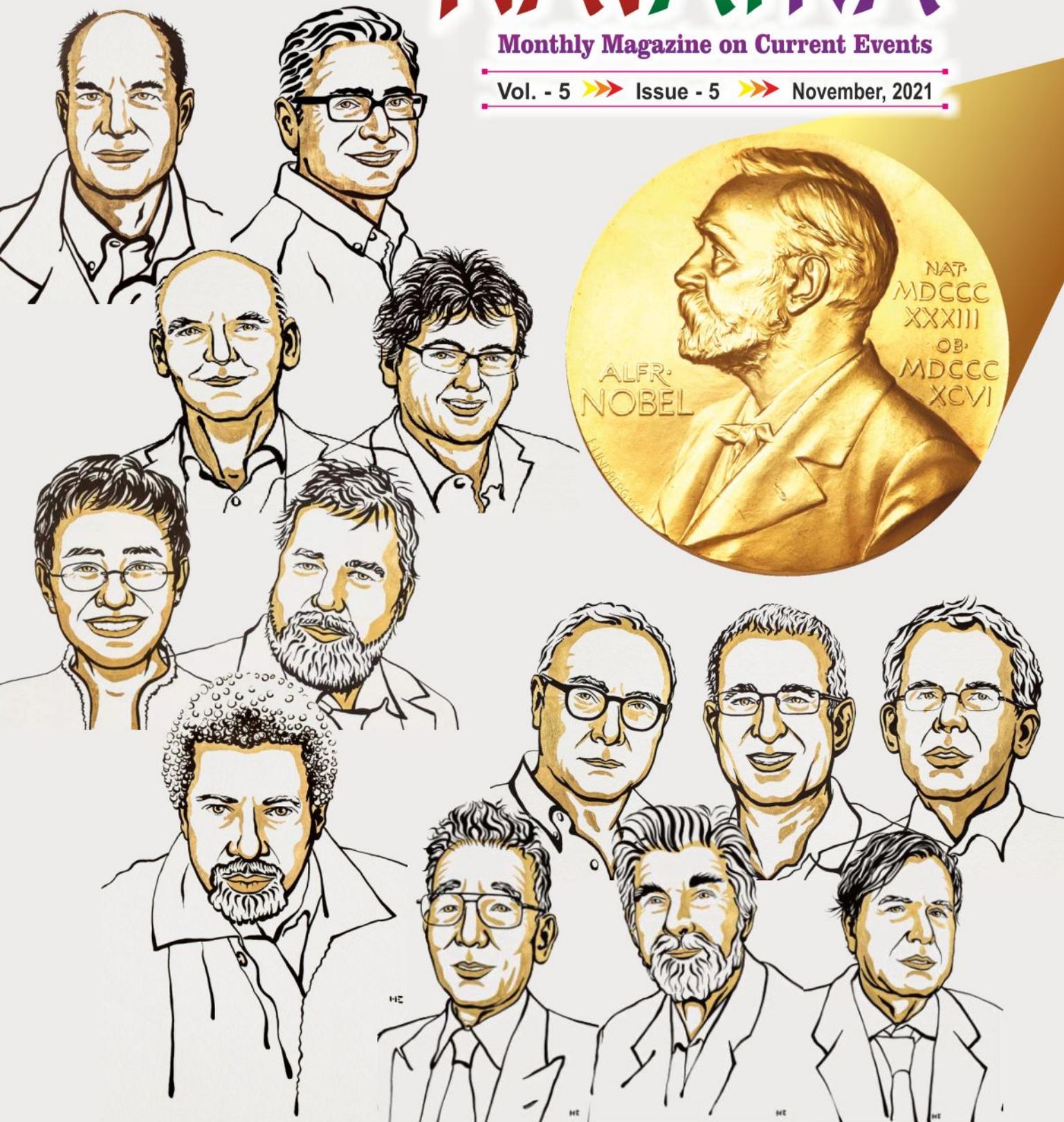


Website-  **e**dristi.in

# NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

Vol. - 5 >>> Issue - 5 >>> November, 2021



## Preface

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

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

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

Our plan will be to publish our monthly PDF on very first day of every month with making appropriate modifications of day-to-day events. In general, the events happened till 29th day will be given place in the PDFs. The necessity of this is to ensure the contents factual authenticity.

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

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

## National

### Nobel Peace Prize 2021

**Question: Who have been awarded as Nobel Peace Prize 2021?**

- a) Mahatma Gandhi
- b) Donald Trump
- c) Maria Ressa
- d) Dmitry Muratov

**Ans: c and d**

#### Recent Context

- On October 8, 2021, the 2021 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to journalists Maria Ressa of the Philippines and Dmitry Muratov of Russia.
- **Related Facts**
- They have been awarded with Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts to safeguard freedom of expression, which is a precondition for democracy and lasting peace.
- Maria Ressa is an investigative journalist, who in 2012 co-founded Rappler, a digital media platform for investigative journalism, which she continues to head.
- Rappler has focused critical attention on Philippines President Rodrigo Duterte's regime's controversial, murderous anti-drug campaign.
- Dmitry Muratov has for decades defended freedom of speech in Russia under increasingly challenging conditions".



**Reference:** <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/2021/press-release/>

### Nobel for Physiology (Medicine) : Science of Touch

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

**i) United states-based scientist, David Julius and Ardem Patapoutin, have been awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize for Physiology/Medicine.**

**ii) They have been awarded the prize for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.**

**Which of the above are true?**

- a) I b) ii c) i and ii both d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

#### Recent Context

- On October 4, 2021 United states-based scientist, David Julius and Ardem Patapoutin, have been awarded the 2021 Nobel Prize for Physiology/Medicine.
- **Related Facts**
- They have been awarded the prize for their discoveries of receptors for temperature and touch.
- Julius and Patapoutin discovered the molecular sensors in the human body that are sensitive to heat and to mechanical pressure.
- These molecules makes us "feel" hot or cold, or the touch of sharp object on our skin.
- **David Julius**
- Discovered TRPV1, first heat-sensing receptor



- His findings on the skin's sense of temperature was based on how certain cells react to capsaicin, the molecules that makes chili peppers spicy, by stimulating false sensation of heat.
- **Ardem Patapoutin**
- Discovered a novel class of sensors
- Sensors that respond to mechanical stimuli in the skin and internal organs.
- Discovered two mechanosensitive ion channels known as piezo channels.
- **The mechanism of Sensors in body**
- i)Something hot or cold touches the body;
- ii)The heat receptors enable the passage of some specific chemicals, like calcium ions through membrane of nerve cells;
- iii)Chemical enters inside the cell;
- iv)It causes a small change in electrical voltage;
- v) Change in electric voltage is picked up by the nervous system.
- Similarly, pressure sensor can detect change of pressure in bladder and tells us when to relieve oneself.
- The findings have allowed us to understand how heat, cold and mechanical force can initiate the nerve impulses that allow us to perceive and adapt to the world around us.
- Discoveries of these receptors are fundamental to our understanding of how our body functions. Identification of these receptors opens up the possibility of regulating their functioning.
- Using the knowledge of their functioning, treatment of wide range of disease conditions is being developed including chronic pain.

**Reference:** <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/medicine/2021/press-release/>

## Chemistry Nobel: Mirror Image Molecules

**Question: Who has won Nobel for Chemistry in 2021?**

a) Benjamin list b) David MacMillan c) Both a and b d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

### Recent Context

- On 6th October 2021 The 2021 Nobel Prize in Chemistry has been awarded to German scientist Benjamin list and Scotland born, US based David W.C. MacMillan “for the development of assymetric organocatalysis”.



### Related Facts

#### What is Catalysis?

- It is a term used to describe a process in the presence of a substance (the catalyst) that controls and influences the rate and/or the outcome of the reaction.

#### What is Catalyst?

When two or more compounds react to form new compounds, the process is often aided by other chemicals called catalyst that do not change themselves, but help speed up the reaction.

#### Characteristics of Catalyst

Remain intact after reaction completion.

Does not becomes part of the final product.

Removed so as to not to add impurity to final product.

Often used to produce new and functional molecules that are utilised in drugs and other everyday substances.

#### About the discovery

- Till around, 2000 only two kinds of catalysts were used – metal & enzymes.
- **Metal Catalysts**
- Use heavy metals  
Expensive and environmentally unfriendly.  
Traces remains sometimes in end product making it unsuitable where very pure products are required.  
Highly sensitive to presence of oxygen and moisture, hence industrial application becomes expensive.
- **Enzymes**
- Biological catalyst  
Require water as medium for the chemical reaction, which is not an environment for all kind of chemical reactions.  
Very large size molecules, difficult to use.
- **Asymmetric Organocatalysts**
- Both scientist developed this class of catalyst in 2000, which is efficient, precise, cheap, fast and environment friendly.  
Small as made of single amino acids.  
Makes development of new drugs (molecules) easy, cheap and environment friendly.

### **About Organocatalysis and Asymmetric Organocatalysis**

#### **Organocatalysis**

Organic compounds are mostly naturally-occurring substances, built around a framework of carbon atoms and usually containing hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen, sulphur, or phosphorus. Life-supporting chemicals like proteins, which are long chains of amino acids (carbon compounds containing nitrogen and oxygen) are organic.

Enzymes are also proteins, and therefore, organic compounds. These are responsible for many essential biochemical reactions.

**Organocatalysts** allow several steps in a production process to be performed in an unbroken sequence, considerably reducing waste in chemical manufacturing.

**Organocatalysis** has developed at an astounding speed since 2000. Benjamin List and David MacMillan remain leaders in the field, and have shown that organic catalysts can be used to drive multitudes of chemical reactions.

Using these reactions, researchers can now more efficiently construct anything from new pharmaceuticals to molecules that can capture light in solar cells.

#### **Asymmetric Organocatalysis**

Substances can have exactly the same chemical composition and molecular formula; yet differ widely in their properties. They are known as isomers.

One type of isomers are those that differ in the way individual atoms are oriented in three dimensional space. Two molecules could be the same, except that they are mirror images of each other.

Chemists often just want one of these mirror images – particularly when producing medicines- but it has been difficult to find efficient methods for doing this. The process called asymmetric organocatalysis, has made it much easier to produce asymmetric molecules – chemicals that exist in two versions, where one is a mirror image of the other.

Some molecules with mirror versions have different properties. An example is the chemical called carvone, which has one form that smells like spearmint and a counterpart that smells like the herb, dill.

Different versions of the same molecule might have different effects when ingested. Then it becomes important to be able to make only the mirror image of a drug that has the desired physiological effect.

**Reference:** <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/chemistry/>

## Noble Prize in Economics

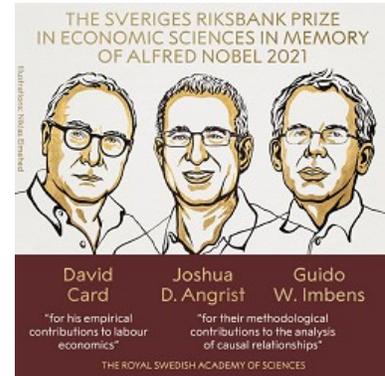
**Question- Which of the following has won the Noble Prize in Economics?**

(a) David Card (b) Joshua D. Angrist (c) Guido W. Imbens (d) All of the above

**Ans. (d)**

### Related facts

- On October 11, 2021, Canadian-born David Card of the University of California, Berkeley, was awarded one half of the prize for his research on how minimum wage, immigration and education affect the labour market.
- While the other half was shared by Joshua Angrist from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Dutch-born Guido Imbens from Stanford University for their framework for studying issues that can't rely on traditional scientific methods.
- As per the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, the three have “completely reshaped empirical work in the economic sciences.”
- Card's studies of core questions for society and Angrist and Imbens' methodological contributions have shown that natural experiments are a rich source of knowledge,”



**Reference-** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/economic-nobel/article36940139.ece?homepage=true>.

## Noble Prize in literature

**Question- Which of the following person has won the Noble prize in literature?**

(a) Abdulrazak Gurnah (b) W.C. MacMillan (c) Benjamin List (d) All of the above

**Ans. (a)**

### Relate facts

- In October 2021, the Nobel Prize in Literature 2021 was awarded to U.K.-based Tanzanian writer Abdulrazak Gurnah, who was recognized for his “uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee.
- **About Noble Prize-**
- Nobel Prize is a prestigious prize awarded separately in six different fields “to those who, during the preceding year, have conferred the greatest benefit to humankind”.
- Originally, the prize was awarded in the fields of Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature, and Peace.
- The Peace Prize was characterised as “to the person who has done the most or best to advance fellowship among nations, the abolition or reduction of standing armies, and the establishment and promotion of peace congresses”.
- Later in 1968, a sixth prize was added in the field of economic sciences.



- The Prize is officially not a Nobel Prize but it is called as “The Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel”.
- It was established by Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden’s central bank).
- Alfred Nobel, a Swedish scientist, signed his last will and testament on 27 November, 1895, giving most of his fortune to prizes in Physics, Chemistry, Physiology or Medicine, Literature and Peace.
- Nobel was a Swedish chemist, engineer, and industrialist who is most famous for inventing dynamite.
- He was born in Stockholm, Sweden, on 21 October 1833.
- He was fluent in many languages and had interests in poetry and drama.
- It is said that he was very interested in peace-related issues and held views, which were considered radical during his time.
- He died in 1896. In his will, he gave most of his assets for the establishment of five prizes, which later became Nobel Prizes.
- The first Nobel Prize was given on 10 December, 1901.

Reference- <https://www.nobelprize.org/alfred-nobel/alfred-nobels-will/>.

## Nobel Prize 2021 for Physics

**Question- Who won the noble prize in physics in 2021?**

(a) Syukuro Manabe (b) Klaus Hasselmann (c) Giorgio Parisi (d) All of the above

**Ans. (d)**

**Related Facts-**

- On October 5, 2021, the Nobel Prize 2021 for physics was awarded to three scientists from Japan, Germany and Italy. Secretary-general of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences, Goran Hansson, announced the winners.
- The 2021 Nobel Prize in Physics was awarded to three scientists whose cumulative work can be summed up in two words: Climate change.
- Half of the prize went to Syukuro Manabe and Klaus Hasselmann “for the physical modeling of Earth’s climate, quantifying variability and reliably predicting global warming.”
- And the other half went to Giorgio Parisi “for the discovery of the interplay of disorder and fluctuations in physical systems from atomic to planetary scales.”
- **Syukuro Manabe**
- Since 1960s, he had demonstrated how increases in amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere increases the global temperatures. This demonstration laid the foundations for current climate models.
- **Demonstration by Klaus Hasselmann**
- He had created a model to link weather and climate. This model helped in explaining why climate models can be reliable despite the chaotic nature of weather. He also demonstrated ways to look after specific signs of human influence on the climate.
- **Model developed by Giorgio Parisi**
- He built a deep physical and mathematical model. This model made it possible to understand the complex systems in fields of mathematics, machine learning, biology and neuroscience.
- **Background**



- In the year 2020, the prize was conferred to Andrea Ghez from America, Roger Penrose from Britain and Reinhard Genzel from Germany for their research into black holes.
- **About Nobel Prize**
- The award comes with a gold medal as well as 10 million Swedish kronor.
- Money for prize comes from a bequest left by the creator of prize & Swedish inventor, Alfred Nobel.

**Reference-** <https://www.dw.com/en/syukuro-manabe-klaus-hasselmann-and-giorgio-parisi-win-2021-nobel-prize-in-physics/a-59402105>.

## The National Infrastructure Fund

**Question :** The National Infrastructure Fund will invest in areas such as water, transportation, energy, and health, contributing to transform the economy and make it less reliant on oil revenue. Which country has recently(October 2021) launched this fund ?

a. Saudi Arabia b. Kuwait c. Qatar d. Libiya

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Saudi Arabia has recently(October 2021) launched national infrastructure fund(NIF) with BlackRock.
- Saudi Arabia has launched the fund to support up to 200 billion riyals (\$53.32 billion) in projects over the next decade.
- It will invest in areas such as water, transportation, energy, and health, contributing to Saudi Arabia's plans to transform the economy and make it less reliant on oil revenue.
- It is notable that BlackRock, Inc. is an American multinational investment management corporation based in New York City.



**Link:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/saudi-arabia/saudi-arabia-launches-national-infrastructure-fund-with-blackrock/articleshow/87254112.cms>

## AIIB announced that it will support India to improve its healthcare infrastructure facilities

**Question:** At which of the following country capital headquarters of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is located?

a) New Delhi b) Beijing c) Tokyo d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 26 October 2021; Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) announced that it will support India to improve its healthcare infrastructure facilities.
- AIIB is the Beijing-based Multilateral development bank or a funding institution which is working with the Indian government to develop climate-resilient infrastructure projects.



- AIIB president Jin Liqun said that our institution work with the Indian government to ensure that priority is given to infrastructure projects which could deal with climate change.
- He said AIIB has financed the project to deal with the pandemic in India and appreciated the fact that the Indian government has been containing the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Mr. Liqun said, AIIB believes that there is a huge need for India given the size of population to strengthen its healthcare system.
- Liqun also announced that AIIB will align its operations with the goals of the Paris Agreement by July 1, 2023.
- The bank currently estimates its cumulative climate finance approvals to be USD 50 billion by 2030.
- This amount would represent a four-fold increase in annual climate finance commitments since AIIB started publicly reporting the number in 2019.
- Earlier this year, the AIIB announced it would target at least a 50 per cent share of climate finance in actual financing approvals by 2025.

**Links:-**

<https://www.businesstoday.in/latest/economy/story/aiib-to-support-india-in-ramping-up-healthcare-infra-310477-2021-10-26>

## “SAMBHAV” National Level Awareness Programme, 2021

**Question: Consider the following statements-**

- “SAMBHAV” ,a National Level Awareness Programme-2021 is being organised by Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India, in New Delhi.
- It was inaugurated on 27th October 2021 by Union Minister of MSME Shri Narayan Rane .
- It is being organized to promote engagement of the youth in promoting entrepreneurship leading to the economic development of the country.

**Which of the above are correct?**

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

**Ans: c**

**Recent Context**

- Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises launched the “SAMBHAV National Level Awareness Programme, 2021” in new Delhi on October 27, 2021.

**Related Facts**

- It is being organized to promote engagement of the youth in promoting entrepreneurship leading to the economic development of the country.
- It is a mass outreach program that will run for a month long.
- It is an initiative under the Ministry of MSME in which students from different colleges/ITIs from all parts of the country will be encouraged by 130 field offices of the Ministry to take up entrepreneurship.
- During the campaign the college students will be made aware of the various schemes being implemented by the Ministry of MSME through Audio/Video film presentations.



- Awareness programs will be conducted in more than 1,300 colleges across the country in which 1,50,000 students are expected to participate.
- During the event, Union Minister of MSME Shri Narayan Rane has emphasized that new products and services created by budding entrepreneurs can give a cascading effect, for stimulating related businesses or sectors.

**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1766869>

## Supreme Court forms committee to examine Pegasus allegations

**Question: The Supreme Court has recently appointed an independent expert technical committee to examine allegations that the government used an Israeli spyware, Pegasus, to snoop on its own citizens. Who is heading the committee?**

- a) Home Minister Amit Shah b) CJI N.V. Rammana  
c) Former SC judge, Justice R.V. Raveendran d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

### Recent Context

- On 27th October 2021 SC constituted an expert committee overseen by former SC judge Justice R.V. Raveendran to probe Pegasus allegations.
- **Related Facts**
- The Supreme Court appointed an independent expert technical committee to examine allegations that the government used an Israeli spyware, Pegasus, to snoop on its own citizens.
- The three members of the technical committee would be Dr. Naveen Kumar Chaudhary, Professor (Cyber Security and Digital Forensics) and Dean, National Forensic Sciences University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat; Dr. Prabakaran P., Professor (School of Engineering), Amrita Vishwa Vidyapeetham, Amritapuri, Kerala; and Dr. Ashwin Anil Gumaste, Institute Chair Associate Professor (Computer Science and Engineering), Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, Maharashtra.
- **About Pegasus controversy**
- Pegasus is spyware developed by the Israeli cyberarms firm NSO Group that can be covertly installed on mobile phones (and other devices) running most versions of iOS and Android.
- Pegasus can be used to spy on any individual who has Pegasus secretly inserted in his/her device.
- Earlier it was revealed that NSO sold the software to Indian government too apart from other global client.
- It was also allegedly revealed that government used that software to spy on its own citizens i.e journalists , opposition leaders etc.
- Since that it has been a demand from various section of society that allegations must to probed in fair manner but government was not listening to it and hence PILs were filed in SC.
- Chief Justice of India N.V. Ramana while hearing the case commented that snooping allegations are “grave” and truth should be out.



- In July, the West Bengal government set up a Commission of Inquiry comprising former Supreme Court Justice Madan B Lokur and former Calcutta High Court Justice Jyotirmay Bhattacharya to look into the same allegations.

**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/supreme-court-judgment-on-pegasus/article37184269.ece>

## 16th East Asia Summit

**Question :** Which country hosted the 16th East Asia Summit ?

a. Brunei b. Singapore c. Malaysia d. Indonesia

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently(October 2021) participated in 16th East Asia Summit on October 27, 2021.
- It was Prime Minister's 7th East Asia Summit.
- The 16th East Asia Summit was hosted by Brunei as EAS and ASEAN Chair.
- It saw the participation of leaders from ASEAN countries and other EAS Participating Countries including Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, Russia, USA and India.
- It is notable that India has been an active participant of EAS.
- Discussed Issues — important regional and international issues including Indo-Pacific, South China Sea, UNCLOS, terrorism, and situation in Korean Peninsula and Myanmar.
- The EAS leaders adopted three Statements on Mental Health, Economic recovery through Tourism and Sustainable Recovery, which have been co-sponsored by India.



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1767057>

## Krishi UDAN 2.0

**Question :** Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has recently(October 2021) released Krishi UDAN 2.0 scheme . Accordingly, which of the following statement/s is/are correct ?

**Statements —**

1. It was formulated with support from AAICLAS
2. AAICLAS is a subsidiary of Airports Authority of India and IBEF
3. Krishi UDAN 2.0 will be implemented at 53 airports

**Options —**

- a. Only 1
- b. Only 2 & 3
- c. Only 1 & 3
- d. All of the above

**Ans. c.**  
**Related facts —**

Union Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya Scindia has recently (October 2021) released Krishi UDAN 2.0 scheme .

**Key points of the UDAN 2.0 scheme —**

1. It was formulated with support from AAICLAS
2. AAICLAS is a 100 % subsidiary of Airports Authority of India and Invest India
3. Krishi UDAN 2.0 will be implemented at 53 airports
4. The Ministry of Civil Aviation plans to pilot the scheme for 6 months, and, will introduce amendments based on results of the evaluation & consultations with other stakeholders.
5. 7 focus routes & products



Routes	Products
Amritsar – Dubai	Babycorn
Darbhanga – Rest of India	Lichis
Sikkim – Rest of India	Organic produce
Chennai, Vizag, Kolkata – Far East	Seafood
Agartala – Delhi & Dubai	Pineapple
Dibrugarh – Delhi & Dubai	Mandarin & Oranges
Guwahati – Hong Kong	Pulses, fruits & vegetables

**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1767005>

### Agribusiness development in Maharashtra

**Question :** For which state has ADB and India signed an agribusiness development loan agreement ?

- a. Maharashtra b. Madhya Pradesh c. UP d. Karnataka

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

ADB and India recently(October 2021) signed an agribusiness development loan agreement for the state of Maharashtra.

### Key points of the loan agreement —

1. Objective — to promote agribusiness network to boost farm incomes and reduce food losses in the State of Maharashtra
2. Loan amount — 100 million dollar
3. Significance — Though Maharashtra produces 11% and 6% of India's fruit and vegetable production, respectively, and accounts for about 8% of the country's floriculture exports, most smallholder farmers lack capital to scale up and do not have direct access to emerging high-value markets. The project will help small and marginal farmers in Maharashtra improve their post-harvest and marketing capacity, reduce food losses, and increase incomes through access to finance, capacity building, and horticulture value chain infrastructure development.
4. Benefits —  
The project will upgrade 16 existing post-harvest facilities and construct 3 new ones to provide individual farmers and FPOs clean, accessible, and sustainable crop storage and processing facilities.  
It will also build the capacity of FPOs and VCOs on value chain acceleration and post-harvest handling and management, especially those owned and led by women. The project is expected to benefit 200,000 farmers.  
ADB will provide a \$500,000 technical assistance (TA) grant from its Technical Assistance Special Fund and \$2 million from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction on a grant basis to improve market linkages for FPOs.



### Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1767019>

## New National Highway as “Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg.”

**Question :** Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has announced naming of which new National Highway as “Shri Guru Nanak Dev Ji Marg.”

a) 703 AA b) 367 c) 275 d) 235

**Ans:(a)**

### Related facts:

- The road starting from Kapurthala connecting Goindwal Sahib and terminatin . near Taran Taran in Punjab has been declared as new National Highway
- 2 The naming would be effective from next month. The decision has been taken to mark the 550th Birth Anniversary of Shri Guru Nanak Dev
- About Guru Nanak Dev :
- Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikh faith, was born in 1469 at Nankana Sahib, near Lahore in the Punjab, India (now in Pakistan).
- His teaching can be found in the sacred Sikh scripture the Guru grant sahib which is collectionn of verses writer in Gurugranth sahib.



## Links :

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chandigarh/national-highway-in-punjab-named-as-guru-nanak-dev-ji-marg/articleshow/71638053.cms>

## India's first state-owned Wildlife DNA testing facility unveiled in Maharashtra

**Question: India's first state-owned Wildlife DNA testing facility unveiled in which of the following state?**

(a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Karnataka (c) Maharashtra (d) Uttrakhand

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- India's first state government-owned Wildlife DNA analysis laboratory has been inaugurated at Regional Forensic Science Laboratory in Maharashtra.
- Currently there are two central government-owned Wildlife DNA laboratory.
- These two laboratory are located at Dehradun and Hyderabad.
- The new facility will enable the authorities in Maharashtra to promptly get DNA reports of animals hit by man-wildlife conflict or menaces such as poaching, which until now, were sent to laboratories in Hyderabad or Dehradun for testing and authorities had to wait for months to get the report.



**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/mumbai/maharashtra-to-soon-get-its-first-facility-for-dna-testing-of-animals-7385100/>

## Lucknow and Ahmedabad become home to the two newest IPL franchises

**Question: Recently, (October 2021) Two new teams have been added for IPL 2022. What is the name of these two franchises?**

(a) Ahmedabad and Pune (b) Lucknow and Pune (c) Ahmedabad and Lucknow (d) Pune and Varanasi

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Lucknow and Ahmedabad become home to the two newest IPL franchises.
- RPSG Group and CVC Capital Partners bid a staggering sum of money – over USD 1.6 billion – to bag the two new teams.
- RPSG paid INR 7090 crore (USD 940 million approx) to buy the Lucknow franchise while CVC, a private equity fund, bought the Ahmedabad franchise for INR 5625 crore (USD 750 million approx).



**Reference:** <https://www.espn.com/story/ipl-2022-lucknow-and-ahmedabad-become-home-to-the-two-newest-ipl-franchises-1285125?platform=amp>

## UP's first Zika virus case found in Kanpur

**Question: UP's first Zika virus case found in which of the following City?**

(a) Lucknow (b) Varanasi (c) Prayagraj (d) Kanpur

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- UP's first Zika virus case found in Kanpur.
- A warrant officer of Indian Air Force was diagnosed with the infection.
- Blood sample was collected and sent to National Institute of Virology, Pune for a proper examination which confirmed that the patient was Zika virus-positive.
- Zika Virus spreads through the bite of an infected Aedes species mosquito.



**Reference:** <https://www.outlookindia.com/website/story/india-news-up-first-zika-virus-case-reported-in-kanpur-iaf-officer-infected/398658>

## Bathukamma Festival : Telangana

**Question: Bathukamma is flowers festival celebrated predominantly in which of the following state of India ?**

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Bathukamma is flowers festival celebrated predominantly in Telangana and some parts of Andhra Pradesh.
- Every year this festival is celebrated as per Sathavahana calendar for nine days starting Mahalaya Amavasya till Durgashtami, usually in September–October of Gregorian calendar.
- During the nine days of the festival, which usually coincides with the festivities of Navratri, women come together in groups to prepare ornate stacks using local flowers such as Celosia, Senna, Marigold, Lotus, Cucurbita, and Cucumis among others.
- This stack is called a Bathukamma and represents Goddess Maha Gauri and is worshipped for nine days.
- On the final day of the festival, Bathukamma is immersed in water bodies.
- After the formation of Telangana, the new government accorded Bathukamma the status of a state festival.



**Reference:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/lifestyle/travel/story/telangana-s-traditional-flower-festival-bathukamma-showcased-on-burj-khalifa-1869075-2021-10-25>

## Uttar Pradesh government renamed Faizabad station as Ayodhya Cantt

**Question: Which of the following state government has decided to rename the Faizabad Junction to Ayodhya Cantt railways station.**

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Utrakhand (c) Bihar (d) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Uttar Pradesh government has decided to rename the Faizabad Junction to Ayodhya Cantt railways station. T
- The Faizabad railway station comes under the Northern Railway zone.
- It falls under the Lucknow-Varanasi section.

**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/lucknow/adityanath-up-faizabad-railway-junction-renamed-as-ayodhya-cantt-7586384/>

## India's 1st card 'token' service for online platforms

**Question – Which company has launched India's first card-on-file tokenization service in October 2021?**

(a) Visa (b) MakeMyTrip (c) Mastercard (d) none of the above

**Answer—(a)**

**Related facts—**

- Digital payments firm Visa has recently (October 2021) launched Card-on-File (CoF) tokenization services in India in line with the recently issued guidelines by RBI.
- The aim of this service is to secure customers' financial data.
- Visa's card tokenisation service is currently available with ecommerce platforms such as Grofers, Bigbasket and MakeMyTrip.
- Tokenisation
- It is the process of replacing credit or debit card details with a unique set of characters or a 'token' that enables payments to be processed without exposing any sensitive account details that could potentially breach security and privacy of the consumers.
- It generates 16 random characters, called as 'token', to replace the original credit card number while online shopping.
- The tokenisation system returns the 16-digit random characters to the e-commerce site to replace the customer's credit card number in the system.
- CoF tokenisation provides two key benefits — consumer and ecosystem security and an enhanced checkout experience.



**Link:**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/visa-launches-india-s-1st-card-token-service-for-online-platforms-121100600931\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/visa-launches-india-s-1st-card-token-service-for-online-platforms-121100600931_1.html)

## Scale Based Regulation for NBFCs

**Question : RBI has recently (October 2021) announced scale-based regulatory framework for NBFCs. Accordingly, which of the following statement/s is/are correct ?**

**Statement —**

1. It will be effective from 1 October, 2022.
2. Regulatory structure for NBFCs shall comprise of four layers
3. There will be a ceiling of ₹1 crore per borrower for financing subscription to IPO

**Options —**

- a. Only 1. b. Only 2. c. Only 3. d. All of the above

**Ans. d.**

**Related facts —**



RBI has recently(October 2021) announced scale-based regulatory framework for NBFCs.

**Key points of the framework —**

1. It will be effective from 1 October, 2022.
2. Regulatory structure for NBFCs shall comprise of four layers.
3. The top ten eligible NBFCs in terms of their asset size will always reside in the upper layer, irrespective of any other factor.
4. The RBI has tweaked the NPA classification to more than 90 days for all categories of NBFCs.
5. There will be a ceiling of ₹1 crore per borrower for financing subscription to IPO.

**Link:**

<https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/NotificationUser.aspx?Id=12179&Mode=0>

## Aim to make India a Net Zero Greenhouse Gas Emission Nation by 2070

**Question – By which year India will have to increase its solar power capacity to 5630 GW to become a zero greenhouse gas emission nation?**

(a) by the year 2040 (b) by the year 2050 (c) by the year 2070 (d) by the year 2022

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts—**

- India's total installed solar power capacity will need to increase to 5630 gigawatt (GW) by 2070 in order to achieve net zero emissions.
- This information is recently(October 2021) disclosed by Council on Energy, Environment and Water.
- Consequently, the total corresponding land requirement for India's power generation assets, especially solar, would be approximately 4.6 percent, says the CEEW(Council on Energy, Environment and Water).
- In a first such assessment of different scenarios to achieve net zero emissions, 'Council on Energy, Environment and Water' has said that India would also need to develop the requisite recycling capacities to handle the solar PV waste generated.
- According to the CEEW study, in 2070, electric or battery-driven passenger vehicles would comprise 84 percent of all cars sold in the country.



- Further, 79 percent of all trucks would run on battery-electric technology and rest on hydrogen. Households across the country would also have to use electricity as the primary cooking fuel.
- The share of wind and nuclear energy in India’s electricity generation mix would have to increase to 1792 GW and 225 GW, respectively.

**Link:**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-needs-5630-gw-solar-capacity-by-2070-for-net-zero-emissions-study-7568988/>

## Lakhimpur Kheri Violence: Formation of Inquiry Commission

**Question – On 7 October 2021, the Uttar Pradesh government constituted a one-member commission under whose chairmanship to investigate the Lakhimpur Kheri violence?**

- (a) Justice BK Narayan (b) Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava  
(c) Justice Ravindra Singh (d) Justice Sanjay Mishra

**Answer—(b)**

**Related facts—**

- On 7 October 2021, the Uttar Pradesh government constituted a one-member commission under the chairmanship of Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava to investigate the Lakhimpur Kheri violence.
- Justice Pradeep Kumar Srivastava, a retired judge of the Allahabad High Court, will be the chairman of this commission.
- The commission will submit its report in two months.
- 8 people died in this violence.



**Link:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/up-sets-up-commission-to-probe-lakhimpur-kheri-violence/article36871303.ece>

## “Amrit Mahotsav Podcast”

**Question: Which ministry has recently launched a podcast on Freedom movement called “Amrit Mahotsav Podcast”?**

- a) Ministry of Tourism b) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting  
c) Ministry of Culture d) None of the above

**Ans; c**

**Recent Context**

- As a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to celebrate 75 years of Independence, Union Minister of Culture & Tourism G. K. Reddy launched “Amrit Mahotsav Podcast”.
- **Related News**
- Ministry of culture is organising Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav to celebrate 75 years of Independence and as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.



- “Amrit Mahotsav Podcast” series is a tribute to the persons and movements that significantly contributed to freedom struggle of India.
- The first series, Zara Yaad Karo Qurbani, went live with an episode based on the Indian National Army (also known as the Azad Hind Fauj).
- New episodes will be added on a weekly basis.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1766668>

## India, Kyrgyzstan hold first strategic dialogue in New Delhi

**Question: Consider the following statements**

**i) On October 26, 2021, India and Kyrgyzstan held their first strategic dialogue in New Delhi.**

**ii) Capital of Kyrgyzstan is Dushanbe.**

**Which of the above are correct?**

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

**Ans: i**

**Recent Context**



- On October 26, 2021, India and Kyrgyzstan held their first strategic dialogue in New Delhi.
- **Related Facts**
- The Indian side was led by National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and the Kyrgyz side was led by Secretary of Security Council Lieutenant General Marat Imankulov.
- During the summit, both the countries agreed to enhance security & defence cooperation.
- The cooperation seeks to address common threats and challenges faced by them.
- Regional security environment with special focus on Afghanistan was discussed.
- Both agreed upon steps for enhancing bilateral security cooperation among relevant bodies, such as fields of counterterrorism, narcotics control, combating radicalisation, and defence cooperation.
- Kyrgyzstan is a mountainous landlocked country in Central Asia. It is bordered by Kazakhstan to the north, Uzbekistan to the west, Tajikistan to the south, and China to the east. Its capital and largest city is Bishkek.

Reference: <https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=India%2C-Kyrgyzstan-hold-first-strategic-dialogue-in-New-Delhi&id=428719>

## ‘Swasth Mahila, Swasth Goa’ Initiative

**Question: Consider the following statements about ‘Swasth Mahila, Swasth Goa’ Initiative-**

**i) It is recently launched in Goa by “YouWeCan Foundation” in partnership with SBI foundation.**

**ii) Under this initiative, breast cancer screening will be conducted at 35 Health Centres across Goa.**

**Which of the above are correct?**

a) I b) ii c) both i and ii d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

**Recent Context**

- Former cricketer Yuvraj Singh’s YouWeCan Foundation has launched the ‘Swasth Mahila, Swasth Goa’ initiative in partnership with SBI Foundation and Goa government.
- **Related Facts**
- Under the initiative, free breast cancer screening will be done using “iBreast devices”.
- Around 1 lakh women will be screened over a period of two years.
- Initiative would ensure that, 50 percent of the eligible female population in Goa is screened.
- The screening will be conducted at 35 health centres across Goa along with multiple outreach camps.
- Under the initiative, free treatment will be provided for all the positive cases. For treating them, government of Goa will also extend its support.
- YouWeCan Foundation’s project team will facilitate training and capacity-building of the government health workers and auxiliary nurse midwives to screen for breast cancer using iBreast device.
- Funding will be provided by “Indian Institute of Banking & Finance” as well as SBI Foundation.

**Reference:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/goa/free-breast-screening-for-1-lakh-women-at-35-health-centres/articleshow/87290397.cms>

## Kushinagar International Airport inaugurated by the PM Modi

**Question: Recently, Who inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport in Uttar Pradesh ?**

(a) Anandiben Patel (b) Narendra Modi (c) Amit Shah (d) Yogi Adityanath

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Kushinagar International Airport.
- The airport has been built at an estimated cost of Rs. 260 crore, by the Airport Authority of India.
- Kushinagar airport is key for better connectivity and benefit of pilgrims.
- Kushinagar has an important place on the global Buddhist map because of its rich heritage.
- Kushinagar is the final resting place of Gautama Buddha, where he attained Mahaparinirvana after his death.
- The Airports Authority of India or AAI is a statutory body, under the jurisdiction of Directorate General of Civil Aviation, Ministry of Civil Aviation, Government of India.
- It is responsible for creating, upgrading, maintaining and managing civil aviation infrastructure in India.
- AAI was founded in 1995.



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/photos/news/pm-modi-inaugurates-kushinagar-airport-in-up-101634800427891.html>

Swasth Haryana app

**Question – Which mobile application was launched by Haryana Health Minister Anil Vij in October 2021 to provide relief to patients from long queues in hospitals?**

(a) Swasth-Clean Haryana (b) Swasth Haryana (c) My Haryana (d) Clean Haryana

**Answer—(b)**

**Related facts—**

- Swasth Haryana mobile application was launched by Haryana Health Minister Anil Vij in October 2021 to provide relief to patients from long queues in hospitals.
- Through this initiative, patients can get themselves registered at any Civil Hospital of the state.
- Swasth Haryana app was also available on the Google Play Store.
- **Features of the app —**

1. registration of patients in advance along with demographic information of patients
2. Patients will have access to their past registration records and can visit any health institute and OPD of their choice.
3. Furthermore, the patients will be able to download their test reports on their mobile phones and patients will also get information about the nearest blood bank through this App.



**Link:**

<https://www.tribuneindia.com/news/haryana/vij-launches-swasth-haryana-app-326897>

## India's largest green hydrogen plant to be built by GAIL

**Question: Which of the following Indian government-owned crude oil and natural gas corporation will build the India's largest green hydrogen plant?**

(a) ONGC (b) NTPC (c) IOC (d) GAIL

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- GAIL (India) Ltd will build India's largest green hydrogen plant in the next 12-14 months.
- It will supplement its natural gas business with carbon-free fuel.
- This hydrogen plant is planned is for 10MW capacity, the largest announced so far in the country.
- The hydrogen Gail plans to produce can be sold to fertiliser units which as per government mandate are required to use hydrogen as fuel.
- Hydrogen is the latest buzz as it is a clean fuel but manufacturing it causes carbon by-products and it is energy-intensive.
- Hydrogen is also said to be a fuel for the future.



- GAIL Limited is a government owned natural gas corporation responsible for natural gas processing and distribution in India.
- It's headquartered in GAIL Bhawan New Delhi, India.
- It is under the ownership of Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India.
- It was founded in 1984.

**Reference:** <https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/indias-largest-green-hydrogen-plant-to-be-built-by-gail-11634815896991.html>

## Election Commission of India launched Garuda App

**Question: Which of the following launched the Garuda App for digital mapping of polling booths?**

- (a) Reserve bank of India (b) Election commission of India (c) NITI Aayog  
(d) Finance Commission of India

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Election Commission of India (ECI) introduced the Garuda app for the digital mapping of all polling stations.
- Data like latitude and longitude of the polling stations have to be added by the Booth Level Officers (BLO) to ensure faster, smarter, transparent and timely completion of election work.
- Election Commission of India was formed on 25 January 1950.
- The headquarter of Election Commission of India is in New Delhi.
- The current Chief Election Commissioner of India is Sushil Chandra.



**Reference:** <https://www.republicworld.com/india-news/elections/election-commission-of-india-launches-garuda-app-for-digital-mapping-of-polling-booths.html>

## National Tribal Dance Festival

**Question: Which city will host National Tribal Dance Festival from October 28 2021 to October 30 2021?**

- a) Delhi b) Lucknow c) Raipur d) Jaipur

**Ans: c**

**Related Facts**

- National Tribal Dance Festival will take place in Raipur, Chhattisgarh from October 28.
- Indian and international dance groups will take part in the National Tribal Dance Festival.
- The three-day festival, organised under the tourism development plan of the Chhattisgarh government, will host artists belonging to diverse tribal communities from countries, including Uzbekistan, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Syria, Mali, Palestine, and Kingdom of Eswatini.



- The artists from tribal areas of Bastar, Dantewada, Koriya, Korba, Bilaspur, Gariabandh, Mainpur, Dhura, Dhamtari, Surguja and Jashpur in Chhattisgarh will present their own distinctive history, culture and traditions.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/festivals/raipur-to-host-national-tribal-dance-festival-from-october-28-to-30-101635169399932.html>

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Monday launched the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission

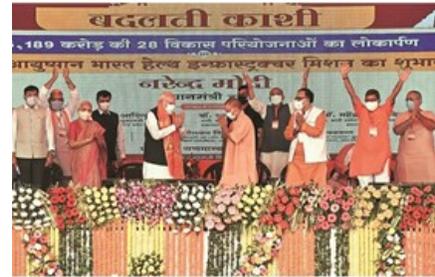
**Question: On 25th October 2021 PM Modi launched Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission from which place?**

- a) Delhi b) Lucknow c) Varanasi d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

**Context**

- On 25th October 2021 Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission worth Rs 64,000 crore in his parliamentary constituency Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.



- **Related Facts**

- Mission has been launched to address gaps and strengthen the critical health care network from village and block to the district and national level in the next four to five years.
- Elaborate facilities for diagnostics and treatment including health and wellness centers are being opened in villages as well as cities as part of this Mission.
- For serious illness, 35 thousand new critical care-related beds are being added in 600 districts and referral facilities will be given in 125 districts.
- As part of the scheme, 730 districts of the country will get integrated public health labs, 3,000 blocks would get block public health units.
- A national institution for one health, four new national institutes for virology, a regional research platform for WHO South East Asia Region, nine biosafety level-III laboratories, five new regional national centre for disease control will also be set up under the Mission.
- Through PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission an entire ecosystem for services from treatment to critical research will be created in every corner of the country.

**Reference:** [https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/pm-launches-ayushman-bharat-health-infrastructure-mission-in-varanasi-121102500923\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/pm-launches-ayushman-bharat-health-infrastructure-mission-in-varanasi-121102500923_1.html)

## PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission

**Question : On which date 'PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission' launched by Prime Minister ?**

- A October 25 B October 24 C October 23 D October 22

**And (A)**

**Related facts —**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission' on October 25, 2021.
- Prime Minister also inaugurated various development projects worth around Rs 5200 crore for Varanasi.
- Through PM Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission an entire ecosystem for services from treatment to critical research will be created in every corner of the country.
- There are 3 major aspects of the Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission to address the different gaps in the health sector of the country.
- The first is related to the creation of elaborate facilities for diagnostics and treatment.
- The second aspect of the scheme is related to the testing network for the diagnosis of diseases.
- The Third aspect, according to the Prime Minister, is the expansion of existing research institutions that study pandemics.



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1766289>

## Azadi Amrut Chai

**Question: which of the following company launched recently a special Azadi Amrit Chai to commemorate the 75th year of India's Independence?**

- a) TATA b) Maharani c) M/s Andrew Yule and Company Limited d) None of these

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Recently Azadi Amrut Chai has been launched to commemorate the 75th year of India's Independence and to celebrate Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- Central Public Sector Enterprise in Tea Sector under Ministry of Heavy Industries M/s Andrew Yule and Company Limited has launched this special tea.
- The company came out with a series of Azadi Amrut Chai in Orthodox, Elaichi, Adrakh and Masala flavors.
- This tea was launched by Heavy Industries Minister Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey.
- It will be available for retail sale soon at an introductory price of 75 rupees per 100 grams pack at Tea Board counter of Parliament, Trifed outlets, Udyog Bhawan and other Central Government offices.
- M/s Andrew Yule and Company Limited is a 158 years old company and has 15 Tea Gardens spread over Assam and West Bengal having close to 14 thousand employees.
- Companies all gardens are more than 100 years old producing 110 Lakh Kgs of high quality, CTC, Orthodox, Green and White Tea.



**Links:-**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Azadi-Amrut-Chai-in-Orthodox%2c-Elaichi%2c-Adrakh-and-Masala-flavors-launched&id=428591>

**Question – The ‘India Ideas Summit’ was held virtually from 6 to 7 October 2021.**

**The theme of this conference is–**

- (a) Creating a better environment (b) Building a better future
- (c) From recovery to resurgence (d) Revive the Business

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts —**

- The ‘India Ideas Summit’ was held virtually from 6 to 7 October 2021.
- The summit was organized by the US-India Business Council (USIBC).
- The theme of this Summit is “From Recovery to Resurgence”.
- The USIBC was formed in the year 1975.



**Link:**

[https://www.usibc.com/event/india-ideas-summit-2/?event\\_id=3817](https://www.usibc.com/event/india-ideas-summit-2/?event_id=3817)

## Varanasi to become first Indian city to use ropeway services for public transportation

**Question: Which of the following city will become the first Indian city to use ropeway services for public transportation?**

- (a) Lucknow (b) Prayagraj (c) Varanasi (d) Noida

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Varanasi will become the first city in India to use ropeway services in public transportation.
- Varanasi will be the third city in the world after Bolivia and Mexico City to use ropeway in public transportation.
- The total cost of the ropeway project is Rs 424 crore.
- The total distance of 4.2 km will be covered in just 15 minutes.
- Nearly, 220 cable cars will run on the ropeway.



**Reference:** <https://www.india.com/news/varanasi-to-become-first-city-in-india-to-use-ropeway-services-for-public-transportation-5017008/>

## Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicates 7 new Defence PSUs to the nation

**Question: PM Narendra Modi dedicates how many new Defence PSUs to the nation?**

- (a) 5 (b) 7 (c) 9 (d) 11

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated seven new Defence PSUs, carved out of OFBs, to the nation.
- The assets of the OFB including its 41 ordnance factories were transferred to the seven new firms.
- The target should be that the companies not only establish expertise in their products but also become global brands.
- **The seven new defence PSUs are listed below:**



1. Armoured Vehicles Nigam Ltd
2. Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd
3. Troop Comforts Ltd
4. Yantra India Ltd
5. India Optel Ltd
6. Gliders India Ltd
7. Munition India Ltd

**Reference:** [https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/on-vijayadashami-pm-modi-launches-7-defence-psus-carved-out-of-ofb-121101500531\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/on-vijayadashami-pm-modi-launches-7-defence-psus-carved-out-of-ofb-121101500531_1.html)

## India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF)

**Question: The India Internet Government Forum is an initiative, associated with which of the following forum?**

- a) UN Internet Governance Forum (UN-IGF) b) NITI Aayog c) NeoGAF d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 8th to 11th of November, 2021; India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) will be conducted in New Delhi.
- It is being conducted to bring all stakeholders of internet governance on a single platform.
- IIGF will be conducted jointly by Ministry of Electronics and IT, NIXI and Multistakeholder Group.
- The theme of IIGF 2021 is 'Empower India through Power of Internet'.
- The event will witness enlightening discussions on the road to Digitization in India. The salient feature of the event will be the three plenary sessions on themes-



- i. India & Internet- India's Digital Journey and Her Global Role.
- ii. Equity, Access & Quality – High-speed Internet for All and-
- iii. Cyber Norms and Ethics in Internet Governance.

- In this regard a curtain-raiser event of IIGF was held on 21 October 2021;
- It concluded with an interesting insight into the roadmap for Digitisation in India.
- The curtain raiser event is precursor to future event of IIGF to held in New Delhi in November.

- Minister of State, Electronics & Information Technology, Government of India, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar at IIGF Curtain Raiser event expressed that Voice of internet users should resound in National and International forums.
- He said that Internet should be a open, safe, trusted and accountable to its stakeholders.
- The objective of the curtain raiser event was to discuss and deliberate on the roadmap to digitisation.
- It also discussed that through IIGF India should reaffirm as an essential participant on the global stage.
- They are of the view that India should highlight its role and importance in the International Policy development on Internet Governance.
- The event commenced with the lighting of the inaugural lamp by Chief Guests Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar, Minister of State, Electronics & Information Technology.
- About IIGF:
- The India Internet Government Forum is an initiative associated with the UN Internet Governance Forum (UN-IGF).
- The Internet Governance Forum (IGF) is a multi-stakeholder platform bringing representatives together from various groups to discuss public policy issues related to the Internet.

**Links:-**

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1765476>

**“Maharatna” status to PFC**

**Question – On October 12, 2021, the central government gave Maharatna status to the public sector company Power Finance Corporation Ltd. After this the total number of Maharatna companies became**

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

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts—**

- On October 12, 2021, the central government gave Maharatna status to the public sector company Power Finance Corporation Ltd.
- After this the total number of Maharatna companies has gone up to 11.
- **Other Public Sector Undertakings which have been accorded Maharatna status by the Central Government are as follows:**
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. (BHEL)
- Coal India Ltd. (CIL)
- GAIL India Ltd. (GIL)
- Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL)
- NTPC Ltd. (NTPC Ltd.)
- Oil & Natural Gas Ltd. (ONG)
- STEEL AUTHORITY OF INDIA LTD. (SAIL)
- Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL)
- Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL)
- Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd.



- It is to be known that the 'Maharatna Yojana' was launched by the Central Government in February 2010.
- The objective of the scheme is to enable large Central Public Sector Undertakings (CPSEs) to expand their business and emerge as the world's largest company.
- 'Maharatna' Central PSUs can invest Rs 5,000 crore in a project.

**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1763313>

## National Police Commemoration Day : 21 October

**Question: On which of the following date National Police Commemoration Day is observed?**

(a) 21 October (b) 25 October (c) First Sunday of October (d) 21 November

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Police Commemoration Day is observed on October 21 every year.
- The day is marked to remember and honour the brave policemen who have laid down their lives in the line of duty.
- The Police Commemoration Day remembers the ultimate sacrifice of 10 police personnel who lost their lives on October 21, 1959 in Ladakh while fighting the Chinese army.
- Last year (2020) tributes were also paid to the cops who lost their lives due to the coronavirus disease (Covid-19) pandemic.



Reference: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/police-commemoration-day-tributes-pour-in-for-braveheart-cops-101634782030818.html>

## India ranked third in the 58th edition of EY's 'Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index'

**Question: India ranked at what position in the 58th edition of EY's 'Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index'?**

(a) 3<sup>rd</sup> (b) 1<sup>st</sup> (c) 2<sup>nd</sup> (d) 4<sup>th</sup>

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- India ranked third in the 58th edition of EY's 'Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index'.
- It is released by consultancy firm EY.
- The USA and China are in first and second place, respectively.
- The Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI) ranks the world's top 40 markets on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities.
- It is a binaural report being released since 2003.

## Healthy Smile mobile app

**Question: Which of the following organisation has recently launched Healthy Smile mobile app?**

a) AIIMS b) WHO c) UNSEF d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 14 October 2021; Healthy Smile mobile app has been launched by the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS).
- The app was launched to spread awareness on maintaining oral hygiene among children right from infancy.
- Department of Paediatric and Preventive Dentistry, with the help of AIIMS has developed this app.
- This app will motivate the children to brush twice a day and provide information on keeping dental decay under control through simple home care measures.
- A musical two-minute brushing timer along with preventive dental care tips for all age groups of children, child-friendly colourful panels will be displayed through the app.
- It comprises motivational songs, FAQs & oral care tips during pregnancy and brushing illustration videos.
- Among the paediatric population of India there are dental caries found to be prevalent up to the extent of 40-50 per cent.
- The development of the dental health education app for children will help bring good oral hygiene habits from early childhood.



**Links:-**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/aiims-launches-dental-hygiene-app-for-children-7571039/>

## Extension in Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package

**Question : How many days of Extension have been done recently in 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package'(Health Workers) ?**

a. 180 days b. 120 days c. 30 days d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- 'Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Package'(Health Workers) scheme has recently(October 2021) been extended for a further period of 180 days.
- The current period of the policy is ending on 20.10.2021.
- The scheme was launched on 30.03.2020 to provide comprehensive personal accident cover of Rs. 50 Lakh to 22.12 lakh health care providers including



community health workers and private health workers who may have been in direct contact and care of COVID-19 patients and may be at risk of being impacted by this.

- So far 1351 Claims have been settled under the scheme.

**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1765273>

## Tamil Nadu's 'Kanniyakumari Clove' got GI Tag

**Question: Which state has recently got GI tag for Kanyakumari clove?**

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Tamil Nadu's 'Kanniyakumari Clove' got GI Tag.
- Kanyakumari Clove grown in the hills of Kanyakumari district in Tamil Nadu.
- In India, the total production of cloves is 1,100 metric tons and of this, 1,000 metric tons is produced in Tamil Nadu every year while 750 metric tons of cloves are produced in the Kanyakumari district alone.
- Due to the moderate temperature prevailing in Kanyakumari district, the fragrances in the cloves evaporate in small quantities, thus making it possible to obtain concentrated essential oils.
- A GI tag is awarded to products associated with a specific geographical origin.
- Award of a GI sign not only helps in tracing the origins of products but also helps in confirming authenticity and marketing of indigenous specialities.
- GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/geographical-indication-tag-for-kanniyakumari-clove/article36907927.ece>

## Gati Shakti National Master Plan

**Question: Which of the following is true about PM Gati Shakti mission?**

- a) It is a mission to boost infrastructure development in the country.  
b) It is a mission to increase Renewable energy production in the country.  
c) People of India, Indian industry, Indian business, Indian manufacturers, Indian farmers are at the centre of Gati Shakti Mission.  
d) None of the above

**Ans: a and c**

**Context**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a Rs 100 lakh crore national master plan called "Gati Shakti National Master Plan" on October 13, 2021.
- He also inaugurated the New Exhibition Complex at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- Related Facts



- It is a Rs. 100 lakh-crore national infrastructure master plan for developing 'holistic infrastructure'.
- This scheme of more than 100 lakh crores rupees will result in new employment opportunities for lakhs of youth.
- The plan will help raise the global profile of local manufacturers and help them compete with their counterparts worldwide.
- Under the plan, infrastructure schemes of several ministries and state governments will be executed and designed with a common vision.
- The PM Gati Shakti Plan also aims to reduce logistic cost and turnaround time in the light that, earlier high logistics cost at 13 per cent of GDP in India was impacting its competitiveness in exports. Plan will also give a boost to India as an "investment destination".
- With the development of quality infrastructure, India can realize the dream of becoming the business capital of India.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1763576>

## India's Plastic Waste Recycling Targets

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

**i) The Union environment ministry has released a draft notification to regulate the extended producer responsibility (EPR) under the "Plastic Waste Management Rules 2016".**

**ii) As per draft EPR target of the producers will increase to 70% in 2022-23 while it will be 100%, 2023-24 onwards.**

**Which of the above two are correct?**

a) I b) ii c) i and ii d) None

**Ans: c**

**Context**



- On October 6 2021 the Union environment ministry has come out with a draft notification for regulation of extended producer responsibility (EPR) under plastic waste management rules 2016.
- **Related Facts**
- The draft specifies the quantity of waste that will have to be managed by producers, importers and brand owners who generate plastic packaging waste in India.
- EPR means the responsibility of a producer for the environmentally sound management of the product (plastic packaging) until the end of its life.
- **Three categories of Plastic Packaging**
- EPR covers following categories of plastic packaging:
  - Rigid Plastic Packaging
  - Flexible Plastic Packaging of single layer or multilayer (greater than one layer with several types of plastic)
  - Plastic sheets, carry bags (including those made up of compostable plastics) & plastic sachet or pouches
  - Multi-layered plastic packaging.
- **Other provisions of the draft**
- Draft notes that, in 2021-22, producers of plastic packaging waste are required to manage 35% of the 'Q1' waste in metric tons.

- Q 1 is the average weight of plastic packaging material (category-wise and state wise) sold in the last two years plus average quantity of pre-consumer plastic packaging waste (generated before product reaches the consumer) in the last two financial years minus the annual quantity of plastic packaging supplied to brand owners (BO) including online platforms/marketplaces and supermarkets/retail chains etc during the previous year.
- EPR target of the producers will increase to 70% in 2022-23 while it will be 100%, 2023-24 onwards.
- Similar EPR targets will be applicable for importers and brand owners but the quantity would be different on the basis of quantity of packaging waste which they are responsible for.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/producers-given-targets-to-manage-their-plastic-packaging-waste-in-draft-epr-notification-101633786474802.html>

## India joins Seychelles' Tax Inspectors Without Borders programme

**Question: India joins which of the following country in Tax Inspectors Without Border Programme?**

(a) Seychelles (b) Kenya (c) Somalia (d) Somaliland

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) has launched its programme in Seychelles and India has been chosen as the Partner Administration for this programme.
- This programme is expected to be of 12 months duration.
- India, in collaboration with the TIWB Secretariat and support of the UNDP Country Office in Mauritius and Seychelles aims to aid Seychelles in strengthening its tax administration by transferring technical know-how and skills to its tax auditors through sharing of best audit practices.
- TIWB is a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), since its launch in 2015.
- This programme is the sixth TIWB programme which India has supported by providing Tax Expert.



**Reference:** <https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/tax-inspectors-without-borders-launches-programme-in-seychelles-with-indias-partnership20211004214848>

## ‘Desh Ke Mentor’ Programme

**Question: Which state/UT government has launched ‘Desh Ke Mentor’ Programme recently?**

a) Delhi b) Uttar Pradesh c) Rajasthan d) Tamilnadu

**Ans: a**

**Context**

- The Delhi government launched its “Desh ke Mentors” programme on October 11, 2021.

- **Related Facts**
- This programme will be implemented across all the schools in Delhi.
- This programme was launched with the aim of providing students with young mentors.
- Under the programme nine lakh students of classes 9 to 12 in Delhi government schools will be connected with noteworthy citizens who will offer them career and general guidance.
- The mentors will engage with students over the phone for 10-15 minutes daily to guide them on various aspects of life.
- Interested citizens from across the country can become mentors by registering on the Desh ke Mentors app.
- Mentors from various professional and academic backgrounds, between the ages of 18-35, will guide and support 2-5 students studying in Delhi government schools.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/delhi-news/delhi-cm-launches-desh-ke-mentors-programme-101633975509671.html>

## NITI Aayog: Handbook on Sustainable urban plastic waste management

**Question: NITI Aayog has collaborated with which other organization to launch a handbook on Sustainable urban plastic waste management?**

- a) United Nation World Food Program b) United Nation Development Program  
c) TERI d) None of the above

**Ans: b**

**Context**



- On 11th October 2021, the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, Rajiv Kumar, launched the “NITI Aayog – United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Handbook on Sustainable Urban Plastic Waste Management”.
- **Related Facts**
- NITI Aayog and UNDP India launched a handbook to promote sustainable management of plastic waste in the country.
- The report has been jointly developed by UNDP India and NITI Aayog, in consultation with eminent experts and leading organizations in the domain of plastic waste.
- The handbook is a repository of 18 case studies/best practices from India, including 4 from south Asian countries.
- Repository is divided into four major components:
  - Technical models for recycling
  - Material Recovery Facilities (MRF)
  - Governance for effective plastic waste management
  - IEC and Digitization.
- It covers every aspect of plastic waste management service chain.
- It will also enable the Urban Local Bodies and other stakeholders involved in this sector in order to learn from successful business and service models.
- It mentions 10 pillars of change for Central Zoo Authority (CZA) & Indian zoos as well as specific targets & timelines for achieving the ‘Call to Action’ which needs to be realized in 10 years.

- The book covers every aspect of the entire plastic waste management service chain and will enable Urban Local Bodies and other stakeholders involved in the sector to learn from the successful business and service models covered under this handbook to plan for efficient plastic waste management in their cities according to their requirements and guideline.

**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1763333>

## New Airline Akasa Air got NOC from MoCA to Operate

**Question: New Airline Akasa Air which recently got NOC from ministry of civil Aviation, to operate, related to which of the following Indian business magnate and investor ?**

a) Mukesh Ambani b) Rakesh Jhunjhunwala c) Ritesh Malik d) Anil Ambani

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 11 October 2021; SNV Aviation Pvt Ltd announced that the Ministry of Civil Aviation has given a no objection certificate (NOC) to new airline 'Akasa Air' for the operation.
- It should be noted that Rakesh Jhunjhunwala-backed SNV Aviation Pvt Ltd will fly under the brand name Akasa Air in India.
- Vinay Dube, CEO of Akasa Air said that they were extremely happy and grateful to the Ministry of Civil Aviation for their support and for granting the NOC.
- He said that the company will continue to work with the regulatory authorities on all additional compliance required to successfully launch Akasa Air.
- He further said that Akasa Air would serve all Indians regardless of their socio-economic or cultural backgrounds with warmth, inclusiveness and respect.
- Rakesh Jhunjhunwala:-
- Rakesh Jhunjhunwala is an Indian business magnate and investor.
- He manages his own portfolio as a partner in his asset management firm, Rare Enterprises.



**Links:-**

[https://www.indiatoday.in/business/story/rakesh-jhunjhunwala-backed-akasa-air-gets-no-objection-certificate-from-civil-aviation-ministry-to-begin-ops-by-2022-1863616-2021-10-11?utm\\_source=fbshare&utm\\_medium=socialicons&utm\\_campaign=shareurltracking](https://www.indiatoday.in/business/story/rakesh-jhunjhunwala-backed-akasa-air-gets-no-objection-certificate-from-civil-aviation-ministry-to-begin-ops-by-2022-1863616-2021-10-11?utm_source=fbshare&utm_medium=socialicons&utm_campaign=shareurltracking)

## MyPortApp

**Question: Which of the following Union Minister launched a port mobile application named MyPortApp recently?**

a) Sarbananda Sonowal b) S Jaishankar c) Amit Shah d) Rajnath Singh

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 08 October 2021 Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched a port mobile application named 'MyPortApp' in Kolkata.



**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- UP govt launched Nirbhaya-Ek Pahal programme under mission Shakti.
- It will benefit over 75,000 women.
- 75,000 women will get connected with state banks, get loans at cheaper interest rates and be able to avail benefits of state subsidies under the PM Mudra Yojana within three months.

**Reference:** <https://www.timesnownews.com/india/article/mission-shakti-yogi-adityanath-launches-nirbhaya-ek-pahal-in-up-75000-women-to-benefit-from-various-govt-schemes/818107>

## Prime Minister Modi launched Jal Jeevan Mission app

**Question: Who has launched the newly designed Jal Jeevan Mission mobile application?**

(a) Amit Shah (b) Narendra Modi (c) Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (d) Ram Nath Kovind

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a newly designed Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) mobile application on Gandhi Jayanti.
- The app would enable anyone to fund provision of tap water in rural parts of India.
- The prime minister also released the progress report of the JJM and a manual for the utilisation of the 15th Finance Commission grant for rural local bodies.
- The JJM was launched in 2019 by the Union Ministry of Jal Shakti to ensure 100 per cent functional tap water supply in rural areas by 2024.



**Reference:** <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/national/pm-modi-launches-jal-jeevan-mission-app/article36803916.ece>

## Himachal Pradesh became 1st state to organised cultivation of dalchini

**Question: Which of the following state has become 1st state to organised cultivation of dalchini?**

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Himachal Pradesh became 1st state to organised cultivation of dalchini.
- The CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bio resource Technology (IHBT) has introduced cinnamon cultivation in Himachal Pradesh on a pilot basis.
- India imports 45,318 tonnes of Cinnamon annually from Sri Lanka, China, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Nepal.



- Of the 45,318 tonnes of imports, 37, 166 tonnes of Cinnamomum cassia (species banned in various countries) are imported by India from China, Vietnam, and Indonesia.
- It will cut down India's import of cinnamon worth Rs. 909 crores per annum.
- Cinnamon, most commonly known as Dalchini, is an evergreen bushy tree whose bark is primarily used as a spice.
- CSIR stands for Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
- It was established in 1942 as an autonomous body.
- It is the largest research and development organisation in India.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/cinnamon-cultivation-introduced-in-himachal-101633008632348.html>

## Assam launched India's first e-fish market app

**Question:** Which of the following state has launched India's first e-fish market app?

(a) Assam (b) Nagaland (c) Sikkim (d) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer:** (a)

**Related Facts:**

- Assam Minister for Fisheries, Environment and Forest and Excise, Parimal Suklabaidya launched an App Fishwaale, India's first e-fish market.
- This App has been developed by Aqua Blue Global Aquaculture Solutions Pvt. Ltd. in collaboration with Fisheries department.
- This App is a one stop solution for Aquaculture.
- it will help the fish farming community to get reasonable price for their produce and lead to elimination of middlemen.



**Reference:** <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/in-a-first-e-fish-market-app-fishwaale-launched-in-this-state-11633452109052.html>

## Andhra Pradesh government launched 'Swechha' programme

**Question:** Recently, Which state has launched the Swechha Program?

(a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Karnataka (c) Kerala (d) Telangana

**Answer:** (a)

**Related Facts:**

- Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched the 'Swechha' program.
- This program will tackle the stigma attached to menstruation, prioritize female personal hygiene, and encourage a healthy dialogue of information.
- Under this initiative the state government will provide good quality branded sanitary napkins to female students at government educational institutions free of cost.
- A total of 120 napkins per year is allotted to every female student.

**Reference:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/vijayawada/cm-launches-swechha-scheme-for-adolescent-girl-students/articleshow/86791330.cms>

## India Joins High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

**i) On 7th October in New Delhi, India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition (HAC) for Nature and People.**

**ii) HAC is a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect 30×30.**

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

a) I b) ii c) Both i and ii d) None

**Ans: c**

**Context**



- India has officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, on October 7, 2021.
- **Related Facts**
- India joined the HAC at a ceremony held between the French and Indian governments on 7th October in New Delhi.
- India's announcement comes in the lead up to a high-level biodiversity meeting, hosted by China.
- The virtual meeting to take place from October 11-15 will tackle key aspects of the biodiversity treaty to be finalized in 2022.
- The global 30×30 goal is currently a centerpiece of the treaty, known as the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework.
- **About HAC**
- HAC is a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect 30×30. It was initiated at the "One Planet Summit" in Paris in January 2021.
- HAC members currently include a mix of countries in the global north and south; European, Latin American, Africa and Asia countries are among the members.
- India is the first of the BRICS bloc of major emerging economies (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) to join the HAC.
- **About global goal to protect 30×30**
- It is basically a global biodiversity protection goal. Goal states that:-
- As per scientist in order to prevent mass extinctions and bolster resilience to climate change, at least 30 percent of our lands, rivers, lakes, and wetlands must be protected by 2030.
- At least 30 percent of our oceans must also be fully and highly protect by 2030 to help safeguard marine ecosystems and fisheries that provide food, jobs, and cultural sustenance to billions around the world.

**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1761855>

## State of the Education Report (SOER) for India

**Question: World Teacher's Day is celebrated on which of the following date?**

a) October 5 b) October 10 c) October 6 d) September 5

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 05 October 2021; on the occasion of World Teacher’s Day, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launched its 2021 State of the Education Report (SOER) for India: “No Teacher, No Class”.
- This publication is the annual flagship report of UNESCO New Delhi and it is based on extensive research.
- This third edition of the State of Education Report focused on the theme of teachers, teaching and teacher education.
- it underscores that the work of teaching is complex and attempts to provide an understanding of key aspects of the teaching profession.
- It provides a profile of the 9.6 million teaching workforce, as well as the challenges of their intricate teaching routine and their professional development.
- The National Education Policy (NEP), adopted in 2020, acknowledges teachers as crucial elements in the learning process.
- The NEP stressed the importance of their recruitment, continuous professional development, good work environment and service conditions.
- UNESCO State of the Education report for India 2021 aims to serve as a reference for enhancing the implementation of the NEP
- It has done an in-depth analysis of the current state of teachers in India, highlighting best practices and the realization of the SDG.4 target 4c on teachers.
- The report also looks at teachers’ experience of ICT and the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic on the teaching profession.
- The ongoing pandemic has drawn attention to the centrality of the profession and the importance of quality of teaching.



**Links:-**

<https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-launches-2021-state-education-report-india-no-teacher-no-class>

## SVAMITVA: PM distributes 1.7 lakh e-property cards in M.P

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

**i) On 6th October 2021 PM Narendra Modi distributed e-property cards to 1,71,000 beneficiaries in Madhya Pradesh under the SVAMITVA scheme.**

**ii) SVAMITVA scheme is being implemented by Ministry of Panchayati Raj.**

**Which of the above are correct?**

a) I b) ii c) i and ii d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

**Context**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with the beneficiaries of Svamitva scheme in Madhya Pradesh virtually on October 6, 2021.
- **Related Facts**
- PM also distributed e-property cards to 1,71,000 beneficiaries under the SVAMITVA scheme.
- **About SVAMITVA Scheme**



- SVAMITVA (Survey of villages and mapping with improvised technology in village areas) scheme is a initiative of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj.
- It aims to provide rural people with the right to document their residential properties so that they can use their property for economic purposes.
- The scheme is for surveying the land parcels in rural inhabited area using Drone technology.
- The survey shall be done across the country in a phase wise manner over the period 2020 -2025 .
- The scheme is proposed as a Central Sector scheme with a projected outlay of Rs 79.65 crores for the pilot phase (FY 2020 -21).

**Reference:** <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/pm-modi-to-distribute-1-7-lakh-e-property-cards-in-madhya-pradesh-on-wednesday-11633431276549.html>

## National Road Safety Board

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

- i) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has notified constitution of the National Road Safety Board.
- ii) The Head Office of the Board shall be in the National Capital Region.
- iii) The Board shall be responsible for promoting road safety, innovation and adoption of new technology and for regulating traffic and motor vehicles.

**Which of the above statements are correct?**

- a) I b)iii,ii c) i, ii,iii d) None

**Ans: c**

**Context**



- Recently Ministry of Road Transport & Highways has notified constitution of the National Road Safety Board, along with Rules.
- Related Facts
- National Road Safety Board will function as a lead agency at national level to deal with the matters relating with road safety.
- It will promote road safety, innovation and adoption of new technology .
- It will also provide inputs for regulating traffic and motor vehicles.
- The board is made with an eye on integrating efforts in collaboration with states to reduce road crashes and improve all aspects of safety.
- Head office of the board
- The Head Office of National Road Safety Board will be established in the National Capital Region.
- Board might establish offices at other places as well in India.
- Members of the board
- The road safety board will comprise of the Chairman.
- Apart from that, there will be 3 to 7 expert members.
- All the members will be appointed by the Central Government.
- The provision for establishment of the board was provisioned in the Motor Vehicle Amendment Act 2019.
- Functions of the board
- Formulate,

- (a) specific standards for road safety, traffic management and road construction for hilly regions;
- (b) guidelines for capacity building and development of skills for traffic police, hospital authorities, highway authorities, educational and research organizations and other organizations;
- (c) guidelines for establishing and operating trauma facilities and para-medical facilities, for consideration by the Central Government.
- Promote
  - (a) Good Samaritans;
  - (b) good practices in road safety and traffic management;
  - (c) new vehicle technology in the field of vehicular engineering;
  - (d) co-ordination with international organizations; and
  - (e) consistency between international technical standards and domestic technical standards,
- Conduct research to improve road safety, traffic management, crash investigation.
- Provide technical advice and assistance to the Central Government, State Governments and local authorities on road safety and traffic management.

**Reference:** <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1761051>

## GoI increases the income limit of disabled dependents for family pension

**Question: Which of the following Ministry has Raised the Income Limit Of Disabled Dependents For Family Pension?**

- (a) Ministry of Home affairs
- (b) Ministry of Defence
- (c) Ministry of jal Shakti
- (d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Defence Ministry has Raised Income Limit Of Disabled Dependents For Family Pension.
- At present, a disabled child or sibling of a dead pensioner is eligible for family pension if his or her monthly income from sources other than the family pension is not more than Rs 9,000 along with the dearness allowance component.
- Ministry of defence has decided to increase the income limit of disabled dependents for family pension to children/siblings suffering from mental or physical disability.
- The child/sibling shall be eligible for family pension for life if his/her overall income from sources other than a family pension is less than 30% of the last pay drawn by the deceased government servant/pensioner concerned plus the dearness relief admissible thereon.



**Reference:** <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/defence-ministry-raises-income-limit-of-disabled-dependents-for-family-pension-2556789>

## World's largest Khadi National Flag hoisted in Ladakh

**Question: World's largest Khadi National Flag hoisted in which of the following state?**

(a) Gujrat (b) Ladakh (c) Jammu and Kashmir (d) Sikkim

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- The world's largest national flag has been installed in Leh, Ladakh.
- This National flag has been made up of made up of Khadi cloth.
- It has been installed on 152nd birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi on October 02, 2021.
- This national flag was inaugurated by Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur.
- The tricolour is 225-feet long and 150-feet wide.
- Its weight is around 1,000 kg.



**Reference:** [https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/world-s-largest-khadi-national-flag-weighing-1-000-kg-unveiled-in-leh-121100200449\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/world-s-largest-khadi-national-flag-weighing-1-000-kg-unveiled-in-leh-121100200449_1.html)

## India ranks 59th in world for digital quality of life

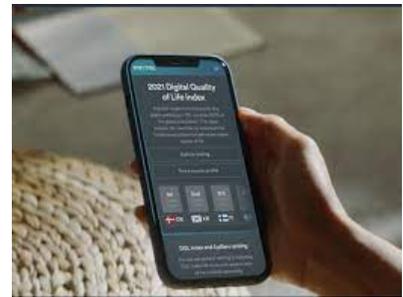
**Question: India ranks \_ in world for digital quality of life Index?**

(a) 59<sup>th</sup> (b) 79<sup>th</sup> (c) 95<sup>th</sup> (d) 63<sup>rd</sup>

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- India ranks 59th in world for digital quality of life Index among 110 Countries.
- For the second consecutive time Denmark topped ranking followed by South Korea and Finland respectively.
- Ethiopia is the lowest (110) ranked country.



**Reference:** <https://theprint.in/tech/india-slips-two-spots-to-59th-on-digital-quality-of-life-index-has-poor-internet-speed/738507/>

## Facebook Launched Creator Education Programme in India

**Question: Which of the following online platform has launched its largest creator education program in India?**

(a) Facebook (b) Google (c) Duck duck go (d) WhatsApp

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Facebook has launched its largest creator education and enablement program today during the Creator Day India event.
- This program is the next phase of Facebook's 'Born on Instagram' programme which was launched in 2019, and would be freely available as well as accessible to all.



- The programme will offer live masterclasses with experts, latest information on trends, updates on product, as well as the option to avail lucrative financial opportunities through various rewards and partnerships with brands.

**Reference:** <https://www.financialexpress.com/brandwagon/facebook-launches-creator-education-and-enablement-programme-in-india/2341187/>

## Chacha Chaudhary declared as mascot of Namami Gange programme

**Question:** \_\_\_ has been declared as mascot of Namami Gange Programme programme by Ministry of Jal Shakti?

(a) Chacha Chaudhary (b) Shaktimaan (c) Aryamaan (d) Pran Kumar Sharma

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Chacha Chaudhary has been declared as the mascot of the 'Namami Gange' programme.
- The decision was announced at the 37th executive committee meeting of the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG).
- An outlay of Rs. 2.26 crore has been dedicated to the project.
- The comics will initially be launched in Hindi, English and Bengali languages.
- Namami Gange Programme is an Integrated Conservation Mission, approved as a 'Flagship Programme' by the Union Government.
- This Programme has two objectives: first one is effective abatement of pollution and Second one is conservation and rejuvenation of National River Ganga.
- This Programme is being operated under the Department of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti.
- Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat is the current Union Minister of Ministry of Jal Shakti.



**Reference:** <https://www.timesnownews.com/amp/india/article/chacha-chaudhary-declared-mascot-of-namami-gange-programme-ministry-of-jal-shakti/819239>

## Cabinet approves setting up mega integrated textile parks to create jobs

**Q. The union cabinet has approved a proposal for setting up seven mega integrated textile parks in order to generate employment and attract investments for the sector, Union Ministers Anurag Thakur and Piyush Goyal announced on which date?**

- (A) 6th October 2021  
 (B) 30th September 2021  
 (C) 14th October 2021  
 (D) None of the above

**Ans- (A)**

**Related facts:**

- The PM-MITRA scheme, first announced in the Union Budget 2021, is designed to enable the textile industry become globally competitive.
- On 6th October 2021, the union cabinet has approved a proposal for setting up seven mega integrated textile parks in order to generate employment and attract



investments for the sector, announced by Union Ministers Anurag Thakur and Piyush Goyal.

- The scheme will have a total outlay of ₹4,445 crore over five years.
- The decision is inspired by 5F vision of PM Modi – Farm to Fibre to Factory to Fashion to Foreign.
- The scheme will help in setting up world-class industrial infrastructure that would attract cutting age technology and boost FDI and local investment in the sector.
- PM-MITRA is designed to enable the textile industry to become globally competitive.
- PM-MITRA will offer an opportunity to create an integrated textiles value chain right from spinning, weaving, processing/dyeing and printing to garment manufacturing at one location.
- The value chain at one location and will reduce logistics cost of industry. The scheme is intended to 1 lakh direct and 2 lakh indirect employment per park.
- Several states such as Tamil Nadu, Punjab, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Assam, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana have expressed interest to set up parks.
- MITRA scheme will create world class infrastructure with plug-and-play facilities to enable create global champions in exports.

**Link:**

<https://www.livemint.com/economy/cabinet-approves-setting-up-mega-investment-textile-parks-to-create-jobs-11633511519840.html>

## State of the Education Report for India-2021

**Question: On 5th October 2021 which organization has released “State of the Education Report (SOER)-2021 for India: No Teachers, No Class”?**

a) NITI Aayog b) UNESCO c) World Bank d) IMF

**Ans: b**

**Context**

- On October 5, 2021 (World Teacher’s Day) ,United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has released its “State of the Education Report (SOER)-2021 for India: No Teachers, No Class”.
- **About the Report**
  - The report is the annual flagship report of UNESCO New Delhi and it is based on extensive research.
  - This is the third edition of the State of Education Report.
  - A team of experts from Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, led by Prof Padma M Sarangapani collaborated with a UNESCO team in preparing it.
  - It is focused on the theme of teachers, teaching and teacher education and it underscores that the work of teaching is complex.
  - The report attempts to provide understanding on the key aspects of the teaching profession and also provides a profile of 9.6 million teaching workforce.
  - Report also highlights the challenges of intricate teaching routine as well as their professional development.



- Findings in the report were prepared on the basis of analysis of Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) and Unified District Information System for Education (UDISE) data prepared by India.
- **Findings of the Report**
- There are around 1.2 lakh single-teacher schools in India. It accounts for 7.15 percent of 11.51 lakh schools. Out of this, 89 per cent are in rural areas.
- States with a high percentage of single-teacher schools include Arunachal Pradesh (18.22 per cent), Goa (16.08 per cent), Telangana (15.71 per cent), Andhra Pradesh (14.4 per cent), Jharkhand (13.81 per cent), Uttarakhand (13.64 per cent), Madhya Pradesh (13.08 per cent), Rajasthan (10.08 per cent).
- 51 percent of total schools are employing 95 lakh teachers.
- Report notes that, India requires 11.16 lakh additional teachers to meet the current shortfall.
- **UNESCO has given following 10 recommendation to improve the situation:**
- Improve the terms of employment of teachers in both public and private schools
- Increase the number of teachers and improve working conditions in North Eastern states, rural areas and 'aspirational districts'
- Recognize teachers as frontline workers
- Increase the number of physical education, music, art, vocational education, early childhood and special education teachers.
- Value the professional autonomy of teachers
- Build teachers' career pathways
- Restructure pre-service professional development and strengthen curricular and pedagogical reform
- Support communities of practice
- Provide teachers with meaningful ICT training
- Develop teaching governance through consultative processes, based on mutual accountability

**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-needs-11-16-lakh-extra-teachers-to-meet-shortfall-report-7554560/>

## State Nutrition Profiles launched for 19 States and Union Territories

**Question: Which of the following agency launched State Nutrition Profiles launched for 19 States and Union Territories?**

a) Ministry of Health b) NITI Aayog c) WHO d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 30 September 2021 NITI Aayog, launched the State Nutrition Profiles for 19 States and Union Territories.
- It is a joint effort with International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Indian Institute of Population Sciences (IIPS), UNICEF and Institute of Economic Growth (IEG)
- A webinar titled Towards progress on nutrition in India: Insights from National Family Health Survey (Phase -1) was organized by IFPRI



- Dr Rakesh Sarwal released the State nutrition profiles during this webinar by IFPRI.
- The State Nutrition Profiles (SNPs) give insights on nutrition outcomes, immediate and underlying determinants and interventions.
- These insights were based on National Family Health Survey rounds 3, 4 and 5.
- The SNPs include a comprehensive compilation of crucial data that can positively affect policy decisions and facilitate research in the area.

**Links:-**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=NITI-Aayog-launches-State-Nutrition-Profiles-for-19-States-%26-UTs&id=427190>

## Dust Control & Management Cells set up in National Capital Region

**Question: Area of which of the following state falls under the National Capital Region?**

a) UP b) MP c) HP d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Commission for Air Quality Management has set up Dust Control & Management Cells in National Capital Region.
- 17 Cells have been set up in the state of U.P., 11 in Delhi, 8 in Rajasthan and 2 in Haryana.
- CPCB, State PCBs/ DPCC and all the concerned agencies to regularly monitor and enforce the identified dust mitigation measures
- Steps are being taken in the National Capital Region and Adjoining Areas (CAQM) to effectively tackle dust pollution emanating from roads and nearby open areas.
- Government wants to strategically strengthen the dust mitigation measures with innovative solutions to curb the dust pollution sources.
- To this end, directions have been issued by CAQM to all road owning/ maintaining/ road construction agencies.
- The State Governments of Uttar Pradesh (U.P.), Rajasthan, Haryana and GNCTD told to set up Dust Control & Management Cells in their respective states.
- The Cell will regularly monitor the compliance of road dust control measures by the authorities concerned and will also keep track of the progress of measures undertaken.
- Exhaustive reports will prepared on a monthly basis by the cell will help in the fight against dust pollution more systematically.
- CAQM has formulated a 10-point dust monitoring parameter in this regard.
- This parameter involves a variety of measures that needs to be strictly adopted by the Dust Control & Management Cells.



**Links:-**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1761162>

## Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched “Amrit Grand Challenge Program-जनCARE

**Question: Which of the following Union Minister has launched “Amrit Grand Challenge Program-जनCARE?”**

- a) Dharmendra Pradhan
- b) Amit Shah
- c) Rajnath Singh
- d) Jitendra Singh

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched the “Amrit Grand Challenge Program” titled “जनCARE”.
- The Grand Challenge aims to identify 75 Start-Up and entrepreneurs, who come out with Innovative Ideas and Solutions for India’s healthcare challenges.
- The Challenge has been launched jointly by Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC), NASSCOM and NASSCOM Foundation, as a nationwide “Discover – Design – Scale” program.
- The “जनCARE” Amrit Challenge will recognise start-ups in fields like Innovations in Telemedicine, Digital Health, mHealth with BIG Data, AI, BlockChain and other technologies.
- Amrit Grand Challenge will end on December 31, 2021.
- Dr Jitendra Singh is the Minister of State (Independent Charge) for the Ministry of Science and Technology.

**Reference:** <https://newsonair.com/2021/09/28/trashed-3/>

## Urban Conclave in Lucknow-Highlights

**Question: Consider the following statements:-**

i) On 5th October 2021 Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, inaugurated “Azadi@75 – New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape conference-cum-expo”.

ii) Expo is being organized at Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

**Which of the above two statements are correct?**

a) I b) ii c) i and ii d) None

**Ans: c**

- **Context**
- Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, inaugurated “Azadi@75 – New Urban India: Transforming Urban Landscape conference-cum-expo” on October 5, 2021 in Lucknow.

- **Related Facts**

- The three day conclave on the subject is being organised at the Indira Gandhi Pratishthan in Lucknow under the Azadi ka Amrit mahotsav celebrations.



- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will also inaugurate or lay the foundation stones of 75 urban projects or schemes worth ₹4737 crore during the event.
- 75 smart electric buses were also flagged off under FAME-II for seven cities namely Lucknow, Varanasi, Kanpur, Prayagraj, Gorakhpur, Ghaziabad and Jhansi
- On the occasion, he digitally interacted with beneficiaries of Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U) houses and handed over the keys to 75,000 beneficiaries across 75 districts in Uttar Pradesh.
- Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee Chair in the Babasaheb Bhimrao Ambedkar University (BBAU), Lucknow was also announced.

**Reference:** <https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=PM-to-inaugurate-3-day-Urban-Conclave-in-Lucknow-today%3B-to-also-lay-foundation-stones-of-75-urban-projects%26-schemes-in>

## Vice President inaugurates Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre

**Question: Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre which was inaugurated by Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu recently is situated in which state?**

a) Assam b) Himachal Pradesh c) Meghalaya d) Tripura

**Ans: a**

**Context**

- On 3rd October 2021, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu, inaugurated the Mahabahu Brahmaputra River Heritage Centre in the presence of Governor Jagdish Mukhi and Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma in Guwahati in the state of Assam.



- **Related Facts**

- The centre was originally served as the residence of the British deputy commissioner of Kamrup.
- Nearly 150 years after it was constructed, the iconic DC Bungalow of Guwahati, was opened to the public as a heritage centre.

- **History**

- After the British annexed Assam in 1826 (after the Treaty of Yandaboo), the post of DC was created for Guwahati in 1839.
- Several sites were surveyed for DC residence before Barphukanar Tilla on the banks of the Brahmaputra, where cannons used in the Battle of Saraighat lay scattered, was chosen.

- Post-independence, it continued to be the DC's bungalow until 2011

- **Battle of Saraighat**

- In 1671 Battle of Saraighat, Lachit Borphukan (24 November 1622 – 25 April 1672) who was a commander and Borphukan (Phu-Kon-Lung) in the Ahom kingdom, located in present-day Assam, India, thwarted a drawn-out attempt by Mughal forces under the command of Ramsingh I to take over Ahom kingdom.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/over-150-years-later-guwahatis-british-era-dc-bungalow-is-now-a-heritage-centre-101633281421630.html>

## 67th National Wildlife Week

**Question: In which month Wildlife Week is celebrated annually in India?**

a) January b) June c) October d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

**Context**



- In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, the Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha inaugurated the Wildlife Week 2021 at Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar on 2nd October 2021.
- **Related Facts**
  - National Wildlife Week is annually celebrated across India between 2nd to 8th October.
  - Its aim is to protect and preserve the flora and fauna of India.
  - In 2021, 67th wildlife week is being celebrated.
  - This year National Wildlife Week theme 2021: “Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet”.
- **History of Wildlife Week**
  - The first Wildlife Week was observed in 1957.
  - Wildlife Week was conceptualised by the Indian Board of Wildlife in 1952 in order to raise the awareness regarding long-term goals of protecting the wildlife across India. Initially, Wildlife Day was celebrated in 1955, but in 1957 it was upgraded as the Wildlife Week.
- **The Indian Board for Wildlife**
  - Due to the rapid decline in wildlife population, the Government of India during 1952 had constituted an advisory body designated as the Indian Board for Wildlife (IBWL).
  - The Indian Board for Wildlife was chaired by the Prime Minister.
  - With the amendment in the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 in 2002, a provision was incorporated for the constitution of the National Board for Wildlife, replacing the Indian Board for Wildlife.

**Reference:** <https://newsonair.com/2021/10/03/jk-lg-manoj-sinha-inaugurates-wildlife-week-2021-at-skicc-in-srinagar/>

## Digital Baramati Umbrella App

**Questioned CM of which of the following state has recently launched the mobile application, Digital Baramati Umbrella App?**

a) Gujarat b) Himachal Pradesh c) Maharashtra d) None of these

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 28 September 2021; Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar launched a mobile application Digital Baramati Umbrella App.
- The new app has been designed to provide all citizen-centric facilities at a single click to residents of Baramati town in Pune district.
- Digital Baramati Umbrella App is a collection of software programmes for various needs.
- It has local governance, administration and citizen-centric mobile applications, including those relating to telemedicine, property management, QR-code based asset management etc.
- This application can also place demands with the Baramati Municipal Council and track them.
- According to NCP MLA from Baramati, it would reduce people's need to step out of their homes for government or administration-related works.



#### Links:-

<https://www.freepressjournal.in/mumbai/at-a-single-click-maharashtra-dy-cm-ajit-pawar-launches-mobile-app-to-access-citizen-centric-facilities>

## New Brand Ambassador for National Basketball Association (NBA)

**Question: Which of the following Bollywood actor/actress has recently been named as brand ambassador for National Basketball Association (NBA) of India?**

a) Ranveer Kapoor b) Ranveer Singh c) Deepika Padukone d) Anushka Sharma

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 30 September 2021 Basketball Association (NBA) named Bollywood actor Ranveer Singh as the brand ambassador for national Basketball Team.
- Ranveer will work with the NBA to help grow the league's profile in India throughout its landmark 75th Anniversary Season in 2021-22.
- He will participate in a number of league initiatives that will be featured on NBA India's and his personal social media accounts.
- For the 2022-22 season, Singh is also reported to attend NBA All-Star 2022 in Cleveland as well.
- Ranveer told that he had loved basketball and the NBA since his childhood and have always been fascinated with its influence.
- He said that as the NBA tipping off its 75th season celebrations, there couldn't have been a better time to join the efforts to grow basketball in the country.
- The NBA press release said that the Indian film star will also be featured on "NBA Style", a new lifestyle-focused Instagram account for fans in India.
- NBA Asia Executive Vice President and Managing Director Scott Levy said that Ranveer is an ideal ambassador to headline the launch of NBA Style.
- He said that NBA Style is their new Instagram handle that explores the intersection of basketball and culture.
- He said that art, fashion and entertainment are part of the fabric of India, and with Ranveer's help, NBA Style will contribute to the cultural landscape.



- He told, it will showcase how the league and its players have been shaped by and influence culture.

**Links:-**

<https://www.thenews.com.pk/latest/896767-ranveer-singh-appointed-brand-ambassador-for-nba-in-india>

## Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment organises VAYO NAMAN Programme

**Q. In October 2021, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment organised VAYO NAMAN Programme on which occasion at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi?**

- A)International Day of Older Persons B)International Day of Disabled persons  
C)National Day of Sanitation D)None of the above

**Ans- (A)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 1st october 2021, the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment organised VAYO NAMAN Programme on the occasion of International Day of Older Persons at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi today. In this programme, the Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu presented Vayoshreshtha Samman-2021 to senior citizens.
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment celebrates International Day of Older Persons every year on 1st October for the cause of elderly persons.
- Apart from dedicating an Elderly Line 14567 to the Nation, Shri M. Venkaiah also launched two portals – SAGE (Seniorcare Aging Growth Engine) and SACRED (Senior Able Citizens for Re-Employment in Dignity) on this occasion. While the SAGE portal, designed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, aims to encourage entrepreneurs in the area of elderly care the SACRED portal will connect the senior citizens with job providers in the private sector. The Vice President praised these portals as a timely intervention by the Ministry.
- The Vice President urged India’s young start-ups to come up with innovative and out-of-box solutions to the everyday problems faced by the elderly. He said that taking care of the elderly persons should not be the responsibility of the government alone and each one of us should come forward and join this noble cause.



**Link:**

<https://www.thestatesman.com/india/ministry-social-justice-empowerment-organize-vayo-naman-programme-1503013206.html>

## NITI Aayog ties up with Amazon, Intel to boost innovation

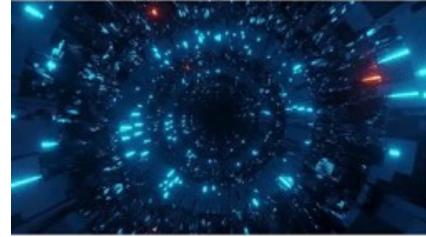
**Q. In September 2021 federal policy think-tank NITI Aayog has tied up with Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Intel to set up a centre that supports innovation and collaboration among government agencies, start-ups, businesses and domain experts. Where it will be established?**

- (A) New Delhi (B) Chennai (C) Kolkata (D) Mumbai

Ans- (a)

Related facts:

- On 30th September 2021 federal policy think-tank NITI Aayog said it has tied up with Amazon Web Services (AWS) and Intel to set up a centre that supports innovation and collaboration among government agencies, start-ups, businesses and domain experts.
- The centre, will showcase potential of technologies such as artificial intelligence, machine learning, augmented reality and virtual reality, blockchain and robotics.
- The centre, located at NITI Aayog's premises in New Delhi.
- This centre will encourage open innovation and serve as a hub for government, healthcare, education and non-profit start-ups to showcase their solutions.
- It will also provide start-ups with an option to access necessary support to enhance and scale up their solutions.
- The think tank said it will also leverage this hub to demonstrate the application of various technology solutions in areas like healthcare, agriculture, and smart infrastructure.



Link: <https://www.livemint.com/technology/tech-news/niti-aayog-ties-up-with-amazon-intel-to-boost-innovation-11633001874105.html>

## NITI Aayog: Assessment report of District hospitals

Question: Consider the following statements

i) As per Niti Aayog's report on district hospitals, District hospitals have average 24 beds per 1 lakh people.

ii) Bihar has lowest number of beds per 1 lakh people, just 6.

Which of the above two are correct?

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

Ans: c

Context

- NITI Aayog's study called "Best Practices in the Performance of District Hospitals" was released on September 30, 2021.
- **Related Facts**
- As per the report, a district hospital in India has on an average has 24 beds per 1 lakh population, with Bihar having the lowest average of six beds and Puducherry the highest of 222 beds.
- District hospitals in India have a range of 1 to 408 beds per 1 lakh population.
- 217 district hospitals were found to have at least 22 beds for every 1 lakh population.



- In 15 states and UTs, the average number of beds in a district hospital was lower than what recommended by the Indian Public Health Standards (IPHS) 2012 guidelines.
- These states include- Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Telangana, Haryana, Maharashtra, Assam, Jammu & Kashmir, Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Punjab, West Bengal, Rajasthan, Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.
- This figure is based on district population average of 2001 Census.
- **Significance of the report**
- The findings of the study are significant as it was conducted just before the outbreak of Covid-19.
- It means that when the country faced the wrath of the pandemic, public health infrastructure, particularly at district level, was not adequate as quite evident by 2nd wave of the pandemic.

**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/district-hospitals-have-avg-24-beds-per-1-lakh-people-niti-aayog-report-7544405/>

## PM Modi launches Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0

**Question: Consider the following statements;**

i) On October 1, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) along with the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0 (AMRUT 2.0).

ii) These schemes were launched at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.

iii) SBM-U 2.0 envisions to make all cities 'Garbage Free' and ensure grey and black water management in all cities other than those covered under AMRUT.

**Which of the above are correct?**

a) I b) i,ii c) i, ii,iii d) iii

**Ans; c**

**Context**

- On October 1, 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0) along with the Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation 2.0 (AMRUT 2.0) at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi.

- **Related Facts**

- Both the schemes are designed to realize the aspiration of making all cities Garbage Free and Water Secure.
- **Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0**
- SBM-U 2.0 envisions to make all cities 'Garbage Free' .
- It aims to ensure grey and black water management in all cities other than those covered under AMRUT, make all urban local bodies as ODF+ and those with a population of less than 1 lakh as ODF++, thereby achieving the vision of safe sanitation in urban areas.



- Mission will focus on source segregation of solid waste by utilizing the principles of 3Rs that is “Reduce, reuse, recycle”. An outlay of Rs 1.41 lakh crore has been sanctioned for SBM-U 2.0.
- **AMRUT 2.0**
- AMRUT 2.0 aims to provide 100% coverage of water supply to all households in around 4,700 urban local bodies.
- Mission will provide about 2.68 crore tap connections and 100% coverage of sewerage and septage in 500 AMRUT cities by providing around 2.64 crore sewer/ septage connections, which will benefit more than 10.5 crore people in urban areas.
- AMRUT 2.0 will adopt the principles of circular economy and promote conservation and rejuvenation of surface and groundwater bodies.
- ‘Pey Jal Survekshan’ will be conducted to promote progressive competition among cities. The outlay of AMRUT 2.0 is around ₹2.87 lakh crore.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1759593>

## Digi Saksham programme

**Question: Digi Saksham programme program which was launched on September 30 2021 by Minister for Labour and Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav is joint initiative of which two organization/ministry?**

- a) Ministry for Labour and Employment b) Microsoft India c) NITI Aayog  
d) None of the above

**Ans: a and b**

**Context**



- On September 30 2021 Minister for Labour and Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav launched DigiSaksham – a digital skills programme to enhance the employability of youth.
- **Related Facts**
- Digi Saksham is a joint initiative of Microsoft India and Ministry of Labour and Employment.
- It is launched with the aim of enhancing the employability of youth by imparting digital skills that are required in an increasingly technology driven era.
- **Implementation**
- Free of cost training in digital skills including basic skills as well as advance computing, will be provided to more than 3 lakh youths in the first year.
- The Jobseekers can access the training through National Career Service (NCS) Portal ([www.ncs.gov.in](http://www.ncs.gov.in)).
- The initiative gives priority to the job-seekers of semi urban areas belonging to disadvantaged communities, including those who have lost their jobs due to Covid-19 pandemic.
- Programme will be implemented in the field by “Aga Khan Rural Support Programme India (AKRSP-I)”.
- Under the DigiSaksham initiative, there will be basically three types of training viz. Digital Skills – Self paced learning, VILT mode training (Virtual Instructor led) and ILT mode training (Instructor led).

- The ILT training which is in person training would be conducted at the Model Career Centres (MCCs) and National Career Service Centres (NCSC) for SCs/STs across the country.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1759684>

## International Rome Declaration

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

- i) During 30-31 October 2021, Rome, Italy hosted the G20 Summit.
- ii) Rome declaration was adopted during the summit.
- iii) India has the presidency of G-20 summit for 2021.

**Which of the above are correct?**

- a) i,ii b) ii,iii c) i,ii,iii d) iii

**Ans: a**

### Recent Context



- Two-day G-20 Summit was concluded on October 31, 2021.
- **Related Facts**
- Rome, Italy under its presidency hosted the two-day G-20 Summit during 30-31 October 2021.
- During the summit world leaders had elaborate deliberations on issues of global importance such as fighting the pandemic, improving health infrastructure, boosting economic cooperation and furthering innovation.
- The G20 leaders also agreed that the World Health Organisation should be strengthened to fast-track the process for emergency use authorisation for Covid-19 vaccines.
- Energy and climate were the centre of the discussions at the G20.
- During the summit, Rome Declaration was adopted.
- The Rome Declaration consists of 16 mutually agreed principles, which aims to guide joint action for preventing future health crises and to build a safer, equitable and sustainable world.
- **About G-20**
- The G20 or Group of Twenty is an intergovernmental forum comprising 19 countries and the European Union (EU).
- It works to address major issues related to the global economy, such as international financial stability, climate change mitigation, and sustainable development.
- Members of G-20 are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.

Reference: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/g20-summit-fruitful-pm-modi/article37276763.ece>

World's top 10 countries for climate tech investment

**Question :** List of top 10 countries for climate technology investment has recently(October 2021) released in a report titled “Five Years On: Global climate tech investment trends since the Paris Agreement”. Accordingly, what is India’s rank in the list ?

a. ninth b. Eighth c. Seventh d. Third

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- List of top 10 countries for climate technology investment has recently(October 2021) released in a report titled “Five Years On: Global climate tech investment trends since the Paris Agreement”.
- Above mentioned report analysed the trends in the sector since the last United Nations Conference of Parties (COP) in Paris and ahead of the COP26 summit in Glasgow.
- **Key points of the report —**
- India ranks ninth in the list of to 10 countries for climate technology investment over the past five years and Indian climate tech firms received USD 1 billion in venture capital (VC) funding from 2016 to 2021.
- The US and China leading the global top 10 with USD 48 billion and USD 18.6 billion investment between 2016 and 2021 respectively.
- The UK comes in at No. 4 with USD 4.3 billion after Sweden at USD 5.8 billion.
- The global top 10 is completed by France at No. 5 (USD 3.7bn), Germany at No. 6 (USD 2.7bn), Canada at No. 7 (USD 1.4bn), the Netherlands at No. 8 (USD 1.3bn) and Singapore tenth (USD 700m), after India.
- Venture capital investment into climate tech companies globally has skyrocketed since the Paris Agreement.
- Overall, global climate tech VC investment soared from USD 6.6 billion in 2016 to USD 32.3 billion in 2021, an increase in funding by almost five times.



**Link:**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/india-among-world-s-top-10-for-climate-tech-investment-report-121102601458\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/india-among-world-s-top-10-for-climate-tech-investment-report-121102601458_1.html)

## Acquisition of Parexel International Corporation

**Question :** CCI has recently(October 2021) approved acquisition of Parexel International Corporation by-

a. Pharmerica Corporation b. Phoenix Parentco  
c. CVS Pharmacy d. Johnson & Johnson

**Ans. b.**

**Related facts —**

- CCI has recently(October 2021) approved acquisition of Parexel International Corporation by Phoenix Parentco.
- The proposed combination envisages acquisition of 100% of the equity shareholding of Parexel International Corporation (Target) by Phoenix Parentco, Inc. (Acquirer).
- The Acquirer is jointly controlled by EQT Fund Management S.à r.l. (EQT) and the Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. (Goldman Sachs).

The logo for Parexel International Corporation, featuring the word "PAREXEL" in a bold, serif font with a registered trademark symbol (®) to the right. Above the text is a horizontal line.

- The Target is headquartered in Durham, USA.
- It provides biopharmaceutical outsourcing services to biopharmaceutical companies.
- The global activities of Target can be categorised into broad segments viz. clinical solutions and consulting.

**Link:**

[https://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press\\_release/PR48-2021-22.pdf](https://www.cci.gov.in/sites/default/files/press_release/PR48-2021-22.pdf)

## Inaugural India – UK Maritime Dialogue

**Question – Recently on which date the first India-UK Maritime Dialogue (Virtual) was held ?**

- (a) 20 October 2021 (b) 22 October 2021 (c) 18 October 2021  
(d) 15 October 2021

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts—**

- India and UK held their inaugural maritime dialogue in a virtual format on 18 October 2021, as agreed in the India-UK Roadmap 2030 for future relations adopted at the Virtual Summit between the two Prime Ministers in May 2021.
- The consultations, which were led by the two Foreign Ministries, involved exchanges on cooperation in the maritime domain, Indo-Pacific and regional/ multilateral cooperation.

**Link:**

[https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/34401/Inaugural\\_India\\_UK\\_Maritime\\_Dialogue](https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/34401/Inaugural_India_UK_Maritime_Dialogue)

## 2nd India- UK Multilateral Dialogue

**Question – Where was the second India-UK multilateral dialogue held on 18 October 2021?**

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

**Answer—(d)**

**Related facts—**

- The second India-UK multilateral dialogue held on 18 October 2021.
- **Location** – London (UK).
- The Indian delegation was led by Mr. Prakash Gupta, Joint Secretary (UN Political), Ministry of External Affairs.
- While the UK side was led by Ms. Harriet Mathews CMB OBE, Deputy Political Director for UN, UK Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO).
- In the talks, the two sides exchanged views on Commonwealth strategic planning and priorities.
- The discussions covered issues of mutual interest related to UN reform, counter-terrorism, peacekeeping and climate action.



**Link:**

<https://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/34403/2nd+India+UK+Multilateral+Dialogue>

## PM Modi participates in 16th East Asia Summit

**Question: Which nation hosted the 16th East Asia Summit held virtually on 27th October 2021?**

a) India b) Brunei c) China d) Indonesia

**Ans: b**

### Recent Context



- The 16th East Asia Summit was hosted by Brunei as EAS and ASEAN Chair.
- **Related Facts**
- Prime Minister Modi reaffirmed the importance of EAS as the premier leaders-led forum in Indo-Pacific, bringing together nations to discuss important strategic issues.
- Prime Minister highlighted India's efforts to fight the Covid-19 pandemic through vaccines and medical supplies.
- He also spoke about "Atmanirbhar Bharat" Campaign for post-pandemic recovery and in ensuring resilient global value chains.
- He emphasized on the establishment of a better balance between economy and ecology and climate sustainable lifestyle.
- Summit saw the participation of leaders from ASEAN countries and other EAS Participating Countries including Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, Russia, USA and India. India has been an active participant of EAS.
- **About East Asia Summit**
- The East Asia Summit (EAS) is a regional forum held annually by leaders of, initially, 16 countries in the East Asian, Southeast Asian, South Asian and Oceanian regions, based on the ASEAN Plus Six mechanism.
- Membership expanded to 18 countries including Russia and the United States at the Sixth EAS in 2011.
- Since its establishment, ASEAN has held the central role and leadership in the forum.
- **About ASEAN**
- ASEAN officially the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, is an economic union comprising 10 member states in Southeast Asia.
- Group promotes intergovernmental cooperation and facilitates economic, political, security, military, educational, and sociocultural integration between its members and other countries in Asia.
- ASEAN was preceded by an organisation formed on 31 July 1961 called the Association of Southeast Asia (ASA), a group consisting of Thailand, the Philippines, and the Federation of Malaya.
- ASEAN itself was created on 8 August 1967, when the foreign ministers of five countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand, signed the ASEAN Declaration.
- Currently it consist of 10 members: Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam.

**Reference:** <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/pm-modi-participates-in-16th-east-asia-summit-reaffirms-indias-focus-on-free-open-indo-pacific20211027201738/>

## First-ever pig kidney transplant in human patient done in USA

**Question: Which of the following country has successfully transplanted a pig's kidney onto a human?**

(a) UAE (b) USA (c) UK (d) RUSSIA

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- The doctors at NYU Langone Health in New York (USA) temporarily transplanted a pig's kidney onto a human. The recipient of the transplant was a brain-dead patient, whose kidneys were dysfunctional.
- It is considered as a significant step toward Animal-to-human organ transplants, known as xenotransplantations.
- The doctors altered the pig's genes, to avoid immediate rejection from the human immune system due to the presence of a sugar molecule in pig cells called Glycan.



**Reference:** <https://zeenews.india.com/india/first-ever-pig-kidney-transplant-in-human-patient-done-in-us-2404226.html>

## Syracuse 4 telecommunications satellite : France

**Question: Which of the following country has launched first Syracuse IV telecommunications satellite ?**

(a) France (b) Germany (c) China (d) USA

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- An Ariane 5 rocket launched from the Guiana Space Centre placed France's new Syracuse 4 military telecommunications satellite in low orbit.
- Syracuse IV is the first French military satellite with the ability to detect other satellites that are trying to gather information from it or to destroy it.
- The total cost of the Syracuse IV programme is EUR3.6 billion (nearly USD4.2 billion).
- Syracuse IV produces a throughput three times higher (1.5 Gbit/sec) than Syracuse III by operating in two bands: X and Ka.



**Reference:** <https://www.janes.com/defence-news/news-detail/france-launches-first-syracuse-iv-telecommunications-satellite>

## Turkey, Jordan, and Mali have been added to the 'Grey List'

**Question: Recently, (October 2021) which of the following country/countries has/have been added in FATF's Grey list?**

(a) Turkey (b) Jordan (c) Mali (d) All of the these

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- The global terror financing watchdog, Financial Action Task Force (FATF), has added Turkey, along with Jordan and Mali, in the Turkey list.
- The 'grey list' means that a country gets limited access to international loans. Specifically, "it means the country has committed to resolving swiftly the identified strategic deficiencies within agreed timeframes and is subject to extra checks".
- The Financial Action Task Force, also known by its French name, Groupe d'action financière, is an intergovernmental organisation founded in 1989 on the initiative of the G7 to develop policies to combat money laundering.
- FATF headquarter is in Paris.
- In 2001, its mandate was expanded to include terrorism financing.
- Since 2000, FATF has maintained the FATF blacklist and the FATF greylist.
- As of June 2021 there are 39 member countries of FATF.
- India is one of member of it.
- FATF retains Pakistan on 'grey list'.
- There are now 23 countries in the FATF grey list.

**Reference:** <https://www.indiatvnews.com/news/world/fatf-grey-list-pakistan-retained-turkey-added-explained-in-points-latest-updates-741878>

## China successfully launched a new satellite, Shijian-21

**Question: Which of the following country successfully launched a new satellite, Shijian-21?**

(a) Japan (b) South Korea (c) China (d) North Korea

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- China successfully launched a new satellite, Shijian-21.
- The satellite will be mainly used to test and verify space debris mitigation technologies.
- It was launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in southwest China's Sichuan Province.
- The satellite, named Shijian-21, was launched by a Long March-3B carrier rocket.



**Reference:** <https://www.eastmojo.com/neighbourhood-watch/china/2021/10/24/china-launches-satellite-to-test-space-debris-mitigation-technology/>

## largest active Volcano of Japan erupted on Kyushu Island

**Question: Mount Aso Volcano which recently erupted in Japan, is located in which of the following Island ?**

(a) Hokkaido (b) Kyushu (c) Honshu (d) Shikoku

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Mount Aso volcano in Japan, erupted on October 20, 2021 and emitted a giant column of ash to about thousands of metres into the sky.
- It is located on Kyushu island of Japan.

- Mount Aso is the largest active volcano in Japan, and is among the largest in the world.
- It stands in Aso Kujū National Park in Kumamoto Prefecture, on the island of Kyushu.
- Its peak is 1,592 meters above sea level.
- Japan is among the world's most volcanically active countries.
- It is located on the Pacific "Ring of Fire" where a large proportion earthquakes and volcanic eruptions are recorded.

**Reference:** <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/japans-mount-aso-erupts-alert-level-raised-2021-10-20/>

## India ranked 71st on 2021 Global Food Security Index

**Question: 10th edition of the Global Food Security Index was published recently. India is ranked at what position on 2021 Global Food Security Index?**

(a) 71<sup>st</sup> (b) 102<sup>nd</sup> (c) 89<sup>th</sup> (d) 61<sup>st</sup>

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- India has been ranked 71st position in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 from among a list of 113 countries.
- The Global Food Security Index is designed and constructed by London-based Economist Impact and is sponsored by Corteva Agriscience.
- The overall score of India is 57.2 points on the Global Food Security Index 2021.
- The Global food Security Index measures the factors affecting food insecurity around the world based on 4 main factors and 58 unique food security indicators.
- The factors are affordability, availability, quality and safety, and natural resources and resilience.
- Ireland, Australia, the UK, Finland, Switzerland, the Netherlands, Canada, Japan, France and the USA shared the top rank. Their overall Global Food security score were in the range of 77.8 and 80 points on the index.
- The Rank of Neighbouring countries of India : Pakistan (77th position), Sri Lanka (77th Position), Nepal (79th position) Bangladesh (88th position) and China (34th Position).



**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/india-at-71st-on-global-food-security-index-2021-of-113-nations-7580637/>

## International Solar Alliance's general assembly

**Question : On which date International Solar Alliance's general assembly held virtually ?**

a. October 18-21 b. October 18-21 c. November 4-11 d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- The International Solar Alliance’s 4th general assembly(ga) held virtually in October 2021.
- The due schedule was October 18-21.
- The ga deliberated on key initiatives in the solar energy sector, including the operationalisation of OSOWOG.
- **OSOWOG —**
- **OSOWOG stands for – One Sun One World One Grid.**
- The ambitious OSOWOG will connect more than 135 countries through a common grid that will be used to transfer solar power.
- It is the USD 1 trillion Solar Investment Roadmap for 2030, and approval of a Blended Financial Risk Mitigation Facility.
- **ISA(International Solar Alliance) —**
- International Solar Alliance is an international organisation with 98 member countries.
- It works with countries to improve energy access and security around the globe and promote solar power as a sustainable way to transition to a carbon neutral future.



**Link:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/international-solar-alliances-general-assembly-next-week/articleshow/87063213.cms>

## COVID quarantine rules for international travelers

**Question : From which date has Indian government lifted COVID quarantine rules for international travelers ?**

- a. 25 October 2021 b. 26 October 2021 c. 24 October 2021 d. 23 October 2021

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Indian government has lifted COVID quarantine rules for international travelers from October 25, 2021.
- The decision is specifically for those travelling from countries that have a mutually agreed acceptance of the World Health Organization (WHO) approved vaccines.
- Now foreign nationals coming to India will have to compulsorily show the RT-PCR report of 72 hours ago.
- However, citizens who have taken both doses of the vaccine will get relief from mandatory home or institutional quarantine.
- Under the new guidelines, India will not quarantine only those foreign nationals who have taken both doses of the vaccine approved by the World Health Organization and India has mutual approval arrangements with those countries.
- Under the new rule, foreign nationals for partial or one dose of the vaccine will have to follow the mandatory home quarantine.



**Link:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/nri/visit/indian-govt-lifts-covid-quarantine-rules-for-international-travelers-starting-today/articleshow/87248945.cms>

## Global debt

**Question :** The global debt has recently jumped to a new high of USD 226 trillion with India's dues projected to rise to \_ in 2021. Fill in the blank with appropriate option given below —

a. 90.6 percent b. 80.6 percent c. 70.6 percent d. 85.6 percent

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- The global debt has recently jumped to a new high of USD 226 trillion with India's dues projected to rise to 90.6 percent in 2021.
- This projection has been given by IMF on October 2021.
- Advanced economies and China contributed more than 90 percent to the accumulation of world-wide debt in one year ago.
- Because of COVID 19, and of policies put in place to respond to it, debt levels increased fast and reached high levels.
- High and rising levels of public and private debt are associated with risks to financial stability and public finances.
- The debt of governments, households and non-financial corporations added up to USD 226 trillion in 2020 USD 27 trillion above 2019. This increase is, by far, the largest on record.
- India's debt increased from 68.9 per cent of its GDP in 2016 to 89.6 per cent in 2020.
- It is projected to jump to 90.6 percent in 2021 and then decline to 88.8 percent in 2022, to gradually reach 85.2 percent in 2026.



**Link:**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/global-debt-jumps-to-a-new-high-of-226-trillion-says-imf-121101300853\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/global-debt-jumps-to-a-new-high-of-226-trillion-says-imf-121101300853_1.html)

## Germany unveiled world's first self-driving train

**Question:** Which of the following country has launched the world's first self-driving train?

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- German rail operator, Deutsche Bahn and industrial group, Siemens launched the first automated & driverless train of the world.
- The train is controlled by digital technology and is fully automated.
- The self-driving train was launched in the city of Hamburg.



- This project is being developed by 'Siemens and Deutsche Bahn'..
- The project is part of a 60-million-euro modernisation of the rapid urban rail system of Hamburg.

**Reference:** <https://www.livemint.com/news/world/germany-unveils-world-s-first-self-driving-train-see-photos/amp-11634002710170.html>

## World Health Organization Approved First Malaria Vaccine

**Question: Which of the following Organisation has approved First Malaria Vaccine?**

(a) International Monetary Fund (b) World Bank (c) United Nations (d) World Health Organisation

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Health Organization Approved First Malaria Vaccine RTS,S/AS01 (RTS,S).
- The World Health Organization (WHO) recommended the widespread use of the malaria vaccine RTS,S/AS01 (RTS,S) for children in sub-Saharan Africa and in other regions with moderate to high spread of the disease from Plasmodium falciparum, the most deadly of malaria parasites.
- The recommendation is based on results from an ongoing pilot programme in Ghana, Kenya & Malawi that has reached more than 800 000 children since 2019.
- The malaria vaccine, RTS,S, acts against P. falciparum, the most deadly malaria parasite globally, and the most prevalent in Africa.
- This vaccine is developed by British drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline.
- The Headquarter of WHO is in Geneva.
- The Director-General of WHO is Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.



**Reference:** <https://www.who.int/news/item/06-10-2021-who-recommends-groundbreaking-malaria-vaccine-for-children-at-risk>

## UNESCO launched 2021 State of the Education Report for India

**Question: Which of the following International organisation has launched 2021 State of the Education Report for India?**

(a) World Bank (b) UNESCO (c) IMF (d) WHO

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) launched its 2021 State of the Education Report (SOER) for India: "No Teacher, No Class".
- This report has been launched on the Occasion of the World Teacher's Day.



- This third edition of the State of Education Report, focused on the theme of teachers, teaching and teacher education, underscores that the work of teaching is complex.
- It attempts to provide an understanding of key aspects of the teaching profession, provides a profile of the 9.6 million teaching workforce.
- It aims to serve as a reference for enhancing the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP) and towards the realization of the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 4.

**Reference:** <https://en.unesco.org/news/unesco-launches-2021-state-education-report-india-no-teacher-no-class>

## World's first Automated, Driverless Train

**Question: Recently which of the following country unveiled World's first Automated, Driverless Train?**

a) USA b) UK c) France d) Germany

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 11 October 2021; Germany unveiled the world's first automated, driverless train in the city of Hamburg.
- German rail operator Deutsche Bahn and industrial group Siemens have jointly developed this train
- According to authorities there this new driverless train termed as as more punctual and energy efficient than traditional trains.
- Soon Four such trains will join the northern city's S-Bahn rapid urban rail network and start carrying passengers from December.
- At present the existing rail infrastructure in the Germany will be used by these trains.
- The train is controlled by digital technology and is fully automated. The driver remains on the train to supervise the journey.
- Shunting, such as turning the train around, is done without on-board personnel.



**Links:-**

<https://www.livemint.com/news/world/germany-unveils-world-s-first-self-driving-train-see-photos-11634002710170.html>

## Multidimensional Poverty Index

**Question: Which of the following UN agency has recently released the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI)?**

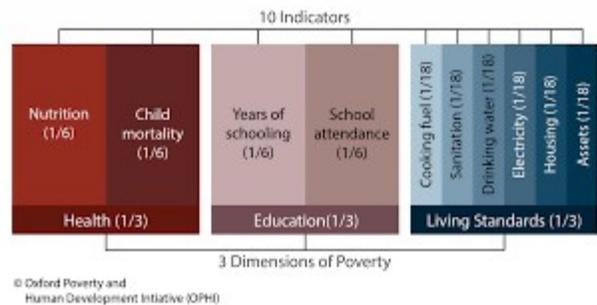
a) UNESCO b) UNDP c) UNICEF d) None of These

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 07 October 2021; the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) released by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

- It measures poverty by considering various deprivations experienced by people in their daily lives, including poor health, insufficient education and a low standard of living.
- This present report examines the level and composition of multidimensional poverty across 109 countries.
- This time MPI has covered 5.9 billion people and presented an ethnicity/race/caste disaggregation for 41 countries with available information.
- Disparities in multidimensional poverty among ethnic groups are consistently high across many countries.
- It reported that in nine ethnic groups more than 90 percent of the population is trapped in poverty.
- It also shows how, within a country, multidimensional poverty among different ethnic groups can vary immensely.
- For example, the difference in the percentage of people who are multidimensionally poor across ethnic groups is more than 70 percentage points in Gabon and Nigeria.
- **For full detail of the report following links must be seen-**



**Links:-**

<http://hdr.undp.org/en/2021-MPI>

## Colombo West International Container Terminal (CWICT)

**Question: Which of the following Indian corporate giant an agreement to jointly develop the Colombo West International Container Terminal (CWICT) in Sri Lanka?**

- a) Adani Group b) Reliance Group c) TATA Group d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On September 30, 2021, the Adani Group signed a Build Operate Transfer (BOT) agreement to develop the Colombo West International Container Terminal (CWICT).
- It should be noted that CWICT is located amidst one of the busiest shipping routes in the world and at the strategically advantaged Colombo Port.
- The deal is signed with Sri Lanka’s largest listed company John Keells Holdings and the Sri Lanka Ports Authority (SLPA).
- Primarily a container port, the Colombo Port has handled over 5 million TEU of containerised cargo and it has five functional terminals.
- As per the 35 year-long BOT agreement inked by the three parties, the Adani Group will have majority, 51%, stakes.
- The percentage of stakes for John Keells and the SLPA would be 34%, and 15% respectively.



- This would amount to \$700-million investment, which is said to be the largest foreign investment in the island nation's port sector.
- According to the SLPA, the massive development would take place following the agreement.
- The Authority said, it will further enhance the Colombo Port's global reputation as an international hub port.

**Links:-**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/explained-the-adani-groups-recent-port-deal-in-sri-lanka/article36825539.ece>

## G-20 Speakers Summit

**Question: The seventh G-20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit which is scheduled to be held on October 7-8 2021 will be held in which city?**

a) New York, USA b) New Delhi, India c) Italy, Rome d) None of these

**Ans: c**

**Context**

- The seventh G-20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit is scheduled to be held on October 7-8 in Rome, the capital of Italy.
- **Related facts**
- An eight-member parliamentary delegation from India will participate in the event.
- Delegation will include Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman Harivansh and Secretary Generals of both Houses of Parliament.
- Duarte Pacheco President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) will address the Summit in the opening session and Prime Minister of Italy, Mario Draghi will be the keynote speaker.
- Summit is expected to discuss a variety of issues including response to the social and employment crisis caused by the COVID -19 pandemic.



**Reference:** [https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/om-birla-harivansh-to-participate-in-g-20-parliamentary-speakers-summit-in-rome-121100300239\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/om-birla-harivansh-to-participate-in-g-20-parliamentary-speakers-summit-in-rome-121100300239_1.html)

## Economics

### Nirmala Sitharaman participates in 6th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

**Question : Nirmala Sitharaman participates in 6th Annual Meeting of Board of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank. Who is president of AIIB .**

a : Jim Young Kim b David Malpass c JIM Liqun  
d none of these

**Ans: c**

**Related facts :**

- Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman participated in the 6th Annual Meeting of the Board



of Governors of Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) via video conference from New Delhi on 26 October 2021 .

- The Finance Minister shared her thoughts in the Governor’s Roundtable Discussion on the theme “COVID-19 Crisis and Post-COVID Support.
- In January 2016, India became a founding member of AIIB along with 57 countries. AIIB’s membership has grown to 102 countries.
- Jin Liqun is the inaugural President and Chair of the Board of Directors. On July 28, 2020, he was elected to serve a second term of five years, beginning on Jan. 16, 2021.

**Links:** <https://www.aiib.org/en/about-aiib/governance/senior-management/index.html>: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1766719>

## The Changing Wealth of Nations 2021 report

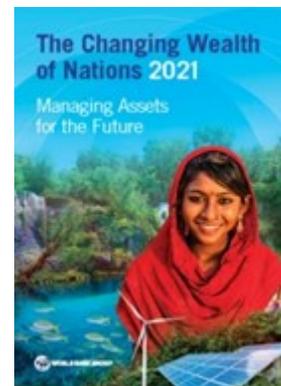
**Question: Which organization has recently released The Changing Wealth of Nations 2021 report?**

a) NITI Aayog b) IMF c) World Bank d) WTO

**Ans: c**

**Recent Context**

- World Bank has recently published its report titled “The Changing Wealth of Nations 2021”.
- **Related Facts**
- The Changing Wealth of Nations 2021: Managing Assets for the Future provides the most comprehensive accounting of the wealth of nations, an in-depth analysis of the evolution of wealth, and pathways to build wealth for the future.
- Report establishes comprehensive wealth as a measure of sustainability and a key component of country analytics.
- Latest edition of the report has measured wealth creation and distribution among 146 countries. It covers a 20-year period from 1995 to 2018.
- World Bank included gross domestic product, human capital, human-produced capital, and natural capital such as renewable & non-renewable natural resources to measure the wealth.
- According to the bank, human capital is defined as “earnings over a person’s lifetime.”
- As per report, South Asia suffers the most in terms of loss of human capital loss because of air pollution.
- As per report, human capital was the largest source of worldwide wealth. In the year 2018, it comprised of 64 per cent of total global wealth.
- Middle-income countries increased their investment in human capital as a result, their share of global human capital wealth increased significantly.
- In South Asia, human capital accounts for 50 per cent of total wealth in the region. This figure did not change during the survey period. Thus, report highlights the importance of a healthy workforce.



**Reference:** <https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/36400>

## 8th ministerial meeting of India-U.S.A. Economic & Financial Partnership Dialogue held in Washington D.C

**Question: Who represented India at the 8th India-U.S.A. Economic & Financial Partnership Dialogue held recently at Washington D.C (USA) ?**

- (a) Narendra Modi (b) Nirmala Sitharaman (c) Ram Nath Kovind  
(d) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- The 8th India-U.S.A. Economic & Financial Partnership Dialogue was held at Washington D.C recently, in which India was represented and Chaired by the Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman.
- The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary of the Treasury of the United States Dr. Janet Yellen.
- Discussions on macroeconomic outlook and economic recovery from COVID, financial regulatory and technical collaboration between the two countries were held.
- The meeting concluded with adoption of Joint Statement by the Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs and the Treasury Secretary for the United States.



**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasframePage.aspx?PRID=1764070>

## RBI nod for IIFCL to finance InVITs

**Question : Which of the following public sector undertaking has recently(October 2021) got RBI's approval for financing infrastructure investment trusts (InVITs) ?**

- a. IIFCL b. IDFC c. IFCI d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- IIFCL has recently(October 2021) got RBI's approval for financing infrastructure investment trusts (InVITs).
- It is notable that IIFCL(India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd ) has been registered as a NBFC-ND-IFC with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) since September 2013 and follows the applicable prudential norms of the RBI.
- The RBI nod of funding infrastructure projects will help improve asset quality and at the same time help grow the balance sheet of the company.



**Link:**

<https://indianmandarins.com/news/rbi-nod-for-iifcl-to-finance-infra-projects/23425>

## Approval for the proposed merger of Clariant Pigments Business and Heubach Business

**Question – On 4 October 2021, which organization approved the proposed merger of Clariant Pigments Business and Heubach Business?**

- (a) Ministry of Finance (b) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs  
(c) Cabinet Committee on Investment (d) Competition Commission of India

**Answer—(d)**

**Related facts—**

- On 4 October 2021, CCI approved the proposed merger of Clariant Pigments Business and Heubach Business.
- The combined business entity that will emerge as a result of the merger will be headed by SK Capital Partners LP, while Heubach Holding GmbH and Clariant AG will hold a minority stake.
- CCI stands for — Competition Commission of India.
- Clariant is active in the production and distribution of specialty chemicals used in different applications and industries. Clariant globally operates in six main businesses: (i) Additives; (ii) Catalysts; (iii) Functional Minerals; (iv) Industrial and Consumer Specialties; (v) Oil and Mining Services; and (vi) Pigments.
- Heubach is a manufacturer of corrosion protection pigments as well as organic and inorganic colour pigments and pigment preparations. Heubach supplies its products for use in the paint, plastics, ink, and building industries, as well as for other applications.



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1760863>

## Monetary Policy Statement 2021-22

**Question – On October 8, 2021, the Monetary Policy Committee under the chairmanship of Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das released the Monetary Policy Statement. According to this, the economy is expected to grow at what percentage in the year 2021-22?**

- (a) 9.5 percent (b) 8.5 percent (c) 6.5 percent  
(d) 7.5 percent

**Answer—(a)**

**Related facts—**

- On 8 October 2021, the Monetary Policy Committee, chaired by the Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das, released the Monetary Policy Statement, 2021-22.
- In this monetary policy, there was no change in the repo rate and reverse repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility and it has been kept unchanged at 4 percent and 3.35 percent respectively.
- While the marginal standing facility rate and the bank rate have been kept unchanged at 4.25 per cent.
- The statutory liquidity ratio of scheduled commercial banks remains unchanged at 18 per cent.



Monetary Policy Statement  
2021-22 Resolution of the  
Monetary Policy Committee  
October 6-8 2021  
COMPLIANCE CALENDAR®  
Simplifying Legislation & Enforcing Governance

- The cash reserve ratio, net demand and time liabilities of scheduled commercial banks have been kept unchanged at 4 per cent.
- The Reserve Bank has retained the real GDP growth forecast for the current financial year 2021-22 at 9.5 per cent.

**Link:**

[https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS\\_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=52366](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=52366)

## Government to set up panel for National Employment Policy

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

**i) Government of India will soon bring out its 2nd National Employment Policy (NEP).**

**ii) NEP will seek to create a roadmap for improving job opportunities in India.**

**Which of the above are correct?**

a) I b) ii c) both i and ii d) None of the above

**Ans: ii**

**Context**



- The central government has recently decided to set up a committee for National Employment Policy (NEP).
- **Related Facts**
- NEP will seek to create a roadmap for improving job opportunities in India.
- Committee to be set up will comprise of representatives from Ministry of labour and other ministries.
- It will be a high-powered committee, of which views and recommendations will be taken.
- It will also include prominent people from industry.
- Objective of the Policy
- The policy will have twin objectives of creating an enabling environment for attracting new enterprises and industries to generate employment opportunities while improving the skill sets of the existing workforce to make it employable and competent enough to match global standards with special emphasis on increasing the headcount of female workforce.
- The policy is expected to take into account the jobs estimated to be created under the production-linked incentive (PLI) scheme across a dozen sectors besides the rising number of gig workforce and platform workers in the country.

**Reference:** <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/govt-to-soon-set-up-panel-for-national-employment-policy/articleshow/87246863.cms>

## India, Israel, UAE, U.S. will launch quadrilateral economic forum

**Question: Which of the following nations are decided to launch a new quadrilateral economic forum?**

(a) India, USA, Israel & Australia (b) India, USA, Israel & UK  
(c) India, USA, Israel & Russia (d) India, USA, Israel & UAE

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and the United States decided to launch a new quadrilateral economic forum.
- This forum will explore the possibilities for joint infrastructure projects in the fields of transportation, technology, maritime security, economics and trade, as well as for additional joint projects.
- This forum will also expand economic and political cooperation in the Middle East and Asia, including through trade, combating climate change, energy cooperation, and increasing maritime security,” as well as ways to counter the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Quadrilateral builds on ongoing cooperation between U.S., Israel and UAE after the Abraham Accords last year.



**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/jaishankar-takes-part-in-new-quadrilateral-with-israel-uae-and-us/article37064989.ece>

## Small finance bank licence to consortium of Centrum and BharatPe

**Question :** Of which firms consortium has recently(October 2021) been granted small finance bank licence by RBI ?

a. Centrum & BharatPe b. Zebpay & L&T c. PaisaBazar & HCL d. None of the above

**Ans. a**

**Related facts —**

- The consortium of Centrum & BharatPe has recently(October 2021) been granted small finance bank licence by RBI.
- The new small finance bank, has been incorporated as ‘Unity Small Finance Bank’.
- Centrum’s MSME and Micro Finance businesses shall be merged into Unity Small Finance Bank.
- Centrum is a diversified financial services organization with a broad experience in financial markets.



**Link:**

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/rbi-issues-license-to-bharatpe-centrum-for-small-finance-bank-11634045925677.html>

## IMF Projects Indian Economy to grow at 9.5% in FY22

**Question:** IMF Projected Indian Economy to grow at what Percent for financial year 2022?

(a) 8.5 % (b) 9.5% (c) 10.5% (d) 7.5%

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- IMF predicted India’s GDP growth at 9.5% in 2021 ( for financial year 22).
- For financial year 2023 they predicted 8.5% GDP growth.



- IMF predicts global growth this year of 5.9%, compared with its projection in July of 6%.
- The IMF was established in 1944 in the aftermath of the Great Depression of the 1930s.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international financial institution headquartered in Washington, D.C., consisting of 190 countries.
- IMF aims to Promote international monetary co-operation, facilitate international trade, foster sustainable economic growth and reduce poverty around the world.

**Reference:** <https://www.republicworld.com/india-news/economy/imf-projects-indian-economy-to-grow-at-9-dot-5-percent-this-year-and-8-dot-5-percent-in-2022.html>

## Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt

**Question :** Govt has recently(October 2021) extended Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt upto —

a. 31st March 2022 b. 31st December 2021 c. 31st July 2022 d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Govt has recently(October 2021) extended Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt upto 31st March 2022.
- **Background —**
- Accordingly, a scheme viz ‘Credit Guarantee Scheme for Subordinate Debt’ was approved by the Government on 1st June, 2020 and the scheme was launched on 24th June, 2020 to provide credit facility through lending institutions to the promoters of stressed MSMEs viz SMA-2 and NPA accounts who are eligible for restructuring as per RBI guidelines on the books of the Lending institutions.
- This scheme was to remain in operation till 31.03.2021.
- In order to keep the avenues of assistance to stressed MSME Units open, the Government had earlier decided to extend this scheme for six months from 31.03.2021 to 30.09.2021.
- On the basis of the requests received from the stakeholders of the scheme, the Government has decided to further extend it by a period of another six months beyond 30.09.2021.
- The scheme will now remain operational till 31.03.2022.



**Link:**

<https://ddnews.gov.in/business/govt-extends-credit-guarantee-scheme-subordinate-debt-upto-31st-march-2022>

## Prompt Corrective Action Framework – Indian Overseas Bank

**Question :** Which bank has recently been taken out of the Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF) of RBI, giving a big relief ?

a. Indian Overseas Bank b. PNB c. SBI d. BOB

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Indian Overseas Bank has recently(September 29, 2021) been taken out of the Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF) of RBI.
- It is a big relief to the bank.
- The performance of the Indian Overseas Bank, currently under the Prompt Corrective Action Framework (PCAF) of RBI, was reviewed by the Board for Financial Supervision.
- It was noted that as per its published results for the year ended March 31, 2021, the bank is not in the breach of the PCA parameters.
- The bank has provided a written commitment that it would comply with the norms of Minimum Regulatory Capital, Net NPA and Leverage ratio on an ongoing basis and has apprised the RBI of the structural and systemic improvements that it has put in place which would help the bank in continuing to meet these commitments.
- Taking all the above into consideration, it has been decided that Indian Overseas Bank is taken out of the PCA restrictions subject to certain conditions and continuous monitoring.



**Link:**

[https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS\\_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=52318](https://www.rbi.org.in/Scripts/BS_PressReleaseDisplay.aspx?prid=52318)

## India at 3rd position in RE Investment attractiveness index

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

- i) 'Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index' (RECAI) is released by consultancy firm Ernst & Young's (EY).
- ii) India is ranked at 3rd position in the index.
- iii) USA topped the index.

**Which of the above are correct?**

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

**Ans: c**

**Related Facts**

- The Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index (RECAI) ranks the world's top 40 markets on the attractiveness of their renewable energy investment and deployment opportunities.
- Since 2000, index has been released in biannual format. This is 58th edition of the index.
- The rankings reflects assessments of market attractiveness and global market trends.
- **Rankings**
- In the index, India retains its third position while US retains the top position.
- China has been ranked at second position.
- Australia is ranked 4th.
- **India's Rank in (power purchase agreements )PPA Index**
- A new PPA Index – introduced in this edition of RECAI focuses on the attractiveness of renewable power procurement and ranks the growth potential of a nation's corporate PPA market.



- Among the top 30 power purchase agreement (PPA) markets, India has been ranked at sixth position.
- According to Index, corporate power purchase agreements were the key driver of clean energy growth in the light that, environment, social, and governance measures are becoming top agenda for companies and investors.

Reference: [https://www.ey.com/en\\_in/recai](https://www.ey.com/en_in/recai)

## RNESL will acquire a 40 per cent stake in Sterling & Wilson Solar Ltd

**Question: RNESL is subsidiary of Which of the following company?**

a) RIL b) TATA c) Wipro d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 10 October 2021; Reliance Industries announced that its subsidiary Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd (RNESL) will acquire a 40 per cent stake in Sterling & Wilson Solar Ltd.
- The deal is between RNESL, Shapoorji Pallonji & Co, Khurshid Daruwala and SWSL.
- For Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), this deal will prove to be very helpful in achieving the 100 GW generation target of solar energy by 2030.
- This will enable the company to become a global player in the solar energy industry.
- On behalf of the company, it has been said that 40 percent stake in Sterling & Wilson Solar will be acquired by a combination of primary investment, secondary purchase and open offer.
- Acquisition will be done in three phases
- In the first phase of the deal, RNESL will get a preferential allotment of 2.93 crore equity shares (equivalent to 15.46 per cent stake) at Rs 375 per share.
- Thereafter, Reliance New Energy Solar will acquire 1.84 crore equity shares or 9.7 per cent stake on a preferential basis at the rate of Rs 375 per share.
- Under the third phase, according to the acquisition rules of SEBI, a public offer will be made for the acquisition of 4.91 crore equity shares, which will be equal to 25.9 percent stake.
- RNESL acquires REC Solar
- It should be noted that this is the second solar acquisition for RIL in a single day.
- Earlier on 10 October 2021 itself, Reliance New Energy Solar Limited(RNESL) bought REC Solar for \$ 771 million.



**Links:-**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/ril-to-buy-40-stake-in-sp-group-s-sterling-wilson-solar-for-rs-1-100-cr-121101000882\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/ril-to-buy-40-stake-in-sp-group-s-sterling-wilson-solar-for-rs-1-100-cr-121101000882_1.html)

## Fitch cuts India's FY22 GDP

**Question: What is the new growth rate of Indian GDP as per the fitch rating agency for financial year 2021-22?**

a) 10% b) 8% c) 8.7% d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

### **Related Facts**

- Fitch Ratings in its latest report has cut India's economic growth forecast to 8.7% for FY22.
- Fitch has also raised GDP growth projection for FY23 to 10 per cent.
- As per Fitch COVID-19 wave delayed rather than derail the economic recovery.
- Fitch Ratings said India's 'BBB-/Negative' sovereign rating "balances a still-strong medium-term growth outlook.
- As per Fitch the Negative' outlook, reflects uncertainty over the debt trajectory following the sharp deterioration in India's public finances due to the pandemic shock.
- The projections for 2021-22 fiscal compares to a contraction of 7.3 per cent recorded in the last financial year and a 4 per cent growth in 2019-20.



**Reference:** [https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/fitch-cuts-india-s-fy22-gdp-forecast-to-8-7-but-pegs-fy23-growth-at-10-121100700896\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/fitch-cuts-india-s-fy22-gdp-forecast-to-8-7-but-pegs-fy23-growth-at-10-121100700896_1.html)

## **World Bank Report- Shifting Gears: Digitization and Services-Led Development**

**Question: Which organization has released the report titled, 'Shifting Gears: Digitization and Services Led Development'?**

a) IMF b) World Bank c) NITI Aayog d) WTO

**Ans: b**

### **Context**

- World bank has recently released a report titled, 'Shifting Gears: Digitization and Services Led Development' recently?
- **Related Facts**
- As per the report, India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the current fiscal year is estimated to grow by 8.3%.
- Accommodative fiscal and monetary policies and low interest rates globally have been key to mitigating the pandemic's economic impact on households and firms.
- As per report, in the next financial year, India's economic prospects will be determined by its pace of vaccination against covid-19 and successful implementation of agriculture & labour reforms.
- India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) increased by 20.1% in first quarter (April-June quarter) of financial year 2021-22 in the backdrop of "a significant base effect, limited damage to domestic demand and strong export growth".
- Economic data such as 'GDP growth rate' are calculated on year-on-year basis. Thus, a low growth rate in the previous year leads to low base for the number in current year.



**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/india-estimated-to-grow-at-83-in-the-current-fiscal-world-bank/article36871360.ece>

## Maharashtra: Alibaug white onion got GI tag

**Question: Recently, Alibaug White Onion got GI tag. This onion belongs to which of the following state?**

(a) Maharashtra (b) Uttarakhand (c) Rajasthan (d) Madhya Pradesh

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Maharashtra (Alibaug) white onion was given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- The soil of Alibaug taluka has low sulphur content.
- It has low pungency, sweet taste, 'no tear' factor, low pyruvic acid, high protein, fat and fibre content, besides high antioxidant compounds.



**Reference:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/navi-mumbai/alibaug-white-onion-gets-gi-tag-for-health-benefits/articleshow/86718322.cms>

## Business Summit on National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm in NE states

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

i) National Mission on Edible Oil- Oil Palm Business Summit for North Eastern States was held at Guwahati , Assam recently.

ii) National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) is a Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a special focus on the North east region only.

**Which of the above statements are true?**

a) I b) ii c) i and ii both d) None of the above

**Ans: a**

**Context**

- National Mission on Edible Oil- Oil Palm Business Summit for North Eastern States was held at Guwahati on 5th October 2021.
- **Related Facts**
- Summit was organized under the chairmanship of the Union Agriculture Minister Shri Narendra Singh Tomar.
- Business summit has been aimed to explore the target of area expansion, seedling requirement fixed for different states through processors, details of viability gap payment, interventions and assistance under the mission.
- Summit also displayed a film on oil palm plantation along with the watering of the oil palm plant.
- All the major oil palm players, viz Godrej Agrovet, Ruchi Soya, Shivaisis and 3 F oil palm were present for the Summit.
- **About National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm**
- On August 18 2021 the Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval to the National Mission on Edible Oils – Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) as a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
- Scheme was launched with a special focus on the North east region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands.



- A financial outlay of Rs.11,040 crore has been made for the scheme, out of which Rs.8,844 crore is the Government of India share and Rs.2,196 crore is State share and this includes the viability gap funding too.
- Under this scheme, it is proposed to cover an additional area of 6.5 lakh hectare (ha.) for oil palm till the year 2025-26 and thereby reaching the target of 10 lakh hectares ultimately.
- The production of Crude Palm Oil (CPO) is expected to go upto 11.20 lakh tonnes by 2025-26 and upto 28 lakh tonnes by 2029-30.
- Due to the heavy dependence on imports for edible oils, it is important to make efforts for increasing the domestic production of edible oils in which increasing area and productivity of oil palm plays an important part.

Reference: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1746942>

## GI tagged Mihidana from West Bengal exported to Bahrain

**Question: Which district of West Bengal has been awarded with GI tag for sweet dish 'Mihidana' recently?**

a) Kolkata b) Malda c) Hugli d) Bardhaman

**Ans: d**

**Context**



- First consignment of GI tagged sweet dish Mihidana from West Bengal was exported to Bahrain recently.
- **Related Facts**
- This export was carried out to promote indigenous & Geographical Identification (GI) tagged products.
- GI tagged Mihidana was sourced from Bardhaman district of West Bengal.
- Mihidana was exported by APEDA registered M/S DM Enterprises, Kolkata.
- It was imported by Aljazira Group, Bahrain.
- APEDA has been focusing on increasing lesser known, indigenous and GI tagged food products from the country.
- Mihidana is an Indian sweet from West Bengal, India.
- Mihidana, described as the micro cousin of the traditional Boondi, is derived from two words, Mihi meaning fine, and Dana, meaning grain.
- **About GI Tag**
- GI tag denotes specific geographical origin and possess qualities or a reputation that are specific to that origin.
- GI is a form of intellectual property right (IPR) and is different from other forms of IPR on the fact that, it denotes the exclusivity of the community in a defined geography, rather than to an individual.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=1761053>

## RBI's Auto Debit Rules

**Question- RBI's Auto Debit Rules Have Become Effective from which of the following date?**

(a) From October 1, 2021 (b) From October 15, 2021 (c) From October 10, 2021 (d) From October 2, 2021

**Ans. (a)**

**Related Facts-**

- ON October 1, 2021, to bolster the safety and security of card transactions, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) mandated new auto-debit rules.
- RBI's directive states that there will be no automatic recurring payment for various services including utility bills, recharge of phone, DTH, and OTT, among others as the additional factor of authentication (AFA) will become mandatory from October 1, 2021.
- Under the new norms, banks will be required to inform customers in advance about recurring payments due and transactions would be carried the following nod from the customer.
- So the transactions would not be automatic but would be done after authentication from the customer.
- **One-time registration process**
- Customers will have to go through a one-time registration process, and subsequent transactions can be performed without the additional factor authentication.
- While registering, customers can now provide the validity period for future transactions.
- **OTP for payments above Rs.5,000**
- For recurring payments above Rs.5,000, banks are required to send a one-time password to customers as per the new guidelines.
- **Choose to opt-out**
- Customers can now even choose to opt out of a particular transaction or mandate via the link provided in the pre-debit notification.
- **No impact on these auto-debits**
- Any standing instructions registered using bank accounts for mutual funds, SIPs, equated monthly installments for loans will not be impacted by these new rules.
- **RBI's motive**
- RBI had said the requirement of AFA has made digital payments in India safe and secure and the primary objective of the framework was to protect customers from fraudulent transactions and enhance customer convenience.



**Reference-** <https://www.livemint.com/>.

## IFSCA sets up expert panel for development of sustainable finance hub

**Question- An expert panel to suggest a framework to develop a sustainable finance hub will be headed by-**

(a) C K Mishra (b) Raghuram Rajan (c) Arvind Dubey (d) Jean Drez

**Ans. (a)**

- On 31 September 2021, the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has set up an expert panel to suggest a framework to develop a sustainable finance hub.
- The panel will be headed by C K Mishra, former



environment and forest secretary.

- Raising financial resources for climate change adaptation and mitigation actions of this scale needs active participation of international investors.
- IFSCA envisions GIFT- IFSC as a global hub for sustainable finance, acting as a gateway for channelizing foreign capital into India.
- This expert panel will be constituted by a 10-member committee, including leaders from international agencies, standard setting bodies, funds, academia, and consultancies.
- The committee would submit a report, along with recommendations, within three months from the date of its first meeting.
- IFSCA was established in April 2020 under the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019.
- It is headquartered at GIFT City, Gandhinagar.
- IFSCA is a unified authority for the development and regulation of financial products, financial services and financial institutions in the International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in India.
- At present, GIFT IFSC is the maiden international financial services centre in India.
- Prior to the establishment of IFSCA, the domestic financial regulators, namely, RBI, Sebi, PFRDA and IRDAI regulated the business in IFSC.
- The main objective of IFSCA is to develop a strong global connect and focus on the needs of the Indian economy as well as to serve as an international financial platform for the entire region and the global economy as a whole.

**Reference-** <https://bfsi.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/policy/ifscasets-up-expert-panel-for-development-of-sustainable-finance-hub/86673753>.

## Global Financial Stability Report, 2021

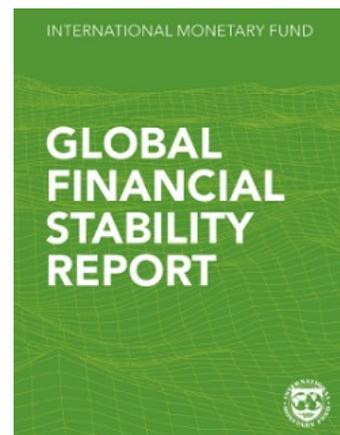
**Question- Which of the following organization has released the Global Financial Stability Report?**

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

**Ans. (a)**

**Related Facts-**

- In October 2021 the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released its Global Financial Stability Report 2021.
- As per Global Consumer Survey in 2020, 99 per cent of its respondents responded that they did trade in cryptocurrencies.
- Nigeria, Vietnam and the Philippines topped the mentioned survey.
- It pointed out that for emerging markets and developing economies, adoption of cryptocurrency might be luring but they also come with a set of potential macro-financial risks, especially with respect to asset and currency substitution.
- **Global Financial Stability Report (GFSR)**
- It is a semi-annual report by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).
- It assesses the stability of global financial markets and emerging-market financing with a primary focus on current conditions, especially financial and



structural imbalances, that could risk an upset in global financial stability and access to financing by emerging-market countries.

- It is released twice per year, in April and October.
- GFSR replaced two previous reports by the IMF, the annual International Capital Markets Report and the quarterly Emerging Market Financing Report.

Reference- <https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/GFSR>.

## IMF Report on Crypto Ecosystem

**Question: “Global Financial Stability Report” is released recently by which agency?**

a) World Bank b) RBI c) International Monetary Fund (IMF) d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

**Context**

- In its recent released report titled “Global Financial Stability Report”, IMF has discussed various aspects of Crypto Currency ecosystem in the world.

- **Related Facts**

- As per the report, the rapid growth of the crypto ecosystem presents new opportunities, but pose financial stability challenges.
- According to report, Technological innovation is starting a new era of making payments and other financial services faster, cheaper, more accessible. Such transaction also allows to flow across borders swiftly.
- **What are Cryptocurrencies?**
- Cryptocurrencies are digital or virtual currencies in which encryption techniques are used to regulate the generation of units and verify the transfer of funds, operating independently of a central bank.



Reference: <https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/crypto-assets-pose-financial-stability-challenges-imf-report/article36787882.ece>

## Expert Group on Minimum Wages and National Level Wages

**Question: Who is selected as the head of Expert Group on Minimum Wages and National Level Wages, constituted by the MoL&E, Union Government?**

a) SP Mukherjee b) Ajit Mishra c) DPS Negi d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- The Expert Group on Minimum Wages and National Level Wages has been reconstituted by MoL&E under the economist and statistician SP Mukherjee.
- It should be noted that Mr. Ajit Mishra, who headed the panel, excused himself from discharging his duty due to some personal commitments.
- Mishra-led committee held four meetings since its inception in June 2021



- The Labor Code on Wages had been passed in 2019, provides legislative protection of the minimum wage to all workers.
- At present, the provisions of the Minimum Wages Act apply to workers in scheduled employment, including mining, plantation and services.
- The wage code aims to ensure a right to subsistence for every worker and to increase the legislative protection of the minimum wage from 40% to 100% of the country's workforce.
- The nine-member new committee will have the same mandate as the earlier committee to make recommendations.
- It can make recommendations to the government on minimum wages and national floor wages.
- This new committee has also been constituted for three years.
- DPS Negi, Principal Labor and Employment Advisor in the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MoL&E), is also the member secretary of the new committee.

**Links:-**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/expert-group-responsible-for-determining-minimum-wages-reconstituted/articleshow/86581622.cms>

## World Bank Nod To ₹ 1,112 Crore Loan To Transform Chennai

**Q. In October 2021, the World Bank said its board of executive directors has approved a programme to support Tamil Nadu's vision of making Chennai into a world-class city that is more green, livable, and resilient to climate change. What is the loan amount approved by World Bank for this programme?**

(A) Rs. 1100 crore (B) Rs. 1112 crore (C) Rs. 3000 crore (D) None of the above

**Ans- (B)**

**Related facts:**

- The World Bank said its board of executive directors has approved a USD 150 million (about ₹ 1,112 crore) programme to support Tamil Nadu's vision of making Chennai into a world-class city that is more green, livable, and resilient to climate change.
- Besides, the World Bank has given its nod to a USD 40 million (around ₹ 296 crore) project which will improve the quality of health services in Meghalaya and strengthen the state's capacity to handle health emergencies, including the COVID-19 pandemic.
- The USD 150 million "Chennai City Partnership: Sustainable Urban Services Program" will help strengthen institutions, improve the financial health of service agencies, and drive significant improvements in the quality of four key urban services — water supply and sewerage, mobility, health, and solid waste management.
- Chennai Metropolitan Area, home to about 10.9 million people, is India's fourth most populous metropolitan area.

**Link:**

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/world-bank-nod-to-rs-1-100-crore-loan-to-transform-chennai-2560636>

## AIIB approves USD356.67 million loan for expansion of Chennai Metro Rail System

**Q. In September 2021, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a USD356.67 million loan to the Government of India to support the expansion of the which metro rail system?**

- (A) Lucknow metro rail system (B) Chennai metro rail system  
(C) Kanpur metro rail system (D) Delhi metro rail system

**Ans- (B)**

**Related facts:**

- On 30th September 2021, the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a USD356.67 million loan to the Government of India to support the expansion of the Chennai metro rail system.
- The project involves the construction of a new corridor in Chennai's metro network as part of Chennai Metro Rail Phase 2.
- It will span from Lighthouse in the east to Poonamalee Bypass in the west to ensure seamless multimodal transport across Chennai by providing integrated access to suburban rail, bus stations and the city's main airport.
- In addition, the project will address traffic bottlenecks and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by increasing public urban transport options.
- This project is aligned with AIIB's mandate to support high-quality and sustainable infrastructure.
- The improvement and integration of the transport sector in Chennai will further promote trade and economic growth.
- The project will be implemented by the Chennai Metro Rail Limited.
- The residential and commercial establishments along the new corridor will also benefit from enhanced accessibility and connectivity as well as increased economic opportunities.
- The project's design and construction will have environmentally friendly features to help reduce its carbon footprint.



**Link:**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=AIIB-approves-USD356.67-million-loan-for-expansion-of-Chennai-Metro-Rail-System&id=427126>

## Scientific

### Defense/Science Short Notes

India successfully test-fired its longest range surface-to-surface ballistic missile, Agni-V

**Question : India successfully test-fired its longest range surface-to-surface ballistic missile, Agni-V from which Island .?**

a Satish dhawan space centre ( Andhra Pradesh)

b Thumbe ( keral ) c Abdul kalam Island ( odisa) d none of these

**Answer :c**

**Related Facts :**

- “A successful launch of the surface-to-surface ballistic missile, Agni-5, was carried out on October 27, 2021 at approximately 1950 hrs from APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha.
- It is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000 km with a very high degree of accuracy and can reach most parts of China.
- The Agni series constitutes the backbone of the nuclear weapons delivery which also includes the Prithvi short-range ballistic missiles and fighter aircraft.
- Though the government has claimed that it has a maximum range of around 5,000 km, several reports suggest that it can hit targets as distant as 8,000 km.
- The nuclear capable missile can carry a warhead of around 1,500 kg and has a launch weight of 50,000 kg, making it one of the most potent missiles in the country.
- The Agni 5 missile can be launched from road and rail platforms, making it easier for it to be deployed and launched at a quicker pace.
- India is among the handful of nations with (arguably) ICBM capability, the next generation of the missile, Agni VI, under development, is expected to have a range of around 8,000 km.
- **History of Agni missiles :**
- India began testing the Agni series of missiles in 1989 with the first test for Agni 1, an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile, with a range of around 1,000 km.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) labs have continued to work on it, bringing the latest available Agni 5 to its present capability .
- Agni-V falls broadly in the category of an Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM).
- The initial test of the Agni-V missile was conducted in the year 2012.
- Agni-I, was developed under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP) and tested in 1989.
- Agni-1 to 5 missiles are designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- Indian Defence Forces have Agni-1 with 700 km range, Agni-2 with 2000 km range, Agni-3 with 2,500 km, and Agni-4 with 3,500 in their weapon system.
- Dr Kalam played an important role in the growth and operationalisation of Agni and Prithvi missiles.



**Links:**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/agni-ballistic-missile-vs-china-hypersonic-missile-7595125/>

## Trigonopterus Corona a new Species of Beetle

**Question: Recently from the island of which of the following country a new species of beetle named after corona virus has been discovered?**

a) Sri Lanka b) Philippines c) New Zealand d) Indonesia

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Recently scientists from Indonesia named a newly discovered species of beetle in the name of corona virus as Trigonopterus corona.
- On the Indonesian island of Sulawesi, museum scientists have discovered 28 new species of beetles.
- All of these species, which measure 2-3 mm, are described in the journal Zookeys.
- One of them has been named Trigonopterus corona.
- This should be noted that it is not the only insect species to be named after the pandemic there are others also.
- In April, a new species of caddisfly (a moth-like insect) was collected near a stream in Kosovo by a team of scientists, and named as Potamophylax coronavirus (Biodiversity Data Journal)
- The same month, out of six new species of Brazilian wasps described in the Journal of Hymenoptera Research, one was named Allorhagas quarentenus.
- Above name is given as a reference to the quarantine, which occurred while the authors were describing the species.
- Earlier in October 2021, Scientists at the Autonomous University of Tamaulipas (UAT) in Mexico recently discovered five new species of parasitoid wasps in Mexico.
- Out of five new wasp species discovered in Mexico, scientists named one Stethantyx covida (Zookeys).



**Links:-**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/beetles-species-named-after-corona-7590632/>

## Remote Sensing Satellite Jilin-1 Gaofen 02F

**Question: Which of the following country recently launched the Jilin-1 Gaofen 02F remote sensing satellite into orbit?**

a) South Korea b) Japan c) China d) Russia

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 27 October 2021 China launched the Jilin-1 Gaofen 02F remote sensing satellite into orbit on a Kuaizhou-1A rocket.
- The country set a new national record as it was the 40th orbital rocket mission for 2021.
- Its success brings China's rocket launch rate beyond the country's previous record of 39 first set in 2018 and tied in 2020, according to Space News.
- Jilin-1 Gaofen 02F is a commercial remote sensing satellite and launched on the solid-fueled Kuaizhou-1A from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in the Gobi Desert.



- Jilin-1 Gaofen 02F remote sensing satellite is joining a growing constellation of dozens of such satellites operated by Chang Guang Satellite Technology Co., Ltd.

**Links:-**

<https://www.space.com/china-launches-record-40th-rocket-2021>

## OneWeb to Bring High-Speed Satellite connectivity for Saudi Arabia

**Question: Recently Bharti backed OneWeb and Saudi Arabia's Neom Tech & Digital Holding Company have signed a joint venture (JV) agreement of which of the following value?**

a) \$200 million b) \$400 million c) \$300 million d) \$100 million

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Bharti backed OneWeb and Saudi Arabia's Neom Tech & Digital Holding Company have signed a \$200 million joint venture (JV) agreement.
- The agreement between the two comes in the existence to bring high-speed satellite connectivity to Saudi Arabia and the wider West Asia and neighboring East African countries.
- It should be noted that NEOM Tech & Digital Holding Company – the first holding company to be established as a subsidiary of NEOM.
- It should be noted that OneWeb is the second-largest LEO operator with 358 satellites and the only licensed operator in Saudi Arabia.
- Neom Tech & Digital Hold as well as OneWeb expects to complete ground infrastructure in 2022.
- Neom Tech & Digital Hold and the new JV entity will have exclusive rights to distribute OneWeb services in its target regions.
- Initially it will provide services for seven years from the initiation of the LEO satellite network, which is expected to commence in 2023.
- The partnership will see the deployment of OneWeb's Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite constellation.
- It will provide the rapid and reliable connectivity to enable Neom's ecosystem of cognitive technologies.
- According to statement from Bharti it will ultimately transform businesses and rural communities in the region where access to fiber-like internet was previously unimaginable,
- The agreement also includes a long-term strategic partnership regarding research and development of future connectivity systems,



**Links:-**

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/info-tech/bhartis-oneweb-neom-tech-of-saudi-sign-200-million-jv/article37180611.ece>

## African Union suspends Sudan after military coup

**Question: Consider the following statements**

**i) The African Union (AU) has suspended Sudan from the bloc over the “unconstitutional” seizure of power by the military of Sudan.**

**ii) Sudan is one of the country in horn of Africa.**

**Which of the above are correct?**

a) I b) ii c) both i and ii d) None

**Ans: a**

**Recent Context**

- Recently in African country of Sudan , military has seized power by toppling the civilian government of the country.
- **Related Facts**
- On 25th October 2021 Political leaders were arrested, sparking nationwide protests and international condemnation.
- The World Bank has suspended its aid to Sudan, after the military there staged a coup against the civilian government.
- The African Union (AU) has also suspended Sudan from the bloc over the “unconstitutional” seizure of power. The US has frozen \$700m (£508m) in aid.
- Sudan’s civilian and military leaders had been in a fragile power-sharing agreement for the past two years.
- About African Union
- The African Union (AU) is a continental union consisting of 55 member states located on the continent of Africa.
- The bloc was founded on 26 May 2001 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and launched on 9 July 2002 in Durban, South Africa.
- It is headquartered at Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.



**Reference:** <https://www.bbc.com/news/world-africa-59066654>

## United States successfully tested hypersonic Missile technology

**Question: What is the name given to the hypersonic missile recently tested by USA?**

a) DF-17 b) Zircon c) Avangard d) None of these

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 20 October 2021; the United States successfully tested hypersonic missile technology.
- The test, conducted at a NASA facility in Wallops, Virginia
- The US Navy stated that it is a vital step in the development of a Navy-designed common hypersonic missile.
- It should be noted that hypersonic missile is a new weapons system which is already being deployed by China and Russia.
- US Navy informed that the test demonstrated advanced hypersonic technologies, capabilities, and prototype systems in a realistic operating environment.
- Hypersonic missiles, like traditional ballistic missiles, can fly more than five times the speed of sound (Mach 5).



- These missiles are more maneuverable than their ballistic counterparts and can trace a low trajectory in the atmosphere, making them harder to defend against.
- China's Hypersonic Medium-Range Missile:
- China unveiled a hypersonic medium-range missile, the DF-17, in 2019, which can travel around 2,000 kilometers (1,200 miles) and can carry nuclear warheads.
- Russia's Hypersonic Missile:
- Russia recently launched a hypersonic missile, the Zircon, from a submarine, and since late 2019 has had the hypersonic nuclear-capable Avangard missiles in service.
- The Avangard can travel at up to Mach 27, changing course and altitude.
- USA's Plan:
- The US defense department Pentagon has a plan to deploy its first hypersonic weapons by 2025.

**Links:-**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/the-most-read-books-in-us-right-now-are-/articleshow/87202528.cms>

## Planet 2M0437b

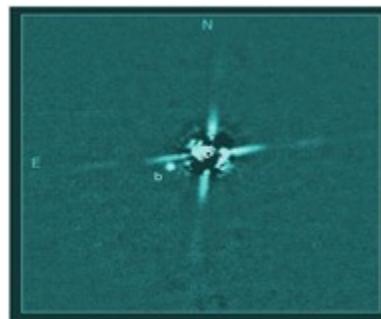
**Question: Why the Planet 2M0437b, which has been recently discovered is different from thousands other planets discovered so far?**

- a) It is very small b) It is at very large distance c) Youngest planet ever found  
d) None of these

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:-**

- An international team of scientists led by University of Hawaii have recently discovered one of the youngest planets ever found around a distant infant star.
- It was spotted in 2018 using the Subaru Telescope in Hawaii, and follow-up observations in near-infrared were conducted using the W. M. Keck Observatory.
- The star tracked by the research team for three years to confirm that the planet is it's, as it moved across the sky.
- This kind of tracking helped the astronomers as they were able to confirm that 2M0437b was moving with it.
- The exquisite data from the Keck Observatory allowed us to confirm that the faint neighbor is moving through space along with its star.
- Astronomer Adam Kraus of the University of Texas said at Austin that our tracking proved that the object is a true companion of the star.
- The research has been accepted into the Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, and is available on arXiv.
- One thing special about this planet is that it can be directly observed through telescope.
- 2M0437b is among a handful of objects that are helpful in advancing our understanding of how planets form and change with time.
- It is going to help us in shedding new light on the origin of the Solar System and Earth.



- The in-depth research was recently published in Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society.

**Links:-**

<https://scitechdaily.com/astronomers-discover-infant-planet-one-of-the-youngest-exoplanets-ever-observed/>

### Three new species of fish of genus *Aborichthys* found

**Question: in which of the following state of India three new species of fish of genus *Aborichthys* of family have been recently found?**

- a) Himachal Pradesh b) Arunachal Pradesh c) Sikkim d) Uttarakhand

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Three new species of fish of genus *Aborichthys* of family Nemachelidae have been discovered from Arunachal Pradesh recently.
- A team of researchers from Department of Zoology of Dera Natung Government College of Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh has made this discovery.
- The three fish species discovered have been named as *Aborichthys uniobarensis*, *Aborichthys barapensis* and *Aborichthys palinensis*.
- These fish species are distributed in streams like Senki, Barap and Palin, which are the tributaries of Brahmaputra river system.
- The discovery has been published in international journals like Asian Journal of Conservation Biology, Journal of Threatened Taxa and FishTaxa.
- *Aborichthys* is an elongate and slender-bodied bottom-dwelling freshwater stone loach fish.
- It inhabits the moderate-to-fast flowing water of Mountain Rivers, streams and drainages of the Brahmaputra river basin.
- These fishes are endemic to the eastern Himalayas.
- The fishes of this species are characterised by narrow oblique bars on the body.
- The fish has a black ocellus at the upper extremity of the caudal-fin base and a rounded or truncated caudal fin.
- It should be noted that the Eastern Himalaya is one of the four major biodiversity hotspots of India.
- It is endemic to more than 20 per cent fauna of India, including the fish species, in this region, Arunachal Pradesh, a land of rivers, is known for its rich biodiversity.



**Links:-**

<https://www.downtoearth.org.in/news/wildlife-biodiversity/arunachal-college-spots-3-new-fish-species-79814>

### India's first IVF calf of the Banni breed of Buffalo

**Question: Recently in which of the following state, India's first IVF calf of the Banni breed of buffaloes has born?**

- a) Haryana b) Rajasthan c) Gujarat d) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 23 October 2021 India's first IVF calf of the Banni breed of buffaloes was born in Gir Somnath district of Gujarat.
- Banni buffalo belongs to a dairy farmer from Dhanej village, who gave birth to IVF male calf.
- Kutch of Gujarat is the region where this Banni breed of buffalo is usually found. It should be noted that the IVC process nowadays used to give birth to the number of genetically superior buffaloes for enhancing milk production.
- In the present case 18 recipient buffaloes got the Embryos of Banni donors as it instilled in them by using the IVF technology.
- Out of this process only six pregnancies of the Banni occurred breed at the farmer's firm, and out of these six, one calf was born.
- A social enterprise of Raymond Group JK Bovagenix of NGO JK Trust carried out this process.
- As found primarily in the Kutch district of Gujarat, Banni buffalo is also known as Kutchi.
- Maldharis is also another name given to this breed of buffalo given by a local community of Kutch which maintains it.
- A standard Banni buffalo yields about 12 to 18 litres of milk every day.
- Thus, they are known for their higher milk-producing capacity as well as resilience in an arid environment.



**Links:-**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=India%E2%80%99s-first-IVF-calf-of-Banni-Buffalo-breed-takes-birth-today&id=428525>

## DRDO successfully tested Abhyas high-speed expendable aerial target

**Question: Which of the following Organisation has successfully tested the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) called Abhyas?**

(a) DRDO (b) ISRO (c) BARC (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully tested the high-speed expendable aerial target (HEAT) called ABHYAS.
- The test was conducted at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, off the coast of Bay of Bengal in Odisha.
- Abhyas has RCS, Visual and IR augmentation systems required for weapon practice.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation was founded in 1958.



- The Defence Research and Development Organisation is the premier agency under the Department of Defence Research and Development in Ministry of Defence of the Government of India.
- It is charged with the military's research and development.
- The headquarter of DRDO is in Delhi.

**Reference:** <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/drdo-successfully-tests-abhyas-high-speed-expendable-aerial-target-11634903618687.html>

## South Korea has launched the country's first space rocket

**Question: What is the name given to the first space rocket, launched recently by the South Korea, which failed to release test satellite?**

a) Nuri b) Xihe c) Haeseong-1 d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 21 October 2021; South Korea has launched the country's first space rocket names as Nuri.
- Nuri was designed and produced entirely in the country but it rocket failed to successfully release a test satellite into orbit.
- The first rocket Nuri took off from South Korea's Naro Space Center, which is located on a small island off the country's southern coast.
- South Korean President Moon Jae-In was present at the space centre, he said that the rocket completed all of its flying stages just as planned.
- He also informed that all of this was accomplished using entirely country's own technology..
- Mr. Moon further said that unfortunately, it fell short of the objective as the rocket failed to deliver the test satellite into orbit.
- According to the Korea Aerospace Research Institute (KARI), the rocket was planned to launch a payload of up to 1.5 tonnes into an orbit 600 to 800 kilometers above the Earth's surface.



**Links:-**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=South-Korea-launches-its-first-homegrown-space-rocket&id=428397>

## China sent its first solar exploration satellite into space

**Question: What is the name given to the first solar exploration satellite, which China has recently sent into the space?**

a) Xihe b) Yangzhou c) Xinhua d) Shenzhou

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 14 October 2021; China sent its first solar exploration satellite into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in northern Shanxi Province.
- A Long March-2D rocket used to launch the satellite to place it in the planned orbit and it was done successfully.



- The rocket has taken with itself ten small satellites including an orbital atmospheric density detection experimental satellite into the orbit.
- The satellite was named 'Xihe', the goddess of the sun who created the calendar in ancient Chinese mythology.
- Xihe is also known as the Chinese Ha Solar Explorer (CHASE).
- China's Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC) played major role in construction the satellite.

**Links:-**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/china/china-launches-its-first-solar-exploration-satellite/articleshow/87020743.cms>

## Automated Fuelling Technology System — U-Fill

**Question: Which of the following entity has recently unveiled an automated fuelling technology system — U-Fill?**

a) IOC b) BPCL c) HPCL d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Recently Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has unveiled an automated fuelling technology system — U-Fill
- BPCL which is the Central government entity has initiated this service to ease the customers with a better experience at the outlets.
- In a statement BPCL has informed that the technology obviates the need for looking at zero or final reading and such offline manual interventions.
- According to the Corporation, the new automated fuelling technology is fast, secure and smart.
- The new U-Fill outlets have been launched in 65 cities and are likely to be launched soon across the country.
- The customers need not download any app to use the U-Fill technology. When payment is concerned, a customer can use any desired application for payment such as Google pay, PayTM, and others.
- The U-Fill also offers a real-time Quick Response Code (QRC) and voucher code.
- BPCL also disclosed that the money will be refunded with a time span of 48 hours in the customer's account; if any advance payments made by the customer remain partially unused.



**Links:-**

[https://www.indiaonline.com/article/news-top-story/bpcl-launches-automated-fuelling-technology-ufill-for-customers-121101800011\\_1.html](https://www.indiaonline.com/article/news-top-story/bpcl-launches-automated-fuelling-technology-ufill-for-customers-121101800011_1.html)

## Hackathon for Indian army

**Question : Which of the following organisation would conduct the hackathon(Sainya Ranakshetram) for Indian army ?**

- Military College of Telecommunication Engineering
- Birla College of Telecommunication Engineering

c. United College of Engineering d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Hackathon ‘Sainya Ranakshetram’ would be organised from — 16th October – 30th December 2021.
- It is actually the Indian Army’s Annual Cyber Security Hackathon, organized by the Military College of Telecommunication Engineering(MCTE), Rashtriya Raksha University, and ISAC.
- The participation will be open across the country to engineering students as also to Army, Air Force and Navy personnel.
- It is expected that at least 30,000 people will participate in the same in an online mode.
- There will be a dedicated web portal [sainya-ranakshetram.in](https://www.sainya-ranakshetram.in), which will allow for registration as also tracking the conduct of the event in real time.
- The event will also host a number of seminars, expert talks and conclaves, to focus on emerging cyber threats in the military domain and their methods of mitigation.
- **MCTE —**
- The Military College of Telecommunication Engineering is the engineering training establishment for the Corps of Signals, established 1911, of the Indian Army.
- It is located in Mhow(Indore).



**Link:**

<https://www.sainya-ranakshetram.in/>

## NASA’s Lucy Mission

**Question: Trojan asteroids in our Solar system share the orbit of which of the following planet?**

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

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 16 October 2021; NASA’s Lucy mission was launched to study the Jupiter’s Trojan asteroids.
- It was the US space agency’s first mission to Jupiter’s Trojan asteroids, which was launched through a United Launch Alliance (ULA) Atlas V rocket.
- It should be known that Trojan asteroids simply known as Trojans, these are a large group of asteroids that share the Jupiter’s orbit around the Sun.
- Atlas V rocket lifted with the mission Lucy from Space Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.
- Over the next 12 years, Lucy will fly by one main-belt asteroid and seven Trojan asteroids.
- This journey will make it the agency’s first single spacecraft mission in history to explore so many different asteroids.



- Lucy will investigate these fossils of planetary formation up close during its journey.
- According to NASA's Administrator Bill Nelson, Lucy embodies NASA's enduring quest to push out into the cosmos for the sake of exploration and science.
- He said that the agency always strive to better understand the universe and our place within it through its ever ambitious missions.
- About an hour after launch, Lucy separated from the second stage of the ULA Atlas V 401 rocket.
- Its two massive solar arrays, each nearly 24 feet (7.3 meters) wide, successfully unfurled about 30 minutes later and began charging the spacecraft's batteries to power its subsystems.
- Scientists say that the Lucy is rich with opportunity to learn more about these mysterious Trojan asteroids and better understand the formation and evolution of the early solar system.

**Links:-**

<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-ula-launch-lucy-mission-to-fossils-of-planet-formation>

## Indian Army wins gold medal at Cambrian Patrol Exercise

**Question: The Ex Cambrian Patrol, sometimes referred to as the Olympics of Military Patrolling is organized by which military force?**

a) Indian army b) USA army c) UK army d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

**Context**

- Indian Army has won gold medal in the Exercise Cambrian Patrol 2021.
- **Related Facts**
- The Exercise Cambrian Patrol is an international event in which militaries across the world take part.
- It is also referred as the Olympics of Military Patrolling among several militaries across the globe.
- The competition is organized by the UK army.
- In the 2021 edition of event 96 teams participated.
- Exercise was held from October 13th to 15th 2021 at Brecon, Wales in United Kingdom.
- A team from 5th Battalion-4 (5/4) Gorkha Rifles (Frontier Force) represented the Indian Army in the event and won gold medal at the prestigious Cambrian Patrol Exercise.
- **How winner was selected?**
- During the exercise, teams were assessed with respect to their performance under harsh terrain and inclement cold weather conditions. These conditions presented different challenges to the teams. Teams were also exposed to complex real-world situations in order to assess their reactions in combating the settings.



**Reference:** <https://newsonair.com/2021/10/16/indian-army-wins-gold-medal-in-the-exercise-cambrian-patrol-2021/>

## Latest launch of satellites by Bharti Group-backed OneWeb

**Question: Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite communications company OneWeb (backed by Bharti group) is located in which of the following country?**

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Bharti Group-backed OneWeb, the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellite communications company, has launched 36 satellites from Russia's Vostochny Cosmodrome.
- This latest launch brings OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation to 358 satellites, over half of its entire 648 LEO satellite fleet that will deliver high-speed, low-latency global connectivity.
- OneWeb, headquartered in London (UK), is a global communications company.
- The company, at present, is on the course of building a capability to deliver broadband satellite internet services worldwide.
- With this launch, OneWeb celebrates the start of service demonstrations.
- Through the service demonstrations the company will showcase the network's hardware and capabilities across an array of applications.
- Sunil Mittal, Bharti Enterprises chairman, recently, had said that OneWeb would shortly launch its LEO satellites from India.
- ISRO then will provide the services of its launch vehicles PSLV and GSLV-Mk III.

**Links:-**

<https://www.livemint.com/companies/news/bhartibacked-oneweb-launches-36-satellites-11634211791984.html>

## Indian American Astronaut will command NASA-SpaceX's Crew-3 Mission

**Question: what is the name of Indian American Astronaut, who will command NASA-SpaceX's Crew-3 Mission to the International Space Station on October 30, 2021?**

a) Raja Chari b) Sirisha Bandla c) Sunita Williams d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Raja Chari is an Indian American Astronaut who will command NASA-SpaceX's Crew-3 Mission to the International Space Station.
- NASA-SpaceX's third mission will carry four astronauts- three NASA astronauts and one ESA astronaut Matthias Maurer to ISS.
- The three NASA astronauts will be Raja Chari, Tom Marshburn, and Kayla Barron.
- A Crew Dragon spacecraft on a Falcon 9 rocket, will take away these astronaut, as informed by the US space agency NASA.
- The mission will be launched on October 30, 2021 from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.



- The Crew-3 mission will be SpaceX's fifth crewed flight to space and fourth to the International Space Station.

**Links:-**

<https://www.indiatimes.com/trending/human-interest/raja-chari-to-lead-nasa-spacex-crew-3-mission-551269.html>

## Successful years of India's Mars Orbiter Mission Mangalyaan

**Question: In 2021; how many years, India's Mars Orbiter Mission Mangalyaan spacecraft, has completed orbiting around the Mars?**

a) 7 Earth years b) 3 Earth years c) 7 Mars years d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- In 2021; India's Mars Orbiter Mission Mangalyaan spacecraft, has completed seven earth years in its orbit.
- It should be noted that Mangalyaan is ISRO's maiden interplanetary mission, which was launched from the Sriharikota spaceport on November 5, 2013.
- ISRO officials informed that in terms of the time scale on Mars the spacecraft Mangalyaan has successfully covered three Martian years.
- It was originally made to last just six months, but it has completed more than enough time here in the orbit of Mars.
- Scientists expect that it could cover more than a decade in the Martian orbit.
- The orbiter got inserted into Martian orbit on September 24, 2014 in its first attempt.
- This success made India the first Asian country to have successfully launched its Mars orbiter mission and also the first country to have entered the Martian orbit in its first attempt.
- Before India, the U.S., Russia and the EU have succeeded in sending spacecrafts to Mars which is regarded as the most complex space mission.
- The indigenously made Mangalyaan is the only artificial satellite that could image the full disc of Mars in one view frame.
- It can also image, the far side of Deimos, the outer and smaller of Mars's two moons.
- The Mars mission helped India's space agency prepare a Martian Atlas based on the images provided by the orbiter.
- The Mars orbiter has sent thousands of pictures of the red planet back to Earth.
- An important conclusion of the mission has been the finding that dust storms on the Martian can raise up to hundreds of kilometres.
- Built at a cost of Rs. 4.5 billion, Mangalyaan is hailed for being much cheaper than NASA's Maven Orbiter, which was similar to India's Mars mission.



**Links:-**

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/mangalyaan-7-years-in-orbit/article36978815.ece>

## Annual Air Defence Drill: Velyat

**Question: Which of the following country recently kicked off a massive two-day air defense drill, Velyat in its extensive central desert region?**

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

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 12 October 2021; Iran kicked off a massive, two-day air defense drill Velyat in the country's extensive central desert.
- The report said both the army and the paramilitary Revolutionary Guard were taking part in the annual maneuvers.
- It has been informed that elite air force and air defense units as well as the Revolutionary Guard's airspace division participated in the exercise.
- Iran regularly holds such drills and says they assess the troops' combat readiness and demonstrate the nation's military capabilities.



**Links:-**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/with-region-on-edge-iran-kicks-off-annual-air-defense-drill/article36957437.ece>

## ITCA launched 75 Students' Satellites Consortium

**Question: recently in which of the following city ITCA launched 75 Students' Satellites Consortium?**

a) Kanpur b) Lucknow c) Bengaluru d) New Delhi

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 05 October 2021; in Bengaluru, Indian Technology Congress Association (ITCA) has launched 75 Students' Satellites Consortium: Mission 2022.
- The Students Satellites Consortium has been initiated as an ambitious programme to commemorate the 75 years of India's Independence.
- Under the mission, a consortium of 75 students will build satellites to be launched by ISRO.
- The Indian Technology Congress Association (ITCA) for this purpose has collaborated with various organisations.
- These are as follows -TMISAT of Israel, CSPD Serbia and UNISEC of Japan to design and launch,
- The student built satellite will be launched by 2022 when India completes its 75 years of Independence.
- It should be noted that during the address to the global leaders at the 76th United Nations General Assembly, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi also had referred to India's 75 students' satellites mission.



**Links:-**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=ITCA%2C-Bengaluru-launches-75-Students%E2%80%99-Satellites-Consortium%3A-Mission-2022&id=427451>

## Indian Space Association (ISpA)

**Question: On 11 October 2021 who launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA), the premier industry association of space and satellite companies?**

- a) Shri Narendra Modi b) Gen Bipin Rawat c) Shri K. Sivan  
d) President Ram Nath Kovind

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 11 October 2021; Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA).
- ISpA is the premier industry association of space and satellite companies.
- Speaking on the occasion the Prime Minister Modi said that this is the day when the Indian space sector receives new wings.
- He said that for 75 years since independence, Indian space has been dominated by a single umbrella of Indian government and government institutions.
- According to the Prime Minister Modi, scientists of India have made huge achievements in these decades.
- Prime minister was of the view that the need of the hour is that there should be no restrictions on Indian talent, whether it is in the public sector or in the private sector.
- In a way, the country has given a new gift to the talent of India's entrepreneurs by opening up India's space sector in its 75th year of independence.
- ISpA is represented by leading home grown and global corporations with advanced capabilities in the space and satellite technologies.
- Its founding members include Bharti Airtel, Larson & Toubro, Nelco (Tata Group), OneWeb, Mapmyindia, Walchandnagar Industries and Alpha Design Technologies.
- Other core members include Godrej, Hughes India, Ananth Technology Limited, Azista-BST Aerospace Private Limited, BEL, Centum Electronics, Maxar India.
- ISpA aims to contribute to the Government of India's vision of making India Atmanirbhar and a global leader in the space arena, which is fast emerging as the next growth frontier for mankind.



**Links:-**

<https://www.isro.gov.in/update/11-oct-2021/hon%E2%80%99ble-pm-shri-narendra-modi-launches-indian-space-association-isp>

## AUSINDEX: 4th India-Australia biennial maritime series

**Question: India and which of the following country have participated in the 4th edition of the biennial maritime series AUSINDEX?**

- (a) U.S.A (b) U.K (c) Russia (d) Australia

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- India and Australia have participated in the fourth edition of the biennial maritime series 'AUSINDEX'.



- This exercise will allow the Australian Navy and Indian Navy to strengthen “inter-operability, gain from best practices”.
- The exercise will also develop a ‘common understanding of procedures for maritime security operations’.
- The exercise has provided an opportunity for both navies to enhance inter-operability and develop a common understanding of procedures for maritime security operations.
- They will be exercising with HMAS Rankin, Royal Australian Air Force P-8A and F-18 aircraft, a Collins Class Australian Submarine and integral helicopters of Australian and Indian Navy.

**Reference:** <https://m.economictimes.com/news/defence/india-australia-undertakes-4th-iteration-of-biennial-maritime-series-ausindex/articleshow/86638875.cms>

## Indian Naval Fast Attack Craft (IN FAC) T 80

**Question: Why Indian Naval Fast Attack Craft (IN FAC) T 80 was in news recently?**

- a) Inducted into Indian Navy  
 b) Decommissioned from Indian Navy  
 c) Travelled to Sudan  
 d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 07 October 2021; Indian Naval Fast Attack Craft (IN FAC) T 80 was decommissioned at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- In an impressive yet poignant ceremony, Rear Admiral Krishna Swaminathan, was the Chief Guest.
- The ship rendered yeoman service to the Navy and nation for over 23 years, and was the first of the Super Dvora Mk II class.
- It was built by M/s IAI Ramta at Be’er Sheva, Israel and had been commissioned into the Indian Navy on 24th June 1998.
- The ship was specially designed for shallow water operations and could build to speeds of up to 45 knots for high speed interception of any intruder craft.
- Over the last two decades, the ship had actively participated in several coastal security and mine-laying operations.
- It patrolled waters extensively to provide security to Mumbai high and the coasts of Maharashtra and Gujarat.
- The ship represented courage, daring and an inspiring ability to go into harm’s way to accomplish missions assigned to it



**Links:-**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1762095>

## United Arab Emirates (UAE) will send probe on an asteroid between Mars and Jupiter

**Question: In which of the following year UAE is going to launch a probe for an asteroid between Mars and Jupiter?**

- a) 2024  
 b) 2028  
 c) 2033  
 d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 05 October 2021; The United Arab Emirates (UAE) announced plans to send a probe in the year 2028, to land on an asteroid between Mars and Jupiter.
- It is the latest project planned by the scientists in UAE for its ambitious space programme.
- This kind of probe will be equipped with instruments to collect data, from this asteroid.
- The data which will be gathered by this probe later examined to disclose about the origins of the universe.
- The project targets a 2028 launch with a landing in 2033.
- It will be a five-year journey in which the spacecraft will travel some 3.6 billion kilometres (2.2 billion miles).
- The UAE's Space Agency said it will partner with the Laboratory for Atmospheric Science and Physics at the University of Colorado on the project.
- It should be noted that UAE successfully put its Amal, or Hope, probe in orbit around Mars in February.



**Link:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/uae-to-launch-probe-targeting-asteroid-between-mars-jupiter/article36839684.ecea>

## Zircon Hypersonic Missile Launched from a Nuclear Submarine for the First Time

**Question: Which of the following country recently launched Zircon hypersonic missile launched from a nuclear submarine for the first time?**

a) North Korea b) USA c) Russia d) China

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 04 October 2021; Russia has successfully test-fired the hypersonic missile from a nuclear submarine for the first time.
- Information regarding this kind of test by the Russia has been released by the country's military.
- The Russian Defence Ministry said the Zircon missile was launched from the Severodvinsk submarine and hit a designated mock target in the Barents Sea.
- It should be noted that Zircon missile was previously test-fired from a navy frigate, most recently in July.
- This time the launch marked Zircon's first launch from a submarine..
- Russian President Vladimir Putin has said Zircon would be capable of flying at nine times the speed of sound and have a range of 1,000km (620 miles).
- Mr. Putin has emphasised that its deployment will significantly boost Russian military capability.
- Officials said Zircon's tests are to be completed later this year and it will be commissioned by the Russian navy in 2022.



- Zircon is intended to arm Russian cruisers, frigates and submarines.
- It is one of several hypersonic missiles under development in Russia.

**Links:-**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/russia-test-fires-new-hypersonic-missile-from-submarine/article36820524.ece>

## NASA's DART Mission

**Question: Towards which of the following asteroid, NASA is going to launch asteroid-killing Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft?**

a) Didymos b) Bennu c) Apophis d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**



- On November 24, 2021; American Space Agency, NASA is going to launch asteroid-killing Double Asteroid Redirection Test (DART) spacecraft.
- SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket will be used for the launch of DART spacecraft.
- Vandenberg Space Force Base in the California will be used by NASA for the launch.
- NASA has planned to protect the Earth from hazardous asteroid collision and therefore building advanced technologies for this purpose through such missions.
- NASA is planning for this spacecraft because astronomers and scientists have warned about dangerous impact of asteroids.
- They are of the opinion that asteroids might cause most damage to the Earth if proper defence system is not developed against them.
- Today we know that an asteroid collision caused the extinction of dinosaurs from planet 66 million years ago.
- **Targets:-**
- Under the mission, spacecraft will be sent towards Didymos asteroid system, approximately 109.4 crore kilometres away from Earth.
- Didymos system comprise of two asteroids namely, Didymos and Dimorphos.
- How it will work
- The DART mission is based on the idea of developing a defence system against asteroid collision.
- The spacecraft will ram into Dimorphos in order to determine if kinetic impactor technology can be a reliable method to deflect asteroids.
- Kinetic impactor technology requires flying the spacecraft directly into a small Solar System body.

**Links:-**

<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-invites-media-to-launch-of-double-asteroid-redirection-test>

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

i) The fifth edition of India – Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise, JIMEX, between the Indian Navy (IN) and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF), will be held in Arabian Sea.

ii) It will be held from 06 to 08 October 2021.

iii) JIMEX series of exercises commenced in January 2012 and the last edition was conducted in September 2020.

**Which of the above are correct?**

a) i,ii b) i, ii,iii c) iii d) i,ii

**Ans: b**

**Context**

- The fifth edition of India – Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise, JIMEX, between the Indian Navy (IN) and the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF), will be held in Arabian Sea from 06 to 08 October 2021.
- **Related Facts**
- Indigenously built Guided Missile Stealth Destroyer Kochi and Guided Missile Frigate Teg, will represent the Indian Navy.
- The Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force will be represented by JMSDF ships Kaga, an Izumo Class Helicopter Carrier and Murasame, a Guided Missile Destroyer.
- In addition to ships, P8I Long Range Maritime Patrol Aircraft, Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft, integral helicopters and MiG 29K fighter aircraft will also participate in the exercise.
- JIMEX-21 aims to develop common understanding of operational procedures and enhance inter-operability through conduct of a multitude of advanced exercises, across the entire spectrum of maritime operations.
- JIMEX series of exercises commenced in January 2012 and the last edition was conducted in September 2020.

**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=1761131>

## Indian Scientists create New Biodegradable Polymer

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

i) A team of Indian scientists have developed a new polymer using guar gum and chitosan, both of which are polysaccharides extracted from guar beans and shells of crab and shrimps.

ii) New polymer is environmentally friendly, non-toxic and biodegradable.

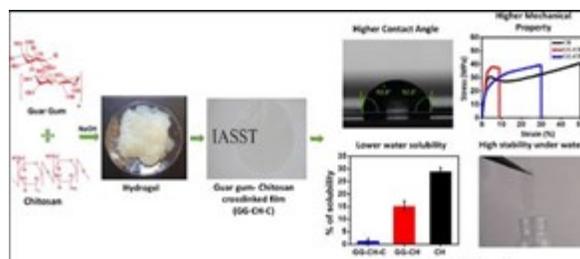
**Which of the above two are correct?**

a) I b)ii c) Both i and ii d) none

**Ans: c**

**Context**

- A team of Indian scientists have developed an environmentally friendly, non-toxic, biodegradable polymer



using guar gum and chitosan, both of which are polysaccharides extracted from guar beans and shells of crab and shrimps.

- **Related Facts**

- The fabricated guar gum-chitosan film has high water stability, high mechanical strength, and excellent resistance to harsh environmental condition.
- It can potentially be used in packaging applications.
- Polysaccharide is one of the biopolymers with high potential for use in synthesis of packaging material.
- However, due to some drawbacks of polysaccharides, such as low mechanical properties, high water-solubility, and low barrier properties, they are not preferred.
- Dr. Devasish Chowdhury, Associate Professor, and Sazzadur Rahman, Inspire Junior Research Fellow, fabricated a guar gum-chitosan composite film which is a cross-linked polysaccharide.
- They synthesized the film without using any plasticizer with the help of a method called the solution casting method (a simple technique to make polymer films).

**Reference;** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1761050>

## NASA's Psyche Mission

**Question: With which of the following celestial body, NASA's Psyche Mission proposed to be launched in 2022, is related?**

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

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:-**

- The US space agency NASA is preparing future Psyche Mission, under this mission a spacecraft will be sent to Asteroid 16 Psyche.
- The testing of this craft has now reached the final stage and expected launch could take place in 2022.
- Under the 'Psyche mission', the spacecraft will orbit the metal-rich Asteroid 16 Psyche and examine its composition.
- Asteroid 16 Psyche is orbiting the sun within the main asteroid belt between Mars and Jupiter.
- The spacecraft will map the asteroid and study ancient magnetic fields and neutron and gamma-ray emissions.
- Scientists will try to find out how the solar system formed and evolved by combining the results of this discovery with other data.
- Recently scientific discoveries have shown that Psyche lacks iron oxide, despite being rich in metal.
- This is strange because iron oxide is present on all other planets.
- Lindy Elkins-Tanton of Arizona State University, said strange facts could be revealed in future about the structure of Psyche.
- NASA's spacecraft will have the necessary equipment to unravel the mysteries of Psyche.



- Jim Bell of Psyche Mission said, 'Nobody knows what we're going to see. The truth is just that the reality of Psyche will be more strange and beautiful than we imagined.
- Earlier there was news that NASA has found so many precious metals on Psyche Asteroid that every person on earth can become a billionaire.
- According to NASA, the value of this immeasurable wealth is \$10,000,000,000,000,000.
- NASA re-measured the surface of the Psyche asteroid and based on that the latest estimate was made.

**Links:-**

<https://www.nasa.gov/feature/jpl/science-of-psyche-unique-asteroid-holds-clues-to-early-solar-system>

## DRDO Dare to Dream 2.0

**Question: Consider the following statements:-**

- i) On October 4, 2021, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh felicitated the winners of 'Dare to Dream 2.0' Contest.
- ii) Dream 2.0' Contest was organised by Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).
- iii) Minister also presented "DRDO Young Scientists awards" for the year 2019.

**Which of the above are correct statements?**

- a) I b) i, ii c) i, ii, iii d) None

**Ans: c)**

**Context**

- On October 4, 2021, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh felicitated the winners of 'Dare to Dream 2.0' Contest organised by Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO).
- **Related Facts**
- Dare to Dream is DRDO's pan-India contest to promote Indian academicians, individuals and startups to develop emerging defence and aerospace technologies/systems.
- DRDO provides technical and financial support to the winners for realisation of their ideas under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme.
- Shri Rajnath Singh also gave away DRDO Young Scientists awards for the year 2019.
- Sixteen DRDO scientists, under the age of 35 years, were awarded for their outstanding contribution in areas of their expertise.



**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1760781>

## NASA to pause most of its robotic Mars exploration efforts in October 2021

**Question: Mars reaches in a position in its orbit called solar conjunction, which happens in?**

- a) Every two years b) Every three years c) Every five years d) Every ten years

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On Oct. 7, Mars will reach a position in its orbit called solar conjunction, which happens every two years.
- It happens when the Mars or any other planet moves behind the sun from Earth's perspective.
- NASA therefore will pause most of its robotic Mars exploration efforts in October 2021 for safety reasons associated with the Red Planet's position in space.
- NASA informed that the sun's hot outer atmosphere, or corona, lying in the line of sight, may disrupt interplanetary communications.
- This particular situation compelled NASA to take this necessary decision to stop sending active commands to its MARS Missions for the next few weeks.



**Links:-**

<https://www.space.com/nasa-mars-blackout-solar-conjunction-2021>

## New species of the blind swamp Eel

**Question: Recently there was news about the discovery of a new species of the blind swamp Eel of genus *Rakthamichthys*. In which of the following city it was found?**

a) Kolkata b) Mumbai c) Ahmedabad d) Kochi

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 30 September 2021; Naturalist Tejas Thackeray announced about the discovery of a new species of the blind swamp Eel.
- This new species of Eel belongs to the genus *Rakthamichthys*, which has been discovered from a well in Mumbai.
- Tejas Thackeray, son of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray, on Thursday.
- The new species is a Hypogean freshwater eel' and the discovery was credited to Tejas Thackeray, son of Maharashtra Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.
- He said that new species of a blind hypogean freshwater eel from Mumbai, named as '*Rakthamichthys Mumba*', after his home city Mumbai.
- The species was collected in 2019, Thackeray said that their team worked on throughout the pandemic.
- It is the first completely blind subterranean freshwater fish species to be described from Maharashtra and the northern Western Ghats.
- The study about this Eel was published in '*Aqua International Journal of Ichthyology*'.
- Mr. Thackeray said our team decided to name the species after Mumbai's local deity.
- Thackeray said, the word '*mumba*' derives its roots from the Marathi language, which is a tribute to Mumba Aai, a deity worshipped by the inhabitants of this city.



## Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/new-species-of-blind-freshwater-eel-discovered-from-mumbai-well-by-tejas-thackeray-other-researchers/article36770498.ece>

## Bilateral exercise, Mitra Shakti

**Question: Mitra Shakti bilateral military exercise is being conducted between which two countries from October 4, to October 15?**

- a) India and Sri Lanka b) India and Nepal c) India and Bhutan  
d) Pakistan and China

**Ans : a**

### Context

- India-Sri Lanka bilateral Joint Exercise, Mitra Shakti, is being conducted at Combat Training School, Ampara, in Sri Lanka from October 4, to October 15, 2021.
- **Related Facts**
  - This is the eighth edition of the exercise which is being conducted in Sri Lanka.
  - The aim of the exercise is to promote close relations between armies of both countries and enhance inter-operability and sharing best practices in counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations.
  - This exercise is being conducted under the mandate of United Nations as both the armies contribute to the United Nations Peacekeeping Forces.
  - These exercises are conducted every year, alternating between India and Sri Lanka.
  - The 7th Edition of Exercise Mitra Shakti was conducted at Foreign Training Node, which is located at the Aundh Military Station in Pune, in December 2019.



**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/pune/india-sri-lanka-to-begin-12-day-joint-military-exercise-focus-on-counter-terror-operations/>

## Landsat 9: The satellite launched to monitor the Earth's land surface

**Question; Which of the following country recently launched the satellite Landsat 9?**

- a) USA b) China c) India d) UK

**Answer: (a)**

### Related Facts:-

- On 27 September 2021; NASA launched the satellite Landsat 9 from Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.
- It is a joint mission of NASA with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)
- The first Landsat satellite launched in 1972.
- Since then, NASA has always kept a Landsat in orbit to collect images of the physical material covering our planet's surface and changes to land usage.



- Those images allow researchers to monitor phenomena including agricultural productivity, forest extent and health, water quality, coral reef habitat health, and glacier dynamics.
- In the duration of nearly 50 years, Landsat satellites observed our home planet, providing an unparalleled record of how its surface has changed over timescales from days to decades.
- Landsat 9 joins its sister satellite, Landsat 8, in orbit. Working in tandem, the two satellites will collect images spanning the entire planet every eight days.
- According to NASA scientists Landsat 9 will have new eyes in the sky when it comes to observing our changing planet.

**Links:-**

<https://www.nasa.gov/press-release/nasa-launches-new-mission-to-monitor-earth-s-landscapes>

## Defence Accounts Department develops IT-enabled payment system

**Q. On 30th September 2021, the Defence Accounts Department under the aegis of the Ministry of Defence has developed an IT-enabled payment and accounting system called PRABAL to ensure that the defence suppliers get payments without any delay. Which type of defence suppliers will be benefited from it?**

- (A) Domestic (B) Foreigner  
(C) Israeli (D) Americans

**Ans- (A)**

**Related facts:**



- The Defence Accounts Department under the aegis of the Ministry of Defence has developed an IT-enabled payment and accounting system called PRABAL to ensure that the domestic defence suppliers get payments without any delay.
- This is being done following the clarion call of Aatmanirbhar Bharat by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The PRABAL Project will make the Indian defence sector more competitive as their cash flow will increase and their financing will strengthen.
- The department has designed a Central Pay Package System. This system will make salary and other payment disbursements to the Defence personnel and civilians working under the Ministry of Defence completely paperless.
- This will be done through automation resulting in the better productivity of the resources and effective e-governance.
- The Defence Accounts Department is mandated to audit, give financial advice, make payment and accounting of all charges pertaining to the Armed Forces.
- It also renders its services for salary and allowances, pension of Defence Personnel and Civilians of all organizations under the Ministry of Defence, viz. Army, Navy, Air Force, Indian Coast Guard, Border Roads Organisation (BRO), Ordnance Factories, Director General of Defence Estates (DGDE), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) among others.

**Link:**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Defence-Accounts-Department-develops-IT->

## Unique technology for direct generation of Hydrogen from agricultural residue developed

**Q. On 30 September 2021, Indian researchers have developed a unique technology for direct generation of Hydrogen from agricultural residue. Who developed this technology at lab-scale to extract hydrogen from agricultural residues?**

(A) IIT Kanpur (B) IIT Bombay (C) Agharkar Research Institute (D) None of the above

**Ans- (C)**

**Related facts:**

- A team of researchers from Agharkar Research Institute, Pune, an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), GOI, in collaboration with Sentient labs of KPIT Technologies, have developed this technology at lab-scale to extract hydrogen from agricultural residues.
- This innovation by Indian researchers can promote eco-friendly hydrogen fuel-cell electric vehicles by overcoming the challenge of hydrogen availability.
- India has set a target of 60% renewable energy of about 450 GW by 2030. To achieve this feat, in the current scenario, researchers all over the world are working towards renewable energy solutions which should be sustainable with a limited carbon footprint.
- One of the most economical ways to achieve this is to produce hydrogen from a cheap, abundant, and renewable source. Agricultural waste, which faces a great challenge for disposal, could be one of the sources of hydrogen production, and this could solve the dual problem of energy generation and waste disposal.
- This technology is 25% more efficient as compared to conventional anaerobic digestion processes used today. The two-stage process eliminates the pretreatment of biomass, thus making the process economical and environment friendly.
- This process generates a digestate that is rich in nutrients which can be used as an organic fertilizer.
- This breakthrough of generating hydrogen from unutilized agricultural residue will help to become self-reliant on energy resources. It will also add a major stream of revenue to the farmer community.



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1759748>

## Technology to enhance biogas production of Fat-rich sludge from dairy industry

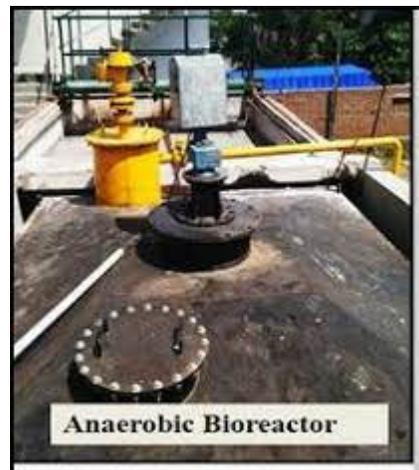
**Q. In September 2021, Indian Scientists have developed a novel high-performance bioreactor system integrated with sustainable pre-treatment process for enabling anaerobic digestion of complex fat-rich sludge from dairy industry. Who has been discovered the technology?**

- (A) Dr. Sandeep N. Mudliar (B) Dr. Mridul kumar (C) Dr. Sheshnag kaamroop  
(D) None of the above

**Ans- (A)**

**Related facts:**

- On 30th September 2021, Indian Scientists have developed a novel high-performance bioreactor system integrated with sustainable pre-treatment process for enabling anaerobic digestion of complex fat-rich sludge from dairy industry. It has been further integrated with membrane bioreactor based-wastewater treatment to enable zero liquid discharge in the dairy industry.
- This technology has been developed by Dr. Sandeep N. Mudliar at CSIR-CFTRI Mysore with support from the Waste Management Technology program of the Department of Science & Technology (DST), Government of India, with in-kind support from M/s Sun Enviro Technologies Pvt. Ltd. for the pilot-scale trials at a model dairy plant.
- They had developed a bench-scale system, which has been tested on pilot scale and will be filing for a patent soon.
- It can also be applied for anaerobic digestion of complex solid waste containing Fats and oils and can be coupled with wastewater treatment to enable Zero Liquid discharge. Further, the technology can be used for solid and liquid waste management in food and allied industries.
- The sustainable pre-treatment technique is applicable to all types of complex solid wastes to enhance biogas production as well as robustness of anaerobic digestion process.



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1759750>

## North Korea tests fire hypersonic missile “Hwasong-8”

**Question: Hwasong 8 is launched by which of the following countries?**

- (a) South Korea (b) North Korea (c) Japan (d) China

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- North Korea successfully tested a new hypersonic missile called Hwasong-8, in a bid to increase the nation’s capabilities for self-defence.
- The missile was one of the five most important new weapons systems laid out by North Korea in the



five-year military development plan.

- This was the North Korea's third missile test in a month.
- Hypersonic missiles are much faster and more agile than normal ones, making them much harder for missile defence systems to intercept.
- North Korea joins a small pool of countries, including the United States, Russia, China and India, in attempting to develop the weapons.

**Reference:** <https://www.space.com/amp/north-korea-tests-hypersonic-vehicle-hwasong-8>

## ISRO's Commercial Arm Announces First "Demand Driven" Satellite Mission

**Q. ISRO's commercial arm, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), announced its first "demand-driven" communications satellite mission on which date as part of the space reform announced by the government in June last year?**

- (A) 1st October 2021 (B) 2nd October 2021 (C) 29th September 2021  
(D) 2nd August 2021

**Ans- (A)**

**Related facts:**

- On 1st October 2021, ISRO's commercial arm, NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), announced its first "demand-driven" communications satellite mission as part of the space reform announced by the government in June last year.
- NSIL was established in March 2019 and is authorized to operate satellite missions in a "demand-driven" model, in which it has the responsibility to build, launch, own and operate satellites and provide services to its promised customers.
- As part of this plan, the Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) NSIL, which is affiliated to the Department of Space and Space (DOS), is now executing its "First Demand Driven Communications Satellite Mission" called GSAT-24, which is a 4 ton class Ku-band satellite. NSIL is getting this satellite to be built by ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) and will launch it using the Ariane-5 launcher operated by Arianespace.
- The entire satellite capacity on GSAT-24 will be leased to its loyal customer M/s Tata Sky to meet their DTH application needs.
- NSIL stated that it has reached the necessary agreement with Tata Sky to utilize the satellite capacity on the GSAT-24 and reached a necessary agreement with Arianespace to seek launch services.
- The GSAT-24 satellite will be owned and operated by NSIL on a commercial basis.
- According to reports, NSIL plans to launch the GSAT-24 satellite in the first quarter of 2022.



**Link:**

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/isros-commercial-arm-nsil-announces-first-demand-driven-satellite-mission-2560669>

## IIT Delhi researchers develop catalytic technology for synthesis of chiral molecules

**Q. In October 2021, researchers at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) have developed a catalytic technology for the sustainable and economical synthesis of chiral molecules which are essential building blocks to produce pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals and biologically active compounds. Which IIT researchers team developed this technology?**

- (A) IIT Delhi (B) IIT Kanpur (C) IIT Bombay  
(D) IIT Chennai

**Ans- (A)**

**Related facts:**

- On 1 October 2021, researchers at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi have developed a catalytic technology for the sustainable and economical synthesis of chiral molecules which are essential building blocks to produce pharmaceuticals, agrochemicals and biologically active compounds.
- India is heavily dependent on importing (above 85 per cent) Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs), and a significant proportion of those APIs are chiral molecules.
- The developed catalytic technology may play a crucial role in decreasing the country's dependence on the import of the Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients, which also means lowering of the input cost for the industry that would encourage it to pass on the benefit to the society.
- The existing methodologies "are costly and not eco-friendly".
- To tackle this problem, the research team developed a Metal-Organic Framework-based catalytic technology using inexpensive natural feedstocks and abundant metals for the sustainable and economical synthesis of enantiomerically pure chiral molecules.



**Link:**

<https://www.theweek.in/wire-updates/national/2021/10/01/des68-iit-research-pharmaceuticals.html>

## Sports

### Cricket

#### World's largest cricket bat Unveiled

**Question: World's largest cricket bat has been unveiled by which of the following former Indian Cricketer ?**

- (a) Rahul Dravid (b) Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar (c) Sunil Gavaskar  
(d) Mohd Azharuddin

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- The President of Hyderabad Cricket Association (HCA) and former India captain Mohd Azharuddin inaugurated the world's biggest cricket bat.
- The bat has been certified by the Guinness Book of World Records as the biggest cricket bat in the world.
- The unique bat has been designed by Pernod Ricard India (P) Ltd.
- It is made of poplar wood.
- The bat measures 56.10 feet long and weighs nine tonnes or 9000 kg.

**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Hyderabad/worlds-biggest-cricket-bat-unveiled/article37141480.ece>

## Chennai Super Kings won IPL 2021

**Question: Which of the following team won the IPL 2021?**

- (a) Chennai Super Kings (b) Kolkata Knight Riders (c) Delhi Capitals  
(d) Royal Challengers Bangalore

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- In Dubai, Chennai Super Kings clinched their fourth Indian Premier League title after beating Kolkata Knight Riders by 27 runs in the summit clash here on Friday.
- It was CSK's ninth final in the history of the tournament.
- CSK won their fourth title.
- Chasing an imposing target of 193, KKR could manage 165 for 9 in their 20 overs.
- Chennai Super Kings closed the gap on arch-rivals Mumbai Indians in the list of Indian Premier League title wins after they defeated Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL 2021 final in Dubai.
- Rajasthan Royals won the inaugural edition in 2008.
- Ruturaj Gaikwad, Emerging Player of the Season.
- Rajasthan Royals wins the Fairplay Award.
- Ravi Bishnoi wins the Catch of the Season award for his catch in Match 21 vs KKR.
- Shimron Hetmyer wins the Super Striker of the Season award – S/R: 168.
- Gamechanger of the Season award – Harshal Patel.
- Most sixes of the season award – KL Rahul (30 sixes).
- Power Player of the season – Venkatesh Iyer.
- Purple Cap award – Harshal Patel (32 wickets).
- Orange Cap award – Ruturaj Gaikwad (635 runs).
- MVP of the season – Harshal Patel.
- Youngest Captain to Win IPL Trophy: Rohit Sharma (2013).
- Oldest Captain to Win IPL Trophy: MS Dhoni (2021).



**Reference:** <https://sportstar.thehindu.com/cricket/ipl/ipl-2021-live/ipl-final-csk-vs-krk-live-score-chennai-super-kings-vs-kolkata-knight-riders/article37003338.ece>

## India women team played their first-ever pink-ball test

**Question: India women team played their first ever pink-ball day and night Test match against which of the following women team?**

(a) Australia (b) New Zealand (c) South Africa (d) England

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The first pink-ball day and night Test match between India and Australian women team at the Carrara Oval in Queensland, Australia on 30th September.
- Indian opener Smriti Mandhana became the first Indian woman to score a century in a pink-ball women's cricket Test against Australia.
- Australia played the first pink-ball Test against England in 2017 in Sydney during the women's Ashes.
- The two teams last played a Test in Adelaide in 2006 when Australia won convincingly. Jhulan Goswami is one of two survivors from that Test along with Mithali Raj.



**Reference:** <https://www.newindianexpress.com/sport/cricket/2021/sep/30/into-the-unknown-india-women-to-take-the-field-for-their-first-ever-pink-ball-test-2365642.html>

## Rohit Sharma first batter to score 1,000 runs against one team in IPL

**Question: Rohit Sharma first to score 1,000 runs against one team in IPL. He got this feat against which of the following team?**

- (a) Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)  
(b) Mumbai Indians (MI)  
(c) Chennai Super Kings (CSK)  
(d) Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB)

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Indian Cricket team Vice Captain and Mumbai Indians Captain Rohit Sharma became the first batter in the Indian Premier League (IPL) history to score 1000 runs against Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR).
- Rohit now has 1015 runs against KKR at an average of 46.13 and a strike rate of 132.16, including six fifties and one hundred.



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/cricket/ipl-2021-mi-captain-rohit-sharma-achieves-incredible-milestone-builds-on-stellar-record-against-kkr-101632406318984.html>

## ICC T20 World Cup 2021 anthem: Live The Game

**Question: The official anthem of Men's T20 World Cup 2021 launched by the ICC. What is the anthem of the Men's T20 World Cup 2021?**

- (a) We love the Game (b) Living the Game (c) Cricket is for everyone  
(d) Cricket : 20 – 20

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Living the Game, the official anthem of the ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021
- It is composed by renowned Indian music director Amit Trivedi.
- The campaign film featured 'avatars' of Virat Kohli, the India captain, West Indies skipper Kieron Pollard, Afghanistan's ace spinner Rashid Khan and Australian all-rounder Glenn Maxwell.
- The avatar animation featured a brand-new broadcast technology that blends both 3D and 2D effects.
- The ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2021 will begin on 17 October in Oman and UAE, with the final to be played in Dubai on 14 November.

**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/entertainment/music/t20-world-cup-anthem-composed-by-amit-trivedi-features-kohli-pollard/article36629822.ece>

## Football

### FIFA unveiled 'Ibha' – official mascot of U-17 2022 Women's World Cup

**Question: Who unveiled the 'Ibha' – official mascot of U-17 2022 Women's World Cup?**

(a) CONMEBOL (b) UEFA (c) AIFF (d) FIFA

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- FIFA unveiled the official mascot of the U-17 Women's World Cup 2022 - 'Ibha' - on to mark exactly one year to go until the tournament kicks off.
- Ibha is an Asiatic lioness representing 'Nari Shakti' or women power.
- The tournament will be held in India from October 11-30 next year.
- Ibha aims to inspire women and girls across India and around the world to realise their potential.
- Ibha symbolises courage and strength, which are core qualities of every woman, while also embodying the vibrance and visionary spirit of the tournament.

**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/sport/football/fifa-unveils-ibha-official-mascot-of-u-17-2022-womens-world-cup/article36942525.ece>

### Logo for Soccer's 2024 European Championship

**Question: Which of the following country recently unveiled the logo of soccer's 2024 European Championship?**

a) Germany b) UK c) Italy d) France

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 05 October 2021; Germany has unveiled the logo for soccer's 2024 European Championship.



- The logo features an outline of the Henri Delaunay Cup the bulbous tournament trophy.
- It has been set on a colored oval outline that resembles the Olympiastadion's roof.
- It features colors from the flags of UEFA's 55 member nations, set in 24 slices around the trophy.
- 24 slices in it have been used to represent the 24 teams that will ultimately qualify for the tournament in Germany.
- Organisers said the brand will promote a tournament where diversity is celebrated, and everyone should feel welcome.
- The tournament's slogan United by Football. Vereint im Herzen Europas – or United at the Heart of Europe – is meant to convey a message of togetherness and inclusion.
- Logos for each of the 10 host cities — Berlin, Cologne, Dortmund, Düsseldorf, Frankfurt, Gelsenkirchen, Hamburg, Leipzig, Munich and Stuttgart — were also presented with each featuring a famous local landmark.
- Berlin's local landmark for example, features the Brandenburg Gate.

**Links:-**

<https://www.indiatoday.in/sports/football/story/germany-unveil-logo-for-euro-2024-at-berlin-s-olympiastadion-fans-absent-from-event-1861539-2021-10-06>

## FC Goa won Durand Cup football trophy

**Question: Which of the following Indian based football club has won the Durand Cup?**

- (a) FC Goa (b) Kerla Blasters (c) Bengaluru FC  
(d) Mohan Bagan

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- FC Goa has beaten Mohammedan Sporting by 1-0 to win their maiden Durand Cup football title.
- Durand Cup final, held at Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan, Kolkata.
- FC Goa Captain Eduardo Bedia scored only goal of the final in the 105th minute.

**Reference:** <https://www.google.com/amp/s/indianexpress.com/article/sports/football/durand-cup-2021-fc-go-a-vs-mohammedan-sporting-final-report-7550083/lite/>

## Chess

### Meltwater Champions Chess Tour

**Question: Which of the following Chess Player has won the inaugural Meltwater Champions Chess Tour?**

- (a) Vishwanathan Anand (b) Magnus Carlsen (c) Hikaru Nakamura  
(d) Ian Nepomniachtchi

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen has won the inaugural Meltwater Champions Chess Tour (MCCT).
- The MCCT tour comprised of 10 total tournaments.
- The 2021 Meltwater Champions Chess Tour was the most viewed online chess event in the history of the game.
- The 10-month long online chess tournaments were held on chess24.com.



**Reference:** <https://chess24.com/en/read/news/magnus-carlsen-wins-the-meltwater-champions-chess-tour>

## Table Tennis

### Indian men's team won bronze medal in Asian Table Tennis Championship 2021

**Question: Indian men's team won which of the following medal in Asian Table Tennis Championship 2021?**

(a) Gold (b) Silver (c) Bronze (d) None of these

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Indian men's table tennis team claimed the bronze medal in the Asian Table Tennis Championships in Doha, Qatar.
- India team ended their Asian Table Tennis Championships 2021 campaign with a total of three bronze medals.
- The two Indian pairs of Sharath Kamal and G Sathiyan and Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar, earned bronze medals in the men's doubles of the 2021 ITTF-ATTU Asian Championships.



**Reference:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/sports/other-sports/story/india-clinch-2-bronze-medals-in-men-s-doubles-asian-table-tennis-championship-1860697-2021-10-04>

## Sports Personality

### Valtteri Bottas Wins Turkish Grand Prix 2021

**Question: Who won the Turkish Grand Prix 2021?**

(a) Max Verstappen (b) Lewis Hamilton (c) Valtteri Bottas (d) Sergio Perez

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Mercedes' Valtteri Bottas has won the F1 Turkish Grand Prix 2021.
- Max Verstappen (Red Bull – Netherlands) came second.
- Red Bull's Sergio Perez finished third at the Istanbul Park circuit.



- Ferrari's Charles Leclerc fourth and ahead of seven-times world champion Hamilton.
- Mercedes team mate Lewis Hamilton finished fifth.

**Reference:** <https://www.reuters.com/lifestyle/sports/bottas-wins-turkey-verstappen-retakes-f1-lead-2021-10-10/>

## Anshu Malik won silver at World Wrestling Championships

**Question:** Anshu Malik won which of the following medal at the World wrestling championships in Oslo, Norway and became the first Indian woman to achieve this feat?

(a) Gold (b) Silver (c) Bronze (d) None of these

**Answer:** (b)

**Related Facts:**

- Anshu Malik won the silver medal at the World wrestling championships in Oslo, Norway, thereby etching her name in history books by becoming the first Indian woman to achieve the feat.
- The 20-year-old put up a strong fight but lost to two-time Olympic medallist Helen Maroulis of the USA in the final.
- She had gone one step ahead of five other Indian women – Alka Tomar (2006), Geeta Phogat and Babita Kumari (2012), Pooja Dhanda (2018) and Vinesh Phogat (2019) – who secured bronze medals in the elite event.



**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/anshu-malik-wins-silver-sarita-mor-bags-bronze-in-indian-womens-best-show-at-world-wrestling-championship/article36890147.ece>

## Short Notes

### Personalities

#### IMF's Gita Gopinath will return to Harvard

**Question:** Gita Gopinath, who was seen in the news recently, is the first female Chief of which institution?

(a) IMF (b) World Bank (c) United Nation (d) ADB

**Answer:** (a)

**Related Facts:**

- Gita Gopinath was the IMF's first female chief economist, when she joined the fund in October 2018.
- International Monetary Fund chief economist Gita Gopinath will return to Harvard University in January.
- She led IMF's analytical research on the Covid-19 pandemic, vaccination targets and on climate change mitigation.



## Visit of Prime Minister of Denmark to India

**Question:** With reference to the Prime Minister of Denmark's visit to India, consider the following statements:

(i) Between 9-11 October 2021, the Prime Minister of Denmark was on the official visit of India.

(ii) At present Mette Fredriksson is the Prime Minister of Denmark.

(iii) India and Denmark established the Green Strategic Partnership in the year 2020.

**Code-**

(a) only (i) and (iii) (b) only (ii) and (iii) (c) only (i) and (ii) (d) All of the above

**Answer—(d)**

**Related facts—**

- Between 9-11 October 2021, the Prime Minister of Denmark was on the official visit of India.
- At present Mette Fredriksson is the Prime Minister of Denmark.
- India and Denmark established the Green Strategic Partnership in the year 2020.
- The two countries have strong trade and investment ties.
- There are more than 200 Danish companies present in India and more than 60 Indian companies have a presence in Denmark.
- There is strong cooperation between the two countries in the areas of renewable energy, clean technology, water and waste management, agriculture and animal husbandry, science and technology, digitization including ICT, smart cities, shipping etc.
- It is noteworthy that during the virtual summit held on 28 September 2020, India and Denmark had established a 'Green Strategic Partnership'.



**Link:**

<https://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/34380/Visit+of+the+Prime+Minister+of+Denmark+to+India+October+9+11+2021>

## Amit Rastogi appointed new Chairman & Managing Director of NRDC

**Question:** Recently, Who has been appointed as new Chairman & Managing Director of NRDC?

(a) Amit Rastogi (b) Amit Burman (c) Amit Jain (d) Amit Gupta

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Retired commodore Amit Rastogi, after spending 34 years in Indian Navy took over as the chairman and managing director of the National Research Development Corporation.



- He was earlier director at Electrical Engineering at Integrated Headquarters, Ministry of Defence, for five years.
- The National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) is a non-departmental government body established by the British Government to transfer technology from the public sector to the private sector.
- NRDC is an enterprise of Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Ministry of Science & Technology.
- It engages in the development, promotion and transfer of technologies emanating from various national R&D institutions.

**Reference:** <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/retired-commodore-amit-rastogi-new-cmd-of-national-research-development-corp-11634557467386.html>.

## India's Bhavani Devi won Charlellville National Competition

**Question: Which of the following Fencer has won the Charlellville National Competition in the individual women's sabre event?**

(a) Popescu Ana Maria (b) Sun Yiwen (c) Bhavani Devi (d) None of these

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Fencer Bhavani Devi has won the Charlellville National Competition in France in the individual women's sabre event.
- She is currently ranked 50th in the world and is the top-ranked fencer from India.
- She made history at the Tokyo Olympics by becoming the first Indian to compete in the sport at the Games.



**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/sport/other-sports/bhavani-devi-wins-fencing-competition-in-france/article37051721.ece>

## Rahul Dravid : Next head Coach of the Indian Cricket Team

**Question: Who will replace Ravi Shastri as the head Coach of the Indian Cricket Team?**

(a) Saurabh Ganguly (b) Sachin Tendulkar (c) Rahul Dravid (d) Mahendra Singh Dhoni

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Former Indian skipper Rahul Dravid will replace Ravi Shastri as the head coach of the Indian team after the T20 World Cup.
- He will stay in the post till the end of 2023.
- Under him, India will also play the 2023 edition of the 50-over World Cup.
- Dravid's first assignment as Team India coach will be India's home series against New Zealand which will start three days after the T20 World Cup ends.
- His contract is reportedly worth Rs 10 crores.
- Team India has also appointed lieutenant Paras Mhambrey as their bowling coach, replacing Bharat Arun.



**Reference:** <https://www.news18.com/cricketnext/news/rahul-dravid-appointed-head-coach-for-two-year-period-paras-mhambrey-bowling-coach-report-4327874.html>

## K V Subramanian resigned as Chief Economic Adviser

**Question: Recently, Who resigned as Chief Economic Adviser?**

- (a) K V Subramanian (b) Satyender Kishor  
(c) S. Ramakrishnan (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- K V Subramanian resigned as Chief Economic Adviser.
- The Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) KV Subramanian has decided to return to academia.
- KV Subramanian had taken over the charge of Chief Economic Adviser on December 7, 2018.
- CEA (Chief Economic Adviser) is a post in the Government of India.
- It is equivalent to the rank of Secretary to the Government of India.
- The Chief Economic Adviser is head of the Economic Division of the Economic Affairs Department, Ministry of Finance.



**Reference:** <https://www.livemint.com/news/india/kv-subramanian-steps-down-as-govt-s-cea-after-3-year-tenure-11633694824041.html>

## Rajnish Kumar appointed as Chairman of BharatPe

**Question: Recently, Who has been appointed as Chairman of BharatPe?**

- (a) Rajnish Kumar (b) Avnish Kumar (c) Ashneer Grover (d) Shashvnat Nakrani

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Rajnish Kumar, former chairman of State Bank of India (SBI), has joined the board of Fintech firm BharatPe as its Chairman.
- He will Mentor the BharatPe team in formulating a short-term and long-term strategy.
- He will Work closely with the board and executives on regulatory matters.
- He will Advise and counsel the management on corporate governance.
- BharatPe is a fintech company that caters to the small merchants and kirana store owners of India.
- The company offers a range of fintech products including interoperable QR code for UPI payments, Bharat Swipe (POS machine) for card acceptance, and small business financing.



**Reference:** [https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/former-state-bank-of-india-chief-rajnish-kumar-joins-bharatpe-as-chairman-121101200554\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/former-state-bank-of-india-chief-rajnish-kumar-joins-bharatpe-as-chairman-121101200554_1.html)

## Former IAS appointed as advisor to PM Modi

**Question: Who has been appointed as advisor to PM Narendra Modi recently?**

a) Amit Khare b) Amit Nagpal c) Rajiv Gautam d) None of the above

**Ans : a**

### Related Facts

- On 12th October 2021 Amit Khare Former higher education secretary , was appointed as advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on a contract basis.
- Amit Khare got retired from IAS position in the month of September 2021.
- He is a retired IAS officer of 1985 batch from Jharkhand cadre.
- Advisor to PM
- Appointment order of the Khare was issued after appointment committee of the cabinet gave its approval.
- As an advisor in the Prime Minister's Office, he will enjoy the rank and scale of the secretary to the Union government.
- He has been appointed on contract basis, for a period of two years initially or until further orders, whichever is earlier.



**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/former-higher-education-secretary-amit-khare-appointed-pm-modi-advisor-7568368/>

## Ethiopia's Abiy Ahmed sworn in as PM for second five-year term

**Question: Who has been sworn in as the new Prime Minister of Ethiopia?**

(a) Abiy Ahemad (b) Meles Zenwai (c) Tamarat Layne (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

### Related Facts:

- Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed has been sworn in for a new five-year term as his government.
- Abiy took the oath of office, administered by Supreme Court Chief Justice Meaza Ashenafi.
- Abiy's Prosperity Party was declared the winner of parliamentary elections.
- Abiy's party won 410 of the 436 parliamentary seats that were contested.



**Reference:** <https://www.aninews.in/news/world/others/ethiopias-incumbent-pm-sworn-in-for-new-five-year-term20211004145830?amp=1>

## Polamraju Lakshmi Haranadh appointed As Paradip Port Trust Chairman

**Question: Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Paradip Port trust?**

(a) P L Haranadh (b) S S Mishra (c) Vinit Kumar (d) Rinkesh Roy

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet has appointed Polamraju Lakshmi Haranadh, IRTS (1994) as the new Chairman of the Paradip Port Trust.
- Paradip Port Trust (PPT) is the lone major port in Odisha.
- Paradip Port Trust comes under Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

**Reference:** <https://sambadenglish.com/polamraju-lakshmi-haranadh-appointed-as-paradip-port-trust-chairman/>

## E. R. Sheikh became first Director General of the Ordnance Directorate

**Question: Who has become the 1st Director General of the Ordnance Directorate?**

(a) E R sheikh (b) Vinit Kumar (c) R K Shetty (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- E.R. Sheikh has become the first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate (Co-ordination and Services).
- It is the successor organization of Ordnance Factory Board (OFB).
- An Indian Ordnance Factory Service (IOFS) officer of the 1984 batch, he has been a spearhead of modernization.

**Reference:** <https://nonstop-news.com/india-news/e-r-sheikh-assumes-charge-as-first-director-general-of-the-ordnance-directorate/>

## Mukesh Ambani topped Forbes India Rich List 2021

**Question: Who has topped the Forbes India Rich list for 2021?**

(a) Mukesh Ambani (b) Shiv Nadar (c) Gautam Adani (d) Anil Ambani

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Reliance Industries Limited Chairman Mukesh Ambani has topped the Forbes India Rich list for 2021.
- He has retained his position as the wealthiest Indian for the 14th consecutive year on the Forbes India list, since 2008.
- He topped the list with his total fortune to \$92.7 billion.
- The second spot has been retained by Adani Group Chairman Gautam Adani, with a net worth of \$74.8 billion.
- Founder of HCL Shiv Nadar acquired the third spot with net worth of \$31 billion.



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/forbes-india-rich-list-2021-mukesh-ambani-retains-top-spot-101633584948769.html>

## CEAMA appointed Eric Braganza as President

**Question: Who has been appointed as the new president of CEAMA?**

(a) Eric Braganza (b) Kamal Nandi (c) Narendra Bansal (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Eric Braganza has been appointed as the president of CEAMA for a two-year term.
- CEAMA stands for Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association.
- He succeeds Godrej Appliances Business Head and Executive Vice-President Kamal Nandi.
- Consumer Electronics and Appliances Manufacturers Association (CEAMA) is the apex body that represents consumer electronics and home appliances.
- CEAMA was established in 1978.



**Reference:** <https://www.peoplesmatters.in/news/leadership/ceama-appoints-eric-braganza-as-president-31091>

## Atal Vajpayee's Former Private Secretary Shakti Sinha passed away

**Question: Shakti Sinha, former bureaucrat died of cardiac arrest, was private secretary to the which of the following Prime Minister of India?**

(a) Narendra Modi (b) Manmohan Singh (c) Atal Bihari Vajpayee  
(d) None of these

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Shakti Sinha, former IAS officer who was private secretary to late prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, passed away.
- Shakti Sinha, an IAS officer of the 1979 batch, of the AGMUT cadre.
- Sinha opted for voluntary retirement in 2013 while he was serving as Finance Secretary in the Delhi government led by Sheila Dixit.
- He earlier served as private secretary to Atal Bihari Vajpayee between 1996 and 1999 and later went on to become his OSD when Vajpayee became the Prime Minister.



**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/ex-bureaucrat-and-vajpayee-aide-shakti-sinha-dies-at-64-7552385/>

## B C Patnaik has taken charge as MD of LIC

**Question: Recently (October 2021), Who has been appointed as a managing director of LIC?**

(a) B C Patnaik (b) Siddhartha Mohanty (c) Vipin Anand (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Recently, B C Patnaik has taken charge as a managing director of LIC.
- Prior to taking charge as Managing Director of LIC, Patnaik was Secretary-General, Council for Insurance Ombudsmen, (CIO) Mumbai.
- LIC has a top management tier comprising of chairman and four managing directors.
- The Headquarter of LIC is in Mumbai.
- LIC was Founded on 1 September 1956.

**Reference:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/b-c-patnaik-is-lic-md/articleshow/86695865.cms>

## Amish Mehta appointed as new MD & CEO of CRISIL

**Question: Recently, Who has been appointed as new MD & CEO of CRISIL?**

(a) Amish Mehta (b) Ashu Suyash (c) Amit Sharma (d) None of these

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Amish Mehta has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of rating agency Crisil.
- He has replaced Ashu Suyash.
- CRISIL is an Indian analytical company providing ratings, research, and risk and policy advisory services and is a subsidiary of American company S&P Global.
- CRISIL stands for Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited.
- Crisil was founded in 1987.

**Reference:** <https://www.crisil.com/en/home/newsroom/press-releases/2021/09/amish-mehta-takes-charge-as-md-and-ceo-of-crisil.html>

## Indra Nooyi memoir : “The secrets to balancing work and family life

**Question: The secrets to balancing work and family life is the memoir of which of the following author?**

(a) Chetan Bhagat (b) Indra Nooyi (c) Ruskin Bond (d) Vikram Seth

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- In her book, My Life in Full: Work, Family and our Future, Indra Nooyi focuses on the importance that organisational support plays in working women’s lives.
- Indra Nooyi tells the story of that journey in her memoir, My Life in Full : Work, Family and our Future, in 313 pages that are packed with her experiences of settling in America, negotiating the boardroom, balancing work and family life and what the pandemic has meant for workplaces.
- This book has been published by Hachette India.



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/indra-nooyi-memoir-the-secrets-to-balancing-work-and-family-life-101632717104680.html>

## Padmaja Chunduru appointed MD, CEO of National Securities Depositories

**Question: Recently, Who has been appointed as the MD and CEO of National Securities Depositories (NSLD)?**

(a) Padmaja Chunduru (b) GV Nageswara Rao (c) Aditi Rao (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Padmaja Chunduru has been appointed as the managing director and chief executive officer (MD & CEO) of National Securities Depositories (NSDL).
- She has succeeded GV Nageswara Rao as the MD & CEO of NSDL.
- She has served as MD & CEO of the Indian Bank from September 2018 to August 2021.
- National Securities Depositories Ltd (NSDL) and Central Securities Depositories Ltd (CDSL) are two depositories in India. They hold our financial securities.
- NSDL is India's oldest and largest depository.
- NSDL was established in 1996.
- NSDL's headquarter is in Mumbai, Maharashtra.



**Reference:** [https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/padmaja-chunduru-appointed-md-ceo-of-national-securities-depositories-121092901148\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/padmaja-chunduru-appointed-md-ceo-of-national-securities-depositories-121092901148_1.html)

## Brand ambassador for One District-One Product (ODOP) Scheme of UP

**Question: Which of the following Bollywood actress has recently been named as brand ambassador of UP's One District-One Product (ODOP) programme?**

a) Kangana Ranaut b) Anushka Sharma c) Priyanka Chopra d) None of these

**Answer : (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 01 October 2021; The Uttar Pradesh government named actor Kangana Ranaut as the brand ambassador of its ambitious One District-One Product (ODOP) programme.
- On January 24, 2018, The UP government launched One District-One Product (ODOP) programme.
- The ODOP programme of was launched by the UP Government, with the aim to create product-specific traditional industrial hubs across 75 districts of the state.
- Kangana Ranaut, who works in Hindi films, is known for her versatility and portrayal of strong women in female-centric films.



**Links:-**

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/kangana-ranaut-named-brand-ambassador-of-ups-one-district-one-product-scheme-2560984>

## Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh takes over as DG NCC

**Question: Who has been taken charge as the 34th Director General of the National cadet Corps (NCC)?**

(a) Gurbirpal Singh (b) Tarun kumar (c) Gurupal Singh (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Lieutenant General Gurbirpal Singh has taken charge as the 34th Director-General of the National Cadet Corps (NCC).
- He succeeds Lt Gen Tarun Kumar Aich.
- Lt Gen Singh was commissioned into The PARACHUTE REGIMENT in 1987.
- Lt Gen Singh has been a Company Commander in counter-insurgency environment in Nagaland and the Siachen Glacier.



**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1758565>

## Vinod Aggarwal appointed as ASDC president

**Question: Who has appointed as the chairman of Automotive Skills Development Council?**

(a) Vinod Agarwal (b) Nikunj Sanghi (c) Atul Agarwal (d) Arvind Goel

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Vinod Agarwal appointed as the chairman of Automotive Skills Development Council ASDC.
- Aggarwal, who is currently the Managing Director and CEO of VE Commercial Vehicles Limited (VECV), succeeds Nikunj Sanghi, who will leave ASDC after serving for four years.
- ASDC is a sector skills council for the auto industry, which aims to make the country self-sufficient to sustain the growth and competitiveness of the automotive industry.
- The Governing Council of ASDC comprises of eminent industry leaders and professionals, responsible for driving forward the strategic direction of the organisation towards achieving the ASDC purpose.



**Reference:** <https://auto.economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/industry/vinod-aggarwal-appointed-asdc-president/86678006>

## Tunisia president names Najla Bouden as country's first female PM

**Q. In October 2021 who has been appointed as first female Prime Minister of Tunisia?**

(A) Kamala Harris (B) Najla Bouden (C) Angela Merkel (D) None of the above

**Ans- (B)**

**Related facts:**

- On 29 September 2021, Tunisia's president named geologist Najla Bouden as the country's first ever female prime minister-designate, two months after he seized wide-ranging powers.
- Najla Bouden, 63, is a former Director of a education reform project and has held senior positions at Tunisia's higher education ministry.
- The President of the Republic Kais Saied charged Najla Bouden with forming a government as quickly as possible.
- Originally from Kairouan, she is a French-educated geologist with a doctorate in geological engineering, and is a lecturer at Tunisia's National Engineering School.



**Link:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/tunisia-president-names-najla-bouden-as-countrys-first-female-pm/article36734783.ece>

## Sunil Kataria appointed as the new chairman of ISA

**Question: Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Indian Society of Advertisers?**

(a) Sunil Kataria (b) Anil Kataria (c) Sushil Matey (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Sunil Kataria appointed as new chairman of the Indian Society of Advertisers (ISA).
- Sunil has led the Society over the past five years to greater heights garnering support from the fellow Executive Council members, the ISA members and other industry bodies.
- ISA is the apex national body as a strong voice to advertisers over the last 69 years.
- Its cross-sector advertiser members contribute to more than half of the annual national non-governmental ad spends.



**Reference:** <https://brandequity.economicstimes.indiatimes.com/news/the-people-report/sunil-kataria-appointed-as-new-chairman-of-isa/86579144>

## Sujata Chaturvedi appointed as Secretary Sports in MYAS

**Q. On 1st October 2021, who has been appointed as new Secretary Sports, Department of Sports, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports?**

(A) Pawan Kumar (B) Arvind Kumar (C) Nancy Paliwal (D) Sujata Chaturvedi

**Ans- (D)**

**Related facts:**

- Sujata Chaturvedi has been appointed as new Secretary Sports, Department of Sports, the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports announced on 1st October 2021.
- Chaturvedi is a 1989 batch IAS officer of Bihar cadre.



- Chaturvedi has previously served as an additional secretary, department of personnel, and training (DOPT).
- Sujata Chaturvedi took charge as the new sports secretary from the outgoing Ravi Mittal.
- During the tenure of Ravi Mittal, India recorded its best-ever performances in both Tokyo Olympics and Paralympics 2020.

**Link:** <https://www.aninews.in/news/sports/others/sujata-chaturvedi-appointed-as-secretary-sports-in-mys20211001142449/>

## Fumio Kishida to become Japan's next PM

**Question: Who has become the new Prime Minister of Japan?**

(a) Fumio Kishida (b) Yoshihide Suga (c) Taro Kono (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Fumio Kishida has become Japan's new Prime Minister.
- Japan's former Foreign Minister, Fumio Kishida has won the ruling party's leadership election.
- Kishida won 257 votes in a runoff to defeat Taro Kono.
- The 64-year-old replaces outgoing party leader Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga.

**Reference:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/rest-of-world/soft-spoken-fumio-kishida-to-become-japans-next-pm-after-party-vote/articleshow/86606280.cms>

## Aveek Sarkar re-elected as Press Trust of India Chairman

**Question: Who has been re-elected as Press Trust of India Chairman?**

(a) Aveek Sarkar (b) Shanth Kumar (c) Vijay Kumar Chopra (d) Mahendra Mohan Gupta

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Aveek Sarkar, the Editor Emeritus and Vice Chairman of the Ananda Bazar Group of Publications, was re-elected Chairman of Press Trust of India (PTI).
- Sarkar's re-election for a two-year-term took place at a meeting of PTI's Board of Directors following their Annual General Meeting.
- The Press Trust of India Ltd., commonly known as PTI, is the largest news agency in India.
- It is headquartered in New Delhi.
- It is a non-profit cooperative among more than 500 Indian newspapers and has about 500 full-time employees about 400 journalists.



**Reference:** <https://opoyi.com/aveek-sarkar-re-elected-as-pti-chairman>

## Places

### Mount Harriet

**Question – In October 2021, the name of ‘Mount Harriet’ has been changed to ‘Mount Manipur’. Where is Mount Harriet located?**

(a) Manipur (b) Lakshadweep (c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands (d) Uttarakhand

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts—**

- In October 2021, the name of ‘Mount Harriet’ has been changed to ‘Mount Manipur’.
- Mount Harriet is located on UT of Andaman and Nicobar Islands.
- This was announced during the visit of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to Port Blair.
- It is noteworthy that in the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891, many Manipuris including Maharaja Kulchandra Dhwaja Singh fought with the British.
- After this war, all of them were sent to Cellular Jail in Andaman and Nicobar as punishment.
- Mount Harriet is a hill station located in Fergunj Tehsil of South Andaman District.
- It was the summer capital of the Chief Commissioner during the British Raj.
- It is noteworthy that Mount Harriet is an important symbol of the Anglo-Manipur War of 1891.



**Link:**

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/others/mount-harriet-in-andaman-to-be-named-mount-manipur-in-tribute-to-freedom-fighters-101634462840801.html>

### 4th Tiger Reserve in Chattisgarh

**Question: Which of the following combined areas (National Park and Wildlife Sanctuary) has been declared as the 4th tiger reserve of Chattisgarh?**

- (a) Guru Ghasidas NP & Tamor Pingla WS  
(b) Guru Ghasidas NP & Sitanadi WS  
(c) Guru Ghasidas NP & Udanti Wild Buffalo WS  
(d) Guru Ghasidas NP & Barnawapara WS

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Recently, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) has designated the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as a Tiger Reserve.
- This will be the fourth Tiger Reserve in Chhattisgarh, after the Udanti-Sitanadi, Achanakmar, and Indravati Reserves.
- It is located in the Chhattisgarh, bordering Madhya Pradesh and Jharkhand.
- NTCA is a statutory body under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change, established in 2005 for strengthening tiger conservation.



**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/explained/explained-india-newest-tiger-reserve-no-4-in-chhattisgarh-7556513/>

## Awards & Honors

### Rajinikanth received Dadasaheb Phalke Award

**Question: Who conferred the 51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award 2021?**

- (a) Amitabh Bachchan (b) Rajinikanth (c) Vinod Khanna  
(d) Kasinathuni Viswanath

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Actor Rajinikanth was conferred the Dadasaheb Phalke Award at a National Film Awards ceremony by Vice-President Venkaiah M Naidu at a ceremony in Delhi.
- The Dadasaheb Phalke Award is India's highest award in the field of cinema.
- It is presented annually at the National Film Awards ceremony by the Directorate of Film Festivals.
- It is an organisation set up by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- It was established in 1969.
- Rajinikanth is also the recipient of Padma Vibhushan, the second-highest civilian award of the Republic of India, and has featured in Bollywood as well as South Indian films and has a humongous fan following.



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/entertainment/bollywood/national-film-awards-rajinikanth-receives-dadasaheb-phalke-award-attends-ceremony-with-best-actor-son-in-law-dhanush-101635145822178.html>

### Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation won Earth Guardian Award

**Question: Recently, Earth Guardian Award has been announced by the NatWest Group. Which of the following won the Earth Guardian Award 2021 ?**

- (a) Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation  
(b) Kenneth Anderson Nature Society  
(c) Nagarjunsagar-Srisailam Tiger Reserve  
(d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation (PaTCoF) has won the "Earth Guardian Award".
- Earth Guardian Award is one of a category of Earth Heroes Awards.
- It was instituted by the NatWest Group.
- The Earth Heroes Awards that are held annually are a national initiative that recognizes the efforts of the institutions and individuals across India.
- The theme for Earth Heroes Award 2021 was "Biodiversity- a resilient nature is a foundation on which all climate mitigation and adaptation efforts must be raised".
- Parambikulam Tiger Reserve is spread across 391 square kilometres.
- It is a protected area in Palakkad district of Kerala.
- It was established in 1973.



- Parambikulam Wildlife Sanctuary was declared a part of Parambikulam Tiger Reserve in 2010.

**Reference:** <https://www.newindianexpress.com/states/kerala/2021/oct/21/earth-guardian-award-for-parambikulam-foundation-2373780.html>

## Right Livelihood Award -2021

**Question: Which of the following organisation in India has got the Right Livelihood Award 2021?**

- a) Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE) b) Clean Air Asia  
c) Greenpeace India d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**



- Right Livelihood Award 2021 has been conferred to Delhi-based environmental organisation Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE).
- This award is also known as Sweden's alternative Nobel Prize.
- LIFE has received the award for its grassroots approach to empower vulnerable communities in protecting their livelihoods.
- LIFE has not only advocated for the protection of their livelihoods but also claimed for their right to a clean environment.
- **Other Awardees:**
  - Marthe Wandou, women rights activist in Cameron,
  - Vladimir Slivyak an Environmental activist from Russia.
  - Freda Huson an Indigenous rights defender from Canada.
- **The Award:**
  - Right Livelihood Award was established by Ole von Uexkull who happens to be the executive director of Right Livelihood.
  - The award honours and supports people in solving global problems.
  - It comprises of a cash prize of 1 million Swedish crowns and a long-term support that highlights and expands Laureates' work.
  - Awardees are shortlisted by the jury of Stockholm-based Right Livelihood.
  - Legal Initiative for Forest and Environment (LIFE) LIFE:
  - LIFE was founded in 2005 by lawyers Ritwick Dutta and Rahul.
  - It has been fighting against India's most significant environmental threats.
  - LIFE received the Award for its innovative legal work of empowering communities to protect their resources following the environmental democracy in India.

**Links:-**

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/indian-environmental-law-org-wins-right-livelihood-award-101632899120394.html>

## Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award

**Question: Consider the following statements:-**

- i) Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award is given by Assam government for the

championing the cause of national integration and national contribution.

ii) It is Assam government's biennial award.

Which of the above two statements are correct?

a) I b) i, ii c) ii d) None

Ans: b

Context

- On October 3, 2021, the "Lokapriya Gopinath Bordoloi Award for National Integration and National Contribution 2021" was conferred by the Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu in Assam.

- **Related Facts**

- Awards were conferred on Assam Branch of Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, German based Assamese litterateur Dr. Nirod Kumar Baruah and Shillong Chamber Choir at Srimanta Sankardeva Kalakshetra, Assam.



- The award carries five lakh rupees, a citation and an Angabastam.

- **About the award**

- Award is one of the highest civilian honors of Assam government which given biennially.
- Award is bestowed upon the institutions and individuals from diverse fields to honour their exemplary contributions towards integration of nation.

- **Gopinath Bordoloi**

- Gopinath Bordoloi was a politician and Indian independence activist who served as the first Chief Minister of Assam. He was a follower of the Gandhian principle of non-violence as a political tool.

Reference: <https://newsonair.com/2021/10/02/v-prez-to-assam-govts-biennial-lokapriya-gopinath-bordoloi-award-for-national-integration-and-national-contribution-tomorrow>

## Yemeni humanitarian organization won Nansen Refugee Award 2021

**Question: A humanitarian organization from which Country has been declared as the winner of the 2021 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award?**

(a) Yemen (b) Kenya (c) Qatar (d) Japan

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- A humanitarian organization from Yemen named "Jeel Albena Association for Humanitarian Development", has been declared as the winner of the 2021 UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award.
- "Jeel Albena Association for Humanitarian Development" founded in 2017 by Ameen Jubran.
- Jeel Albania Association helps thousands of displaced people rebuild their lives.



- The UNHCR Nansen Refugee Award honours individuals, groups or organizations for going above and beyond the call of duty to protect refugees, other displaced and stateless people.

Reference: <https://news.un.org/en/story/2021/09/1101582>

## Yidan Prize 2021

**Question: Which Indian has been awarded the 2021 Yidan Prize by Yidan Prize foundation , HongKong?**

a) Dr Rukmini Banerji b) Dr Manmohan Singh c) Rajiv Nigam d) Amitabh Kant

**Ans: a)**

**Context**



- Recently Yidan prize for 2021 has been announced by Yidan Prize Foundation .
- **Related Facts**
- India-based Dr Rukmini Banerji was awarded with the 2021 Yidan prize on September 28, 2021.
- Dr Rukmini Banerji is CEO of Pratham Education Foundation and has expertise in Equality in education; Literacy for all; Policy and research; Education and society; Monitoring, evaluation and assessment; Building partnerships.
- US-based Professor Eric Hanushek was also conferred with the prestigious Yidan Prize 2021.
- **About Yidan Prize**
- It is a global, inclusive education award which recognizes changemakers who inspire progress in education for a better world, and has been referred to as the largest education prize on earth.
- The prize is financed and governed by a HK\$2.5 billion (about US\$320 million) independent trust named Yidan Prize Foundation.
- It was founded in 2016 by Chen Yidan.

Reference: <https://yidanprize.org/global-community/laureates/rukmini-banerji/>

## Operations & Campaign

### Operation of two long distance freight trains for the first time for South Central Railway

**Question – In October 2021, Indian Railways successfully operated two long distance freight trains for the first time on South Central Railway (SCR). What are the names of the operated freight trains ?**

(a) Trishul, Garuda (b) Varud, aruna (c) Tejas, chetak (d) Vasuki, Dakshin Ganga

**Answer—(a)**

**Related facts—**

- In October 2021, Indian Railways successfully operated two long distance freight trains for the first time on South Central Railway (SCR).

- Trishul is SCR's first long haul comprising of three freight trains, i.e., 177 wagons.
- This train was started on 07.10.2021 from Kondapalli station of Vijayawada division to Khurda division of East Coast Railway.
- SCR followed it up with running of yet another similar one named Garuda on 08.10.2021 from Raichur of Guntakal division to Manuguru of Secunderabad division.
- In both the cases the long haul trains comprised of empty open wagons for loading of coal meant for predominantly thermal power stations.



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1762624>

## **Planning & Project** “Dairy Sahakar” scheme

**Question: Which ministry will implement Dairy Shakar scheme?**

- Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare
- Ministry of Cooperation
- Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- None of the above

**Ans: b**

**Recent Context**

- On 31st October 2021, Union Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah has launched the “Dairy Sahakar” scheme at Anand, Gujarat .
- **Related Facts**
- Scheme was launched during the function organised by Amul for celebration of 75th Foundation Year of Amul.
- Scheme will be implemented by NCDC under Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India.
- It is launched with the total investment of 5000 crore.
- **Objectives**
- To realize the vision, “from cooperation to prosperity”.
- “Doubling the farmers income” and achieving the mission of “Atmanirbhar Bharat”.
- **Implementation**
- Financial support will be extended by NCDC to eligible cooperatives for activities such as bovine development, milk procurement, processing, quality assurance, value addition, branding, packaging, marketing, transportation and storage of milk and milk products, exports of dairy products .
- There will also be a convergence with various schemes of Government of India and / or of State Government/UT Administration/ Development agencies/ bilateral/multilateral assistance/ CSR mechanism.



**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1768230>

## India launched its new National Action Plan for dog Mediated Rabies Elimination (NAPRE)

**Question: By which of the following year, India set the target for the elimination of Rabies, under National Action Plan for dog Mediated Rabies Elimination (NAPRE)?**

a) 2025 b) 2030 c) 2029 d) 2023

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 28 September 2021; on the occasion of World Rabies Day India launched its new National Action Plan for dog Mediated Rabies Elimination (NAPRE) by 2030.
- India is endemic for rabies and suffers approximately 36% of the world's human rabies deaths<sup>1</sup> transmitted by dogs.
- Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Shri Mansukh Mandaviya said that the zoonotic diseases like Rabies claims the lives of people in their prime denying the family of their earning member.
- This plan gives birth to the National Rabies Control Programme of India with rabies now also declared a notifiable disease.
- Dr Roderico Ofrin, who is World Health Organization's Representative in India, said that India as a country with rich research and clinical expertise, is a lead producer of rabies biological.
- He said that India is also a country which carries around one third of the global rabies burden; therefore India can play a key role in reaching the global target.
- India is now giving priority to stop this preventable disease; it builds awareness of the importance of action against rabies.
- It got the commitment from the relevant sectors and sets into practice the operationalization of One Health.



**Links:-**

<https://www.who.int/news/item/25-10-2021-adopt-one-health-stop-rabies-india-launches-new-national-action-plan-for-dog-mediated-rabies-elimination-by-2030>

## Nag River revitalisation project

**Question : Nag River revitalisation project has recently(October 2021) approved by finance ministry's —**

- a. Expenditure finance committee b. Standing Committee on Finance  
c. Committee on Science & Technology and Environment & Forests  
d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Nag River revitalisation project has recently(October 2021) approved by finance ministry's expenditure finance committee.
- Project area is situated at Nagpur in Maharashtra.



- Project will start soon at the cost of Rs 2,117-crore.
- It is notable that eight years have been fixed for this project.
- The project was conceptualised by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari.

**Link:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/nag-river-revitalisation-project-approved-by-finance-ministrys-expenditure-finance-committee/articleshow/87310686.cms>

## Continuation of Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme

**Question – The Ministry of Textiles has recently(October 2021) approved the continuation of the Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme till March 2026 with an outlay of —**

(a) Rs 150 crore (b) Rs 160 crore (c) Rs 180 crore (d) Rs 200 crore

**Answer—(b)**

**Related facts—**



- Ministry of Textiles has recently(October 2021) approved continuation of Comprehensive Handicrafts Cluster Development Scheme ( CHCDS) with a total outlay of Rs 160 crore.
- The scheme will continue up to March 2026.
- Infrastructural support, market access, design and technology up-gradation support etc will be provided to handicrafts artisans under this scheme.
- CHCDS aims to create world-class infrastructure that caters to the business needs of the local artisans & SMEs to boost production and export.
- In brief, the main objective of setting up these clusters is to assist the artisans & entrepreneurs to set up world-class units with modern infrastructure, latest technology, and adequate training and human resource development inputs, coupled with market linkages and production diversification.
- Under CHCDS, soft interventions like Baseline Survey and Activity Mapping, Skill Training, Improved Tool Kits, Marketing events, Seminars, Publicity, Design workshops, Capacity Building, etc will be provided.
- The integrated projects will be taken up for development through Central/State Handicrafts Corporations/Autonomous, Body-Council-Institute/Registered Co-operatives/ Producer company of artisans/Registered SPV, having good experience in handicrafts sector as per requirement and as per the DPR prepared for the purpose.
- The focus will be on integration of scattered artisans, building their grass root level enterprises and linking them to SMEs in the handicrafts sector to ensure economies of scale.
- The mega handicraft clusters having more than 10,000 artisans will be selected for overall development under this scheme.

**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=225367>

## Infrastructure projects in rural areas in Assam

**Question : Which organization has recently(October 2021) sanctioned Rs 608 crore for infrastructure projects in rural areas in Assam ?**

a. NABARD b. KVIC c. CSTRD d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- NABARD has recently(October 2021) sanctioned Rs 608 crore for infrastructure projects in rural areas in Assam.
- The infrastructure projects include more than 50 rural roads, 21 rural bridges, 19 flood protection projects and 32 soil conservation projects across the state under Rural Infrastructure Development Fund (RIDF) – XXVII.
- On completion of the projects, it is estimated that 1.7 million rural population in 900 villages will be directly benefitted.
- NABARD has also entered into an agreement with Assam government for facilitation of Rs 13,200 crore infrastructure projects in the state over a period of three years recently.



**Link:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/nabard-sanctions-rs-608-crore-for-infrastructure-projects-in-rural-areas-in-assam/articleshow/87160590.cms>

## Rail link project between Nepal and India

**Question – In October 2021, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the governments of the two countries for the construction of broad gauge rail track under the India-Nepal Rail Link Project. Between which stations is this rail track proposed to be constructed?**

(a) Kurtha to Vijalpura (b) Jaynagar to Kurtha (c) Kathmandu to Raxaul  
(d) Vijalpura to Jayanagar

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts—**

- In October 2021, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the governments of the two countries for the construction of broad gauge rail track under the India-Nepal Rail Link Project.
- This rail track is proposed to be constructed between Kathmandu to Raxaul stations.
- This will be Nepal's first broad gauge railway passenger service.



**Link:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/south-asia/nepal-india-sign-mou-for-kathmandu-raxaul-railway-link/articleshow/86872049.cms>

## Web-based project monitoring portal for Military Engineer Services

**Question :** Defence Minister of India has recently launched Web Based Project Monitoring Portal (WPMP) for Military Engineer Services (MES) at New Delhi. Accordingly, which of the following statement/s is/are correct ?  
**Statements —**

1. Portal conceptualized in accordance with the Atmanirbhar Bharat Mission
2. It has been launched on 20th October 2021
3. It has been developed by BISAG-G
4. BISAG-G stands for — Baudhayan National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics

**Options —**

- a. Only 1. & 4. b. Only 1., 3. & 4. c. Only 2. & 3.  
d. Only 1., 2. & 4.

**Ans. c.**

**Related facts —**

- Defence Minister of India has recently launched Web Based Project Monitoring Portal (WPMP) for Military Engineer Services (MES) at New Delhi.
- **Key points of WPMP —**

1. Portal conceptualized in accordance with the Digital India Mission
2. It has been launched on 20th October 2021
3. It has been developed by BISAG-G
4. BISAG-G stands for — Bhaskaracharya National Institute for Space Applications and Geo-informatics
5. It is the first project management e-Governance to be implemented by the MES.
6. It will enable real time monitoring of projects from its inception to completion.
7. MES is process of implementing nine other e-Governance applications.
8. These applications are expected to be developed by the end of this year and also to be amalgamated into singular ERP by mid of next year.
9. ERP stands for — Enterprise Resource Planning.

**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1765123>

## Mera Ghar Mere Naam scheme launched

**Question:** Which state government has recently launched Mera Ghar Mere Naam scheme recently?

- a) Punjab government b) UP government c) Himachal government d) None of the above

**Ans: a**

**Context**

- On 17th October 2021 Punjab Chief Minister Charanjit Singh Channi launched 'Mera Ghar Mere Naam' scheme.
- **Related Facts**



- Scheme aims to give ownership rights to people living in houses within the 'lal lakir' of villages and cities.
- 'Lal lakir' refers to land that is part of the village habitation and is used for non-agriculture purposes only.
- Earlier this scheme was launched only for the residents of villages but now it is being extended to the eligible residents of the cities within the 'lal lakir'.
- In order to implement the scheme, the Revenue department has been mandated to undertake drone survey of these residential properties across the rural and urban areas for the purpose of digital mapping.
- All the eligible residents after proper identification or verification will be given the property cards (sanads) to give ownership rights to them in a time-bound manner.
- Before this, beneficiaries will be given a time of 15 days for filing their objections. If no reply is received from them, property card will be issued.

**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/punjab-cm-launches-mera-ghar-mere-naam-scheme/article37038104.ece>

## Indian agricultural waste recycling project wins Earthshot Prize

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

- The Delhi entrepreneurial organisation Takachar's innovation has won inaugural Earthshot Prize.
- Earthshot Prize is established by Duke of Cambridge Prince William and British naturalist David Attenborough.
- It is also being called "Eco Oscars".

**Which of the above are correct?**

- a) i,ii b) i,ii,iii c) ii,iii d) None

**Ans: b**

**Context**



- An Indian Project, Takachar's Innovation, that recycles agricultural waste into fuel has won the "Prince William's inaugural Earthshot Prize", which is also called as "Eco Oscars".
- **Related Facts**
- Dubbed as the "Eco Oscars," the prizes have been created by the Duke of Cambridge and renowned British naturalist David Attenborough.
- Award honors people who are trying to save the planet Earth.
- The aim of the award is to provide assistance and inspire innovative local solutions amid the growing climate crisis faced globally.
- **Takachar's Innovation**
- Takachar's Innovation is led by Vidyut Mohan.
- They have developed an affordable technology to convert crop residues into sellable bio-products. It reduced smoke emissions by 98 per cent.
- Vidyut Mohan from Takachar was awarded for this technology in the "clean our air" category.
- Takachar's innovation was among five other worldwide winners of the prize.
- **About Earthshot Prize**
- Each year for the next 10 years, the Earthshot will be awarding £1m each to five projects that are working to find solutions to the planet's environmental problems.

- This prize is awarded to five winners each year, whose projects help the environment. It will be awarded annually from 2021 to 2030.
- It is given by the Royal Foundation, which is headquartered in London, England.
- The prize is distributed in five separate categories that are supported by UN Sustainable Development Goals.
- This prize was launched in the year 2020 by Prince William, Duke of Cambridge and David Attenborough.

**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/indian-agricultural-waste-recycling-project-wins-prince-williams-inaugural-earthshot-prize-7577289/>

## FICCI projects 9.1% GDP growth for FY22

**Question: FICCI has projected India's GDP growth for financial year 22 at what Percent?**

(a) 9.1 Percent (b) 10.1 Percent (c) 7.8 Percent (d) 8.1 Percent

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- FICCI projects 9.1% GDP growth for financial year 2022.
- The latest round of Ficci's Economic Outlook Survey has put forth an annual median GDP growth forecast for 2021-22 at 9.1 per cent.
- The survey was conducted in September 2021 and drew responses from leading economists representing the industry, banking and financial services sector.
- The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) is a non-governmental trade association and advocacy group based in India.
- FICCI was founded in 1927 on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi by Indian businessman Mr. G.D. Birla and Purshottamdas Thakurdas.



**Reference:** <http://www.businessworld.in/article/Ficci-Projects-9-1-GDP-Growth-For-FY22/07-10-2021-407787/>

## River Ranching Program

**Question: From which of the following state Nationwide River Ranching Program was launched On October 8, 2021 by Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Parshottam Rupala?**

a) Uttar Pradesh b) Uttarakhand c) Odisha d) Gujarat

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On October 8, 2021; Nationwide River Ranching Program was launched in UP under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) Scheme.
- The programme was launched by Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Parshottam Rupala.



- It should be noted that the three lakhs fingerlings were ranched at 3 sites in UP, namely, Brijghat, Tigri, Meerut, Garhmukteshwar and Bijnor.
- It has been aimed to augment and enhance fish production and productivity in the state by expanding, intensifying, diversifying and utilizing land & water productively.
- National Fisheries Development Board, Hyderabad had been designated as the vital agency by the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries.
- The program was also launched in Orissa, Uttarakhand, Tripura and Chhattisgarh.
- In Uttar Pradesh, the programme was launched at Brijghat, Garh Mukteshwar.
- In Uttar Pradesh, about 500 people participated in the national level launching of the River Ranching program.
- About 218 participants attended the program.

**Links:-**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1762170>

## Guidelines For PM Cares For Children Scheme

**Question: Which ministry is the nodal ministry for the implementation of PM Cares for Children Scheme?**

- a) Ministry of Home Affairs b) Ministry of Women and Child Development  
c) Ministry of Education d) None of the above

**Ans: b**

**Context**

- Ministry of Women and Child Development issued a detailed guidelines for “PM CARES for Children Scheme” on October 7, 2021.
- **Related Facts**



- Guidelines were issued in the backdrop of announcement made by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on May 29, 2021 regarding a comprehensive support for children who lost both their parents amid the Covid-19 pandemic.
- **About PM Cares For Children Scheme**
- The PM CARES for Children Scheme was launched by The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on 29th May 2021 for the Children.
- It aims to support children who have lost both the Parents or legal Guardian or Adoptive Parents or Surviving Parent to COVID-19 pandemic during the period starting from 11th March 2020.
- The objective of the Scheme is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of Children in a sustained manner, and enable their well-being through health insurance, empower them through education and equip them for self-sufficient existence with financial support on reaching 23 years of age.
- Scheme will provide support to these children through convergent approach and gap funding to ensure health, education, monthly stipend from the age of 18 years. They will also be given a lump sum amount of Rs. 10 lakhs, at the age of 23.
- **Guidelines Issued for the scheme**  
**The Entitlements under the scheme include:**  
**Support for Boarding and Lodging:**

- a) Efforts will be made by the District Magistrate with the assistance of Child Welfare Committee (CWC) to explore the possibility of rehabilitating the child within her/his extended family, relatives, kith, or kin.
- b) If the extended family, relatives, kith or kin of the child are not available/not willing/not found fit by CWC or the child (aged 4 -10 years or above) is not willing to live with them, the child should be placed in foster care, after due diligence as prescribed under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 and rules made thereof as amended from time to time.
- c) If the Foster family is not available/not willing /not found fit by CWC, or the child (aged 4 -10 years or above) is not willing to live with them, the child 1Beneficiary/ Beneficiaries means eligible child beneficiaries under the PM CARES for Children Scheme. 3 should be placed in age appropriate and gender appropriate Child Care Institution (CCI).
- d) Children more than 10 years old, not received by extended families or relatives or foster families or not willing to live with them or living in child care institutions after the demise of parents, may be enrolled in Netaji Subhash Chand Bose Awasiya Vidyalaya, Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya, Eklavya Model Schools, Sainik School, Navodaya Vidyalaya, or any other residential school by the District Magistrate, subject to the respective scheme guidelines.
- e) It may be ensured that the siblings stay together, as far as possible.
- f) For non-institutional care, financial support at the prevailing rates prescribed under the Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme shall be provided to Children (in account with guardian). For child in institutional care, a maintenance grant at the prevailing rates prescribed under the Child Protection Services (CPS) Scheme shall be given to Child Care Institutions. Any provision for subsistence support under the State scheme may also be provided additionally to the children.

- **Assistance for Pre-school and School Education**

- a) For children below 6 years of age Identified beneficiaries will receive support and assistance from the Anganwadi services for supplementary nutrition, pre-school education/ ECCE, immunization, health referrals, and health check-up.
- b) For children below 10 years of age
  - i. Admission shall be provided in any nearest school as a day scholar i.e. Government/ Government aided School/ Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs)/ Private Schools.
  - ii. In Government Schools, two sets of free uniform and textbooks shall be provided, under Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, as per the scheme guidelines.
  - iii. In private schools, tuition fees shall be exempted under section 12(1)(c) of RTE Act.
  - iv. Under circumstances where child is unable to receive above benefits, the fees, as per the RTE norms, will be given from the PM CARES for Children scheme. The Scheme will also pay for expenditure on uniform, textbooks, and notebooks

- **c. For children between 11-18 years of age**

- i. If the child is living with the extended family, then admission in the nearest Government/ Government aided School/ Kendriya Vidyalayas (KVs)/ Private Schools as a day scholar may be ensured by the DM.

- ii. The child may be enrolled in Netaji Subhash Chand Bose Awasiya Vidyalaya/ Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya/ Eklavya Model Schools/Sainik School/ Navodaya Vidyalaya/ or any other residential school, by the DM, subject to the respective scheme guidelines.
- iii. The DM may make alternative arrangements for accommodation of such children during vacations at CCIs or any appropriate place.
- iv. Under circumstances where child is unable to receive above benefits, the fees, as per the RTE norms, will be given from the PM CARES for Children scheme. The scheme will also pay for expenditure on uniform, textbooks, and notebooks. A matrix of such entitlements is detailed out in the detailed annexure.

- **d. Assistance for Higher Education:**

- i. The child will be assisted in obtaining education loan for Professional courses /Higher Education in India
- ii. Under circumstances where beneficiary is unable to avail interest exemption from extant Central and State Government scheme, then the interest on the educational loan will be paid from PM CARES for Children Scheme.
- iii. As an alternative, scholarship as per the norms will be provided to the beneficiaries of the PM CARES for Children Scheme from the schemes of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, Ministry of Tribal Affairs, Ministry of Minority Affairs, and Department of Higher Education. Beneficiaries will be assisted through National Scholarship portal for availing such entitlements. The scholarship awarded to the beneficiaries will be updated on the PM CARES for Children portal.

- **Health Insurance:**

- a) All children will be enrolled as a beneficiary under Ayushman Bharat Scheme (PM-JAY) with a health insurance cover of Rs. 5 lakhs.
- b) It shall be ensured that the child identified under PM CARES for Children scheme receives benefits under PM JAY

- **Financial Support:**

- a) The lump sum amount will be transferred directly in the post office account of beneficiaries upon opening and validation of the account of the beneficiaries. A pro-rata amount will be credited upfront in the account of each identified beneficiary such that the corpus for each beneficiary becomes Rs. 10 lakhs at the time of attaining 18 years of age.
- b) Children will receive monthly stipend once they attain 18 years of age, by investing the corpus of Rs 10 lakhs. The beneficiary will receive stipend till they attain 23 years of age.
- c) They will receive an amount of Rs. 10 lakh on attaining 23 years of age.

**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1761718>

## Lucy Mission : The First Mission to the Trojan Asteroids

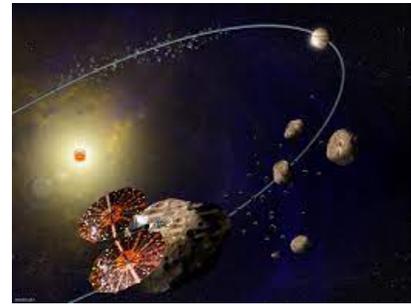
**Question: Which of the following space agency will launched the Lucy Mission?**

(a) NASA (b) ISRO (c) JAXA (d) ESA

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- This Mission will be launched by the NASA to probe Jupiter's mysterious Trojan asteroids.
- Lucy will be the first space mission to study the Trojans.
- Lucy will be launched on October 16 from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station.
- The mission takes its name from the fossilized human ancestor whose skeleton provided unique insight into humanity's evolution.
- Its mission is to investigate the group of rocky bodies circling the Sun in two swarms, one preceding Jupiter in its orbital path and the other trailing behind it.
- It will complete a 12-year journey to eight different asteroids – a Main Belt asteroid and seven Trojans, four of which are members of "two-for-the-price-of-one" binary systems.



**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/science/nasas-lucy-mission-to-probe-jupiters-mysterious-trojan-asteroids/article36747491.ece>

## NIDHI 2.0 Scheme

**Question: On 27 September 2021; the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla has inaugurated the NIDHI 2.0 scheme. With which of the following sector NIDHI 2.0 scheme is related?**

a) Agriculture b) Health c) Science & Technology d) Tourism

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 27 September 2021; the Speaker of Lok Sabha, Om Birla has inaugurated the NIDHI 2.0 scheme.
- National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry (NIDHI) 2.0 scheme has been launched on the occasion of 2021 World Tourism Day (27 September 2021).
- The event regarding this was organised by the Ministry of Tourism.
- The NIDHI 2.0 database will have more inclusivity, by not only including accommodation units, but also travel agents, tour operators, & others.
- **NIDHI Scheme:**
- The NIDHI scheme was launched by the Ministry of Tourism to facilitate the digitalization of the tourism sector.
- Its purpose is to promote ease of doing business for the hospitality & tourism sector.
- It focuses on encouraging all accommodation units to register themselves on the platform to become part of the hospitality industry.



- At the same occasion, the Ministry of Tourism signed an MoU with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- The Responsible Tourism Society of India (RTSOI) also is the part of this MoU.
- RTSOI is actively working to promote and support sustainability initiatives in the tourism sector for each other.
- It should be noted that India is in unlocking phase and domestic tourism has re-started slowly and steadily.
- The Covid-19 pandemic has had an immense socio-economic impact worldwide.
- In this scenario gradual increase in the domestic tourism will help for recovery and growth in many folds of the society.
- Tourism has the potential to contribute to inclusive growth by creating opportunities for all different groups, ethnicity, religion and across sectors.
- These varied sectors are agriculture, arts & crafts and services, which has to contribute and benefit from economic growth.
- The purpose of World Tourism Day (WTD) is to foster awareness among the international community on the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic value.

**Links:-**

<https://nidhi.nic.in/HotelDivision/Default.aspx>

## Treaty & Agreements

Google announced a partnership to launch the Appscale Academy

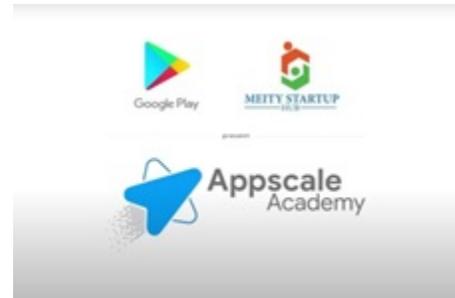
**Question: Google, recently in a partnership of which of the following announced to launch the Appscale Academy?**

a) MeitY b) Bharti c) OneWeb d) Microsoft

**Answer :(a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- MeitY Startup Hub, an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), and Google announced a partnership to launch the Appscale Academy.
- Appscale Academy will propagate a growth and development program, which will train early to mid-stage startups across India on building high-quality apps for the world.
- Launched in October 2021, the Appscale Academy will focus on helping local startups build and scale a range of world-class apps.
- These will be across domains, including gaming, healthcare, fintech, edtech, social impact, and more.
- Applications will be open till 15th December 2021, from which 100 startups will be selected based on defined qualitative and quantitative parameters.
- These parameters have to be set by a panel of industry experts, members of MeitY Startup Hub, and Google Play.
- The program will also provide a special focus to the emerging startup ecosystem in Tier II and Tier III cities of India.



- As part of the 6-month program, 100 selected startups will get trained through a curriculum designed to help them drive high-quality apps for a global market.
- The startups will receive access to virtual instructor-led webinars, self-learning material, and mentorship sessions.
- Leading local and global industry professionals will play their role in it and many startups will get an opportunity to pitch to leading venture capitalists.
- According to Mr. Ajay Sawhney, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, India's startups increasingly drive local app innovations that have the potential to go global.
- He said that we should encourage them to drive meaningful solutions for the world.

**Links:-**

<https://technuter.com/breaking-news/meity-startup-hub-and-google-tie-up-to-launch-appscale-academy.html>

## Agreement between India and Croatia for academic research and skill building research in traditional systems of medicine

**Question – In October 2021, the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India has signed an agreement with which country for academic research and skill building in the field of traditional medicine systems of India?**

(a) Ecuador (b) Brazil (c) Croatia (d) Ghana

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts—**

- In October 2021, the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India signed an agreement with which Croatia for academic research and skill building in the field of traditional medicine systems of India.
- AIIA is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ayush.
- It has signed MoU on behalf of Ministry of Ayush with Croatian counterpart Kvarner Health Tourism Cluster.
- Significance —
- This will promote academic research, clinical and educational activities, medical education, training, and competency building.



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1762025>

## FIXAR announced it's tie up with Paras Aerospace

**Question: What is FIXAR007?**

a) UAV b) A Computer Software c) Computer virus d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 19 October 2021; European commercial drone and software developer FIXAR announced it's tie up with Paras Aerospace, a subsidiary of Paras Defence.

- This partnership between the two has been emerged for the initiation of Drone (UAV) market in India.
- Now as there has been fast emerging domestic unmanned aerial vehicle market in the country the collaboration between Paras Aerospace and FIXAR is quite important.
- As a first step towards this partnership, the company will launch its flagship fixed wing drone FIXAR007 in the country.
- The initial agreement targets delivery of 150 drones to the operators in India in the next 6-8 months with the first expected to arrive in November 2021
- Wide range Application of UAV(Drones):
- These drones have applications in areas such as real-time video surveillance, laser scanning and aerial photography for various sectors.
- As these kind of drones have wide utility range and therefore useful for government, agriculture, security and surveying.
- The FIXAR007 drone is equipped with much better technology compared to similar class drones.
- It has demonstrated an increased flight length (up to 60km), a payload capacity of 2kg/4.4lb max, and increased stability.
- As an end-to-end in-house product, FIXAR007 is adjustable to diverse market safety requirements making it promptly available in the market.
- FIXAR said in a statement that the company is excited to enter the Indian market as it holds great potential.
- India's position regarding the UAV:
- It has already estimated the fast overall unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV) market expansion based on a liberalization of Drone Rules in India.
- As par Vasily Lukashov, founder-CEO, FIXAR New liberalized rules ease user and operator access to unmanned aerial vehicles and allows the application of UAV solutions to a broader array of applications.



#### Links:-

<http://www.indiandefensenews.in/2021/10/european-drone-developer-fixar-ties-up.html>

### Dubai's second biggest trade partner

**Question : India has emerged as the second largest trading partner of Dubai in the first half of 2021, while in the first place in this context is —**

- a. China b. Mauritius c. Japan d. United States

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- India has overtaken China as Dubai's second largest trading partner, with a total volume of 38.5 billion dirham (Rs. 773.85 billion, US\$ 10.40 billion) in the first half of 2021.
- In H1 2020, trade with India increased by 74.5% year on year.
- Dubai had a trade volume of 86.7 billion dirham with China in H1 (first half) of 2021, followed by India and the U.S. at third position(32 billion dirham).



- Saudi Arabia came fourth with 30.5 billion dirham, followed by Switzerland at 24.8 billion dirham.
- It is notable that total share of the five biggest trade partners in H1 2021 amounted to 241.21 billion dirham compared to 185.06 billion dirham in H1 2020, up 30.34%.

**Link:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/india-emerges-as-dubais-second-biggest-trade-partner/article36689881.ece>

## Conference

### Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour and Conference

**Question: Which ministry is organizing “Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour and Conference” in the Buddhist Circuit of the country to promote tourism ?**

- a) Ministry of Home Affairs b) Ministry of Culture c) Ministry of Tourism  
d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

**Context**



- The Ministry of Tourism is organising a “Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour and Conference” from October 4 to October 8, 2021 in order to increase the tourism in Buddhist Circuit.
- During conference key issues with regard to the development and promotion of tourism in the circuit will be discussed.
- **Related Facts**
- Ministry of Tourism undertakes various promotional activities for the promotion of Tourism and these activities are primarily aimed at increasing awareness about tourist destinations, attractions and products.
- The FAM tour will cover the visit of prominent Buddhist sites and conferences at Bodhgaya and Varanasi.
- **Buddhist Tourism in India**
- India has a rich ancient Buddhist Heritage with several important sites associated with the life of Lord Buddha.
- Buddhist tourism in India as a tourism product has a tremendous potential.
- The Indian Buddhist heritage is of great interest to the followers of Buddhism all over the world.
- Ministry of Tourism has leverage these factors to showcase India as ‘The Land of Buddha’.
- **Buddhist Conclave**
- Buddhist Conclave is organised by Ministry of Tourism every alternate year.
- It is organised with the objective of promoting India as a Buddhist Destination and major markets worldwide.
- In the year 2021, the International Buddhist Conclave is scheduled from November 17 to 21.

**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1761045>

# Associations & Organizations

## Internal restructuring of TVS Group

**Question :** On which date has a nod been given by fair trade regulator 'CCI' for internal restructuring of TVS group ?

a. 11 October 2021 b. 15 October 2021 c. 18 October 2021 d. None of the above

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- Fair trade regulator 'CCI' has recently(11 October 2021) gave a nod for internal restructuring of the TVS Group.
- T V Sundram Iyengar & Sons Private Limited, established in 1911 is the parent company of the TVS Group and is a leading automobile company in India.
- TVS Group is an Indian multinational conglomerate company with its principal headquarters in Madurai and international headquarters in Chennai.



**Link:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/company/corporate-trends/internal-restructuring-of-tvs-group-gets-cci-nod/articleshow/86940727.cms>

## Dare to Dream 2.0' Contest

**Question:** Which of the following organisation held the Dare to Dream 2.0' Contest in India?

a) ONGC b) DRDO c) IPL d) BCCI

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 04 October 2021; winners of Dare to Dream 2.0' Contest of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) announced in New Delhi.
- On the same day defense Minister Rajnath Singh felicitated the winners of this contest.
- Mr. Singh gave away awards to 40 winners – 22 in Individual category and 18 in Startup category.
- He also launched Dare to Dream 3.0 to promote innovators and startups and provide a platform for the young ignited minds in the country.
- Dare to Dream is DRDO's pan-India contest to promote Indian academicians, individuals and startups to develop emerging defence and aerospace technologies/systems.
- DRDO provides technical and financial support to the winners for realisation of their ideas under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme.
- **DRDO Young Scientists awards:**
- Defense minister on this occasion also gave away DRDO Young Scientists awards for the year 2019.
- Sixteen DRDO scientists, under the age of 35 years, were awarded for their outstanding contribution in areas of their expertise.



**Links:-**

<https://aptinfo.in/dare-to-dream-2-and-young-scientist-awards-announced-by-drdo/>

## Law & Justice

### Rules of Law Index, 2021

**Question – On October 14, 2021, the ‘Rule of Law Index’ released by the US-based organization ‘World Justice Project’. With reference to this, consider the following statements:**

- (i) 139 countries have been included in this index.
- (ii) Denmark has topped the index.
- (iii) India has been ranked 79th in this index.

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

**Code-**

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

**Answer—(d)**

**Related facts—**



On October 14, 2021, the ‘Rule of Law Index’ released by the US-based organization ‘World Justice Project’.

**Key points —**

1. 139 countries have been included in this index.
2. Under this survey work, 8 important categories have been used to measure the level of ‘Rule of Law’ in the above countries.
3. Denmark has topped the index.
4. This was followed by Norway (score-0.90), Finland (score-0.88), Sweden (score-0.86) and Germany (score-0.84) respectively.
5. India has been ranked 79th in this index.
6. Venezuela (score-0.27) has been ranked lowest (139th) in the index.

**Link:**

<https://worldjusticeproject.org/news/wjp-rule-law-index-2021-launch>

## Year, Day & Week

### November 1: Nine states & UTs celebrate formation day

**Question: Consider the following statements:**

- i) Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry celebrate their formation day on November 1.
- ii) Tamil Nadu also used to celebrate its formation day on November 1 earlier.
- iii) In Karnataka, this day is celebrated as “Rajyotsav”.

**Which of the above are correct?**

- a) i b) ii,iii c) i,ii,iii d) None

**Ans: c**  
**Context**

- On November 1, 2021, President of India shri Ram Nath Kovind has greeted the people of Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Lakshadweep, and Puducherry on the formation day.
- **Related Facts**
- **Kerala**
  - It is a state on the Malabar Coast of India. It was formed on 1 November 1956, following the passage of the States Reorganisation Act, by combining Malayalam-speaking regions of the erstwhile regions of Cochin, Malabar, South Canara, and Travancore.
- **Chattisgarh**
  - On November 1, 2000, Chattisgarh was carved out of Madhya Pradesh. It is the 10th largest state of India. Separate state was made for easy administration and to reduce naxalism in this region.
- **Haryana**
  - It was carved out of the former state of East Punjab on 1 November 1966 on a linguistic basis.
- **Punjab**
  - Formation of Punjabi-majority Punjab State, Haryanvi-Hindi majority Haryana state and Union Territory of Chandigarh was the result of movement led by the Akali Dal. Formation of Punjab dates back to Punjabi Suba movement in the 1950s.
- **Madhya Pradesh**
  - Madhya Pradesh was formed on November 1, 1956. It is the second largest state in India with respect to area.
- **Andhra Pradesh**
  - Andhra Pradesh was created on November 1, 1956.
  - On 30 October 2021, Reversing a previous AIADMK government's decision, the ruling DMK in Tamil Nadu decided to celebrate Formation Day on July 18 instead of November 1.



**Reference;** <https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=President%2C-VP-greet-people-of-nine-states-on-formation-day&id=429021>

## Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 : October 26 to November 01

**Question: The 2021 Vigilance Awareness Week is being observed from –**

- (a) October 24 to October 30 (b) October 25 to October 31  
(c) October 26 to November 1 (d) October 27 to November 2

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 has been organised by the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) from 26 October to 01 November, 2021.
- The annual event is celebrated during the week in which the birthday of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel



falls, which is held on October 31.

- The Theme of Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 is 'Independent India @75: Self Reliance with Integrity'.
- CVC is an apex Indian governmental body, that was established in 1964 for addressing the governmental corruption.
- It was given statutory status in 2003, by an act of Parliament.
- It is an autonomous body and free of control from any executive authority.

**Reference:** <https://www.outlookindia.com/website/story/india-news-explainer-why-india-celebrates-vigilance-awareness-week-every-year-to-mark-sardar-patels-birthday/398940>

## Disarmament Week 2021 : 24 October to 30 October

**Question: In which of the following month the Disarmament Week use to observed?**

(a) September (b) October (c) November (d) December

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- In the month of October the Disarmament Week use to observed.
- This year, the disarmament week will be starting on October 24 and continue till October 30.
- Disarmament Week is observed annually to promote awareness and understanding of the issues of disarmament in several countries.
- The week aims to reduce the use of weapons, specifically nuclear weapons, to bring peace in society.

**Reference:** <https://www.un.org/en/observances/disarmament-week>

## World Cotton Day

**Question – When is 'World Cotton Day' celebrated?**

(a) 7 October (b) 9 October (c) October 5 (d) October 4

**Answer—(a)**

**Related facts—**

- World Cotton Day is celebrated all over the world on 7 October 2021.
- It is noteworthy that the initiative to celebrate this day was taken in the year 2019.
- When four cotton producers in sub-Saharan Africa— Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali, known as the Cotton Four—proposed to the World Trade Organization to observe the day on 7 October every year.
- Cotton is a fabric that benefits over 100 million families worldwide.
- Cotton is cultivated on only 2.1 percent of the world's arable land, but it meets 27 percent of the world's textile needs.
- According to the press release issued by PIB, cotton is cultivated on the largest area in India.



**Link:**

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

## Vigilance Awareness Week 2021

**Question: Vigilance Awareness Week 2021 which is being observed from from October 26 to November 1, 2021 is observed in remembrance of which great personality?**

- a) Jawahar Lal Nehru b) Sardar Vallabh Bhai Patel c) Atal Bihari Vajpayee  
d) None of the above

**Ans: b**

**Related Facts**

- The awareness campaign is being observed to mark the respect to Sardar Vallabhai Patel on his birth anniversary on October 31.
- Aim of the week
- The week is being observed with the aim of raising the concern of growing threat of corruption and its consequences.
- Significance of the week
- The week is significant because, vigilance and awareness are the growing need of developing nations that are focusing on societal upgradation and undergoing transformation.
- The Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) is observing this week with a theme of “self-reliance and integrity”.



**Reference:** <https://doe.gov.in/document/vigilance-awareness-week-26-oct-01-nov-2021-pledge-poster>

## National Unity day : 31 October

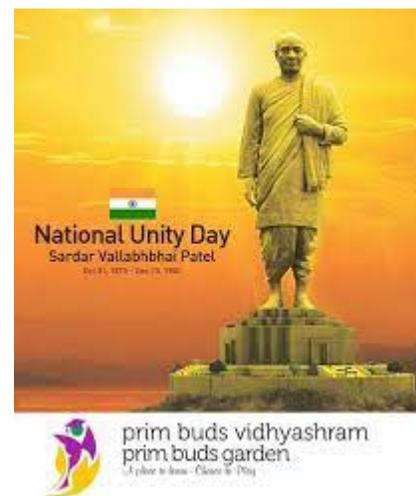
**Question: On Which of the following date National Unity Day is celebrated ?**

- (a) 31 October (b) 31 November (c) 31 December (d) 31 January

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- National Unity Day is celebrated in India on 31 October.
- It was introduced by the Government of India in 2014.
- This day is celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhai Patel who had a major role in the political integration of India.
- National Unity Day is observed to acknowledge the efforts of Patel to unite the nation.
- This year marks the 146th birth anniversary of the freedom fighter.
- Patel played a crucial role in India's freedom movement and in the integration of India from 560 princely states.
- He was the first Deputy Prime Minister and Home Minister of independent India.



**Reference:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/rashtriya-ekta-diwashistory-and-significance-of-national-unity-day-1855216-2021-09-21>

## Delivering on a Promise : Theme of World Polio Day 2021

**Question:** World Polio Day is observed on October 24 every year to raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of polio. What is the Theme of World Polio Day 2021 ?

- (a) Stories of Progress: Past and Present (b) Delivering on a Promise  
(c) End Polio Now (d) Polio free World

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- The theme of World Polio Day 2021 is “Delivering on a Promise.”
- World Polio Day is observed on October 24 every year to raise awareness for polio vaccination and eradication of polio.
- The World Polio Day was established by Rotary International over a decade ago to commemorate the birth of Jonas Salk.
- Jonas Salk led the first team to develop a vaccine against poliomyelitis.
- Polio is caused by an RNA virus, where 85% of the infections are paralytic.
- The virus can be spread through contaminated food and water.
- India received ‘Polio-free certification’ from World Health Organization on the 27 March 2014.



**Reference:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/world-polio-day-2021-history-theme-and-all-you-need-to-know-1868685-2021-10-24>

## World Migratory Bird Day

**Question –** When was the ‘World Migratory Bird Day’ celebrated recently?

- (a) 9 October (b) 12 October (c) October 2 (d) 15 October

**Answer—(a)**

**Related facts—**

- World Migratory Bird Day was celebrated all over the world on 9 October 2021.
- It is noteworthy that this day is celebrated twice a year on May and the second Saturday of October.
- Main theme — “Sing Fly, Soar Like a Bird”.
- Objective- To create awareness on the need for conservation of migratory birds and their habitats.



**Link:**

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

## ‘World Post Day’

**Question: When ‘World Post Day’ is celebrated?**

(a) October 8 (b) October 7 (c) October 5 (d) October 9

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- On October 9, 2021, ‘World Post Day’ was celebrated all over the world.
- **Theme of the year** — ‘Innovate to Recover’.
- The purpose of this day is to show the importance of the postage in the daily life and prove the utility.
- Every October 9, was announced as celebration of ‘World Post Day’ at the World Postal Union (WPU) was held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969.
- It is known that on October 9, 1874, the ‘World Post Union’ was established in Switzerland’s capital Bern.



**Link:**

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

## Police Commemoration Day

**Question – When is ‘Police Commemoration Day’ celebrated?**

(a) 18 October (b) 13 October (c) 21 October (d) 15 October

**Answer—(c)**

**Related facts—**

- ‘Police Commemoration Day’ was celebrated on 21 October 2021.
- It is noteworthy that on October 21, 1959, ten CRPF personnel were martyred in a sudden attack by the Chinese army in Aksai Chin in eastern Ladakh.
- From the year 1960, this day was celebrated every year on 21st October.



**Link:**

<https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/police-commemoration-day-2021-date-history-and-quotes-1867353-2021-10-21>

## United Nations Day : 24th October

**Question: On which of the following date United Nations Day is celebrated?**

(a) 21 October (b) 27 October (c) 24 October (d) 29 October

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- United Nations Day is celebrated on October 24 every year.
- The day marks the anniversary of the day when the UN Charter entered into force in 1945.



- The United Nations is an intergovernmental organisation that aims to maintain international peace and security and develop friendly relations among nations.
- The organisation plays an important role in achieving international cooperation and being a centre for harmonising the actions of nations.
- The name 'United Nations' was coined by former United States President Franklin D Roosevelt.
- The United Nations (UN) has six main organs. They are: (1) The General Assembly, (2) The Security Council, (3) the Economic and Social Council, (4) The Trusteeship Council (5) The Secretariat (6) The International Court of Justice.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/united-nations-day-2021-know-it-s-history-and-significance-101635059488891.html>

## International Stuttering/Stammering Awareness Day : 22 October

**Question: On which of the following date International Stuttering Awareness day is celebrated ?**

(a) 22 October (b) 27 December (c) 25 January (d) Last Sunday of October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- International Stuttering Awareness Day (ISAD), or International Stammering Awareness Day is an annual celebration held on October 22.
- The Theme for 2021 is "Speak the change you wish to see".
- It was first held in the UK and Ireland, in 1998.
- There are one percent of the world's population who stutter, or stammer.
- Stuttering is a communication disorder involving disruptions, or dysfluencies, in a person's speech.
- The National Stuttering Association is a non-profit organization , the largest in the world and started in 1977.
- It dedicated to bringing hope and empowerment to children and adults who stutter, their families, and professionals through support, education, advocacy, and research.



**Reference:** <https://westutter.org/what-is-stuttering/international-stuttering-awareness-day/>

## International Snow Leopard day : 23 October

**Question: On which of the following date International Snow Leopard Day is observed?**

(a) 21 October (b) 23 October (c) 25 October (d) 27 October

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Every year, October 23 is observed as International Snow Leopard Day.

- The first Snow Leopard Day occurred on the 23rd of October in 2014.
- The main purpose of this day is to show the importance of snow leopard conservation and raise awareness about this incredible animal.
- Snow Leopard is found in 12 countries. They are India, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Mongolia, Russia, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- India is a unique country to have a good presence of 5 big cats, including Snow Leopard. The other 4 are, Lion, Tiger, Common Leopard, and Clouded Leopard.
- Hemis National Park is the biggest national park of India and also has a good presence of Snow Leopard.
- India is home to about 450-500 snow leopards which can be spotted in the upper Himalayan regions of the country.



**Reference:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/travel/things-to-do/international-snow-leopard-day-where-to-spot-these-vulnerable-species-in-india/photostory/87223269.cms>

## WORLD SIGHT DAY

**Question – When was the ‘World Sight Day’ celebrated in the year 2021?**

(a) 12 October (b) 10 October (c) 8 October (d) 14 October

**Answer—(d)**

**Related facts—**

- World Sight Day was celebrated all over the world on 14 October 2021.
- It is noteworthy that this day is celebrated every year on the second Thursday of October.
- **Main Theme** — ‘Love Your Eyes’.
- **Objective** — To create awareness about blindness as well as vision related problems.
- It is worth noting that globally at least 1 billion people suffer from near or farsightedness.



**Link:**

<https://www.iapb.org/world-sight-day/>

## International day of Rural Women

**Question: On which of the following date International day for Rural women is observed?**

(a) 8 October (b) 15 October (c) 23 October (d) 30 October

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- International Day for Rural Women is observed every on 15 October.
- International Day for Rural Women focuses on gender equality and empowering women in rural areas.



- The theme for International Day for Rural Women 2021 is “Rural women cultivating good food for all”.
- The United Nations General Assembly had established this day on December 18, 2007.

**Reference:** <https://www.news18.com/news/lifestyle/international-day-for-rural-women-2021-history-significance-and-all-you-need-to-know-4323683.html>

## International Day for the Eradication of Poverty

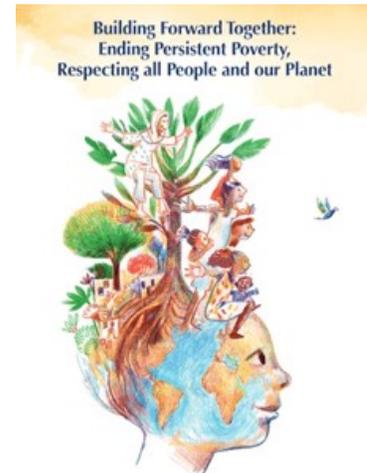
**Question: On which date International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is observed every year?**

a) 21 October b) 17 October c) 16 October d) 10 October

**Ans: b**

### Related Facts

- The International day for Eradication of Poverty is observed every year on October 17.
- It is a UN recognised day.
- Theme of this year day is Building forward together :Ending Persistent Poverty, Respecting all People and our Planet.
- According to the World Bank, between 88 and 115 million people are being pushed into poverty as a result of the Covid crisis, with the majority of the new extreme poor being found in South Asian and Sub-Saharan countries where poverty rates are already high”.
- In 2021, this number is expected to have risen to between 143 and 163 million.
- These ‘new poor’ will join the ranks of the 1.3 billion people already living in multidimensional and persistent poverty.
- History of the day
- Poverty was proclaimed as violation of human rights on October 17, 1987.
- It was proclaimed by people who got assembled at the Trocadero in Paris in order to honour the victims of extreme poverty, hunger as well as violence.
- On this day, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights was also signed in the year 1948. Finally on December 22, 1992, UN General Assembly adopted its resolution 47/196 and proclaimed October 17 as “International Day for the Eradication of Poverty”.



**Reference:** <https://www.un.org/en/observances/day-for-eradicating-poverty>

## International E-Waste Day: 14 October

**Question: On which of the following date International E-Waste Day taking place?**

(a) 10 October (b) 12 October (c) 14 October (d) 16 October

**Answer: (c)**

### Related Facts:

- This year’s International E-Waste Day taking place on 14 October.

- It will focus on the crucial part each of us plays, as consumers and citizens, in making circularity a reality for e-products.
- 2021 is the fourth edition of the International E-Waste Day.
- The theme for 2021 International E-Waste Day is “Consumer is the key to Circular Economy!”.
- According to the UN, in 2021 each person on the planet will produce on average 7.6 kg of e-waste, meaning that a massive 57.4 million tonnes will be generated worldwide.
- Only 17.4 per cent of this electronic waste, containing a mixture of harmful substances and precious materials, will be recorded as being properly collected, treated and recycled.



**Reference:** <https://www.eera-recyclers.com/news/international-e-wast-day-2021>

## International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction : 13 October

**Question: On which of the following date International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed?**

(a) 13 October (b) 13 November (c) 13 January (d) 13 February

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction is observed on October 13, every year.
- The day aims to promote a global culture of risk awareness and disaster reduction.
- The 2021 edition of International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction will focus on International cooperation for developing countries to reduce their disaster risk and disaster losses.
- The International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction was started in 1989.



**Reference:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/international-day-for-disaster-risk-reduction-2021-history-theme-significance-and-all-you-need-to-know-1863928-2021-10-13>

## World Day Against the Death Penalty : 10 October

**Question: On which of the following date World Day Against the Death Penalty is observed?**

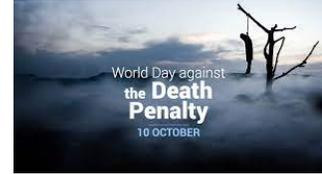
(a) 10 September (b) 10 October (c) 10 November (d) 10 December

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Day Against the Death Penalty is observed every year on 10 October.
- The theme for 2021 is “Women Sentenced to Death: An Invisible Reality.”

- World Day Against the Death Penalty is a day to advocate for the abolition of the death penalty and to raise awareness of the conditions and the circumstances which affect prisoners with death sentences.
- The day is supported by numerous NGOs and world governments, including Amnesty International, the European Union and the United Nations.
- On 26 September 2007, the Council of Europe also declared 10 October to be the European Day Against the Death Penalty.
- 2021 marks the 19th World Day Against the Death Penalty.



**Reference:** <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2021/10/world-day-against-the-death-penalty-women-on-death-row-face-despicable-discrimination/>

## World Investor Week 2021: October 04 to October 10

**Question: World Investor Week is being observed between which of the following week?**

- (a) From 1st October to 7th October (b) From 2nd October to 8th October  
(c) From 3rd October to 9th October (d) From 4th October to 10th October

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Investor Week observed from 4 October to 10 October.
- World Investor Week is a global campaign promoted by the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) to raise awareness about the importance of investor education and protection.
- The key messages of the IOSCO WIW campaign in 2021 will be based on two themes: First one is sustainable finance and Second one is frauds and scams prevention.



**Reference:** <https://www.newtimes.co.rw/news/capital-markets-features-world-investor-week-campaign>

## International Day of the Girl

**Question: On which of the following date International day of girl Child is observed?**

- (a) 11 October (b) 11 November (c) 8 March (d) 27 December

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- International day of the Girl Child is observed every year on 11 October.
- This day will be celebrated under the theme "Digital generation. Our generation".



- International Day of the Girl Child is an international observance day declared by the United Nations.
- It is also called the Day of Girls and the International Day of the Girl.
- It was 1st celebrated on October 11, 2012.

**Reference:** <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/in-focus/girl-child>

## World Mental Health Day

**Question: On which of the following date World Mental Health Day is observed?**

- (a) 10 October (b) First Sunday of October (c) Last Saturday of October  
(d) 20 October

**Answer: a**

**Related Facts:**

- World Mental Health Day is observed on 10 October.
- World Mental Health Day is an international day for global mental health education, awareness and advocacy against social stigma.
- It was first celebrated in 1992 at the initiative of the World Federation for Mental Health.
- This year's theme set by the World Federation for Mental Health is 'Mental Health in an Unequal World'.



**Reference:** <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/world-mental-health-day>

## Ganga River Dolphin Day

**Question: On which of the following date Ganga River Dolphin day is observed?**

- (a) 5 October (b) 8 October (c) First Sunday of October (d) 20 October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Ganga River Dolphin Day is observed every year on October 5.
- It is observed to raise awareness and encourage conservation of Ganga River Dolphins.
- In 2010, Ganga Dolphins were declared national aquatic animals.
- The Gangetic Dolphins are included under the First Schedule of Indian Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.



**Reference:** [https://www.wfindia.org/about\\_wwf/priority\\_species/threatened\\_species/ganges\\_river\\_dolphin/dolphin\\_day/](https://www.wfindia.org/about_wwf/priority_species/threatened_species/ganges_river_dolphin/dolphin_day/)

## Breast Cancer Awareness Month

**Question: In which of the following Month Breast Cancer Awareness Month is Observed?**

- (a) September (b) October (c) November (d) December

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, an annual campaign to raise awareness about the impact of breast cancer.
- Breast cancer advocates raise funds and lobby for better care, more knowledge, and more patient empowerment.
- The goal of the Breast cancer Awareness Month is to get as many people as possible involved in raising awareness and funds to help support life-saving research and life-changing support.
- The pink ribbon is the most prominent symbol of breast cancer awareness.



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/health/breast-cancer-awareness-month-common-breast-cancer-myths-busted-101633597091144.html>

## World Space Week

**Question: World Space Week is an annual holiday, observed in which of the following month?**

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

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Space Week is an annual holiday observed from October 4 to 10 in over 95 nations throughout the world.
- The theme for World Space Week 2021 has been chosen to be 'Women in Space'.
- The World Space Week is an UN-declared celebration of space (since 1999) and is considered as the largest space event on earth.
- World Space Week is officially defined as “an international celebration of science and technology, and their contribution to the betterment of the human condition”.



**Reference:** <https://www.firstpost.com/tech/science/world-space-week-a-quiz-to-challenge-your-knowledge-on-indias-space-adventures-5318841.html>

## Indian Air force Day

**Question: On which of the following date Indian Air force day is celebrated?**

(a) 8 October (b) 8 November (c) 8 December (d) 8 January

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Indian Air Force is celebrated on 8 October and this year marks the 86th anniversary of Indian Air Force Day.
- The motto of the Indian Air Force is 'Nabham Sparsham Deeptham', which literally means 'Touch the Sky with Glory'.



- The Indian Air Force was officially established on 8 October 1932.
- The major operations of the Indian Air Force include Operation Poomalai, Operation Cactus, Operation Meghdoot and Operation Vijay.
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is ranked the fourth largest operational air force in the world. Only the US, China and Russia are ahead of India.

**Reference:** <https://www.business-standard.com/about/when-is-air-force-day>

## World Animal Day : 4 October

**Question: On Which of the following date World Animal Day is celebrated?**

(a) 4 October (b) 2 October (c) 5 October (d) 12 October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Animal Day, a global initiative for animal rights, is celebrated on October 4 every year.
- The date, October 4, was chosen in honour of Francis of Assisi, the patron saint of animals.
- World Animal Day aims at ensuring rescue shelters for the animals, launching animal welfare, raising funds, and conducting activities to spread awareness and better conditions of animal living.



**Reference:** <https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/world-animal-day-2021-date-history-and-theme-1860405-2021-10-04>

## 53rd Foundation Day celebrations of the ICSI

**Question: On which of the following date Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) celebrated its 53rd Foundation Day?**

a) 04 October b) 30 September c) 02 October d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 04 October 2021; Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) celebrated its 53rd Foundation Day.
- Chief Guest of the function was the Finance Minister, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman
- Celebrations regarding this held in Vigyan Bhawan New Delhi.
- Finance Minister on this occasion said that Company Secretaries should look beyond their existing set of responsibilities.
- She said that, they should partner with the Ministries and the Regulatory Authorities in easing compliances for the taxpaying citizens.
- The Finance Minister appreciated the ICSI for attuning the celebration with Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and choosing the theme “Powering Atmanirbhar Bharat through Entrepreneurship and Innovation” in tandem with this vision.
- The Finance Minister also gave her applause to the Company Secretaries for their commendable job during the COVID-19 pandemic.



- She further urged the youth of the country to join this profession as this role will expand further in the future in Sunrise Sector.
- On this momentous occasion, the ICSI launched its 5th Overseas Centre in Australia.
- The Institute also launched a publication, Referencer on SEBI (Share based employee benefit and sweat equity) Regulations 2021.

**Links:-**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1760896>

## World Habitat Day 2021

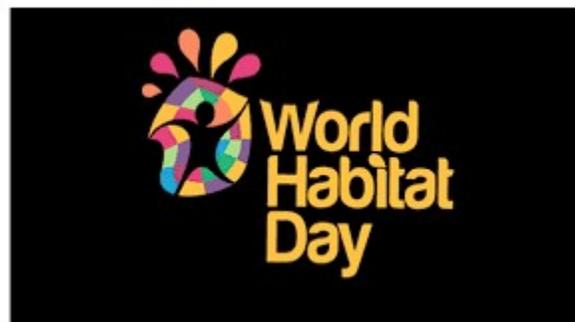
**Question: On which of the following date World Habitat Day 2021 is observed?**

- (a) First Monday of October / 4 October (b) 8 October (c) Last Monday of October  
(d) 5 October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Habitat Day is observed on the first Monday of every October, annually. This year the event falls on October 4.
- The theme for World Habitat Day 2021 is 'Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world.'
- World Habitat Day is the UN initiative that is aimed at promoting the basic right to adequate shelter and housing for everyone in a world.
- The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 1985 had announced its decision to celebrate World Habitat Day annually.
- The first World Habitat Day was observed in 1986 in Nairobi, Kenya based on the theme 'Shelter is my right.'



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/world-habitat-day-2021-know-its-history-significance-and-theme-101633218203291.html>

## INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE

**Question: On which of the following date International Non-Violence Day is observed?**

- (a) 2 October (b) 4 October (c) 6 October (d) 8 October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The International Day of Nonviolence is observed every year on October 2, the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.
- The International Day of Nonviolence was first commemorated in 2007.
- Gandhi popularised the renowned Sanskrit adage 'Ahimsa Paramo Dharma,' which loosely translates to 'non-violence is the highest moral value.'



- The International Day of Non-Violence honours how Gandhi's practise and legacy has influenced global, non-violent protests.

**Reference:** <https://www.business-standard.com/about/when-is-international-day-of-non-violence>

## World Teachers Day : 5 October

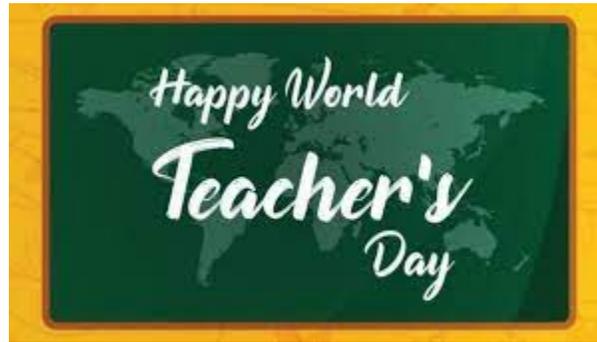
**Question: On which of the following date World Teachers day is held annually?**

(a) 5 October (b) 5 September (c) Last Sunday of September (d) 5 November

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Teachers' Day, also known as International Teachers Day, is an international day held annually on 5 October.
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared 5 October to be World Teachers' Day in 1994.
- World Teachers' Day aims to focus on "appreciating, assessing and improving the educators of the world".
- It also aims to provide an opportunity to consider issues related to teachers and teaching.
- **Note:**
- Globally, Teachers Day is celebrated on 5th October but In India, we celebrate it on 5th September from 1962 onwards.
- Teachers' Day in India is celebrated on 5th September to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan.
- Extra Facts:
- Indian village teacher Ranjitsinh Disale, has been named the winner of the Global Teacher Prize 2020, in partnership with UNESCO.



**Reference:** <https://www.thequint.com/lifestyle/world-teachers-day-2021-date-when-and-why-it-is-celebrated>

## World Maritime Day

**Question: on which of the following date World Maritime Day was observed in 2021?**

a) 30 September b) 20 September c) 28 September d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 30 September 2021; World Maritime Day was observed all over the world.
- It should be noted that the International Maritime Organisation observes World Maritime Day every year.



- World Maritime Day was celebrated for the first time on March 17, 1978.
- This day is usually observed on the last Thursday in the month of September, this year, the day will be observed on September 30.
- The day is aimed to draw public attention to maritime safety and the marine environment, as well as IMO initiatives in a particular area.
- International Maritime Organization (IMO) was established when an international conference in 1948 held in Geneva, passed a convention for its establishment.
- This was aimed to be a specialised agency of the United Nations that develops and maintains a comprehensive regulatory framework for shipping.
- The main objective of the IMO is to focus on areas such as safety, including environmental issues, legal issues, technical cooperation, maritime safety and maritime efficiency.
- Theme of World Maritime Day(WMD) in 2021:
- The theme of WMD 2021 is- Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future.
- The theme aims to extend the visibility of seafarers by highlighting the important roles they play now and will continue to play in the future.

**Links:-**

<https://in.one.un.org/news/world-maritime-day-30-september/>

## World Vegetarian Day : 1 October

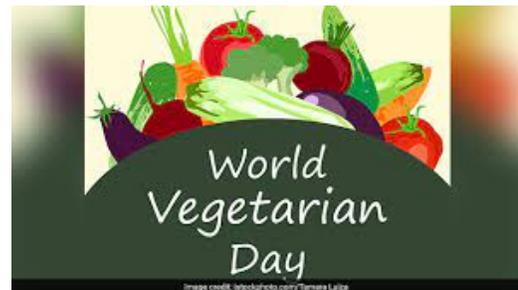
**Question: On which of the following date World Vegetarian Day is celebrated?**

(a) 1 October (b) First Sunday of October (c) 5 October (d) 3 October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- October 1 is celebrated as World Vegetarian Day.
- The occasion is an annual celebration aimed at promotion of the joy, compassion and life-enhancing possibilities of vegetarianism.
- The World Vegetarian Day was established by the North American Vegetarian Society (NAVS) in 1977.
- It was further endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978.



**Reference:** <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.news18.com/amp/news/lifestyle/world-vegetarian-day-2021-theme-history-and-significance-4268315.html>

## World Heart Day : 29 September

**Question: On which of the following date World Heart Day is celebrated?**

(a) 29 September (b) 25 September (c) Last Sunday of September (d) 6 October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- World Heart Day is celebrated on 29th September of every year.
- Harnessing the power of digital health to improve



awareness, prevention and management of CVD globally is our goal for World Heart Day 2021.

- It is aimed at drawing people's attention to heart illness and the range of associated health issues.
- It was launched in 2000 by the World Heart Federation (WHF) as an annual event that was planned to be taking place every last Sunday of September.
- However, WHF decided to fix it on every 29th day of September and it has been celebrated on that day ever since.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/health/world-heart-day-2021-know-all-about-the-date-history-significance-and-theme-101632839023199.html>

## International Coffee Day : 1 October

**Question: On which of the following date International Coffee day is celebrated?**

(a) 1 October (b) 2 October (c) 3 October (d) First Sunday of October

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- International Coffee Day is celebrated on October 1 every year.
- International Coffee Organization has announced that the focus of International Coffee Day 2021 will be 'Coffee's Next Generation.'
- It is celebrated by the member states of the International Coffee Organisation (ICO) and various coffee associations.
- The day is a celebration of the diversity, quality, and passion of the coffee sector.
- First International Coffee Day was celebrated on 1 October 2015.



**Reference:** <https://www.thequint.com/lifestyle/international-coffee-day-history-theme-quotes>

## World Maritime Day : 30 September

**Question: On which of the date the world Maritime day (2021) is observed?**

(a) 30 September/ last Thursday of September (b) 25 September

(c) 20 September (d) Last Sunday of September

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The International Maritime Organization (IMO) observes World Maritime Day every year.
- It is normally observed during the final week of September, usually on the last Thursday of the month.
- This year, the day will be marked on September 30.
- The theme for this year is 'Seafarers: at the core of shipping's future'
- World Maritime Day was celebrated for the first time on March 17, 1978.
- The international maritime organization (IMO) was established in 1948.



- The main objective of the IMO is to focus on areas such as safety, environmental issues, legal issues, technical cooperation, maritime safety and maritime efficiency.

**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/world-maritime-day-2021-tributes-pour-in-for-seafarers-who-kept-supply-lines-running-amid-covid19-101632975710320.html>

## International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste : 29 September

**Question: On which of the following date International day of Awareness of Food loss and waste is observed?**

- (a) 29 September (b) 5 October  
(c) Last Sunday of September (d) 30 September

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 29 September 2021, the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste will be observed for the second time.
- International Day of Awareness on Food Loss and Waste was 1st observed in September 2020.
- The theme for 2020 was “Stop food loss and waste. For the people. For the planet” and will continue to be the effort going forward.
- Reducing food losses and waste is essential in a world where the number of people affected by hunger has been slowly on the rise since 2014.
- Globally, around 14 percent of food produced is lost between harvest and retail, while an estimated 17 percent of total global food production is wasted (11 percent in households, 5 percent in the food service and 2 percent in retail).



**Reference:** <https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/global-event-news/international-day-of-awareness-of-food-loss-and-waste-2021-significance-theme-and-more.html>

## International Day of Older Persons

**Question: On which of the following date International Day of Older Persons is observed?**

- (a) 1 October (b) 1 November (c) 1 December (d) 1 September

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- International Day of Older Persons is observed on October 1 annually.
- The theme of International Day of Older Persons 2021 is “Digital Equity for All Ages”.
- This year theme focuses on the need for access and meaningful participation in the digital world by older persons.
- The number of older persons, over subsequent three decades across the world is projected more than double, reaching more than 1.5 billion persons in 2050 and 80% of them will be living in low-and-middle-income countries.



**Reference:** <https://www.hindustantimes.com/lifestyle/relationships/international-day-of-older-persons-2021-date-history-significance-and-theme-101633007454065.html>

## International Translation Day

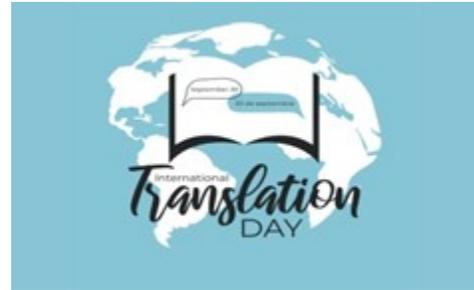
**Question: On which of the following date International Translation Day was celebrated recently?**

- a) 25 September 2021 b) 30 September 2021 c) 18 September 2021  
d) 27 September 2021

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- International Translation Day is observed on September 30 every year.
- This day is observed to recognise translation professionals who help connect nations.
- September 30 is the day of the feast of St Jerome, the Bible translator who is considered the patron saint of translators.
- He is known for translating most of the Bible into Latin from the Greek manuscripts of the New Testament.
- He also translated parts of the Hebrew Gospel into Greek.
- The day is an opportunity to pay tribute to the work of language professionals, which plays an important role in bringing nations together.
- Translation is the art of facilitating dialogue, understanding and cooperation.
- According to the United Nations translation is a contributing channel to development and strengthening world peace and security.
- International Translation Day 2021 theme: The theme of International Translation Day 2021 is-United in translation.
- The important thing is that the translator is a privileged writer who has the opportunity to rewrite masterpieces in their own language.
- It should be noted that the translation is not a matter of words only, it is a matter of making the writing intelligible.
- Without translation, people would be limited to the borders of their own country; the translator is my most important ally of them.



**Links:-**

<https://www.timesnownews.com/the-buzz/article/international-translation-day-quotes-and-theme-of-the-year/818209>

## Books

### NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission Digi-Book Innovations for You

**Question: Which of the following institutions has launched a Digi Book named "Innovations for You" ?**

- (a) Reserve bank of India (b) NITI Aayog (c) Both (d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) has launched – "Innovations for You".

- It is an attempt to showcase the success stories of Atal Innovation Mission's Startups in different domains.
- These startups have worked to create new, disruptive and innovative products, services, and solutions that can pave a path for a sustainable future.
- The first edition of this book is focused on innovations in Health Care and soon other sectors shall follow.
- Innovations for You is an attempt to showcase how the young India is slowly but steadily moving towards becoming a world class leader.
- NITI aayog has launched the DIGI book, as India is celebrating the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- Digi-book is a compilation of 45 health tech start-ups.
- These start-ups have been incubated at the Atal Incubation Centres across the country.
- These start-ups have been leveraging technologies such as AI, IoT, ICT and others for providing socially relevant solutions to health issues like neonatal & child care, mental health, dental care, anaemia and monitoring human vitals.

**Reference:** <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1765458>

## The Origin Story of India's States : VS Srinivasan

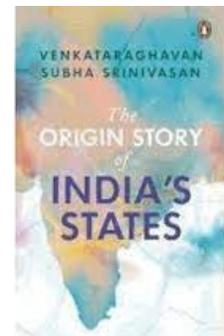
**Question:** A book titled "The Origin Story of India's States" is written by whom?

(a) VS Srinivasan (b) Ruskin bond (c) Chetan bhagat (d) Vikram Seth

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- The book titled 'The Origin Story of India's States' is written by Venkataraghavan Subha Srinivasan.
- It is published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI).
- It is a story about the birth of India's 28 states and 8 union territories.



**Reference:** <https://indianexpress.com/article/books-and-literature/new-book-to-tell-origin-stories-of-indian-states-7580909/>

## Ruskin Bond's new anthology : Writing for My Life

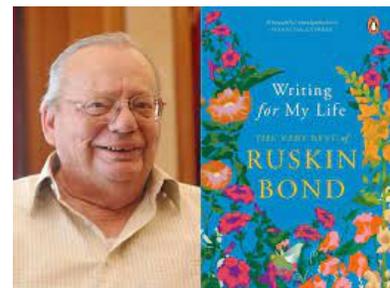
**Question:** Writing for My Life, an anthology is authored by whom?

(a) Ruskin Bond (b) Chetan Bhagat (c) Billy Collins (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Writing for My Life, an anthology is authored by Ruskin Bond.
- It contains some of the most exemplary stories, essays, poems and memories of Ruskin Bond.
- The selections for this anthology have been made by Bond himself and his editor Premanka Goswami.
- Ruskin Bond is an Indian author of British descent.
- His first novel is The Room on the Roof.



- An anthology is a collection of literary works chosen by the compiler, It may be a collection of plays, poems, short stories, songs or excerpts by different authors.

**Reference:** <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/books/features/ruskin-bonds-new-anthology-released/articleshow/87157150.cms>

## 30th New Delhi World Book Fair 2022

**Question: Between 8 and 16 January 2022, the 30th ‘New Delhi World Book Fair’ will be held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi. What is its theme?**

- (a) Self-reliant India (b) Amrit Festival of Independence  
(c) Gandhi: Writers Writer (d) none of the above

**Answer—(b)  
related facts —**



- Between 8 and 16 January 2022, the 30th ‘New Delhi World Book Fair’ will be held at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- The theme of the book fair is ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’.
- The Guest of Honor Country of this fair is France.
- It is worth noting that this fair was first organized in the year 1972.
- It will be organized by the National Book Trust (NBT).

**Link:**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/books-and-literature/new-delhi-world-book-fair-to-be-held-from-january-8-in-physical-form-7565249/>

## Miscellaneous

### Henley Passport Index 2021(Q 4)

**Question – With reference to the ‘Henley Passport Index 2021’ (Q4) released on October 5, 2021, consider the following statements-**

- (i) Japan and Singapore jointly topped the index with a visa-free score of 192.  
(ii) India ranked 90th in this index with a visa-free score of 58.  
(iii) Afghanistan got the lowest position in this index.

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

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

**Answer—(d)  
Related facts—**

	1	192		4	189		6	188
	2	192		5	187		7	187
	3	190		8	187		9	187
	4	190		9	186		10	186
	5	189		10	186		11	186
	6	189		11	186		12	186
	7	189		12	186		13	186

- ‘Henley Passport Index 2021’ (Q4) released on October 5, 2021.
- **Key points —**
- Japan and Singapore jointly topped the index with a visa-free score of 192.
- It was followed by Germany and South Korea in joint second place with a visa-free score of 190.
- Finland, Italy, Luxembourg and Spain finished third with a visa-free score of 189.

- India ranked 90th in this index with a visa-free score of 58.
- Afghanistan got the lowest position in this index.

**Link:**

<https://www.henleyglobal.com/passport-index/ranking>

## Vision Plan (2021-2031) for Indian zoos

**Question – How many pillars are mentioned in the Vision Plan 2021-2031 for zoos released by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on October 11, 2021, for the transformation of Central Zoo Authority and Indian zoos?**

(a) 8 (b) 10 (c) 12 (d) 15

**Answer—(b)**

**Related facts—**

- The two-day National conference for zoo directors and veterinarians recently (October 2021) organized by Central Zoo Authority and hosted by Sardar Patel Zoological Park, Kevadia, Gujarat.
- **Key points of the event —**
- On day two of the conference, 3 technical sessions were held to cover various aspects pertaining to scientific management of zoos in India, dealing with challenges of wildlife trade and inclusion and involvement of the citizens in the science of conservation thereby securing the concept of the 'People's Connect' which is of supreme importance for all Zoos in the country.
- The sessions 'was chaired by eminent personalities in the field of zoo and wildlife conservation and included deliberations and discussions.
- Bhupender Yadav (Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change) asks Zoos across the Country to focus on local birds and animals as priority species for conservation.
- Releases Vision Plan (2021-2031) for Indian zoos to upgrade them to global standards
- Prani Mitra Awards for the year given



**Link:**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseframePage.aspx?PRID=1763045>

## Moscow Format meet on Afghanistan

**Question – The meeting of the Moscow Format on Afghanistan took place on 20 October 2021. Which country hosted this meeting?**

(a) Iran (b) Russia (c) America (d) China

**Answer—(b)**

**Related facts—**

- The meeting of the Moscow Forum on Afghanistan took place on 20 October 2021.
- Russia hosted this meeting.
- This is the first meeting of the Moscow Forum together with China, India and Russia since the



Taliban took control of Afghanistan in August 2021.

- Representatives from 10 countries participated in this meeting.

**Link:**

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/india-moscow-format-meet-afghanistan-october-20-mea-1864978-2021-10-15>

## App and platform CUNSLT

**Question: Recently Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has launched knowledge App and platform CUNSLT. Who has prepared it?**

- a) Retd. IAS Raghav Chandra b) Nitin Gadkari c) CEO Niti Aayog Amitabh Kant  
d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari has launched knowledge App and platform CUNSLT.
- CEO Niti Aayog Amitabh Kant and Former Secretary Raghav Chandra were also present on the occasion.
- CUNSLT app is the first such global facility by which people who need information, advice, counsel, guidance can contact and call up experts in multiple sectors on-the-go.
- CUNSLT uses the framework of context and convergence to instantly connect knowledge seekers and knowledge givers.
- This APP has been prepared by former IAS Raghav Chandra.
- On the basis of ones convenience and the profile of the expert, he will be free to select the expert.
- On talking, the first 1 minute will be free and after that some charge will have to be paid which will go to the expert's account.
- The app will be a forum for mentors to share their life experiences; it will allow people to learn from the wisdom which has been acquired over the lifetime.
- The minister Emphasized on innovation, entrepreneurship, science technology, research and skill for knowledge transformation.
- Mr. Gadkari said knowledge is changing the world and cooperation, coordination and communication is very important in administration and business organisations.
- The Minister also stressed upon the importance of human relationships and said that no one is perfect and one should take advise, consult and learn from experience of others.



**Links:-**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Union-Minister-Nitin-Gadkari-launches-knowledge-App%2C-platform-CUNSLT&id=428658>

## Green Initiative forum

**Question: Recently which of the following country has launched the Green Initiative Forum?**

- a) USA b) Russia c) Saudi Arabia d) India

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 23 October 2021; Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman launched the Saudi Green Initiative Forum.
- The forum was launched in Riyadh with the statement of Saudi Arabia's new green objectives.
- The forum will address the environmental efforts made by Saudi Arabia.
- Saudi Arabia will address the guests, through this forum, including international personalities and high-profile government heads.
- This annual forum will serve as a platform for the launch of new environmental initiatives in the country.
- Saudi Arabia also announced the roadmap of Saudi Arabia for protecting the environment and facing climate change.
- It will also monitor the impact of previously announced environmental initiatives.



**Links:-**

<https://middleeast.in-24.com/world/337900.html>

## India Opens Inflight Data Market to U.K. Satellite Firm

**Question: Recently gave approval which of the following U.K. Satellite firm India to sell Inflight Data or high-speed broadband?**

a) OneWeb b) Inmarsat c) Clyde space Limited d) None of these

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- British satellite operator Inmarsat Holdings get India's approval to sell high-speed broadband to planes and shipping vessels.
- Inmarsat is a London-based company which now becomes the first foreign operator to get the approval from India to sell high-speed broadband.
- Inmarsat will access the market via Indian state-owned telecommunications company Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd.
- It happened after BSNL received a license from India's Department of Telecommunication.
- Chief Executive Officer Rajeev Suri of the Inmarsat, the company has struck deals with Indian airline SpiceJet Ltd and the Shipping Corp of India Ltd.
- The operator already offered reliable but low-data L-band services in India.
- The new license lets it offer much faster 4G-like Ka-band broadband on its GX network.



**Links:-**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/india-opens-inflight-data-market-to-uk-satellite-firm-inmarsat-121102001360\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/companies/india-opens-inflight-data-market-to-uk-satellite-firm-inmarsat-121102001360_1.html)

IFFI for the first time will host films by OTTs

**Question :** IFFI for the first time will host films by OTTs. Where is the International Film Festival of India scheduled to be held from November 20 to 28 ?

a. Goa b. Mumbai c. New Delhi d. Pachmarhi

**Ans. a.**

**Related facts —**

- IFFI is scheduled to be held from November 20 to 28 in Goa.
- **Key points —**
- The International Film Festival of India (IFFI) for the first time will host films by OTTs.
- So there will be an opportunity for key streaming platforms – Netflix, Amazon Prime, Zee5, Voot and SonyLIV.
- American filmmaker Martin Scorsese along with critically acclaimed Hungarian director Istvan Szabo, will be conferred the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at the festival.
- According to the tentative plan, Netflix has agreed to host a virtual masterclass by Gobelins –School L' image, Paris and by other international experts.
- Netflix has proposed the India premiere of 'The Power of the Dog' by Jane Campion, a film that had its world premiere at the 78th Venice International Film.



**Link:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/media/entertainment/otts-to-make-their-debut-on-international-film-festival-of-india/articleshow/87218713.cms>

## Eruptions in Mount Aso Volcano

**Question:** Recently eruptions occurred in the Mount Aso Volcano. In which of the following country this volcano is located?

a) Philippines b) Japan c) Indonesia d) South Korea

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 20 October 2021; the Mount Aso Volcano erupted in Kyushu Island, Japan.
- Mount Aso, the largest volcano in Japan and one of the largest worldwide, stands on Kyushu's island, in Aso Kujū National Park in Kumamoto Prefecture.
- The volcano ejected gas and ash up to the height of 3,500 metres.
- Last eruption in this volcano taken place in 2016, that is why Japan Meteorological Agency gave pre-warning to the people residing near it
- Mount Aso Volcano, having a circumference of about 120 km, is 1,592 meters above sea level.
- It should be known that Japan as it is located on the Pacific Ring of Fire, is among the world's most volcanically active countries.



- In September 2014, Japan encountered with its deadliest eruption explosion in Mount Ontake, which killed 63 people.

**Links:-**

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Japan%3a-Mount-Aso-volcano-erupts-at-country%26%2339%3bs-main-island-of-Kyushu&id=428323>

## Air Quality Early Warning System' (AQEWS)

**Question: The term AQEWS was in news recently. With which of the following it was related to?**

- a) Air Quality b) Anti Missile weapon c) Anti- Corona vaccine d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 19 October 2021; Union Minister Jitendra Singh launches air quality early warning system (AQEWS).
- It was launched on the occasion of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav week organized by the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology (IITM) has come forward to present new 'Decision Support System' (DSS) also as well as the 'Air Quality Early Warning System' (AQEWS).
- It has been hoped that these two systems will enhance better air-quality management in the Delhi-NCR region.
- IITM is an autonomous institute operating under the Ministry of Earth Sciences based in Pune.
- Institute has also created a website to deliver quantitative data concerning emissions from Delhi and joining districts to air quality.
- It consists of providing information on the contribution of biomass-burning activities in the adjoining states.
- This system uses stubble burning incidents from the last 15 years to predict the date and place of subsequent burning.
- The data is then compared with wind speed for predicting air pollution levels for the next 72 hours.
- AQEWS is also useful in determining the level of pollutants such as particulate matter (PM) 2.5, PM10, and dust.



**Link:**

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/union-minister-jitendra-singh-launches-air-quality-early-warning-system20211019231815/>

## RailTel Corporation to expand Telecom in the Country

**Question: With which of the following, recently the RailTel Corporation has signed a MoU to expand telecom services in the country?**

- a) C-DoT b) Reliance Communications c) Bharti Group d) TATA

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- Recently RailTel Corporation has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DoT).
- These two has joined hand to work together in several areas to help expand telecom in the country.
- Both RailTel and C-DoT will focus on rationalizing the tech and equipment of communication networks across the country.
- It should be noted that the RailTel works under the Ministry of Railways while the C-DoT is a research centre that operates under the Department of Telecommunications (DoT).
- Union Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw handles both the Ministry of Railways as well as the Department of Telecommunications.
- RailTel CMD Puneet Chawla, on the occasion said that the synergy has been developed between C-DOT and RailTel.
- The two will help in providing affordable broadband services to the masses in the rural areas.
- It will be done by lowering the cost of equipment since all this will be 'make in India' using C-DOT's home-grown technology.
- As per the RailTel official statement the MoU has been signed with "the objective of working together in the diverse areas of telecom.
- The key focus regarding this is on the modernization and expansion of communication Networks across the country.
- C-DOT has primitively designed various cutting edge Telecom technologies spanning Switching, Optical, Wireless, Network Management & Security Domains etc.



**Links:-**

<https://varindia.com/news/railtel-and-cdot-sign-mou-to-expand-telecom-services-in-india>

## Sojat Mehndi from Rajasthan got GI tag

**Question: Sojat Mehndi is an extremely popular Mehndi, got GI tag. From which of the following state it belongs?**

(a) Rajasthan (b) Maharashtra (c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Sojat Mehndi (Henna) from Rajasthan, has been awarded the geographical indication (GI) tag.
- Sojat Mehndi, originating from Mehendi leaves grown in Sojat, is naturally cultivated using rainwater.
- A GI tag is awarded to products associated with a specific geographical origin.
- Award of a GI sign not only helps in tracing the origins of products but also helps in confirming authenticity and marketing of indigenous specialities.



- GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

**Reference:** <https://www.outlookindia.com/newscroll/sojat-mehndi-from-rajasthan-gets-gi-tag/2167304>

## Judima rice wine got GI tag

**Question: Recently, Judima rice wine gets GI tag. From which of the following region it belongs?**

(a) Nagaland (b) Assam (c) Manipur (d) Mizoram

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Judima, homemade rice wine from Assam has been awarded the geographical indication (GI) tag.
- A GI tag is awarded to products associated with a specific geographical origin.
- Judima is a local fermented drink made with rice, brewed by the Dimasa community in Assam.
- Judima derives its name from the words Ju which means wine and Dima means 'belonging to the Dimasa'.
- GI tags are issued as per the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.
- This tag is issued by the Geographical Indication Registry under the Department of Industry Promotion and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.



**Reference:** <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/judima-dimasa-people-judima-rice-wine-of-dimasa-people-gi-tag/article36708733.ece>