

- Hornbill Festival is celebrated in the North Eastern state of Nagaland every year from 1 December to 10 December. It is also called festivals of festivals.
- A citizen science initiative of documenting Indian Hornbills is providing valuable inputs to save hornbills in and outside its protected area.
- The Hornbill Watch initiative is an interactive web interface that allows people to report about alive, injured, hunted or dead hornbills and can help in protecting this unique bird.
- According to contributors, there are 57 nesting and 36 roosting sites been located in the country. Reports also told about the endemic and endangered species Narcondam Hornbill, restricted only to 6 sq. km. of the Narcondam Island in the Andaman.
- There are 9 species of Hornbill found in India of which four are found in the Western Ghats: Indian Grey Hornbill, the Malabar Grey Hornbill (endemic to the Western Ghats), and Malabar Pied Hornbill. Hornbill is state bird in 3 states including Arunachal Pradesh, Kerala, and



**References:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_Indian\\_state\\_birds](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_Indian_state_birds)

## PM INAUGURETS THE TALCHER PROJECT

**Question.** Consider the following statements regarding 'TALCHER PROJECT' inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi:

1. PM Narendra Modi inaugurates fertilizer plant in Odisha.
2. For the first time coal-gasification technique is being used.
3. It will start production after three years.

**Of the above which is/are correct?**

(A) 1 only (B) 1 and 2 both (C) Only 2 (D) All of the above

**Answer.** D

**Related facts-**

- PM Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first fertilizer plant based on coal gasification technique in Talcher, Angul (Odisha).





- This plant will produce 1.27 million ton Neem coated urea. Neem coated urea is manufactured since 2008 on the orders of the ministry of chemical and fertilizers.
- This project would generate employment for over 4500 people. This plant will be run by a new company Talcher fertilizers limited which constitutes 4 state-run companies- GAIL, Coal India Rashtriya chemicals, and fertilizers and FCIL.

#### Links-

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/modi-in-odisha-live-updates-pm-modi-launches-revival-of-talcher-fertilizer-plant-in-odisha-1920407>

### Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Scheme (PMVVY)

**Question. Which of the following statements is NOT true regarding Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Scheme (PMVVY)?**

- (A) Gujarat is the top performing states in implementing PMVVY.
- (B) Bilaspur (Chattisgarh) is the best performing district in northern region.
- (C) It's a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant and lactating women aged 19 or above for first live birth.
- (D) There are more than 43 lakh enrollment have been done till date.

**Answer. A**

#### Related facts-



- In a recent survey done for Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Scheme (PMVVY), by Ministry of Women and Child Development, Himachal Pradesh has secured the first position in top performing states in implementing PMVVY and Bilaspur (Chattisgarh) is the best performing district in northern region.
- The Union Minister of Women and Child Development has celebrated the Matru Vandana week from 1-7 September in Dehradun on completion of one year of PMVVY. There are more than 43.11 lakh enrollment have been done till 13<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.

#### History of PMVVY-

- Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Scheme (PMVVY) is a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant and lactating women aged 19 or above for first live birth.
- Originally, all pregnant women of 19 years of age and above were eligible for conditional cash transfer benefits of ₹4,000 to be paid in three installments, after the implementation of National Food Security Act the amount has been revised to ₹6,000 to be paid in two installments of ₹3,000
- *Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY) was the scheme started in year 2010 by UPA government. In 2014 Pradhan Mantri Matritva Sahyog Yojna (PMMSY) replaced the IGSMY, and a year back PMMSY is replaced by PMVVY.*

#### Objectives-

- Promote the best practices and awareness about institutional delivery, lactation among pregnant and lactating mothers.
- Provide cash incentive for improved health and nutrition
- Nutrition and early breastfeeding campaign for the first 6 months.

#### Links-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183473>

## First Exclusive Park for Pets

**Question:** Which city comes up with first Exclusive Park for pets?

(a)Hyderabad (b)Chennai (c)Bangalore (d) Nellore

**Answer:** (a)

**Related Facts:**

- Hyderabad is marked as the city having country's first, an exclusive and certified '**Dog Park**'. This park facilitates amenities like a walking track, off leash areas, a clinic, cafeteria, pools and amphitheatre.
- The pet park is located at Kondapur in Hyderabad.
- This park has been established by the Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC) on 1.3 acres of land.



### Features of the Park-

- The park is embellished with a walking track wide enough to accommodate a wheelchair, ramp accesses, a cafeteria with menu in Braille script and variety of dog food.
- The park also contains pet play equipment, splash pools, and separate play areas for small and big canines.

### Amphitheatre:

- Amphitheatre in the pet park will screen Short films spreading awareness among pet owners.
- It is also used to celebrate pets' birthdays, for hosting vaccination drives on World Zoonosis Day or to conduct dog shows.

### Vaccination Concerns:

- It is mandatory for dogs to be vaccinated in case of entering the park.
- It is being attempted to develop park as a venue for regular vaccinations and empowering it with authority for issuing licenses for setting up private pet clinics.
- A sum of ₹1.1 crore has been spent on the park to equip it with state-of-the-art equipment.
- Entry fee in park is Rs. 10 per visit for each pet.

### References-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/hyderabad-comes-up-with-exclusive-park-for-pets/article24953589.ece>

## Jharkhand government introduces electric cars for official use

**Question-**Prior to Jharkhand, how many states have introduced electric vehicle for official use?

(a)4 (b)3 (c)2 (d)1

**Answer-**(a)

**Related facts-**

- Recently, the state government of **Jharkhand** has introduced electric vehicles for official use.



- By introducing electric vehicle Jharkhand become the **fifth state** of India and **first state** in eastern India in this type of move.
- Prior to Jharkhand, the governments of **Delhi, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, and Telangana** have introduced electric cars for official purpose.
- The energy department of the state got 20 such cars for its official use.
- The electric cars are part of a consignment of 50 such vehicles that the energy efficient services limited will supply to Jharkhand bijli vitran nigam limited (JBVNL) for its official use.
- First lot of 20 cars has been delivered; rest 30 cars will be in next two weeks.
- Till now, 12 charging stations have been set up in ranchi and more will be set up soon.

#### References–

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/10035701\\_Jharkhand-govt-introduces-electric-cars-for-official-use.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/10035701_Jharkhand-govt-introduces-electric-cars-for-official-use.html)

## Corporate Social Responsibility Conclave, 2018

**Question-In which state of Uttar Pradesh Corporate Social Responsibility Conclave, 2018, has been organized?**

**(a) Mumbai (b) Greater Noida (c) Lucknow (d) Kanpur**

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts**



- Corporate Social Responsibility Conclave, 2018, was organized in **Lucknow** on September 11, 2018.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated the Conclave.
- This conference was held for the first time in the state.
- Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has urged the industries to provide their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) funds for all round development of the state.
- Renowned industrialists and president of the PHD Chamber of commerce Lalit Khaitan on the occasion handed over a cheque for Rs 51 lakh to the CM as a CSR contribution to the state.

#### Corporate social responsibility-

- Corporate social responsibility (CSR) is a business approach that contributes to sustainable development by delivering economic, social and environmental benefits for all stakeholders.
- To engage in CSR means that, in the normal course of business, a company is operating in such a way that it enhances society and the environment, instead of contributing negatively to it.

#### References-

<http://www.uniindia.com/yogi-calls-upon-industrialists-to-contribute-more-in-state-through-their-csr-fund/states/news/1347444.html>

## 100% Electrification of Broad Gauge Routes of Indian Railways

**Question: What is the proposed cost for 100% Electrification of Broad Gauge Routes of Indian Railways?**

**(a) Rs.12, 143.50 crore (b) Rs.12314.50 crore (c) Rs.12,**



134.50 crore (d) Rs.12, 144.50 crore

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 12 September 2018, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal for electrification of remaining un-electrified BG (broad gauge) routes of Indian Railways.
- This comprises 108 sections covering 13,675 route kilometers (16,540 track kilometers) at a cost of Rs.12, 134.50 crore. This electrification is likely to be completed by 2021-22.
- The proposed electrification will amplify the operational efficiency, enhance the line capacity and improve the average speed of trains.
- Electrification will reduce the use of imported fossil fuels following reduction in the consumption of high speed diesel oil by about 2.83 billion liters per annum.
- **Advantages of Electrified Line over Diesel Line:**
- 100% electrification will provide seamless train operation due to higher haulage capacity and speed of electric locomotives.
- Improved signaling system will lead to enhanced safety in train operation.
- Total shift to electric traction will reduce fossil fuel consumption of about 2.83 billion liters per annum.
- Indian Railways is likely to save Rs 13,510 crore per annum in fuel bill and the same will improve its finances.
- Reduced carbon footprint as environmental cost per Tonne Km for Electric Traction is 1.5 Paisa and for Diesel Traction 5.1 paisa.
- As commitment made by India in COP21 (twenty-first session of the Conference of the Parties), total shift to electric traction will reduce CO2 emission of Railways by 24% till 2027-28.
- The approved electrification will generate direct employment of about 20.4 crore man days during construction phase.

**References-**

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1545763>

## Bus service between Bihar and Nepal

**Question-Which of the following statements is NOT correct regarding Bus services between Bihar and Nepal?**

- A. Bihar is the first state from direct bus service has been started to Nepal.
- B. There will be 4 routes for the buses.
- C. This service started following the agreements signed between India and Nepal.
- D. 4 buses will run from Bodhgaya to Kathmandu.

**Answer. B**

**Related facts-**

- On 11 September, 2018 Nitish Kumar, CM of Bihar have flagged off the 1st ever bus service between Bihar and Nepal. This service started following the agreements signed between India and Nepal.
- There will be two routes for the buses; first from Patna to Janakpur via Muzzafarpur and Sitamarhi second from Bodhgaya to Kathmandu via Patna, Raxaul and Beerganz.
- Nitish Kumar said this initiative will strengthen the relation between Bihar and Nepal.



**References-**

<http://www.newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=352734>

## Haryana government signs MoU with IOC

**Question-Haryana govt has signed a MoU with Indian Oil Corporation limited for the setting of Ethanol Plant in which district of Haryana?**

(a) Panipat (b) Rohtak (c) Jind (d) Hisar

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- The Haryana government has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) to set up an ethanol plant in Panipat.
- The step is taken to address the problem of air pollution due to burning of agricultural residue and increase in farmers income.
- According to MoU, for the production of Ethanol agricultural residue would be collected from 50 km areas.
- And this ethanol would be used for mixing in petroleum by IOC.
- Farmers would get prices for their agricultural residue.



**References-**

<http://www.uniindia.com/ethanol-plant-at-panipat-govt-signs-mou-with-ioc/states/news/1347483.html>

## 10KW transmitter of AIR inaugurated at Patnitop in J&K

**Question-Recently, in which district of Jammu and Kashmir inauguration of 10KW transmitter of All India Radio happened?**

(a) Ramban (b) Poonch (c) Reasi (d) Pulwama

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- On 02 September, 2018, the Union Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated 10KW transmitter of All India Radio at Patnitop in Ramban District of Jammu & Kashmir.
- The 10KW transmitter will help cover an ariel distance of 60 km in nearby districts of Doda, Ramban, Udhampur and parts of Jammu.
- It will be available in the frequency of 101 MHz.
- Importance of this 10kw transmitter-
- The people living in remote and mountainous areas of the J&K State would be able to listen to Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's 'Mann Ki Baat' programme.
- And, will also be able to know about various developmental programmes and welfare schemes launched by the Government.



**Reference-**

<http://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183231>

## Digital Bridge between India and Africa

**Consider the following statements regarding digital bridge between India and Africa.**

1. E-VidyaBharti and E-ArogyaBharti will serve as digital bridge
2. The goal of this e-network to provide tele-education and tele-medicine facility



Select the correct statements

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

Correct Answer –(c)

Related facts-



- On September 2018 External Affairs Ministry signed an agreement with the Telecommunications consultants India Ltd.(TCIL) to establish a pan-African e-network between the two nations to provide access in the critical areas of Education and Health.
- The E-VidyaBharti and E-ArogyaBharti project will serve as a digital bridge.
- **E-VidyaBharti** is web-based portals for tele-education which will connect to African educational institutions.
- **E-ArogyaBharti** is for providing super specialty Hospitals assistance to African Hospitals.
- Hence India has friendly relationship with Africa. The government has put Africa at the top of India's foreign policy priorities.
- **Prime Minister** Modi in his recent visit to Uganda has laid out vision for engagement with African countries.

Why Africa is important for India?

- **Crude Oil**- oil holds central place in India Africa relations. Currently, approx 70% of India's oil imports are coming from Middle East (mainly from Saudi Arabia and Iran).
- **Maritime cooperation**– There is growing convergence between Indo-African maritime cooperation due to the issues pertaining to both the countries like piracy, drug trafficking and security of sea lanes.
- **UN permanent seat**– Both India and Africa are keen to reform the existing global governance structures, especially the UN Security Council (UNSC).Africa plays vital role for India's emergence as a global actor in the international institutional arena.
- **Market**-Africa is emerging as a large market which will benefit India's investment export to African continent

Link:

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-launches-new-digital-bridge-with-africa-118091000560\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/india-launches-new-digital-bridge-with-africa-118091000560_1.html)

## Mobilise Your City

Question: Which of the following trio is marked for implementation of 'Mobilise Your City' initiative on pilot basis?

(a) Ahmedabad, Pune and Mumbai (b) Delhi, Nagpur and Jaipur  
(c) Nagpur, Kochi and Jaipur (d) Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad

Answer: (d)

Related facts:

- On 6 September, 2018 India and France signed '**Mobilise Your City**' (MYC) agreement in New Delhi to support **three Indian cities (Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad)** in their efforts to reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.
- The MYC agreement was signed in presence of Hardeep Singh Puri, Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs and Alexander Ziegler, Ambassador of France in India.



What is Mobilise Your City?

- Mobilise Your city is a part of International Initiative that supports local governments in developing countries to plan sustainable urban mobility in order to develop more inclusive, livable and economically efficient cities and reduce GHG emissions.
- It is supported by French and German Government and was launched at **21st Conference of Parties (COP21) meeting in December 2015**.
- Based on a proposal made by **AFD in 2015**, the European Union has agreed to provide funds of Euro 3.5 million to India for specific investments and technical assistance.

#### Indian Perspective:

- This initiative will assist India at the national level to improve their sustainable transport policy and reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions related to urban transport.
- This initiative will enlighten the path for retaining the environment quality and promotes eco-green development.
- Three Indian cities Nagpur, Kochi and Ahmedabad were chosen on a pilot basis in order to support their efforts to reduce Green House Gas (GHG) emissions related to urban transport by implementing urban mobility plans at the local level.

#### The Proposed Assistances:

- Supporting the planning and implementation of sustainable urban transport projects.
- Supporting the institutional capacity for regulating, steering and planning urban mobility.
- Familiarizing with best practices implemented in cities of other countries.

#### References-

<http://www.codatu.org/wp-content/uploads/MobiliseYourCity-A3-BD.pdf>

### Delhi Government Launches the delivery at doorstep of Public Services

**Question- Which of the statement is not correct regarding launch the deliverance of public services at doorstep?**

- A.Residents can now apply for 40 documents; fee charged is 50/- per service.**
- B.Number of services will be raised to 100 in future.**
- C.Services will be provided through 'Mobile Sahayak'.**
- D.Delhi is the second state to do so.**

**Answer. D**

**Related facts:**

- Delhi Government launches the delivery at doorstep of Public Services; it is the first state in the country to do so.
- **This has provision of Mobile Sahayak through helpline number 1076.Residents can now apply for 40 documents.**
- Services will be raised to 100 in future. Residents will have to pay Rs. 50 for each service. All Sahayak will work between 8 am and 10 pm in all 11 districts.



#### References:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Delhi/delhi-launches-doorstep-delivery-of-govt-services/article24922068.ece>

## Atal Pension Yojana Extended

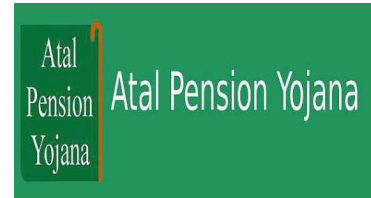
**Question-** Which of the followings statements are NOT correct regarding Atal Pension Yojana:

- (a) The Union Cabinet decided to indefinitely extend the Atal Pension Yojana.
- (b) This also follows with doubling of accident insurance.
- (c) This scheme was launched in 2016, to provide pension between Rs 1,000 and 5,000.
- (d) Now scheme will expand its focus from households to individuals.

**Answer. C**

**Related facts:**

- The Union Cabinet decided to indefinitely extend the Atal Pension Yojana, which lapsed in August, doubling the accident insurance (from 1 lakh to 2 lakh) and Earlier, people of age group 18-60 years were entitled now the age criteria has been raised up to 65 years.
- **This scheme was launched in 2015**; to provide pension between Rs 1,000 and 5,000. According to government data, over 1 crore people have been benefited.
- Overdraft facility has been increased from Rs 5,000 to 10,000. Atal Pension Yojana is a pension scheme to target the unorganized sector.



**References-**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/new s/economy/policy/atal-pension-yojana-indefinitely-extended-scope-broadened/articleshow/65691720.cms>

## Pradhan Mantri Jan-Aarogya Abhiyan(PRAJAA) to cover child Cancer treatment

**Question:** consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Jan-Aarogya Yojna:

- (A) Government extended the service to cover child cancer treatment.
- (B) Pradhan Mantri Jan-Aarogya Yojna will be launched on 25<sup>th</sup>

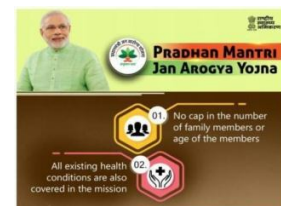
**Of the above statements which is/are correct?**

- (a) A only (b) B only (c) Both A & B (d) None of the above

**Answer. C**

**Related facts:**

- Pradhan Mantri Jan-Aarogya Yojna (PRAJAA), ambitious healthcare scheme will be launched on Birth Anniversary of Pandit deendayal Upadhyay; 25th September, 2018 which will benefit 50 crore citizens of the country.
- PRAJAA also known as Ayushman Bharat or ModiCare; It will cover 8.03 crore rural and 2.33 crore urban families, as per the latest Socio Economic Caste Census (SECC) data.
- On Monday Dr. Vinod kumar Paul, member of NITI aayog said that this scheme will also cover the treatment of child cancer apart from secondary and tertiary care.



**Links:**

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/jan-arogya-abhiyaan-scheme-to-be-launched-on-sept-25/article24695511.ece>

## Development of Rural Circuit in Kerala

**Question-**Recently ministry of tourism has sanctioned the project “Development of Rural Circuit: Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project’ under Swadesh Darshan scheme for Rs. 80.37 crores in which state?

(a)Kerala (b)Tamil Nadu (c)Telangana (d)Karnataka

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- Minister of State for Tourism (I/C) Shri K.J. Alphons said that the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned the project “**Development of Rural Circuit: Malanad Malabar Cruise Tourism Project**’ in Kerala under **Swadesh Darshan Scheme** for Rs. **80.37 Crores**.
- The project focuses on development of water based thematic cruise experiences in and around Valapattanam and Kuppam Rivers of Kannur District.
- **Three thematic cruises developed under the project are—**
- **Malabari Cuisine and Culinary Cruise in Valapattanam River (Muthappan Cruise)**—Cruise starts from Valapattanam to Munambu Kadavu in Valapattanam River with an effective Cruise Length of 40 km.
- **Theyyam Cruise in Valapattanam River** – Cruise starts from Valapattanam to Pazhayangadi in Valapattanam River with an effective length of 16 km.
- **Mangrove Cruise in Kuppam River** – Cruise starts from Pazhayangadi to Kuppam in Kuppam River with an effective Cruise length of 16 km.



**About Swadesh Darshan scheme—**

- The scheme was launched by Union Tourism Ministry with an objective to develop theme-based tourist circuits in the country.
- It is **100% centrally funded** for the project components undertaken for public funding.
- There has also provision for availing voluntary funding under Corporate social Responsibility (CSR).

**References-**

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1545057>

## Public credit registry (PCR)

**Question-** Consider the following statements regarding Public credit registry recently launched by RBI:

**A.**RBI deputy governor Viral Acharya has presented the Public credit registry.

**B.**It has proviso for Aadhar to individual borrowers and corporate identification to firms.

**C.**This registry will help banks in distinguishing good loans and bad loans.

**Of the above which statements is/are correct?**

1. **A & B**
2. **B & C**
3. **Only A**
4. **All of the above**

**Answer. 4**

**Related facts:**

- Public credit registry (PCR) is meant to have all the data related to loan taken by individuals as well as corporate. It distinguished between good and bad loans.
- This move was forwarded on the recommendation of Y. M. Deosthalee. This will help in strengthening to the access of credit and eliminating information asymmetry.
- It will also better the rank of India in ease of doing business. It will give a major boost to the financial inclusion policy.



**References:-**

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/why-is-a-public-credit-registry-important/article24849543.ece>

### Smart gram Yojna by Pranab Mukherjee foundation

**Question-Consider the following statements regarding Smart gram Yojna:**

**A.This initiative meant for transforming villages into happy, harmonious and high-tech places.**

**B.These villages have been adopted by pranab mukharjee foundation.**

**C.‘Smart gram gramalaya’ and ‘water ATMs’ are some programs related to this.**

**Of the above which statements is/are correct?**

1. **A & B**
2. **A & C**
3. **Only A**
4. **All of the above**



**Answer. 4**

**Related facts:**

- On Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September Former president Pranab Mukherjee said that this initiative is aimed to transform villages into happy, harmonious and high-tech places.
- Manohar Lal Khattar, CM, Haryana inaugurated ‘Water ATM’ in Alipur village, ‘Smartgram Gramalaya’ in Harchandpur village and ‘Nayagaon happiness square’ at Nayagaon village.
- 100 villages have been adopted till now. Smartgram Yojna was started in Gurugram July, 2016.

**References:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/smartgram-initiatives-aimed-to-transform-villages-pranab-mukherjee/articleshow/65648056.cms>



## National Nutrition Month

**Question-Which month of 2018 was celebrated as National Nutrition Month (poshan maah) under POSHAN Abhiyan?**

**(a)August (b)September (c)July (d)June**

**Answer-(b)**

**Related facts-**



- The Government is celebrating the month of **September, 2018** as the **National Nutrition Month** under the **POSHAN Abhiyan**.

### **National nutrition month-**

- It is an initiative of WCD ministry and NITI aayog.
- The aim of the celebration of Poshan Maah is to take the messages of POSHAN to the grass root level.
- The programme focuses on 8 themes-
  1. **Antenatal care.**
  2. **Optimal breastfeeding.**
  3. **Complementary feeding.**
  4. **Anemia**
  5. **Growth monitoring.**
  6. **Education; diet and right age of marriage for girls.**
  7. **Hygiene and Sanitation.**
  8. **Food Fortification.**

### **National nutrition mission (POSHAN Abhiyan)-**

- POSHAN Abhiyaan (National Nutrition Mission) was launched on **8th March, 2018**.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan seeks to unite the efforts of key stakeholders by leveraging technology and intends to take Nutrition Awareness to the level of Jan Andolan or People's Movement.
- POSHAN Abhiyaan seeks to synergise efforts of key stakeholders by leveraging technology and intends to take Nutrition Awareness to the level of Jan Andolan or People's Movement.
- This People's Movement intends to reach 11 crore beneficiaries during the Rashtriya Poshan Maah itself.

### **References-**

<http://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183250>

## 'Bharat Ke Veer' Initiative got status of Trust

**Question-Consider the following statements on 'Bharat Ke Veer' initiative**

1. **An initiative which aids families of paramilitary personnel killed in action.**
2. **Launched by Ministry of Home Affairs and supported by noted Hindi film actor Akshay Kumar.**

**Choose correct answer:**

**(a)1 only (b)2 only (c)Both (d)None**

**Correct Answer (c)**

**About initiative**

- **Bharat Ke veer is a fund –raising initiative** by the Ministry of **Home Affairs**, Government of India on behalf of members of the Indian Armed Forces.
- The initiative was launched by Home Minister Rajnath Singh on 9 April 2017.
- The government has granted the status of a trust to 'Bharat Ke Veer', a private initiative promoted by actor Akshay Kumar.
- The public can visit the 'Bharat Ke veer' application and website, and contribute to support the families of Jawans who die in the line of duty.
- It allows donation of ₹15 lakhs to an individual's account and donations to the "Bharat Ke Veer" corpus.
- Finance ministry has exempted from income tax under, 80(G) form whoever donate in the initiative.



#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=160767>

### Saudamini center

**Question: In which state approval has been given for the establishment of Saudamini centre?**

**(a) Chhattisgarh (b) Rajasthan (c) Haryana (d) Madhya Pradesh**

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts**

- On 4th September, 2018, Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar has given its approval for the establishment of **Saudamini Centre** in the meeting of Panipat.
- The installation cost will be Rs 3.45 crores.
- The purpose of establishing this center is to help women and empower them.
- This multi-service resource centre will be set up at Rajiv Gandhi Sports Complex.
- In this centre, training programs for skill development and empowerment of rural women will be organized.
- There will also be a library, fitness centre and computer centre.
- This centre will be operated with the coordination of the Department of Sports and Technical Education.



#### References:

<http://www.uniindia.com/khattar-approves-setting-up-saudamini-centre-siwah/states/news/1340332.html>

### Bhamashah Digital Parivar Yojana

**Question-Rajasthan government has given Rs.1000 to Bhamashah beneficiaries under Bhamashah Digital parivar yojana for the purchase of –**

**(a) Mobile and Internet (b) Only for mobile (c) Only for internet (d) For livelihood**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- **On September 4, 2018**, Rajasthan Chief Minister Vasundhara Raje launched the Bhamashah Digital parivar yojana.
- She inaugurated this program during Beneficiary Mass Communication Program held in Amrudo ka Bagh (Jaipur).



- Under this scheme, the state government will provide a financial assistance of Rs. 1,000 to Bhamashah beneficiaries in the state.
- Through this amount, the beneficiary has to buy a mobile phone and an internet connection.
- The amount will be given in two stages, 500 rupees in the form of first instalment for Smartphone's and Rs 500 in second instalment will be provided for internet.
- Through this scheme, the needy families will be able to get information about government schemes on mobile so that they can avail of these schemes.

#### References-

<https://www.mygovernmentschemes.com/tag/bhamashah-digital-family-scheme/>

## Self Financed Independent School Bill (Fees Regulation) passed in UP Legislative Council

**Question-Uttar Pradesh self-financed independent school (fees regulation) Bill, 2018 passed in the Legislative Council-**

- (a) September 1, 2018 (b) On August 31, 2018 (c) On August 30, 2018  
(d) On August 29, 2018

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts-**

- Uttar Pradesh Self-financed Independent School (Fee Regulation) **Bill, 2018** was passed in the Legislative Council of Uttar Pradesh on **August 31, 2018**.
- This bill was passed in the Legislative Assembly on **August 30, 2018**.
- Under this bill, there is a provision for regulating the fee structure of the private schools of the state.
- This bill will replace the Ordinance brought in April, 2018.
- It is known that the UP Government had imposed a notification on **April 9, 2018 to implement the Uttar Pradesh Self-financed Independent School (Ordinance), Ordinance, 2018**, to regulate the fees arbitrarily conducted by private schools for students.



#### References-

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b89490e-7334-4727-8421-78390af72573.pdf>

## Indian Postal Payment Bank in Chhattisgarh

**Question: How many branches and service centers of Indian Postal Payment Bank were started simultaneously in 5 districts of Raipur division of Chhattisgarh?**

- (a) 4 and 10 (b) 5 and 10 (c) 5 and 15 (d) 5 and 20

**Answer- (d)**

**Related facts-**

- **On September 1, 2018**, the Indian postal department started India Post Payment Bank in five districts of Raipur division of Chhattisgarh with 5 branches and 20 service centers simultaneously.
- These 5 districts of Raipur division include Raipur, Dhamtari, Mahasamund, Balodebazar-Bhatapara and GariyaBand and GariyaBand.
- The inauguration ceremony was held at Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay Auditorium, located at Science College campus of Raipur.



- For easy access of financial services of the banks in remote rural areas, all the 27 districts of Chhattisgarh have started simultaneously today with the opening of Indian Postal Payment Bank (IPPB) branches and 113 service centers.

#### References-

<https://bit.ly/2wJB3PS>

## Weather Information Portal for Indian Power system

**Question: Who manages the inter-state transmission of electricity across the country?**

**(a) NHPC Ltd (b) NTPC Ltd (c) Power Grid Corporation India Limited**

**(d) Power System Operation Corporation Limited**

**Answer- (d)**

#### Related facts

- On **August 29, 2018**, Union Energy and Minister of State for New and **Renewable Energy (Independent Charge) R.K. Singh** released a book on **“Weather Information Portal for Indian Energy System”**.
- This reference document has been developed by **Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO)** in collaboration with the Indian **Meteorological Department (IMD-India Meteorological Department)** to facilitate the advanced use of weather portal in all areas of the energy sector.
- Power System Operation Corporation Limited (POSOCO) manages the inter-state transmission of electricity across the country.
- It coordinates with thousands of units per day for balancing the demand and production in every 15 minutes and operates the electricity market.



#### References-

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1544363>

## O-SMART scheme

**Question-Which cabinet committee has given its approval for O-SMART scheme?**

**(a) Cabinet committee on economic affairs (b) Cabinet committee on political affairs**

**(c) Cabinet committee on security (d) Cabinet committee on investment**

**Answer-(a)**

#### Related facts-

- On 29 August 2018, **The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs** has given its approval for **O-SMART scheme**.

O-SMART Umbrella Scheme Approved by Central Govt



#### About O-SMART scheme-

- It is an umbrella scheme.
- O-SMART stands for, **“Ocean Services, Technology, Observations, Resources Modelling and Science”**.
- It is implemented during the period from **2017-18 to 2019-20** at an overall cost of **1623 crore**.
- The scheme consists of **16 sub-projects** addressing ocean development activities such as **Services, Technology, Resources, Observations and Science**.

#### Benefits of this scheme-

- It will help in harnessing both **living and non-living resources** from the seas around India.
- It will help in dealing with the ocean disasters like **cyclone, tsunami**, and storm surges with the help of early warning system established under O-SMART scheme.
- O-SMART will help in addressing issues relating to Sustainable Development Goal-14, which aims to conserve use of oceans, marine resources for sustainable development.
- This scheme will provide economic benefits to a number of user communities in the coastal and ocean sectors, i.e., fisheries, offshore industry, coastal states, Defence, Shipping, Ports etc.
- This scheme (O-SMART) also provides necessary scientific and technological background required for implementation of various aspects of **"Blue Economy"**.

#### Blue economy-

- The blue economy is sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs, and ocean economic health.
- **It encompasses many activities-**
- **Renewable energy.**
- **Waste management.**
- **Maritime transport.**
- **Climate change.**

#### References-

<http://www.worldbank.org/en/news/infographic/2017/06/06/blue-economy>  
<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183117>

### Project Navlekha

Question- 'Project Navlekha' was started by-  
 (a)Google (b)Facebook (c)Whatsapp (d)Instagram

Answer-(a)

Related facts-



- Google has started **Project Navlekha** to promote regional language publishers to make their content online.
- In Sanskrit Navlekha means '**a new way to write**'.
- The project aims to bring **135,000 local language publishers online** by making web hosting smooth and simple.
- At present, only **1%** content in Indian languages is present online compared to English.

#### References-

<https://navlekha.withgoogle.com/intl/en/#!/benefits>

## Treaty & Agreements

### MoU between India and USA in insurance regulatory sector

Question: MoU between India and USA has been approved by which of the following regulatory bodies?

(a)IRDA & FIO (b)IRDA & FAO (c) IRDA & FAI (d)IRDA & FIA

Answer: (a)

Related facts:





- On 29 August, 2018, Union Cabinet has approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) and the Federal Insurance Office, USA.

#### Impact:

- The MoU provides a framework for cooperation and coordination on various regulatory functions.
- India and USA have also consented on facilitating cooperation on international standard-setting activities, financial stability and the development and implementation of consumer protection through sound prudential regulation of the insurance sector.

#### About IRDA & FIO:

- IRDAI is a body set up under the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999 to regulate, promote and ensure orderly growth of the insurance and re-insurance business in India.
- Similarly, in USA, Federal Insurance Office (FIO) is provided with the authority to monitor all aspects of the insurance sector and to represent the USA on prudential aspects of international insurance.

#### Why Important?

- USA is the leading contributor of foreign direct investment in India and many insurance companies have set up joint venture with USA based insurance companies.
- With increase in foreign investment cap to 49%, there is significant scope for foreign investments in Indian insurance sector particularly from USA based companies.

#### References-

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1544247>

### Infosys forms joint venture with Temasek

**Question- Information technology (IT) services firm**

**Infosys Ltd has formed a joint venture (JV) with-**

**(a)Temasek (b)Oracle (c)Alphabet (d)Apple**

**Answer (a)**

**Related facts:**



- **On 7 September 2018**, Information technology (IT) services firm Infosys Ltd has formed a joint venture (JV) with Singapore-based global investment firm **Temasek**.
- Infosys will acquire a 60% stake in the joint venture, while Temasek will hold 40%.
- The joint venture will support Temasek's digital transformation journey, managing a complex Cloud migration program that will enable Temasek to host its applications on a cloud platform.

#### About Teamsek

- Temasek is a global investment company headquartered in Singapore in corporate in 1974.
- Temasek is a major investor in India with an India portfolio of around \$10 billion as of 31 March, with an average yearly investment of \$1 billion in the last five years.

**Reference:**

<https://www.livemint.com/Companies/ni77K6yg6CbcTcCMQai3XM/Infosys-announces-joint-venture-with-Singapores-Temasek.html>

## Air Services Agreement between India and Morocco

**Question: Air Services Agreement between India and Morocco was signed in which year?**

**(a) 2005 (b) 2006 (c) 2004 (d) 2007**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 August, 2018, Union Cabinet has approved revised Air Services agreement between **India and Morocco** with a view to modernize and improve seamless air connectivity.
- The existing Air Services Agreement made in December, 2004 became ineffective after adopting new revised agreement.
- The Air Services Agreement will upgrade the civil aviation relations between India and Morocco and will stimulate greater trade, investment, tourism and cultural exchanges between the two countries.

**Some Key Features:**

- Aviation companies of both countries can share codes for different types of services.
- This agreement permits designated airlines of either countries to establish offices in the territory of other country for the promotion and sale of air services.
- Indian designated airlines can operate any number of services to/from **Casablanca, Rabat, Marrakesh, Agadir, Tangier and Fez** in Morocco and similarly the designated carriers of Morocco can operate any number of services to/from New Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata, Chennai, Bangalore and Hyderabad.
- Air Services Agreement (ASA) also has the provisions relating to suspension of Operating Authorization, Principles governing operations of agreed services, commercial opportunities, safety and security related clause etc. as stated in Indian Model ASA.

**References:**

<http://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1544238>

## Conference

### 2-day Regional Conference on good governance in Bhopal

**Question- Which of the following statement is NOT true regarding 2-day regional conference on good governance in Bhopal?**

- (a) Department of administrative reforms and public grievances (DAR&PG) is the responsible agency for conducting this conference.
- (b) This is the first ever regional conference held on good governance
- (c) The focus will be on Aspirational district.
- (d) 12 states and 2 union territories are participating.

**Answer-(b)**

**Related facts-**

- Union ministry of Personnel and Public Grievances, the nodal ministry responsible for organizing 2-day regional conference



on good governance with focus on Aspirational districts' at Bhopal in Madhya Pradesh on September 10th. The DAR&PG has organized 28 Regional Conferences till date.

- There will be 5 technical sessions, delegates from 12 states and 2 union territories are participating.
- Department of administrative reforms and Madhya Pradesh government are jointly organizing the event.
- This conference is mainly concerned with sharing of experiences and formulation of best practices in citizen centric governance and implementation, public service delivery through e-governance transparent accountable and citizen friendly effective administration.

#### References-

<http://www.newsonair.com/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=352688>

## WOSA 2018

**Question-** consider the following statements on World Summit on Accreditation (WOSA 2018)

1. It is a biennial summit organized by NBA
2. NBA is an autonomous organization under ministry of HRD

**Select the correct statements**

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

**ANSWER (c)**

#### Related Facts

- Union Minister for HRD Shri Prakash Javadekar has inaugurated 4<sup>th</sup> world Summit on Accreditation (**WOSA-2018**) at New Delhi to facilitate exchange of information on challenges during accreditation.
- National board of accreditation (NBA) organized WOSA 2018 with the focus on “**CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES IN OUTCOME BASED ACCREDITATION**”
- **NBA** has already organized three summits in **WOSA-2012, WOSA-2014** and **WOSA-2016** in each summit approx 800 participants participated.
- It is a biennial summit organized by NBA which is an autonomous accreditation agency under **Union Ministry of HRD**.
- The purpose of this summit to provide an opportunity to interact with industry, policy makers and accreditation agencies from the globe and to learn about their perspectives and encourage more institutions for the accreditation.
- The government wants to boost quality education in the country.



#### Expected outcomes

- **WOSA 2018** is an opportunity for academia and the industry to explore avenues for future partnerships and to create open dialogue to facilitate mobility of students and professionals world-wide to gain international experience.
- The educational institutions will develop and fortify ties with industry.

**Why less accredited institutions in India?**

- There may be two reasons first some institution do not want to come under accreditation and second because of some restrictions in the accreditation mechanism.
- Only 15% of institutions come for accreditation and rest 85% institutions are still not coming for accreditation

### Importance of Ranking

- Ranking and rating increase competitiveness among institutions and it leads for better performance
- Under **National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF)** every institute has constituted an internal committee to improve the ranking and help students in selection of institutions before taking admission.

Anurag Kumar

References by:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183347>

## Mahatma Gandhi international sanitation convention (MGISC)

**Question- Which of the following are NOT true regarding Mahatma Gandhi international sanitation convention (MGISC):**

- A.Union ministry of drinking water and sanitation will organize this event
- B.It will be aimed at sharing the success stories and lessons.
- C.It will commemorate the 150th death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- D.It will bring Sanitation ministers and other stakeholders in WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene).

**Answer. C**

**Related facts:**



- Union ministry of drinking water and sanitation will organize a 4 day **(29 sep to 4 oct)** global convention to mark the beginning of the 150<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary celebrations of Mahatma Gandhi and which also coinciding with 4<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission.
- Rural sanitation coverage has been ground breaking with a quantum jump from 39% in October, 2014 to 92% today. This success has given a major boost to achieve the sustainable development goal 6.2.
- **“One must care about the world one will not see”** Bertrand Russell once said and Gandhiji also reiterated the same, following this ideal Indian government is moving towards cleaner and better India.

**Links:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183313>

## Bengaluru Space Expo-2018

**Which edition of Space Expo held at Bengaluru in September 2018?**

- (a)5<sup>th</sup> Edition (b)6<sup>th</sup> Edition (c)8<sup>th</sup> Edition (d)3<sup>rd</sup> Edition  
**Correct Answer-(b)**

**Related facts**



- The **6<sup>th</sup> Edition of Biennial Space Expo** held at Bengaluru from **6-8 September 2018**.
- The objective of this expo was to bring private industry and other space agencies at one platform to explore business opportunities in collaboration with **Indian Space Program**.
- The expo will allow the industry to explore the technologies behind satellite production, design and development of launch vehicles.
- This biennial Space Expo started in 2008 and held jointly by the ISRO, Antrix and the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII).
- The theme of the expo was “**Creating dynamism in Indian space ecosystem**”

#### References –

<https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/science/india-to-host-space-expo-in-bengaluru-on-september-6-8-5333128/>

## MOVE: India's First Global Mobility Summit 2018

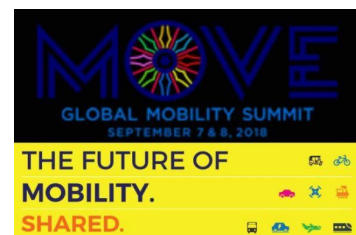
**Question-Who inaugurated the MOVE: India's First Global Mobility Summit 2018 on 7 September?**

**(a)Narendra Modi (b)Rajnath singh. (c)Arun Jaitley (d)None**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- On 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> September Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated MOVE: India's ever first Global Mobility Summit at Vigyan Bhawan in Delhi.
- It was organized by NITI Aayog.
- The focus is on raising awareness about various aspects of Mobility and bringing various stakeholders involved in enhancing mobility across different platforms.
- The Global Mobility Summit is the first of its kind, with over 2200 participants expected from across the world.
- **The summit deliberated on five themes-**
  1. Maximizing Asset Utilization.
  2. *Comprehensive Electrification and Alternative Fuels.*
  3. Goods Transport and Logistics.
  4. Reinventing Public Transport.
  5. Data Analytics and Mobility.



#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183295>

## India-US 2+2 Dialogue

**Question1- Consider the following statement about COMCASA:**

**A.It is referred as Communication Compatibility and Security Agreement.**

**B.It is a part of a set of three agreements that is essential for functional military relationship with US.**

**C.Earlier it is known as CISMOA.**

**D.It was welcomed by UPA.**

**Which of the following statements is/are correct?**

**(a)Only A (b)Only B (c)Both A&C (d)All of the above**

**Answer- (d)**

**Related Facts:**





- **2+2 Bilateral Dialogue** between India and United States was held on September 6, 2018 in New Delhi.
- Minister of External Affairs Smt. Sushma Swaraj and Minister of Defence Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman taken part on behalf India while US was represented by Secretary of State Mr. Michael R. Pompeo and Secretary of Defence Mr. James N. Mattis.
- During the dialogue India and US signed **COMCASA (Communication Compatibility and Security Agreement)**.
- The next 2+2 meeting is to be held in the United States in 2019.

#### About COMCASA

- COMCASA is meant to provide a legal framework for the transfer of communication security equipment from the US to India.
- The general agreement signed by US is called Communication and Information on Security Memorandum of Agreement, but the name was changed to COMCASA to reflect its India- specific nature.
- COMCASA is said to be part of a set of three agreements the US considers vital for functional military relationship.
- In August 2016, India has signed the Logistics Exchange Memorandum of Agreement (LEMOA), which allows the military of each country to replenish from the other's bases.
- Negotiations on the third agreement, Basic Exchange and cooperation for Geo- Spatial Cooperation (BECA), have not yet begun.

#### US Concern:

- S. officials state that Indian armed forces are currently dependent on less secure communication systems for surveillance.
- These platforms are, therefore an impediment in real time data sharing with friendly militaries, and seamless interoperability during joint missions.
- They argue, COMCASA will facilitate the Indian military to use its high-end secured communication equipment.
- COMCASA is also said to be imperative if India is to get the armed version of the Sea Guardian drones from the US.

#### Benefits –

- S. granted India the status of “Major Defence Partner” during the Obama’s time, to facilitate transfer of high-end defence technology.
- Signing of the 3 foundational agreements would underline that status, besides making the transfer of American defence technology possible to India.
- COMCASA allows India to procure transfer of special equipments for encrypted communications for US military platform like C-17, C-130 and P-81s.

#### Risks –

- New Delhi is believed to be concerned about intrusive access COMCASA would grant the U.S. to Indian military communication system.
- There is also a fear that a lot of Russian-origin and indigenous Indian military platforms may not be compatible with COMCASA.
- UPA refused LEMOA because it feared getting dragged into a US military alliance.
- The agreement may specify US personnel to be given access to US – secured communication equipment for periodic inspection.

## References:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183297>

## 6th International Geriatric Orthopaedic Conference

**Question-Who inaugurated the 6<sup>th</sup> international Geriatric Orthopaedic Society of India Conference?**

**(a)Union home minister Rajnath singh**

**(b)Union minister of Health and Family Welfare Jagat Prakash Nadda**

**(c)Prime minister Narendra Modi (d)None**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh inaugurated the 6<sup>th</sup> International Geriatric Orthopaedic Society of India Conference.
- The theme of this conference is **“Increased Longevity with Reduced Fragility and Enhanced Mobility”**.
- Geriatric Orthopaedic Society of India is organizing such event to spread awareness about the health needs of the ageing population.
- Rajnath singh said that this effort is also in the direction of serious efforts being made by the Government for providing better health facilities to the needy.



## Reference-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183336>

## Six Hundred Global Buyers to Participate Indusfood- II 2019

**Question: India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (IBCCI) is located in which of the following city?**

**(a)Chittagong (b)New Delhi (c)Dhaka (d)Mumbai**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- With objective of attracting global buyers, Dhaka based India-Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce (IBCCI) will participate with a strong contingent of F&B (Food & Beverages) buyers in Indusfood-II 2019 to source their food and beverage requirements from India.



## About Indusfood II 2019:

- Indus Food 2019 will be the largest of its kind food export promotion event organized in Greater Noida, NCR, Delhi on 14<sup>th</sup>– 15<sup>th</sup> January, 2019.
- According to TPCI (Trade Promotion Council of India) this event will mark 600 global buyers from 50 countries and over 350 Indian exporters and producers to participate at this World Food Supermarket in Indusfood-II.

## About TPCI:

- TPCI (Trade Promotion Council of India) is an apex trade and investment promotion organization notified in the Foreign Trade Policy. TPCI is also recognized and supported by the Department of Commerce, Govt. of India.

- TPCI supports Indian Economy by facilitating advanced trade research, trade promotions, trade facilitation and investment promotions.
- It does so by creating global platform for the industry by organizing seminars, trade shows and business delegations.

#### **Past Experience:**

- Indusfood-I organized by Trade Promotion Council of India held in early 2018 in Greater Noida, India saw participation of leading importers from 43 countries and 320 Indian exporters and generated an estimated business of \$650 million.
- This event made experience of unique opportunity on holding a B2B dialogue on 12 categories of Food & Beverage industry to Indian sellers.

#### **Indian Perspective Regarding Indusfood II:**

- With its success to expectations, it will encourage and explore new exporters and key products that will accelerate the country's export and strengthen the economy.
- TPCI is working to attract buyers from the SAARC countries, including supermarket chains, from Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries including Iran and the Commonwealth of Independent States or Russian Commonwealth (CIS) countries to source their food and beverage related requirements from India.
- A wide range of products such as fruits, spices, confectionary, agri produce, dry fruits and mustered and soya oil is exported to Bangladesh by North East region.
- This type of event will discover new exporters from the North East region, including the Horticulture Department of North Eastern States.

#### **References:-**

<http://www.tpci.in/about-us/about-tpci/>

### **3rd Asia-Europe meeting (ASEM)**

**Question – Consider the following statements regarding 3<sup>rd</sup> ASEM conference on global ageing and human rights of older people:**

1. It was hosted in Seoul, capital city of North Korea.
2. Madrid plan of action on older people is the guiding principle for this meeting.
3. Europe has the highest percentage of their population aged 60 and above.

**Of the above which statements is/are correct:**

**(A)1 and 2 (B)2 and 3 (C)2 only (D)All of the above**

**Answer. B**

**Related facts:**

- 3rd Asia-Europe meeting (ASEM) conference on “Global ageing and human rights of older people” was held on **7<sup>th</sup>, September 2018 in Seoul, capital city of South Korea.**
- It was hosted by ‘National Human Rights Commission of Korea’ and organized by ‘ASEM global ageing centre’.
- Madrid plan of action on older people (2002-2022) and sustainable development goals (2016-2030) is the guiding documents for this year's ASEM conference.
- People aged 60 and above constitute more than 13% of the world population. 12%, 25% and 17% are the figures for Asia, Europe and Europe.



## Asia-Europe meeting (ASEM)

- The **3rd Asia-Europe meeting (ASEM)** is an Asia- Europe dialogue forum to enhance relations and various form of cooperation between its partners. It was officially established in 1996 in Bangkok, Thailand.
- It has 15 members countries from European Union, 7 member countries from ASEAN and china, Japan, Korea are the founder members. After that several others regional powers come and join the forum including India.
- **Ramayan Upadhyay**

### References:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia%E2%80%93Europe\\_Meeting](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Asia%E2%80%93Europe_Meeting)

## First 2-day India Idea summit by USIBC

**Question. Consider the following statements regarding First India Idea summit by USIBC:**

**A.Nisha Desai biswal is the chair of US-India (business council)USIBC**

**B.Inaugurated by Devendra fadnavis; and Suresh prabhu is the chief orator in the summit from India.**

**C.This summit was held in Mumbai on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018.**

**Of the above which are is/are correct?**

1. **A only**
2. **A and B**
3. **None of the above**
4. **All of the above**



**Answer. 4**

### Related facts:

- First 2-day India Idea summit was held in Mumbai on **5<sup>th</sup> September, 2018** on the eve of the **maiden 2+2 dialogue**; it was an effort to foster the economic and business relation between India and US.
- **USIBC is formed in 1975**, a business advocacy organization responsible for enlightening and encouraging the private sectors of India and US. Currently Nisha Desai biswal is the chair of **US-India business council (USIBC)**.
- **Ramayan Upadhyay**

### References-

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/usibc-to-hold-its-first-india-idea-summit-in-mumbai/articleshow/65645479.cms>

## 24th RCEP Auckland round from 17th-24th October 2018

**Question-Consider the following statement regarding regional comprehensive economic partnership (RCEP):**

**(i) RCEP has total of 16 member countries**

**(ii) RCEP has the USA as its founding member**



(iii) 24<sup>th</sup> round of RCEP will be held in Auckland, a city in western Australia

Of the above which statement is/are correct?

(a) (i) & (ii) only (b) (i) & (iii) only (c) (i) only (d) All of the above

Answer-(c)

Related facts:

- 24<sup>th</sup> round of RCEP Will be held in Auckland, city of New Zealand from 17<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup> October, 2018. Round 1 of RCEP was held on May, 2013 in Brunei.
- RCEP is a proposed free trade agreement between the ten member states of Association for South East Asian Nation (ASEAN) and the six Asia-Pacific states with which ASEAN has existing free trade agreements **Australia , China ,India, Japan, South Korea & New Zealand.**
- Trade ministers of 16 countries have met in Singapore to review the negotiations for goods, services, economic and technical cooperation.
- There are 16 countries in the group but India does not have a free trade agreement with Australia, New Zealand and China.
- India is looking for a balanced trade agreement at it would cover 40 percent of global GDP and 42 percent world population.

References-

<https://thewire.in/trade/rcep-negotiations-will-not-end-in-2018-says-suresh-prabhu>

## 6th East Asia Summit and 15th India-ASEAN Economic Ministers Meeting

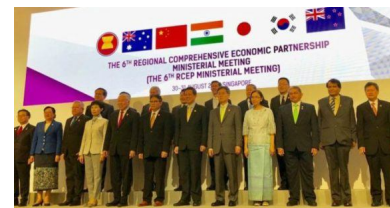
Question: Which of the following country is currently holding the Chair of the ASEAN?

(a) Singapore (b) Indonesia (c) Philippines (d) Laos

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- The 6<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit- Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS-EMM) and 15<sup>th</sup> India-ASEAN Economic Ministers' Meeting (AEM)-2018 held in Singapore.
- Singapore is currently holding the Chair of ASEAN.
- Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore Chan Chun Sing chaired the 6th East-Asia Economic Ministers' Meeting.
- It was attended by Economic Ministers from 10 ASEAN countries and their eight dialogue partners, Australia, China, India, Japan, Republic of Korea, New Zealand, the Russian Federation and the United States of America.
- Higher global economic growth forecast for 2018 has been welcomed by the Ministers.
- They also took note of the increasing importance of trade and investment relations among the EAS economies.
- They acknowledged the potential for disruptions in the macro-economy that could affect overall market sentiments and global growth.
- At the same time EAS-EMM forum also expressed the hope that the economic linkages among the EAS members will enable them to address these challenges.
- The Ministers agreed to the importance of keeping markets open and fair as well as improving transparency and predictability of the business environment.
- The meeting recognized the importance of ongoing work to maximize the opportunities of, and address the challenges presented by, the digital economy and the rise of regional and global value chains, as part of their efforts to promote economic growth and integration in the region.





- The 6th EAS–EMM was followed by the 15th ASEAN Economic Ministers – India Consultation.
- It was co-chaired by **Chan Chun Sing**, Minister for Trade and Industry, Singapore, and **Suresh Prabhu**, Minister of Commerce and Industry, India.
- The meeting attended by Economic Ministers from 10 ASEAN countries took stock of the current level of trade and economic engagement between India and ASEAN and reaffirmed the commitment to further strengthen ASEAN-India economic relations.
- ASEAN has emerged as the second largest trade partner of India in 2017-18 with bilateral trade valued at **USD 81.33 billion**, comprising **58%** of India's total trade with the world.
- It was also announced in the Singapore meeting that the next ASEAN-India Business Summit will be held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, in November 2018 with the theme **“Towards Building Strategic Partnership between ASEAN and India in the Era of the 4<sup>th</sup> IR and Digital Economy”**
- The above summit will be followed by the 4<sup>th</sup> India-ASEAN Dialogue Partner Expo and Summit scheduled for 21-23 February 2019, in New Delhi.

#### ASEAN:-

- On 8 August 1967 the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, or ASEAN, was established in Bangkok, Thailand, through the signing of a Declaration popularly known as **Bangkok Declaration**, by the Founding members namely Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore and Thailand.
- It consists of 10 States viz. Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

#### The aims and purposes of ASEAN:

The motto of ASEAN is **“One Vision, One Identity, One Community”** and with this motto this organization works for the following aims:-

- To promote regional peace and stability through abiding respect for justice and the rule of law in the relationship among countries of the region and adherence to the principles of the United Nations Charter.
- To accelerate the economic growth, social progress and cultural development in the region through joint endeavors in the spirit of equality and partnership in order to strengthen the foundation for a prosperous and peaceful community of Southeast Asian Nations;
- ASEAN came forward with an objective to provide assistance among the member countries in the form of training and research facilities in the educational, professional, technical and administrative spheres.
- ASEAN also aims to collaborate more effectively for the greater utilisation of their agriculture and industries, the expansion of their trade, including the study of the problems of international commodity trade, the improvement of their transportation and communications facilities and the raising of the living standards of their people.
- I work to promote Southeast Asian studies; and to maintain close and beneficial cooperation with existing international and regional organisations with similar aims and purposes, and explore all avenues for even closer cooperation among themselves.

#### References:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183222>

## Regional Committee of WHO for South-East Asia

**Question-** 71<sup>st</sup> session of the WHO regional committee for South-East Asia was recently held in –

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

**Answer-**(a)

**Related facts-**

- **71<sup>st</sup> session of the WHO regional committee** for South-East Asia was recently held in New Delhi from **3 to 7 September**.



**About regional committee for South -East Asia –**

- It is a governing body in the South-East Asia of the World Health Organization.
- The committee meets every year in September to review the progress in health development in the region.

**WHO-**

- World health organization is a specialized agency of the United Nations which is related to international public health.
- It was established on 7 April 1948, and is headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland.
- It has depicted six geographical areas for regional organizations are as follow-
  1. **South-East Asia.**
  2. **Africa (south of the Sahara).**
  3. **The Americas.**
  4. **Western pacific.**
  5. **Eastern Mediterranean.**
  6. **Europe**

**Countries in South-East Asia region of WHO–**

- There are 11 countries in this region- **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Indonesia, Maldives, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Democratic people's republic of Korea.**

**References-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183237>

## 4th BIMSTEC Summit

**Question-** Which of the following state is not a member of The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)?

(a) Bangladesh (b) Malaysia (c) Bhutan (d) India

**Answer.** (b)

**Related Facts:**



- The fourth summit of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) was held in **Kathmandu, Nepal** on **August 30-31, 2018**.
- The theme of this two-day summit was **"Towards a Peaceful, Prosperous and Sustainable Bay of Bengal Region"**

- Recalling the Third BIMSTEC Summit Declaration (Nay Pyi Taw, **4 March 2014**) and the BIMSTEC Leaders' Retreat Outcome Document (Goa, 16 October 2016).
- The fourth BIMSTEC summit was chaired by Nepal Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi led the Indian delegation to this summit.
- Other leaders who attended this summit are Sri Lankan President Maithripala Sirisena, Myanmar President U Win Myint, Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, Thailand's Prime Minister Prayut Chan-o-cha and Bhutan's Chief Justice and Chief Advisor to interim government Dasho Tshering Wangchuk.
- Addressing the conference, Prime Minister said that India will host International Buddhist Conclave in August 2020 and invited all BIMSTEC member states to attend the event as guest of honour.
- He said that India will establish a 'Center for Bay of Bengal Studies' at Nalanda University for research on arts, culture, maritime law and other subjects in the Bay of Bengal region.
- In this Summit, a MoU was also signed on establishing a BIMSTEC Grid Interconnection to enhance energy cooperation among BIMSTEC member countries.
- The next summit is proposed in Sri Lanka.

The Declaration of the Fourth BIMSTEC Summit was released on August 31, 2018. Some of the key points are as follows:

1. **Commitment to the eradication poverty in the Bay of Bengal Region till year 2030.**
2. **Expansion and modernization of development of highways, railways, waterways and air services in this area.**
3. **Commitment to an early conclusion of BIMSTEC Free Trade Area (FTA) negotiations**
4. **Welcome the offer of India to host a BIMSTEC Startup Conclave in December 2018, and encourage all Member States to participate in it.**

#### About BIMSTEC

- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) comprising Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand brings together 1.5 billion people – 21% of the world population.
- BIST-EC (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand – Economic Cooperation) was formed at a meeting in Jun 1997 in Bangkok.
- Myanmar was admitted in Dec 1997 and the organization was renamed as BIMST-EC.
- The grouping expanded when Nepal and Bhutan were admitted in Feb 2004.
- Currently it has seven members.
- There is approximately 22 percent of the world's population in these countries.
- BIMSTEC's first summit was held in Thailand in July 2004.
- In 2014, BIMSTEC Secretariat was established in Dhaka (Bangladesh).

#### Why BIMSTEC matters for India:

- BIMSTEC is like a bridge between South Asia and South East Asia.
- Myanmar is only south East Asian country India has boundary with.
- An India- Myanmar Thailand highway is one of the key projects in the government's Act East policy.
- With India- Pakistan tension coming in way of a smooth functioning of the SAARC, grouping such as BIMSTEC can take forward the concept of regional cooperation in a different manner.

### Nepal India Literature Festival 2018

**Question: Nepal India Literature Festival 2018 was hosted by which of the following city?**

**(a) Birugunj (b) Maharajganj (c) Nepalgunj (d) Bharatpur**

**Answer:**

**Related facts:**

- Two days Indo-Nepal literature festival was organized on **12-13 August** in **Birugunj, Nepal** in order to firm the India Nepal ties.
- The event was organized by Nepal-India Cooperation Forum.
- The festival was inaugurated by Lalbabu Raut, Chief Minister of Province-2 of Nepal. He praised old religious, cultural and social relations between the two countries and showed his commitment to further boost it. Council General of India, Biruganj B C Pradhan was the Chief Guest of the gathering.
- In this literature fest around 250 prominent personalities from India and Nepal have participated. Among 70 writers who have taken part, 53 were from India.



**References-**

<http://ddinews.gov.in/national/nepal-india-literature-festival-2018-begins-birgunj>

## Indian Banking Conclave 2018 held in New Delhi

**Question: Indian Banking Conclave 2018 was organized by which of the following institution in collaboration with NITI Aayog?**

**(a) Centre for Monetary Policy Research (CMPR)**

**(b) Centre for Financial Policy Research (CFPR)**

**(c) Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR)**

**(d) Centre for Fiscal Policy Research (CFPR)**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- **Indian Banking Conclave 2018 was organized on 23-24 August** in New Delhi by Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) in collaboration with its knowledge partner and government Think Tank, NITI Aayog.
- The conclave focused on reforming India's banking sector and makes it more adaptable to face multiple future challenges in upcoming years in accordance with India Vision 2030.



**Highlights of India Banking Conclave (IBC) 2018:**

- IBC 2018, CEPR's brainchild is an important platform for varied stakeholders connected to India's banking and financial sectors. IBC 2018 focused on all impending issues including non-performing assets (NPAs), development of banks with changing times, privatization versus merger and the future of banking.
- IBC 2018 aimed to serve as an effective platform for varied stakeholders connected to India's banking and financial sectors.
- It also seeks to act as a bridge between government and key stakeholders and reform India's banking and financial sectors by its constructive solutions. An efficient banking system induces investment cycle and supports the country's growth.

**About the Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR):**

- The Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) is a network of over 1000 top Economists collaborating through the Centre in the pursuit of policy-relevant economic research and dissemination activities.
- CEPR objectives is to enhance the quality of economic policy-making within Europe and beyond, by fostering high quality, policy-relevant economic research, and disseminating it widely to decision-makers in the public and private sectors.
- Centre for Economic Policy Research (CEPR) was founded in 1983 by Richard Portes and is based in London, United Kingdom.

#### References

<https://www.newsbarons.com/business/cepr-partners-with-niti-aayog-for-ibc-2018/>

## SAARC Agri Cooperative Business Forum

**Que1. The First South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Agri Cooperative Business Forum was held in:**

**(a)Kathmandu (b)New Delhi (c)Jakarta (d)Sri Lanka**

**Answer. (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- From **28-30 August, 2018**, The First South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Agri Cooperative Business Forum was held in Kathmandu, Nepal.
- The theme of three-day Forum was '**Organizing and Strengthening Family Farmers' Cooperatives to attain the Sustainable-Development-Goals-1 and 2 in South Asia**'.
- The forum was co-organized by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nations and Asian Farmer's Association (AFA) with the support of International Fund for Agricultural Development.
- The Forum brings together representatives both from the government and non-governmental entities from the Member States of SAARC as well as from regional and international organizations.



#### Reference:

<http://www.newsonair.nic.in/Main-News-Details.aspx?id=352214>

## Associations & Organizations

### BEL Order Book Crosses 50,000 Crore landmark

**Question: What is true about Bharat Electronics limited?**

- (a) It is a Maharatna Company.  
 (b) It is the largest company in the country making white goods (electronic items of domestic consumption). (c) It is a public sector undertaking for defence equipments.  
 (d) None of the above

**Answer- (c)**

**Related facts-**

- According to a release issued on **September 05, 2018**, Bharat electronics has entered into contracts worth about **9,200 crore** with Mazagon Dock Limited (MDL) and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE).
- For the supply of **LRSAM** system to be fitted on seven ships to be built by these two shipbuilders.





- With an order of **9200 crore**, India Electronics has received a total of **50 thousand crore** orders in one year, which is the highest in the history of the company.
- Bharat Electronics Limited is a Public Sector Defence Equipment Manufacturer Company **established in 1954**.
- It has a status of Navratna Company.

#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183272>

## Law & Justice

### SC modifies its order on dowry harassment cases

#### Question- Section “498A” of Indian Penal Code deals with-

- (a) Husband or relatives of husbands subjecting a woman to cruelty.
- (b) Breach of contract of service during journey.
- (c) Breach of contract to attend on and supply wants of helpless persons.
- (d) None of the above.

#### Answer- (a)

#### Related facts-

- By considering the misuse of section 498A, the Supreme Court provided for setting up of a committee to deal with dowry harassment complaints by protecting the provision of pre-arrest.
  - The apex court, while modifying the verdict given by its two-judge bench, said that there is no scope for courts for constitutionally filling up gaps in penal law.
  - While reserving its verdict the bench said that, on one hand, there should be gender justice for women as dowry has a chilling effect on marriage, and on the other hand, there is right to life and personal liberty of the man.
  - Erasing role of NALSA (National Legal Services Authority) and NGOs, the apex court said courts are there to protect harassed husbands and their relatives, who are not remotely connected to matrimonial cruelty, by granting them anticipatory bail.
- About section 498A-
- Section 498A of the Indian Penal Code deals with husband or relatives of husbands subjecting a woman to cruelty.
  - Punishment under the section is imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years and shall also be liable to fine.
  - **Cruelty means-**
    - (1) Any willful conduct which is of such a nature as is likely to drive the woman to commit suicide or to cause grave injury or danger to life, limb or health (whether mental or physical) of the woman.
    - (2) Harassment of the woman where such harassment is with a view to force her or any person related to her to meet any unlawful demand for any property or valuable security or is on account of failure by her or any person related to her to meet such demand.



#### Reference-

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/supreme-court-takes-note-of-misuse-of-section-498a-makes-it-bailable/articleshow/65805285.cms>

## Mob-Lynching

**Question-**A panel submitted its report on possible measures to be taken against mob-lynching, to a group of ministers headed by home minister Rajnath singh, the panel was headed by –

- (a) Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba (b) Union home minister Rajnath singh  
(c) M. Narendra modi (d) None of the above

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- A panel headed by Union home secretary **Rajiv Gauba** submitted its report on measures to check incidents of **lynching**, to a group of ministers headed by home minister **Rajnath singh**.

**Proposal of the report–**

- The proposal in the report is that media platforms (**Facebook, WhatsApp, YouTube and Twitter**) would be made accountable for not blocking such malicious videos and posts when it comes under their notice.
- And, FIR could be made against their respective heads for non-compliance of government orders and they could be prosecuted under law as well.



**Necessity for anti-lynching law–**

- Currently, there is no law in the **Indian Penal Code** which **criminalizes killing by mob**.
- There is a provisions for rioting, unlawful gathering and, murder but not for **mob- killing (a group of people coming together to kill a person)**.
- There is a provision under **section 223(a) in the code of Criminal Procedure, 1973** to litigate together two or more people accused of the same offence in the course of the same transaction. But the legal framework of this provision is not adequate to litigate accused mobs.

**References-**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/law-against-lynching-committee-submits-report-to-gom-5331814/>

## Year, Day & Week

### International Day of Sign Language

**Question:** International Day of Sign Language is observed on-

- (a) 23 September (b) 21 September (c) 24 September (d) 20 September

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- International Day of Sign Language is observed annually on 23 September along with an International Week of the Deaf.
- The first International Day of Sign languages was celebrated in 2018 under the theme **"With Sign Language, Everyone is Included!"**



- Sign languages are fully fledged natural languages particularly used by deaf peoples in conveying messages. They are structurally distinct from the spoken languages.
- There is also an international sign language, which is used by deaf people in international meetings and informally when traveling and socializing.

**Reference:**

<http://wfdeaf.org/news/theme-for-international-day-of-sign-languages-and-international-week-of-the-deaf-2018/>

## World Rose Day

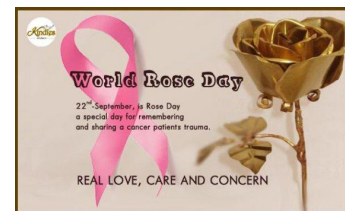
**Question: World Rose Day is observed on-**

**(a) 22 September (b) 21 September (c) 20 September (d) 24 September**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Rose Day is celebrated on 22 September across the world for all the people who are battling cancer.
- This day is observed to commemorate the 12-year-old Melinda Rose from Canada, who was diagnosed with Askin's Tumour, which is a rare form of blood cancer.
- The objective of Rose Day is to remind all cancer patients that they can face this disease with their spirit and willpower.
- Avoiding smoke is the best means to prevent cancer. However, it grips the passive smokers also.
- Passive smoking is the inhalation of smoke, called second-hand smoke (SHS), or environmental tobacco smoke (ETS), by persons other than the intended "active" smoker.



**Reference:**

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/health/world-rose-day-2018-how-passive-smoking-can-cause-cancer/story-s67ys9EMxWLjpiyG2v0ZDJ.html>

## Engineer's Day

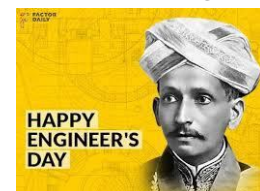
**Question: In India Engineer's day is celebrated on-**

**(a) 15 September (b) 13 September (c) 12 September (d) 14 September**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- Engineer's day is celebrated on 15 September every year across India in order to recognize the significance of technology playing a pivotal role in the nation's This day appreciates dexterity as well as the dedication of the Engineering community.
- This year theme for the day was: "Engineering Challenge for Knowledge Era".
- This day commemorates greatest Indian engineer Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya for his supreme services in the field of technology.



**References:** <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/miscellaneous/why-india-celebrates-engineers-day-on-the-birth-anniversary-of-m-visvesvaraya/articleshow/60524601.cms>

## International Literacy Day

**Question: International Literacy day is celebrated on-**

**(a) 4 September (b) 14 September (c) 8 September (d) 12 September**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- International Literacy Day is celebrated on 8 September every year in order to emphasize the significance of literacy to individuals, communities, and
- The day was established by United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 1966.
- This year's theme for the day is 'Literacy and skills development'.
- Sustainable Development Goal 4 pertaining to Sustainable Development Goals 17 adopted by UN in 2015 advocates to ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong opportunities for all.



**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/literacyday/index.shtml>

## World Coconut day

**Question: World Coconut day is celebrated on-**

**(a) 2 September (b) 4 September (c) 20 September (d) 24 September**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related facts:**

- World Coconut day is celebrated on 2 September every year to promote, coordinate and harmonize coconut developmental activities of the Asian Pacific region to achieve maximum economic development.
- Asian Pacific Coconut Community (APCC) is an intergovernmental organization of 18 member countries that seeks to administer the coconut concerns.
- The theme for the day in 2018 was: **Coconut for Good Health, Wealth & Wellness.**
- The annual coconut production in India is 2437.80 crore and the productivity is 11616 coconuts per hectare. The crop contributes Rs 34,100 crore to GDP.
- For the first time, India is exporting large quantities of dry coconut to US and European countries.
- It has started exporting coconut oil to Malaysia, Indonesia, and Sri Lanka. Till last year, India used to import coconut oil from these countries.



**Reference:**

<https://nationaltoday.com/world-coconut-day/>

## Engineers day 2018

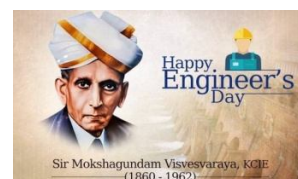
**Question-“Engineers day” is celebrated every year on-**

**(a) 15 September (b) 15 October (c) 10 September (d) 10 October**

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**

- Recently, National Engineers Day was celebrated on **15 September, 2018.**



- This day is celebrated in India on the birth anniversary of **Visvesvaraya**, who is considered as one of the best engineer of the country.
- Visvesvaraya successfully designed and constructed several river dams, bridges and revolutionized the irrigation system in India by implementing irrigation and drinking water system all over the country.
- He is a **Bharat Ratna awardee**.
- The theme of Engineer's Day 2018 was '**Engineering Challenges for Knowledge Era**'.

#### Reference-

<https://www.indiatoday.in/education-today/gk-current-affairs/story/engineers-day-2018-m-visvesvaraya-1340342-2018-09-15>

## Hindi Diwas

**Question: Hindi Diwas is celebrated on-**

**(a) 14 September (b) 12 September (c) 14 July (d) 12 July**

**Answer-(a)**

**Related Facts:**

- In order of promoting and glorifying the prosperity of Hindi language Hindi Diwas is celebrated on 14 September every year since 1953.
- Hindi written in Devnagri script is adopted and enacted as the official language of the Republic of India on 14 September 1949.
- In context of making Hindi as the official language of India it is as such mentioned in the **article 343(1) of part 17<sup>th</sup> of Indian Constitution: The official language of the Union shall be Hindi in Devanagari script. The form of numerals to be used for the official purposes of the Union shall be the international form of Indian numerals.**



#### Celebrations:

- Hindi Diwas marks organization of essays, debate competitions, poetry, plays and exhibitions in schools, colleges and educational institutions.
- Apart from this, Hindi fortnight from September 14 to the next 15 days is organized in government offices.

#### Provision of Awards:

- To encourage the implementation of the Official Language the Department of Official language has introduced a award scheme named 'Raj Sabha Kirti Puraskar' under various descriptions from the financial year 2015-16 annually.

#### Notable Facts:

- Hindi is the fourth largest language in the world on grounds of diction.
- According to the latest figures, currently 43.63 percent of the peoples in India speak Hindi. However in 2001, the figure was 41.3 percent.
- According to the Census, there was increment of 10 crore speakers of Hindi between 2001 and 2011 making clear that Hindi is the fastest growing language in the country.
- Nowadays, Hindi is widely promoted and practiced by leading multinational companies such as Google, Amazon, Snapdeal, etc. These companies are now emphasizing Hindi by launching of its services in Hindi and other regional languages.



- Fiji has also adopted Hindi under the status of official language. It is also called Fijian Hindi or Fijian Hindustani. This is a composite form of Awadhi, Bhojpuri and other dialects.

#### World Hindi Day:

- The World Hindi Day is observed annually on 10 January since its inception in 2006 for the promotion of the language at the global stage.

#### References-

<https://khabar.ndtv.com/news/career/hindi-diwas-2018-why-we-celebrate-hindi-diwas-on-14-september-know-history-and-facts-1916402>

## International Day of Charity

**Question-On which day international day of charity is celebrated?**

**(a)5 September (b)5 October (c)5 December (d)5 November**

**Answer (a)**

#### Related facts-

- On, 5 September, 2018, International day of charity was celebrated.
- International day of charity is celebrated every on 5 September.
- The UN General Assembly, under a resolution it has designated the 5th of September as the International Day of Charity because of the significant role of charities and individuals in alleviating human suffering and humanitarian crises.
- This date was chosen as it is the anniversary of the death of Mother Teresa.
- This 5th of September, the United Nations invites all Member States, international and regional organizations, non-governmental organizations and individuals alike to commemorate the International Day of Charity by encouraging charitable acts in their respective communities to raise public awareness of this event.



#### References-

<https://www.awarenessdays.com/awareness-days-calendar/international-day-of-charity-2018/>

## World Suicide Prevention Day

**Que1. On which date was the World Suicide Prevention Day-2018 celebrated?**

**(a)10, September, 2018 (b)15, September, 2018 (c)19, August, 2018**

**(d)3, September, 2018**

**Answer: (a)**

#### Related Facts:

- **World Suicide Prevention Day (WSPD)**, is organized by the **International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP)** on **10 September** every year.
- WHO has been co-sponsor of the day.
- The purpose of this day to aware the world that suicide can be prevented.
- The World Health Organization estimates that over **800,000 people** die by suicide each year – that's **one person every 40 seconds**, of these 13500 are residents of India.
- In Australia more than 2800 people die each year with latest figures (2016) telling us that 2,866 Australians took their own life.



- **Theme: ‘Take a minute, Change a life’.**
- There is a **MYTH** that only people with mental disorders are Suicidal. But it is a fact that being suicidal is a sign of deep unhappiness, but not necessarily of mental disorder. **NOT** all people who take their own lives have a mental disorder.
- It is also a **MYTH** that, Most suicides happen suddenly without warning. But the majority of suicides have been preceded by warning signs. It is important to be aware of what the warning signs are and to look out for them.

**Reference:**

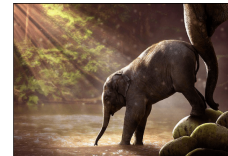
[https://www.iasp.info/wspd/pdf/2018/2018\\_wspd\\_brochure.pdf](https://www.iasp.info/wspd/pdf/2018/2018_wspd_brochure.pdf)

## World Elephant Day

**Question: World Elephant Day is celebrated on-**  
**(a) 12 August (b) 14 August (c) 10 August (d) 18 August**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- World Elephant Day is celebrated annually on **12 August** for the conservation and protection of elephants.
- This day inculcates public awareness and educational outreach about the plight of Asian and African Elephant.

**Background:**

- World Elephant Day was co-founded on 12 August 2012, President of World Elephant Society and the Elephant Reintroduction Foundation of Thailand.

**Indian Context:**

- In India from 12 August, 4 day event “**Gaj Mahotsav**” was celebrated by Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and Wildlife Trust of India, at Indira Gandhi Centre for Natural Arts (IGNCA), New Delhi.
- In order to commemorate World Elephant day, an award ceremony was also conducted. **Maniknandan** was given “**Best Elephant Warrior**”.
- The award for making a significant contribution to the cause of conservation of Asian elephant was given to Mr. John Burton & Ms. Vivien Burton.
- “**Mere Desh ki Zameen-Wild Anthem**” was also released composed by eminent lyricist Prasoon Joshi and sung by prominent singers Shreya Ghosal, Sunidhi Chauhan, Vishal Dadlani and Beni Dayal.

**References-**

<http://worlddelephantday.org/about>

## Books

### Book- Moving on... Moving forward a Year in Office

**Question-Who is the author of the book “Moving on... Moving forward A Year in Office”?**  
**(a) Ramnath Kovind (b) Venkaiah Naidu (c) Sumitra Mahajan (d) Anandi Ben Patel**

**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts**

- On September 2, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi released the book **‘Moving on, Moving Forward – A Year in Office’** at a function organized on the occasion of the completion of one year of Venkaiah Naidu at the post of Vice President.
- The author of this book is Vice President **Venkaiah Naidu**.



#### Reference-

<https://www.narendramodi.in/pm-modi-releases-book-moving-on-moving-forward-a-year-in-office-541326>

### Book: ‘The Burning Forest: India’s War in bastar’

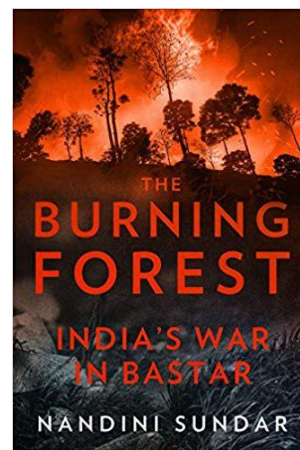
**Question- Who is the author of the book titled ‘The Burning Forest’?**

(a)Nandini sundar (b)Gautam Naulakha (c)Arundhati Roy (d)Subhramshu Chaudhury

**Answer-(a)**

**Related facts-**

- In her meticulously researched book **‘the burning forest: India’s War in bastar’**, Nandini Sundar has written about the Maoist conflict in bastar.
- Most of the books on the Maoists in the last few years have been a journalistic accounts — **Gautam Navlakha’s *Days and Nights in the Heartland of Rebellion***, **Shubhramshu Chaudhury’s *Let’s call him Vasu***, and Arundhati Roy’s ***walking with the Comrades***.
- Nandini has written about the **salwa judum, janathana sarkar, civil strife**s and rapes and various other issues intricately related to the life of the tribals living in bastar region.
- Ramayan Upadhyay**



#### References:

<https://www.firstpost.com/living/in-a-new-book-the-burning-forest-nandini-sundar-looks-at-the-maoist-conflict-in-bastar-3049306.html>

### Book titled ‘Fear: Trump in the White House’

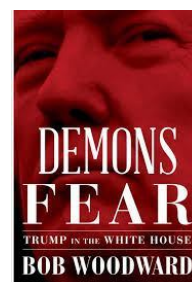
**Question- Who is the author of the book titled ‘Fear: Trump in the White House’?**

(a)Zadie Smith (b)Bob Woodward (c)Ian McEwen (d)Jennifer Egan

**Answer-(b)**

**Related facts:**

- The upcoming non-fiction book **‘Fear: Trump in the White House’** authored by investigative journalist **Bob Woodward**.
- The book will be released on **11<sup>th</sup> September, 2018**. Woodward based the book on hundreds of hours of interview with members of trump administration.
- Woodward is best known for exposing the **Watergate scandal** in **Nixon Era**. He and **Carl Bernstein** have won the Pulitzer Prize for exposing this scandal.
- He is one of the most revered and respected journalist in American history.



#### References-

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fear:\\_Trump\\_in\\_the\\_White\\_House](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fear:_Trump_in_the_White_House)

## Miscellaneous

### Dawoodi Bohras

Question-“Dawoodi Bohras” are-

(a)Shia Islam (b)Sunni Islam (c)Both (d)None of the above

Answer-(a)

Related facts-

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on **14 September 2018** attended an event of the Dawoodi Bohra Muslim community and praised the community for globally spreading the message of co-existence.
- He became the first prime minister to attend the religious congregation of Dawoodi Bohra community.
- He attended Dawoodi Bohra's Ashara Mubarak to mark the martyrdom of Imam Hussain, the grandson of Prophet Mohammad.



About Dawoodi Bohras community–

- Dawoodi Bohra community is a sect within Shia Islam known for their trading and business acumen.
- It is not to be confused with the Sunni Bohras who are also a Bohra Muslim community with many similar cultural traits as Dawoodi Bohras.
- The Dawoodi Bohra community follow the seven pillars of Ismaili Islam in **Fatimid Dawat** –
  1. **Walayat** (guardianship of faith),
  2. **Taharat** (purity of body and thought),
  3. **Salaat** (prayer),
  4. **Zakaat** (offering a portion of one's income to Allah),
  5. **Sawm** (fasting, particularly in the month of Ramadan),
  6. **Hajj** (once in a lifetime pilgrimage to Mecca) and
  7. **Jihad** (defending of one's faith)

Reference-

<https://www.dnaindia.com/india/photo-gallery-who-are-dawoodi-bohras-5-points-to-understand-this-muslim-community-in-india-2663140>

### Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)

Question- Which the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) is not correct?

- A. PM-AASHA will insure the assurance of MSP to the farmers.
- B. PM-AASHA has provision for crop price (MSP) compensation.
- C. CCEA has recommended for this initiative.
- D. Government has sanctioned more than 15,000 crore for the scheme.

Answer. C

Related facts:

- Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA) is the umbrella scheme approved by cabinet, on the recommendation of commission for agricultural costs and prices (CACPC).
- It has three sub-schemes
- **Price Support Scheme (PSS):**

- Price Deficiency Payment Scheme (PDPS): As the name suggests the farmer will get the compensation amount in case of getting less price than MSP.
- Private Procurement & Stockiest Scheme (PPSS): Here private players have got a participation in crop procurement process on pilot basis.  
Madhya Pradesh had implemented such a scheme – the Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojna (BBY) – on a pilot basis during last year's kharif season to safeguard farmers from price fluctuations.
- **Several others pro-farmers schemes have also been implemented as Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojna, Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojna, Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna and distribution of Soil Health Card. To fulfill the commitment to increase the farmer's income; therefore government has declared increase in MSP by 1.5 times for kharif season.**  
**PSS, PDPS AND PPSS-**
- PM-AASHA has mandated the states to choose from one of the above schemes. If a farmer gets fewer prices than MSP for his crop, then state government will ensure the compensation through these schemes
- Existing schemes are there for paddy and wheat and coarse grains run by department of food and public distribution (DFPD) and cotton and jute are covered by ministry of textiles. Pulses, oilseeds and copra are the crops which have been included in the scheme.
- **Commission for agricultural costs and prices (CACP):**  
CACP is a decentralized agency of the government of India, attached with ministry of agriculture and farmer welfare. CACP was established in 1985 to maintain and recommend the minimum support price (minimum price for any crop at which government procure that crop).



#### References-

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/cacp-asks-centre-to-introduce-price-deficiency-payment-scheme/article24354083.ece>

## Ocean Clean Up Program

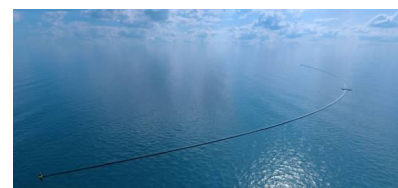
**Question-** Consider the following statements regarding Ocean Clean up Program:

**A.** The ocean cleanup foundation is started in 2013 by Boyan Slat.

**B.** It is also planning to clean up the great Pacific garbage patch.

**Of the above which statements is/are correct:**

1. A
2. B
3. Both A & B
4. None of the above



**Answer. 1**

#### Related facts-

- Young Dutch entrepreneur Boyan Slat has started the ocean cleanup foundation in 2013. **United Nations environment programme awarded Boyan Slat with the champion of the earth in 2014.**
- **Until now he was operating his project of ocean cleaning program in small regions of seas. But this month he went on to launch a mammoth task of cleaning the great**



pacific garbage patch, the largest plastic waste concentration on planet. It is one of the biggest 5 oceanic gyres on the earth.

- **Gyres-** are region of circulating ocean current in Open Ocean. Gyres are formed due to Coriolis effect, Vorticity of the earth along with horizontal and vertical friction. North pacific gyre is one of the largest gyre facing the menace of plastic waste.

References:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The\\_Ocean\\_Cleanup](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Ocean_Cleanup)

## Indo-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise 2018

**Question.** Consider the following statements regarding Indo-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise 2018:

- A. A.This is the 13th edition of Indo-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise will be held in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia.
- B. B.This Military Exercise known as Nomadic Elephant is an annual event.
- C. C.Exercise known as Nomadic Elephant will be held from 10-21 September, 2018.

Of the above which statements is/are correct:

- A. A & B
- B. A & C
- C. Only B
- D. All of the above



Answer. 4

Related facts:

- Indo-Mongolia Joint Military Exercise Nomadic Elephant-2018 is a 12 day long joint military exercise will be held from 10th September to 21<sup>st</sup>
- It is an annual event happening since 2006. Nomadic elephant will contribute immensely in developing mutual understanding for each other military to combat the menace of terrorism.

Links:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=183368>

## Global Innovation Index, 2018

Consider the following statements regarding the Global Innovation Index, 2018-

(1) Switzerland has topped the index, while it was fifth in the year 2017.

(2) India is at 60th place this year, while it was 57th last year.

Code: The correct statement is/are-

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

Answer- (d)

Related fact

- In July 2018, the 11th edition of the Global Innovation Index, 2018 was released.



- It has been jointly developed by Farnell University, Paris-based Business School, Insead and the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO).
- In this index, 120 economies have been ranked on 80 the basis of indicators.
- The theme of this index for the year 2018 was 'Energizing the World with Innovation'.
- Switzerland is at the top position in this index. It has remained consistently top since 2011.
- Netherlands (second), Sweden (third), United Kingdom (fourth), Singapore (fifth) are in the ranking.
- India has been ranked 57th this year, while it was at 60th place last year.
- Continuous improvements in India's rankings are being seen from the year 2016.
- India is at the top in the Middle and Southern Asian region. Iran and Kazakhstan ranked second & third respectively in Middle and Southern Asian region.
- India has been ranked fifth in low-middle-income economy.
- In the BRICS countries, China is ranked 11th, Russia 46th, India 57th, South Africa 58th and Brazil 64th.
- Yemen (126th) is in the last place in the index.

#### Reference:

<https://www.globalinnovationindex.org/gii-2018-report>

## Omnivorous shark species

**Question-**Recently, scientists have discovered Omnivorous shark species called-  
(a)Bonnethead shark (b)Houndshark (c)Catshark (d)Hammerhead shark

**Answer-** (a)

**Related facts-**

- **Bonnethead shark** is the first known omnivorous shark species recently discovered by scientists.
- The species graze upon seagrass besides, eating bony fish, crabs, snails and shrimps.
- Its diet contains 60% of seagrass.
- The shark is abundant in the shallow waters of the **Western Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico.**



#### References-

<https://www.pressreader.com/india/the-times-of-india-mumbai-edition/20180908/282239486513891>

## Oscar 2019

**Question:** Recently, which film has been declared as Norway's official entry for best foreign film at Oscar 2019?

(a) What Will People Say (b) Into the wild (c) Both (d) None of the above

**Answer-** (a)

**Related facts-**

- On **September 4, 2018**, Indian-origin actor Adil Hussain told that his film 'What Will People Say' has been announced as the official entry for Oscars in the foreign language category for the year 2019.
- Directed by Iram Haq, this film is made on the background of Pakistan and Norway.



- The film is about love story of a migrant girl from the Pakistani family and a Norwegian boy.
- Actor Adil Hussain played the role of a tough Pakistani father in this film.
- On August 19, 2018 Adil Hussain won the National Film Award for Norway or Best Actor in the 'Amanda' award for his performance in the film.
- He is the first Indian to win this award. He is well known for his role of in '**Life of Pie**'.
- He is native of Goalpara district of Assam state.

**Reference-**

<https://www.firstpost.com/entertainment/adil-hussains-what-will-people-say-declared-as-norways-official-entry-for-best-foreign-film-at-oscars-2019-5117911.html>