

# GENERAL AWARENESS

MARCH 2022

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## GENERAL AWARENESS

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## FIGURES TO REMEMBER

REPO RATE	4.00%
REVERSE REPO RATE	3.35%
MARGINAL STANDING FACILITY RATE	4.25%
BANK RATE	4.25%
STATUTORY LIQUIDITY RATIO	18.00%
CASH RESERVE RATIO	3.00%
BASE RATE(s) (of various banks)	8.15 to 9.40%

## India's RANK IN

Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Digital Quality of Life Index	59 <sup>th</sup>
Rule of Law Index 2021	79 <sup>th</sup>
The Henley Passport Index	90 <sup>th</sup>
Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021	71 <sup>st</sup>
Global Hunger Index	94
Global Peace Index (GPI)	135 <sup>th</sup>
Global Innovation Index 2021	46 <sup>th</sup>
Intellectual Property (IP) Index 2021	40 <sup>th</sup>
Economic Freedom Index	121 <sup>st</sup>
Scientific Articles Published	3 <sup>rd</sup>
The Global Climate Risk Index 2021	7 <sup>th</sup>
Democracy Index 2020	53 <sup>rd</sup>
The Corruption Perception Index (CPI) 2020	86 <sup>th</sup>
Ease of Doing Business	63 <sup>rd</sup>
Human Freedom Index	111 <sup>st</sup>
Human Development Index	131 <sup>st</sup>
Receiving Spam Calls	9 <sup>th</sup>
Global Hunger Index 2020	94 <sup>th</sup>
Teacher Status Index (GTSI)	6 <sup>th</sup>
Asia Power Index 2020	4 <sup>th</sup>



# NATIONAL NEWS

JANUARY

## FIRST INDIA-CENTRAL ASIA SUMMIT



Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosted the first-ever India-Central Asia Summit virtually on January 27. The summit was attended by the Presidents of five central Asian nations-Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

This was the first such summit between the leaders of India and the central Asian nations.

## WORLD'S LARGEST NATIONAL FLAG

To mark the occasion of 74th Army Day on January 15, the world's largest national flag, the Indian Tricolor made from Khadi, was displayed in Rajasthan's Longewala, along the India-Pakistan border, on January 15. The flag is 225 feet long, 150 feet wide and weighs around 1 thousand 400 kilogram, while the Ashoka Chakra in the centre has a diameter of 30 feet.

Longewala, in Jaisalmer district was the site of the iconic Battle of Longewala in 1971 Indo Pak war.

## INDIA - ISRAEL LAUNCH JOINT LOGO

India and Israel launched a commemorative logo on Jan 24 to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries. The logo features the Star of David and the Ashoka Chakra- the two symbols that adorn the national flags of both countries- and forms the numeral 30 depicting the 30th anniversary of bilateral relations.

*This special logo symbolises the strong friendship, love and admiration that exists between the people of the two nations. It also depicts the growing strategic partnership between the two sides. Israel and India established diplomatic relations on 29th of January, 1992.*



## AMAR JAWAN JYOTI SHIFTED TO WAR MEMORIAL



The Amar Jawan Jyoti flame at India Gate, New Delhi, was shifted on Jan 21 and merged with the flame at the National War Memorial, located just 400 metres away. The Amar Jawan Jyoti was set up after the 1971 Indo-Pak war. However, after completion of the National War Memorial in Feb 2019, it was considered appropriate to shift the Jyoti to the War Memorial, as a tribute to all the war heroes as the Memorial has name plates of all the martyrs, right from 1947 till date.

## FORESTS AND TREES COVER 24.62% AREA

Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav released India State of Forest Report 2021 on January 13. In 2021, the total forest and tree cover in India was 80.9 million hectares, covering 24.62 percent of the geographical area of the country. There is an increase of 2,261 sq km in the total forest and tree cover of the country, from the year 2019. Other key findings of the report are:

- 17 states/UT's have above 33 percent of the geographical area under forest cover.
- Area-wise, Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover in the country followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh.
- In terms of forest cover as percentage of total geographical area, Mizoram is at the top (84.53%), followed by Arunachal Pradesh (79.33%), Meghalaya (76.00%).
- Total mangrove cover in the country is 4,992 sq km, up 17 sq Km from 2019.

## 25th NATIONAL YOUTH FESTIVAL



The 25th National Youth Festival was held in virtual mode in the Union Territory of Puducherry on January 12-13 at the Pondicherry Central University campus. The Festival aims to shape the minds of India's youth and transform them into a united force for nation-building. Around 7000 youth from across the country and 500 youth from Puducherry aged between 18 and 22 participated in the festival. The 12th of January is the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda and is observed as National Youth Day every year.

## WFP TO SUPPORT PM POSHAN SCHEME

The Akshaya Patra Foundation and the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) signed an agreement for enhancing the effectiveness of the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) scheme (earlier Mid-Day Meal Scheme). Both organisations will bring in financial resources as required to support the implementation of the activities.

Considering their collective experience and expertise in the fight against hunger and malnutrition, this partnership aims to bridge operational and execution gaps in food safety and hygiene projects, capacities of the cooks-cum-helpers, as well as the nutritional quality of the meals provided.

## 2 MORE VACCINES AND A DRUG FOR CORONA

Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation gave its approval to two more Covid vaccines, Corbevax and Covovax, and antiviral drug Molnupiravir for restricted use in emergency situations. Corbevax is India's first indigenously developed RBD protein sub-unit vaccine against Covid-19. It is made by Hyderabad-based firm Biological-E and is the third vaccine developed in India. The Nanoparticle protein based vaccine, Covovax, will be manufactured by Pune-based firm Serum Institute of India. It has been developed by Novovax of the USA.

*The drug Molnupiravir has been developed by Merck and Ridgeback Biotherapeutics of the USA. It works by introducing errors into the SARS-CoV-2 virus' genetic code, which prevents the virus from further replicating. It is suitable for the treatment of mild-to-moderate coronavirus disease in adults who are at high risk for progression to severe Covid-19, including hospitalisation or death. This drug will now be manufactured in the country by 13 companies.*

## INNOVATION RANKINGS FOR INSTITUTES

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras bagged the top position for the third successive year, among the centrally funded technical institutes in the Centre's Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2021 released on Dec 29.

In the state and deemed to be universities category, Panjab University (Chandigarh) topped the ranking. Among the private universities, Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology, Khordha (Odisha) secured the top spot.

For the first time, the ARIIA rankings included a new category - "non-technical institutions". Indira Gandhi National Open University (Delhi) topped the category among centrally funded institutions.

Total 1438 institutions (including all IITs, NITs, IISc, etc) participated in the rankings.

*The ARIIA rankings is an initiative of the union education ministry to promote innovation, assess universities, institutes and colleges on parameters ranging from support for entrepreneurship development to innovative learning methods, intellectual property generation, technology transfer, and commercialisation among other aspects.*

## INDIA RANKS 83<sup>rd</sup> IN PASSPORT INDEX



The passport rankings released by the Henley Passport Index (HPI) for the first quarter of 2022 have been topped once again by Japan and Singapore. India improved its rank to 83<sup>rd</sup> position, climbing seven places from 90<sup>th</sup> rank last year. Iraq, Afghanistan, Pakistan have been ranked as the weakest passports in the world. HPI is a global ranking of the countries based on the travel freedom of holders of their ordinary passport holders. It provides a ranking for 199 passports of the world according to the number of countries their holders can travel visa-free.

## INDIA MAINTAINS SCORE IN CORRUPTION

Global corruption watchdog Transparency International, Berlin released on Jan 25 its annual Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2021 for 180 countries in which India has been ranked at 85<sup>th</sup> spot (Score of 40). Last year also India scored 40 but was ranked a step below at 86<sup>th</sup> spot. Three countries - Denmark, Finland and New Zealand, were ranked joint first, each scoring 88 marks. South Sudan ended up at the bottom with a score of 11 marks. *The Index measures how corrupt each country's public sector is perceived to be. The results are given on a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean). The Index uses data from 13 external sources, including the World Bank, World Economic Forum, private risk and consulting companies, think tanks and others.*

## DECEMBER

### PRESIDENT VISITS DHAKA FOR BIJAY DIBOS

President Ram Nath Kovind attended the 50<sup>th</sup> Bijay Dibos celebrations on Dec 16 at Dhaka in Bangladesh. The president was the only foreign dignitary in the golden jubilee celebrations of the independence of Bangladesh. Both countries celebrate 16<sup>th</sup> December as Victory Day to mark the victory of joint forces over Pakistan to liberate Bangladesh.

## INDIA WELCOMES RUSSIAN PRESIDENT

Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in New Delhi on Dec 6 for the 21<sup>st</sup> India-Russia Annual Summit with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The two leaders reviewed the state and prospects of bilateral relations and discussed ways to further strengthen the strategic partnership between the two countries. The two countries signed a record 28 MoUs and agreements across a wide range of sectors including defence, education, culture, trade, energy, and intellectual property accountancy.

*The Indo-Russia Annual Summit is the highest institutionalized dialogue mechanism in the strategic partnership between India and Russia. So far, 20 Annual Summit meetings have taken place alternately in India and Russia. Development of India-Russia relations has been a key pillar of India's foreign policy, particularly after the signing of "Declaration on the India-Russia Strategic Partnership" in October 2000.*

## INDIA RUSSIA 2+2 MINISTERIAL DIALOGUE

The first-ever India Russia 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue was held on Dec 5 in New Delhi. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar represented the Indian side and the Russian side was represented by their Foreign Affairs Minister Sergey Lavrov and Defence Minister Sergei Shoigu.

## VOTER ID TO BE LINKED WITH AADHAAR

The Parliament passed the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 on Dec 21. The main objective of the Bill is to pave the way for the linkage of electoral roll data with the Aadhaar ecosystem. This will address the menace of multiple enrolment of the same person in electoral rolls at different places.

*Besides, the legislation gives four opportunities to enroll in a calendar year as a voter upon attaining 18 years of age. Earlier it was confined to once on the 1<sup>st</sup> of January of every year. Now it will be the first day of the month of January, April, July and October, every year.*



## INDIA HOSTS INDIA-CENTRAL ASIA DIALOGUE



The third meeting of the two-day India-Central Asia Dialogue between the foreign ministers of India and Central Asian countries-- Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, was hosted by Dr. S Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister on Dec 18-19. Afghanistan was not invited to the meeting as we have not recognized the caretaker administration of Taliban.

*For India, Central Asia is a part of its extended neighbourhood with which India has enjoyed historical, cultural and civilizational ties spanning several millennia. India's outreach to Central Asia is significant because the region is vital to India's security. The region supports India's growing energy needs including through supply of uranium. It offers an expanding market for trade and investment, for cooperation in culture, defence, tourism and people- to- people links.*

*In a move to further strengthen India's political and economic ties with resource-rich Central Asia, India invited all the five Presidents (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) to attend forthcoming Republic Day parade.*

## SKM CALLS OFF YEAR-LONG AGITATION

Following the formal repeal of three farm laws in the Parliament, the Samyukt Kisan Morcha (SKM) announced on Dec 9 the end of year-long farmers' agitation. The central government promised to take back all criminal cases registered against them during the course of the agitation.

*On MSP guarantee, a committee will be formed to discuss ways of ensuring MSP and would have SKM representatives among farmers apart from representatives of the Centre, states and agricultural scientists and economists.*

*The SKM said it would mark December 11 as victory day and start vacating Delhi borders from that day. The agitation started on November 26, 2020, making it the longest in the history of independent India.*

## INDIA'S FIRST IAMC OPENED IN HYDERABAD

India's first International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC) was inaugurated on Dec 18 in Hyderabad. Internationally acclaimed arbitrators and mediators from countries such as Singapore and the UK will offer their services here. Apart from settling commercial disputes, the IAMC will also resolve disputes related to the common people. IAMC will provide Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism through methods of arbitration, mediation and conciliation, etc.

## WHO APPROVES SII'S COVOVAX VACCINE

The WHO issued an emergency use listing (EUL) on Dec 17 for Covovax (NVX-CoV2373), the protein based anti-Covid vaccine being produced by the Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) under licence from Novavax of the USA. This is the ninth corona vaccine approved by WHO. SII earlier got WHO approval for its Covishield vaccine in Feb. 2021.

*This vaccine recently showed an efficacy of 96.4% against mild to severe disease caused by the original strain of SARS-CoV-2 from ongoing late-stage global trials. Like several other Covid-19 vaccines, Covovax targets the spike protein on the surface of the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus — the protein that allows the virus to penetrate the human cell.*

## ISA GETS 'OBSERVER' STATUS IN UNGA

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) granted Observer Status to the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in its meeting on Dec 9. ISA has become an example of positive global climate action through partnerships to benefit global energy growth and development.

The ISA is an alliance of 124 countries, most of which lie either completely or partly between the Tropic of Cancer and the Tropic of Capricorn. It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, and former French President Francois Hollande in November 2015, at the 21st session of the UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties in Paris, France. Its headquarters are located in Gurugram, Haryana.

## JOINT WATER PROGRAMME LAUNCHED

The first edition of the India Young Water Professional Programme (IYWPP) was launched virtually on Nov 29 under National Hydrology Project. This initiative aims to provide a structured platform for capacity building with strategic and long-term investment to support the water management reforms in India. The Programme is focused on Engaged Training and Learning Model. About 70% of the program is focused on project-based learning through Situation Understanding and Improvement Projects.



## IFFCO RANKED NO. 1 COOPERATIVE



The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) has been ranked 'number one Cooperative' among the top 300 cooperatives in the world, by the 2021 edition of the 10th Annual World Cooperative Monitor (WCM) report published by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA). The ranking is based on the ratio of turnover over the GDP per capita.

*It signifies that IFFCO is contributing significantly to the GDP and economic growth of the country. In terms of overall turnover, IFFCO was ranked at 60th position. IFFCO successfully introduced nanotechnology-based solutions for agriculture, especially alternative fertilizers, beginning with the world's 1st Nano Urea Liquid.*

## INDIA SECURES 3<sup>rd</sup> PLACE IN UNICORNS

As per the Global Unicorn Index 2021 released by the Hurun Research Institute, London, India displaced the United Kingdom to be third in the list of countries that are home to 'unicorns' – such enterprises which are valued at over \$ one billion each, and are not listed on a public exchange. As many as 33 Indian startups attained unicorn status in 2021, when Covid-19-induced lockdowns and stricter work-from-home policies drove digital adoption. India's total unicorn tally reached 54, overtaking the U.K. which added only 15 unicorns to take its total to 39. The US at first rank, added 254 unicorns, reaching a total of 487 companies and China at second ranked 74 to take its tally to 301.

## INDIA 66<sup>th</sup> GLOBAL HEALTH SECURITY INDEX

According to the new 2021 Global Health Security (GHS) Index released on December 8, the world is still unprepared for future epidemic and pandemic threats. All countries had insufficient health capacities. This left the world acutely vulnerable to future health emergencies, according to the Index that measured the capacities of 195 countries to prepare for epidemics and pandemics.

In a score range of 0 to 100, USA topped the index with a score of 75.9, followed by Australia (71.1) and Finland (70.9). India was placed at 66th spot with a score of 38.9.

*The findings of the Index are based on a revised framework and updated data collection conducted between August 2020 and June 2021. It assessed countries across six categories, 37 indicators and 171 questions, using instantly available information.*

## INDIA PRETTY LOW IN "TALENT RANKING"

The World Competitive Centre at the International Institute for Management Development (IMD), Lausanne, Switzerland, released its "World Talent Ranking Report" on Dec 09. In the report, Europe has dominated the ranking in 2021. Global top 10 countries are from this region. Switzerland has retained its top spot, followed by Sweden. India has been ranked at 56th position.

*The Report grades 64 economies on the basis of a range of factors like - how economies invest in and develop local personnel; their ability to attract and retain skilled workers; and quality of domestic talent pools.*

- ❖ Govt released an India Post special day cover and a commemorative stamp on Dec 16 marking the golden jubilee of India's victory in the 1971 Indo-Pak War.
- ❖ Asian Development Bank approved a \$350 million loan for India to help improve its urban services, with a focus on universal coverage of piped water supply and improved sanitation under the AMRUT scheme.

## NEWS FROM STATES

### JANUARY

### TELANGANA TOPS IN RURAL CLUSTERS

Telangana stood first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) for providing urban infrastructure in rural areas. Its two districts, Sangareddy and Kamareddy, secured the first two positions among the 300 clusters across the country where the programme was being implemented. The second and third place was secured by Tamil Nadu and Gujarat, respectively.

*The programme was launched by the Ministry of Rural Development in Feb 2016 to stimulate local economic development, enhance basic services and create well-planned clusters of villages in rural areas. The programme aims to stimulate local economic development, enhance basic services, and create well planned Rurban clusters which in turn can discourage migration from rural areas to urban areas.*



### TELANGANA TOPS IN ODF VILLAGES LIST

As per the data released for the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II programme till December 31, 2021, Telangana stood first in the country in the list of the highest number of open defecation free (ODF Plus) villages. As many as 13,737 out of 14,200 villages in the State are on the ODF Plus list, which is 96.74% of all villages. Next to Telangana is Tamil Nadu with 4,432 villages (35.39%) and Karnataka with 1,511 villages (5.59%) in the ODF list. Out of 5,82,903 villages in the country, about 26,138 villages have been declared ODF.

### HP BECOMES FIRST SMOKE FREE STATE

Himachal Pradesh has become the first LPG enabled and smoke free state in the country by implementing the Ujjwala scheme of the Central Government and Grihini Suvidha Yojana of the State Government.

Under the Ujjwala scheme, 1.36 lakh free domestic LPG connections were given by the central government at a cost of Rs 21.81 crore, while the state government provided 3.23 lakh LPG connections under the Grihini Suvidha Yojana at a cost of Rs. 120 crore to housewives not covered under the Ujjwala Yojna.

### KERALA REMAINS ON TOP IN HEALTH INDEX

The Niti Aayog released the fourth Health Index covering the period 2019-20 on Dec 27. Kerala emerged as the top-ranking state for the fourth time in a row in terms of overall health performance among larger states, while Uttar Pradesh ended up at the bottom. However, Uttar Pradesh registered the highest incremental change from the base year (2018-19) to the reference year (2019-20). Kerala was followed by Tamil Nadu and Telangana at second and third spot, respectively.

Among the smaller states, Mizoram emerged as the best performer in overall performance as well as incremental performance. Among UTs, Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu scored the highest.

The index is a weighted composite score incorporating 24 indicators covering key aspects of health performance, largely in three domains: Health outcomes; governance and information; and key inputs and processes.



### INDIA'S FIRST GRAPHENE INNOVATION CENTRE



The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology approved setting up of India's first Graphene Innovation Centre

in Digital University Kerala along with Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology, Thrissur. The centre will have an incubation centre and facilities to create new Graphene products. Tata Steel Limited is set to be the industrial partner of the upcoming Graphene Innovation Centre.

*Graphene is a one-atom-thick sheet of carbon atoms arranged in a honeycomb-like pattern. Graphene is considered to be the world's thinnest, strongest and most conductive material - of both, electricity and heat. Harder than diamond yet more elastic than rubber; tougher than steel yet lighter than aluminium - graphene is the strongest known material. Surprisingly, graphene has the same carbon structure as the graphite in a pencil. There are about 3 million layers of graphene in a 1 mm thick sheet of graphite.*

### INDIA'S FIRST DGG INDEX LAUNCHED IN J&K

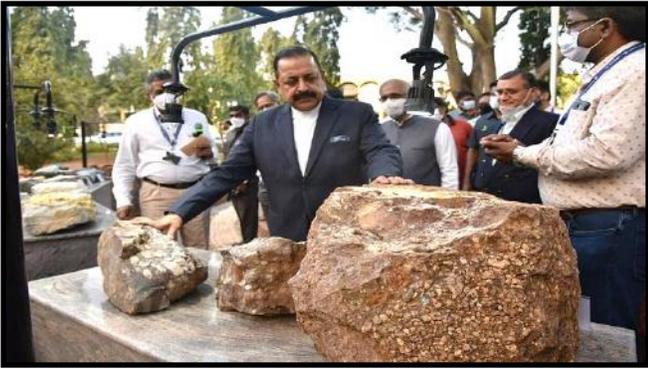
Country's first District Good Governance Index (DGGI) was released on Jan 21 in Jammu and Kashmir, making it the first Union Territory to have such an index. Prepared by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) in partnership with the UT's administration, it covers all the 20 districts of J&K.

Under the index, the policies, schemes and programs of the central as well as the state governments are monitored at the district level. The index covers 10 sectors with 58 indicators.

### KOCHI TO RUN INDIA'S FIRST WATER METRO

Kochi in Kerala has become the first city of India with a water metro project as it launched the first in a series of battery-powered fully AC electric boats in the city. The 50-seater ferry was christened Muziris. The ₹747 cr Kochi Water Metro project will have 23 such boats that will run on 15 identified routes. It will connect 10 islands along a network of routes that span 76 km with a fleet of 78 fast, electrically propelled hybrid ferries plying to 38 jetties.

## INDIA'S FIRST OPEN ROCK MUSEUM



India's first open rock museum displaying different types of rocks gathered from different states, was inaugurated in the campus of the CSIR-National Geophysical Research Institute in Hyderabad on Jan 06. About 46 rocks of different sizes and shapes have been elegantly displayed in a garden with focus lights and descriptions giving their economic and scientific importance. Displayed rocks have ages ranging from around 55 million years to up to 3.3 billion years. The rocks have been sourced from Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Jharkhand, Jammu & Kashmir and others.

## HARYANA & HP TO BUILD ADI BADRI DAM

The governments of Haryana and Himachal Pradesh entered into an agreement on Jan 21 to build a dam at Adi Badri in Haryana's Yamunanagar district, which, among others, will rejuvenate the mythical Saraswati river. Adi Badri, situated in Haryana near the Himachal Pradesh border, is believed to be the river's origin point. The project will cost Rs 215.33 crore. The width of the dam will be 101.06 metres and height 20.5 metres.

## LADAKH CELEBRATES LOSAR FESTIVAL

The Buddhist community of Ladakh commenced the new year celebrations on Jan 3 with the beginning of their most popular traditional religious festival of Losar. It is predominantly celebrated by the Tibetan Buddhists to mark the beginning of the Tibetan lunar calendar. The annual event is celebrated with performances of traditional songs and colourful folk dances of the region and chanting of prayers.

## COMMITTEE FORMED TO REVIEW AFSPA

The ministry of home affairs has set up a high-level committee, headed by Vivek Joshi, a secretary-rank officer, to look into the possibility of withdrawing the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) from Nagaland in the wake of rising tension in the state over the killing of 14 civilians on Dec 4-5.

The committee will look into the possibility of the withdrawal of the AFSPA in Nagaland, where it has been operational for decades, and a decision will be taken on the basis of its recommendations. The controversial Act gives sweeping powers to the armed forces to conduct operations and arrest anyone without any prior warrant.

- ❖ *The World Bank sanctioned a loan worth \$125 million (about Rs. 1,000 crore) to the government of West Bengal to support its effort to help the poor and vulnerable groups access social protection services.*

## DECEMBER

### GUJARAT TOPS IN "GOOD GOVERNANCE"

Government released the Good Governance Index 2021 on the occasion of Good Governance Day, on December 25. The index has been prepared by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG). Gujarat topped the composite ranking, followed by Maharashtra and Goa. In northeastern and hill states, Himachal Pradesh secured first rank while Delhi topped among UTs.

*The Index covered ten sectors and with 58 indicators including Agriculture and Allied Sectors, Commerce and Industries, Public Health Economic Governance and Environment.*

### WEST BENGAL TOPS IN CHILD LITERACY

The Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister released on Dec 16 a report on the 'Index on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy'. The report is an indicator of literacy among children below the age of 10 years in Indian states that were divided into different categories. The Index is the first step towards establishing an understanding of the overall state of Foundational Learning across children aged below ten years in Indian states and UTs.

On one hand, in the 'large states category', West Bengal has topped the charts while Bihar is on the bottom, Kerala can be seen on a top spot in the 'small states category'. The other two categories were Northeast and Union Territories. Mizoram and Lakshadweep topped the chart among northeastern states and UTs, respectively.

*The Index was based on five performance pillars – educational infrastructure, access to education, basic health, learning outcomes and governance, comprising 41 indicators.*



## SRI KASHI VISHWANATH DHAM RENOVATED



Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first phase of his dream project Sri Kashi Vishwanath Dham in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh on Dec 13. Spread over five lakh square feet, the project connects the ancient Vishwanath temple to River Ganga. It aims to provide easy access to the pilgrims to take a dip in the Ganga and offer prayers with Gangajal to Lord Shiva. The corridor has been built as a world class monumental project and is expected to boost tourism in a big way in the ancient city.

*The 'Jyotirling' at Kashi Vishwanath temple is considered to be the most important among the other twelve Jyotirlingas, attracting lakhs of devotees round the year. The project, incidentally, involved purchase and acquisition of over 400 properties, both residential and commercial, including over 30 ancient temples, around the main temple to extend its premises of 3,000 sq ft to present premises spread over five lakh sq ft.*

## UNESCO ADDS DURGA PUJA TO HERITAGE LIST



Immensely popular Durga Puja in Kolkata has been included in the Intangible Heritage list by UNESCO. The Intergovernmental Committee of UNESCO inscribed 'Durga Puja in Kolkata' on the Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity during its 16th session held at Paris, France.

*Durga Puja is not only a celebration of the feminine divinity but is a consummate expression of dance, music, crafts, rituals, practices, culinary and cultural aspects. The festival transcends the boundaries of caste, creed and economic classes and brings people together in its celebration.*

*UNESCO also commended the concerned organizations in Kolkata for their initiatives to involve marginalized groups and individuals as well as women in their participation in safeguarding the intangible cultural heritage.*

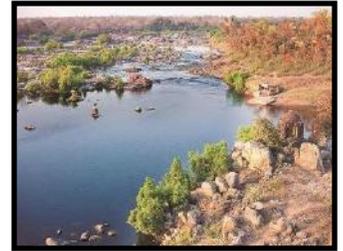
## ASKOT SANCTUARY TO BE ECO-SENSITIVE ZONE

The Union Ministry of Forest and Environment issued a notification on Dec 2 declaring Askot Wildlife Sanctuary in Uttarakhand as an eco-sensitive zone. As a result, more than 111 villages of Pithoragarh district fell out of the ambit of the protected area paving the way for their infrastructure development. After the new notification, Askot Wildlife Sanctuary has become the first sanctuary in the state without any villages inside it.

*The Sanctuary is situated some 54 km north of Pithoragarh and was notified in 1986 primarily for preserving the musk deer and other rare Himalayan species. The sanctuary also has the presence of snow leopards, snow cocks, monal and koklass pheasants. It also has rare varieties of 2,600 Himalayan herbs and 250 varieties of birds and 37 varieties of reptiles.*

## KEN AND BETWA RIVER INTERLINKING

The Union Cabinet approved on Dec 8 the funding and implementation of the project for Ken and Betwa river interlinking. The project aims to transfer surplus water from the Ken River



in MP to Betwa in UP to irrigate the drought-prone Bundelkhand region spread across the districts of both the states. Both the rivers are tributaries of River Yamuna.

*The Rs 44,605 crore project involves the construction of Daudhan dam on Ken River and a canal linking the two rivers (Bina Complex multipurpose project). It will ensure an annual irrigation of over 10.62 lakh hectares, drinking water supply to a population of about 62 lakh and also generate 103 MW of hydropower and 27 MW of solar power.*

## NAGALAND CELEBRATES 'HORNBILL FESTIVAL'

The Hornbill Festival, the biggest cultural extravaganza of Nagaland, kicked off on December 1 with colourful renditions of traditional music, dances and contemporary, all at one place – Naga Heritage village Kisama, located 10 km away from the capital Kohima. Hornbill is a popular large bird, with a typical long curved bill, found in Nagaland. The ten-day festival, supported by the state government, showcases the diverse Naga ethnicity through folk dances, traditional music, tribal rituals, indigenous games, local cuisine, handicraft, artwork and textiles. The festival's 2021 edition comprises around 700 separate events.



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## ADB LOAN TO IMPROVE SCHOOL EDUCATION



The Asian Development Bank approved a \$500-million loan to India to help improve the quality of school education and to mitigate the impact of the Covid-19 on students' learning. The loan will support the Integrated Scheme for School Education (Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan) and the new Exemplar School Initiative of the Ministry of Education to improve education quality by focusing on inclusive and equitable learning outcomes.

*About 1,800 government schools will be transformed into exemplar schools in the states of Assam, Gujarat, Jharkhand, Tamil Nadu, and Uttarakhand. These schools will act as the role model for the complete implementation of National Education Policy, 2020.*

## WB LOAN FOR ELECY INFRA IN WEST BENGAL

The World Bank approved a \$135 million loan to improve electricity distribution and grid modernisation infrastructure in West Bengal in view of the state's rapid economic growth. It will also help in restoration of the damage caused to the power infrastructure by Cyclone Amphan in May 2020.

## \$125 MN ADB LOAN FOR DEHRADUN, U'KHAND

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$125 million loan to improve access to quality water supply and sanitation services in Uttarakhand, India. The project will fund the construction of 136 km of water pipe line to replace defective water networks in South Dehradun to ensure reliable and continuous water supply to the city.

## ADB TO FUND GROWTH OF ASU

The Asian Development Bank approved a \$112 million loan to strengthen skills education and training through the establishment of the Assam Skill University in Mangaldoi, Assam. The project will help develop the ASU's management and operating systems, business models, and faculty and staff. It will support the design and construction of environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient university campus and facilities to ensure efficient and sustainable operations.

- ❖ **Asian Development Bank** sanctioned a \$150 million dollar loan to provide affordable housing for urban poor in Tamil Nadu.
- ❖ **The European Investment Bank**, Luxembourg signed an agreement with the government of India on Dec 22 for the first tranche of loan of Euro 250 million for the funding of Agra Metro Rail Project in Uttar Pradesh.
- ❖ **Himachal Pradesh** became the first state to achieve hundred per cent COVID vaccination of second dose for its entire eligible population

## GOVT. INITIATIVES

### JANUARY

#### 'KOYLA DARPAN PORTAL' FOR COAL SECTOR

The Ministry of Coal launched the 'Koyla Darpan Portal' on Jan 21 to share Key Performance Indicators related to the Coal Sector. The portal will provide information on issues such as Coal Production, Status of Coal Stock in Thermal Power Plants, Allocation of Blocks, Monitoring of Major Coal Mines and Coal Price, etc. The portal is accessible through the website of the Ministry of Coal for maximum public outreach.

#### INDIA'S FIRST SPICE EXCHANGE LAUNCHED

India's first virtual platform for spice exports 'Spice Xchange India' was launched on Jan 20 in Kochi, Kerala. The [spicexchangeindia.com](http://spicexchangeindia.com), developed by the Spices Board, is a 3D virtual platform aimed at connecting India's spice exporters with buyers from around the world.

*The portal uses AI-based technology to connect relevant spice buyers with Indian spice exporters. The buyers and sellers can access the database to find the potential customers on this platform.*

#### 'YOGYATA' APP TO UPSKILL RURAL YOUTH

Common Service Centres (CSC) launched an app on Jan 16 to provide vocational education and skill development to youths of rural areas. The app's name is 'Yogyata' (ability/aptitude). The app will provide access to courses that can enhance skills and educational qualifications of the rural youth. The courses will then help these youngsters in securing jobs in areas like cyber security, CAD, and 3D printing. The enrollment under the app will be done by village entrepreneurs managing Common Service Centres across the country.

*The CSC programme is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) under the Digital India programme. CSCs are the access points for delivery of various digital services to villages in India. Further, they are positioned as change agents, promoting rural entrepreneurship and building rural capacities and livelihoods.*

## JAN 16 TO BE THE "NATIONAL START-UP DAY"



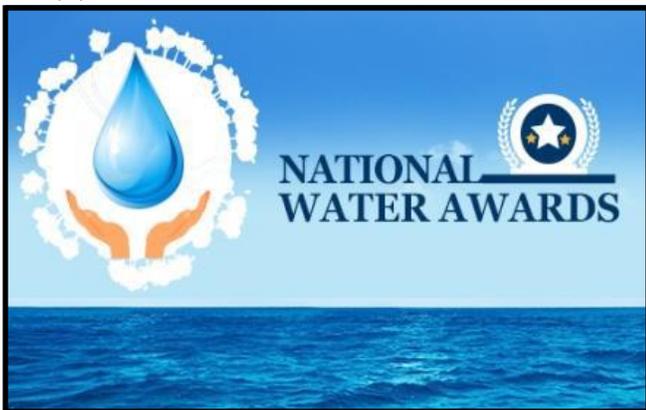
To make the culture of start-ups reach the far-flung parts of the country, it has been decided to celebrate January 16 as "National Start-up Day". This announcement was made by the Prime Minister on January 15 during his virtual interaction with startups of different sectors across the country. He said that Startup India and Standup India programmes will further our efforts in strengthening India's title of 'Techade'.

*India has emerged as the 3rd largest ecosystem for startups globally with over 60,770 DPIIT-recognized startups across 636 districts of the country by end 2021. Of these, 81 were unicorns with a total valuation of \$ 274.17 billion. A unicorn is a privately held startup company with a value of over \$1 billion.*

## NATIONAL WATER AWARDS 2020 ANNOUNCED

The 3rd National Water Awards-2020 were announced by the Jal Shakti Ministry on January 7. Uttar Pradesh secured first position in the 'Best State Category', followed by Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu. National Water Awards recognize and encourage the exemplary work and the efforts made by the States, individuals, districts, etc. across the country in attaining the government's vision of 'Jal Samridh Bharat'.

*They aim to create awareness among the people about the significance of water and attempt to motivate them to adopt better usage practices. They provide a good opportunity for the start-ups as well as the leading organizations to engage with the senior policymakers on adopting the best water resources management practices in India.*



## EC RAISES POLL EXPENDITURE LIMITS

Keeping in view the rise in inflation, the Election Commission of India raised the existing election expenditure limit for candidates in Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies. The new limits will be applicable in all upcoming elections in the country. The last major revision in the election expenditure limit for candidates was carried out in 2014, which was further increased by 10 % in 2020.

Expenditure ceilings for Parliamentary constituencies:

- *Bigger states (Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Karnataka)- Rs 95 lakh (from Rs. 70 lakh)*
- *Smaller states (Goa, Sikkim, Arunachal Pradesh and UTs) – Rs. 75 lakh (from Rs 54 lakh)*
- *Expenditure limits for Assembly constituencies:*
- *Bigger states: Rs 40 lakh (from Rs 28 lakhs)*
- *Smaller states: Rs 28 lakhs (from Rs 20 lakhs)*

## SMART CITIES MISSION LAUNCHES 'SAAR' PROG.



The Smart Cities Mission under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, launched the "Smart cities and Academia Towards Action & Research (SAAR)" programme on Jan 5. It is a joint initiative of the Ministry, National Institute of Urban Affairs and leading Indian academic institutions of the country.

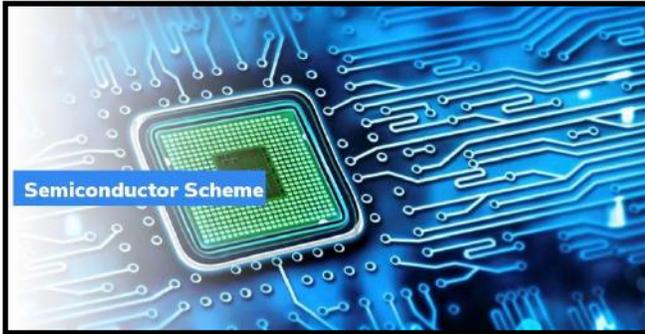
*Under the programme, 15 premier architecture & planning institutes of the country will be working with Smart Cities to document landmark projects undertaken by the Smart Cities Mission. It will provide opportunities to students for engagement on urban development projects and enable real-time information flow between urban practitioners and academia.*

## NEAT 3.0 TO POLISH TECH EDUCATION

Union Minister for Education and Skill Development, Dharmendra Pradhan on Jan 3 launched NEAT 3.0 - a special online education initiative. NEAT (National Educational Alliance for Technology) aims to provide the best-developed technological solutions in the education sector to enhance the employability of the youth.

*These solutions use Artificial Intelligence for a personalized and customized learning experience for better learning outcomes and skill development in the niche areas. 58 global and Indian start-up ed-tech companies are onboard NEAT for offering 100 courses and e-resources for improving learning outcomes and developing employable skills.*

## INDIA SEMICONDUCTOR MISSION LAUNCHED



Union Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the India Semiconductor Mission on December 29. Under the scheme, the companies that are interested in developing the semiconductors and display manufacturing ecosystem in India can start applying from January 1, 2022. The companies will have the benefit of availing incentives amounting to Rs. 76,000-crore.

India Semiconductor Mission is a specialised business division that has been created within the Digital India Corporation. The mission aims to build a vibrant semiconductor and display ecosystem to enable India's emergence as a global hub for electronics manufacturing and design.

*A semiconductor is a material product that is usually made up of silicon, which conducts electricity more than an insulator, such as glass, but less than a pure conductor, such as metallic copper or aluminium. Silicon is the 14th element on the Periodic Table. It's a metalloid, meaning it has properties of both metals and nonmetals, and is the second most abundant element in the Earth's crust, after oxygen.*

## DECEMBER

### INDIA'S LARGEST NUCLEAR POWER PLANT

The government has given "in-principle" approval for setting up of six nuclear power reactors at Jaitapur in district Ratnagiri, Maharashtra. Each reactor will have a capacity of 1,650 MW each, making it the country's largest nuclear power generating site with a total capacity of 9,900 MW. The project is being set up with technical collaboration and support from French firm Electricite de France.



*The present installed nuclear power capacity in the country is 6,780 MW and the share of nuclear power in the total electricity generation in 2020-21 is about 3.1%. Shri Jitendra Singh is the current Minister of State for Atomic Energy.*

### P M KRISHI SINCHAI YOJANA- 2021-26

The Cabinet approved on Dec 15 implementation of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for 2021-26. The scheme will benefit about 22 lakh farmers, including 2.5 lakh Scheduled Caste and two lakh Scheduled Tribe farmers. An outlay of over 93,000 crore rupees will be spent for the implementation of the three components of the scheme - Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), Har Khet ko Paani (HKKP) and Per Drop More Crop programme.

### NATIONAL HELPLINE LAUNCHED FOR SC/STS

A National Helpline against Atrocities on Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes was launched on Dec. 13. The Helpline will be available round the clock on a toll-free number - 14566. Devised by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, it aims to ensure proper implementation of the SC & ST (Prevention of Atrocities) Act, 1989.

*The Service will be available in Hindi, English and Regional Language of the States and Union Territories. The objective of the helpline is to build informed awareness about the provisions of the Law that are aimed at ending discrimination and to provide protection to all.*

### 'SHE IS A CHANGEMAKER' LAUNCHED

National Commission for Women (NCW) launched a pan-India capacity building programme by the name 'She is a Changemaker' on Dec 7. It will cover women representatives at all levels - gram panchayats to parliament members and political workers including office bearers of National/State political parties. It aims to improve the leadership skills of grassroots women political leaders. The programme was launched by Ms. Rekha Sharma, Chairperson of the National Commission for Women, New Delhi.

### 'SRESHTA' SCHEME FOR SC STUDENTS

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the "Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas" (SRESHTA) scheme on Dec 6 for the upliftment and development of scheduled castes (SC) students in the identified Aspirational Districts. The scheme will focus on the socio-economic upliftment and overall development of the SC students by providing quality education to meritorious students from class 9th to 12th in reputed private schools, having residential facilities.

## COMMITTEE TO REVIEW EWS CRITERION



The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has formed a three-member committee to review the criteria for reservation for the Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) category in terms of the provisions of the explanation to Article 15 of the Constitution. It will be headed by Ajay Bhushan Pandey, former Finance Secretary. The committee has been set up in accordance with the commitment given to the Supreme Court to revisit the criteria for determining the economically weaker sections.

*At present, the annual income limit to identify economically weaker sections (EWS) for providing 10% quota in public jobs and educational institutions, is set at Rs. 8 lakh. The 10% EWS quota was introduced under the 103rd Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2019 which is under challenge before a five-judge Constitution bench of the Supreme Court.*

## ECONOMY & INDUSTRY

### JANUARY

#### INDIA'S GDP TO GROW BY 9.2% IN 2021-22

The National Statistical Office in the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation Ministry released its first Advance Estimates of National Income for the financial year 2021-22 on Jan 8. It estimated that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will rise 9.2 per cent in the current fiscal as compared to a contraction of 7.3 per cent in the financial year 2020-21. In actual numbers, the real GDP in 2021-22 is estimated at Rs 147.54 lakh crore against the provisional estimate of Rs 135.13 lakh crore.

#### IMF SLASHES INDIA'S GROWTH RATE TO 9%

In its latest update of World Economic Outlook released on Jan 25, the Washington-based International Monetary Fund (IMF) has cut India's economic growth forecast to 9% for the year 2021-22, on concerns over the impact of a spread of a new variant of coronavirus on business activity and mobility. In October last year, it had projected a 9.5% GDP growth for India.

#### UN PREDICTS INDIA'S GDP GROWTH AT 6.5%

As per the United Nations World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) 2022 report, India's GDP for the 2021-22 financial year is expected to grow at 6.5 percent. Earlier this was estimated at 8.4 percent. However, the report stated that "India's economic recovery is on a solid path, amid rapid vaccination progress, less stringent social restrictions and still supportive fiscal and monetary stances."

#### WB PUT INDIA'S GDP GROWTH AT 8.3%

The World Bank has said that the Indian economy is expected to grow at 8.3 percent in the current financial year (2021-22).

It has upgraded India's GDP growth for the next fiscal (2022-23) to 8.7 percent, reflecting higher investment from the private sector and in infrastructure, and dividends from ongoing reforms.

In its latest Global Economic Prospects, World Bank said, the growth outlook will also be supported by ongoing structural reforms, a better-than-expected financial sector recovery, and measures to resolve financial sector challenges despite ongoing risks.

#### INDIA EXCELS IN EXPORT OF GHERKINS

India has emerged as the largest exporter of cucumber and gherkins in the world, exporting over 1.23 lakh metric tonnes of it with a value of \$114 million during April to October, 2021. In the full year 2020-21, India had shipped over 2.23 lakh metric tonnes of cucumber and gherkins with a value of \$223 million. Currently, gherkins is exported to more than 20 countries, with major destinations being North America, European countries and Oceania countries

### DECEMBER

#### GDP REGISTERS 8.4% GROWTH

India's Gross domestic product, GDP, for the second quarter (July-Sep) of the current fiscal logged fastest growth among major economies in the world. According to the government data released by the National Statistics Office, on Nov 30, the GDP of the country grew by 8.4 percent from the same quarter a year ago.



Economy of the country has gained momentum during the second quarter as demand in the economy gradually came back to normalcy after coronavirus related disruptions in the first quarter.

*The GDP at constant (2011-12) prices in the second quarter is estimated at Rs 35.73 lakh crore, as against Rs 32.97 lakh crore in the same period last fiscal, thus showing a growth of 8.4 per cent as compared to 7.4 per cent contraction in Q2 2020-21.*

*Data shows that farm, construction and public administration and defence services grew at a faster pace but the weak performance by the manufacturing sector acted as a drag on growth.*

### **S&P PUTS INDIA'S GROWTH RATE AT 9.5%**

S&P Global Ratings has kept the economic growth forecast for India unchanged at 9.5 percent for the current financial year (2021-22). The agency observed that the gradual lifting of restrictions related to the pandemic in the current financial year has helped the economy return to its old form.

Further, cases of infection peaked in the middle of the year but now their numbers have come down significantly, which has improved movement, consumer and business confidence has also improved.

### **FITCH PREDICTS 8.4% GROWTH OF ECONOMY**

The global rating agency Fitch Ratings in its latest Global Economic Outlook, cut India's economic growth forecast to 8.4% (from 8.7 predicted earlier) for the current fiscal year ending March 31, 2022, saying the rebound after the second wave of Covid infections has been subdued than expected.

*On the positive side, Fitch said recovery in domestic economic activity is turning increasingly broad-based, with expanding vaccination coverage, slump in fresh Covid cases, and rapid normalisation of mobility.*

### **INDIA RECEIVED HIGHEST FDI IN 2020-21**

India received the highest ever annual Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow of 81.97 billion dollar in 2020-21. The FDI inflows in the last seven financial years was over \$ 440 billion, which is nearly 58 per cent of the total FDI inflow in the last 21 years.

*The top three countries in terms of FDI received from them during 2014 to 2021 are Singapore, Mauritius, and USA. The computer software and hardware sector attracted the largest share of FDI inflows, followed by Service, Trading and Telecommunications.*



### **INDIA'S FIRST GREEN HYDROGEN PLANT**



State-run NTPC Ltd has awarded a project of 'Standalone Fuel-Cell based Microgrid with hydrogen production using electrolyser' at its Simhadri thermal power station near Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh). This will be India's first Green Hydrogen based Energy Storage Project and one of the world's largest. The hydrogen would be produced by using the advanced 240 kW Solid Oxide Electrolyser by taking input power from the nearby Floating Solar project, already set up by NTPC.

*Green hydrogen is produced by splitting water into hydrogen and oxygen using an electrolyzer powered by renewable energy sources such as wind and solar. This new fuel can be a game-changer for the energy security of India, which imports 85% of its oil and 53% of gas requirements.*

### **STAMP RELEASED ON MAHINDRA GROUP**

The government released a commemorative postage stamp on Dec 01 on the Mahindra group to mark completion of 75 years of the billion-dollar enterprise. Mahindra & Mahindra is the leading SUV manufacturer in India. The group headed by Anand Mahindra, has business interests in over 22 fields.

### **SONY GETS MERGED WITH ZEE**

Sony Pictures Networks India (SPN), a subsidiary of Sony Corp's Sony Pictures Entertainment (SPE), signed definitive agreements to merge with Zee Entertainment Enterprises (ZEE). Sony will hold a majority stake of 50.86 % in the merged company while ZEE promoter family will own 3.99% with an option to increase stake up to 20% from market. Existing shareholders will hold the remaining 45.15% equity stake. The new company will be headed by Punit Goenka from Zee.

*The merged entity will have 75 TV channels, two video streaming services (ZEE5 and Sony LIV), two film studios (Zee Studios and Sony Pictures Films India), a digital content studio (Studio NXT), and programming libraries.*

# BANKING & FINANCE

JANUARY

## RBI SETS UP NEW FINTECH DEPARTMENT



With a view to focus more on the "dynamically" growing financial sector, RBI has set up a separate Fintech Department. The new department has been created with effect from January 04 by subsuming the FinTech Division of Department of Payment and Settlement Systems at Central Office.

The department will not only promote innovation in the sector, but also identify the challenges and opportunities associated with it and address them in a timely manner. It will also provide a framework for further research on the subject that can aid policy interventions by the Bank.

## RBI ALLOWS OFFLINE DIGITAL PAYMENTS

To push digital transactions in rural and semi-urban areas, the RBI issued fresh guidelines on Jan 03 for allowing offline payments up to Rs 200 per transaction, subject to an overall limit of Rs 2,000. The new framework is applicable with immediate effect.

Under the offline mode, payments can be carried out face-to-face (proximity mode) using any channel or instrument like cards, wallets, and mobile devices. However, since the transactions are offline, alerts (by way of SMS and/or e-mail) will be received by the customer after a time lag.

*An offline digital payment means a transaction that does not require internet or telecom connectivity.*

## SBI, ICICI & HDFC RETAINED AS D-SIBS

Reserve Bank of India has retained State Bank of India, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) for the year 2021, on the basis of their data as March 31, 2021. These three banks have continued to be on the D-SIBs list published by RBI, since Sep 04, 2017. D-SIBs are those banks which if fail would have a significant impact on the banking industry and economy as a whole. As such, they are required to maintain some extra tier-1 capital, as compared to other banks, as a precautionary measure.

## LIC, GIC-Re, NIAC ARE SYSTEMICALLY IMP.

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India has announced that LIC, GIC-Re and New India Assurance Company would continue to be identified as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for the year 2022.

*D-SIIs are perceived as insurance companies that are too big or too important to fail.*

DECEMBER

## RBI'S 'NO' TO SAVING CARD DETAILS

With a view to improving the data security in card transactions, RBI has told e-commerce companies that from January 1, 2022, they will not be allowed to save card information on their websites. Users will have to re-enter credit or debit card details every time they do online transactions.

*Users not wishing to enter their details each time they do a transaction will have to give consent to e-commerce companies and other online platforms to "tokenise" wherein card details are replaced by a code or token, generated by an algorithm, avoiding disclosure of card details. The RBI has also directed all companies in India to delete saved credit and debit card data from their systems from January 1, 2022.*

## RBI EXTENDS PCA TO NBFCs

To further strengthen the supervision of non-banking entities (NBFCs), the RBI issued revised guidelines on Dec 14 for a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for such companies, excluding government-owned ones. These guidelines will be effective from October 1, 2022. Originally, these guidelines were introduced for banks in 2002.

*PCA guidelines are enforced when bad loans exceed the prescribed benchmarks, adversely affecting the financial health of the company. PCA guidelines restrict them from fresh lending, brand opening and hiring, among others. Being put under the PCA framework means restrictions on dividend distribution/remittance of profits; promoters/shareholders to infuse equity and reduction in leverage; restrictions on issue of guarantees or taking on other contingent liabilities on behalf of group companies.*



## PAYMENT BANKS/SFBs CAN DO GOVT BUSINESS



The Reserve Bank of India has thrown open the government agency business like tax collection to scheduled payment banks and scheduled small finance banks. This is part of a move to provide further scope to private banks to conduct government agency business. *Government agency business is a good source of income for banks as the government pays good commission for the same. Early this year in February, the government had lifted the embargo put on further allocation of Government business to private sector banks.*

### RBI MAKES LEI MANDATORY

The Reserve Bank of India made Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) mandatory for cross-border transactions for capital or current account transactions of Rs 50 crore and above, from October 1, 2022. For LEI holders, it would be mandatory to furnish the number in all transactions irrespective of the transaction size.

*The LEI is a 20-digit international number used for uniquely identifying parties to financial transactions worldwide, to improve the quality and accuracy of financial data systems.*

### RBI KEEPS POLICY RATES UNCHANGED

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of RBI in its bi-monthly policy review meeting held on Dec 8, voted unanimously to keep the policy repo rate unchanged at four percent. The Reverse Repo rate will also remain unchanged at 3.35 percent.

*The two other key rates, Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) and Bank Rate will also remain unchanged at 4.25 percent. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das stated that recent reductions in Excise Duty & State VAT on petrol and diesel should support consumption demand by increasing purchasing power.*



# DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

JANUARY

### ARMY SETS UP QUANTUM COMPUTING LAB

The Indian Army has set up a quantum computing laboratory and a center for artificial intelligence (AI) at the Military College of Telecommunication Engineering in Mhow, Madhya Pradesh. The Quantum Lab has been set up with the support of the National Security Council.

The two centers will carry out extensive research in developing the transformative technologies for use by the armed forces. The Centre will also facilitate the research and training in the developing field of Quantum and artificial intelligence.

*Quantum Technology is based on the principles of Quantum mechanics developed in the early 20th century to describe nature at the scale of atoms and elementary particles. Using quantum superposition, a set of unbreakable codes or super-speedy information processing, quantum computers are able to mimic several classical computers working in parallel, for achieving super high-speed computations.*



### ALH MK III EXPORTED TO MAURITIUS

In line with the Indian government's vision to boost defence exports to friendly countries, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited signed a contract with the Government of Mauritius for export of one Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH Mk III) for Mauritius Police Force.

### FIRST EXPORT ORDER FOR BRAHMOS MISSILE

In a first export order for the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from India, the Philippines confirmed a \$374.96 million contract for the purchase of a shore-based anti-ship variant of BrahMos. The missile is manufactured by BrahMos Aerospace Private Ltd. in India. It is a joint venture with Russia.

### BRAHMOS SUPERSONIC MISSILE TESTED

The Indian Navy successfully test fired an extended range sea-to-sea variant of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from its newly commissioned INS Visakhapatnam on Jan 11. BrahMos missiles with cruise speed up to 2.8 mach, are designed and developed by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture company set up by DRDO and Mashinostroyeniya of Russia.

**Indian Navy** and Russian Navy undertook PASSEX exercises on Jan 14 at the port of Cochin, in the Arabian Sea. The exercise showcased cohesiveness and interoperability between the two navies.

**India and Japan** conducted a major naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal on Jan 13. Indian Naval ships Shivalik and Kadmatt and Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) ships Uraga and Hirado took part in the exercise.

**Sea Dragon 22:** India participated in the US-led annual multinational anti-submarine warfare training exercise held in Guam in the Western Pacific from Jan 5 for ten days. The exercise focused on honing anti-submarine warfare training.

**CHINA'S ROVER DISCOVERS WATER ON MOON**

In a far-reaching development, China's Chang'e 5 lunar lander has found the first-ever on-site evidence of water on the surface of the moon.

The study published on Jan 8 in the journal Science Advances revealed that the lunar soil at the landing site contains less than 120 parts-per-million (ppm) water or 120 grams water per ton, and a light, vesicular rock carries 180 ppm.

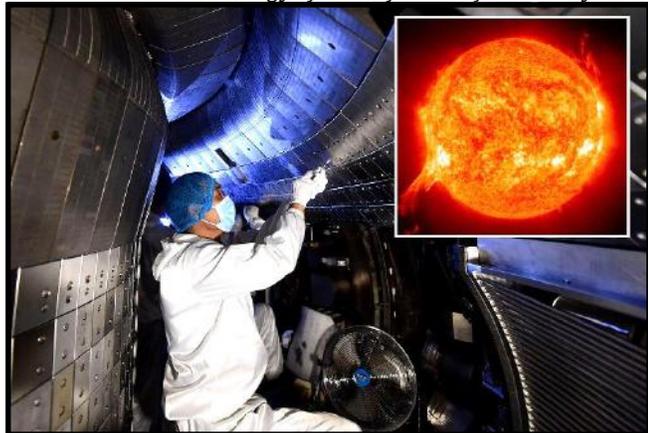
The presence of water had been confirmed till now by remote observation but the lander has now detected signs of water in rocks and soil.

**CHINA CREATES ARTIFICIAL SUN FOR 20 MIN.**

In a recent experiment with its 'artificial sun', China's fusion reactor ran successfully for almost 20 minutes at a stunning 70 million degrees Celsius, almost five times hotter than the real Sun. The Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST), which is called the Chinese "Artificial Sun", is an experimental superconducting tokamak magnetic fusion energy reactor in Hefei, capital of east China's Anhui Province.

*Aimed at achieving a cheap source of clean energy, the reactor strives at utilizing the power of nuclear fusion which is a less explored way of harnessing nuclear energy.*

*In nuclear fusion, two or more atomic nuclei merge together to produce a single heavier nucleus, neutrons, and huge amounts of energy. Hence, fusion energy is considered the ideal "ultimate energy" for the future of humanity.*



**NEXT GEN AERV INDUCTED IN ARMY**



The first set of indigenously developed next-generation Armoured Engineer Reconnaissance Vehicle (AERV) was inducted into the Corps of Engineers of Indian Army on Dec 21 at Pune. The AERV has been designed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and manufactured by Ordnance Factory Medak and Bharat Electronics Limited, Pune.

It will primarily be used for the construction of assault bridges in desert, flat and riverine areas for offensive as well as defensive operations

**MULTI-TERRAIN ARTILLERY GUN LAUNCHED**

Pune based Indian multinational company Bharat Forge Ltd. launched one of its kind indigenous Multi-terrain Artillery Gun (MARG) 155 – BR on Dec 21. It is the only 155mm 39 caliber gun system mounted on 4x4 HMV in the world. The vehicle weighs 18 ton and has the capability to be deployed even in mountain regions.

**ARMY LAUNCHED MESSAGING APP ASIGMA**

The Indian Army launched a contemporary messaging application named, ASIGMA (Army Secure IndiGeneous Messaging Application). The new generation web-based messaging application is entirely in-house and has been exclusively developed by the team of officers of the Corps of Signals of the Army.

*The messaging application is designed to meet all futuristic requirements for the army and boasts of an enhanced user experience. It comes with a variety of contemporary features including multi-level security, dynamic global address book, message prioritisation, and tracking, and options to meet the requirements of the army at present.*

**'PRALAY' MISSILE TESTED SUCCESSFULLY**

The DRDO successfully test-fired on Dec 22 the short-range, surface to surface-guided ballistic missile 'Pralay' off the Odisha coast. The solid-fuel, battlefield missile is based on the Prithvi Defence Vehicle. Pralay has a strike range of 350-500 km and a payload capacity of 500-1,000 kg.

## SEA TRIALS HELD FOR DESTROYER MORMUGAO



The Indian Navy conducted the maiden sea trials for its new stealth destroyer (warship) Mormugao. It is the second indigenous stealth destroyer of the P15B class. It has been built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd, Mumbai and is named after the port town in Goa.

## INDIA DEPLOYS S-400 SYSTEM IN PUNJAB

In a major boost to the country's air defence capabilities, the Indian Air Force started deploying the first squadron of the S-400 Triumf air defence missile system in the Punjab sector. It is capable of taking care of aerial threats from both Pakistan and China. The S-400 system was contracted by India with Russia in a deal worth around ₹ 35,000 crores for five squadrons.

*The S-400 is equipped with four different missiles which can engage enemy aircraft, ballistic missiles, and AWACS planes, all at a time, up to 400 km. The S-400 air defence system has been described as "one of the best air-defence systems currently made" and among the most advanced systems in the world.*

## AGNI PRIME TESTED SUCCESSFULLY

The DRDO successfully tested on Dec 18 the new-generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile 'Agni P' from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the Odisha coast. The missile can be launched from rail or road and can be transported to various parts of the country. It has its own unique technology giving it more accuracy while making it difficult to intercept. It has a strike range of 1000 to 2000 km. The DRDO had tested Agni P for the first time on June 28.

## SURVEY SHIP 'SANDHYAK' LAUNCHED

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd, Kolkata launched its first call survey vessel (large) named 'Sandhayak', for the Indian Navy. The ship made its first contact with the waters of Hooghly River on Dec 5 at Kolkata. The survey vessels are capable of full-scale coastal and deep-water hydrographic survey of Ports and Harbour approaches.

They also help in demarcation of navigational channels and routes. These ships are capable of performing Search & Rescue and Disaster Relief operations, besides serving as Hospital ships with limited facilities during emergencies.

## INDIA TO MAKE AK-203 ASSAULT RIFLES

In a big boost to self-reliance in defence, the government has approved the plan for production of over five lakh AK-203 assault rifles at Korwa in Amethi district of Uttar Pradesh. The 7.62 x 39 mm caliber AK-203 Rifles will replace in-service INSAS Rifles, inducted over three decades back.

New rifles, with an effective range of 300 metres, are lightweight, robust and easy to use. Capable of firing 700 rounds per minute, they will greatly enhance the combat efficiency of soldiers.

*The project will be implemented by a special purpose Joint Venture called Indo-Russian Rifles Private Ltd (IRRPL), to be formed by Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Ltd. and Munitions India Ltd of India, and Rosoboronexport and Concern Kalashnikov of Russia.*

## 'SMART' MISSILE TESTED

The DRDO successfully tested a long-range Supersonic Missile Assisted Torpedo (SMART) on Dec 13 from the APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha. The system is a next-generation missile-based standoff torpedo delivery system to be used by the Indian Navy.

## 'SANT' MISSILE TESTED BY DRDO

DRDO and Indian Air Force successfully flight-tested on Dec 11 the indigenously designed and developed Helicopter-launched Stand-off Anti-Tank (SANT) Missile from Pokhran range in Rajasthan. The missile can neutralise targets in a range of up to 10 kilometres.

## ARMY GETS ADVANCED HERON DRONES

The Indian Army received advanced Heron Mark-II drones from Israel. The drones will be deployed along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the eastern Ladakh sector. The deployment of the drones will boost the Indian Army's surveillance capabilities and help it keep a watch on the Chinese activities in the Ladakh region.

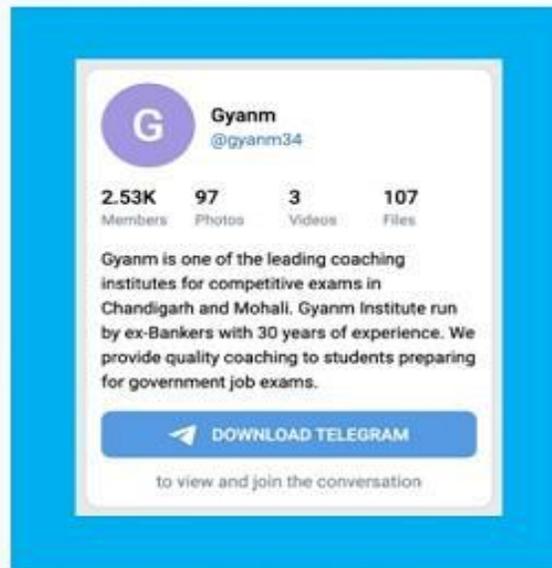
The Heron drones with their anti-jamming capability, long-range radars, and the ability to fly as high as 35,000 feet, can gather vital information across the LAC with China from a safe distance.





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## AIR VERSION OF BRAHMOS TESTED



An air version of BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired on Dec 8 from the supersonic fighter aircraft Sukhoi-30 MK-I from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha. It has cleared the system for the serial production of air-version BrahMos missiles within the country.

**EXERCISE EKUVERIN:** The 11th edition of military exercise between India and Maldives was conducted at Kadhdhoo Island, Maldives from Dec 6 to 19. The exercise will enhance synergy and interoperability between Armed Forces of both the nations in conducting Counter-Insurgency Operations and sharing best military practices and experiences.

## IAF SIGNS MOU WITH IIT, DELHI

The Indian Air Force signed an MoU with Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi to support its efforts towards indigenous solutions in various weapon systems, for achieving enhanced self-reliance. IIT Delhi will provide cooperation and consultancy, duly supported by research, for feasibility studies and prototype development.

## INS KHUKRI DECOMMISSIONED

INS Khukri, the first of the indigenously built missile corvettes, was decommissioned on Dec 24, after 32 years of service at a solemn ceremony held at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam. The corvette was built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders in 1989 and had the distinction of being part of both the Western and Eastern Fleets.

*It may be noted that earlier, another frigate with the same name - INS Khukri, was sunk off the coast of Diu, Gujarat, by a Pakistani submarine on 9 December 1971, during the Indo-Pak war.*

**General MM Naravane**, Chief of the Indian Army, was made the Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Committee comprising the three service chiefs. He has been given this responsibility because of his seniority among the three service Chiefs.

## WORLD'S MOST POWERFUL SPACE TELESCOPE

NASA launched successfully into orbit the world's largest and most powerful space telescope, "James Webb Space Telescope" on Dec 25. Designed as the observatory of the next decade, the 7-tonne heavy telescope was launched in an Ariane rocket from the European Space Agency's base in French Guiana.

*The Webb telescope, costing \$10 billion, will reach its destination in solar orbit some 1.6 million km away from Earth - about four times farther away than the moon, in about a month's time. Its special orbital path will keep it in constant alignment with the Earth as it will circle the sun in tandem with Earth's movement.*

## "PRESIDENT'S STD." FOR 22<sup>ND</sup> MISSILE VESSEL

The President of India awarded the "President's Standard" to the 22nd Missile Vessel Squadron of the Indian Navy, also known as the Killer Squadron at a ceremonial parade held on Dec 8 at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.

*The President's Standard is the highest honour bestowed by the Supreme Commander to a military unit in recognition of the service rendered to the nation.*

## NASA's probe enters Sun's Corona

For the first time in history, a spacecraft has almost touched the Sun. NASA's Parker Solar Probe has now flown through the Sun's upper atmosphere - the Corona - and sampled particles and magnetic fields there. It successfully entered the Corona of the Sun on April 28, 2021, which is an extreme environment that's roughly 2 million degrees Fahrenheit.

*The new milestone marks one giant leap for solar science. Just as landing on the Moon allowed scientists to understand how it was formed, touching the very stuff the Sun is made of will help scientists uncover critical information about our closest star and its influence on the solar system.*

*Parker Solar Probe was launched in August, 2018 to explore the mysteries of the Sun by travelling closer to it than any other spacecraft before. Three years after its launch, Parker has finally achieved its mission.*

## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

### JANUARY

## WORLD ECONOMY TO GROW BY 4.1%: WB

The latest Global Economic Prospects report released by the World Bank states that the global economy is on track to grow by 4.1 per cent in 2022. The semiannual report added that global recovery is set to decelerate markedly amid continued Covid-19 flare-ups, diminished policy support, and lingering supply bottlenecks.

**APPLE MARKET CAP TOUCHES \$3 TRILLION**



Global tech giant Apple Inc created history on January 3 by becoming the first company to hit a \$3 trillion stock market value, although for a short while as the value dipped a hair below later in the day. Its shares hit an intraday high of \$182.88, putting Apple's market value just above \$3 trillion on Jan 3. Market value of a company is arrived at by multiplying its share price with the total number of its shares in the market. It may be noted here that India's GDP is estimated at \$ 2.70 trillion.

Investors expect that the company will keep launching best-selling products as it explores new markets such as automated cars and virtual reality. The iPhone maker passed the \$2 trillion market cap in 2020 and \$1 trillion mark in 2018.

**SHANGHAI HAS LONGEST DRIVERLESS METRO**

Shanghai, the largest city of China, opened two new driverless metro lines, retaining its rank as the city with the largest Metro network in the world, extending to 831 km. The two new automatic lines bring the total number of fully automatic metro lines in Shanghai to five, with an operating length of 167 km, ranking first in the world for the first time.

**EGYPT JOINS THE NEW DEVELOPMENT BANK**

Egypt joined the New Development Bank (NDB) as its latest member (fourth), with an aim to support the government's efforts towards meeting its financing needs. Earlier in Sep 2021, three countries, Bangladesh, UAE and Uruguay were admitted as members. Membership expansion enables NDB to position itself as a premier development institution for emerging economies.

*NDB was established in July, 2014 by the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) as a multilateral development bank to promote funding of infrastructure projects in member countries. Its headquarters are in Shanghai, China and its current President is Marcos Troyjo.*



**US PRESIDENT HOSTS "SUMMIT FOR DEMOCRACY"**

President Joe Biden of the USA in his attempt to promote democracy against rising autocracies, convened a virtual "Summit for Democracy" on Dec 9-10 which hosted more than 100 participants representing governments, civil society and private-sector leaders. Biden called on the global community to "stand up for the values that unite us," including free speech, free assembly, free press, freedom of religion and human rights. From India, prime minister Modi addressed the summit virtually.

**UAE FIRST TO HAVE 4.5 WORKING DAY WEEK**

The United Arab Emirates became the first country in the world to change its existing five-day workweek to a four-and-a-half day, starting 1 January, 2022. This employee-friendly transition is part of its efforts to improve productivity and work-life balance of its citizens. The new working regime will be from 7:30 am to 3:30 pm, on Monday to Thursday and on Fridays, it's from 7:30 am to 12:30 pm. Saturdays and Sundays will be full-day paid holidays under the new system.

**DUBAI BECOMES FIRST 'PAPERLESS GOVT'**

Dubai in UAE has become the world's first government to turn 100 per cent paperless. The Crown Prince of Dubai announced that this will lead to savings of 1.3 billion Dirham (\$350 million) and 14-million-man hours. All internal, external transactions and procedures in the Government of Dubai are now 100 per cent digital and managed from a comprehensive digital government services platform.



*The Dubai Paperless Strategy was implemented in five consecutive phases, each of which enlisted a different group of the Dubai Government's entities. These entities provide more than 1,800 digital services and over 10,500 key transactions.*

**CATASTROPHIC TORNADOES HIT CENTRAL USA**

A set of devastating tornadoes that ripped into the central USA on Dec 10, left over 100 dead and many more trapped under debris in the state of Kentucky. It was the worst tornado event that touched down in Arkansas and stayed on the ground for about 360 km into Kentucky, and most likely the longest reported tornado in history. More than three lakh houses in four states were left without electricity.

## DISASTERS TRIGGER HIGHEST DISPLACEMENTS



According to the World Migration Report 2022, published every second year by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) of the UN, more people are being displaced by disasters — caused by the changing climate — than conflicts, reversing a historical trend. In 2020, 30.7 million new displacements were triggered by disasters in 145 countries and territories.

Most of the new displacement is due to climate related events: Storms accounted for 14.6 million displacements and floods for 14.1 million.

The Philippines experienced the highest absolute numbers of new disaster displacements in 2020, over 5.1 million, followed by China -5 million and India - nearly 4 million.

*Total internal displacement due to disaster, conflict and violence have increased in comparison to 2019, despite containment due to the corona pandemic, to 40.5 million in 2020, from 31.5 million in 2019.*

## TEL AVIV RANKED AS THE COSTLIEST CITY

The Worldwide Cost of Living Index 2021 released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), has declared Tel Aviv, capital of Israel, as the world's most expensive city to live in. Paris and Singapore are jointly ranked second, followed by Zurich at third spot.

At the bottom of the index is Damascus, Syria. The index examined the cost of living in 173 cities. The data reveals that soaring price increases are contributing to the fastest rise in the cost of living for city dwellers in five years. EIU is a global business intelligence research organisation based in London.

## BARBADOS SAYS GOODBYE TO QUEEN ELIZABETH

Barbados, a micro island country in eastern Caribbean Sea, became a new republic at the stroke of midnight of Nov 30. December 01 saw the dawn of a new independent Barbados, free from the clutches of Britain's Queen Elizabeth as head of state, ending nearly 400-year-old colonial bonds, when the first English ships arrived at the Caribbean Island. The new nation is now headed by its newly elected President Ms. Sandra P Mason. Bridgetown is the capital city of Barbados.

# PERSONS IN NEWS

## JANUARY

**Narendra Modi:** The Indian Prime Minister emerged as the most popular leader worldwide, according to a US-based global leader approval tracker, Morning Consult Political Intelligence. Mr. Modi topped with 71 percent approval ratings among the 13 world leaders. The Mexican President secured 2nd rank with 68% approvals. The US President, Joe Biden was ranked at number six with a 43 percent rating.

**Alia Bhatt:** Popular Bollywood actress was named as 2021 Person of the Year by the US based animal welfare NGO PETA (*People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals*) in recognition of her work to support an animal-friendly fashion industry and for her advocacy for dogs and cats in need.

## Captain Harpreet Chandi

A 32-year-old Indian-origin British Sikh Army officer and physiotherapist, also known as Polar Preet, created history on Jan 3 by becoming the first non-white woman to complete a solo unsupported trek to the South Pole. Chandi completed her trip in 40 days, pulling her sledge with all her kit for about 1127 km, braving temperatures of minus 50 degrees Celsius and wind speeds upto 100 kmph.



**Maya Angelou:** A new US quarter dollar coin featuring the legendary American poet, went into circulation on Jan 10 in the USA, making her the first Black woman ever to appear on the US coin. The new coin features George Washington's visage on the "heads" side, while the "tails" side honours Angelou by evoking one of her most famous works, the autobiography "I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings." She passed away in May, 2014.

## DECEMBER

**Nirmala Sitharaman:** In the list of "50 most powerful women in India" released by Fortune India, the current Finance Minister of India was placed on top. Chairperson of Reliance Foundation, Nita Ambani grabbed second place. The list mentions the names of various prominent Indian women who are known for their achievements in their respective fields.

**Mackenzie Scott:** Forbes World's 100 Most Powerful Women list released on Dec 8 is topped by a newcomer, philanthropist and novelist, Mackenzie Scott of the USA. She is the ex-wife of billionaire Jeff Bezos (of Amazon). On number two is US vice president Kamala Harris, who moved up one spot than last year.

*For the third time in a row, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman made it Forbes' 100 most powerful women in the world. This year, she is ranked at number 37(highest ranking Indian), up from last year when she was placed at 41.*

**Elon Musk:** Time magazine announced Tesla and SpaceX CEO as their "Person of the Year" for 2021. 50-year-old Musk secured the coveted title in a year that saw his electric car company Tesla become the most valuable carmaker in the world and his rocket company SpaceX became first to take an all-civilian crew in space. Tesla's market value alone soared to more than \$1 trillion this year, making him world's richest man.

## APPOINTMENTS

### JANUARY

**S Somanath:** Eminent rocket scientist has been appointed the new chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) as well as the Space Secretary, for a period of three years.

He will succeed K Sivan who completed his extended tenure on Jan 14. He is currently Director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

**Vinay Kumar Tripathi:** Appointed as the new Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Railway Board by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet.

**Atul Kumar Goel:** Appointed as the new MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank, the biggest nationalised bank of the country.

**Soma Sankara Prasad:** Appointed as the new MD & CEO of UCO Bank

**Virender Singh Pathania:** Took charge as the Director-General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) on December 31.

**Denis Alipov:** Appointed as the new Russian ambassador to India.

**Zhang Ming:** Veteran Chinese diplomat took over as the new Secretary-General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) on 1st January. He replaced Vladimir Norov, a former diplomat from Uzbekistan, who completed his tenure on Dec 31, 2021.

**Dimitar Kovacevski:** Elected as the new prime minister of North Macedonia, a small landlocked country north of Greece.

**Roberta Metsola:** A Christian Democrat from Malta, was elected President of the European Union's parliament on Jan 18. At the age of 43, she is the European Parliament's youngest president.

**Alikhan Smailov:** Appointed as the new Prime Minister of Kazakhstan by the President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev.

### DECEMBER

**Pradeep Kumar Rawat:** An Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of 1990 batch, appointed India's next Ambassador to China. He will replace Vikram Misri, who completed his three-year term earlier this month.

**Sanjiv Mehta:** Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Unilever Ltd. elected as the President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), for 2022.

**Gita Gopinath:** The Chief Economist of IMF, selected for a new role as the First Deputy Managing Director (DMD) of IMF, the senior most among the four DMDs at IMF.

**Parag Agrawal:** Indian tech wizard took over as CEO of the social media platform Twitter following the departure of its co-founder CEO Jack Dorsey. Parag was working as chief technical officer at Twitter.

**Catherine Russell:** A senior aide of President Biden was appointed as the Executive Director of the UNICEF-United Nations Children's Fund, New York by the UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres.

**Gabriel Boric:** 35 years old former student leader was elected as the youngest President of Chile.

**Magdalena Andersson:** Elected as the first female Prime Minister of Sweden by its parliament Riksdag in capital city Stockholm.

**Adama Barrow:** Re-elected as the President of the Gambia, a small west African country, for the second term.

**Karl Nehammer:** Sworn in as the new Chancellor (prime minister) of Austria by President Alexander.



# AWARDS & HONOURS

## JANUARY

### Padma Awards 2022 announced



The Government announced the Padma Awards, country's highest civilian honours (after Bharat Ratna) on Jan 25. In total 128 awards were announced which include four Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan, and 107 Padma Shri.

Former Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat, former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Kalyan Singh and former President of Gita Press, Radheshyam Khemka were honoured with Padma Vibhushan posthumously. The fourth Padma Vibhushan has been conferred upon Classical Vocalist Dr. Prabha Atre. 89 year old Dr. Atre is a renowned singer from the Kirana Gharana.

17 Padma Bhushan awardees include Krishna and Suchitra Ella of Bharat Biotech who brought Covaxin; Cyrus Poonawala of Serum Institute who brought Covishield; former Jammu and Kashmir Chief Minister Ghulam Nabi Azad, former West Bengal Chief Minister Buddhadeb Bhattacharya (he refused to accept the award), former CAG Rajiv Mehrishi, Paralympic javelin thrower Devendra Jhajharia (two times paralympic gold medalist), Odia author Pratibha Ray, Microsoft CEO Satya Nadella and Google CEO Sundar Pichai.

Among 107 Padma Shri awardees are Olympic gold medallist Neeraj Chopra, Tokyo Paralympics gold Medalist Pramod Bhagat, Sumit Antil and Avani Lekhara, Hockey player Vandana Kataria, singer Sonu Nigam and a number of selfless social workers.

*The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day. Instituted in 1954, the Awards recognize achievements in all fields of activities or disciplines where an element of public service is involved.*

*They are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, constituted by the Prime Minister. The total number of awards to be given in a year is limited to 120, however, excluding posthumous awards and to NRI, foreigners and overseas citizens (OCI).*

**Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar 2022 (Disaster Management Awards)** Awarded to Gujarat Institute of Disaster Management in the Institutional category and to Professor Vinod Sharma in the Individual category, for their excellent work in Disaster Management. Prof. Sharma is a senior professor at the Indian Institute of Public Administration and Vice-Chairman of the Sikkim State Disaster Management Authority.

*This award is announced every year on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. The award carries a cash prize of 51 lakh rupees and a certificate in case of an institution and 5 lakh rupees as well as a certificate in case of an individual.*

### 79th Golden Globe awards

The winners for the prestigious film awards were announced on January 9 at Hotel Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, California.

Best Motion Picture (Drama): The Power of The Dog by Jane Campion

Best Director: Jane Campion for The Power Of The Dog

Best Actress: Nicole Kidman for Being the Ricardos

Best Actor: Will Smith for King Richards

## DECEMBER

**Ngadag Pel gi Khorlo:** Highest civilian decoration of Bhutan conferred upon Prime Minister Narendra Modi by the King of Bhutan, His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck on the National Day of Bhutan-December 17.

**Miss Universe 2021:** India's Harnaaz Sandhu was crowned 70th Miss Universe in a colourful pageant held in Eilat, Israel on Dec 12. Only two Indians have won the title of Miss Universe before Harnaaz Sandhu - actors Sushmita Sen in 1994 and Lara Dutta in 2000.

21 year old Harnaz is a model and film actress from Chandigarh. She has won several beauty pageants in the past also.



**56<sup>th</sup> Jnanpith Award 2020:** Eminent Assamese poet Nilmani Phookan Jr. selected for this prestigious award for his lifelong devotion to literature.

**57<sup>th</sup> Jnanpith Award 2021:** Won by veteran Konkani novelist Damodar Mauzo from Goa.

*Regarded as India's highest literary honour, Jnanpith awards are conferred by Bharatiya Jnanpith Trust on the Indian writers for their outstanding contribution to literature in any of the 22 Indian languages that are included in the 8th schedule of the Constitution of India and English. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 11 lakh and a bronze replica of Goddess Saraswati.*

**Royal Gold Medal 2022:** Conferred on acclaimed Indian architect Balkrishna Doshi. The 94-year-old Doshi has influenced the direction of architecture in India and its adjacent regions with over 100 projects in a 70-year career.

*Regarded as one of the world's highest honours for architecture, it is given by the Royal Institute of British Architects and is approved personally by Queen Elizabeth II.*

## BOOKS & AUTHORS

### JANUARY

**A Little Group of India** by Ruskin Bond

**The Turnover Wizard - Saviour of Thousands** by Arup Roy Choudhury

**Indomitable-** Autobiography of Arundhati Bhattacharya, former chairman of SBI

**Mamta: Beyond 2021** by Jayanta Ghosal

**Ratan N Tata: The Authorised Biography** by Dr. Thomas Mathew

**The Muslim Vanishes** by Saeed Naqvi

**Reminders of Him** by Colleen Hoover

**Joan is Okay** by Weike Wang

**Anthem** by Noah Hawley

**Fiona and Jane** by Jean Chen Ho

### DECEMBER

**Indian Innings:** The Journey of Indian Cricket from 1947' by Ayaz Memon

**Here's to us** by Becky Albertalli & Adam Silvera

**The Spanish Daughter** by Lorena Hughes

**Mercy** by David Baldacci

**The Judge's List** by John Grisham

**Raj Kapoor: The Master at Work** by Rahul Rawail, noted film producer

**Naoroji: Pioneer of Indian Nationalism** by Dinyar Patel, a biography of Dada Bhai Naoroji, founder of the Indian National Congress.

**Gandhi Topi Governor** by Acharya Yarlagadda Lakshmi Prasad, a book in Telugu about life of Barister I Raghavendra Rao

**The Nutmeg's Curse** by Amitav Ghosh

**A History of Wild Places** by Shea Ernshaw

**Pride, Prejudice, and Punditry** by Dr. Shashi Tharoor

## OBITUARY

### JANUARY

**Birju Maharaj:** Legendary Kathak dancer breathed his last on January 17 at his Delhi residence. He would have been 84 next month. He was also a renowned classical singer. He was honoured with several top awards, including India's second-highest civilian award, the Padma Vibhushan in 1986.

**Major Hari Pal Singh Ahluwalia:** Professional mountaineer and an author and social worker, passed away at the age of 85. He was honoured with the Padma Bhushan (2002), Padma Shri (1965), Arjuna Award (1965) and the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award (2009).

**Sidney Poitier:** The actor who broke through racial barriers as the first Black winner of the best actor Oscar in 1963 for his role in *Lilies of the Field*, and inspired a generation during the civil rights movement, died on Jan 6 at age 94 at his residence in Los Angeles.

He has been known for his movies like *In the Heat of the Night*, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*, *Lilies in the Field* and many more. In 2009, Poitier was awarded the highest U.S. civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, by President Barack Obama. He was knighted by Britain's Queen Elizabeth II in 1974.

### DECEMBER

**General Bipin Rawat:** India's first Chief of Defence Staff died in an unfortunate air crash on Dec 8 in the forest area near Coonoor in the Nilgiris District of Tamil Nadu. An Indian Airforce helicopter Mi 17 V-5 was carrying Gen Rawat and thirteen others, all of whom died in the crash.

*The helicopter was on its way from Sulur air base in Coimbatore to Defence Staff College in Wellington, where Gen Rawat was to take part in an event. The passengers included Madhulika Rawat, President of Defence Wives Welfare Association, Brig. L.S. Lidder, DA to CDS, Lt.Col. Harjinder Singh, SO to CDS and five PSOs.*

**Justice G T Nanavati:** Former Supreme Court judge, Girish Thakorlal Nanavati, who investigated the 1984 anti-Sikh riots and the 2002 Godhra riots (in Gujarat), died of a cardiac failure on Dec 18. He was 86. He had served as Chief justice of Odisha High Court and of Karnataka High Court.

**Vinod Dua:** Veteran TV journalist passed away on Dec 4 in a New Delhi hospital, losing his battle to Corona. He was 67. Dua, a pioneer in Hindi broadcast journalism, rose to prominence in the 1980s starting his career with Door Darshan, moving on to other outlets including NDTV and Indian digital news platform The Wire.

**Archbishop Desmond Tutu:** The Nobel Peace Prize (1984) laureate who helped end apartheid in South Africa, passed away aged 90. A contemporary of anti-apartheid icon Nelson Mandela, he was one of the driving forces behind the movement to end the policy of racial segregation and discrimination in South Africa from 1948 until 1991. He was also honoured with the prestigious Templeton Prize in 2013.

**Stephen Sondheim:** Veteran American songwriter and composer, who redefined the American musical theatre, passed away on Nov 26 in Connecticut, USA. He was 91. He won several awards like eight Grammys, Presidential Medal of Freedom 2015, Pulitzer, etc.

## PLACES IN NEWS

### JANUARY

**Nusantara:** The Parliament of Indonesia approved a bill to relocate the country's capital from Jakarta to Nusantara, a place in dense forests on Borneo Island, in the forested province of East Kalimantan. The bill provides the legal framework for the ambitious \$32 billion mega project. The city of Jakarta sits on the swampy ground near the sea, which not only makes it one of the fastest sinking cities on the Earth but also prone to flooding.

**Tonga:** On Jan 15, the underwater volcano Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai erupted in the island archipelago Tonga in the South Pacific ocean. The eruption sent out clouds of ash up to 20 km up in the sky. The eruption covered the islands in ash, cut power and severed communications. High waves crashed into the shores in the capital, Nuku'alofa, filling streets with knee-deep waters. The explosion was so powerful that it was recorded around the world and sent pressure shockwaves around the planet twice.



### DECEMBER

**Haiderpur wetland:** Located about 10 km from Bijoor in western Uttar Pradesh, this wetland has been recognized under the 1971 Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, bringing the total number of such designated areas in the country to 47. The Site supports more than 25,000 waterbirds, and serves as a breeding site for the near-threatened Indian grassbird.

**Kazhuveli:** The wetland located near Villupuram in Tamil Nadu has been declared a bird sanctuary by the Environment, Climate Change and Forest Department, and will henceforth be called the 'Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary'. The 5,151.60 hectares of land in Vanur and Marakkanam taluks will be the 16th bird sanctuary in Tamil Nadu.



**Nagaland:** At least 14 civilians were killed in separate incidents of firing in Mon district in northern Nagaland on Dec 4 and 5 in the violent clashes between local tribals and jawans of 21st Para Special Force of the Army. The Nagaland Police lodged a murder case against the army jawans for their alleged involvement in firing on civilians. Reportedly, a botched army operation against insurgents led to the killing of six innocent local coal miners on Dec 5. Subsequent violent protests by locals on the next day led to further killing of 8 persons in army firing.

**Cyclone Jawad:** After pouring heavy rains across the coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha on Dec 5, the remnant of cyclonic storm Jawad moved over to parts of east and northeast India, causing widespread rains in the region.

**Malaysia:** Heavy downpours in the third week of December caused rivers to overflow, submerging many urban areas and cutting off major roads, stranding thousands of motorists in Malaysia. Almost 22,000 flood victims were recorded in eight states and territories. Malaysia often experiences stormy monsoon seasons at the end of the year, with seasonal flooding regularly causing mass evacuations.

**Super Typhoon Rai:** One of the strongest typhoons to hit the Philippines this year, it battered the southern Philippines on Dec 16, claiming over 200 lives and forcing lakhs of people to take shelter amid widespread flooding and destruction. The storm made landfall in Siargao, a popular tourist island, packing winds of about 175 km/h. Flights were cancelled and ports closed because of possible storm surges.

**Mount Semeru:** The tallest mountain on Java Island in Indonesia, suddenly erupted on Dec 4, throwing up towers of ash and hot clouds several km up in the sky which blanketed surrounding villages with a 3 to 4 feet thick layer of ash. At least 33 people were killed and dozens more were injured.

# SPORTS WORLD

## JANUARY

**PV Sindhu**, two-time Olympic medallist won the Syed Modi International badminton tournament in Lucknow on Jan 23 by beating Malvika Bansod.

**Lakshya Sen** won the Men's Singles title in the India Open badminton championship in New Delhi on Jan 16 by defeating reigning World Champion Loh Kean Yew of Singapore. Earlier, the pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty won the men's doubles title.

**Sanjeev Kumar**, the wheelchair bound para-athlete from Telupura village in district Abohar, Punjab, won a gold medal at the National Para Badminton Championship in Bhubaneswar, becoming the national champion in the singles category for the 10th time.

**Haryana's Nitesh Kumar** won two gold medals, individual singles and in doubles, at the 4th Para-Badminton National Championship in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

**Bharath Subramaniam**, the 14 year old chess prodigy from Chennai became the 73rd Grandmaster of India. He completed his final GM Norm and crossed the requisite 2500 rating on Jan 9 at Vergani Cup Open in Cattolica, Italy.

**9th National Women Ice Hockey Championship:** The Ladakh team won the title in the finals played at Kaza in district Lahaul and Spiti, Himachal Pradesh, by defeating the Chandigarh team.

**Smriti Mandhana**, India's opening batter, has been named the ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year for 2021. She won the Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Trophy awarded to the ICC Women's Cricketer of the year.

**Tasnim Mir**, 16-year-old badminton player from Mehsana, Gujarat, became the first Indian to top the under-19 world rankings in girls' singles. The Badminton World Federation's (BWF) latest rankings released on Jan 12 showed Tasnim at the top with 10,810 points.

**Rishabh Pant** became the fastest Indian wicketkeeper on December 28 to reach 100 dismissals in 26 Test matches, breaking Dhoni's record of reaching 100 scalps in 36 matches. Pant achieved the feat during India's ongoing first test against South Africa at Centurion.

**Goalkeeper Savita Punia** selected as the captain of the Indian squad for the Women's Hockey Asia Cup 2022 to be held in Muscat, Oman from January 21-28.

## Tata Group to sponsor IPL 2022

One of India's largest business conglomerates, the Tata Group, will replace Chinese mobile manufacturer Vivo as the Indian Premier League's title sponsor for the next two years. Reportedly, Tata will be paying around Rs 670 crore for two years, while Vivo will pay Rs 454 crore for termination of contract.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Sir Garfield Sobers Award** for ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year for 2021: won by Pakistan's pacer Shaheen Shah Afridi. He took 78 wickets in 36 internationals at an average of 22.20 in 2021.

**ICC T20 Player of the Year 2021** were declared in Dubai on Jan 23.

Men's: Pakistan wicketkeeper-batter Mohammad Rizwan

Women's: England's right handed batter Tammy Beaumont

**The Best FIFA Football Awards 2021** ceremony was held virtually in Zurich on January 17.

Best FIFA Men's Player: Poland's Robert Lewandowski, plays for FC Bayern Munich

Best FIFA Women's Player: Alexia Putellas, Spain, plays for FC Barcelona

**Nodirbek Abdusattorov**, the 17-year-old chess GrandMaster from Uzbekistan, dethroned Magnus Carlsen as World Rapid Chess Champion in Warsaw on Dec 28 by beating Ian Nepomniachtchi of Russia in a tiebreaker. Abdusattorov won the title along with a prize of \$60,000.

**Under-19 Asia Cup:** India lifted the Cup by defeating Sri Lanka by nine wickets in a rain-interrupted One-Day International final played on Dec 31 in Dubai.

## DECEMBER

**Aanchal Thakur**, ace Indian skier, won the Bronze medal at the FIS Alpine Skiing Competition on Dec 23 in Montenegro, a tiny country west of Italy. She is the first Indian woman to win her second international medal in skiing, the first being a bronze in 2018.

**Pankaj Advani** won his 11th National Billiards title by defeating Dhruv Sitwala on Dec 20 in the 88th National Billiards and Snookers Championship held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Pankaj has 15 world billiards titles to his credit.

**Kidambi Srikanth** bagged a historic silver medal after losing to Loh Kean Yew of Singapore in the Men's singles final of BWF World Championships on Dec 19 at Huelva in Spain.

*Srikanth is the first Indian men's badminton player to reach the singles final of a World Championship. Women's singles title was won by Akane Yamaguchi of Japan*

**PV Sindhu**, the reigning world champion and two-time Olympics medalist, lost meekly to South Korean teen sensation An Seyoung in the final of the BWF World Tour Finals (badminton) at Bali, Indonesia on Dec 5.

**Saurav Ghosal** scripted history by becoming the first Indian squash player to win the Malaysian Open Championships held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

#### **64<sup>th</sup> National Shooting Championship, New Delhi.**

**Haryana's Manu Bhaker** was crowned the women's 10m air pistol national champion for the second successive time, in the **Rahi Sarnobat** won the national title in women's 25m pistol for the third year in a row.

**Divyansh Singh Panwar**, 19-year-old shooter from Rajasthan won two national titles by securing gold, in both, the senior and junior air rifle event.

#### **Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships 2021 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan; in Tashkent, Uzbekistan**

**Sanket Mahadev Sargar** won the gold medal in the Men's 55kg snatch category

**Jhilli Dalabehera** won the gold medal in the women's 49kg category

**Ajay Singh** clinched India's third gold medal by winning the men's 81kg category.

**Jeremy Lalrinnunga**, 19-year-old weightlifter from Mizoram, won the gold medal in the men's 67kg category.

India ended the championships with 16 medals - four gold, seven silver, and five bronze.

**Avani Lekhara**, the first woman to win a gold medal in rifle shooting at the Tokyo Paralympic Games, won the "Best Female Debut" award in the 2021 Paralympic Sports Awards announced on Dec 16 in a virtual ceremony.

**Woman of the year Award:** World governing body for athletics, World Athletics selected India's long jump champion Ms. Anju Bobby George for this top award for her outstanding contribution in promoting sports. A Khel Ratna awardee, she is the first Indian woman to win an international medal in athletics, bronze in 2003 World Championships, Paris and Gold in 2005 in World Athletics Finals.

**11<sup>th</sup> Junior National Men's Hockey Championship:** Uttar Pradesh were crowned the winners following their victory over Chandigarh in the final at Kovilpatti, Tamil Nadu on Dec 25.

**Vijay Hazare Trophy:** The one-day format (50 overs) national championship was won by Himachal Pradesh, thumping Tamil Nadu in the finals played at Jaipur on Dec 26.

#### **India wins 6 medals in Asian Rowing**

Arjun Lal Jat and Ravi won the gold medal in the men's double sculls event on Dec 11 in the Asian Rowing Championship in Thailand. Arvind Singh also bagged a gold in the lightweight Men's single sculls event. The Indian team finished with a total of six medals, including two gold and 4 silver medals.

**Indian para-athletes** won a whopping 41 medals in their best-ever show at the Asian Youth Para Games held in Riffa city, Bahrain from Dec 2 to 6. The Indian contingent won 12 gold, 15 silver, and 14 bronze medals.

**Harbhajan Singh**, veteran Indian off-spinner announced on Dec 24 his retirement from cricket. The 41-year-old bowler from Punjab took 417 wickets in 103 Tests, 269 wickets in 236 ODIs and 25 scalps in 28 T20Is in his illustrious career spanning 23 years.

**Harjinder Singh**, General Secretary of Indian Ice Hockey Association, appointed by Indian Olympic Association as India's Chef de Mission for Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics, to be held in Feb 2022.

### **INTERNATIONAL**

#### **Carlsen remains "King of Chess"**

Reigning king of chess, 31-year-old Magnus Carlsen from Norway defended his World Chess Championship crown for the fifth successive time (since 2013 when he defeated Vishwanathan Anand) after defeating Russian Grandmaster Ian Nepomniachtchi on Dec 10 in Dubai. The championship is held once every two years by the International Chess Federation.

**Max Verstappen (Netherlands)** of team Red Bull won the Abu Dhabi Grand Prix, Formula one race on Dec 12, the last race of the season, making him the world champion for 2021, winning 8 races, against 7 by his arch rival British Lewis Hamilton of team Mercedes.



**Emma Raducanu:** The 19-year-old Britain's number one tennis player and US Open champion-2021, was voted the **BBC's Sports Personality of the Year**. She finished the year securing 19th spot in world ranking, capping a meteoric rise from No 343 at the start of 2021.

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**Lewis Hamilton** (of Britain) won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix F1 championship for the team Mercedes on Dec 5 held at the Jeddah Corniche Circuit in the port city of Jeddah.

**Cristiano Ronaldo**, Portuguese superstar, and forward player of Manchester FC, became the first player in football history to achieve 800 career goals - a feat that has not been matched by anyone past or present.

**Lewis Hamilton**, the 36-year-old seven-time F1 British champion was formally knighted by Prince Charles in a ceremony that took place at Windsor Castle, London on Dec 15, making him Sir Lewis Hamilton. He is the first and only black F1 driver.

**Ballon d'Or-Men's:** (Golden Ball) Won by Lionel Messi for the record seventh time. Star player of Argentina, plays for FC Barcelona.

**Ballon d'Or-Women's:** Won by Alexia Putellas of Spain. She also plays for Barcelona. Both the awards are given by the popular French magazine France Football and are counted among the top honours in the field of Football.

**World Athletics Awards 2021** were declared on December 01 at London in virtual format.

**World Athlete of the Year-Women:** Ms. Elaine Thompson-Herah, Olympic champion sprinter from Jamaica

**World Athlete of the Year-Men:** Karsten Warholm, Olympic champion sprinter from Norway

**Badminton World Federation (BWF)**, Badminton's global governing body, selected Viktor Axelsen of Denmark and China's Tai Tzu-ying as "Player of the Year", men and women, respectively.

**Junior Men's Hockey World Cup:** Argentina lifted the coveted trophy after defeating Germany, 4-2 in the Summit Clash played on Dec 5 in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. India secured 4th spot in the championship, losing bronze to France.

**Davis Cup 2021:** Won by the Russian Tennis Federation by a 2-0 lead over Croatia in the final played in Madrid, Spain.

**New Zealand's Ajaz Patel**, became the third bowler in Test cricket history, after England's Jim Laker (1956) and Anil Kumble (1999) of India, to take 10 wickets in an innings. He achieved the feat playing against India in Mumbai, the place of his birth.

#### **USA to boycott 2022 Winter Olympics**

The US government announced a diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics to be held in February 2022 in Beijing, China. The White House said no official delegation will be sent to the games because of concerns about China's human rights record with regard to Uighur Muslims.

# DAYS & DATES

## JANUARY

### **January 4: World Braille Day**

The day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, the inventor of Braille. It is a language based on six convex dots that form all the letters and symbols, using which the people with visual disabilities are able to read various text content. They are able to read the text by moving their hands over the dots. Louis Braille was born on 4th January 1809 in the town of Coupvray in northern France. He lost his eyesight at the age of just three years.

### **January 6: World Day of War Orphans**

The day aims to spread awareness and address the crises faced by war orphans or children in conflict. Youngsters who have confronted conflict, war or violence, have suffered injuries in clashes, or been isolated from their parents require special attention.

The Day was started by the French body, SOS Enfants enDétrese. According to UNICEF, an orphan is a "child under 18 years of age who has lost one or both parents to any cause of death".

### **January 9: Pravasi Bharatiya Divas**

The day is celebrated once in every two years to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots. Established in 2003, the celebratory event is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs. It commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on 9 January 1915.

### **January 10: World Hindi Day**

Celebrated every year, to mark the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference which was held in Nagpur, Maharashtra in 1975 on this day. It intends to promote Hindi language around the world. Hindi has evolved from Sanskrit and is written in Devanagari script. Spoken by over 300 million native speakers, Hindi is the fourth most-spoken first language in the world, after Chinese, Spanish and English.

**Remember!** *National Hindi Diwas is observed on Sep 14.*



### Jan 11: National Human Trafficking Awareness Day



This day is specifically dedicated to awareness and prevention of illegal practice of human trafficking. The day aims at raising awareness of the plight of human trafficking victims, and promoting and protecting their rights.

Human trafficking is regarded as an illicit act that pertains to the use of fraud, force, or coercion to procure sex or labour from persons.

According to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, about 2.25 lakh people become victims of trafficking globally.

### January 12: National Youth Day

Celebrated across the country to promote youth related activities to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

The theme for this year is "It's all in the mind," a key teaching of Swami Vivekananda.

Swami ji, one of India's most revered spiritual leaders, was born in Kolkata on January 12, 1863, as Narendra Nath Datta. A prime disciple of 19th century Indian mystic Guru Ramakrishna Paramhansa, he effectively reintroduced the Indian philosophies of Vedanta and Yoga to the Western world.

### January 14: Makar Sankranti

This day marks the end of winter solstice as the Sun enters the Makar Raashi (Capricorn) on this day. Sankranti means transition. From this day onwards the Sun starts its northward movement. People worship the Sun as deity on this day. It is also celebrated as the festival of harvest.

*In North India, it is popular as Maghi and Sankranti and the festival of Lohri is celebrated a night before Makar Sankranti.*

*In Assam, it is celebrated as Magh or Bhogali Bihu, in Tamil Nadu as Pongal, Pedda Panduga in Andhra Pradesh, and as Poush Parbo in West Bengal. In Gujarat, it is popularly known as 'Uttarayan' and the main attraction is the International Kite Festival celebrated all over the state but particularly at Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad.*

### January 15: Army Day

Celebrated every year to mark the taking over of command of the Indian Army by then Lt Gen K M Cariappa, the first Indian Commander-in-Chief, from General Francis Butcher, the last British Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army in 1949. He later was made the Field Marshal of the Indian Army in 1986 by the Indian Government, though he retired in 1953. On this day tributes are paid to soldiers who sacrificed their lives in the line of duty.

### January 24: National Girl Child Day

The day is celebrated every year to promote awareness on a range of issues related to girls, such as education, health, and nutrition. It was initiated in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development. The day aims to increase awareness among the people and ensure that every girl gets equal importance as their counterparts. On this day in 1966, Indira Gandhi became the first woman Prime Minister of India.

**Remember!** *International Day of Girl Child is observed on October 11.*

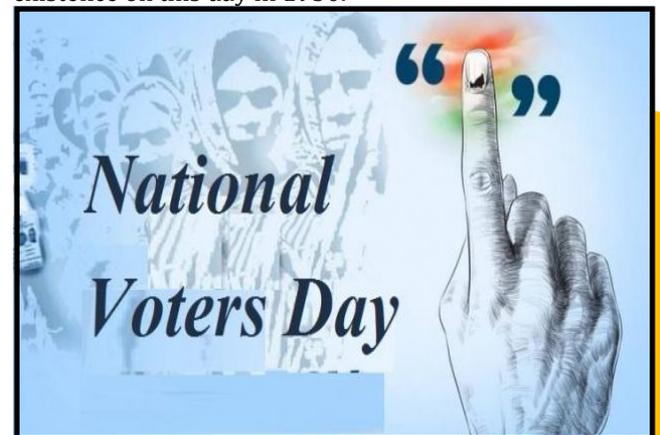
### January 24: International Day of Education

The day is celebrated across the world with support from UNESCO to focus on improving the universal quality of education and its role in promoting peace and development. It aims to promote UNO's sustainable development goal no. 4 of 'Quality Education'. The theme for this year is "Changing Course, Transforming Education". It aims to strengthen and welcome the revival of education.

**Remember!** *In India, National Education Day is celebrated on November 11.*

### January 25: National Voters Day

Celebrated every year to spread awareness about the necessity of voting and to encourage the young generation towards voting rights because each vote decides the fate of the new government and democracy. It was first celebrated on January 25, 2011. This year's theme for the Day is 'Making Elections Inclusive, Accessible and Participative'. This day is the foundation day of the Election Commission of India which came into existence on this day in 1950.



### January 25: National Tourism Day

The day aims to spread awareness of the importance of travelling and protecting nature. The day, established by the Government of India, also aims to highlight the role of the tourism sector in the country's overall economy. The theme for this year is Rural and Community Centric Tourism. The Ministry of Tourism is observing this day under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.

### January 26: The International Customs Day

The day is celebrated to highlight the role of customs officials and agencies and to focus on the working conditions and challenges that customs officers face in their jobs. The day was instituted by the World Customs Organisation (WCO) to commemorate its inaugural session held on this day in 1953 in Brussels, Belgium. This year's theme for the day is "Scaling up Customs Digital Transformation by Embracing a Data Culture and Building a Data Ecosystem".

In India, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs handles the administration of customs duty.

### January 30: Martyrs Day/Anti Leprosy Day

This day is observed to commemorate the martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi who was assassinated by Nathuram Godse at Gandhi Smriti in the Birla House, New Delhi during evening prayers on January 30, 1948. He was 78 at that time. Further, to honour Gandhi ji's selfless efforts and care for the people affected with Leprosy, the day is also celebrated as anti Leprosy Day.

### January (30): World Leprosy Day

Observed on the last Sunday of January, the day focuses on the target of zero cases of leprosy-related disabilities in children. On an average, India has been reporting more than one lakh new leprosy cases annually since 2005. The focus this year is on the theme "United for Dignity".

*Leprosy is an infectious disease that affects the skin and nerves. Also known as Hansen's disease, it is caused by the slow multiplying bacteria Mycobacterium leprae and mainly affects the skin, peripheral nerves, mucosa of the upper respiratory tract and eyes.*

## DECEMBER

### December 01. World AIDS Day

Observed across the world to raise awareness on HIV/AIDS. The day aims to spread factual information such as the fact that Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is a contagious virus that leads to acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS). HIV patients can prevent AIDS by taking HIV medication regularly. AIDS is the last stage of the HIV virus.

*The day also throws emphasis on the fact that HIV cannot be spread by touch, cough or handshake or sharing food with the HIV-infected person. It can only spread through unprotected sexual contact with a person or infected needles and infected blood. The theme for the Day this year is 'End inequalities. End AIDS. End Pandemics'.*

### December 02: National Pollution Control Day



Observed annually in India in memory of the people who lost their lives in the tragic 1984 Bhopal Gas Tragedy. The horrific industrial accident took place in the Union Carbide India Limited (UCIL) pesticide plant in Bhopal where leakage of Methyl Isocyanate - MIC gas on the mid-night of Dec 2-3 killed thousands of people and maimed lakhs of other persons with various ailments.

*The day aims to raise awareness among not only people but the authorities as well regarding the hazard of industrial pollutants and the harmful impact they can have on future generations.*

### December 2: World Computer Literacy Day

The day aims to promote awareness about computers and to encourage people to use them efficiently. The day promotes technological skills, especially in children and women, and aims to inspire them to learn more and make their work easier by the use of computers. The theme for the Day for 2021 is "Literacy for human-centered recovery: Narrowing the digital divide."

### Dec 02: International Day for Abolition of Slavery

Observed to spread awareness about ending human trafficking and the exploitation of humans. As per the latest information released by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) more than forty million people are victims of modern slavery. This year's theme for the Day is "Ending Slavery's Legacy of Racism: A Global Imperative for Justice". The theme highlights the global movement to end injustices whose roots lie in the slave trade.

*There is no clear definition of modern slavery but it is considered as debt bondage, human trafficking, forced labour and forced marriages. Essentially, it refers to situations of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, deception, and/or abuse of power.*

### Dec 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities

Also called World Disability Day, it is observed every year to address the problems faced by persons with disabilities (PwD) around the world. The Day aims to promote an understanding of disability issues and mobilize support for the dignity, rights and well-being of persons with disabilities. The theme selected by the UNO for this Day in 2021 is "Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world."

#### December 4: National/Indian Navy Day



Celebrated every year to mark the decisive Indian victory over Pakistan in 1971 through Indian Navy's Operation Trident in which the Indian Navy inflicted heavy damage on Pakistani ships in Karachi harbour. The Indian Navy celebrated 2021 as 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' as part of commemorating the 50th anniversary of the victory in the 1971 war.

*The Indian Navy was established by the East India Company in 1612. Later it was named as Royal India Navy and post-Independence, it was reconstituted as the Indian Navy in 1950.*

#### December 4: International Day of Banks

Observed globally with the support of UNO to highlight the vital role of banking systems in contributing to the improvement of the standard of living of the people. It also recognises the significant potential of multilateral development banks and other international development banks in financing sustainable development.

#### December 5: World Soil Day

The day highlights how soil is a fundamental natural resource and is the basis for all terrestrial life. Avoiding soil degradation is crucial to our well-being. This year's theme for the Day "Halt soil salinization, boost soil productivity" aims to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining healthy ecosystems and human well-being. It focuses on addressing the growing challenges in soil management, fighting soil salinization, increasing soil awareness and encouraging societies to improve soil health.

*Salinization of soil is an excessive accumulation of water-soluble salts on the soil surface. Typically, it is table salt NaCl. The list is far more extensive and includes various compounds of sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, sulfates, chlorides, and bicarbonates.*

#### December 5: International Volunteer Day

Also called International Volunteer Day for Economic and Social Development, it celebrates with UN support people and organizations who volunteer their time and energy to improve the lives of others. This day is an opportunity for everyone to promote volunteerism, encourage governments to support volunteer efforts at local, national, and international levels. The theme for this year is "Volunteer now for our common future".

#### December 7: Armed Forces Flag Day

Observed throughout the country since 1949 to honour the martyrs and the men in uniform who valiantly fought & continue to fight on our borders to safeguard the country's honour. Flag Day brings to the forefront our commitment to looking after our war disabled soldiers, valiant women and the families of martyrs who have sacrificed their lives for the country. It is an opportunity for collecting funds that can be used for the welfare of ex-servicemen. In India, there are around 32 lakh ex-servicemen, with an additional 60,000 added every year owing to the superannuation.

#### December 7: International Civil Aviation Day

This day is celebrated worldwide every year to reinforce awareness of the role and importance of the International Civil Aviation Organisation in air travel across the globe. The ICAO based in Montreal, Canada, is an autonomous UN Body accountable for keeping up the safety standards of international aviation. The ICAO council has decided to follow one theme for five years, till 2023, as "Advancing Innovation for Global Aviation Development".

#### December 09: International Anti-Corruption Day

Celebrated every year with UN support to spread awareness against corruption. The day also highlights the role of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in combating and preventing it. This year the worldwide campaign against corruption will focus on "mitigating corruption and enhancing accountability in the public health sector and, emergency and economic responses to the COVID-19 pandemic. This year's theme for the Day is 'Your right, your role: Say no to corruption'.

#### December 09: National Submarine Day

The Indian Navy celebrates this day to commemorate the induction of its first submarine, the erstwhile INS Kalvari, on this day in 1967. The Foxtrot class submarine was decommissioned on the 31st May, 1996, after 29 years of service. This day is observed to remember and honour submariners who made supreme sacrifice in their service. Another modern submarine was commissioned in the Indian Navy in December, 2017 with the same name – INS Kalvari.



### **December 10: Human Rights Day**

The day marks the anniversary of its adoption by the UNO in 1948, the “Universal Declaration of Human Rights” (UDHR). It is a historic document that proclaims the inseparable rights of every human being -- regardless of race, colour, religion, sex, language, political or other opinions, national or social origin, property, birth or another status.

This year’s theme for the Day is “EQUALITY – Reducing inequalities, advancing human rights.” The theme relates to ‘Equality’ and Article 1 of the UDHR – “All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights.”

### **December 11: International Mountain Day**

Observed with support from UNO to encourage sustainable development in mountains all over the world. Mountains are the home to 15% of the world’s population and a quarter of the world’s land animals and plants. They provide freshwater for everyday life to half of humanity. Their conservation is a key factor for sustainable development and is part of Goal 15 of the SDGs. The theme for 2021 IMD is “Sustainable Mountain Tourism”. According to the UN, mountain tourism attracts around 15-20 percent of global tourism.

### **December 11: UNICEF Day**

Celebrated every year to mark the establishment of UNICEF on this day in 1946. The United Nations General Assembly created UNICEF on December 11, 1946, as the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund. The programme was initiated to provide supplies, assistance and to improve the health, nutrition, education, and general welfare of children after World War II. However, in 1953, it became a permanent agency of the UN, and the words 'International' and 'Emergency' were dropped from the official name but the acronym continued as it is. Its headquarter is in New York and the current head is Ms. Catherine Russell.

### **Dec12: International Universal Health Coverage Day**

The day celebrated with support from WHO aims to promote stronger, more equitable health systems to achieve universal health coverage, leaving no one out. It marks the anniversary of the United Nations' historic and unanimous endorsement of universal health coverage in 2012. This year’s theme is Leave No One’s Health Behind: Invest in health systems for all.

### **Dec. 14: The National Energy Conservation Day**

It is celebrated every year by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), an agency under the Ministry of Power. It aims to raise awareness among the general public about the importance of energy conservation and energy efficiency. Energy conservation is an effort made to reduce the consumption of fuel and use the least energy resources to save for the future.

BEE is a constitutional body that helps in the development of policies and strategies in order to reduce energy use. It was set up on 1st March 2002 under the provision of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

*It may be noted that World Energy Conservation Day is also observed on this date.*

### **December 15: International Tea Day**

Every year India and several tea producing countries celebrate this day to draw the attention of governments towards global tea trade and its impact on workers and growers. Using tea plants brought from China, the first tea estates in India were established in Assam and the Assam Tea Company began the commercial production of tea in the region.

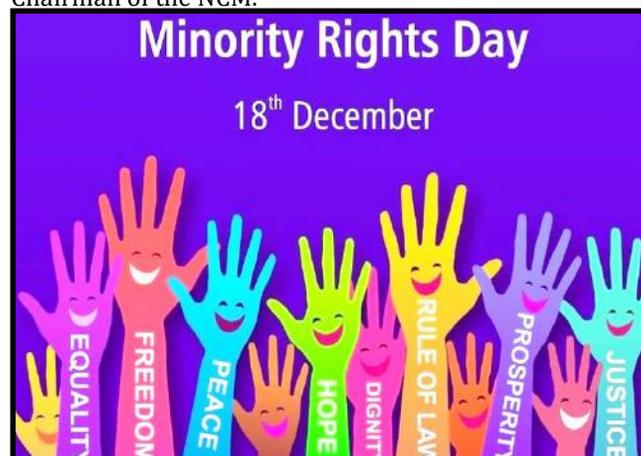
*It may be noted that the United Nations General Assembly has designated May 21 as International Tea Day as the season of tea production begins in May in most of the tea producing countries. The UN has said tea has medicinal value and has a potential of bringing health benefits to people.*

### **December 16: Vijay Diwas**

Observed every year to mark the Indian armed forces victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war that ended on December 16 when Pakistan's Army General A A K Niazi, alongwith 93,000 soldiers, surrendered before the Indian Army in Dhaka, leading to creation of a new nation “Bangladesh”. On this day, the nation pays tribute to brave soldiers of India and Bangladesh who laid down their lives in the line of duty. This year being the 50th anniversary of the victory, is being celebrated as the 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh'.

### **December 18: Minorities Rights Day**

It is celebrated by the National Commission for Minorities in India which focuses on religious harmony, respect, and a better understanding of all minorities’ communities. In India, six communities have been notified as ‘minority’ namely Muslim, Christian, Buddhist, Sikhs, Parsis, and Jain. The Union Government established the National Commission for Minorities (NCM) in 1993 under the National Commission for Minorities Act, 1992 to protect and promote the rights and interests of minority communities. Sardar Iqbal Singh Lalpura is the current Chairman of the NCM.



## December 18: International Migrants Day



It is observed every year to protect the rights of migrant workers and of members of their families. The UN Migration Agency - International Organisation for Migrants (IOM), based in Geneva, Switzerland, defines a migrant as “any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence”. According to the UN, the number of migrants globally reached approximately 281 million in 2020, representing 3.6 per cent of the global population. This year’s theme for the day is “Harnessing the potential of human mobility”. It focuses on as to how the migrants can contribute with their knowledge, networks, and skills to build stronger, more accommodating communities.

## December 20: International Human Solidarity Day

The day seeks to celebrate the world's unity in diversity. The day was declared by the U N General Assembly, on December 22, 2005. It's also a day to raise awareness about the importance of solidarity. Solidarity is defined as an awareness of shared interests and objectives that create a psychological sense of unity. Solidarity also refers to the ties in a society that bind people together as one.

## December 22: National Mathematics Day

Celebrated to make people aware of the development of mathematics and its importance in the growth of humanity. The day also commemorates the birth anniversary of legendary mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan. Born on December 22, 1887, in Erode, Tamil Nadu, his theory of numbers contains revolutionary findings of the properties of the functions of partition. Unfortunately, he passed away at an early age of 32 years due to Tuberculosis in 1920.

## Dec 23: National Farmers' Day (Kisan Diwas)

It is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of veteran farmer leader and former Prime Minister of India (28 July, 79 to 14 January, 80), Chaudhary Charan Singh, with the focus on the upliftment of the status of farmers. He introduced many farmer-friendly policies

and worked towards the welfare of the farmers. Chaudhary Charan Singh breathed his last on January 14, 1980. A memorial dedicated to him was built at Raj Ghat and is called 'Kisan Ghat'.

## December 24: The National Consumer Day

On this day, the Consumer Protection Act, 1986 had received the assent of the President. This act was revised in August, 2019. The Act aims to provide consumers with effective safeguards against different types of exploitation, such as defective goods, deficiency in services and unfair trade practices, etc. The day provides an opportunity to highlight the importance of the consumer movement and the need to make every consumer more aware of their rights and responsibilities. The theme this year is “Tackling Plastic Pollution”. This theme is chosen to educate people on the hazards of using plastic.

**Remember!** World Consumer Day is celebrated on 15th March.

## December 25: Good Governance Day

The day is celebrated to commemorate the birthday of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee to raise awareness about accountability in governance among the people of India. The day was established in 2014 to honor the Bharat Ratna Vajpayee. He died at the age of 93 on 16 August, 2018. His samadhi 'Sadaiv Atal' is in New Delhi.

## Dec. 27: The Inter. Day of Epidemic Preparedness

The day aims to promote international awareness and action on the prevention of, preparedness for and partnership against epidemics. The day was first observed in 2020 on a call by the United Nations General Assembly to advocate the importance of collective preparedness to fight against epidemics. The day aims to raise awareness, the exchange of information, scientific knowledge and best practices, quality education, and advocacy programmes on epidemics at the local, national, regional and global levels as effective measures to prevent and respond to epidemics.



ALL THE NEWS ITEMS IN THIS MAGAZINE HAVE BEEN SOURCED FROM VARIOUS NEWS PAPERS AND GOVT. PRESS RELEASES.

# Bullet News

(August 2021 – November 2021)

For details visit – [www.gyanm.in](http://www.gyanm.in)

## NATIONAL NEWS

### NOVEMBER

- The Prime Minister inaugurated the Purvanchal Expressway on Nov 16 at Karwal Kheri in Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh. It is the longest (341 Km) expressway of India.
- Vice-president M Venkaiah Naidu virtually addressed the Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Summit held virtually on Nov 25-26 to strengthen multilateralism and post-pandemic economic recovery.
- The 20th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government was held on Nov 25 in Nur-Sultan in virtual format under the Chairmanship of Kazakhstan. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar represented India in the meeting.
- The Heads of the National Security Councils of seven nations, met in Delhi on Nov 10 for the Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan.
- The participating countries included Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.
- In a big relief to the farmer community, prime minister Modi announced on Nov 19 that the government has decided to repeal the three farm laws, for which farmers were protesting for the last one year.
- The latest "Migration and Development Brief " released by the World Bank on Nov 17, ranked India as the world's largest recipient of remittances, receiving \$ 87 billion in 2021.
- The United States was its biggest source, accounting for over 20 percent of these funds. India is followed by China, Mexico.
- India successfully launched its 41st Scientific Expedition to Antarctica as the first batch of its contingent of 23 scientists and support staff reached

the Indian Antarctic Station 'Maitri' in the first week of November.

- India has built three Permanent Research Base Stations in Antarctica, named Dakshin Gangotri, Maitri and Bharati.
- The 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) started in Goa on Nov 20. 'The King of all the World' directed by Carlos Saura was the Opening Film.
- Britain released a new 5-pound commemorative coin celebrating the life and legacy of Mahatma Gandhi to mark the festival of Diwali on Nov 4.
- WHO finally granted its Emergency Use Listing (EUL) to India's first indigenously developed COVID-19 vaccine, Covaxin on November 03.
- Covaxin, India's first indigenous COVID-19 vaccine has been developed by Bharat Biotech, Hyderabad in collaboration with National Institute of Virology of the Indian Council of Medical Research.
- The Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2022 released by Germanwatch at the COP-26 in Glasgow, placed India at 10th spot, among the 60 countries and the European Union covered by the Index.
- The Global Drug Policy Index by the Harm Reduction Consortium, ranked Norway at the top, on account of her humane and health-driven drug policies. India was placed at 18th spot in a list of 30 countries.
- India slipped five steps in the global bribery risk rankings settling at the 82nd spot among 194 nations analysed for compliance risks businesses face internationally.
- The countries with least risk of bribery demand are (in descending order), Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand.

### OCTOBER

- PM Modi made a five-day visit to Italy and Britain to attend the 16<sup>th</sup> G-20 Summit in Rome and the World Leaders' Summit of COP-26 in Glasgow.

- The G-20 summit focused on 3 broad, interconnected pillars of action: People, Planet and Prosperity.
- Prime Minister of Denmark Mette Frederiksen arrived in New Delhi on Oct 9 on a three-day visit to India.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance was held virtually on Oct 18-21 to deliberate on key initiatives in solar energy including operationalization of India's One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative.
- The Office of the Prime Minister approved the reconstitution of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister. Noted economist Dr Bibek Debroy was selected as the Chairman of the 7-member Council.
- The world's largest Khadi national flag was installed in Leh, Ladakh, on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi's 152<sup>nd</sup> birth anniversary.
- The tricolor, which is 225-foot long and 150-foot wide, weighs around 1,000 kg, has been made by Khadi and Village Industry Commission (KVIC).
- India was re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council for a record 6<sup>th</sup> term with an overwhelming majority.
- India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People on Oct 7. It is a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect 30x30.
- India hosted the two-day Online Meeting of 30 CAF Range countries on Oct 6-7 with a resolve to strengthen the conservation actions for migratory birds and their habitats in the Central Asian Flyway (CAF).
- Ministry of Home Affairs increased the jurisdiction of the BSF upto 50 km from the borders, in the states of Punjab, West Bengal, Assam, and Tripura.
- The National Security Guard (NSG) launched an All India Car Rally 'Sudarshan Bharat Parikrama' on October 02, from Red Fort in Delhi, to celebrate 75 years of India's Independence.
- The 240-year-old Ordnance Factory Board (OFB) that supplies arms, ammunition, vehicles and other equipments to the Indian armed forces, has been dissolved with effect from October 1, 2021.
- OFB functions as a subordinate office under the Ministry of Defence. OFB's 41 factories have been split into seven new Defence Public Sector Undertakings.
- The Supreme Court has introduced the "Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records" (FASTER) system.
- Now, SC's orders on bail and stay of arrest, can be communicated electronically to prison authorities and investigating agencies directly online.
- Tamil film 'Koozhangal', directed by P.S. Vinodraj, selected as India's official entry to the Oscars 2022.

- India handed over the 34.9 km long cross-border rail link connecting Jayanagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal to the Nepal government on Oct 22.
- The 58<sup>th</sup> edition of EY's Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index' (RECAI) has placed India at the third spot. The United States has been ranked first, followed by China at second spot.
- The third annual edition of the Digital Quality of Life Index (DQL) ranked India 59<sup>th</sup> among 110 countries. Denmark ranked first for the second year in a row and was closely followed by South Korea.
- The Rule of Law Index, released by World Justice Project, ranked India 79<sup>th</sup> out of 139 countries. Denmark and Norway were joint first.
- The Henley Passport Index for 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021 ranked India at 90<sup>th</sup> place, six spots down than its 84<sup>th</sup> spot last year.
- Japan and Singapore shared the top position, with their passport holders allowed to travel visa-free to 192 countries.
- India ranked pretty low at 71<sup>st</sup> spot in the Global Food Security Index of 113 countries. Ireland topped the Index, followed by Austria and UK.

## SEPTEMBER

- Prime Minister Modi made a landmark visit to the US from Sep 23 to 25. He attended the first in-person Quad summit on Sep 24 in Washington DC.
- He addressed the 76<sup>th</sup> session of the UN General Assembly on Sep 25<sup>th</sup> in New York.
- As part of India's ongoing chairship of BRICS in 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired the 13<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit on Sep 09 in virtual mode.
- The theme that India has chosen for its leadership is - 'BRICS at 15 - Intra-BRICS Cooperation for continuity, consolidation and consensus'.
- India became the first Asian country to launch a "Plastics Pact". The India Plastics Pact visualises a world where plastic is valued and does not pollute the environment.
- IIT Madras topped the NIRF rankings for the third time in a row, in the overall category. IISc Bengaluru came second, followed by IIT Bombay at the third place.
- A commemorative coin of Rs 125 was released on Sep 01 to mark the 125<sup>th</sup> birth anniversary of Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada.
- He was founder of ISKCON - International Society for Krishna Consciousness in New York in July 1966.
- India improved its ranking by two spots to 46<sup>th</sup> in the Global Innovation Index 2021 released by the World Intellectual Property Organization - WIPO.
- Switzerland was ranked as the most innovative country, followed by Sweden and USA.

## AUGUST

- According to Cushman and Wakefield's 2021 Global Manufacturing Risk Index, India surpassed the US as the world's second most desired manufacturing hub.
- The rising focus on India can be attributed to India's operating conditions and cost competitiveness.
- Four Indian wetland sites have been recognised as wetlands of international importance under the Ramsar Convention. The four selected sanctuaries are as under:
  - Bhindawas Wildlife Sanctuary, Near Jhajjar, Haryana
  - Sultanpur National Park, near Gurgram, Haryana
  - Thol Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
  - Wadhvana Wetland, near Vadodara, Gujarat
- The Ramsar Convention is an international treaty for the conservation and prudent use of wetlands.
- India's first green hydrogen electrolyzer manufacturing unit was started at Bengaluru, Karnataka on August 24.
- The factory set up by the US-based renewable energy startup Ohmium International will manufacture Proton Exchange Membrane hydrogen electrolyzers.
- Green hydrogen is made from non-fossil sources as against blue hydrogen that is made from fossil sources.
- The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation has approved the DNA COVID-19 vaccine ZyCoV-D developed by Ahmedabad-based Zydus Cadila for children in the age group of 12 to 18 years.
- It is India's first indigenously developed and world's first plasmid-DNA three-dose COVID-19 vaccine.
- The Border Roads Organisation completed the construction of the world's highest motorable tarmac road at the height of 19,300 feet at Umling La Pass in eastern Ladakh.
- India's renewable energy (RE) capacity crossed the milestone of 100 gigawatts (GW), the government said in a statement on August 12
- Now India stands at 4<sup>th</sup> position in the world in terms of installed RE capacity, 5<sup>th</sup> in solar, and 4<sup>th</sup> in wind in terms of installed capacity.
- India's mission to evacuate its citizens and Afghan partners from Kabul after its takeover by the Taliban on August 15 has been named as "Operation Devi Shakti".
- The Supreme Court on Aug 18 allowed women candidates to appear for National Defence Academy entrance exam scheduled on Sep. 5, saying debarring them amounted to gender discrimination.
- The first goods train to Bangladesh through the revived Haldibari – Chilahati rail link left from Damdim station of Alipurduar Division in Northeast Frontier Railway in West Bengal for Chilahati in Bangladesh, on July 31.
- On August 01, India took over from France the presidency of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the month of August.

## NEWS FROM STATES

### NOVEMBER

- Shimla topped the first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) index released by NITI Aayog on Nov 23, while Coimbatore and Chandigarh secured the second and the third spot respectively.
- Karnataka topped the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020 released on Oct 27 by the Ministry of Power. Rajasthan secured second position.
- The 3rd edition of the Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) report, 2021 adjudged Gujarat as the Best Performing State, followed by Haryana and Punjab at second and third rank, respectively.
- On the occasion of World Fisheries Day on November 21, Telangana was awarded best performer in Inland Fisheries while Andhra Pradesh was awarded best marine State.
- Among Hilly & North-eastern states, Tripura was declared the best. The award function was held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.
- The Union Ministry of Home Affairs released the Annual Ranking of Police Stations (PS) for the year 2021.
- Sadar Bazar PS in North District of Delhi was adjudged the 'Best Police Station' in the country.
- India's first Food Museum was inaugurated at Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu. The museum has been set up by the Food Corporation of India (FCI) along with Visvesvaraya Industrial and Technological Museum, Bengaluru.
- India's first Grass Conservatory was inaugurated on Nov 14 in Ranikhet of Almora district, Uttarakhand. It houses around 90 different grass species.
- World's first and India's largest landfill gas-to-compressed biogas plant was inaugurated in Hyderabad. It converts landfill gas into biogas for use as automotive fuel leading to greening of climate.
- Country's largest aromatic garden was inaugurated in Lalkuan of Nainital district in Uttarakhand. Established in an area of over 3 acres, the garden has 140 different aromatic species from across India.
- The first ever Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report by the Niti Aayog placed Bihar at the top as 51.91 per cent of the state's population were found to be multidimensionally poor.
- The state with the lowest poverty level was Kerala, having only 0.71 per cent of the population in the multidimensionally poor category, followed by Goa (3.76) and Sikkim (3.82).

## OCTOBER

- CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology introduced the organised cultivation of Cinnamon on a pilot basis in Una, Himachal Pradesh.
- The National Tiger Conservation Authority approved the Chhattisgarh's proposal of declaring the combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary as 4th Tiger Reserve in the state.

## SEPTEMBER

- In a report by Forbes India, New Delhi and Chennai have ranked first and third respectively from India on the world's most surveilled cities.
- Haryana secured first position in installation of off-grid solar pumps under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM).
- Himachal Pradesh became the first state to achieve a unique distinction of achieving cent percent target of providing first dose of Covid-19 vaccination to all eligible persons of 18 years and above.
- The FSSAI released the third State Food Safety Index for evaluating food safety across all States/UTs in 2020-21.
- Index had 3 categories: large states, small states and union territories.
- The top three performers in the respective category were – Gujarat, Goa and J&K.
- From September 1, 2021, Goa became the first state in India to supply water free of cost to its citizens for consumption up to 16,000 liters per month under the 'Save Water to Get Free Water' scheme.
- Two high power transmitters were inaugurated at the world's highest radio station at Humbatingla in Kargil, at an altitude of 13,300 feet from mean sea level.
- The world's highest movie theatre was inaugurated in the Paldan area of Leh, at an altitude of 11,562 feet. It's a mobile digital movie theatre with an inflatable structure and can operate in -28 degree Celsius.
- Two more beaches in India have been awarded "Blue Flag" certification, taking the total number of such beaches in the country to 10.
- The 2 beaches to receive certification are Kovalam in Chennai, Tamil Nadu; and Eden in Puducherry.
- The 500 sq. km of the biodiversity-rich waters in the Palk Bay, on the southeast coast of Tamil Nadu, have been formed as India's 1<sup>st</sup> Dugong conservation reserve.
- Dugong is a sea cow, which is an endangered marine mammal that is facing extinction due to water pollution, habitat loss and loss of seagrass.

- India's largest open-air fernery was inaugurated on September 12 in Uttarakhand's Ranikhet.
- Ferns are non-flowering pteridophytes. They generally reproduce by producing spores.
- India's tallest air purification tower was inaugurated in Chandigarh on Sep 7. Standing 24 meter high, this is the highest air purifier of India.
- The Govt of India has signed a tripartite peace accord on Sep 04 with the govt of Assam and five insurgent groups from the Karbi Anglong region in Assam, to end decades of violence in the region.
- Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change notified the area around Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary near Guwahati, Assam as an eco-sensitive zone.
- This means that only such restricted activities will now be allowed in the notified area which may not have any adverse effect on the ecology of the area.
- The world's highest electric vehicle charging station was inaugurated at 12,500 ft in Kaza village of Lahaul & Spiti district in Himachal on Sep. 23.

## AUGUST

- India's first ever smog tower was inaugurated on August 23 in the national capital in Connaught Place area to improve air quality.
- India's highest herbal park was inaugurated on August 21 at Mana village at 11,000 feet in Uttarakhand's Chamoli district.
- The Haryana Police secured first position in the country for the best implementation of the Crime & Criminal Tracking Network & System with 100% marks.
- Cleanest city of the country Indore has now been declared as the first Water Plus city of the country, by the Central Government.
- Nagaland won seven national awards in the first Van Dhan Annual Awards 2020-21 announced on the 34<sup>th</sup> foundation day of Tribal Coop. Marketing Development Federation of India Limited (TRIFED).
- Chhattisgarh became the first State to recognize the Community Forest Resource Rights in urban areas.
- The first set of CFRR certificates were issued to the residents of Dhamtari district, within the core area of the tiger reserve.
- Kaziranga National Park in Assam has become the first National Park in India to be equipped with satellite phones.
- An all-weather 8.5 km tunnel between Jammu and Kashmir's Qazigund and Banihal was opened for traffic on a trial basis on August 4.
- It has been built at a height of 5800 feet above the sea level, across the Pir Panjal range of Himalayas.

# GOVT INITIATIVES

## NOVEMBER

- Three oil PSU's, IOC, BPC and HPC launched Model Retail Outlets to enhance service standards and amenities, across their networks. They also launched: Customer Feedback Program (Darpan@petrolpump)
- Indian Railways launched a completely new segment of trains - 'Bharat Gaurav' trains on Nov 23 to boost theme-based tourism across India.
- This is the third segment of trains, the other two being passenger and freight segments.
- India's first virtual science lab for children, under the 'CSIR Jigyasa' programme was launched on Nov 22 in New Delhi.
- It will connect students with scientists across the country. The students will be allowed to choose any subject, ignoring the existing streams.
- Government launched "Nutrition Smart Village" programme on Nov 10 to reach out to 75 villages across India for promoting nutritional awareness, education and behavioural change in rural areas.
- India launched an electric vehicle awareness web portal called e-Amrit on Nov 12 at the COP26 Summit in Glasgow, UK. AMRIT: "Accelerated e-Mobility Revolution for India's Transportation".
- Govt announced on Nov 10 restoration of the "Member of Parliament Local Area Development" (MPLAD) Scheme for the remaining part of the financial year 2021-22 and to continue the same till 2025-26.
- Govt launched Bhasha Sangam initiative for schools, Bhasha Sangam Mobile App and Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat Mobile Quiz on Nov 1.
- Bhasha Sangam aims to teach students some basic sentences of everyday usage in 22 Indian languages to sensitise them about the richness of country's culture, heritage and diversity.
- The Civil Aviation Ministry launched the Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme on Oct 27 to focus on incentivising air transportation of agricultural produce from hilly areas, northeastern states, and tribal regions across India.
- India's first manned Ocean Mission named "Samudrayan" was launched in Chennai on Oct 29.
- The 'Matsya 6000' initiative under Samudrayan mission can carry 3 persons in a titanium alloy sphere with an endurance of 12 hours and up to 96 hours.
- Indian Railways started India's first full Economy AC-3 tier super-fast train - Gati Shakti Express on Oct 29. The train will run between Delhi (Anand Vihar Terminal) and Patna.

## OCTOBER

- The Ministry of Electronics and IT tied up with Google to launch Appscale Academy, a new growth and development programme for startups, aimed at building apps for a global audience.
- Green-Day-Ahead Market launched to strengthen the electricity trading in India. Now, any renewable energy generating company can set up and sell renewable energy on the exchange.
- In a first of its kind, a long-range marine communication system, which will remain effective during storms and inclement weather conditions, was launched at Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, the erstwhile Kolkata Port.
- The Election Commission launched the Garuda app to ensure faster, transparent, and timely completion of election work.
- Through this app, Booth Officers can upload photos and location information of the polling stations, and other data, from their registered mobile numbers.
- They can also add voter names, deletion of names or modification of addresses in the electoral roll through this app.
- A Geographic Information System (GIS)-based Geospatial Energy Map of India was launched by NITI Aayog in collaboration with ISRO.
- It will provide a spatial picture of all energy resources of the country, like power plants, petroleum refineries, oil wells, coal fields, etc., all at one place.
- Govt launched the PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan on Oct 13 for promoting multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country.
- The Gati Shakti Plan with a layout of Rs. 100 lakh crore, aims to develop infrastructure to reduce logistic costs and boost the economy.
- Indian Space Association (ISpA), a grouping of various stakeholders in the Indian space domain such as ISRO, Airtel, OneWeb, Tata Group's Nelco, L&T, MapMyIndia among others, was launched on Oct 11.
- A mobile app called "MyPortApp" was launched on Oct 8. The App includes all relevant details of the ports and can monitor their operations virtually.
- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) released the Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment (MUDRA) Toolbox in five Indian languages - Hindi, Bengali, Telugu, Kannada and Malayalam.
- The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of 7 PM MITRA (Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel) parks with a total outlay of Rs 4,445 crore for five years to position India strongly on the global textiles map.



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- The Union Ministry of Road Transport and Highways launched a Scheme for grant of Award to the Good Samaritan who has saved the life of a victim of a fatal road accident. Amount of award will be Rs. 5,000 per incident, maximum five times in a year.
- A web portal 'Waste to Wealth' was launched on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti to bring together technology providers, govt stakeholders and urban local bodies to find solutions to India's waste problems, especially the plastic waste.
- Jal Jeevan Mission app launched on October 2 for improving awareness, transparency and accountability of the tap water schemes under the Mission.
- Government launched Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0 and AMRUT 2.0 on October 1.
- The SBM-U 2.0 aims to make the cities garbage-free, focusing on removal of garbage mounds from the cities by processing the garbage.
- AMRUT 2.0 aims to promote sewage and safety management, making cities water-secure and ensuring that dirty nullahs don't merge into rivers.
- The iconic Indian superhero - Chacha Chaudhary has been declared as the mascot of the Namami Gange Programme.
- DigiSaksham - a digital skills programme launched in tie-up with Microsoft India to enhance the employability of youth by imparting them digital skills
- The Central Government has renamed the National Mid-Day Meal Scheme for students of class 1 to 8 in the government and aided schools as the PM-POSHAN Shakti Nirman Scheme to provide them one hot cooked meal every day.
- The Ministry of Tourism launched NIDHI 2.0 (National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry) scheme on the occasion of World Tourism Day on Sep 27.
- The scheme aims to facilitate digitalization of the tourism sector and promote ease of doing business for the hospitality & tourism sector.
- "Amrit Grand Challenge Program" titled "जनCARE" launched to identify 75 Start-Up Innovations in Telemedicine, Digital Health, mHealth with Big Data, AI, Blockchain and other technologies.
- Country's first Pan-India toll-free helpline-14567-called 'Elder Line' was launched to address the challenges and problems the elderly population face.

## SEPTEMBER

- The Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal launched the National Single Window System for investors and businesses.
- It will provide a single point service for registrations and approvals from various govt departments.

- The Central Government submitted an affidavit in the Supreme Court on Sep 22 stating that the National Disaster Management Authority has recommended ex gratia Rs 50,000 to be given to kin of those who died due to Covid-19.
- The Ministry of Education has formed a 12-member National Steering Committee for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks.
- The committee will be chaired by former ISRO Chairman Dr K Kasturirangan.
- The Central govt constituted a group of ministers (GoM) headed by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to look into better implementation of various welfare schemes meant for the SC/ST, OBCs, minorities and women.
- NITI Aayog tied up with BYJU's to offer free study material in virtual mode to govt school students from classes VI to XII across 112 aspirational districts.
- This initiative named "Education for All" will allow students of VI- XII access to top-notch educational content on the BYJU'S learning app for 3 years.
- The Union Minister of Railways, Ashwini Vaishnaw announced the "Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana" on Sep 17 to train 50,000 youths in the age group of 18 to 35 years, over the next three years.
- NITI Aayog in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) of USA, launched campaign 'Shoonya' to promote use of zero-pollution delivery vehicles by working with consumers and industry.
- PRANA portal launched for regulation of air pollution in 132 cities across the country under the National Clean Air Programme.
- PRANA (Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in non-Attainment cities) would support tracking of the status of city air action plan implementation.
- Dr VG Somani to head committee for framing new laws for drugs, cosmetics and medical devices and replacing the existing Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940.
- 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' - a special campaign launched for digital onboarding and training for street vendors under PM SVANidhi scheme across 223 cities in the country.
- Tribal Coop. Mktg. Dev. Federation of India to set up an Atmanirbhar Bharat corner in 100 Indian Missions/ Embassies across the world in the next 3 months.
- The Education Ministry launched the Vidyanjali portal to enable community/volunteers to contribute by connecting directly with the govt and government-aided schools of their choice.
- Ayush Ministry launched the campaign "AYUSH Aapke Dwar" on Sep 04 for distributing medicinal plants from more than 45 locations across the country.

- The union AYUSH minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched 'Y Break' (Yoga Break) mobile application in New Delhi on September 01.
- The app provides a five-minute Yoga protocol designed especially for working professionals to de-stress, refresh at their workplace.
- The Ministry of Textile in partnership with the National Institute of Fashion Technology, New Delhi, launched the project 'INDIA size'.
- It aims to develop Indian size charts based on body measurements of the Indian population for better fitting of ready to wear garments.
- The NITI Aayog in collaboration with the US based global IT giant Cisco, launched the next phase of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform "WEP Nxt".
- Govt notified Bharat Series (BH) registration for vehicles. A vehicle with BH mark will not require a new registration mark when the owner shifts from one State to another.

## AUGUST

- Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) launched the "Start-up Accelerators of MeitY for Product Innovation, Development and growth (SAMRIDH)" programme on August 25.
- It will create a conducive platform for Indian Software start-ups to improve their products and securing investments for scaling their business.
- Govt launched the e-Shram portal - National Database on Unorganized Workers to maintain a database of workers in the country's unorganised sector.
- New geospatial planning portal, 'Yuktdhara' launched to help in facilitating new MGNREGA assets using remote sensing and geographic information system-based data.
- It is a joint effort of ISRO and the Ministry of Rural Development, developed on ISRO's Geoportal Bhuvan.
- The Finance Ministry launched a National Monetisation Pipeline for monetizing Central Government's brownfield infrastructure assets.
- The government has planned a Rs 6-trillion pipeline of assets that can be monetized.
- The Delhi-Chandigarh Highway has become the country's first EV-friendly highway, set up by BHEL under the FAME-1 scheme of the Ministry of Heavy Industries.
- Govt announced guidelines and rates of the long pending Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme for 8555 export items for a cost of ₹12500 crore to the exchequer.
- The world's second-largest refurbished National Gene Bank was inaugurated on Aug 16 at the National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources, Pusa in New Delhi.

- The Ministry of Women and Child Development launched on August 14 the 2<sup>nd</sup> phase of SAMVAD (Support, Advocacy & Mental health interventions for children in Vulnerable circumstances And Distress).
- It is a national initiative for child protection, mental health and psychosocial care of children.
- The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment launched online portal TAPAS (Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services) to provide filmed lectures/courses and e-study material in the field of social defence.
- PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan launched to help the local manufacturers turn globally competitive in the near future.
- With a support of Rs 100 lakh crore, it will bring employment opportunities to the youth.
- The National Automobile Scrapage Policy announced on Aug 13 has made it mandatory for all private and commercial vehicles to undergo 'fitness tests' as soon as they age 20 years and 15 years, respectively.
- Vehicles will be scientifically tested through authorized, automated testing centers. Unfit vehicles will be scrapped scientifically.
- The policy will promote modernization of the vehicular population by removing unfit vehicles from the roads and boosting demand for new vehicles.
- The Govt notified the Plastic Waste Management (amendment) Rules 2021 prohibiting identified single-use plastic items from July 01, 2022, covering manufacturing, import, stocking, distribution, sale and use of several single-use plastics.
- The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the PM-DAKSH (Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi) Portal and Mobile Application on August 07.
- This portal and app will make the skill development schemes accessible to the target groups of Backward Classes, Scheduled Castes, and Safai Karamcharis.
- The Lok Sabha passed the Essential Defence Services Bill, 2021 to prohibit lockouts, strikes and layoffs in the units engaged in the essential defence services, such as various ordnance factories.
- UGC notified the Academic Bank of Credits (ABC), for storing and transferring academic credits of a student.
- The ABC will allow students to tailor their degrees or make specific modifications or specialisations rather than undergoing the rigid, prescribed courses of a single university or autonomous college.
- It will also permit students multiple entry-exit as well as any-time, any-where, and any-level learning.

# ECONOMY

## NOVEMBER

- TVS Motor Company, leading two-wheeler manufacturer of India, became the first Indian company to join the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC).
- Company will now support the Ten Principles of the UNGC on human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

## OCTOBER

- Govt accorded 'Maharatna' Status to state-owned Power Finance Corporation (PFC) on Oct 12. PFC is the largest infrastructure finance company which is dedicated to the power sector under the Ministry of Power.
- The Finance Ministry announced the formation of two Group of Ministers on Sep. 24 for improvement in the GST regime.
- First GoM led by Karnataka chief minister Basavaraj S. Bommai will look into rationalisation of tax rates and merger of different tax slabs.
- The second GoM constituted for GST System Reforms, will be headed by Ajit Pawar, Deputy Chief Minister, Maharashtra.
- In an historical development, Tata Sons group won the bid for acquiring national carrier Air India. It made a winning bid of 18,000 crore rupees for Air India.

## SEPTEMBER

- MSP of major Rabi crops for the crop year 2022-23:

Crops	MSP in Rs./Qtl	Increase in MSP
Wheat	2015	40
Barley	1635	35
Gram	5230	130
Lentil (Masur)	5500	400
Rapeseed & Mustard	5050	400
Safflower	5441	114

- Amazon, in tie up with govt of India, launched "Kisan Store", an online store with home delivery facility, meant exclusively for farmers.
- Farmers can buy seeds, fertilisers, pesticides, equipment, etc. by placing order in five languages -- Hindi, Tamil, Malayalam, Telugu, and Kannada.
- Global car company Ford Motor Co of the USA decided to stop its manufacturing facilities in India, taking a hit of about \$2 billion.
- Ford India will shut down its plant in Sanand (Gujarat) by end 2021 and vehicle and engine manufacturing at its Chennai plant by 2022.

## AUGUST

- The Union Cabinet approved the highest ever Fair and Remunerative Price of 290 rupees per quintal for sugarcane for the benefit of over five crore sugarcane farmers.
- The Finance Ministry launched "Ubharte Sitaare", a Rs 250 crore alternate investment fund (AIF) for small and mid-sized export-oriented companies. It will be jointly sponsored by the Exim Bank and SIDBI.
- National Edible Oil Mission-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) announced on August 9 to make India self-sufficient in cooking oils, including palm oil.
- Bhoot Jolokia, also known as "Raja Mircha, one of the hottest chillies in the world, was exported from Nagaland to London for the first time on July 29.

# BANKING & FINANCE

## NOVEMBER

- The RBI released on Nov 26 new rules for ownership and corporate structure of private banks in India.
- Among the biggest changes brought about is increasing the long-term promoter stake cap in banks to 26 percent from 15 percent currently.
- The minimum initial capital requirement for licensing new banks has been hiked to Rs 1000 crores for Universal Banks, from Rs 500 crores earlier.
- RBI directed Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) to appoint an Internal Ombudsman within 6 months.
- Deposit-taking NBFCs with more than 10 branches and non-deposit-taking NBFCs with an asset size of Rs 5,000 crore and above, will have to appoint an internal ombudsman within 6 months.
- The RBI launched two new innovative customer centric schemes on Nov 12 for the benefit of the common man.
- RBI Retail Direct Scheme is aimed at enhancing the participation of common man in the sale and purchase of government securities.
- RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme aims to create one portal, one email, and one address for the customers to lodge their complaints, track the status and provide feedback.
- The Reserve Bank announced on Nov 02 a revised Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for banks, wef January 1, 2022.
- Under the revised framework, capital, asset quality and leverage will be the key areas for monitoring.
- Now, "return on assets" will no more be a parameter which may trigger action under the PCA framework.

- Payments banks and small finance banks (SFBs) have also been removed from the list of lenders where prompt corrective action can be initiated.

## OCTOBER

- The RBI released a draft framework on Oct 22 on master directions to implement the Basel III Capital Framework for All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs) including EXIM Bank, NABARD, NHB, and SIDBI.
- Basel norms are international banking norms prescribed by the Bank for International Settlements, based at Basel, Switzerland.
- RBI announced the theme for 4<sup>th</sup> Cohort under Regulatory Sandbox as “Prevention and Mitigation of Financial Frauds”.
- It will focus on using technology to reduce the lag between the occurrence and detection of frauds, strengthening the fraud governance structure, and minimising response time to frauds.
- With a view to help banks get rid of their fraudulent NPAs (bad loans), RBI has allowed loan exposures classified as fraud to be transferred to Asset Reconstruction Companies (ARCs).
- NPCI launched the NPCI Tokenization System (NTS) to support tokenization of RuPay cards as an alternative to storing card details with merchants.
- As per Asiamoney’s “Asia’s Outstanding Companies Poll, HDFC Bank was voted as the best among the listed companies in India, leading to the bank being awarded the ‘Overall Most Outstanding Company in India’.

## SEPTEMBER

- The nine public sector banks set up an asset management company named India Debt Resolution Company with a paid-up capital of Rs. 80.5 lakh and an authorized capital of Rs 50 crore.
- The company will be responsible for the resolution and restructuring of bad loans bought by the National Asset Reconstruction Company, set up earlier.
- RBI announced the opening of the third cohort of regulatory sandbox on Sep 13 with its theme as MSME lending.
- A cohort is a group of people who share some common goal, or a group of people who share a common background or business.
- The RBI and the Monetary Authority of Singapore have announced a project to link their respective fast payment systems, Unified Payments Interface (UPI) of India and PayNow of Singapore.
- RBI set up a committee headed by P Vasudevan to review applications and give recommendations on new umbrella entity (NUE) licences.

- The NUE will set up their own payment infrastructure to compete with the NPCI.
- PFRDA has increased the entry age for the National Pension System (NPS) from 65 years to 70 years. People joining at the age of 70 years, can continue up to the age of 75 years.
- RBI increased the limit of fund transfer under the Indo-Nepal Remittance Facility Scheme to Rs 2 lakh per transaction, from Rs 50,000 at present.
- RBI extended the scope of permitted devices for tokenised card transactions to include consumer devices such as laptops, desktops, wearables (wrist watches, bands, etc.), and Internet of Things (IoT) devices.
- 4<sup>th</sup> edition of EASE (Enhanced Access & Service Excellence), launched for the public sector bank reforms with a focus on deepening the customer-centric digital transformation.
- There are six key initiatives under EASE 4.0:
  - Smart Lending for Aspiring India
  - New Age 24×7 banking with resilient technology
  - Collaborative banking for synergistic outcomes
  - Tech-enabled Ease of Banking
  - Institutionalizing Prudent Banking
  - Governor and Outcome Centric HR

## AUGUST

- RBI issued revised guidelines for locker and safe custody facility in the banks, to be effective from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2022.
  - ✓ Now banks will have to maintain a branch-wise list of vacant lockers and a wait-list to ensure transparency.
  - ✓ Now the customers will not be allowed to keep illegal or hazardous items in bank lockers.
  - ✓ To ensure prompt payment of locker rent, banks will be allowed to obtain a Term Deposit to cover 3 years’ rent and the charges for breaking open the locker in case of such eventuality.
  - ✓ Bank’s liability in case of incidents like fire, robbery or fraud committed by an employee will be 100 times the prevailing annual rent of the locker.
- RBI released the first edition of the Financial Inclusion Index (FI-Index) on August 17 to capture the extent of financial inclusion across the country. It will be published annually in July every year.
- RBI notified a Scheme of Penalty for non-replenishment of ATMs. From 1<sup>st</sup> Oct 2021, cash-out at any ATM for more than ten hours in a month will attract a penalty of ₹ 10,000/- per ATM.
- RBI is putting in place a Platform for Regulated Entities for Integrated Supervision and Monitoring (PRISM), a web-based end-to-end workflow automation system, to strengthen compliance by supervised entities (Ses).



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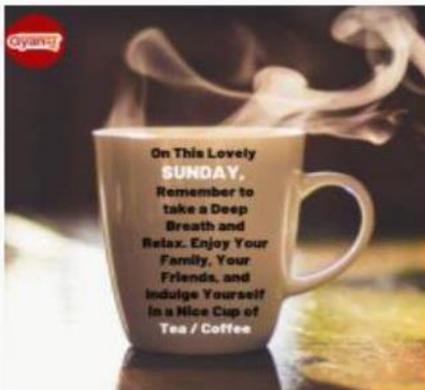
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- RBI notified the enhancement of collateral (additional security) free loans to self-help groups (SHGs) from Rs 10 lakh at present to Rs 20 lakh. Further, no margin (borrower's contribution) will be taken in these loans.
- SEBI has introduced the concept of 'accredited investors' in the Indian securities market. Individuals and others can get accreditation based on financial parameters like annual income, networth, specified by the SEBI.
- The government launched e-RUPI, a cashless and contactless prepaid e-voucher for digital payment.
- ✓ It is a person and purpose specific e-voucher which is delivered to the mobile phone of the beneficiary and can be used for specified purpose only.
  - ✓ eRUPI has been developed by NPCI on its UPI platform, in collaboration with govt authorities.
- RBI allowed non-bank payment system providers (PSPs) to participate in its centralized payment systems (CPS) such as RTGS & NEFT.
  - ✓ Initially, firms such as Paytm and Phonepe, PPI issuers, card networks and white label ATM operators shall be eligible to participate in CPS.

## DEFENCE, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

### NOVEMBER

- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders delivered the First Ship of Project 15B Class Destroyer named INS Visakhapatnam to the Indian Navy at Visakhapatnam naval base.
- The fourth Scorpene class indigenously built submarine 'Vela' was delivered to the Indian Navy on Nov 09 by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai.
- The DRDO and Indian Air Force jointly flight-tested indigenously developed long-range bomb (LRB) from a fighter jet over Balasore in Odisha. The bomb can be programmed to hit targets between 50 and 150 km.
- INS Tushil, first of two frigates being built by Russia, was launched into waters on Oct 28 at the Yantar Shipyard in Russia. India is purchasing these two ships directly from Russia.
- The Indian Coast Guard received an indigenously built offshore patrol vessel -OPV, ICGS Sarthak, at Goa on October 28.
- The Government has appointed Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar as the next Chief of the Naval Staff, in the rank of Admiral.
- The 37th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) was held in the Indian Ocean region on November 23-24.

- Indo-Thai CORPAT: The 32nd edition of the India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy was held on Nov 12-14 in the Andaman Sea.
- Dosti: The 15th edition of biennial Trilateral Exercise 'Dosti' between India, the Maldives and Sri Lanka was held in the Maldives from November 20-24.
- SITMEX-21: 3rd edition of India, Singapore and Thailand Trilateral two-day Maritime Exercise was held on Nov 15-16 in Andaman Sea.
- EX SHAKTI 2021: The 6th Edition of Indo French Joint Military Exercise- was held at the Military School of Draguignan, France from 15 to 26 November.
- Desert Warrior: A team of the Indian Air Force participated in a two-day exercise with the Air Force of Egypt at El Beringat airbase in Egypt on Oct 30-31.
- Indian Air Force's Mirage-2000 fighter jets participated in the "Blue Flag-21" exercise hosted by the Israeli Air Force from Oct 17 to 28 at Ovda Airbase near Eilat in Israel.
- The Russian military successfully test-fired the 'Zircon' Hypersonic Cruise Missile from warship Admiral Gorshkov.
- Zircon has a strike range of 1,000 km and can fly with speed of around 10,000 km/hr, roughly 8 times the speed of sound.
- Space scientists at the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in Ahmedabad have discovered a new exoplanet "TOI 1789b".
- It is a planet outside the solar system- orbiting too close to an aging star with a mass of 1.5 times that of the Sun and located 725 light years away.
- US space agency NASA launched the first of its kind DART Mission (Double Asteroid Redirection Test) spacecraft on November 24, world's first mission to test asteroid-deflection technology.
- The spacecraft is expected to crash head-on into the moonlet Dimorphos at a speed of over 24,000 km/hr at about 11 million km away from earth, to deflect the asteroid by a fraction.

### OCTOBER

- Surface to surface ballistic missile, Agni-5 was successfully launched from APJ Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha. It has a range of 5,000 km.
- The DRDO successfully flight tested the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT), named 'Abhyas' from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur.
- A new version of the Akash Missile, Akash Prime was successfully flight tested on Sep 27 by DRDO from Integrated Test Range at Chandipur in Odisha.
- The Defence Accounts Department developed an IT-enabled payment and accounting system called PRABAL to ensure that the domestic defence suppliers get payments without any delay.

- **Konkan Shakti-2021:** Tri-service exercise between the UK and Indian Armed Forces was held off the Konkan coast in the Arabian Sea, from Oct 24 to 27.
- **Ex-Yudh Abhyas 2021:** Indo-US Joint Military Exercise held at Elmendorf – Richardson base in Alaska, USA, from 15-29 October.
- **Malabar Exercise:** Joint naval exercise held with Japan and USA in the Bay of Bengal from 12 to 15 October.
- **Exercise Ajeya Warrior:** India–UK joint military training held at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand, Oct 7 to 20.
- **JIMEX:** India - Japan Maritime Exercise held in Arabian Sea from Oct 6 to 8.
- **Mitra Shakti:** India – Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise held at Combat Training School, Ampara in Sri Lanka from 4<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> of October.
- **AUSINDEX:** Indian and Australian naval exercise held on Sep 30 in the North Australian Exercise Area.
- China launched its first solar observation satellite 'Xihe' on Oct 14 into a 571-km altitude orbit. The 550-kg satellite will monitor the Sun for three years.
- NASA launched Lucy spacecraft on Oct 16, the first space mission to study the Trojan Asteroids. It will journey for 12 years, observing one main belt asteroid and seven Trojan asteroids.

## SEPTEMBER

- The Ministry of Defence placed an order for supply of 118 Arjun Mk-1A tanks for the Indian Army. The tanks will be made by the Heavy Vehicles Factory, Avadi, Chennai.
- Govt placed orders for building 6 AEW&C (Airborne Early Warning and Control) aircraft to bolster the surveillance capability of the Indian Air Force.
- The Union Cabinet approved the procurement of 56 C-295MW transport aircraft for the Indian Air Force from Airbus Defence and Space S.A., Spain.
- The Indian Army to procure 100 'SkyStrikers' drones, capable of carrying ammunition and conduct strikes at targets up to 20 km.
- The National Aerospace Laboratories, Bengaluru successfully designed and built its two-seater trainer aircraft, Hansa NG (New Generation).
- **An Off-shore Patrol Vessel 'Vigraha'**, built by L&T Ship Building Ltd, Chennai, was inducted in Indian Coast Guard on August 28 at Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- **Air Marshal V R Chaudhari:** The current Vice Chief of Air Staff selected as the next Chief of the Indian Air Force.
- **Surya Kiran:** The 15th edition of Indo–Nepal Joint Military Training Exercise was held from September 20 to Oct 03 at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand.
- **'Samudra Shakti':** Naval Exercise between India and Indonesia took place from Sep 20 to 22 near Sunda Strait between islands of Java and Sumatra, Indonesia.

- **Exercise Peaceful Mission-2021:** An Indian military contingent participated in a Joint Counter Terrorism Exercise between SCO member states, hosted by Russia from September 13 to 25.
- **AUSINDEX:** The bilateral exercise between the Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy was held in the Indian Ocean near Australia from Sep 6 to 10.
- **SIMBEX-2021:** The 28th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise SIMBEX was held from Sep 2 to 4 in the southern fringes of the South China Sea.
- **Exercise ZAPAD 2021:** Indian Army participated in the multinational exercise held at Nizhniy in Russia from 3-16 September.
- **INS Savitri,** the offshore patrol vessel of the Indian Navy participated in the Passage Exercise with Bangladesh in the Bay of Bengal on September 3.
- **The Indian Navy** and the German Navy carried out a exercise in the Gulf of Aden on Aug. 26 as part of the Indian Ocean leg of Indo-Pacific Deployment 2021.
- President Ram Nath Kovind awarded the President's Colour to Indian Naval Aviation at the ceremonial parade held on 6th September at INS Hansa in Goa.
- Government launched a first-of-its-kind indigenously developed Quantum Computing Simulation toolkit named QSim on August 26.
- QSim is a vital tool of learning for understanding the practical aspects of programming with the help of Quantum Computers.
- IIT, Bombay launched on Sep 14 'Project Udaan', an artificial intelligence (AI)-based software ecosystem that translates scientific and technical content from English to Hindi and several other Indian languages.
- In a breakthrough invention, scientists at IIT, Ropar, IIT Kanpur and Delhi University, jointly launched world's first living-plant based air purifier named "Ubreathe Life".
- In a historical first, the world's first all-civilian space crew was launched into Earth's orbit onboard a Falcon 9 rocket under the mission 'Inspiration-4'.
- It was launched from NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, USA on September 16 by Elon Musk's private space company SpaceX.

## AUGUST

- The Indian Army received the first batch of indigenous Multi Mode Hand Grenades (MMHG) in a ceremony held at Nagpur, Maharashtra on August 24.
- Multiple cities in UP, MP, Gujarat and the National Capital Region hosted synchronized commando drills named 'Gandiv' by the counter-terrorist force NSG – National Security Guard, from August 22 to 28.
- India and Russia signed a deal on August 19 for the immediate procurement of 70,000 AK-200 series AK-203 assault rifles.

- DRDO has developed an Advanced Chaff Technology to safeguard fighter aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF) against hostile radar threats.
- The DRDO successfully tested Nirbhay missile with an indigenous cruise engine MANIK off the coast of Odisha's Balasore district on August 11.
- Indian Air Force has built one of the world's highest mobile air traffic control (ATC) towers in Ladakh's Nyoma area at an elevation of 13,700 feet.
- August 4 was a proud and historic day for India as the reincarnated aircraft carrier Vikrant began her maiden sea trials, off the coast of Kochi, Kerala.
- ✓ This is the maiden attempt of the Indian Navy and Cochin Shipyard to indigenously design and build an Aircraft Carrier.
- USA approved the sale of Harpoon Joint Common Test Set missile system to India to further boost the Indian Navy's firepower.
- The Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli launched a new weapon called TriCa (Trichy Carbine), a mini version of the Trichy Assault Rifle on July 29.
- Ordnance Factory Tiruchirappalli handed over fifteen 12.7 mm M2 NATO Stabilized Remote Control Guns to the Indian Navy and 10 such guns to the Indian Coast Guard on July 17.
  - ✓ These guns have been manufactured with transfer of technology from Elbit Systems, Israel.

#### BILATERAL DEFENCE EXERCISES

- **KAZIND-21:** India-Kazakhstan Joint Army Training Exercise held at Training Node, Aisha Bibi, Kazakhstan from Aug 30 to Sep 11.
- **A 101-member** contingent of the Indian Army participated in the International Army Games – 2021 held in Russia from 22 August to 4<sup>th</sup> September, 2021.
- **Malabar naval exercise:** Joint exercise of Quad country navies including India, US, Japan and Australia held from Aug 21 to 25, off the coast of Guam Island, in the Western Pacific Ocean.
- **The Indian Navy** and Vietnam People's Navy undertook bilateral maritime exercise on August 18 in the South China Sea.
- **INS Kochi** participated in the four-day Maritime Partnership Exercise with ships of Royal Bahrain Naval Force in the Persian Gulf from August 18 to 21.
- **INS Tabar** participated in the 'Exercise Konkan 2021', between the Indian Navy and Britain's Royal Navy, held in the English Channel in England on August 12.
- **Al-Mohed Al-Hindi 2021:** INS Kochi participated in the naval exercise off the Port Al-Jubail of Saudi Arabia in the Persian Gulf from 12 to 14.
- **The Indian Navy** participated in the U.S. Navy-led Southeast Asia Cooperation and Training (SEACAT) military exercise in Singapore on August 10.

- **Zair-Al-Bahr:** 2<sup>nd</sup> edition of India-Qatar Bilateral Maritime Exercise "Zair-Al-Bahr" was held from 09-14 August in the Persian Gulf.
- **Zayed Talwar 2021:** Joint exercise of Indian Navy and UAE Navy was held on August 7, off the coast of Abu Dhabi in the Persian Gulf.
- **Exercise INDRA 2021:** The Indo – Russian joint training military exercise commenced at Prudboy Ranges, Volgograd in Russia on August 4.
- **12<sup>th</sup> Indra Navy exercise:** Indian and Russian Navies conducted the 12<sup>th</sup> edition of Indra Navy exercise in the Baltic Sea from July 28 to July 29.
- **The first National Heart Failure Biobank** in the country was inaugurated at the Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram.
  - ✓ It would collect blood, biopsies, and clinical data as a guide to future therapies.
- **Swedish green steel venture HYBRIT** made the 'world's first' steel produced without using coal.
  - ✓ The steel was made using Hydrogen Breakthrough Ironmaking Technology, which uses 100% fossil-free hydrogen instead of coal and coke.
- **Eutelsat Quantum**, the world's first commercial fully re-programmable satellite lifted off from French Guiana on July 30 on board an Ariane 5 rocket.

## INTERNATIONAL

### NOVEMBER

- The WHO's technical advisory group classified on Nov 26 the newly detected variant of Coronavirus in South Africa and Botswana as B.1.1529.
- It has been named 'Omicron'. It is the fifth variant named by WHO, the other four being Alpha, Beta, Gamma and Delta.
- US based dictionary Merriam-Webster has declared 'vaccine' as its 2021 word of the year. Lookups for the word "vaccine" in 2021 increased 601% over 2020.
- Collins Dictionary has named the term 'NFT' as the Word of the Year 2021. NFT stands for "non-fungible token".
- 'Vax' has been chosen as the word of the year by the Oxford English Dictionary (OED), for the year 2021.
- Britain approved the world's first pill to treat cases of symptomatic COVID-19. The antiviral medicine Molnupiravir has been developed by Merck.
- Facebook Inc. changed its name to 'Meta', on October 28. The overall Facebook company will now be called 'Metaverse' or simply 'Meta'. It has a new logo as well, which is somewhat like the symbol for infinity.

## OCTOBER

- The 38<sup>th</sup> and 39<sup>th</sup> summit of ASEAN nations was hosted by Brunei in the virtual mode on Oct 26 to 28. The 16<sup>th</sup> East Asia Summit was also held alongside.
- German rail operator Deutsche Bahn and German engineering company Siemens jointly launched on Oct 11 the world's first automated, driverless train in Hamburg city, Germany.
- In a historic move, the WHO endorsed the first antimalarial vaccine, named RTS,S or Mosquirix. The vaccine was developed by British drugmaker GlaxoSmithKline (GSK) in 1987.
- Venezuela introduced a new currency on October 1 with six fewer zeros. The highest denomination of the new currency will be 100 Bolivars, as compared to the earlier higher denomination of 1 million Bolivar.

## SEPTEMBER

- WHO revised and tightened the air quality guidelines for six pollutants for the first time since 2005.
- According to the new limits, average annual PM2.5 concentrations should be no higher than five micrograms per cubic meter.
- SCO in its 21<sup>st</sup> summit in Dushanbe, Tajikistan held on Sep 17 decided to admit Iran as a full member. Till now, Iran had an observer country status.
- The 21<sup>st</sup> meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State was held on Sep 17 in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, in a hybrid format, under the Chairmanship of President of Tajikistan, Emomali Rahmon.
- Cuba has become the first country in the world to begin the mass vaccination of children as young as 2 years old against COVID-19 with its homegrown vaccines.
- The US, UK and Australia announced on Sep 16 the formation of AUKUS - a new trilateral security partnership for the Indo-Pacific region.
- The world's largest plant designed to suck carbon dioxide out of the air and turn it into solid rock, began operations on Sep 8 in Iceland.
- The UNEP formally announced on Sep 1 that now there is no country in the world that uses leaded petrol for cars and lorries. India stopped using leaded petrol by 2,000.
- The New Development Bank established by the BRICS countries in 2015 approved Bangladesh, UAE and Uruguay as its new member.

## AUGUST

- The World Bank launched on August 16 a new 'Cybersecurity Multi-Donor Trust Fund' to roll-out a cybersecurity development agenda in a systematic manner.

- The WHO announced the formation of the International Scientific Advisory Group for Origins of Novel Pathogens, or SAGO.
  - ✓ It is a new advisory group that will develop a global framework to study pathogens with pandemic potential and advise WHO accordingly.
- The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of USA declared on August 13 month of July 2021 as the world's hottest month ever recorded.

## PERSONS IN NEWS

### NOVEMBER

**Falguni Nayar:** Founder and CEO of cosmetics online retailer Nykaa became India's 7th woman billionaire and the wealthiest self-made billionaire on November 10 as her net worth rocketed to \$6.5 billion due to the grand listing of Nykaa's shares on NSE.

**Azim Premji:** The EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy ranked Wipro's founder as the most generous philanthropist for the 2<sup>nd</sup> consecutive year, with massive donation of Rs. 9,713 cr in 2020-21.

### OCTOBER

**Elon Musk:** Tesla CEO, emerged as the richest person in the world, adding \$36 billion to his fortune on October 25, reaching a net worth of \$287 billion.

### SEPTEMBER

**Kailash Satyarthi :** The United Nations Chief Antonio Guterres appointed the Nobel Laureate from India as the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocate on Sep 17.

**Dorje Angchuk:** An engineer at the Indian Astronomical Observatory of the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) at Hanle in Ladakh region, has been admitted as an Honorary Member of the International Astronomical Union, Paris.

### AUGUST

**Bernard Arnault:** French business tycoon, chairman and CEO of the French luxury group LVMH, became the world's richest person with a net worth of \$199.1 billion on August 5, 2021.

# APPOINTMENTS

## NOVEMBER

**Vivek Johri:** Appointed as the chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, CBIC.

**Sheel Vardhan Singh:** Appointed as the new Director General of the central para military force, CISF.

**Shaktikanta Das:** Re-appointed as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for a period of three years, wef December 10, 2021.

**Ahmed Nasser Al Raisi:** A general from the United Arab Emirates was elected as the President of the INTERPOL by its General Assembly in France.

**Petr Fiala:** Appointed as the new Prime Minister of the Czech Republic.

**Nicolae Ciuca:** Appointed as the Prime Minister of Romania by the President.

**Daniel Ortega:** Re-elected for the fourth time as the President of Nicaragua, a small country in Central America.

**Rumen Radev:** President of Bulgaria won a second 5-year presidential term.

**Sheikh Sabah Al Khaled Al Sabah:** Appointed as the new Prime Minister of Kuwait.

**Olaf Scholz:** Chief of the Social Democrats party of Germany headed a three-party coalition to become the Chancellor (prime minister) of Germany, bringing the curtain down on the Angela Merkel era.

## OCTOBER

**KV Kamath:** Veteran banker appointed as the chairperson of the newly set up Rs 20,000 crore National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID).

**Pradeep Kumar Panja:** RBI approved his appointment as part-time Chairman of Karnataka Bank, wef November 14, 2021, for a period of three years.

**Amitabh Chaudhry:** The RBI approved the re-appointment of Amitabh Chaudhry as MD & CEO of Axis Bank for a period of three years, wef January 1, 2022.

**A K Goel:** Selected as the chairman of Indian Banks' Association for 2021-22. He is MD & CEO of UCO Bank.

**B C Patnaik:** Took charge as the managing director of the LIC of India. Currently, LIC has one chairman and four managing directors.

**E.R. Sheikh:** Appointed as the first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate (Coordination and Services).

**Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh:** Appointed as the 34<sup>th</sup> Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC).

**Shavkat Mirziyoyev:** The President of Uzbekistan has been re-elected for a second five-year term.

**Jonas Gahr Store:** Appointed as the new Prime Minister of Norway by King Harald V.

**Alexander Schallenberg:** Appointed as the new Chancellor (prime minister) of Austria.

**Fumio Kishida:** A former Foreign Minister of Japan elected as the 100<sup>th</sup> Prime Minister of the country.

**Raoudha Boudent Ramadhane:** Named as the woman Prime Minister of Tunisia by the President.

**Dame Sandra Mason:** Elected as the first ever president of Barbados, a micro island country in the Caribbean Sea.

## SEPTEMBER

### Three Governors appointed

Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh	Uttarakhand
Banwarilal Purohit	Punjab
R N Ravi	Tamil Nadu

**Charanjit Singh Channi:** Elected as the new Chief Minister of Punjab by the Congress party.

**Bhupendra Patel:** BJP MLA from Ghatlodia was sworn-in as new Chief Minister of Gujarat on Sep 13.

**Shri Girish Chandra Murmu:** The Comptroller and Auditor General (CAG) of India, was elected as the chairman of the assembly of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), Beijing for 2024-27.

**Iqbal Singh Lalpura:** Retired IPS officer of Punjab cadre, appointed as the Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities

**Ms. Harsha Bhupendra Bangari:** Appointed as the new Managing Director of Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank), Mumbai.

**J B Mohapatra:** A senior Indian Revenue Service (Income Tax) officer has been appointed the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), New Delhi

**Najib Mikati:** Lebanon's richest man – became Prime Minister of the country for the third time.

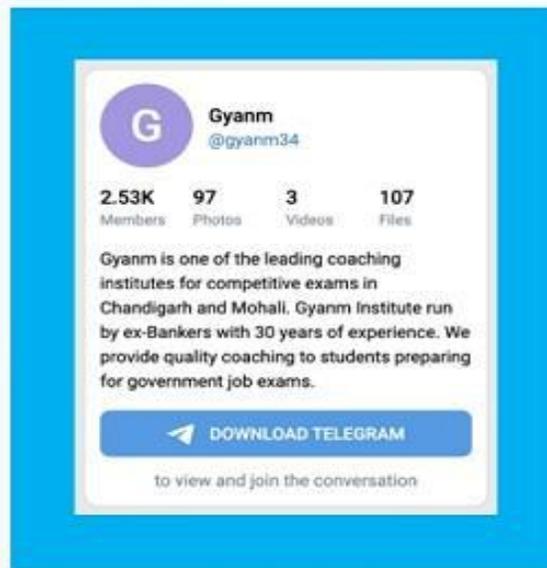
**Aziz Akhannouch:** Appointed as the Prime Minister of Morocco by King Mohammed VI.

**Alar Karis:** Elected as the new President of Estonia by its parliament. It is a tiny country in northern Europe, bordering Baltic Sea.



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## AUGUST

**Ela Ganesan:** Veteran BJP leader and former MP from Tamil Nadu, appointed as the new Governor of Manipur.

**Pankaj Kumar Singh:** Appointed as Director General of the country's largest border guarding force BSF.

**Rekha Sharma:** Nominated as Chairperson of the National Commission for Women, for another term of three years w.e.f. August 07.

**Mini Ipe:** Appointed as the Managing Director of Life Insurance Corporation of India.

**Shanti Lal Jain:** Appointed as the MD & CEO of Indian Bank, for a period of three years.

**Sandeep Bakhshi:** RBI approved the re-appointment of Sandeep Bakhshi as the MD & CEO of ICICI Bank for next two years.

**Ismail Sabri Yaakob:** Former Deputy Prime Minister of Malaysia has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of the country by King Al-Sultan Abdullah.

**Hakainde Hichilema:** Elected as the new President of Zambia, a land-locked country in southern Africa.

**Ebrahim Raisi:** Sworn in as the new president of Iran on August 05, 2021.

**Nikol Pashinyan:** Re-appointed as the prime minister of Armenia by the President Armen Sarkissian.

**Guido Bellido:** Appointed as the new prime minister of Peru by the President of Peru, Pedro Castillo.

**Min Aung Hlaing:** The military Chief of Myanmar, Senior General Hlaing declared himself as the Prime Minister of Myanmar on August 1.

## AWARDS & HONOURS

### NOVEMBER

#### AWARDS AT THE 52<sup>nd</sup> IFFI, GOA

**Golden Peacock for the Best Film:** Won by the movie Ring Wandering directed by Masakazu Kanyeko. The prize also carries a cash award of Rs. 40 lakh.

**Silver Peacock for the best actor-male:** Jitendra Joshi for the film Godavari.

**Silver Peacock for the best actor-Female:** Angela Molina for the film Charlotte.

**Indira Gandhi Peace Prize, 2021:** Pratham, a Mumbai-based NGO was awarded this prestigious prize by the Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust. It carries a cash award of Rs. 25 lakh.

**2021 Booker Prize for Fiction:** Awarded to the South African author Damon Galgut for his novel The Promise. It carries a cash award of Pound 50,000 and is open to all novels in English published in the U.K.

**JCB Prize for Literature:** Won by Malayalam author M. Mukundan for his novel "Delhi: A Soliloquy", translated from Malayalam by Fathima E.V. and Nandakumar K. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 25 lakh.

**17th KidsRights International Children's Peace Prize:** Won by two Delhi-based teenage brothers Vihaan (17) and Nav Agarwal (14) for tackling pollution in their home city by recycling household waste.

### OCTOBER

**Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award:** Conferred on two renowned film directors, Martin Scorsese of USA and Istvan Szabo of Hungary, at the 52<sup>nd</sup> International Film Festival of India (IFFI) at Goa.

**Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought:** European Union's highest award for human rights awarded to imprisoned Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny for his determined and persistent fight against the corruption in Russia.

**Earthshot Prize:** 'Takachar', an agriculture waste recycling project of a Delhi-based entrepreneur Vidyut Mohan, is among the five winners of Prince William's inaugural Earthshot Prize, also dubbed the 'Eco Oscars'. Each prize is for one million pounds.

**Yidan Prize for Education Development-2021:** Awarded to Dr Rukmini Banerji, CEO of Pratham Education Foundation, for her work in understanding why some children are leaving school without picking essential reading and writing skills

**Yidan Prize for Education Research-2021:** Awarded to Professor Eric A. Hanushek, Stanford University, USA, for his research showing that above all it is the quality of education that underpins the economic health of their nations.

The Yidan Prize founded by Chinese business tycoon Dr Chen Yidan, comprises of HK\$30 million (Rs. 28.83 crore).

### SEPTEMBER

**Dr Basant Kumar Misra:** Odisha-born neurosurgeon has been conferred the prestigious American Association of Neurological Surgeons' 'International Lifetime Achievement Award in Neurosurgery'.

**The Ramon Magsaysay Award-2021:** Also known as Asia's Nobel Prize, conferred upon five persons/organisations from Asia who have made selfless and extraordinary contributions to the eradication of poverty and the development of the society in Asia. The five winners are:

Dr. Ms. Firdausi Qadri, Muhammad Amjad Saqib, Roberto Ballon, Steven Muncy, and Watchdoc- Indonesian torch bearer for investigative journalism.

**Bird Photographer of the Year, 2021:** Mexican photographer Alejandro Prieto emerged as the winner from among 22,000 entries from 73 countries.

## AUGUST

The government decided to rename the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award, the highest national award for sports, as Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.

- ✓ Launched in 1991-92, the award carries a medallion, a certificate and a cash prize of Rs. 25 lakh.

## OBITUARY

### NOVEMBER

**Mannu Bhandari:** Eminent Hindi writer passed away in Gurugram on Nov 15. She was 90. She was considered to be one of the pioneers of the 'Nayi Kahani' movement of the 50's and 60's.

**Balwant Moreshwar Purandare:** Noted historian and Padma Vibhushan awardee, popularly known as Babasaheb Purandare, died in Pune Nov 15.

- ✓ Known by his moniker 'Shiv Shahir' (Shivaji's bard), Purandare (99) was among the pre-eminent authorities on Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

### OCTOBER

**Arvind Trivedi:** Veteran actor best known for playing Raavan in the popular 1986 mythological TV serial "Ramayan", left for heavenly abode on Oct 05, following a heart attack at his residence in Mumbai. He was 82.

### SEPTEMBER

**Mahant Narendra Giri:** President of Akhil Bhartiya Akhada Parishad (largest grouping of Indian Sadhus) and Mahant of Bade Hanuman temple, Prayagraj, UP, was found dead in at Baghambari math in Prayagraj on Sep 20, apparently by attempting suicide.

### AUGUST

**Kalyan Singh:** who was the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh twice, passed away in Lucknow on August 21. He was 89. He also served as Governor of Rajasthan and Himachal Pradesh.

**Padma Sachdev:** Noted author and Padma Shri awardee, the first modern woman poet of Dogri language, passed away at a Mumbai hospital on 4<sup>th</sup> August, at age of 81.

**Man Kaur:** Multiple World Masters Championship gold medalist and multiple Asian Masters Championship medalist, 105-year-old athlete from Patiala, Punjab, passed away on July 31, losing her battle with liver cancer.

## PLACES IN NEWS

### NOVEMBER

**Indore:** City in Madhya Pradesh was adjudged India's cleanest city for the fifth time in a row in the Central government's annual cleanliness survey.

**Tirupati:** In Andhra Pradesh, the Temple Town Tirupati suffered vast devastation due to incessant rains on Nov 17-18 owing to the depression in the Bay of Bengal.

**Pochampally:** Village in Telangana's Yadadri Bhuvanagiri dist., famous for its Ikkat or Pochampally sarees, was selected as one of the best tourism villages in the world by the UN World Tourism Organisation.

**Rani Kamalapati Railway Station:** Country's first ISO certified, first PPP model-based ultra-modern Rani Kamalapati Railway Station in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh was dedicated to the nation on Nov 14.

**Srinagar:** The city in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir was included in craft and folk arts category by UNESCO in its coveted list of Creative Cities Network (UCCN).

**Faizabad:** The Uttar Pradesh government renamed the 19th century railway station as "Ayodhya Cantt", three years after Faizabad district was rechristened to Ayodhya.

### OCTOBER

**Varanasi:** Ancient city in Uttar Pradesh is set to become the first city in India to use ropeway services for public transportation. Only two other cities in the world, El Alto-LaPaz in Bolivia and Mexico City, use the ropeway in public transportation.

**Mount Aso:** A volcano erupted in Japan on Oct 20, blasting ash several kms into the sky.

**La Palma Island, Spain:** It witnessed huge volcanic eruptions since Sep 19, spewing streams of red-hot molten rock into the woods and farmland, engulfing everything on the way.

The lava finally met the Atlantic Ocean on September 29 at a point known as Los Guirres, setting off huge plumes of steam and toxic gases.

### SEPTEMBER

**Cyclone 'Gulab':** The cyclonic storm formed in the Bay of Bengal made a landfall on Sep 26 between North Andhra Pradesh and South Odisha, causing heavy rains with high-speed winds.

**Hurricane Ida:** The powerful cyclonic storm destroyed buildings and left more than a million homes without power in the southern state of Louisiana, USA on September 1-2.

## AUGUST

**Bhubaneswar:** Odisha's capital became the first city in India to achieve hundred percent vaccination of its people against covid-19 by July 31.

**Copenhagen:** The capital city of Denmark, was named as the world's safest city from among 60 global cities, in Safe Cities Index 2021, released by the London based global economic research group Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU).

**Haiti:** The tiny country near Cuba in the Caribbean Sea was hit by a 7.2-magnitude quake on August 14, claiming over 2, 000 lives and leaving several hundred others injured.

## SPORTS WORLD

## NOVEMBER

**Ramkumar Ramanathan** won his maiden Challenger level singles title in the summit clash of the ATP 80 Manama Tennis event, in Manama, Bahrain.

**P Iniyan,** Indian Grandmaster won the 5th Rujna Zora chess tournament held in Serbia.

**Sukant Kadam** claimed gold at the Uganda Para Badminton International held on Nov 21 at Kampala, Uganda.

**Akash Kumar** won a bronze medal in the 54-kg category at the 2021 AIBA men's World Boxing Championships in Belgrade.

**Jyothi Surekha Vennam** won gold in the women's compound individual event at the Asian Archery Championships on Nov 18 at Dhaka.

**G Sathiyam and Harmeet Desai** won their first international pro tour Table Tennis title on Oct 30 in the men's double summit clash at the WTT Contender Tunis in Tunisia.

**Sankalp Gupta:** Nagpur teenager became India's 71st Grandmaster by earning his third GM norm in the GM Ask 3 round-robin event in Arandjelovac, Serbia.

**Mitrabha Guha** of Kolkata became the country's 72nd Grandmaster (GM) at the GM Third Saturday Mix 220 tournament in Novi Sad, Serbia on Nov 8.

**Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy:** Tamil Nadu lifted the T20 format national cricket trophy by defeating Karnataka in the finals played on Nov 22 in Delhi.

**Sourav Ganguly, BCCI** president has been appointed the Chairman of the ICC men's Cricket Committee.

**Rohit Sharma:** India's limited-overs vice-captain has been officially announced as Team India's T20 International captain, replacing Virat Kohli.

**Prakash Padukone:** Selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021 by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Council, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

**Rahul Dravid:** BCCI appointed the former Indian captain as the new head coach of the Indian men's cricket team.

## NATIONAL SPORTS AWARDS - 2021

The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports announced the National Sports Awards for the year 2021 on Nov 2. The awardees were honoured by the President at a special function at Rashtrapati Bhavan on the 13th November.

### Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award--12

Neeraj Chopra	Athletics
Ravi Kumar	Wrestling
Lovlina Borgohain	Boxing
Manpreet Singh	Hockey
Sreejesh P.R	Hockey
Mithali Raj	Cricket
Sunil Chhetri	Football
Avani Lekhara	Para Shooting
Manish Narwal	Para Shooting
Sumit Antil	Para Athletics
Pramod Bhagat	Para-Badminton
Krishna Nagar	Para-Badminton

### Arjuna Awards for outstanding performance -35 sportsmen

### Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches (Life-Time) - 5 coaches

### Dronacharya Award for outstanding coaches (Regular) - 5 coaches

### Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement -5 sportspersons

### Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award - 7 ?

### Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar

Identification and Nurturing of Budding and Young Talent: Manav Rachna Educational Institutions, Faridabad, Haryana  
Encouragement to sports through CSR: Indian Oil Corporation Limited

### Maulana Abul Kalam Azad Trophy (MAKA Trophy)

for best all round performance in sports: Panjab University, Chandigarh

## INTERNATIONAL

**ICC T-20 World Cup:** Australia lifted their maiden title as they defeated New Zealand in the final by 8 wickets at Dubai International Stadium on Nov 14. David Warner of Australia was declared Player of the Series.

**Geoff Allardice**, veteran Australian cricketer was appointed as the permanent CEO of the International Cricket Council (ICC) at Dubai on November 21.

**AB de Villiers**, one of contemporary cricket's greatest batters, former South African captain announced his retirement on Nov 19 from all forms of the game.

**Ranjan Madugalle**: Former Sri Lankan cricketer became the first match referee to officiate in 200 Test matches. He reached the landmark on Nov 21 in the Test between Sri Lanka and the West Indies in Galle, Sri Lanka.

## OCTOBER

**Anshu Malik**, 20 years old wrestler from Jind, Haryana scripted history by becoming the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships.

**Divya Deshmukh**, 15-year-old chess prodigy from Nagpur, became India's 21st Woman Grandmaster on October 13 after achieving her 2nd International Master at Grand Master in Budapest, Hungary.

**South Asian Football Federation Championship**: India clinched the title for the eighth time defeating Nepal 3-0 in the finals played in Male, capital of Maldives.

**Durand Cup (130<sup>th</sup> edition)**: FC Goa claimed their maiden football title after a 1-0 win over Mohammedan Sporting in the final played on Oct 03 at the Vivekananda Yubabharati Krirangan in Kolkata.

**Chennai Super Kings** beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 27 runs to win its fourth IPL (Indian Premier League) title in Dubai on October 15.

### Indians sweep FIH awards

The International Hockey Federation's (FIH) announced the annual awards on Oct 6 at Lausanne, Switzerland.

Player of the Year - men: Harmanpreet Singh

Player of the Year - women: Gurjit Kaur

Best goalkeeper - men: PR Sreejesh

Best goalkeeper - women: Savita Punia

**The Indian men's table tennis team** claimed the bronze medal in the ITTF-ATTU Asian Table Tennis Championships in Doha, Qatar on October 01, after losing to South Korea in the semi-finals.

**Virat Kohli** became the first Indian to cross the 10,000 runs mark in the T20 format. Kohli achieved this feat while batting for Royal Challengers Bangalore (RCB) in the IPL 2021 against Mumbai Indians (MI) at the Dubai International Stadium.

### Two more teams join IPL bandwagon

The most popular Indian cricket tournament, Indian Premier League (IPL) got two new teams from the 2022 season, taking the total number of teams in the

competition to ten. RP-Sanjiv Goenka Group (RPSG) secured the bid for the Lucknow team for Rs. 7090 crore while CVC Capital Partners paid Rs. 5625 crore to win the ownership of the Ahmedabad team.

## INTERNATIONAL

**The Victor Denmark Open 2021** badminton tournament was held in Odense, Denmark, from 19 to 24 October.

**Men's singles title** – Viktor Axelsen (Denmark);

**Women's singles title** – Akane Yamaguchi (Japan)

**Cameron Norrie** became the first British to win the Indian Wells final on Oct 17 at Indian Wells Lawn Tennis Garden in Indian Wells, California, United States. Paula Badosa of Spain won the women's singles title.

**Thomas Cup** (Men's badminton): Indonesia defeated reigning champions China 3-0 to win the title for the first time since 2002.

**Uber Cup** (Women's badminton) China beat defending champions Japan 3-1 in the final.

### Mascot for FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup

FIFA unveiled the official mascot of the 7th U-17 Women's World Cup to be hosted by India in October 2022. The mascot named "IBHA" is an Asiatic lioness representing women power.

## SEPTEMBER

**D Gukesh**, Indian GrandMaster won the Norway Chess Open 2021 Masters section, held in Stavanger, Norway.

**Pankaj Advani** won the Asian Snooker Championship 2021 by defeating Amir Sarkhosh held on Sep 16 in Doha, Qatar.

**Harmilan Bains** created a new national record in the 1500 m run at the National Open athletics championships in Warangal, Telangana.

**S P Sethuraman**, Grandmaster from Chennai won the Barcelona Open Chess title on Aug 26 in Spain.

**P Inian**, Indian Grandmaster won the Noisiel International Open Chess Tournament in France.

**R Raja Rithvik**, a 17-year-old prodigy from Warangal, Telangana, became India's 70th Grand Master on Sep 20 when he achieved the Elo rating of more than 2500 in Vezekpezo Grandmaster Chess Tournament at Budapest, Hungary.

**G Sathiyam**, India's top paddler from Chennai won the ITTF Czech International table tennis tournament at Olomouc in Czech Republic on Aug 25.

## INDIANS SHINE IN TOKYO PARALYMPICS

Sr. No.	Name	From	Sports	Medal
1.	Avani Lekhara#	Rajasthan	Women's 10 metre Air Rifle - SH1	Gold
2.	Avani Lekhara	Rajasthan	50m Rifle 3 Position SH1	Bronze
3.	Bhavinaben Patel	Gujarat	Table Tennis Class 4	Silver
4.	Nishad Kumar	Himachal	Men's High Jump T47	Silver
5.	Yogesh Kathuniya	Haryana	Discus Throw, F56	Silver
6.	Devendra Jhajharia	Rajasthan	Javelin throw - F46	Silver
7.	Sundar Singh Gurjar	Rajasthan	Javelin throw- F46	Bronze
8.	Sumit Antil##	Haryana	Javelin throw, F64	Gold
9.	Singhraj Adhana	Haryana	P4 Mixed 50 metre Pistol-SH1	Silver
10.	Singhraj Adhana	Haryana	P1 Men's 10m Air Pistol SH1	Bronze
11.	Praveen Kumar**	Uttar Pradesh	Men's High Jump T64	Silver
12.	Mariyappan Thangavelu	Tamil Nadu	high jump in T63	Silver
13.	Sharad Kumar	Bihar	high jump in T63	Bronze
14.	Harvinder Singh^^	Haryana	Archery, recurve open	Bronze
15.	Manish Narwal @	Haryana	P4-Mixed 50 metre Pistol- SH1	Gold
16.	Pramod Bhagat	Odisha	Badminton, Men's Singles -SL3	Gold
17.	Manoj Sarkar	Uttarakhand	Badminton, Men's Singles- SL3	Bronze
18.	Krishna Nagar	Rajasthan	Badminton, Men's Singles- SH6	Gold
19.	Suhas L Yathiraj \$	Karnataka	badminton in- SL4	Silver

#-- First Indian woman to win a gold in Paralympics and to win two individual medals (gold and bronze)

##-- Created a new World Record

\*\*-- Youngest Indian (18 years) to win a Paralympic medal

^^--First ever Paralympic medal in archery

@-- Created new Paralympic record

\$-- First IAS officer to win a Paralympic medal. He is serving as District Magistrate in Noida, UP.

The Indian contingent finished their campaign at the Paralympic Games at an all-time high by securing a total of 19 medals which includes 5 gold, 8 silver, and 6 bronze medals, finishing 24th in the medals tally.

Ms. Avani Lekhara led India's contingent at the Closing Ceremony of Tokyo Paralympics as the flag-bearer on Sep 05. Team China topped the final medal tally winning a total of 207 medals (96 gold, 60 silver and 51 bronze).

**Indian pugilists** won eight gold medals at the Asian Junior Boxing Championships held in Dubai from August 20 to 30.

**MS Dhoni:** BCCI has announced that the former India captain will mentor the Indian team for the forthcoming T20 World Cup tournament, to be played in UAE and Oman in October and November this year.

The Uttar Pradesh government has adopted wrestling with assurance to pump in Rs 170 crore in infrastructure and support to the wrestlers till the 2032 Olympics.

## INTERNATIONAL

**Ukraine's Oleksandr Usyk** dethroned world heavyweight champion Anthony Joshua (Britain) in a thrilling bout held at the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium, London on Sep 25.

### US Open Finals conclude in New York

Last Grand Slam of tennis concluded on Sep 12 in Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York.

**Men's Singles:** Daniil Medvedev of Russia lifted his first Grand Slam trophy

**Women's Singles:** won by 18 years old British sensation Emma Raducanu

**Cristiano Ronaldo,** became the highest goal scorer in international football scoring 111th international goal on Sep 01. The Manchester United forward player broke the record of 109 goals previously held by Iran's Ali Daei.

### Mascot for Beijing's Winter Olympics - 2022

Beijing's Winter Olympics - 2022 unveiled their mascot, Bing Dwen, a panda that wears a shell made out of ice. The word Bing meaning ice, and "Dwen" means robust and lively and represents children.

The games will run from February 4 to 20, 2022. The official motto for the games is "Together for a Shared Future".

**Harshit Raja,** 20-year-old chess player from Pune became the 69th Grand Master from India.

**Komalika Bari,** 19-year-old Indian girl became the new under-21 recurve world champion at the Youth World Archery Championships held in Wroclaw, Poland.

**Vantika Agarwal** from Delhi won the inaugural National women's online chess championship title.



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# Model Test For General / Economy / Banking Awareness



## JANUARY GK TEST - 01

- Justice G T Navavati: Former Supreme Court judge, who died of a cardiac failure on Dec 18, was associated with the investigation of which of the following?**
  - Anti Sikh riots, 1984
  - Demolition of Babri Masjid, 1992
  - Godhara riots, Gujarat, 2002

Select the correct option:

  - Only 1
  - Only 2
  - Only 3
  - Only 1 and 2
  - Only 1 and 3
- Name the star footballer who became the first player in football history to achieve 800 career goals:**
  - Cristiano Ronaldo
  - Lionel Messi
  - Kylian Mbappe
  - Neymar
  - Zlatan Ibrahimović
- "The Nutmeg's Curse" is a novel by which famous author?**
  - Arindam Bagchi
  - Amish Tripathi
  - Amitav Ghosh
  - Dr. Shashi Tharoor
  - None of these
- Pradeep Kumar Rawat has been appointed India's next Ambassador to which country?**
  - Russia
  - Germany
  - China
  - France
  - South Korea
- The Indian Air Force deployed the first squadron of the S-400 Triumf air defence missile system in the Punjab sector. What is its effective strike range?**
  - 100 km
  - 200 km
  - 300 km
  - 400 km
  - 500 km
- The Parliament passed the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 on Dec 21. Which of the following statements is/are true in this context?**
  - Now voter ID will be linked with PAN card
  - Now voter ID will be linked with Aadhaar number
  - Now persons completing 18 years of age, will get four opportunities to enrol in a year to enrol as voter
  - New system will avoid duplication of voter cards

Select the correct option:

  - All four are true
  - Only 2 and 4 are true
  - All except 1 are true
  - All except 3 are true
  - Only 1 and 2 are true
- C K Nayudu Lifetime Achievement Awards are given for recognizing outstanding contribution in which field?**
  - Cricket
  - Hockey
  - Football
  - Athletics
  - Chess
- In the United Nation's Security Council there are \_\_\_\_\_ permanent members and \_\_\_\_\_ non permanent members?**
  - 5, 10
  - 3, 8
  - 4, 9
  - 5, 8
  - 3, 9
- What is the popular term used for the taxes levied on products and services that are considered bad for health or society, such as alcohol, tobacco, gambling, etc.?**
  - Black tax
  - Moral tax
  - Evil tax
  - Super tax
  - Sin tax
- Which of the following is the title of a recent book by Dr. Shashi Tharoor?**
  - A History of Wild Places
  - Pride, Prejudice, and Punditry
  - Juggernaut of Indian Politics
  - The Judge's List
  - None of these
- Sony Pictures Networks India announced its merger with which of the following?**
  - Sun TV Network
  - Network 18
  - Zee Entertainment Enterprises
  - Star Network
  - None of these
- Harjinder Singh, General Secretary of Indian Ice Hockey Association, has been appointed as India's \_\_\_\_\_ for Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics, to be held in Feb 2022.**
  - Advisor
  - Manager
  - Incharge
  - Chef de Mission
  - Administrator
- NASA launched successfully into orbit the world's largest and most powerful space telescope on Dec 25. What is its name?**
  - James Webb Space Telescope
  - Super Hubble Telescope
  - Voyager-III
  - Pioneer-II
  - None of these
- Which large state topped the Good Governance Index 2021 released on December 25?**
  - Maharashtra
  - Gujarat
  - Tamil Nadu
  - Karnataka
  - None of these
- If you plan to visit the world's only floating park Keibul Lamjao, which state will you have to visit in India?**
  - Meghalaya
  - Manipur
  - Mizoram
  - Kerala
  - Tripura
- The Golden Globe Awards are associated with which field?**
  - Football
  - Arts
  - Cinema
  - Theater
  - Literature
- Which of the following is an international forum to discuss and implement supervisory norms for banks in the world?**
  - Basel Committee on Banking Supervision
  - UN Charter on Commercial Banking
  - World Trade Organisation

- d. International Board of Banks  
e. Universal Commercial Code for Banks
18. **Archbishop Desmond Tutu, a Nobel Peace Prize awardee, passed away recently. He was associated with which activity?**  
a. Upliftment of women  
b. Education of young girls  
c. Anti Apartheid movement  
d. Freedom Struggle of Uganda  
e. None of these
19. **Vijay Hazare Trophy, the one day format (50 overs) national championship was won by which state?**  
a. Himachal Pradesh  
b. Odisha  
c. Tamil Nadu  
d. Rajasthan  
e. Maharashtra
20. **The Niti Aayog released the fourth Health Index covering the period 2019-20 on Dec 27. Which large state topped the index for the fourth successive year?**  
a. Karnataka    b. Kerala  
c. Gujarat    d. Maharashtra  
e. Rajasthan
21. **The ministry of home affairs has set up a high-level committee, headed by Vivek Joshi to look into the possibility of withdrawing the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act (AFSPA) from \_\_\_\_\_ :**  
a. Arunachal Pradesh  
b. Jammu & Kashmir  
c. Assam    d. Nagaland  
e. Manipur
22. **The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation recently gave its approval to which of the following drugs for COVID-19 treatment?**  
a. Remdesivir    b. Nirmatrelvir  
c. Molnupiravir    d. Baricitinib  
e. Favipiravir
23. **Haryana's Nitesh Kumar won two gold medals, individual singles and in doubles, in national para championship of which sports?**  
a. Tennis    b. Table Tennis  
c. Badminton    d. Squash  
e. None of these
24. **Which popular Bollywood actress was named as 2021 Person of the Year by the US based animal welfare NGO PETA?**  
a. Deepika Padukone  
b. Alia Bhatt  
c. Anushka Sharma  
d. Shraddha Kapoor  
e. Kiara Advani
25. **One of the world's largest flowers, the giant Rafflesia tuan-mudae is found in the jungles of which country?**  
a. Kenya    b. Malaysia  
c. Indonesia    d. Brunei  
e. Nigeria
26. **In India, which of the following institutions has the highest share in the disbursement of credit to agriculture and allied activities?**  
a. Commercial Banks  
b. Co-operative Banks  
c. Regional Rural Banks  
d. Micro Finance Institution  
e. None of these
27. **Atul Kumar Goel has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of which public sector bank?**  
a. Bank of Baroda  
b. Punjab National Bank  
c. Canara Bank  
d. Indian Bank  
e. UCO Bank
28. **Which country has now been admitted as the fourth member outside BRICS group in the New Development Bank?**  
a. Saudi Arabia    b. South Korea  
c. Mexico    d. Egypt  
e. Argentina
29. **The Indian Army has set up a quantum computing laboratory and a centre for artificial intelligence (AI) at the Military College of Telecommunication Engineering in \_\_\_\_\_, Madhya Pradesh:**  
a. Orchha    b. Bhopal  
c. Mhow    d. Gwalior  
e. Pithampur
30. **Who became the national champion for the 10th time in the men's singles category of para badminton?**  
a. Krishna Nagar  
b. Sanjeev Kumar  
c. Suhas L Yathiraj  
d. Pramod Bhagat  
e. Tarun Dhillon
31. **Which government aided technical institution bagged the top position for the third successive year, in the Centre's Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2021 released on Dec 29?**  
a. IISc, Bengaluru  
b. IIT Kharagpur  
c. IIT Delhi  
d. IIT Madras  
e. None of these
32. **India lifted the Under-19 Asia Cup by defeating \_\_\_\_\_ by nine wickets on Dec 31 in Dubai:**  
a. Sri Lanka    b. Bangladesh  
c. Afghanistan    d. Pakistan  
e. Nepal
33. **Virender Singh Pathania took over the charge of the Director-General of which of the following force on December 31?**  
a. Indian Coast Guard  
b. ITBP  
c. Andaman Armed Forces  
d. NDRF  
e. NSG
34. **Which gas has got the highest proportion in the gases present in the Earth's atmosphere?**  
a. Helium    b. Oxygen  
c. Nitrogen    d. Hydrogen  
e. Carbon dioxide
35. **With a view to create awareness about the vulnerabilities in the financial system and to generally serve as a health card on the financial stability, the RBI publishes \_\_\_\_\_ on a half yearly basis.**  
a. Report on Economic and Monetary Developments  
b. Financial Stability Report  
c. Report on Trends and Progress of Banking  
d. Annual Financial Review Report  
e. Report on Currency and Finance
36. **Which three insurance companies have been notified as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India for the year 2022?**  
a. LIC, UIIC & NIAC  
b. GIC-R, LIC & NIAC  
c. OIC, NIAC & LIC  
d. GIC-R, LIC & OIC  
e. OIC, UIIC & LIC
37. **Reserve Bank of India has retained State Bank of India, \_\_\_\_\_ and HDFC Bank as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) for the year 2021:**  
a. Punjab National Bank  
b. Bank of Baroda  
c. ICICI Bank    d. Axis Bank  
e. IDBI Bank
38. **The Goods and Services Tax - GST was implemented in India from which date?**  
a. 01st July, 2017  
b. 01st July, 2018  
c. 01st April, 2017  
d. 01st April, 2018  
e. None of these

39. Banks in our country frequently publicise that additional interest rate is available on retail domestic term deposits of \_\_\_\_\_.
- Minors
  - Married women
  - Senior citizens
  - Govt. employees
  - Rural residents
40. Government launched which special mission for developing the semiconductors and display manufacturing ecosystem in India?
- Mission Silicon India
  - Mission Semiconductors
  - India Semiconductor Mission
  - Project Silicon Ventures
  - Semiconductor India Hub
41. \_\_\_\_\_ has become the first smoke free state in the country by implementing the Ujjwala scheme of Centre and Grihini Suidha Yojana of the State:
- Himachal Pradesh
  - Rajasthan
  - Gujarat
  - Haryana
  - Bihar
42. China recently conducted successfully the Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak, running it for a record 20 minutes. What is the popular name of this project?
- Fusion Sun
  - Atomic Sun
  - Artificial Sun
  - Experimental Sun
  - Nuclear Sun
43. Which international body has extended its support to the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) scheme for its improvement?
- FAO
  - UNICEF
  - UNESCO
  - WFP
  - WEF
44. Zhang Ming, a veteran Chinese diplomat, took over as the new Secretary-General of which of the following organisations?
- China Pakistan Economic Corridor
  - Shanghai Coop.OrganiZation
  - China Development Bank
  - One Belt-One Road mission
  - Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
45. India's first open rock museum displaying different types of rocks gathered from different states, has been opened in which place?
- Prayagraj
  - Patna
  - Ranchi
  - Hyderabad
  - Dhanbad
46. Which state/UT celebrates Losar as its new year festival?
- Sikkim
  - Ladakh
  - Lakshadweep
  - Puducherry
  - Mizoram
47. The top most civilian honour of India, 'Bharat Ratna' was awarded first time to three dignitaries in which year?
- 1957
  - 1948
  - 1951
  - 1954
  - 1952
48. Which state claimed the highest number of open defecation free (ODF Plus) villages under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II programme till December 31, 2021?
- Sikkim
  - Kerala
  - Odisha
  - Telangana
  - Meghalaya
49. The National Statistical Office in its latest estimates released on Jan 7 projected India's GDP growth at \_\_\_\_\_ percent for the year 2021-22:
- 7.8
  - 8.5
  - 9.2
  - 9.7
  - 10.3
50. The 3rd National Water Awards-2020 were announced by the Jal Shakti Ministry on January 7. Which state secured the first position?
- Goa
  - Kerala
  - Assam
  - Madhya Pradesh
  - Uttar Pradesh

#### JANUARY GK TEST - 02

1. January 4 is observed as World Braille Day. The Braille language is based on how many convex dots?
- Three
  - Five
  - Six
  - Nine
  - Eleven
2. Which metro city in the world boasts of the largest network of metro rail lines and also the longest network of automatic metro rails?
- New York
  - London
  - Paris
  - Tokyo
  - Shanghai
3. The RBI issued fresh guidelines on Jan 03 for allowing offline payments up to Rs. \_\_\_\_\_ per transaction:
- 200
  - 500
  - 1,000
  - 2,000
  - 5,000
4. Captain Harpreet Chandi became the first non-white woman to complete a solo unsupported trek to the South Pole on Jan 3. She hails from which country?
- Canada
  - Britain
  - France
  - Ireland
  - Scotland
5. Which global company created history on January 3 by becoming the first company to hit a \$3 trillion stock market value?
- Amazon
  - Microsoft
  - Apple Inc
  - Meta
  - Alphabet
6. Union Minister for Education and Skill Development, Dharmendra Pradhan on Jan 3 launched NEAT 3.0. What is the objective of NEAT 3.0?
- To provide the best-developed technological solutions in the education sector
  - To enhance the employability of the youth by improving their skills
  - To improve innovation and startups among youth
  - Both a and b
  - All the three
7. The Election Commission of India raised the existing election expenditure limit for candidates in Parliamentary and Assembly constituencies. What is the highest amount of permitted poll expenditure?
- One crore
  - 95 lakh
  - 90 lakh
  - 86 lakh
  - 80 lakh
8. Which country organised its annual multinational anti-submarine warfare training exercise "Sea Dragon 22" in Guam in the Western Pacific Ocean?
- Japan
  - Australia
  - USA
  - South Korea
  - Philippines
9. Nodirbek Abdusattorov, the 17 year old chess GrandMaster from \_\_\_\_\_, dethroned Magnus Carlsen as World Rapid Chess Champion in Warsaw on Dec 28:
- Norway
  - Russia
  - Ukraine
  - Uzbekistan
  - Georgia
10. Government has declared Dec 26 to be observed as "Veer Bal Diwas" in the honour of two Sahibzadas who were sealed alive in a wall (bricked alive) at \_\_\_\_\_, Punjab:
- Bhikhiwind
  - Sirhind
  - Chappar chiri
  - Goindwal
  - Anandpur Sahib

11. Which of the following is the largest state of India in terms of area?  
a. Rajasthan  
b. Madhya Pradesh  
c. Maharashtra  
d. Uttar Pradesh  
e. Gujarat
- 12) Who is the first Asian to win the Nobel Prize for Economics?  
a. Amitav Ghosh  
b. Abhijit Banerjee  
c. Amartya Sen  
d. Abhijit Sen  
e. Amartya Banerjee
13. Bharath \_\_\_\_\_, the 14 year old chess prodigy from Chennai became the 73rd Grandmaster of India:  
a. Muthuswamy  
b. Subramaniyam  
c. Balakrishna  
d. Krishnan  
e. Venkatesh
14. In terms of forest cover as percentage of total geographical area, which state is at top with its 84.53% area under forests?  
a. Assam  
b. Arunachal Pradesh  
c. Mizoram  
d. Meghalaya  
e. Nagaland
15. Which film won the Golden Globe for best film - drama?  
a. Belfast  
b. Coda  
c. Dune  
d. King Richard  
e. The Power of the Dog
16. Sidney Poitier, recipient of the highest U.S. civilian honor, the Presidential Medal of Freedom, died on Jan 6. He was associated with which field?  
a. Politics  
b. Computers  
c. Cinema  
d. Business  
e. Social work
17. Which city in Kerala has become the first city of India with a water metro project as it launched the first in a series of battery-powered fully AC electric boats in the city?  
a. Trichy  
b. Kollam  
c. Thrissur  
d. Kochi  
e. Thiruvananthapuram
18. With a view to focus more on the "dynamically" growing financial sector, RBI has set up a new separate department in the first week of January. What is its name?  
a. Online Banking Department  
b. Digital Banking Department  
c. Fintech Department  
d. Banking IT Department  
e. None of these
19. As per the RBI guidelines, interest on Savings Bank Account is now calculated by banks on \_\_\_\_\_:  
a. Minimum balance during the month  
b. Minimum balance from 5th to last day of the month  
c. Minimum balance from 10th to last day of the month  
d. Maximum balance during the month  
e. Daily product basis
20. Reverse Mortgage is a financial product which is specially designed to meet the credit needs of \_\_\_\_\_.  
a. Senior citizens  
b. Students  
c. Property dealers  
d. Small Farmers  
e. Exporters
21. China's lunar lander has found the first-ever on-site evidence of water on the surface of the moon. What is its name?  
a. Deng  
b. Shenzhou-7  
c. Chang'e 5  
d. Tiangong  
e. Zhurong
22. The 25th National Youth Festival was held in virtual mode in which city?  
a. Puducherry  
b. Mysuru  
c. New Delhi  
d. Jaipur  
e. Shillong
23. National Youth Day on January 12 commemorates the birthday of which great person?  
a. Rajiv Gandhi  
b. Bhagat Singh  
c. Chhatrapati Shivaji  
d. Swami Vivekanand  
e. None of these
24. The passport rankings released by the Henley Passport Index (HPI) for the first quarter of 2022 have placed India at which rank?  
a. 77th  
b. 83rd  
c. 89th  
d. 95th  
e. 99th
25. Which corporate group will replace Chinese mobile manufacturer Vivo as the Indian Premier League's title sponsor for the next two years?  
a. Reliance  
b. Hero  
c. Byju's  
d. Tata  
e. L&T
26. The Indian Navy successfully test fired an extended range sea-to-sea variant of the \_\_\_\_\_ cruise missile from its newly commissioned warship INS Visakhapatnam on Jan 11:  
a. Nirbhay  
b. Agni  
c. BrahMos  
d. Prithvi  
e. Aakash
27. What is the logo of the flagship scheme of the Govt. of India - "Make in India"?  
a. Figure of Tiger  
b. A collage of machine parts  
c. Figure of Lion made up of machine parts  
d. Outline of Industrial shed  
e. A clip art of labourers at work
28. Which of the following correctly describes Call Money?  
a. Money borrowed or lent for a day or over night in the money market  
b. Money borrowed for more than one day but up to 30 days  
c. Money borrowed by banks from other banks, payable on demand  
d. Money borrowed from banks, payable on demand  
e. None of these
29. S Somanath, an eminent \_\_\_\_\_ has been appointed the new chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO):  
a. Satellite expert  
b. Telemetry expert  
c. Rocket Scientist  
d. Satellite Scientist  
e. None of these
30. Festival of Makar Sankranti is celebrated by which name in Assam?  
a. Bohag Bihu  
b. Bhogali Bihu  
c. Rongali Bihu  
d. Kongali Bihu  
e. Kaati Bihu
31. As per the India State of Forest Report 2021, which Indian state has the largest area under forests?  
a. Madhya Pradesh  
b. Arunachal Pradesh  
c. Assam  
d. Chhattisgarh  
e. Kerala
32. Who has been selected as the captain of the Indian squad for the Women's Hockey Asia Cup 2022?  
a. Rani Rampal  
b. Gurjit Kaur  
c. Navjot Kaur  
d. Savita Punia  
e. Deep Grace Ekka
33. Which country has appointed Denis Alipov as its new ambassador to India?  
a. Ukraine  
b. Russia  
c. Georgia  
d. Mongolia  
e. South Korea

34. To commemorate which event January 15 is observed as Army Day?  
 a. To mark first victory of Indian Army in 1948  
 b. Foundation Day of Indian Army in 1950  
 c. Foundation Day of Indian Army by British in 1895  
 d. Handing over command of Indian Army to an Indian General in 1949  
 e. None of these
35. Tasnim Mir, 16-year-old badminton player from Mehsana, Gujarat, was in the news recently for what reason?  
 a. She became the Junior National Badminton Champion  
 b. She became the Senior National Badminton Champion  
 c. Becoming the first Indian to top the under-19 world rankings  
 d. Becoming youngest Indian to win an international event  
 e. None of these
36. One of the largest hydro-electric projects of India 'Koyna Dam' is located in which state?  
 a. Bihar  
 b. Gujarat  
 c. Karnataka  
 d. Madhya Pradesh  
 e. Maharashtra
37. Who is regarded as the Father of Green Revolution in India?  
 a. M S Randhawa  
 b. M S Swaminathan  
 c. Norman Borlough  
 d. Verghese Kurien  
 e. None of these
38. Many times, we read about 'Future Trading' in newspapers. What is it?  
 a. A trade transaction between any two stock exchanges to buy stocks of each other on a fixed price on a future date  
 b. It is an agreement between two parties to buy or sell an underlying asset in the future at a predetermined price  
 c. It is an agreement between stock exchanges that they will not trade the stocks of each other under any circumstances in future or for an agreed period of time  
 d. Both a and b  
 e. All of the above
39. To make the culture of start-ups reach the far-flung parts of the country, it has been decided to celebrate January \_\_ as "National Start-up Day":  
 a. 9  
 b. 11  
 c. 16  
 d. 21  
 e. 31
40. In a first export order for the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from India, which country confirmed a \$374.96 million purchase contract?  
 a. Vietnam  
 b. Taiwan  
 c. South Korea  
 d. Philippines  
 e. Indonesia
41. To mark the occasion of 74th Army Day on January 15, the world's largest national flag, the Indian Tricolour made from Khadi, was displayed at which place in Rajasthan?  
 a. Barmer  
 b. Bikaner  
 c. Phalodi  
 d. Longewala  
 e. Jaisalmer
42. Who won the Men's Singles title in the India Open badminton championship in New Delhi on Jan 16?  
 a. Satwik  
 b. Chirag Shetty  
 c. Lakshya Sen  
 d. Srikanth Kidambi  
 e. H S Prannoy
43. The Lok Sabha in India is conducted in 3 sessions in a year. Which of the following is not one of them?  
 a. Budget Session  
 b. Monsoon Session  
 c. Summer Session  
 d. Winter Session  
 e. None of these
44. The Aadhar card can be issued to the persons in which age group?  
 a. 6 months to 60 years  
 b. 1 year to 75 years  
 c. 6 months to 80 years  
 d. 1 month to 60 years  
 e. No minimum or maximum age limit
45. National Stock Exchange has its stock index named as NIFTY. How many companies are there in the basket of NIFTY?  
 a. 30  
 b. 40  
 c. 50  
 d. 60  
 e. 100
46. Which of the following type of companies are authorized to issue Initial Public Offering or Follow on Public Offer?  
 a. Private Limited Company  
 b. Public Limited Company  
 c. Limited Liability Partnership - LLP  
 d. Both a and b  
 e. None of these
47. Birju Maharaj, a legendary artist, breathed his last on January 17 at his Delhi residence. He was associated with which of the following?  
 a. Kathak dance  
 b. Flute playing  
 c. Bharatnatyam  
 d. Kuchipudi  
 e. Tabla playing
48. The underwater volcano Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai erupted massively in the island archipelago Tonga on Jan 15. It lies in which region?  
 a. South Atlantic Ocean  
 b. North Atlantic Ocean  
 c. North Pacific Ocean  
 d. South Pacific Ocean  
 e. Caribbean Sea
49. Indian Navy and Russian Navy undertook PASSEX exercises on Jan 14 at which place?  
 a. Off the Chennai coast  
 b. Near Goa coast  
 c. Near Kochi coast  
 d. Andaman Sea  
 e. Indian Ocean, south of Sri Lanka
50. The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands-1971 calls for international cooperation for the conservation and wise use of wetlands. Ramsar is a popular city of which country?  
 a. Iraq  
 b. Iran  
 c. Syria  
 d. Israel  
 e. Morocco

ANSWER KEY | JANUARY | GK TEST | I

Q.	A.								
1	E	2	A	3	C	4	C	5	D
6	C	7	A	8	A	9	E	10	B
11	C	12	D	13	A	14	B	15	B
16	C	17	A	18	C	19	A	20	B
21	D	22	C	23	C	24	B	25	C
26	A	27	B	28	D	29	C	30	B
31	D	32	A	33	A	34	C	35	B
36	B	37	C	38	A	39	C	40	C
41	A	42	C	43	D	44	B	45	D
46	B	47	D	48	D	49	C	50	E

ANSWER KEY | JANUARY | GK TEST | 2

Q.	A.								
1	C	2	E	3	A	4	B	5	C
6	D	7	B	8	C	9	D	10	B
11	A	12	C	13	B	14	C	15	E
16	C	17	D	18	C	19	E	20	A
21	C	22	A	23	D	24	B	25	D
26	C	27	C	28	A	29	C	30	B
31	A	32	D	33	B	34	D	35	C
36	E	37	B	38	B	39	C	40	D
41	D	42	C	43	C	44	E	45	C
46	B	47	A	48	D	49	C	50	B

# SSC-CGL

## TIER - 1 Model Test Paper



### REASONING ABILITY

**Directions (Q. Nos. 01 - 05) :** Select the related word/letters/number from the given alternatives. / निर्देश (प्र.सं.01-05): दिए गए विकल्पों में से सम्बन्धित शब्द/अक्षरों/संख्या को चुनिए।

- 9 : 50 :: ?  
 (a) 15 : 225 (b) 20 : 105  
 (c) 18 : 190 (d) 22 : 110
- MIKE : OGMC :: CIAD ?  
 (a) AJCF (b) EGCB  
 (c) EICB (d) ENCF
- PALAEONTOLOGY : FOSSIL :: PHRENOLOGY : ? / जीवाश्म विज्ञान : जीवाश्म :: कपाल विज्ञान : ?  
 (a) LUNGS / फेफड़े  
 (b) PANCREAS / अग्न्याशय  
 (c) SKULL / खोपड़ी  
 (d) THYROID / थायरॉयड
- $\sqrt{AFI} = M : \sqrt{ADD} = L :: \sqrt{ABA} = ?$   
 (a) N (b) I  
 (c) K (d) O
- 16 : 22 :: 36 : ?  
 (a) 26 (b) 24  
 (c) 5 (d) 46
- A man takes 6 km distance to go around the rectangular area. If the area of the rectangle is 2 km, find the difference between length and breadth. / एक व्यक्ति आयताकार क्षेत्र के चारों ओर जाने में 6 किमी. चलता है। यदि आयत का क्षेत्रफल 2 किमी. है, तो लम्बाई और चौड़ाई के बीच अंतर ज्ञात कीजिए।  
 (a) 2 km / किमी. (b) 1 km / किमी.  
 (c) 0.5 km / किमी. (d) 0.75 km / किमी.

**Directions (Q. Nos. 07-11) :** Select the missing number from the given responses. / निर्देश (प्र.सं.) : दिए गए विकल्पों में से लुप्त अंक ज्ञात कीजिए।

- |   |    |   |
|---|----|---|
| 2 | 4  | 2 |
| 3 | 9  | 3 |
| 4 | 16 | 4 |
| 8 | 64 | ? |

- |        |       |
|--------|-------|
| (a) 24 | (b) 8 |
| (c) 16 | (d) 9 |

- |          |          |  |
|----------|----------|--|
|          |          |  |
| (a) 5634 | (b) 5364 |  |
| (c) 6543 | (d) 3564 |  |

- |     |    |    |    |    |
|-----|----|----|----|----|
| I   | 25 | 15 | 40 | 8  |
| II  | 65 | 25 | 90 | ?  |
| III | 45 | 15 | 60 | 12 |

(a) 24	(b) 12
(c) 6	(d) 18

- |        |        |
|--------|--------|
|        |        |
| (a) 10 | (b) 30 |
| (c) 40 | (d) 20 |

- |                |                |               |
|----------------|----------------|---------------|
| 18             | 21             | 24            |
| 3              | 9              | 3             |
| $\frac{6}{21}$ | $\frac{4}{26}$ | $\frac{8}{?}$ |

(a) 24	(b) 29
(c) 27	(d) 22

- P, Q, R, S, T, U are 6 members of a family in which there are two married couples. T, a teacher is married to a doctor who is mother of R and U. Q, the lawyer is married to P. P has one son and one grandson. Of the two married ladies one is a

housewife. There is also one student and one male engineer in the family. Which of the following is true about the grand-daughter of the family? / P, Q, R, S, T, U एक परिवार के 6 सदस्य हैं। जिनमें दो विवाहित जोड़े हैं। शिक्षक T का विवाह डॉक्टर से हुआ है जो R और U की माँ है। वकील Q का विवाह P से हुआ है। P का एक पुत्र और एक पौत्र है। दो विवाहित महिलाओं में एक गृहणी है। परिवार में एक छात्र भी है और एक पुरुष इंजीनियर है। निम्नलिखित में से क्या परिवार की पौत्री के बारे में सही है?

- (a) She is a student / वह छात्र है  
 (b) She is a lawyer / वह वकील है  
 (c) She is an engineer / वह इंजीनियर है  
 (d) She is a doctor / वह डॉक्टर है

**Directions (Q. Nos. 13-14) : Two statements is given followed by two conclusions/assumptions, I and II. You have to consider the statement to be true, even if it seems to be at variance from commonly known facts. You are to decide which of the given conclusions/assumptions can definitely be drawn from the given statement. Indicate your answer. / निर्देश दो वक्तव्य दिया गया है, जिसके आगे दो निष्कर्ष/मान्यतायें, I और II निकाले गए हैं। आप को विचार करना है कि वक्तव्य सत्य है चाहे वो सामान्यतः ज्ञात तथ्यों से भिन्न प्रतीत होता हो। आपको निर्णय करना है कि दिए गए वक्तव्य में से कौन-सा निश्चित रूप से सही निष्कर्ष/मान्यता निकाला जा सकता है। अपने उत्तर को निर्दिष्ट कीजिए।**

**13. Statements : / वक्तव्य :**

- I. All poets are day dreamers. / सभी कवि दिवास्वप्न दृष्टा हैं।  
 II. All painters are day dreamers. / सभी चित्रकार दिवास्वप्न दृष्टा हैं।

**Conclusions : / निष्कर्ष :**

- I. All painters are poets. / सभी चित्रकार कवि हैं।  
 II. Some day dreamers are not painters. / कुछ दिवास्वप्नदृष्टा चित्रकार नहीं हैं।
- (a) Neither I nor II follows. / न निष्कर्ष I और न ही निष्कर्ष II निकलता है।  
 (b) Only I follows. / केवल निष्कर्ष I निकलता है।  
 (c) Only II follows. / केवल निष्कर्ष II निकलता है।  
 (d) Both I and II follow / निष्कर्ष I एवं II दोनों निकलते हैं।

**14. Statements : / वक्तव्य :**

- I. Some men are good. / कुछ व्यक्ति अच्छे हैं।  
 II. Some men are wise. / कुछ व्यक्ति बुद्धिमान हैं।

**Conclusions : / निष्कर्ष :**

- I. Some wise men are good. / कुछ बुद्धिमान व्यक्ति अच्छे हैं।

II. Some good men are wise. / कुछ अच्छे व्यक्ति बुद्धिमान हैं।

- (a) Only II follows / केवल निष्कर्ष II निकलता है।  
 (b) Both I and II follow / निष्कर्ष I एवं II दोनों निकलते हैं।  
 (c) Only I follows / केवल निष्कर्ष I निकलता है।  
 (d) Neither I nor II follows / न निष्कर्ष I और न ही निष्कर्ष II निकलता है।

**Directions (Q. Nos. 15-16) : A series is given, with one term missing. Choose the correct alternative from the given ones that will complete the series. / निम्न एक अनुक्रम दिया है, जिसमें एक पद लुप्त है। दिए गए विकल्पों में से वह सही विकल्प चुनिए जो अनुक्रम को पूरा करें।**

**15.** 1, 2, 2, 4, 3, 8, 7, 10, ?

- (a) 9 (b) 11  
 (c) 13 (d) 8

**16.** 0, 7, 26, 63, ?

- (a) 96 (b) 123  
 (c) 87 (d) 124

**17.** In a certain code language '481' means 'sky is blue', '246' means 'sea is deep' and '698' means 'sea looks blue'. What number is the code for 'blue'? / किसी कोड भाषा में '481' का अर्थ है—'sky is blue', '246' का अर्थ है 'sea is deep' और '698' का अर्थ है— 'sea looks blue', 'blue' के कोड के लिए कौन-सी संख्या है?

- (a) 6 (b) 8  
 (c) 1 (d) 9

**18.** Some equations are solved on the basis of a certain system. On the same basis find out the correct answer for the unsolved equation. / कुछ समीकरण एक निश्चित व्यवस्था के आधार पर हल किए गए हैं। उसी आधार पर बिना हल किये समीकरणों का सही उत्तर ज्ञात कीजिए।

$$4 - 5 - 1 = 514$$

$$3 - 5 - 6 = 563$$

$$0 - 6 - 8 = ?$$

- (a) 680 (b) 068  
 (c) 806 (d) 860

**19.** Six students A, B, C, D, E, F are sitting on the ground. A and B belong to Ruby House, while the rest belong to Emerald House. D and F are tall, while others are short. C and D are wearing glasses while others are not wearing. Which girl of Emerald House is tall and is wearing glass? / छह छात्र A, B, C, D, E, F जमीन पर बैठे हुए हैं। A और B का सम्बन्ध रुबी हाउस से है जबकि शेष का सम्बन्ध एमराल्ड हाउस से है। D और F लम्बे हैं। जबकि अन्य छात्रों का कद छोटा है। C और D ने चश्मा लगाया है जबकि अन्य

छात्रों ने नहीं। एमराल्ड हाउस की कौन-सी लड़की लम्बी है और चश्मा पहने हुए है।

- (a) D (b) C  
(c) A (d) B

20. From the given alternative words, select the word which cannot be formed using the letters of the given word : / निम्नलिखित विकल्पों में से वह शब्द चुनिए जो दिए गए शब्द के अक्षरों का प्रयोग करके नहीं बनाया जा सकता :

**ENVIRONMENT**

- (a) EMINENT (b) MOVEMENT  
(c) ENTRANCE (d) ENTER

21. Arrange these letters of each group to make a meaningful word and then find the odd one out. / सार्थक शब्द बनाने के लिए प्रत्येक समूह के अक्षरों को व्यवस्थित कीजिये और तब विषम शब्द ज्ञात कीजिए।

- (a) GHIET (b) VEENS  
(c) VIDEID (d) ORFU

22. Sohan drove 15 km to the west from his house, then turned left and walked 20 km. He then turned east and walked 25 km and finally turning left covered 20 km. How far he is from his house? / सोहन अपने घर से 15 किमी. पश्चिम की ओर चला, फिर बाएं मुड़कर 20 किमी. चला। वह फिर से पूर्व में मुड़कर 25 किमी. चला और अंत में बाएं मुड़कर 20 किमी. चला। वह अपने घर से कितनी दूर है?

- (a) 80 kms (b) 5 kms  
(c) 10 kms (d) 40 kms

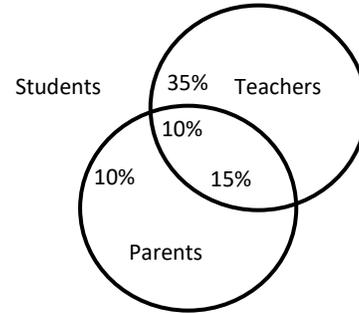
**Directions (Q. Nos. 23): Which one of the given responses would be a meaningful order of the following? / निर्देश : निम्नलिखित विकल्पों में से कौन-सा विकल्प नीचे दिए हुए शब्दों का सार्थक क्रम दर्शाता है?**

23. 1. Frog / मेंढक 2. Eagle / गरुड़  
3. Grasshopper / टिड्डा  
4. Snake / साँप 5. Grass / घास  
(a) 3, 4, 2, 5, 1 (b) 1, 3, 5, 2, 4  
(c) 5, 3, 1, 4, 2 (d) 5, 3, 4, 2, 1

24. Which single letter can be prefixed to the following words in order to obtain entirely new words? (Same letter has to be prefixed in all the five words of each) / पूरी तरह से नए शब्द बनाने के लिए निम्नलिखित शब्दों के पहले कौन-सा एकल अक्षर लगाया जा सकता है? (पांचों शब्दों में प्रत्येक में वही एक अक्षर लगाना है)

- EAT OUR IS AS AT  
(a) C (b) B  
(c) H (d) S

25. In the given figure 10% are students and parents, and the 10% are students, teachers and parents, 15% are Teachers and Parents. 35% are Students and Teachers. How many percentage are only Teachers, Parents and Students. / दी गई आकृति में 10% छात्र और माता-पिता हैं तथा 10% छात्र और शिक्षक और माता-पिता हैं। 15% शिक्षक और माता-पिता हैं। 35% छात्र और शिक्षक हैं। कितने प्रतिशत केवल शिक्षक, माता-पिता और छात्र हैं।



- (a) 40, 65, 45 (b) 45, 40, 65  
(c) 40, 45, 65 (d) 65, 40, 45

**GENERAL KNOWLEDGE**

26. The earth completes one rotation on its axis in : / अपने अक्ष पर पृथ्वी एक चक्कर कितने समय में पूरा करती है?

- (a) 24 hrs. / 24 घंटे  
(b) 23 hrs., 10 min, 2 sec. / 23 घंटे, 10 मिनट, 2 सेकेंड  
(c) 23 hrs., 30 min. / 23 घंटे, 30 मिनट  
(d) 23 hrs., 56 min., 4.9 sec. / 23 घंटे, 56 मिनट, 4.9 सेकेंड

27. Liberalism stands for / स्वातंत्र्यवाद किसका द्योतक है।

- (a) self-emancipation / स्वतः उद्धारिकरण  
(b) freedom in social, political and economic aspects / सामाजिक, राजनैतिक तथा आर्थिक पहलुओं की स्वतंत्रता  
(c) a movement and an attitude / प्रवृत्ति तथा बर्ताव  
(d) religious orthodoxy / धार्मिक रुढ़ीवादता

28. State Bank of India was previously known as : / स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया पहले किस नाम से जाना जाता था -

- (a) Imperial Bank of India / इम्पीरियल बैंक ऑफ इण्डिया  
(b) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक  
(c) Co-operative Bank of India / कोआपरेटिव बैंक ऑफ इंडिया  
(d) Syndicate Bank / सिंडिकेट बैंक

29. Earthquakes are caused by / भूकम्प का कारण \_\_\_\_\_ है।  
 (a) Tectonism / टैक्टोनिज्म  
 (b) Earth rotation / भू घूर्णन  
 (c) Denudation / अन्नाच्छादन  
 (d) Earth revolution / भू परिभ्रमण
30. Waksman got the Noble prize for the discovery of : / इसकी खोज के कारण वाक्समैन को नोबेल पुरस्कार दिया गया –  
 (a) Streptomycin / स्ट्रेप्टोमाईसिन  
 (b) Penicillin / पैनिसिलीन  
 (c) Neomycin / निओमाईसिन  
 (d) Chloromycetin / क्लोरोमाईसिटिन
31. The ore of Aluminium is / एल्युमीनियम का अयस्क है –  
 (a) Hematite / हैमाटाइट  
 (b) Bauxite / बॉक्साइट  
 (c) Fluorspar / फ्लोओस्फार  
 (d) Chalco pyrites / कैलको पायरायटीज
32. Who discovered the first antibiotic? / प्रथम ऐन्टीबायोटिक की खोज किसने की थी?  
 (a) Louis Pastour / लुईस पास्चर  
 (b) W. Fleming / डब्लू फ्लेमिंग  
 (c) A. Fleming / ऐ फ्लेमिंग  
 (d) C. Waksman / सी. वाक्समैन
33. Who is considered founder of the Gupta Empire? / गुप्त शासनकाल का संस्थापक किसे माना जाता है?  
 (a) Chandra Gupta I / चन्द्रगुप्त I  
 (b) Samudra Gupta / समुद्रगुप्त  
 (c) Srigupta / श्रीगुप्त  
 (d) Chandra Gupta II / चन्द्रगुप्त II
34. Mahatma Gandhi began his political activities in India first from – / गांधीजी ने भारत में अपनी राजनैतिक गतिविधियों का प्रारंभ यहाँ से किया था –  
 (a) Champaran / चंपारन  
 (b) Sabarmati / साबरमती  
 (c) Kheda / खैड़ा  
 (d) Dandi / डांडी
35. The oldest form of composition of Hindustani vocal music is – / भारतीय वोकल म्यूजिक का प्राचीन रूप है –  
 (a) Ghazal / गजल  
 (b) Dhrupad / ध्रुपद  
 (c) Thumri / तुमरी  
 (d) None of the options / दिए गए विकल्पों में से कोई नहीं
36. For a missile launched with a velocity less than the earth's escape velocity, the total energy is / पृथ्वी के पलायन वेग की अपेक्षा कम वेग पर एक मिसाइल को लांच करने के लिए कुल ऊर्जा यह चाहिए।  
 (a) Positive / धनात्मक  
 (b) Either positive or negative / धनात्मक अथवा ऋणात्मक  
 (c) Zero / शून्य  
 (d) Negative / ऋणात्मक
37. The Environment (Protection) Bill was passed by the Parliament of India in – / भारत की संसद ने पर्यावरण (संरक्षण) बिल इस वर्ष पारित किया –  
 (a) 1984 (b) 1986  
 (c) 1981 (d) 1972
38. What is the fascist view of state? / राज्य के विषय में फासीवाद क्या है?  
 (a) Nationa state is unquestionable sovereign. / राष्ट्र राज्य निर्विवाद संप्रभु है  
 (b) State is under the control of a king / राज्य राजा के नियंत्रण में रहता है।  
 (c) State is the instrument of exploitation in the hands of few. / राज्य एक प्रकार से कुछ लोगों के हाथ शोषण सम्बन्धित औजार है।  
 (d) State enhances the ideal of individualism / राज्य व्यक्तिवाद के सम्बन्धित धारणा को बढ़ाता है।
39. Molybdenum deficiency affects the activity of : / मालीविडनम अपर्याप्तता इसकी सक्रियता को प्रभावित करती है –  
 (a) Nitrogenase / नाइट्रोजिनेस  
 (b) Nitrate reductase / नाइट्रेट रिडक्टैज  
 (c) All of the given options / दिए गए विकल्पों में से सभी  
 (d) Chlorate reductase / क्लोरेट रिडक्टैज
40. Xenobiotics which are inherently resistant to microbial attack are called as: / जीनोबायोटिक्स जो सूक्ष्मजीवीय आक्रमणों के प्रति अनुवांशिक रूप से प्रतिरोधी हैं, वह कहलाते हैं –  
 (a) All of the given options / दिए गए विकल्पों में से सभी  
 (b) Persistent / परसिस्टेंट  
 (c) Biodegradable / बायोडीग्रेडेबल  
 (d) Recalcitrant / रिकैल्सीत्रांत
41. Fascism believes in the application of the principle of / फासिज्म का विश्वास इस सिद्धांत को लागू करने में है  
 (a) Democracy / प्रजातंत्र (b) Dictatorship / तानाशाही  
 (c) Utilitarianism / उपयोगितावाद  
 (d) Totalitarianism / सर्वसत्तावाद

42. The Dynamo converts / डायनैमो इसे परिवर्तित करता है
- Mechanical energy into Electrical Energy / यांत्रिक ऊर्जा को विद्युत (इलेक्ट्रिकल) ऊर्जा में
  - Electrical energy into Mechanical Energy / विद्युत ऊर्जा को यांत्रिक ऊर्जा में
  - Mechanical energy into Magnetic Energy / यांत्रिक ऊर्जा को चुम्बकीय ऊर्जा में
  - None of these / इनमें से कोई नहीं
43. On 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2015 a Conference on Make in India-Indigenisation of currency was organised by the department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India. Who inaugurated the Conference? / 'मेक इन इंडिया-इंडिजिनाइजेशन ऑफ करेंसी' 2 जून 2015 को वित्त मंत्रालय के इकोनोमिक अफेयर विभाग ने जिस सम्मेलन का आयोजन किया था उसका उद्घाटन किसके द्वारा हुआ?
- Finance Minister / वित्त मंत्री
  - Prime Minister / प्रधान मंत्री
  - Finance Secretary / वित्त सचिव
  - Governor (R.B.I.) / गवर्नर (आर.बी. आई.)
44. Heavy metals got their name because compared to other atoms they have - / भारी धातुओं का नाम इस लिए पड़ा क्योंकि इनमें अन्य परमाणुओं की तुलना में यह होता है -
- Higher densities / उच्च घनत्व
  - Higher atomic numbers / उच्च परमाणुनीय संख्या
  - Higher atomic radii / उच्च परमाणुनीय त्रिज्य
  - Higher atomic masses / उच्च परमाणुनीय पुंज
45. When is International 'Yoga Divas' celebrated? / अंतर्राष्ट्रीय 'योग दिवस' कब मनाया जाता है?
- 21 July / 21 जुलाई
  - 21<sup>st</sup> May / 21 मई
  - 25<sup>th</sup> April / 25 अप्रैल
  - 21<sup>st</sup> June / 21 जून
46. When a helium atom loses an electron it becomes - / हीलियम परमाणु जब इलेक्ट्रॉन खोता है तब वह यह बनता है -
- A negative helium ion / ऋणात्मक हीलियम आयन
  - A proton / प्रोटोन
  - An alpha particle / अल्फा कण
  - A positive helium ion / धनात्मक हीलियम आयन
47. Photo chemical smog is a resultant of the reaction among - / प्रकाश-रसायन स्मॉग इस आम क्रिया का परिणाम है।
- NO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> and peroxy acetyl nitrate in the presence of Sunlight / सूर्य प्रकाश की उपस्थिति में NO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> तथा परऑक्सी एसिटिल नाइट्रेट
  - CO, CO<sub>2</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub> at low temperature / लघु ताप पर CO, CO<sub>2</sub> तथा NO<sub>2</sub>
  - CO, O<sub>2</sub> and peroxy acetyl nitrate in the presence of Sunlight / सूर्य प्रकाश की उपस्थिति में CO, O<sub>2</sub> तथा परऑक्सी एसिटिल नाइट्रेट
  - High concentration of NO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> and CO in the evening / सायं के समय NO<sub>2</sub>, O<sub>3</sub> तथा CO की उच्च आद्रता
48. The technology used in the electronic printer is called - / इलेक्ट्रॉनिक प्रिंटर में जिस प्रौद्योगिकी का प्रयोग किया जाता है वह क्या कहलाती है?
- Micro encapsulation / माइक्रो एनकैप्सूलेशन
  - Micro millimetric / माइक्रो मिलीमीट्रिक
  - Micro technology / माइक्रो टेक्नोलोजी
  - Micro array / माइक्रो ऐरे
49. In the grass lands, trees do not replace the grasses as a part of an ecological succession because of - / पारिस्थितिक अनुक्रमण के कारण ग्रासलैंड में घास के स्थान पर वृक्ष नहीं लगाये जाते क्योंकि -
- None of the options / दिए गए विकल्पों में से कोई नहीं
  - Limited sun light and paucity of nutrients / सीमित सूर्य प्रकाश तथा पोषकों की कमी के कारण
  - Water limits and fire / सीमित जल तथा अग्नि का होना
  - Insect and fungi / कीट तथा कवक की उपस्थिति
50. Microbial Type Culture Collection Centre is situated at - / सूक्ष्मजीवीय किस्म के संवर्धन का संग्रहण केंद्र यहाँ स्थित है-
- Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
  - Bangalore / बैंगलोर
  - New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
  - Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़
51. A sum of money lent out at simple interest amounts to Rs. 720 after 2 years and Rs. 1020 after a further period of 5 years. Find the principle. / साधारण ब्याज पर उधार दी गई एक राशि 2 वर्ष बाद रु. 720 और फिर 5 वर्षों बाद रु. 1020 हो जाती है। मूलधन ज्ञात करें।
- Rs. 600
  - Rs. 120
  - Rs. 600
  - Rs. 1740
52. ABC is a cyclic triangle and the bisectors of  $\angle BAC$ ,  $\angle ABC$  and  $\angle BCA$  meet the circle at P, Q and R respectively. Then the angle  $\angle RQP$  is / ABC एक चक्रीय त्रिभुज है और  $\angle BAC$ ,  $\angle ABC$  और  $\angle BCA$  के द्विभाजक वृत्त में क्रमशः P, Q और R पर मिलते हैं। तो  $\angle RQP$  का कोण है -
- $90^\circ + \frac{B}{2}$
  - $90^\circ - \frac{B}{2}$

(c)  $90^\circ + \frac{C}{2}$

(d)  $90^\circ - \frac{A}{2}$

53. If  $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{3}{4}$ , the ratio of  $(2x + 3y)$  and  $(3y - 2x)$  is / यदि  $\frac{x}{y} = \frac{3}{4}$  हो तो  $(2x + 3y)$  और  $(3y - 2x)$  का अनुपात है—

- (a) 2 : 1 (b) 1 : 1  
(c) 3 : 2 (d) 3 : 1

54. A and B entered into a partnership investing Rs. 16000 and Rs. 12000 respectively. After 3 months A withdrew Rs. 5000 while B invested Rs. 5000 more. After 3 more months C joins the business with a Capital of Rs. 21000. The share of B exceeds that of C, out of a total profit of Rs. 26400 after one year by — / A और B ने एक साझेदारी की और क्रमशः रु. 16000 और रु. 12000 का निवेश किया। 3 महीने के बाद A ने रु. 5000 निकाल लिए और B ने रु. 5000 और निवेश किए। आगे तीन महीनों के बाद C रु. 21000 की पूंजी लगाकर कारोबार में शामिल हो गया। एक वर्ष बाद रु. 26400 के लाभ में B का हिस्सा C से कितना अधिक है —

(a) Rs. 4800 (b) Rs. 1200  
(c) Rs. 2400 (d) Rs. 3600

55. The measures of two angles of a triangle is in the ratio 4 : 5. If the sum of these two measures is equal to the measure of the third angle. Find the smallest angle. / एक त्रिभुज के दो कोणों के माप का अनुपात 4 : 5 है। यदि इन दोनों मापों का योग तीसरे कोण के माप के बराबर है तो लघुतम कोण ज्ञात करें।

(a) 90 (b) 50  
(c) 40 (d) 10

56. A, B and C can do a piece of work in 24, 30 and 40 days respectively. They began the work together but C left 4 days before completion of the work. In how many days was the work done? / A, B और C एक कार्य को क्रमशः 24, 30 और 40 दिनों में कर सकते हैं। उन्होंने साथ-साथ कार्य करना आरंभ किया किंतु C ने कार्य पूरा होने से 4 दिन पहले कार्य छोड़ दिया। कार्य कितने दिनों में पूरा किया गया?

(a) 13 (b) 11  
(c) 14 (d) 12

57. A boat can travel with a speed of 13 km/hr in still water. If the speed of stream is 4 km/hr in the same direction, time taken by boat to go 63 km in opposite direction is? / एक नौका स्थिर जल में 13 किमी. प्रतिघंटा की गति से चल सकती है। यदि समान दिशा में धारा की गति 4 किमी. प्रतिघंटा हो तो नौका विपरीत दिशा में 63 किमी. कितने समय में जाएगी?

(a)  $3\frac{9}{17}$  hrs. (b) 4 hrs.  
(c) 9 hrs. (d) 7 hrs.

58. Two circles touch externally. The sum of their area is  $130\pi$  sq. cm. and the distance between their centres is 14 cm. The radius of the smaller circle is : / दो वृत्त बाह्य रूप से स्पर्श कर रहे हैं। उनके क्षेत्रफल का योग  $130\pi$  वर्ग सेमी. और उनके केन्द्रों के बीच की दूरी 14 सेमी. है। उनमें से अपेक्षाकृत छोटे वृत्त की त्रिज्या है —

- (a) 4 cm / सेमी. (b) 5 cm / सेमी.  
(c) 3 cm / सेमी. (d) 2 cm / सेमी.

59. Raj and Prem walk in opposite direction at the rate of 3 km and 2 km per hour respectively. How far will they be from each other after 2 hrs? / राज और प्रेम क्रमशः 3 किमी. और 2 किमी. प्रतिघंटा की गति से विपरीत दिशा में चल रहे हैं। 2 घंटे बाद वे एक दूसरे से कितनी दूर होंगे?

- (a) 10 km / किमी. (b) 8 km / किमी.  
(c) 2 km / किमी. (d) 6 km / किमी.

60. The value of  $\tan 1^\circ \tan 2^\circ \tan 3^\circ \dots \tan 89^\circ$  is /  $\tan 1^\circ \tan 2^\circ \tan 3^\circ \dots \tan 89^\circ$  का मान है —

- (a) 1 (b) 0  
(c) -1 (d) None of the options / दिए गए विकल्पों में से कोई नहीं

61. A man spends 75% of his income. His income is increased by 20% and he increased his expenditure by 10%. His savings are increased by : / एक व्यक्ति अपनी आय का 75% खर्च करता है। उसकी आय 20% बढ़ जाती है और वह अपना खर्च 10% बढ़ा लेता है। उसकी बचत कितनी बढ़ेगी?

- (a) 25% (b) 10%  
(c) 50% (d)  $37\frac{1}{2}\%$

62. Cost price of 100 books is equal to the selling price of 60 books. The gain percentage/loss percentage is — / 100 पुस्तकों का लागत मूल्य 60 पुस्तकों के विक्रय मूल्य के बराबर है। लाभ अथवा हानि की प्रतिशतता है —

- (a) 66% (b)  $66\frac{2}{3}\%$   
(c)  $66\frac{3}{2}\%$  (d) 67%

63. A can do a work in 10 days and B in 20 days. If they together work on it for 5 days, then the fraction of the work that is left is : / A एक कार्य को 10 दिन में और B, 20 दिन में कर सकता है। यदि वे दोनों मिल कर 5 दिन तक उस कार्य को करते हैं तो कार्य का कितना अंश बचेगा।

- (a)  $\frac{4}{3}$  (b)  $\frac{3}{4}$   
(c)  $\frac{1}{4}$  (d)  $\frac{3}{20}$

64. ABC is a triangle and the sides AB, BC and CA are produced to E, F and G respectively. If  $\angle CBE = \angle ACF = 130^\circ$  then the value of  $\angle GAB$  is / ABC एक त्रिभुज है और AB, BC और CA भुजाएँ क्रमशः E, F और G तक विस्तार करती है। यदि  $\angle CBE = \angle ACF = 130^\circ$  है तो  $\angle GAB$  का मान है –  
 (a)  $80^\circ$  (b)  $100^\circ$   
 (c)  $130^\circ$  (d)  $90^\circ$
65. If  $\tan q + \cot q = 5$ , then  $\tan^2 q + \cot^2 q$  is  
 (a) 24 (b) 26  
 (c) 25 (d) 23
66. The length of canvas, 75 cm wide required to build a conical tent of height 14 m and the floor area  $346.5 \text{ m}^2$  is : / 75 सेमी चौड़ाई वाले कैनवस से 14 मी. ऊँचाई और  $346.5 \text{ मी}^2$  फर्श क्षेत्र वाले शंकु टेंट बनाने के लिए कैनवस की लम्बाई है—  
 (a) 665 m (b) 860 m  
 (c) 490 m (d) 770 m
67. A person of height 6 ft. wants to pluck a fruit which is on a  $\frac{26}{3}$  ft. high tree. If the person is standing  $\frac{8}{\sqrt{3}}$  ft. away from the base of the tree, then at what angle should he throw a stone so that, it hits the fruit. / एक व्यक्ति जिसका कद 6 फुट है  $\frac{26}{3}$  फुट ऊँचे वृक्ष से फल तोड़ना चाहता है। यदि व्यक्ति वृक्ष के तने के आधार से  $\frac{8}{\sqrt{3}}$  फुट दूरी पर खड़ा है तो उसे किस कोण पर पत्थर फेंकना चाहिए जिससे वह फल पर जाकर लगे।  
 (a)  $45^\circ$  (b)  $30^\circ$   
 (c)  $75^\circ$  (d)  $60^\circ$
68. If  $x + \frac{1}{x} = 1$ , then the value  $\frac{x^2 + 3x + 1}{x^2 + 7x + 1}$  is / यदि  $x + \frac{1}{x} = 1$  तो  $\frac{x^2 + 3x + 1}{x^2 + 7x + 1}$  का मान है –  
 (a)  $\frac{3}{7}$  (b) 1  
 (c)  $\frac{1}{2}$  (d) 2
69. The ratio of each interior angle to each exterior angle of a regular polygon is 3 : 1. The number of sides of the polygon is : / एक समबहुभुज के प्रत्येक आंतरिक कोण का ऐसे बहिष्कोण से अनुपात 3 : 1 है। बहुभुज की कितनी भुजाएँ हैं –  
 (a) 6 (b) 7  
 (c) 8 (d) 9
70. A shopkeeper gains 17% after allowing a discount of 10% on the marked price of an article. Find his profit percent if the articles are sold at marked price allowing no discount. / एक दुकानदार को एक वस्तु के अंकित मूल्य पर 10% की छूट देने के बाद 17% का लाभ होता है। यदि उस वस्तु को छूट दिए बिना अंकित मूल्य पर बेचा जाता है तो लाभ की प्रतिशतता ज्ञात करें।

- (a) 27% (b) 30%  
 (c) 23% (d) 37%

71. If the cube root of 79507 is 43, then the value of  $\sqrt[3]{79.507} + \sqrt[3]{0.079507} + \sqrt[3]{0.000079507}$  is / यदि 79507 का घन मूल 43 है तो  $\sqrt[3]{79.507} + \sqrt[3]{0.079507} + \sqrt[3]{0.000079507}$  का मान क्या है।  
 (a) 4.773 (b) 0.4773  
 (c) 477.3 (d) 47.73
72. Given that  $x^3 + y^3 = 72$  and  $x + y = 6$  with  $x > y$ . Then the value of  $x - y$  is – / यदि  $x^3 + y^3 = 72$  और  $x + y = 6$  है जिसमें  $x > y$  है तो  $x - y$  का मान है –  
 (a) -2 (b) 2  
 (c) -4 (d) 4
73. If  $\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \beta} = n$  and  $\frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \beta} = m$ , then the value of  $\cos^2 \beta$  is / यदि  $\frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \beta} = n$  और  $\frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \beta} = m$  हो तो  $\cos^2 \beta$  का मान क्या है  
 (a)  $\frac{1}{m^2 + n^2}$  (b)  $\frac{m^2}{m^2 + n^2}$   
 (c) 0 (d)  $\frac{n^2}{m^2 + n^2}$
74. If PQRS is a rhombus and  $\angle SPQ = 50^\circ$ , then  $\angle RSQ$  is / यदि PQRS एक समचतुर्भुज है और  $\angle SPQ = 50^\circ$  तो  $\angle RSQ$  है –  
 (a)  $45^\circ$  (b)  $55^\circ$   
 (c)  $75^\circ$  (d)  $65^\circ$
75. The printed price of an article is 40% higher than its cost price. Then the rate of discount such that he gains 12% profit is : / एक वस्तु का अंकित मूल्य उसके लागत मूल्य से 40% अधिक है। 12% का लाभ प्राप्त करने के लिए उस पर दी जाने वाली छूट की दर है –  
 (a) 21% (b) 15%  
 (c) 20% (d) 18%

## ENGLISH LANGUAGE

**Directions (76-80):** You have a passage with five questions following. Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives and mark it by blackening the appropriate circle in the Answer Sheet.

### PASSAGE – I

The Critical Faculty is the most potent one in the human make-up. Its pervasiveness and force have not properly been recognized because like breathing, it is so much a part and parcel of human activity. The difference between a simpleton and an intelligent man, according to the man who is convinced that he is of the latter category, is that the former wholeheartedly accepts all

things that he sees and hears while the latter never admits anything except after a most searching scrutiny. He imagines his intelligence to be a sieve of closely woven mesh through which nothing but the finest can pass.

The critical sense is essential for keeping social transactions in a warm state. Otherwise life would become very dull and goody-goody. The critical faculty is responsible for a lot of give and take in life. It increases our awareness of our surroundings; it sounds dignified no doubt, but it seems also to mean that we can watch someone else's back better than our own! We never know our own defects till they are pointed out to us, and even then we need not accept them. We always question the bonafides of the man who tells us unpleasant facts. On the surface it is all very well to say, 'I want an honest criticism; that will help me, not blind compliments'. I wish people would mean it.

76. The self-defined intelligent man defines himself on the basis of
- (a) his obvious divergence from the simpleton.
  - (b) his superior intelligence as a whole.
  - (c) his possession of the critical faculty.
  - (d) his heightened awareness of his surroundings.
77. The negative side of the critical faculty is that
- (a) it makes us critical of others.
  - (b) it makes us critical of ourselves.
  - (c) it sounds dignified but it is not actually so.
  - (d) it is a tool for creating classificatory division.
78. People who solicit other's opinions (about themselves) generally want
- (a) effusive compliments.
  - (b) honest criticism.
  - (c) harsh facts.
  - (d) precise feedback.
79. The critical faculty is defined as the 'most potent one in human make-up' because
- (a) it is all pervasive and powerful
  - (b) it separates the simpleton from the intelligent men.
  - (c) it is a help in social transactions.
  - (d) All of the above
80. What, according to the writer, is the essential link between breathing and the critical faculty?
- (a) Both are required in social relations
  - (b) Both are exercised by human beings
  - (c) Both grow with age
  - (d) Both stop with death

**Directions (81-83): In the following three questions, some parts of the sentences have errors and some are correct. Find out which part of a sentence has an error and blacken the circle corresponding to the appropriate correct option. If a sentence is free from**

**error, blacken the circle corresponding to "No Error" in the Answer Sheet.**

81. He has been enhanced in position as a result of his diligence and integrity.
- (a) He has been
  - (b) enhanced in position
  - (c) as a result of his diligence and integrity.
  - (d) No error
82. If you hear engaged tone replace the receiver and dial again.
- (a) If you hear
  - (b) engaged tone
  - (c) replace the receiver and dial again.
  - (d) No error
83. It being a rainy day I will decide to skip work and stay at home.
- (a) It being a rainy day
  - (b) I will decide to skip work
  - (c) and stay at home.
  - (d) No error

**Directions (84-86): In the following three questions, sentences are given with blanks to be filled in with an appropriate word(s). Four alternatives are suggested for each question. Chose the correct alternative out of the four and indicate it by blackening the appropriate circle in the Answer Sheet.**

84. If I had known it was your birthday, I\_\_\_\_baked a cake.
- (a) would have
  - (b) will have
  - (c) have
  - (d) would not have
85. The peasant rebellion was\_\_\_\_with a high hand by the Emperor.
- (a) put off
  - (b) put away
  - (c) put back
  - (d) put down
86. The decease left\_\_\_\_him two young children.
- (a) for
  - (b) with
  - (c) by
  - (d) behind

**Directions (87): In the following one questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which best expresses the meaning of the given word and mark it in the Answer Sheet.**

87. **MELLOW**
- (a) melodious
  - (b) dramatic
  - (c) genial
  - (d) fruity

**Directions (88): In the following one questions, choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word and marks it in the Answer Sheet.**



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**88. DIVULGE**

- (a) Announce (b) Reveal  
(c) Conceal (d) Disclose

**Directions (89-91):** In the following three questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentences and indicate it by blackening the appropriate circle in the Answer Sheet.

- 89.** A list of dishes  
(a) Cuisine (b) Dessert  
(c) Buffet (d) Menu
- 90.** A person who readily believes others  
(a) Credible (b) Credulous  
(c) Sensitive (d) Sensible
- 91.** An expert in an area of the fine or other arts  
(a) neophyte (b) amateur  
(c) connoisseur (d) enthusiast

**Directions (92):** In the following one question, four words are given in each question, out of which only one word is correctly or wrongly spelt. Find the correctly or wrongly spelt word and mark your answer in the Answer Sheet.

- 92.** (a) Intermitent (b) Intermittant  
(c) Intermittent (d) Intermitant

**Directions (93-95):** In the following three questions, four alternatives are given for the Idiom/phrase underlined in the sentence. Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase and mark it in the Answer Sheet.

- 93.** Ask Mr. Das. He can give you all the news you need: he is always in the swim.  
(a) at the swimming pool  
(b) in search of news  
(c) well-informed and up-to-date  
(d) giving news to others
- 94.** He is a fine man, but to call him a saint is laying it on thick.  
(a) a reality (b) an exaggeration  
(c) a compulsion (d) a development
- 95.** Try to make do with what you have.  
(a) create (b) do  
(c) produce (d) manage

**Directions (89-93):** In the following five questions, a sentence/a part of the sentence is underlined. Below are given alternatives to the underlined part which

may improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative. In case no improvement is needed blacken the circle corresponding to “No improvement”

- 96.** He learnt the lesson with great care.  
(a) carefully (b) with care  
(c) No improvement (d) carelessly
- 97.** They spoke about the weather.  
(a) expressed (b) said  
(c) No improvement (d) talked
- 98.** I really enjoyed the way the fashion show was executed and I also very much liked its theme.  
(a) its theme conveyed  
(b) and the executing of the fashion shows theme  
(c) I really liked its theme  
(d) No improvement
- 99.** The little boy fell from the roof.  
(a) fell below the roof  
(b) fell down the roof  
(c) fell off the roof  
(d) No improvement
- 100.** Wave after wave surrounded the tower.  
(a) engulfed  
(b) circled  
(c) encircled  
(d) No improvement

## ANSWER KEY

Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.	Q.	A.
1	B	2	B	3	C	4	C	5	D
6	B	7	B	8	B	9	D	10	B
11	B	12	A	13	A	14	D	15	B
16	D	17	D	18	B	19	A	20	C
21	C	22	C	23	C	24	C	25	A
26	D	27	B	28	A	29	A	30	A
31	B	32	C	33	C	34	A	35	B
36	D	37	B	38	A	39	C	40	A
41	D	42	A	43	A	44	A	45	D
46	D	47	A	48	A	49	C	50	D
51	C	52	B	53	D	54	D	55	C
56	B	57	D	58	C	59	A	60	A
61	C	62	B	63	C	64	B	65	D
66	D	67	B	68	C	69	C	70	B
71	A	72	B	73	D	74	D	75	C
76	C	77	A	78	A	79	A	80	B
81	B	82	B	83	C	84	A	85	D
86	D	87	A	88	C	89	D	90	B
91	C	92	C	93	C	94	B	95	D
96	A	97	D	98	C	99	C	100	A

# SOLUTIONS

## Reasoning Ability

1. (b)  $9 : 50 :: 20 : 105$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 9 & : & 50 \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ 9 \times 5 + 5 & & 20 \times 5 + 5 \end{array}$

2. (b)  $M I K E : O G M C :: C I A D : E G B$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ M & I & K & E \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & \\ +2 & & +2 & \end{array}$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ C & I & A & D \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & \\ +2 & & +2 & \end{array}$

3. (c)

4. (c) write position value of alphabet  
 $\sqrt{169} = 13$      $\sqrt{144} = 12$

5. (d)  $16 : 22 :: 36 : 46$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 4^2 & & 5^2 - 3 \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ +1 & & +1 \end{array}$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 6^2 & & 7^2 - 3 \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ +1 & & +1 \end{array}$

6. (b) The perimeter of rectangle

$$= 2(l + b) = 6$$

$$= l + b = 3$$

$$\text{The area of rectangle} = l \times b = 2$$

$$\text{then, } l + \frac{2}{l} = 3$$

$$l^2 - 3l - 2 = 0$$

$$(l - 2)(l - 1) = 0$$

$$l = 2, 1$$

So, difference between length and breadth

$$= 2 - 1 = 1 \text{ km}$$

7. (b)  $2 \xrightarrow{2^2} 4 \xleftarrow{2^2}$   
 $3 \xrightarrow{3^2} 9 \xleftarrow{3^2}$   
 $4 \xrightarrow{4^2} 16 \xleftarrow{4^2}$

Similarly,

$$8 \xrightarrow{8^2} 64 \xleftarrow{8^2}$$

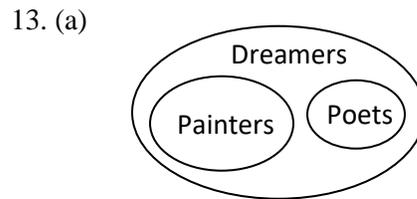
8. (b)  $3 + 7/2 = 5$   
 $1 + 5/2 = 3$   
 $8 + 4/2 = 6$   
 $6 + 2/2 = 4$

9. (d)  $25 + 15 = 40 \div 8 = 5$   
 $65 + 25 = 90 \div 18 = 5$   
 $45 + 15 = 60 \div 12 = 5$

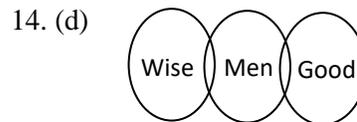
10. (b)  $\sqrt{64} + \sqrt{36} + \sqrt{49} = 21$   
 Similarly,  
 $\sqrt{121} + \sqrt{81} + \sqrt{100} = 30$

11. (b)  $18 + 6 - 3 = 21$   
 $21 + 9 - 4 = 26$   
 $24 + 8 - 3 = 29$

12. (a)  $+Q$  (lawyer) =  $P^-$  (HW)  
 $\downarrow$   
 $S^-$  (Doctor) =  $T^+$  (Teacher)  
 $\downarrow$   
 $R - U$   
 Male Engineer, Student Female



Conclusion - I - x  
 II - x



15. (b)  $1 \xrightarrow{+2} 2 \xrightarrow{+4} 2 \xrightarrow{+2} 4 \xrightarrow{+4} 3 \xrightarrow{+2} 8 \xrightarrow{+4} 7 \xrightarrow{+2} 10 \xrightarrow{+4} 11$

16. (d)  $0 \quad 7 \quad 26 \quad 63 \quad 124$   
 $\downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow \quad \downarrow$   
 $1^3 - 1 \quad 2^3 - 1 \quad 3^3 - 1 \quad 4^3 - 1 \quad 5^3 - 1$

17. (b)

18. (a)  $4 - 5 - 1 = 5 \quad 1 \quad 4$   
 $\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 4 & - & 5 & - & 1 \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \text{same} & & \text{same} & & \text{same} \end{array}$

$$3 - 5 - 6 = 5 \quad 6 \quad 3$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 3 & - & 5 & - & 6 \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \text{same} & & \text{same} & & \text{same} \end{array}$$

$$0 - 6 - 8 = 6 \quad 8 \quad 0$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & - & 6 & - & 8 \\ \uparrow & & \uparrow & & \uparrow \\ \text{same} & & \text{same} & & \text{same} \end{array}$$

19. (a)

Student	House	Height	Glass
A	Ruby	Short	X
B	Ruby	Short	X
C	Emerald	Shrot	√
D	Emerald	Tall	√
E	Emerald	Short	X
F	Emerald	Tall	X

D is from Emerald house  
D is tall. D wear glasses

20. (c) E N T R **A** N **C** E

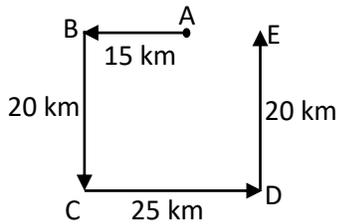
21. (c)(a) G H I E T → E I G H T

(b) V E E N S → S E V E N

(c) **V I D E I D** → **D I V I D E**

(d) O R F U → F O U R

22. (c)



Required distance  $AE = CD - AB$   
 $= 25 - 15 = 10$  km

23. (c) Grass → Grasshopper → Frog → Snake → Eagle

24. (c) H EAT

H OUR

H IS

H AS

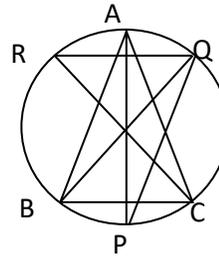
H AT

25. (a)

### Numerical Ability

51. (c) Amount of S.I. after 2 years = Rs. 720  
Amount of S.I. after further 5 years = Rs. 1020  
S.I. for 5 years = Rs.  $(1020 - 720) =$  Rs. 300  
S.I. for 2 years = Rs.  $\left(\frac{300}{5} \times 2\right) =$  Rs. 120  
Principle = Amount - Simple Interest  
 $=$  Rs.  $(720 - 120) =$  Rs. 600

52. (b)



The required angle  $= \angle RQP = 90 - \frac{B}{2}$

53. (d)  $x = 3$   
 $y = 4$

Required ratio  $= 2 \times 3 + 3 \times 4 : 3 \times 4 - 2 \times 3$   
 $18 : 6$   
 $3 : 1$

54. (d)

A	:	B	:	C
$16000 \times 3 + 11000 \times 9$	:	$12000 \times 3 + 17000 \times 9$	:	$21000 \times 6$
147000	:	189000	:	126000
7	:	9	:	6

Profit = 26400

The share of B exceed that of C

$= \frac{9-6}{22} \times 26400$   
 $= 3600$

55. (c) Ratio of angle in triangle = 4 : 5 (4 + 5)  
 $= 4 : 5 : 9$

Smallest angle  $= \frac{4}{4+5+9} \times 180^\circ = 40^\circ$

56. (b)

A	24	—	5
B	30	—	4
C	40	—	$\frac{3}{12}$

Units of work = 120

If C work for 4 day more than total units of work  $= 120 + 4 \times 3 = 132$

Required time to finish the work  $= \frac{132}{12}$   
 $= 11$  hours

57. (d) Speed of boat = 13 km/hr

Speed of current = 4 km/hr

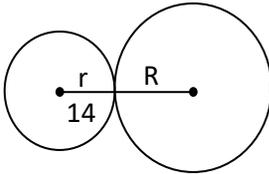
Speed of boat during upstream

$= (13 - 4)$  km/hr

Distance to be travelled = 93 km

Time required  $= \frac{93}{9} = 10\frac{2}{3}$  hours

58. (c)



The sum of circle area

$$\pi R^2 + \pi r^2 = 130\pi$$

$$\pi (R^2 + r^2) = 130\pi$$

$$R^2 + r^2 = 130$$

$$\therefore R + r = 14 \quad R + r = 14$$

square both side  $R + \frac{33}{R} = 14$

$$R^2 + r^2 + 2Rr = 196 \quad R^2 + \frac{33}{R} = 14R$$

$$130 + 2Rr = 196 \quad R^2 - 14R + 33 = 0$$

$$Rr = 33 \quad (R - 11)(R - 3) = 0$$

$$r = 11, 3$$

The radius of smaller circle is  
 $= 14 - 11 = 3$

59. (a)

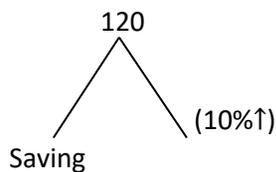
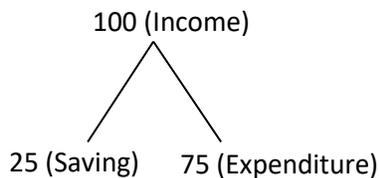
Raj walk in 2 hour =  $3 \times 2 = 6$

Prem walk in 2 hour =  $2 \times 2 = 4$

Total distance from each other after 2 hr.  
 $= 6 + 4 = 10$  km

60. (a)

61. (c)



$$120 - \frac{165}{2} = \frac{75}{2} \quad 75 \times \frac{110}{100} = \frac{165}{2}$$

His saving are increased by

$$= \frac{\frac{75}{2} - 25}{25} \times 100$$

$$= 50\%$$

62. (b) S.P. = 100

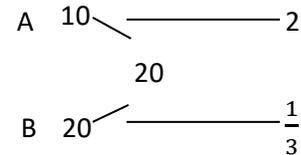
C.P. = 60

$$\text{Profit} = \frac{100 - 60}{60} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{40}{60} \times 100$$

$$= 66\frac{2}{3}\%$$

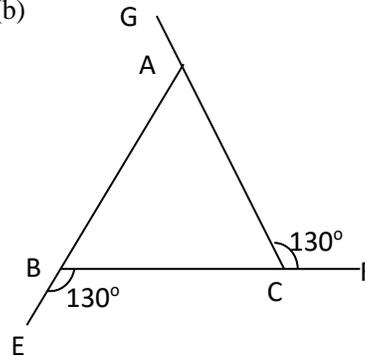
63. (c)



Work done by (A + B) in 5 days =  $3 \times 5 = 15$

$$\text{Fraction of work left} = \frac{20 - 15}{20} = \frac{5}{20} = \frac{1}{4}$$

64. (b)



$$\angle CBE = 130^\circ$$

$$\text{So, } \angle ABC = 180^\circ - \angle CBE$$

$$= 180^\circ - 130^\circ = 50^\circ$$

$$\angle FCA = 130^\circ$$

$$\text{So, } \angle BCA = 180^\circ - \angle FCA$$

$$= 180^\circ - 130^\circ = 50^\circ$$

In  $\Delta ABC$

$$\angle CAB = 180^\circ - \angle ABC - \angle BCA$$

$$= 180^\circ - 50^\circ - 50^\circ = 80^\circ$$

$$\angle GAB = 180^\circ - \angle CAB$$

$$= 180^\circ - 80^\circ = 100^\circ$$

65. (d)  $\tan\theta + \cot\theta = 5$

Square both side

$$\tan^2\theta + \cot^2\theta + 2\tan\theta \cdot \cot\theta = 25$$

$$\Rightarrow \tan^2\theta + \cot^2\theta = 23$$

66. (d) Floor area of tent =  $346.5 \text{ m}^2$

$$\text{The radius of tent} = \sqrt{\frac{346.5}{\pi}} = \sqrt{\frac{346.5 \times 7}{22}}$$

$$= \sqrt{110.25} = 10.5 \text{ m}$$

The height of tent = 14 m

$$\text{The slant height of tent} = \sqrt{(14)^2 + (10.5)^2}$$

$$= 17.5 \text{ m}$$

The area of canvas =  $\pi rl$

$$= \frac{22}{7} \times 10.5 \times 17.5 = 577.5 \text{ m}^2$$

The width of canvas = 75 cm = 0.75 m

$$\text{The length of canvas} = \frac{577.5}{0.75} = 770 \text{ m}$$

67. (b)

$$\text{Given } AB = \frac{26}{3}$$

and  $CD = BE$  and  $CE = BD$

$$\text{then, } AE = \frac{26}{3} - 6 = \frac{8}{3}$$

Then, required angle

$$\tan \theta = \frac{AE}{CE}$$

$$\tan \theta = \frac{\frac{8}{3}}{\frac{8}{\sqrt{3}}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$$

$$\tan \theta = \tan 30^\circ$$

$$\theta = 30^\circ$$

68. (c)  $x + \frac{1}{x} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{x^2+1}{x} = 1$

$$x^2 + 1 = x$$

$$\frac{x^2+3x+1}{x^2+7x+1} = \frac{x+3x}{x+7x} = \frac{4x}{8x} = \frac{1}{2}$$

69. (c)  $n = 2 \left[ \frac{\text{Interior}}{\text{Exterior}} + 1 \right]$

$$n = 2 \left[ \frac{3}{1} + 1 \right]$$

$$= 2 \times 4 = 8$$

70. (b) Let the marked price of an article = 100

$$\text{Cost price} = 90 \times \frac{100}{117} = \frac{9000}{117}$$

$$\text{Profit} = \frac{100 - \frac{9000}{117}}{\frac{9000}{117}} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{11700 - 9000}{117} \times \frac{117}{9000} \times 100$$

$$= 30\%$$

71. (a)  $\sqrt[3]{79.507} + \sqrt[3]{0.07950} + \sqrt[3]{0.000079507}$   
 $= 4.3 + .43 + .043 = 4.773$

72. (b)  $x + y = 6$

Cubing both side

$$x^3 + y^3 + 3xy(x + y) = 216$$

$$72 + 3xy(x + y) = 216$$

$$18xy = 144$$

$$xy = 8$$

$$x + y = 6$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2xy = 36$$

$$x^2 + y^2 + 2xy - 4xy = 36 - 4xy$$

$$x^2 + y^2 - 2xy = 36 - 4 \times 8$$

$$(x - y)^2 = 36 - 32 = 4$$

$$x - y = 2$$

73. (d)  $n = \frac{\cos \alpha}{\sin \beta}$  and  $m = \frac{\cos \alpha}{\cos \beta}$

$$m^2 + n^2 = \frac{\cos^2 \alpha}{\cos^2 \beta} + \frac{\cos^2 \alpha}{\sin^2 \beta}$$

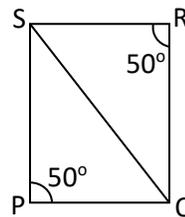
$$= \frac{\cos^2 \alpha \sin^2 \beta + \cos^2 \alpha \cos^2 \beta}{\cos^2 \beta \sin^2 \beta}$$

$$m^2 + n^2 = \frac{\cos^2 \alpha}{\cos^2 \beta \sin^2 \beta}$$

$$m^2 + n^2 = \frac{n^2}{\cos^2 \beta}$$

$$\cos^2 \beta = \frac{n^2}{m^2 + n^2}$$

74. (d)



$\therefore \angle SPQ = \angle SRQ$  (rhombus theorem)

$SR = QR$

$\angle QSR = \angle SQR$

Angle sum Property of triangle

$$180 = \angle QSR + \angle SQR + 50$$

$$130 = 2\sqrt{\angle RSQ}$$

$$65^\circ = \angle RSQ$$

75. (c) Let the cost price is = 100

Then, printed price = 140

$$\text{profit} = 140 \times \frac{(100-x)}{100} = 112$$

$$100 - x = 80$$

$$x = 20\%$$

### English Language

81. (b) use "exalted to the" in place of "enhanced in"

82. (b) use "the" before engaged

83. (c) use "to" before stay

84. (a) use "would have" since the sentence is the conditional

85. (d) use "put down"

86. (d) use "behind"

96. (a) use "carefully" in place of "with great care"

97. (d) use "talked" in place of "spoke"

98. (c) correct format is "I really liked its theme"

99. (c) use "fell off the roof" in place of "fell from the roof"

100. (a) use "engulfed" in place of "surrounded"

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## JANUARY 2022

1.	India celebrates the Anti Leprosy Day on which date? <b>January 30</b>	15.	India launched a joint commemorative logo on Jan 24 with which country to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties with that country? <b>Israel</b>
2.	World Leprosy Day is observed on last _____ of January: <b>Sunday</b>	16.	Which is the capital of Israel? <b>Jerusalem</b>
3.	How many Central Asian countries attended the first-ever India-Central Asia Summit held virtually on January 27? <b>Five</b>	17.	Who is the current Election Commissioner of India? <b>Sushil Chandra</b>
4.	Total how many Padma Awards were announced this year on Jan 25? <b>128</b>	18.	India celebrates the National Girl Child Day on which day of January? <b>24<sup>th</sup></b>
5.	Name the former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister who has been conferred Padma Vibhushan this year: <b>Kalyan Singh</b>	19.	Which union ministry supports the celebration of the National Girl Child Day? <b>Ministry of Women and Child Development</b>
6.	89 year old Dr. Prabha Atre is one of the four persons honoured with Padma Vibhushan this year. She is veteran _____: <b>Classical vocalist</b>	20.	Who is the current Women and Child Development Minister? <b>Smt. Smriti Irani</b>
7.	The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2021 released on Jan 25, placed India at which spot? <b>85<sup>th</sup></b>	21.	Which UN agency supports the celebration of the International Day of Education on Jan 24? <b>UNESCO</b>
8.	The Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology approved setting up of India's first Graphene Innovation Centre in which state? <b>Kerala</b>	22.	Who won the women's singles title in the Syed Modi International badminton tournament in Lucknow on Jan 23? <b>P V Sindhu</b>
9.	Sir Garfield Sobers Award is given to which person for outstanding achievement? <b>ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year</b>	23.	What is the name of the mobile app launched by the Common Service Centre to provide vocational education and skill development to youths of rural areas? <b>Yogyata</b>
10.	Who is the 2021 ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year? <b>Shaheen Afridi</b>	24.	The Common Service Centre Scheme is an initiative of which ministry? <b>Ministry of Electronics &amp; IT</b>
11.	Which trophy is given to the winner of ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year? <b>Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Trophy</b>	25.	The Ministry of Coal launched which portal on Jan 21 to share Key Performance Indicators related to the Coal Sector? <b>Koyla Darpan</b>
12.	Who won Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Trophy for 2021? <b>Smriti Mandhana</b>	26.	Country's first District Good Governance Index (DGGI) was released on Jan 21 in which UT? <b>Jammu &amp; Kashmir</b>
13.	Ministry of Tourism celebrates Jan 25 as the National Tourism Day. Who is the current Minister of Tourism? <b>G Kishan Reddy</b>	27.	India's first virtual platform for spice exports 'Spice Xchange India' was launched on Jan 20 in which city? <b>Kochi, Kerala</b>
14.	Why Jan 25 has been selected for celebrating the National Voters Day? <b>The Election Commission of India was created on this day in 1950</b>	28.	The governments of Haryana entered into an agreement with which state on Jan 21 to build the Adi Badri Dam? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>

29.	One of the main objectives of the construction of Adi Badri Dam is the revival of ancient _____ River: <b>Saraswati</b>
30.	The _____ sanctioned a \$ 125 million loan to the government of West Bengal to support its effort to help the poor: <b>World Bank</b>
31.	As per recent data released by the ministry of commerce & industry, India has emerged as the largest exporter of _____ in the world: <b>Cucumber and gherkins</b>
32.	Aapda Prabandhan Puraskars (Disaster Management Awards) are named after which great Indian leader? <b>Subhash Chandra Bose</b>
33.	What is the amount of cash award of Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar in institutional category? <b>Rs. 51 lakh</b>
34.	Which state secured first position in the fourth Health Index released by the Niti Aayog on Dec 27? <b>Kerala</b>
35.	Among the smaller states, _____ emerged as the best performer in overall performance in the 4 <sup>th</sup> Health Index: <b>Mizoram</b>
36.	The ministry of home affairs has set up a high-level committee, headed by _____ to look into the possibility of withdrawing the AFSPA from Nagaland: <b>Vivek Joshi</b>
37.	The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation gave its approval to which two more Covid vaccines? <b>Corbevax and Covovax</b>
38.	Which company is manufacturing the Corbevax vaccine in India? <b>Biological E, Hyderabad</b>
39.	Which Indian company is producing the nanoparticle protein-based vaccine Covovax? <b>Serum Institute of India, Pune</b>
40.	The Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation gave its approval to which antiviral drug for treatment of Corona cases? <b>Molnupiravir</b>
41.	Haryana's Nitesh Kumar won two gold medals, individual singles and in doubles, at which national championship? <b>Para badminton</b>
42.	Who has been named as "2021 Person of the Year" by the US based animal welfare NGO PETA? <b>Alia Bhatt</b>
43.	Who became the fastest Indian wicketkeeper to reach 100 dismissals in 26 Test matches? <b>Rishabh Pant</b>
44.	Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank, the biggest nationalised bank of the country? <b>Atul Kumar Goel</b>

45.	Mr. Soma Sankara Prasad has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of which bank? <b>UCO Bank</b>
46.	_____ stood first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) for providing urban infrastructure in rural areas: <b>Telangana</b>
47.	The Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission has been launched by which union ministry? <b>Ministry of Rural Development</b>
48.	Which country has been admitted as the fourth new member of the New Development Bank? <b>Egypt</b>
49.	Headquarters of the New Development Bank are in which city? <b>Shanghai</b>
50.	Who is the current President of New Development Bank? <b>Marcos Troyjo</b>
51.	The Indian Army has set up a quantum computing laboratory and a centre for artificial intelligence (AI) at which place? <b>Mhow, MP</b>
52.	Sanjeev Kumar, the wheelchair bound para-athlete became the national champion for the 10 <sup>th</sup> time in which sports? <b>Para badminton</b>
53.	Among the centrally funded technical institutes, _____ was ranked first in the Centre's Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2021? <b>IIT Madras</b>
54.	In the state and deemed to be universities category, which university topped the ARIIA rankings? <b>Punjab University, Chandigarh</b>
55.	Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and CEO of the Railway Board? <b>Vinay Kumar Tripathi</b>
56.	Which country lifted the Under-19 Asia Cup (cricket)? <b>India</b>
57.	India defeated which country to win the Under-19 Asia Cup? <b>Sri Lanka</b>
58.	Virender Singh Pathania took charge as the Director-General of which paramilitary force? <b>Indian Coast Guard</b>
59.	The IRDAI has declared which life insurance company as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for the year 2022? <b>LIC of India</b>
60.	World Braille Day on Jan 4 commemorates the birthday of which great inventor? <b>Louis Braille</b>
61.	Braille language is based on ____ convex dots that form all the letters and symbols: <b>Six</b>
62.	Which city in the world has largest network of automatic driverless metro lines? <b>Shanghai</b>

63.	RBI has issued new guidelines allowing offline payments up to Rs ____ per transaction: <b>200</b>
64.	Captain Harpreet Chandi, a 32-year-old Indian-origin British Sikh Army officer, was in news recently for what reason? <b>She completed a solo unsupported trek to the South Pole</b>
65.	Which MNC created history on January 3 by becoming the first company to hit a \$3 trillion stock market value? <b>Apple Inc.</b>
66.	On Jan 3 government launched NEAT 3.0 - a special online education initiative. What is full form of NEAT? <b>National Educational Alliance for Technology</b>
67.	RBI has retained State Bank of India, ICICI Bank and _____ as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) for the year 2021: <b>HDFC Bank</b>
68.	Government launched the India Semiconductor Mission on December 29. Generally, semiconductors are made from which material? <b>Silicon</b>
69.	Government of which state declared that it has become the first LPG enabled and smoke free state in the country? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
70.	World Day of War Orphans is observed on which date? <b>January 06</b>
71.	Which union ministry launched the “Smart cities and Academia Towards Action & Research (SAAR)” programme on Jan 5? <b>Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs</b>
72.	In which country the scientists succeeded in running a fusion reactor for almost 20 minutes at a stunning temperature of 70 million degrees Celsius, almost five times hotter than the real Sun? <b>China</b>
73.	Which UN agency signed an agreement with the Akshaya Patra Foundation for enhancing the effectiveness of the Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman (PM POSHAN) scheme? <b>World Food Programme</b>
74.	Zhang Ming, veteran Chinese diplomat took over as the new Secretary-General of which Asian alliance? <b>Shanghai Cooperation Organisation</b>
75.	India’s first open rock museum displaying different types of rocks gathered from different states, was inaugurated in which city? <b>Hyderabad</b>
76.	Which place in India celebrates Losar festival to mark its new year? <b>Ladakh</b>

77.	Which state recorded the highest number of open defecation free (ODF Plus) villages in the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II programme? <b>Telangana</b>
78.	The National Statistical Office projected India’s economy to grow by __ % in the year 2021-22: <b>9.2</b>
79.	The 3rd National Water Awards-2020 were announced on Jan 7 by which union ministry? <b>Jal Shakti Ministry</b>
80.	Which state secured first position in the ‘Best State Category’ in the 3rd National Water Awards-2020? <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
81.	The Election Commission of India raised the existing election expenditure limit to Rs. ____ lakh for candidates in bigger states Parliamentary constituencies: <b>95</b>
82.	The election expenditure limit for assembly elections in the bigger states has been raised to Rs. ____ lakh: <b>40</b>
83.	Which country hosted its annual multinational anti-submarine warfare training exercise Sea Dragon 22? <b>USA</b>
84.	Nodirbek Abdusattorov, the 17 year old chess GrandMaster from _____ became the new Rapid Chess World Champion on Dec 28: <b>Uzbekistan</b>
85.	Government declared to observe Dec 26 as the “Veer Bal Divas” to honour the sacrifice of which two Sahibzadas of Sri Guru Gobind Singh? <b>Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh</b>
86.	Sahibzada Zorawar Singh and Sahibzada Fateh Singh were bricked alive at which place in Punjab? <b>Sirhind</b>
87.	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is observed on which day of January? <b>9<sup>th</sup></b>
88.	Pravasi Bharatiya Divas marks the return of which great leader to India from abroad? <b>Mahatma Gandhi</b>
89.	World Hindi Day on Jan 10 marks the anniversary of the first World Hindi Conference which was held in _____, Maharashtra in 1975 on this day: <b>Nagpur</b>
90.	Bharath Subramaniam, the 14 year old chess prodigy from _____ became the 73rd Grandmaster of India: <b>Chennai</b>
91.	Golden Globe awards are given for recognising best in which field? <b>Cinema</b>

92.	Who won the Golden Globe 2022 for the best actress in a drama film? <b>Nicole Kidman</b>
93.	Which 2021 film grabbed the Golden Globe for the Best Film – Drama? <b>The Power of the Dog</b>
94.	Sidney Poitier, who passed away on Jan 6, was a great personality associated with which field? <b>Cinema</b>
95.	_____ in Kerala has become the first city of India with a water metro project? <b>Kochi</b>
96.	With a view to focus more on the "dynamically" growing financial sector, RBI has set up a separate _____ Department: <b>Fintech</b>
97.	What is the name of China's lunar rover which discovered moisture on moon's surface? <b>Chang'e 5</b>
98.	National Youth Day on Jan 12 marks the birthday of which great Indian personality? <b>Swami Vivekananda</b>
99.	Which city hosted the 25 <sup>th</sup> National Youth Festival on Jan 12-13? <b>Puducherry</b>
100.	National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed on which date? <b>January 11</b>
101.	Which World Bank report says that the Indian economy is expected to grow at 8.3 percent in 2021-22? <b>Global Economic Prospects</b>
102.	The passport rankings released by the Henley Passport Index (HPI) for the first quarter of 2022 have placed India at which spot? <b>83<sup>rd</sup></b>
103.	Which corporate group has replaced Vivo as the official sponsors of the IPL 2022? <b>Tata Group</b>
104.	Alikhan Smailov has been appointed as the new _____ of Kazakhstan: <b>Prime Minister</b>
105.	The Indian Navy successfully test fired an extended range sea-to-sea variant of which missile from INS Visakhapatnam on Jan 11? <b>BrahMos</b>
106.	Name the eminent rocket scientist who has been appointed the new chairman of ISRO? <b>S Somnath</b>
107.	What is another popular name for the Makar Sankranti in North India? <b>Maghi</b>
108.	Which Indian state celebrates Makar Sankranti as Bihu? <b>Assam</b>
109.	Pongal is the popular festival of which state? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
110.	What is the popular name of Makar Sankranti festival in Gujarat? <b>Uttarayan</b>

111.	As per the India State of Forest Report 2021, forests and trees cover how much percent of India's total area? <b>24.62%</b>
112.	Which state has the largest area under forests and trees? <b>Madhya Pradesh</b>
113.	In terms of percentage of area under forests and trees, _____ is at the top: <b>Mizoram</b>
114.	Who has been selected as the captain of the Indian squad for the Women's Hockey Asia Cup 2022? <b>Savita Punia</b>
115.	Who has been appointed as the Russia's new ambassador to India? <b>Denis Alipov</b>
116.	As per the U N World Economic Situation and Prospects-2022 report, India's GDP for the 2021-22 may grow by _____ percent: <b>6.5</b>
117.	India celebrates Army Day on which date? <b>January 15</b>
118.	Army Day commemorates anniversary of which event in the history of the Indian Army? <b>Handing over of command of Indian Army by the British to an Indian general in 1949</b>
119.	Who was the first Indian Chief of the Indian Army? <b>Lt Gen K M Cariappa</b>
120.	Who became the first Indian to top the under-19 world rankings in girls' singles given by the Badminton World Federation? <b>Tasnim Mir</b>
121.	Government has decided to celebrate which day as the "National Start-up Day"? <b>January 16</b>
122.	A privately held startup company with a valuation of over \$1 billion is known as: <b>Unicorn</b>
123.	In a first export order for the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, which country has become its first buyer from India? <b>Philippines</b>
124.	BrahMos is being produced in India in collaboration with which country? <b>Russia</b>
125.	The world's largest national flag, the Indian Tricolor made from Khadi, was displayed on Jan 15 at which place? <b>In Rajasthan's Longewala</b>
126.	Who won the Men's Singles title in the India Open badminton championship in New Delhi on Jan 16? <b>Lakshya Sen</b>
127.	Name the legendary Kathak dancer who breathed his last on January 17 at his Delhi residence? <b>Birju Maharaj</b>
128.	In which island archipelago a massive volcano erupted on Jan 15, covering adjoining islands with thick ash cover? <b>Tonga</b>
129.	What is an Archipelago? <b>A group of islands</b>

130. Tonga Archipelago is located in which part of world? <b>South Pacific Ocean</b>
131. Indian Navy and Russian Navy undertook PASSEX exercises on Jan 14 at which place? <b>Near Kochi port in Arabian Sea</b>
132. India and _____ conducted a major naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal on Jan 13: <b>Japan</b>
133. Name the christian democrat from Malta, who was elected President of the European Union's parliament on Jan 18: <b>Ms. Roberta Metsola</b>
134. Who won the Best FIFA Men's Player 2021 award? <b>Robert Lewandowski</b>
135. Alexia Putellas, winner of the Best FIFA Women's Player 2021 award, hails from which country? <b>Spain</b>
136. According to a US-based global leader approval tracker, Morning Consult Political Intelligence, which statesman secured the highest ranking? <b>India's prime minister Narendra Modi</b>
137. The Amar Jawan Jyoti flame at India Gate, New Delhi, was shifted on Jan 21 and merged with the flame at which place? <b>The National War Memorial</b>
138. Which team won the 9th National Women Ice Hockey Championship held at Kaza? <b>Ladakh</b>
139. The Parliament of which country approved a bill to relocate the country's capital as it was located on a swampy ground and was sinking? <b>Indonesia</b>
140. Major Hari Pal Singh Ahluwalia, a professional _____ and an author and social worker, passed away at the age of 85: <b>Mountaineer</b>
<b>DECEMBER 2021</b>
141. Name the Nobel Peace Prize (1984) laureate who helped end apartheid in South Africa, who passed away on Dec 26, aged 90: <b>Archbishop Desmond Tutu</b>
142. Which state won the Vijay Hazare Trophy in Jaipur on Dec 26? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
143. Vijay Hazare Trophy is the national level trophy of which sports? <b>Cricket</b>
144. Vijay Hazare Trophy is played in which format of cricket? <b>One Day – 50 overs</b>
145. Which major state topped the Good Governance Index 2021, released on December 25? <b>Gujarat</b>
146. Among hill states, _____ secured first rank in the Good Governance Index 2021: <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>

147. What is the name of the world's largest and most powerful space telescope launched by NASA on Dec 25? <b>James Webb Space Telescope</b>
148. Which team won the 11th Junior National Men's Hockey Championship on Dec 25? <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
149. Who won his 11th National Billiards title on Dec 20 in the 88th National Billiards and Snookers Championship? <b>Pankaj Advani</b>
150. What was the name of the indigenously built missile corvette that was decommissioned on Dec 24? <b>INS Khukri</b>
151. Who has been appointed as India's Chef de Mission for Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics? <b>Harjinder Singh</b>
152. Which is the current office held by Harjinder Singh? <b>General Secretary of Indian Ice Hockey Association</b>
153. India secured which rank in the Global Unicorn Index 2021 released by the Hurun Research Institute, London? <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b>
154. India pushed which country to 4 <sup>th</sup> place in the Global Unicorn Index 2021? <b>United Kingdom</b>
155. Which country topped the Global Unicorn Index 2021? <b>USA</b>
156. The International Day of Epidemic Preparedness is observed on which day of December? <b>27<sup>th</sup></b>
157. What is the name of the contemporary messaging application recently launched by the Indian Army? <b>ASIGMA</b>
158. What is the full form of ASIGMA? <b>Army Secure IndiGeneous Messaging Application</b>
159. Which Indian multinational company launched one of its kind indigenous Multi-terrain Artillery Gun (MARG) 155 – BR on Dec 21 for Indian Army? <b>Bharat Forge Ltd</b>
160. Which two major Indian TV channels announced their merger plans? <b>Sony and Zee TV</b>
161. Name the veteran Indian off-spinner who announced on Dec 24 his retirement from cricket: <b>Harbhajan Singh</b>
162. Name the ace Indian skier who won the Bronze medal at the FIS Alpine Skiing Competition on Dec 23 in Montenegro? <b>Aanchal Thakur</b>
163. Which multi-national bank approved a loan of Euro 250 million for the funding of Agra Metro Rail Project in Uttar Pradesh? <b>The European Investment Bank, Luxembourg</b>

164. What is the title of the recent book by Dr. Shashi Tharoor? <b>Pride, Prejudice, and Punditry</b>
165. Who is the author of the recent novel "The Nutmeg's Curse"? <b>Amitav Ghosh</b>
166. "The Judge's List" is a popular novel authored by ____: <b>John Grisham</b>
167. Fill in the blank: "Indian Innings: The Journey of Indian ____ from 1947" by Ayaz Memon: <b>Cricket</b>
168. Which National Day is celebrated on Dec 25 to mark the birthday of former Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee? <b>Good Governance Day</b>
169. The National Consumer Day is observed on which date? <b>December 24</b>
170. The current Consumer Protection Act was enacted in which year? <b>2019</b>
171. World Consumer Day is celebrated on which date? <b>15th March</b>
172. RBI has told e-commerce companies that from January 1, 2022, they will not be allowed to save ____ information on their websites: <b>Card</b>
173. Who won the Asian Champions Trophy Hockey Tournament on Dec 22? <b>South Korea</b>
174. Which country hosted the Asian Champions Trophy Hockey tournament? <b>Bangladesh</b>
175. India won which medal at the Asian Champions Trophy Hockey tournament? <b>Bronze</b>
176. Who won the SAFF U-19 Women's Football Championship? <b>Bangladesh</b>
177. Which country hosted the SAFF U-19 Women's Football Championship? <b>Bangladesh</b>
178. National Farmers' Day (Kisan Diwas) on Dec 23 marks the birthday of which veteran farmer leader? <b>Chaudhary Charan Singh</b>
179. The DRDO successfully test-fired on Dec 22 the short-range, surface to surface-guided ballistic missile 'Pralay'. What is its strike range? <b>350 to 500 km</b>
180. The first set of indigenously developed next-gen AERV was inducted into Indian Army on Dec 21 at Pune. What is AERV? <b>Armoured Engineer Reconnaissance Vehicle</b>
181. National Mathematics Day on Dec 22 marks the birthday of which great mathematician? <b>Srinivasa Ramanujan</b>
182. The Parliament passed the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021 on Dec 21. It aims to link voter card with ____: <b>Aadhaar number</b>

183. As per the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2021, new voters upon attaining 18 years of age, can now enroll ____ times in a year? <b>Four</b>
184. Indian tech wizard took over as CEO of the social media platform Twitter? <b>Parag Agrawal</b>
185. Ballon d'Or awards are given for outstanding performance in which sports? <b>Football</b>
186. Who won the Ballon d'Or-Men for the year 2021? <b>Lionel Messi</b>
187. Ms. Alexia Putellas, winner of 2021 Ballon d'Or award for women, plays for which country? <b>Spain</b>
188. What is the literal meaning of the term Ballon d'Or? <b>Golden Ball</b>
189. Saurav Ghosal scripted history by becoming the first Indian ____ player to win the Malaysian Open Championships held in Kualalumpur: <b>Squash</b>
190. According to the recent data by the National Statistics Office, GDP of the country grew by ____ percent in quarter ending 30 <sup>th</sup> Sep: <b>8.4</b>
191. Barbados, a micro island country in eastern _____, became a new republic at the stroke of midnight of Nov 30: <b>Caribbean Sea</b>
192. Barbados became free on Dec 01 from the colonial rule of which country? <b>Britain</b>
193. The Indian Army received advanced Heron Mark-II drones from which country? <b>Israel</b>
194. Which virus causes the dreaded AIDS disease? <b>HIV</b>
195. What is the full form of HIV? <b>Human Immunodeficiency Virus</b>
196. Which union ministry has formed a three-member committee to review the criteria for reservation for the EWS category? <b>Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment</b>
197. Who has been selected to head this committee? <b>Ajay Bhushan Pandey</b>
198. What is the current annual income limit to identify EWS for providing 10% quota in public jobs and educational institutions? <b>Rs. 8 lakh</b>
199. The 10% EWS quota was introduced under the which number Constitution (Amendment) Act, 2019? <b>103<sup>rd</sup></b>
200. Name the veteran American songwriter and composer, who passed away on Nov 26 in Connecticut, USA? <b>Stephen Sondheim</b>

201. The ADB approved a \$125 million loan to improve access to quality water supply and sanitation services in _____ : <b>Dehradun</b>
202. Magdalena Andersson was elected as the first female Prime Minister of which country? <b>Sweden</b>
203. What is the name of the parliament of Sweden? <b>Riksdag</b>
204. The ten day long Hornbill Festival is the biggest cultural extravaganza of which state? <b>Nagaland</b>
205. What type of animal is Hornbill? <b>Large bird</b>
206. The Worldwide Cost of Living Index 2021 has declared ____ as the world's most expensive city to live in: <b>Tel Aviv, Israel</b>
207. The Worldwide Cost of Living Index 2021 has been released by which organisation? <b>Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), London</b>
208. The National Pollution Control Day on December 2 marks occurrence of which industrial disaster? <b>Bhopal Gas Tragedy</b>
209. Bhopal Gas Tragedy occurred in which year? <b>1984</b>
210. Leakage of which gas led to Bhopal Gas Tragedy? <b>Methyl Isocyanate - MIC</b>
211. World Computer Literacy Day is observed on which date? <b>Dec 02</b>
212. Which International Day is observed on December 02 to spread awareness about ending human trafficking and the exploitation of humans? <b>International Day for Abolition of Slavery</b>
213. Celebration of International Day for Abolition of Slavery is supported by which UN Agency? <b>International Labour Organisation</b>
214. World Athletics Awards are given by which organisation? <b>World Athletics</b>
215. Who is the winner of this year's World Athlete of the Year-Women award? <b>Elaine Thompson-Herah</b>
216. Elaine Thompson-Herah excels in which discipline of athletics? <b>100m &amp; 200 meter Sprint (five time Olympic Champion)</b>
217. Elain hails from which country? <b>Jamaica</b>
218. Karsten Warholm, winner of this year's World Athlete of the Year-Men award, hails from which country? <b>Norway</b>
219. Karsten is a Olympic champion of which athletic event? <b>400-meter hurdle, Sprint; broke the 29-year-old world record</b>

220. World Athletics selected which Indian for the Woman of the year Award-2021? <b>Anju Bobby George</b>
221. Anju is the veteran champion of which event in athletics? <b>Long jump</b>
222. Who topped the list of "50 most powerful women in India" released by Fortune India? <b>Ms. Nirmala Sitharaman, Finance Minister</b>
223. Which India cooperative has been ranked at 'number one' among the top 300 cooperatives in the world? <b>IFFCO - Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited</b>
224. According to the World Migration Report 2022, which factor is responsible for causing highest number of human displacements? <b>Natural disasters</b>
225. Which country experienced the highest absolute numbers of new disaster displacements in 2020? <b>Philippines</b>
226. The World Bank approved a \$135 million loan to improve electricity distribution and grid modernisation infrastructure in which state? <b>West Bengal</b>
227. Which global rating agency has kept the economic growth forecast for India unchanged at 9.5 percent for the current financial year (2021-22)? <b>S&amp;P - Standard and Poor's</b>
228. Which day of December is observed as the International Day of Persons with Disabilities? <b>Third</b>
229. Indian Navy Day on Dec 4 commemorates victory of Indian Navy in which operation? <b>Operation Trident in Karachi harbour</b>
230. Which world body supports the celebration of International Day of Banks on Dec 04? <b>UNO</b>
231. A plant to produce over five lakh AK-203 assault rifles will be set up at which place? <b>At Korwa, Distt. Amethi, U.P.</b>
232. Which country has provided technical support for production of AK-203 assault rifles in India? <b>Russia</b>
233. Who has been selected as the First Deputy Managing Director of IMF? <b>Gita Gopinath</b>
234. The government released a commemorative postage stamp on Dec 01 to mark completion of 75 years of which industrial group? <b>Mahindra &amp; Mahindra</b>

235. The ADB approved a \$500-million loan to India to help improve the quality of ____: <b>School Education</b>
236. Theme for this year's World Soil Day on Dec 5 is associated with which aspect of soil? <b>Salinization</b>
237. International Volunteer Day is observed on which date? <b>December 5</b>
238. The first-ever India Russia 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue was held in _____ on Dec 6: <b>New Delhi</b>
239. Which two ministers took part in 2+2 Indo-Russia Ministerial Dialogue? <b>Defence minister and Foreign minister</b>
240. Russian President Vladimir Putin arrived in New Delhi on Dec 6 to attend which summit? <b>21st India-Russia Annual Summit</b>
241. With which country India participated in bilateral military exercise EKUVERIN? <b>Maldives</b>
242. Name the veteran TV journalist who passed away on Dec 4 in a New Delhi hospital, losing his battle to Corona: <b>Vinod Dua</b>
243. Which volcano in Indonesia, suddenly erupted on Dec 4, throwing up towers of ash and hot clouds several km up in the sky? <b>Mount Semeru</b>
244. _____ became the first state to achieve hundred percent COVID vaccination of second dose for its entire eligible population: <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
245. Which cyclone caused heavy rains across the coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha on Dec 5? <b>Cyclone Jawad</b>
246. Which country lifted the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup? <b>Argentina</b>
247. Junior Men's Hockey World Cup final was played in which city? <b>Bhubaneswar</b>
248. In which state 14 locals were killed in the violent clashes with the jawans of 21st Para Special Force of the Army? <b>Nagaland</b>
249. Who became the women's 10m air pistol national champion for the second successive time, in the 64th National Shooting Championship? <b>Manu Bhaker</b>
250. Which Indian player won the silver medal in the BWF World Tour Finals (badminton-Women) at Bali, Indonesia on Dec 5? <b>P V Sindhu</b>
251. New Zealand's _____ became the third bowler in Test cricket history to take 10 wickets in an innings: <b>Ajaz Patel</b>

252. Badminton World Federation (BWF) selected _____ as "Player of the Year-Men": <b>Viktor Axelsen</b>
253. Viktor Axelsen hails from which country? <b>Denmark</b>
254. Who won the BWF's "Player of the Year-Women" award for 2021? <b>Tai Tzu-ying</b>
255. Tai Tzu-ying plays for which country? <b>China</b>
256. _____ won the national title in women's 25m pistol for the third year in a row: <b>Rahi Sarnobat</b>
257. Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd, Kolkata launched its first call survey vessel (large) named _____, for the Indian Navy: <b>'Sandhayak'</b>
258. The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment launched the "Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas" (SRESHTA) scheme for SC students of which class? <b>9<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup></b>
259. India observes Armed Forces Flag Day on which day of December? <b>7<sup>th</sup></b>
260. International Civil Aviation Day on December 7 highlights the role of which global body associated with civil aviation? <b>International Civil Aviation Organisation</b>
261. Adama Barrow was re-elected as the President of the _____, a small west African country: <b>Gambia</b>
262. For which Indian state ADB sanctioned a \$150 million dollar loan to provide affordable housing for urban poor? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
263. The President of India awarded the "President's Standard" to the 22nd _____ Squadron of the Indian Navy: <b>Missile Vessel</b>
264. In its bi-monthly policy review meeting held on Dec 8, RBI hiked which policy rate? <b>None</b>
265. The USA announced a diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Beijing Winter Olympics for what reasons? <b>China's dissatisfactory human rights record with regard to Uighur Muslims</b>
266. Sanket Mahadev Sargar won the gold medal in the Commonwealth _____ Championships 2021 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan: <b>Weightlifting</b>
267. Which eminent poet won the 56th Jnanpith Award 2020? <b>Nilmani Phookan Jr</b>
268. Nilmani Phookan Jr is an eminent poet of which language? <b>Assamese</b>
269. Veteran novelist Damodar Mauzo from Goa won which top literary award recently? <b>57th Jnanpith Award 2021</b>

270. Veteran novelist Damodar Mauzo writes in which language? <b>Konkani</b>
271. What is the amount of cash award given with the Jnanpith Award? <b>Rs. 11 lakh</b>
272. Kazhuveli, the wetland located near Villupuram in _____ has been declared a bird sanctuary: <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
273. Jhilli Dalabehera is a prominent sports person from which field? <b>Weightlifting</b>
274. The unfortunate air crash of Gen. Rawat's helicopter took place in the forest area near _____ in the Nilgiri Hills: <b>Coonoor</b>
275. Which type of helicopter was involved in the air crash that killed Gen Rawat and 12 other persons? <b>Mi 17 V-5</b>
276. The Union Cabinet approved on Dec 8 the funding and implementation of the project for interlinking of which two rivers? <b>Ken and Betwa rivers</b>
277. Ken and Betwa rivers lie in ___ and ___, respectively: <b>MP and UP</b>
278. Bot, Ken and Betwa rivers, are tributaries of which river? <b>Yamuna</b>
279. Which global rating agency cut India's economic growth forecast to 8.4% for FY 2021-22? <b>Fitch Ratings</b>
280. Fitch Ratings is based in which city? <b>New York</b>
281. National Submarine Day on Dec 09 marks which event in the history of Indian Navy? <b>Induction of its first submarine, INS Kalvari in 1967</b>
282. International Anti-Corruption Day is observed on which date? <b>Dec 09</b>
283. Who topped the Forbes World's 100 Most Powerful Women list released on Dec 8? <b>Mackenzie Scott, philanthropist and novelist from USA</b>
284. Who secured the highest rank (37 <sup>th</sup> ) among Indian women listed in the Forbes World's 100 Most Powerful Women list? <b>Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman</b>
285. The International Solar Alliance (ISA) was granted 'Observer Status' recently by which global organisation? <b>United Nations General Assembly</b>
286. Headquarters of International Solar Alliance are located in which city? <b>Gurugram, Haryana</b>
287. President of which country convened a virtual "Summit for Democracy" on Dec 9-10, attended by more than 100 countries? <b>USA</b>

288. Which farmers' organisation announced on Dec 9 the end of year long farmers' agitation? <b>Samyukt Kisan Morcha</b>
289. Which Indian was honoured with the prestigious Royal Gold Medal 2022 recently? <b>Balkrishna Doshi</b>
290. Balkrishna Doshi is a veteran prominent _____ from India: <b>Architect</b>
291. Royal Gold Medal is conferred by which organisation? <b>Royal Institute of British Architects, London</b>
292. Who has been elected as the President of FICCI for 2022? <b>Sanjiv Mehta</b>
293. What is the expansion of the acronym FICCI? <b>Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry</b>
294. Which team won the Davis Cup 2021? <b>Russia</b>
295. Finals of the Davis Cup 2021 were played in which city? <b>Madrid, Spain</b>
296. Which national body launched the pan-India capacity building programme for women, by the name 'She is a Changemaker' on Dec 7? <b>National Commission for Women</b>
297. What is the target group for the programme 'She is a Changemaker'? <b>Women politicians</b>
298. Who is the chairperson of the National Commission for Women? <b>Rekha Sharma</b>
299. Which International Day marks the anniversary of adoption by the UNO in 1948, the "Universal Declaration of Human Rights"? <b>Human Rights Day, Dec 10</b>
300. Which country hosted the Asian Youth Para Games in Riffa city? <b>Bahrain</b>
301. The theme for this year's International Mountain Day observed on Dec 11, is associated with: <b>Tourism</b>
302. December 11 is observed as UNICEF Day. Where are its headquarters? <b>New York</b>
303. What is the full form of UNICEF? <b>United Nations Children's Fund</b>
304. Which UN organisation supports the celebration of International Universal Health Coverage Day on Dec 12? <b>WHO</b>
305. 19-year-old Jeremy Lalrinnunga, who won the gold medal in Commonwealth weightlifting Championships, is from which state? <b>Mizoram</b>

306. Name the 19 year old shooter from Rajasthan who won both, junior and senior national titles in air rifle event: <b>Divyansh Singh Panwar</b>
307. Haiderpur wetland, which has recently been recognized under the 1971 Ramsar Convention on Wetlands, is in which state? <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
308. India's Harnaaz Kaur Sandhu recently won which international beauty pageant? <b>Miss Universe</b>
309. What is the toll-free number of the National Helpline against Atrocities on SC/ST launched on Dec. 13? <b>14566</b>
310. DRDO and Indian Air Force successfully flight-tested on Dec 11 the indigenously developed Helicopter-launched SANT Missile. What is full form of SANT? <b>Stand-off Anti-Tank</b>
311. Which US state suffered widespread devastation due to severe tornado attack on Dec 10? <b>Kentucky</b>
312. Who became the World Champion of F1 car racing for 2021? <b>Max Verstappen</b>
313. Max Verstappen drives for which F1 team? <b>Red Bull</b>
314. Which country hosted the Asian Rowing Championship in second week of December? <b>Thailand</b>
315. Which emirate in UAE became the world's first government to turn 100 per cent paperless? <b>Dubai</b>
316. Who has been appointed as the Executive Director of the UNICEF- United Nations Children's Fund, New York? <b>Catherine Russell</b>
317. Which country topped the 2021 Global Health Security (GHS) Index? <b>USA</b>
318. What was India's rank in the 2021 Global Health Security (GHS) Index? <b>66<sup>th</sup></b>
319. Who won the World Chess Championship crown for the fifth successive time? <b>Magnus Carlsen</b>
320. Magnus Carlsen hails from which country? <b>Norway</b>
321. Which apex organisation supports the celebration of the National Energy Conservation Day on December 14? <b>Bureau of Energy Efficiency</b>
322. World Energy Conservation Day is observed on which date? <b>Dec. 14</b>
323. Who is the presiding deity in the prestigious Sri Kashi Vishwanath Dham in Varanasi? <b>Lord Shiva</b>

324. Asian Development Bank approved a \$350 million loan for India to help improve which type of its urban services? <b>Piped water supply and sanitation</b>
325. World Talent Ranking Report placed which country at the top spot for best handling of its human resources? <b>Switzerland</b>
326. India secured which rank in the World Talent Ranking Report? <b>56<sup>th</sup></b>
327. The DRDO successfully tested a long-range SMART weapon on Dec 13. What is full form of SMART? <b>Supersonic Missile Assisted Torpedo</b>
328. India and several tea producing countries celebrate which day as the International Tea Day? <b>Dec 15</b>
329. Which date has been fixed by the UNO to observe International Tea Day? <b>May 21</b>
330. RBI made use of LEI mandatory for cross-border transactions for capital or current account transactions of Rs 50 crore and above, from October 1, 2022. What is LEI? <b>Legal Entity Identifier</b>
331. Legal Entity Identifier number comprise of how many digits? <b>20</b>
332. Who has been announced as the "Person of the Year" for 2021 by the TIME magazine? <b>Elon Musk</b>
333. RBI issued revised guidelines on Dec 14 for a Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for which type of companies? <b>NBFCs</b>
334. For the first time in history, a spacecraft has almost touched the Sun. What is its name? <b>Parker Solar Probe</b>
335. Which space agency launched the Parker Solar Probe? <b>NASA</b>
336. ___became the first country in the world to change its existing five-day workweek to a four-and-a-half day, wef Jan 1, 2022? <b>UAE</b>
337. The Union Ministry of Forest and Environment declared Askot Wildlife Sanctuary as an eco-sensitive zone. It is in which state? <b>Uttarakhand</b>
338. Celebration of Vijay Diwas on Dec 16 marks anniversary of which event? <b>Indian armed forces victory over Pakistan in the 1971 war</b>
339. UNESCO has added which popular cultural event of India in its Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity? <b>Durga puja of Kolkata</b>

340. The Cabinet approved on Dec 15 implementation of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana for which five-year span? <b>2021-26</b>
341. President Ram Nath Kovind visited Dhaka in Bangladesh on Dec 16 to attend which historical event? <b>50<sup>th</sup> Bijay Dibos celebrations</b>
342. Who has been made the Chairman of Chiefs of Staff Committee? <b>General MM Naravane</b>
343. NTPS has set up India's first Green Hydrogen based Energy Storage Project at which place? <b>Simhadri near Visakhapatnam</b>
344. Green hydrogen is produced by splitting _____ into hydrogen and oxygen using an electrolyzer powered by renewable energy sources such as wind and solar: <b>Water</b>
345. The Asian Development Bank has approved a \$112 million loan for the establishment of a Skill University in which state? <b>Assam</b>
346. Ngadag Pel gi Khorlo is the highest civilian decoration of which country? <b>Bhutan</b>
347. Recently, which prominent Indian dignitary was honoured with Ngadag Pel gi Khorlo? <b>Prime Minister Narendra Modi</b>
348. Who is the current King of Bhutan? <b>His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck</b>
349. Government released an India Post special day cover and a commemorative stamp on Dec 16 to mark the golden jubilee of which event? <b>India's victory during the 1971 Indo-Pak War.</b>
350. From which country India received the highest ever annual Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow in 2020-21? <b>Singapore</b>
351. Which sector of economy received the highest FDI in 2020-21? <b>Computer software and hardware sector</b>
352. Which apex body supports the celebration of Minorities Rights Day on Dec 18? <b>National Commission for Minorities</b>
353. Who is the current chairman of the National Commission for Minorities? <b>Sardar Iqbal Singh Lalpura</b>
354. Who is the current union minister of minority affairs? <b>Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi</b>
355. Which UN agency looks after the interests of migrants, all over the world? <b>International Organisation for Migrants, Geneva</b>
356. The third meeting of the two-day India-Central Asia Dialogue between the foreign ministers of

India and Central Asian countries was held at which place? <b>New Delhi</b>
357. Which India made Covid vaccine was provided an emergency use listing (EUL) by WHO? <b>Covovax</b>
358. Which Indian company manufactures the Covovax, the protein based anti-Covid vaccine? <b>Serum Institute of India, Pune</b>
359. The WHO has granted emergency use listing to how many Covid vaccines till December, 2021? <b>Nine</b>
360. Which country suffered widespread devastation due to Super Typhoon Rai? <b>Philippines</b>
361. The DRDO successfully tested on Dec 18 the new-generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile 'Agni P'. What is its strike range? <b>1000 to 2000 km</b>
362. The Indian Air Force signed an MoU with which IIT to support its efforts towards indigenous solutions in various weapon systems? <b>IIT Delhi</b>
363. The government has given "in-principle" approval for setting up of India's largest nuclear power plant at which place? <b>Jaitapur, Maharashtra</b>
364. The nuclear power plant at Jaitapur is being set up with technical collaboration and support from which country? <b>France</b>
365. The RBI has thrown open the government agency business like tax collection, etc. to which type of scheduled banks? <b>Payment Banks and Small Finance Banks</b>
366. Avani Lekhara, who won the "Best Female Debut" award in the 2021 Paralympic Sports Awards, plays which sports? <b>Rifle shooting</b>
367. Which F1 racing champion was formally knighted by Prince Charles on Dec 15 in London? <b>Lewis Hamilton</b>
368. Who became first Indian to win a silver medal in the Men's singles final of BWF World Championships on Dec 19? <b>Kidambi Srikanth</b>
369. Who has been designated as the Chief Guest for the forthcoming Republic Day Parade on January 26, 2022? <b>Presidents of five Central Asian countries - Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan</b>
370. Justice G T Navavati, who died recently, was associated with probe of which two major riots? <b>1984 anti-Sikh riots and the 2002 Godhra riots (in Gujarat)</b>
371. Who has been voted the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year, 2021? <b>Emma Raducanu</b>

372. Emma Raducanu is an emerging star of which sports? <b>Tennis</b>
373. Who became the first player in football history to achieve 800 career goals? <b>Cristiano Ronaldo</b>
374. Ronaldo plays for which Football Club? <b>Manchester FC</b>
375. Which organisation released on Dec 16 a report on the 'Index on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy'? <b>Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister</b>
376. Which state topped the Index on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy among the large state category? <b>West Bengal</b>
377. Which UT secured first position in the Index on Foundational Literacy and Numeracy? <b>Lakshadweep</b>
378. The International Human Solidarity Day is observed on which date? <b>Dec 20</b>
379. India's first International Arbitration and Mediation Centre (IAMC) was inaugurated on Dec 18 in which city? <b>Hyderabad</b>
380. Karl Nehammer has been sworn in as the new _____ of Austria: <b>Chancellor</b>
381. Pradeep Kumar Rawat, has been appointed India's next Ambassador to which country? <b>China</b>
382. Which South American country elected 35 years old former student leader as its youngest President? <b>Chile</b>
383. In which country heavy downpours in the third week of December caused widespread devastating floods in its urban areas? <b>Malaysia</b>
384. The Indian Navy conducted the maiden sea trials for which new stealth destroyer (warship)? <b>Mormugao</b>
385. The Indian Air Force started deploying the first squadron of the S-400 Triumf air defence missile system in which sector? <b>Punjab</b>
386. Which country has supplied S-400 Triumf air defence missile system to India? <b>Russia</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 2021</b>
387. Which film won the Golden Peacock for the Best Film at the 52 <sup>nd</sup> IFFI in Goa? <b>Ring Wandering</b>
388. What is the amount of cash award for the Golden Peacock? <b>Rs. 40 lakh</b>
389. For which film Jitendra Joshi won the Silver Peacock for the best actor-male? <b>Godavari</b>
390. Who won the Silver Peacock for the best actor-Female for the film Charlotte? <b>Angela Molina</b>

391. Who won his maiden Challenger level singles title in the summit clash of the ATP 80 Manama Tennis event? <b>Ramkumar Ramanathan</b>
392. US based dictionary Merriam-Webster has declared _____ as its 2021 word of the year: <b>'Vaccine'</b>
393. Which three oil PSU's have joined hands to launch Model Retail Outlets to enhance service standards and amenities, across their networks? <b>India Oil Corporation Ltd, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd.</b>
394. NCC Day is observed on the fourth ____ of November: <b>Sunday</b>
395. What is the full form of the NCC? <b>National Cadet Corps</b>
396. As per the new RBI guidelines, the long-term promoter stake cap in banks has been increased to ___ percent from 15 percent currently: <b>26</b>
397. RBI has hiked the initial capital requirement for setting up a universal bank to Rs. ____ : <b>1,000 crore</b>
398. What is the revised minimum capital requirement for setting up a new small finance bank? <b>Rs. 500 crore</b>
399. Ahmed Nasser Al Raisi, a general from ____ has been elected as the President of the INTERPOL: <b>UAE</b>
400. Collins Dictionary has named the term ____ as the Word of the Year 2021: <b>NFT</b>
401. WHO has given what name to the newly found highly infectious variant of Corona found in South Africa? <b>Omicron</b>
402. The Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) report prepared by the Niti Aayog has ranked which state as the poorest in the country? <b>Bihar</b>
403. As per the Multidimensional Poverty Index, Which Indian state has the lowest poverty levels? <b>Kerala</b>
404. Rumen Radev has been elected as the President of which European country for a second 5 year term? <b>Bulgaria</b>
405. Which global rating agency projected that India's economic growth in 2021-22 will be 9.3%? <b>Moody's Investors Service</b>
406. Sheikh Sabah Al Khaled Al Sabah has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of which West Asian country? <b>Kuwait</b>

407. Indian Organ Donation Day is observed on Nov 27. When do we observe World Organ Donation Day? <b>August 13</b>
408. What is the name of the world's first mission to test asteroid-deflection technology? <b>DART Mission</b>
409. Which space agency launched the DART Mission on Nov 24? <b>NASA</b>
410. Milk coop society named Kamdhenu Hitkari Manch was declared best in the country. It won which national award for this achievement? <b>Gopal Ratna</b>
411. Milk coop society named Kamdhenu Hitkari Manch is in which state? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
412. Vice-president M Venkaiah Naidu addressed virtually the ASEM Summit on Nov 25-26. What is ASEM? <b>Asia-Europe Meeting</b>
413. Which country hosted the ASEM summit on Nov 25-26? <b>Cambodia</b>
414. Who has been selected as the new Chancellor of Germany? <b>Olaf Scholz</b>
415. The ADB granted a \$300 million loan to India for strengthening and improving access to comprehensive _____ in urban areas of 13 states: <b>Primary health care</b>
416. The Constitution Day on Nov 26 marks which event? <b>Adoption of India's constitution by the constituent assembly</b>
417. Who was the first Law Minister of independent India? <b>Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar</b>
418. Who is known as the "Father of White Revolution" in India? <b>Dr. Verghese Kurien</b>
419. Dr. Kurien is credited with the promotion of the AMUL dairy. What is the full form of AMUL? <b>Anand Milk Union Ltd</b>
420. The 20th Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government was held on Nov 25 in which city? <b>Nur-Sultan</b>
421. Nur-Sultan is the capital of which country? <b>Kazakhstan</b>
422. Nicolae Ciuca has been appointed as the Prime Minister of which European country? <b>Romania</b>
423. Indira Gandhi Peace Prize is awarded by which authority? <b>Indira Gandhi Memorial Trust</b>
424. What is the amount of cash award in the Indira Gandhi Peace Prize? <b>Rs. 25 lakh</b>

425. The 37th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) was held on Nov 23-24 in which region? <b>Indian Ocean</b>
426. The World Bank approved a loan of \$250 million for supporting Learning Transformation Project in which state? <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>
427. Dosti, the 15th edition of biennial Trilateral Exercise was held between India, _____ and Sri Lanka: <b>The Maldives</b>
428. As per the 2020 World Air Quality Report, _____ was the most polluted city in India? <b>Ghaziabad</b>
429. The 2020 World Air Quality Report surveyed 106 cities for air pollution levels. ____ accounted for 46 of the world's 100 most polluted cities: <b>India</b>
430. Air pollution is measured in terms of the level of PM2.5 present per cubic meter of air. What is PM? <b>Particulate Matter</b>
431. Indian Railways launched the third new segment of trains on Nov 23 by which name? <b>'Bharat Gaurav'</b>
432. What are the existing two segments of the trains in Indian Railway? <b>Passenger and freight</b>
433. What is the objective of the 'Bharat Gaurav' trains? <b>Boost tourism</b>
434. Give two examples of theme based trains in India? <b>Guru Kripa and Ramayan Express</b>
435. Which city topped the first Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) index released by NITI Aayog on Nov 23? <b>Shimla</b>
436. Which country successfully test-fired the 'Zircon' Hypersonic Cruise Missile? <b>Russia</b>
437. Name the former Sri Lankan cricketer who became the first match referee to officiate in 200 Test matches? <b>Ranjan Madugalle</b>
438. Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, awarded _____ as the best performing State in inland fisheries: <b>Telangana</b>
439. Which state won the award for the best marine state? <b>Andhra Pradesh</b>
440. Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy is associated with which sport? <b>Cricket</b>
441. Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy tournament is played in which format of cricket? <b>T20</b>
442. Which team lifted the Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
443. India's first virtual science lab for children was launched on Nov 22 under which programme? <b>'CSIR Jigyasa' programme</b>

444. The virtual science lab under 'CSIR Jigyasa' programme targets students of which class? <b>6 to 12</b>
445. What is the title of a recent book by Ms. Sudha Murty? <b>The Sage with Two Horns</b>
446. Who is the author of the book "Lal Salaam"? <b>Smriti Irani, Union Minister for Women and Child Development</b>
447. The title of the latest book by the Nobel laureate Abhijit Banerjee is "_____ to Save Your Life": <b>Cooking</b>
448. What is the title of the controversial book authored by Salman Khurshid, former union minister? <b>Sunrise over Ayodhya - Nationhood in our Times</b>
449. Geoff Allardice, who has been recently appointed as the permanent CEO of the International Cricket Council (ICC), is a veteran cricketer of which country? <b>Australia</b>
450. Sukant Kadam claimed gold at the Uganda Para _____ International held on Nov 21? <b>Badminton</b>
451. Which Indian has been selected for the Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021 by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) Council? <b>Prakash Padukone</b>
452. AB de Villiers, one of contemporary cricket's greatest batters, announced his retirement from all forms of the game. He hails from which country? <b>South Africa</b>
453. Which city topped in the 'cleanest city' category of the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards, 2021'? <b>Indore, MP</b>
454. Which state was adjudged India's cleanest state in the 'Swachh Survekshan Awards, 2021'? <b>Chhattisgarh</b>
455. Which temple town suffered vast devastation due to incessant rains on Nov 17-18? <b>Tirupati</b>
456. Which edition of the International Film Festival of India (IFFI) started in Goa on Nov 20? <b>52<sup>nd</sup></b>
457. Which was the opening film at the IFFI, Goa? <b>The King of all the World</b>
458. Which police station was declared 'Best Police Station' in the Annual Ranking of Police Stations (PS) for the year 2021? <b>Sadar Bazar PS in North District of Delhi</b>
459. November 21 is observed as World Television Day. Who invented the television? <b>John Logie Baird of Britain</b>

460. November 20 is observed as Awaas Diwas to mark the launching of which housing scheme? <b>Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana - Gramin</b>
461. World / Universal Children's Day is observed on which date? <b>Nov 20</b>
462. Which day of November is celebrated as the World Fisheries Day? <b>21<sup>st</sup></b>
463. What is the name of India's first manned ocean mission launched in Chennai on Oct 29? <b>Samudrayan</b>
464. What is the name of India's first full Economy AC-3 tier super-fast train launched on - on Oct 29? <b>Gati Shakti Express</b>
465. The Gati Shakti Express will run between Delhi and which other station? <b>Patna</b>
466. Shaktikanta Das has been re-appointed as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for a period of _____ years, wef December 10, 2021: <b>Three</b>
467. The DRDO and Indian Air Force recently flight-tested indigenously developed LRB. What is LRB? <b>Long-Range Bomb</b>
468. Which company become the world's most valuable public limited company, with a market cap of \$2.49 trillion as on Oct 29? <b>Microsoft</b>
469. World Psoriasis Day is observed on Oct 29. Psoriasis affects which part of body? <b>Skin</b>
470. Social media conglomerate Facebook Inc. changed its name to ____ : <b>Meta</b>
471. What is the name of the indigenously built offshore patrol vessel received by the Indian Coast Guard at Goa on October 28? <b>ICGS Sarthak</b>
472. The Civil Aviation Ministry launched the Krishi Udan 2.0 scheme on Oct 27 with what objective? <b>To expedite air transportation of agricultural produce</b>
473. INS Tushil, first of two frigates being built by _____, was launched into waters on Oct 28: <b>Russia</b>
474. Which union ministry released the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020 on Oct 27? <b>Ministry of Power</b>
475. Which state topped the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020? <b>Karnataka</b>
476. World Stroke Day is observed on which date? <b>Oct 29</b>
477. Which Indian shipbuilder handed over INS Visakhapatnam to Indian Navy on Oct 28 at

Visakhapatnam naval base? <b>Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited, Mumbai</b>
478. At which place in the country's largest aromatic garden was inaugurated? <b>Lalkuan in Nainital, Uttarakhand</b>
479. _____ approved a \$250 million loan on Oct 29 to offer support to India's National Industrial Corridor Development Program: <b>Asian Development Bank</b>
480. Indian Air Force's Mirage-2000 fighter jets participated in the "Blue Flag-21" exercise. It was hosted by which country? <b>Israel</b>
481. The EdelGive Hurun India Philanthropy list of top philanthropists was topped by which Indian? <b>Azim Premji</b>
482. Azim Premji is the founder of which corporate group? <b>Wipro</b>
483. World's first and India's largest landfill gas-to-compressed biogas plant was inaugurated on Oct 27 in which city? <b>Hyderabad</b>
484. November 1 is observed as World ____ Day to promote the concept of pure vegetarianism: <b>Vegan</b>
485. The Bhasha Sangam app aims to teach school students some basic sentences of everyday usage in ____ Indian languages: <b>22</b>
486. Which state received \$40 million support from the World Bank for improving quality of health services? <b>Meghalaya</b>
487. The Oxford English Dictionary (OED) selected ____ as the word of the year 2021: <b>Vax</b>
488. National Ayurveda Day on Nov 03 commemorates the birth anniversary of which sage? <b>Lord Dhanwantri</b>
489. Which union ministry promotes the system of Ayurveda? <b>Ministry of Auysh</b>
490. Who is the current Minister of Youth Affairs & Sports? <b>Anurag Thakur</b>
491. How many sportspersons have been honoured with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award in 2021? <b>12</b>
492. Which corporate won the Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puruskar 2021? <b>Indian Oil Corporation Ltd.</b>
493. G.Sathiyam and Harmeet Desai are the top-ranking players of which sports? <b>Table Tennis</b>

494. World Tsunami Awareness Day is observed on Nov 5. The word Tsunami has been taken from which language? <b>Japanese</b>
495. Health regulators in which country have approved the world's first pill to treat cases of symptomatic COVID-19? <b>Britain</b>
496. What is the name of the antiviral medicine developed by Merck to treat Corona cases? <b>Molnupiravir</b>
497. Who won the 2021 Booker Prize for Fiction? <b>Damon Galgut</b>
498. Damon Galgut hails from which country? <b>South Africa</b>
499. Damon Galgut won the 2021 Booker Prize for Fiction for which of his novels? <b>The Promise</b>
500. What is the amount of cash award in the 2021 Booker Prize for Fiction? <b>Pound 50,000</b>
501. Who has been appointed as the new head coach of the Indian men's cricket team? <b>Rahul Dravid</b>
502. P. Iniyan, Indian Grandmaster won the 5th Rujna Zora chess tournament in which country? <b>Serbia</b>
503. The WHO granted its Emergency Use Listing (EUL) to which of India's indigenously developed COVID-19 vaccine? <b>Covaxin</b>
504. Who won a bronze medal at the 2021 AIBA men's World Boxing Championships held in Belgrade? <b>Akash Kumar</b>
505. A team of the Indian Air Force participated in a two-day exercise Desert Warrior. It was hosted by which country? <b>Egypt</b>
506. The RBI announced on Nov 02 a revised Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework for banks. Which earlier parameter has been dropped now? <b>Return on assets</b>
507. The Asian Development Bank approved a \$61 million (Rs 458 Crore) loan to improve overall development of which capital city in north east? <b>Agartala</b>
508. National Cancer Awareness Day on Nov 7 marks the birth anniversary of which great scientist? <b>Marie Curie</b>
509. What is Marie Curie's contribution in treatment of cancer? <b>Her deep research in Radium led to one of the most effective ways to treat cancer</b>
510. How many persons have been selected for the Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award 2021? <b>Seven</b>

511. Which Indian city has been included by UNESCO in its coveted list of Creative Cities Network (UCCN)? <b>Srinagar, UT of J&amp;K</b>
512. Which state topped the Logistics State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) 2020 released by the Ministry of power? <b>Gujarat</b>
513. Sankalp Gupta became India's 71st Grandmaster in Chess. He hails from which state? <b>Maharashtra</b>
514. National Legal Services Day on Nov 9 marks which event? <b>The Legal Services Authorities Act 1987 came into effect on this day in 1995</b>
515. Which country secured first rank in the 30 country Global Drug Policy Index, released on Nov 7 by the Harm Reduction Consortium? <b>Norway</b>
516. What was India's rank in the Global Drug Policy Index? <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>
517. Who has been appointed as the next Chief of the Naval Staff, in the rank of Admiral? <b>Vice Admiral R. Hari Kumar</b>
518. Who has been officially announced as Team India's T20 International captain, replacing Virat Kohli? <b>Rohit Sharma</b>
519. What is the name of the fourth Scorpene class indigenously built submarine delivered to the Indian Navy on Nov 09? <b>Vela</b>
520. Which Indian shipyard built the submarine Vela? <b>Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, Mumbai</b>
521. Mitrabha Guha of _____ became the country's 72nd Grandmaster (GM): <b>Kolkata</b>
522. Which UN agency supports the celebration of World Science Day for Peace and Development on Nov 11? <b>UNESCO</b>
523. National Education Day on November 11 marks the birth anniversary of which great leader? <b>Maulana Abul Kalam Azad</b>
524. How many Heads of the National Security Councils met in Delhi on Nov 10 for the Regional Security Dialogue on Afghanistan? <b>Seven</b>
525. Who is the National Security Advisor of India? <b>Ajit Doval</b>
526. Govt announced restoration of the "Member of Parliament Local Area Development" (MPLAD) Scheme. How much amount is allocated per MP/per year under this scheme? <b>Rs. 5 crore</b>
527. MPLADS was launched in which year? <b>1993</b>
528. Why Falguni Nayar, founder and CEO of cosmetics online retailer Nykaa, was in news recently? <b>She</b>

<b>became India's wealthiest self-made billionaire on November 10</b>
529. For what purpose India launched the web portal called e-Amrit on Nov 12 at the COP26 Summit in Glasgow, UK? <b>To promote awareness about electric vehicles</b>
530. The govt decided to celebrate "Janjatiya Gaurav Divas" every year on Nov ____ to highlight the cultural heritage and glorious history of tribal communities: <b>15</b>
531. Janjatiya Gaurav Divas on Nov 15 commemorates the birthday of which great tribal leader? <b>Birsa Munda</b>
532. Which organisation released the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) 2022 at Glasgow? <b>Germanwatch</b>
533. India was placed at which rank in the the Climate Change Performance Index, 2022? <b>10<sup>th</sup></b>
534. India secured five medals, including 2 Gold, 2 Silver and one Bronze in the ISSF President's Cup held in _____ : <b>Wroclaw, Poland</b>
535. The RBI launched two new innovative customer centric schemes on Nov 12. What is their name? <b>RBI Retail Direct Scheme and RBI Integrated Ombudsman Scheme</b>
536. Indian wrestlers secured five medals at the U23 World Wrestling Championships 2021 in Belgrade. It is in which country? <b>Serbia</b>
537. Sheel Vardhan Singh has been appointed as the new Director General of which central para military force? <b>CISF - Central Industrial Security Force</b>
538. Public Service Broadcasting Day on Nov 12 marks the sole visit of which great leader to the studio of All India Radio, Delhi in 1947? <b>Mahatma Gandhi</b>
539. Government launched a programme "Nutrition Smart Village" on Nov 10 to reach out to _____ villages across India: <b>75</b>
540. _____ became the first Indian company to join the United Nations Global Compact: <b>TVS Motor Company</b>
541. Daniel Ortega was re-elected for the fourth time as the President of Nicaragua. It is in which part of the world? <b>Central America</b>
542. India celebrates Nov 14 as Children's Day. On what date World Children's Day is observed? <b>Nov 20</b>
543. What was the theme of this year's World Diabetes Day on Nov 14? <b>Access to Diabetes Care</b>

544. Which team lifted the ICC T-20 World Cup? <b>Australia</b>
545. The finals of ICC T-20 World Cup were played in which city? <b>Dubai</b>
546. As per recently passed ordinances, tenure of Directors of probe agencies Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) and Enforcement Directorate (ED) has been extended to how many years? <b>Five</b>
547. Balwant Moreshwar Purandare, who passed away on Nov 15, was a noted _____ : <b>Historian</b>
548. The 32 <sup>nd</sup> edition of the India-Thailand Coordinated Patrol was held on Nov 12-14 in which area? <b>Andaman Sea</b>
549. The World Bank approved a Rs 770 crore loan to the Inland Water Transport department of _____ to improve river transportation in the state: <b>Assam</b>
550. The World Quality Day is observed on second _____ of November: <b>Thursday</b>
551. India recently launched its _____ Scientific Expedition to Antarctica, in first week of November? <b>41<sup>st</sup></b>
552. India's 41 <sup>st</sup> Scientific Expedition to Antarctica reached which base station in Antarctica? <b>Maitree</b>
553. Country's first ISO certified, first PPP model-based ultra-modern Rani Kamalapati Railway Station is in which city? <b>Bhopal</b>
554. What was the name of the 6th Edition of Indo French Joint Military Exercise held in Frejus, France from 15 to 26 November? <b>EX SHAKTI 2021</b>
555. Name the eminent Hindi writer who passed away at the age of 90 in Gurugram on Nov 15: <b>Maanu Bhandari</b>
556. Nov 16 has been selected as the first Audit Diwas. It is associated with which national office? <b>CAG - Comptroller &amp; Auditor General</b>
557. Who is the appointing authority for the CAG? <b>President</b>
558. CAG is an autonomous body constituted under Article _____ of the Constitution of India: <b>148</b>
559. Which countries took part in the Maritime Exercise SITMEX-21 on Nov 15-16 in Andaman Sea? <b>India, Singapore and Thailand</b>
560. RBI asked _____ to appoint an Internal Ombudsman within 6 months: <b>NBFCs</b>

561. National Press Day on Nov 16 marks the establishment of which Apex organisation? <b>Press Council of India</b>
562. International Day for Tolerance on Nov 16 marks the anniversary of Declaration of Principles on Tolerance on this day in 1995 in Paris, by which UN Agency? <b>UNESCO</b>
563. India's first Grass Conservatory was inaugurated on Nov 14 in _____ of Almora district, Uttarakhand: <b>Ranikhet</b>
564. As per a recent report by McKinsey & Co, which country topped in wealth creation in last two decades? <b>China</b>
565. Pair of brothers Vihaan and Nav Agarwal won the 17th KidsRights International Children's Peace Prize. They are from which city? <b>Delhi</b>
566. M. Mukundan won the JCB Prize for Literature for his novel "Delhi: A Soliloquy". He writes in which language? <b>Malayalam</b>
567. What is the amount of cash award in the JCB Prize for Literature? <b>Rs. 25 lakh</b>
568. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the ICC men's Cricket Committee? <b>Sourav Ganguly</b>
569. The Prime Minister inaugurated the Purvanchal Expressway on Nov 16 at Karwal Kheri in U P. It links _____ with _____ : <b>Lucknow with Ghazipur</b>
570. The Prime Minister used which military cargo plane to land on the airstrip of Purvanchal Expressway? <b>C130 Hercules</b>
571. The All India Presiding Officers' Conference, AIPOC, celebrated its hundred years this year. Its Centennial Year Conference was held on Nov 17-18 at which place? <b>Shimla</b>
572. India's first Food Museum was inaugurated at _____ in Tamil Nadu: <b>Thanjavur</b>
573. India's first Food Museum in Thanjavur has been established by which organisation? <b>FCI - Food Corporation of India</b>
574. National Epilepsy Day is observed on Nov 17. Epilepsy is associated with which human organ? <b>Brain</b>
575. The third Wednesday of November is observed as World COPD Day. What is COPD? <b>Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease</b>
576. Which are two main causes for COPD? <b>Smoking and air pollution</b>
577. Which organisation released the latest "Migration and Development Brief" on Nov 17? <b>World Bank</b>

578. Which country is the biggest contributor of inward remittances in India? <b>USA</b>
579. India slipped five steps in the global bribery risk rankings settling at the ____ spot among 194 nations: 82 <sup>nd</sup>
580. In which country risk of bribery demand is the least? <b>Denmark</b>
581. Celebration of Naturopathy Day is supported by Ministry of AYUSH. What does letter 'S' denote in AYUSH? <b>Siddha</b>
582. Who is the current union minister of AYUSH? <b>Sarbananda Sonowal</b>
583. National Institute of Naturopathy is situated in which city? <b>Pune</b>
584. International Students Day is observed on which day of November? <b>17<sup>th</sup></b>
585. Which Indian village has been selected as one of the best tourism villages in the world by the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO)? <b>Pochampally</b>
586. Village Pochampally is famous for which type of sarees? <b>Ikkat</b>
587. Village Pochampally is located in which state? <b>Telangana</b>
588. Jyothi Surekha Vennam won gold in the women's compound individual event at the Asian _____ Championships? <b>Archery</b>
589. World Toilet Day on Nov 19 supports which number SDG of UNO? <b>6<sup>th</sup></b>
590. Which union ministry supports celebration of Women's Entrepreneurship Day on Nov 19? <b>Ministry of MSMEs</b>
591. Which Bank approved a \$150 million loan for the implementation of the sustainable urban services program for Chennai Metropolitan Area Project? <b>Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank</b>
592. Space scientists at the Physical Research Laboratory (PRL) in _____ have discovered a new exoplanet "TOI 1789b": <b>Ahmedabad</b>
<b>OCTOBER 2021</b>
593. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended World Leader's Summit (Nov 1-2) of the 26 <sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP-26) in which city? <b>Glasgow, UK</b>
594. Which country co-hosted the World Leader's Summit (Nov 1-2) of the 26 <sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP-26)? <b>Italy</b>

595. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the G-20 summit of heads of nations on Oct 30-31 in which city? <b>Rome</b>
596. What were the three pillars of action in the G-20 summit? <b>People, Planet and Prosperity</b>
597. Which UN agency supports the celebration of the World Cities Day on October 31? <b>UN habitat</b>
598. Which country co-hosted the celebration of World Cities Day this year? <b>Egypt</b>
599. Rashtriya Ekta Diwas on October 31 marks the birth anniversary of which great leader? <b>Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel</b>
600. India celebrates World Savings Day on which date? <b>October 30</b>
601. The Asian Development Bank sanctioned a \$ 100 million loan to promote an agribusiness network to boost farm incomes in which state? <b>Maharashtra</b>
602. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) tied up with which global tech giant to launch Appscale Academy, a new growth and development programme for startups? <b>Google</b>
603. Which business tycoon emerged as the richest person in the world, adding \$36 billion to his fortune on October 25, reaching a networth of \$287 billion? <b>Elon Musk</b>
604. Elon Musk is the CEO and co-founder of which company? <b>Tesla Inc.</b>
605. The 38 <sup>th</sup> and 39 <sup>th</sup> summit of ASEAN nations was hosted by which country on Oct 26 to 28? <b>Brunei</b>
606. How many countries are the member of the ASEAN group? <b>Ten</b>
607. Asian Development Bank approved a 4.5 million dollar loan to improve urban mobility in which city in Mizoram? <b>Aizawl</b>
608. Which is the first Indian major port to get the Radio over Internet Protocol communication facility? <b>Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port, Kolkata</b>
609. Name the veteran banker appointed as the chairperson of the newly set up Rs 20,000 crore National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development: <b>K V Kamat</b>
610. Who has been appointed as Chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister? <b>Dr Bibek Debroy</b>

611. DRDO tested which inter-continental ballistic missile successfully on Oct 27? <b>Agni-5</b>
612. What is the effective strike range of the ICBM Agni-5? <b>5,000 km</b>
613. What is the theme for this year's World Occupational Therapy Day? <b>Belong. Be You</b>
614. Who is the author of the recent book titled "Kamala Harris: Phenomenal Woman"? <b>Chidanand Rajghatta</b>
615. International Internet Day on October 29 marks the anniversary of which important event? <b>first internet transmission</b>
616. The most popular Indian cricket tournament, Indian Premier League (IPL) got which two new teams from the 2022 season? <b>Lucknow and Ahmedabad</b>
617. What is the total number of the teams in IPL, after induction of two new teams? <b>Ten</b>
618. Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been re-elected as the President of which country? <b>Uzbekistan</b>
619. Government launched the Green-Day-Ahead Market to further strengthen the _____ trade in India: <b>Electricity</b>
620. In which African country, the apex military junta executed a coup on October 25? <b>Sudan</b>
621. Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari launched a knowledge app and platform named _____ on Oct 25: <b>CUNSLT</b>
622. What was the name of the maiden bilateral tri-service exercise held between UK and Indian Forces in the Arabian Sea, from Oct 24 to 27? <b>Konkan Shakti-2021</b>
623. The RBI released a draft framework on Oct 22 on master directions to implement the Basel III Capital Framework for which organizations? <b>All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs)</b>
624. The Victor Denmark Open 2021 badminton tournament was held in _____, Denmark, from 19 to 24 October: <b>Odense</b>
625. The Election Commission of India launched the _____ app to ensure faster, transparent and timely completion of election work: <b>Garuda</b>
626. Tamil film _____, has been announced as India's official entry to the Oscars 2022: <b>'Koozhangal'</b>
627. What is the theme of this year's World Day for Audiovisual Heritage observed on October 27? <b>Your window to the World</b>

628. Infantry Day on October 27 marks the victory of Indian forces in which battle? <b>1947 attack by Pakistan in Kashmir</b>
629. As of August 2021, Afghanistan and _____ are the only two nations which remain with the continued transmission of wild polio virus: <b>Pakistan</b>
630. October 24 is observed as the United Nations Day. How many countries are member of UNO? <b>193</b>
631. Two renowned film directors, Martin Scorsese of USA and Istvan Szabo of Hungary, will be honoured with the _____ Lifetime Achievement Award at the 52nd International Film Festival of India: <b>Satyajit Ray</b>
632. India was placed at which rank in the Rule of Law Index? <b>79<sup>th</sup></b>
633. Which country topped the Rule of Law Index? <b>Denmark and Norway</b>
634. Dame Sandra Mason was elected as the first ever president of Barbados, a micro island country in the _____ Sea: <b>Caribbean</b>
635. Which India place is called the Snow Leopard capital of the world? <b>Ladakh</b>
636. The Mole Day, popular amongst chemistry enthusiasts, marks the discovery of which number? <b>Avogadro's number</b>
637. The Indian government handed over the 34.9 km long cross-border rail link connecting Jayanagar in Bihar to _____ in Nepal: <b>Kurtha</b>
638. The DRDO successfully flight tested the High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT), named _____: <b>'Abhyas'</b>
639. International Stuttering Awareness Day is observed on which date? <b>October 22</b>
640. Which organization launched the tokenization system for all RuPay cards? <b>NPCI</b>
641. Who has been appointed as the new Prime Minister of Norway by King Harald V? <b>Jonas Gahr Store</b>
642. Which organization awards Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought? <b>European Union</b>
643. Who has been honoured with this year's Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought? <b>Alexei Navalny</b>
644. Alexei Navalny is an anti-corruption activist from which country? <b>Russia</b>
645. Which country hosted the 4 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) virtually from October 18 to 21? <b>India</b>

646. Who presided over the 4 <sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the ISA? <b>R K Singh, Union Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy</b>
647. Which volcano erupted in Japan on Oct 20, blasting ash several kms into the sky? <b>Mount Aso</b>
648. India celebrates Police Commemoration Day on Oct 21. It is associated with which battle? <b>1959 battle with Chinese army</b>
649. Police Commemoration Day is associated with the sacrifices of which para military personnel? <b>CRPF</b>
650. India participated in Exercise Ajeya Warrior with which other country? <b>UK</b>
651. Exercise Ajeya Warrior was held at which place? <b>Chaubatia, Uttarakhand</b>
652. India was ranked pretty low in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 at ____ rank: <b>71<sup>st</sup></b>
653. Which country topped the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021? <b>Ireland</b>
654. World Osteoporosis Day is observed on Oct 20. What is the literal meaning of osteoporosis? <b>Porous bones</b>
655. The International Chefs Day is observed on which date? <b>October 20</b>
656. National Solidarity Day on Oct 20 marks the beginning of which important battle? <b>1962 Indo China war</b>
657. Pradeep Kumar Panja has been appointed as part-time Chairman of which bank? <b>Karnataka Bank</b>
658. Which apex organization launched a Geographic Information System (GIS)-based Geospatial Energy Map of India? <b>NITI Aayog</b>
659. Which Indian agriculture waste recycling project won the Earthshot Prize? <b>Takachar</b>
660. What is the cash award in the Earthshot Prize? <b>Pounds one million</b>
661. Divya Deshmukh, 15-year-old chess prodigy from _____, Maharashtra became India's 21st Woman GrandMaster on October 13: <b>Nagpur</b>
662. Cameron Norrie, winner of the Indian Wells tennis tournament final, hails from which country? <b>Britain</b>
663. Indian Wells tennis tournament is held in which state of USA? <b>California</b>
664. Amitabh Chaudhry has been re-appointed as MD & CEO of _____ Bank for a period of three years: <b>Axis Bank</b>

665. Which country launched its first solar observation satellite 'Xihe' on Oct 14 into a 571-km altitude orbit? <b>China</b>
666. Thomas Cup (men) is associated with which sports? <b>Badminton</b>
667. What is the name of the women's equivalent of Thomas Cup badminton tournament? <b>Uber Cup</b>
668. Finals of the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship was held at which place? <b>Male, Maldives</b>
669. Which team won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship? <b>India</b>
670. Who led the Indian team in SAFF tournament? <b>Sunil Chhetri</b>
671. NASA launched which spacecraft on Oct 16, the first space mission to study the Trojan Asteroids? <b>Lucy</b>
672. Trojan asteroids are associated with which planet? <b>Jupiter</b>
673. Who is the author of the recently published popular novel titled "Billy Summers"? <b>Stephen King</b>
674. "Actually... I Met Them: A Memoir" is the collection of experiences of which famous Bollywood personality? <b>Gulzar, famous lyricist</b>
675. What is the title of the recent anthology of works of noted author Ruskin Bond? <b>Writing for My Life</b>
676. A new version of the Akash Missile was successfully flight tested on Sep 27 by DRDO. What is its name? <b>Akash Prime</b>
677. Which apex national institution has introduced the "Fast and Secured Transmission of Electronic Records" (FASTER) system? <b>Supreme Court of India</b>
678. As per latest RBI guidelines, banks can now sell their fraudulent NPAs to _____ companies: <b>Asset Reconstruction Companies</b>
679. As per the latest Asiamoney's "Asia's Outstanding Companies Poll, 2021 Poll", which bank was voted as the best among the listed companies in India? <b>HDFC Bank</b>
680. Lewis Hamilton (Team Mercedes-Great Britain), won the F1 Russian Grand Prix 2021 held at _____: <b>Sochi</b>
681. World Environmental Health Day is observed on which date? <b>Sep 26</b>

682. Who became the first Indian to cross the 10,000 runs mark in the T20 format? <b>Virat Kohli</b>
683. Who has been appointed as the 34th Director General of National Cadet Corps (NCC)? <b>Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh</b>
684. What is the name of the country's first Pan-India toll-free helpline – 14567 launched for the senior citizens? <b>Elder Line</b>
685. The “Amrit Grand Challenge Program” titled “जनCARE” was launched on Sep 28 to identify 75 Start-Up Innovations in which field? <b>Healthcare</b>
686. Sojat Mehndi which got the GI tag recently, is from which state? <b>Rajasthan</b>
687. What is the name of the local home-made rice wine from Assam that secured a GI tag recently? <b>Judima</b>
688. The Group of Ministers tasked to propose rationalisation of tax rates and considering the merger of different tax slabs, is headed by whom? <b>Basavaraj S. Bommai, CM of Karnataka</b>
689. Who will head the GoM constituted for GST System Reforms? <b>Ajit Pawar, Deputy Chief Minister, Maharashtra</b>
690. La Palma Island, the most north-westerly island of the Canary Islands, witnessed huge volcanic eruptions since Sep 19. It is in which country? <b>Spain</b>
691. The Central Government has renamed the National Mid-Day Meal Scheme as what? <b>PM-POSHAN Shakti Nirman Scheme</b>
692. National Mid-Day Meal Scheme was launched in which year? <b>1995</b>
693. The Ministry of Tourism launched NIDHI 2.0 scheme on the occasion of World Tourism Day on Sep 27. What is its full form? <b>National Integrated Database of Hospitality Industry</b>
694. Ordnance Factory Board has been split into seven groups. It was established in 1775 in which place? <b>Kolkata</b>
695. A month-long Clean India Programme was launched from which place on Oct 1 as part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav? <b>Pryagraj</b>
696. Government launched DigiSaksham - a digital skills programme in tie-up with which IT company? <b>Microsoft India</b>
697. What is the main aim of the recently launched DigiSaksham programme? <b>Enhancing</b>

<b>employability of youth by imparting them digital skills</b>
698. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved a \$ 356.67 million loan for funding the expansion of which metro rail system of India? <b>Chennai Metro</b>
699. Raoudha Boudent Ramadhane has become the first woman prime minister of which African country? <b>Tunisia</b>
700. The 4th edition of the biennial maritime series AUSINDEX was held on Sep 30 in which area? <b>North Australian Exercise Area</b>
701. International Coffee Day is celebrated on which day? <b>October 1<sup>st</sup></b>
702. India celebrates the National Voluntary Blood Donation Day on which date? <b>Oct 01</b>
703. The World Vegetarian Day is observed on ____ day of October: <b>First</b>
704. Which country introduced a new currency on October 1 with six fewer zeros? <b>Venezuela</b>
705. The world's largest Khadi national flag was installed at which place in Ladakh? <b>Leh</b>
706. Which iconic Indian cartoon superhero has been declared as the mascot of the Namami Gange Programme? <b>Chacha Chaudhary</b>
707. The famed white onion of Alibag earned itself a ‘Geographical Indication’ recently. It is from which state? <b>Maharashtra</b>
708. What is the focus area of the recently launched Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban (SBM-U) 2.0? <b>Removal of garbage mounds from the cities</b>
709. Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban was launched in which year? <b>2014</b>
710. Which international day is observed on Oct 2 to commemorate Mahatma Gandhi’s philosophy of nonviolence or Ahimsa? <b>International Day of Non-violence</b>
711. AMRUT programme was launched in June 2015 to ensure adequate robust sewage networks and improve water supply in urban areas. What is its full form? <b>Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation</b>
712. The Prime Minister launched the Jal Jeevan Mission App on October 2. What is the main aim of the mission? <b>Providing clean tap water to every household in rural areas</b>
713. Which para military force launched an All-India Car Rally ‘Sudarshan Bharat Parikrama’ on

October 02, from the historic Red Fort in Delhi? <b>National Security Guard (NSG)</b>
714. The National Security Guard functions under which union ministry? <b>Ministry of Home affairs</b>
715. Bangladesh Naval Ship BNS Somudra Avijan visited Eastern Naval Command base at _____ on Oct 03 on a five-day visit: <b>Visakhapatnam</b>
716. Which Football Club lifted the prestigious Durand Cup? <b>FC Goa</b>
717. Finals of the Durand Cup were played in which place? <b>Kolkata</b>
718. B C Patnaik took charge as the managing director of which apex national financial organization? <b>LIC of India</b>
719. There are how many managing directors in the LIC of India? <b>Four</b>
720. The World Animal Day on Oct 4 commemorates the feast day of the patron saint of animals. What is his name? <b>St Francis of Assisi</b>
721. Which government department launched a web portal 'Waste to Wealth' to find solutions to India's waste handling problems? <b>Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser</b>
722. The Indian men's table tennis team claimed the bronze medal in the ITTF-ATTU Asian Table Tennis Championships held in _____ : <b>Doha, Qatar</b>
723. World Habitat Day is observed on the _____ Monday of every October: <b>First</b>
724. Scientists who discovered how our bodies feel the warmth of the sun or the hug of a loved one, have won the Nobel Prize in which field? <b>Medicine</b>
725. David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian, from the United States, jointly won the Nobel Prize in which field? <b>Medicine</b>
726. The Nobel Prize amount for 2021 is set at Swedish kronor (SEK) _____ million: <b>10</b>
727. Who has been elected as the 100th prime minister of Japan? <b>Fumio Kishida</b>
728. Who became India's youngest shooter to win an international medal in shooting? <b>Naamya Kapoor -14 years</b>
729. World Teachers' Day is observed on which day of October? <b>5th</b>
730. Which is the National Aquatic Animal of India? <b>Ganga Dolphin</b>
731. Ganga River Dolphin Day is observed on which date? <b>Oct 05</b>

732. Which state has largest population of Gangetic Dolphins? <b>Bihar</b>
733. The third annual edition of the Digital Quality of Life Index (DQL) ranked India _____ among 110 countries: <b>59th</b>
734. Which country topped the Digital Quality of Life Index? <b>Denmark</b>
735. Government has decided to grant a award of Rs. _____ to the Good Samaritan who saves the life of a road accident victim: <b>5,000</b>
736. The fifth edition of India - Japan Maritime Bilateral Exercise _____ was held from Oct 6 to 8: <b>JIMEX</b>
737. Bilateral exercise JIMEX 2021 was held in which area? <b>Arabian Sea</b>
738. The Nobel Prize for Physics has been awarded jointly to how many scientists? <b>Three</b>
739. Out of three winners of Nobel for Physics-- Syukuro Manabe, Klaus Hasselmann and Giorgio Parisi, who will get the one half of the prize money? <b>Giorgio Parisi</b>
740. Name the veteran actor best known for playing Raavan in the popular 1986 TV serial "Ramayan", who left for heavenly abode on Oct 05: <b>Arvind Trivedi</b>
741. Which state has initiated for the first time, organized planting of Cinnamon? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
742. Which organization decided to observe 1st October 2021 as NPS Diwas? <b>Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)</b>
743. Where are the headquarters of the PFRDA? <b>New Delhi</b>
744. The Union Cabinet approved the setting up of 7 PM MITRA parks for the focused development of which sector? <b>Textiles</b>
745. What is the full form of the acronym MITRA? <b>Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel</b>
746. Indian Council of Medical Research released the MUDRA Toolbox in how many Indian languages? <b>Five</b>
747. What is the expansion of the term MUDRA? <b>Multilingual Dementia Research and Assessment</b>
748. Dementia is associated with which ailment? <b>Loss of memory</b>

749. Indian Council of Medical Research is based in which city? <b>New Delhi</b>
750. India hosted the two day Online Meeting of 30 CAF Range countries on Oct 6-7. It is associated with which issue? <b>Conservation of Migratory birds</b>
751. What is the full form of CAF? <b>Central Asian Flyway</b>
752. What is the name of the first anti Malaria vaccine approved by WHO? <b>Mosquirix</b>
753. Who is the Director General of WHO? <b>Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus</b>
754. Who was declared as the "Player of the year-Men" by the International Hockey Federation? <b>Harmanpreet Singh</b>
755. Amongst the international women hockey players, who was voted as the "Player of the year-Women"? <b>Gurjit Kaur</b>
756. Headquarters of the International Hockey Federation are located in _____, Switzerland? <b>Lausanne</b>
757. Name the Indian woman educationist who won the Yidan Prize for Education Development-2021: <b>Dr. Rukmini Banerji</b>
758. Who won the Yidan Prize for Education Research-2021? <b>Prof. Eric A. Hanushek</b>
759. Yidan Prize carries a gold medal and a cash award of HK \$___ million: <b>Thirty</b>
760. Which UN agency supports the celebration of the World Cotton Day on Oct 07? <b>World Trade Organisation</b>
761. What is the theme of this year's World Cotton Day? <b>Cotton for Good</b>
762. The combined areas of the Guru Ghasidas National Park and Tamor Pingla Wildlife Sanctuary has been approved as 4th Tiger Reserve in which state? <b>Chhattisgarh</b>
763. The Defence Accounts Department has developed an IT-enabled payment and accounting system named _____: <b>PRABAL</b>
764. India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People on Oct 7. What is its purpose? <b>Conservation of nature</b>
765. Who are the proposed beneficiaries of the PM Cares For Children Scheme: <b>Children who lost their parents due to Corona</b>
766. Who won this year's Nobel Prize for literature? <b>Abdulrazak Gurnah</b>

767. Abdulrazak Gurnah hails from which country? <b>Tanzania</b>
768. Abdulrazak Gurnah writes in which language? <b>English</b>
769. Who is the first Indian woman to win a silver medal in the World Wrestling Championships? <b>Anshu Malik</b>
770. Which of the policy rates was increased by the RBI in its Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) meeting held on Oct 8? <b>No rate was changed</b>
771. RBI proposed to increase the per transaction limit through Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) to Rs ___ lakh, from Rs 2 lakh at present: <b>Five</b>
772. IMPS transactions are conducted by which apex organization? <b>NPCI - National Payments Corporation of India</b>
773. As per World Bank's latest South Asia economic focus report released on Oct 6, India's real GDP in the 2021-22 is estimated to grow by at which rate? <b>8.3%</b>
774. October 8 is observed as the Air Force Day to commemorate its raising on this day in the year____: <b>1932</b>
775. What is the rank of the current chief of the Indian Air Force? <b>Air Chief Marshal</b>
776. Who has been appointed the new Air Chief Marshal? <b>Vivek Ram Chaudhari</b>
777. The World Egg Day is celebrated on the second ____ of October: <b>Friday</b>
778. Eggs are a great source of _____, a nutrient which can help in memory and brain development: <b>Choline</b>
779. What is the name of the mobile app that provides all relevant details of the ports and can monitor their operations virtually? <b>MyPortApp</b>
780. What do we call the receipt issued by a shipping company for having received the goods for shipping? <b>Bill of Lading</b>
781. Nobel Peace Prize was conferred jointly upon Maria Ressa of Phillipines and Dmitry Muratov of Russia. They are associated with which field? <b>Journalism</b>
782. The Henley Passport Index for 4th quarter of 2021 ranked India at which spot? <b>90th</b>
783. Which country topped the recent Henley Passport Index? <b>Japan and Singapore shared the top position</b>

784. Which international day is celebrated on Oct 9 to mark the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union on this day in 1874? <b>World Post Day</b>
785. What is the theme chosen for this year's World Post Day? <b>Innovate to recover</b>
786. Which UN agency supports the celebration of the World Mental Health Day on Oct 10? <b>WHO - World Health Organisation, Geneva</b>
787. Prime Minister of _____ Mette Frederiksen arrived in New Delhi on Oct 9 on a three-day visit to India: <b>Denmark</b>
788. Which business group won the bid for acquiring national carrier Air India? <b>Tata Sons</b>
789. Who has been appointed as the first Director-General of the Ordnance Directorate? <b>E R Sheikh</b>
790. What is the theme for this year's International Day of the Girl Child? <b>Digital generation. Our generation</b>
791. The Prime Minister formally launched the Indian Space Association (ISpA) on Oct 11. What is its focus area? <b>Satellite communication</b>
792. Valtteri Bottas won the Turkish Grand Prix for team Mercedes. He hails from which country? <b>Finland</b>
793. David Card, Joshua D. Angrist and Guido W. Imbens jointly won the Nobel Prize for Economics. Who out of the three will get one half of the prize money? <b>David Card</b>
794. What is the theme of the Fourth Cohort launched under Regulatory Sandbox by RBI? <b>Prevention and Mitigation of Financial Frauds</b>
795. Alexander Schallenberg has been appointed as the new _____ of Austria: <b>Chancellor</b>
796. What is the name of the mascot of the 7th U-17 Women's FIFA World Cup? <b>Ibha</b>
797. Mascot Ibha has been designed after which animal? <b>A lioness</b>
798. Which country will host the 7th U-17 Women's FIFA World Cup in 2022? <b>India</b>
799. India celebrates the National Philately Day on which day of October? <b>13th</b>
800. Which global organisation releases the World Economic Outlook report? <b>IMF - International Monetary Fund</b>
801. Which Central Public Sector Enterprise was granted 'Maharatna' status on Oct 12? <b>Power Finance Corporation</b>

802. How many Central Public Sector Enterprises enjoy the 'Maharatna' status in India? <b>Eleven</b>
803. Which union ministry decides the granting of 'Maharatna' status to a Central Public Sector Enterprise? <b>Ministry of Finance</b>
804. Which country launched on Oct 11 the world's first automated, driverless train? <b>Germany</b>
805. October 14 is observed as World Standards Day. Which is the National Standards Body in India? <b>Bureau of Indian Standards</b>
806. Celebration of International E-Waste Day on Oct 14 is supported by which international organization? <b>WEEE: Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment</b>
807. What is the theme of this year's World Sight Day? <b>Love Your Eyes</b>
808. What is the name of the Rs 100 lakh crore plan launched by the prime minister to promote the multi-modal connectivity to economic zones in the country? <b>PM Gati Shakti-National Master Plan</b>
809. Government has extended the jurisdiction of the Border Security Force (BSF) up to ___ km from the international border: <b>50</b>
810. The BSF is responsible for guarding which part of India's international border? <b>Portion shared with Pakistan and Bangladesh</b>
811. The 58th edition of EY's Renewable Energy Country Attractiveness Index' (RECAI) has placed India at which spot? <b>Third</b>
812. Which country topped the 58th edition of EY's RECAI? <b>USA</b>
813. Celebration of Rashtriya Mahila Kisan Diwas on Oct 15 is supported by which union ministry? <b>Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ministry</b>
814. World Students' Day on Oct 15 commemorates the birthday of which great statesman of India? <b>Dr APJ Abdul Kalam</b>
815. Global Handwashing Day is observed on which day of October? <b>15th</b>
816. India was re-elected to the UN Human Rights Council for a record 6th term. UNHRC is based in which country? <b>Switzerland</b>
817. India slipped by seven spots to which rank in the Global Hunger Index (GHI) of 116 countries? <b>101st</b>

818. With which country the Indian Navy participated in the second phase of Multilateral Maritime Exercise 'Malabar'? <b>Japan</b>
819. Malabar exercise was held in which area? <b>Bay of Bengal</b>
820. What was the name of the 8th Edition of India – Sri Lanka Joint Military Exercise held from Oct 4 to 15? <b>Mitra Shakti</b>
821. Military Exercise Mitra Shakti was held at which place? <b>Ampara, Sri Lanka</b>
822. What was the name of the 17th Edition of Indo-US Joint Military Exercise held from Oct 15 to 29? <b>Exercise -Yudh Abhyas 2021</b>
823. Which US state hosted the Exercise-Yudh Abhyas 2021? <b>Alaska</b>
824. _____ is set to become the first city in India to use ropeway services for public transportation: <b>Varanasi</b>
825. Which team won the finals of the IPL 2021 in Dubai on Oct 15? <b>Chennai Super Kings</b>
826. The IPL champion team Chennai Super Kings was led by which player? <b>M S Dhoni</b>
827. World Food Day on Oct 16 commemorates the founding of Food and Agriculture Organization on this day in _____, Canada in 1945: <b>Quebec City</b>
828. Headquarters of the FAO are located in which city? <b>Rome</b>
829. Which number UN Sustainable Development Goal is associated with eradication of poverty? <b>First</b>
830. Who has been selected as the Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA) for 2021-22? <b>A K Goel</b>
831. A K Goel is the MD and CEO of which public sector bank? <b>UCO Bank</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 2021</b>
832. World Maritime Day is observed on the last _____ of September: <b>Thursday (Sep 30)</b>
833. What was the theme of this year's World Heart Day observed on Sep 29? <b>Use Heart to Connect</b>
834. Happy Daughters' Day is celebrated globally on the _____ Sunday of September every year: <b>Fourth (Sep 26)</b>
835. The world's highest electric vehicle charging station was inaugurated at an altitude of 12,500 ft in Kaza village in which state? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
836. The juicy, soft and sweet cucumbers from which state were granted coveted GI Tag? <b>Nagaland</b>

837. Who dethroned world heavyweight boxing champion Anthony Joshua (Britain)? <b>Oleksandr Usyk, Ukraine</b>
838. Which UN agency supports the celebration of World Tourism Day on Sep 27? <b>World Tourism Organisation</b>
839. Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the _____ session of the UN General Assembly on Sep 25th in New York: <b>76<sup>th</sup></b>
840. Which cyclonic storm formed in the Bay of Bengal made a landfall on Sep 26 between North Andhra Pradesh and South Odisha? <b>Gulab</b>
841. What is the name of the new asset management company set up by the nine public sector banks (PSBs) for NPA management? <b>India Debt Resolution Company</b>
842. The Ministry of Defence placed an order worth Rs 7,523 crore for supply of 118 _____ tanks for the Indian Army: <b>Arjun Mk-1A</b>
843. Which Ordnance factory will make these Arjun Mk-1A tanks? <b>Heavy Vehicles Factory (HVF), Avadi, Chennai</b>
844. Which UN agency has revised and tightened the air quality guidelines for the first time since 2005? <b>WHO</b>
845. According to the new limits, average annual PM2.5 concentrations should be no higher than _____ micrograms per cubic meter: <b>Five</b>
846. The world's highest radio station is at Humbatingla, at an altitude of 13,300 feet, in which area? <b>Kargil, Ladakh</b>
847. Antyodaya Diwas observed on Sep 25 marks the birth anniversary of which great leader? <b>Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya</b>
848. Which global body supports the celebration of World Pharmacist Day on Sep 25? <b>International Pharmaceutical Federation, The Hague (Netherlands)</b>
849. What is the name of the mascot for the Beijing's Winter Olympics – 2022? <b>Bing Dwen Dwen</b>
850. Bing Dwen Dwen has been modelled after which animal? <b>Panda</b>
851. What is the official motto for the Beijing's Winter Olympics – 2022 games? <b>Together for a Shared Future</b>
852. Which union ministry launched the National Single Window System (NSWS) on September 22 for investors and businesses? <b>Ministry of Commerce and Industry</b>

<b>853.</b> Which Indian Grand Master won the Norway Chess Open 2021 Masters section, held in Stavanger, Norway? <b>D Gukesh</b>
<b>854.</b> The National Disaster Management Authority has recommended ex gratia Rs _____ to be given to kin of those who died due to Covid-19: <b>50,000/-</b>
<b>855.</b> International Day of Sign Languages is observed on which day of September? <b>23<sup>rd</sup></b>
<b>856.</b> What was the name of the 3rd edition of Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and Indonesia that took place from Sep 20 to 22? <b>Samudra Shakti</b>
<b>857.</b> Bilateral exercise Samudra Shakti was held in which area? <b>Near Sunda Strait, Indonesia</b>
<b>858.</b> Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) in its 21st summit decided to admit which country as a full member? <b>Iran</b>
<b>859.</b> R Raja Rithvik, a 17-year-old prodigy became India's 70 <sup>th</sup> Grand Master on Sep 20. He hails from which state? <b>Telangana</b>
<b>860.</b> What is the theme for this year's World Rhino Day? <b>Keep The Five Alive</b>
<b>861.</b> India is home to which type of Rhino species? <b>Greater one-horned Rhinos</b>
<b>862.</b> Which India state has largest number of Greater one-horned Rhinos? <b>Assam</b>
<b>863.</b> World Rose Day observed on Sep 22 is associated with which serious ailment? <b>Cancer</b>
<b>864.</b> Alzheimer disease is associated with which part of human body? <b>Brain cells</b>
<b>865.</b> Name the President of Akhil Bhartiya Akhada Parishad (largest grouping of Indian Sadhus) who was found dead in his math on Sep 20: <b>Mahant Narendra Giri</b>
<b>866.</b> FSSAI released which Index on Sep 20 for evaluating food safety across all States/UTs in 2020-21? <b>State Food Safety Index – SFSI</b>
<b>867.</b> SFSI ranked which state at number one in the large state category? <b>Gujarat</b>
<b>868.</b> India improved its ranking by two spots to ____ in the Global Innovation Index 2021: <b>46<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>869.</b> The Global Innovation Index is released by which global organisation? <b>World Intellectual Property Organization</b>
<b>870.</b> Headquarters of World Intellectual Property Organization are in which place? <b>Geneva, Switzerland</b>

<b>871.</b> Which two beaches from India got the coveted Blue Flag certification? <b>Kovalam in Chennai, Tamil Nadu and Eden in Puducherry</b>
<b>872.</b> What is the total number of Blue Flag certified beaches in India? <b>Ten</b>
<b>873.</b> The Ministry of Education has formed a 12 member National Steering Committee headed by _____ for the development of National Curriculum Frameworks: <b>Dr K Kasturirangan</b>
<b>874.</b> Who has been made the new Chief of the Indian Air Force? <b>Air Marshal V R Chaudhari</b>
<b>875.</b> The Reserve Bank of India has extended the scope of permitted devices for undertaking tokenised _____ transactions to include consumer devices such as laptops, desktops, wearables (wrist watches, bands, etc.): <b>Card, both debit and credit</b>
<b>876.</b> Which state has adopted sport of wrestling till the 2032 Olympics? <b>Uttar Pradesh</b>
<b>877.</b> In a report by Forbes India, which Indian city is the world's most surveilled city, having highest number of CCTV cameras per sq km? <b>New Delhi</b>
<b>878.</b> Finance Minister unveiled on Aug 25 the fourth edition of EASE (Enhanced Access & Service Excellence), for _____ : <b>Public sector bank reforms</b>
<b>879.</b> _____ won the ITTF Czech International table tennis tournament at Olomouc in Czech Republic on Aug 25: <b>G. Sathiyam</b>
<b>880.</b> Government has introduced Bharat Series (BH) for vehicles for what purpose? <b>To facilitate inter state transfer of vehicles without change of registration number</b>
<b>881.</b> Which Bank was declared as the 'Overall Winner' of the EASE 3.0 Awards for best performance? <b>State Bank of India</b>
<b>882.</b> The NITI Aayog tied up with which global IT giant to launch the next phase of the Women Entrepreneurship Platform "WEP Nxt"? <b>CISCO, USA</b>
<b>883.</b> Government launched the project 'INDIAsize' to develop Indian size charts for which product? <b>Readymade Garments</b>
<b>884.</b> The Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D) joined hands with the All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) to launch a unique national Hackathon named _____ on August 26: <b>'MANTHAN 2021'</b>

<b>885.</b> SP Sethuraman, Indian Grandmaster from _____ won the Barcelona Open Chess Tournament title on Aug 26 in Spain: <b>Chennai</b>
<b>886.</b> Who won the first gold for India in the Tokyo Paralympics? <b>Avani Lekhara</b>
<b>887.</b> Avani Lekhara won Gold in which event? <b>Women's 10 meter Air Rifle Shooting</b>
<b>888.</b> P Iniyam, Indian Grandmaster won the Noisiel International Open Chess Tournament in which country? <b>France</b>
<b>889.</b> Indian pugilists won eight Gold medals at the Asian Junior Boxing Championships held in _____ from August 20 to 30: <b>Dubai</b>
<b>890.</b> The Indian Navy and the German Navy carried out a joint exercise on August 26 in which area? <b>Gulf of Aden</b>
<b>891.</b> What was the name of OPV inducted in Indian Coast Guard on August 28 at Chennai? <b>Vigraha</b>
<b>892.</b> RBI increased the limit of fund transfer under the Indo-Nepal Remittance Facility Scheme to Rs _____ per transaction, from Rs 50,000 at present: <b>2 lakh</b>
<b>893.</b> The world's highest movie theatre was inaugurated in the _____ area of Leh, at an altitude of 11,562 feet: <b>Paldan</b>
<b>894.</b> Government launched a first-of-its-kind indigenously developed Quantum Computing Simulation toolkit named _____ on August 26: <b>QSim</b>
<b>895.</b> The Ministry of Environment notified the area around Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary as an eco-sensitive zone. <b>It is in which state? Assam</b>
<b>896.</b> Sumit Antil (from Haryana) set a new world record to win the gold medal in which event in Tokyo Paralympic? <b>Javelin Throw</b>
<b>897.</b> PFRDA has increased the entry age for the National Pension System (NPS) from 65 years to _____ years: <b>70</b>
<b>898.</b> September 2 is observed as the World Coconut Day. Which country is the largest producer of coconuts? <b>Indonesia</b>
<b>899.</b> Which is the first state to provide 100% first dose of Covid-19 vaccination to all eligible persons of 18 years and above? <b>Himachal Pradesh</b>
<b>900.</b> The New Development Bank has admitted which three countries as members other than 5 BRICS nations? <b>UAE, Uruguay and Bangladesh</b>

<b>901.</b> For the first time in the history of Indian judiciary, _____ new judges, including three women judges, took oath in one go as Supreme Court judges on August 31: <b>Nine</b>
<b>902.</b> What is the sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court, excluding CJI? <b>33</b>
<b>903.</b> Who is the appointing authority for the Supreme Court Judge? <b>President of India</b>
<b>904.</b> A Collegium headed by the CJI and comprising _____ other senior SC judges recommends the names of senior judges or advocates to the President of India for appointment of Supreme Court judges: <b>Four</b>
<b>905.</b> The union AYUSH minister Sarbananda Sonowal launched which yoga based mobile app on September 01? <b>'Y Break' (Yoga Break)</b>
<b>906.</b> What is the name of the plant based bio-filter developed by IIT Ropar and Kanpur in collaboration with Delhi University? <b>Ubreathe Life</b>
<b>907.</b> A special commemorative coin of Rs 125 was released on September 01 to mark the 125th birth anniversary of which great saint? <b>Srila Bhaktivedanta Swami Prabhupada</b>
<b>908.</b> Swami Prabhupada founded which popular spiritual organization? <b>ISKCON - International Society for Krishna Consciousness</b>
<b>909.</b> Who has been appointed the Chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), New Delhi? <b>J B Mohapatra</b>
<b>910.</b> Alejandro Prieto, winner of the Bird Photographer of the Year, 2021, hails from which country? <b>Mexico</b>
<b>911.</b> Which is the first Indian state to launch 'Save Water to Get Free Water' scheme? <b>Goa</b>
<b>912.</b> The Ramon Magsaysay Awards, also known as Asia's Nobel Prize, are given in which country? <b>Philippines</b>
<b>913.</b> RBI has set up a committee headed by P Vasudevan to review applications and give recommendations on NUE licences. What is NUE? <b>New Umbrella Entity</b>
<b>914.</b> What will be the main function of proposed NUEs? <b>To set up digital payment infrastructure to boost retail payment system in the country</b>
<b>915.</b> Who became the highest goalscorer in international football scoring his 111th international goal on Sep 01? <b>Cristiano Ronaldo</b>

<b>916.</b> Cristiano Ronaldo plays for which football club? <b>Manchester United</b>
<b>917.</b> Hurricane Ida, the powerful cyclonic storm destroyed hundreds of buildings and left more than a million homes without power in which country on Sep 1-2? <b>USA, Eastern</b>
<b>918.</b> IMF allocated 12.57 billion Special Drawing Rights (SDR) to India. What is SDR? <b>Special Drawing Rights</b>
<b>919.</b> Which university topped the Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2022 for the sixth year in a row? <b>The University of Oxford, UK</b>
<b>920.</b> Who became the first Indian to win a Paralympic medal in archery? <b>Harvinder Singh</b>
<b>921.</b> Teachers' Day on Sep 5 marks the birth anniversary of Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan. He was the first _____ of India: <b>Vice President</b>
<b>922.</b> Which international day is observed on Sep 5 to commemorate the death anniversary of Saint Mother Teresa? <b>International Day of Charity</b>
<b>923.</b> The National Aerospace Laboratories, Bengaluru successfully designed and built its two-seater _____ aircraft, Hansa NG: <b>Trainer</b>
<b>924.</b> Ayush Ministry launched the campaign "AYUSH Aapke Dwar" on Sep 04 for what purpose? <b>For distributing medicinal plants from more than 45 locations across the country</b>
<b>925.</b> The Indian Army signed a contract worth Rs 100 crore with a Bengaluru-based company on September 1 to procure 100 'SkyStrikers'. What is it? <b>Armed drone</b>
<b>926.</b> Which is the last country to stop usage of leaded petrol? <b>Algeria</b>
<b>927.</b> Who became the first IAS officer to win a silver medal in Paralympics? <b>Suhas L Yathiraj</b>
<b>928.</b> Which is the only sports event in which India won two gold medals in Tokyo Paralympics? <b>Badminton</b>
<b>929.</b> In total, India won how many medals in Tokyo Paralympics? <b>19</b>
<b>930.</b> What was the name of the 28th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise held from Sep 2 to 4 in South China Sea? <b>SIMBEX-2021</b>
<b>931.</b> President Ram Nath Kovind awarded the President's Colour to outfit of Indian Navy: <b>Indian Naval Aviation</b>

<b>932.</b> _____ became the first Asian country to launch on Sep 03 a "Plastics Pact": <b>India</b>
<b>933.</b> The Plastics Pact targets the businesses to move towards a circular economy for plastics by which year? <b>2030</b>
<b>934.</b> Center signed a tripartite peace accord on Sep 04 with the State government of Assam and five insurgent groups from _____ region: <b>Karbi Anglong</b>
<b>935.</b> What was the name of the bilateral exercise held between the Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy, near Australia from Sep 6 to 10? <b>AUSINDEX</b>
<b>936.</b> For which state Asian Development Bank approved a \$150 million loan for a sustainable housing project for the urban poor? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
<b>937.</b> What is the theme for this year's International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies observed on Sep 7? <b>Healthy Air, Healthy Planet</b>
<b>938.</b> India's first Dugong conservation reserve is proposed to be built in which area? <b>Palk Bay, near Tamil Nadu</b>
<b>939.</b> What type of animal is Dugong? <b>A marine mammal, popularly known as 'sea cow'</b>
<b>940.</b> What is the name of the portal launched to enable volunteers to contribute to govt schools of their choice? <b>Vidyanjali</b>
<b>941.</b> International Literacy Day is observed on which date? <b>Sep 08</b>
<b>942.</b> Which UN agency supports the celebration of International Literacy Day? <b>UNESCO</b>
<b>943.</b> Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director of Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank), Mumbai? <b>Ms. Harsha Bhupendra Bangari</b>
<b>944.</b> TRIFED under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has joined hands with the Ministry of External Affairs, to set up an Atmanirbhar Bharat corner in which 75 locations? <b>Indian missions/ embassies abroad</b>
<b>945.</b> Himalaya Day observed on Sep 9, was first celebrated in 2010 by which state? <b>Uttarakhand</b>
<b>946.</b> Which institute topped the NIRF rankings for the third time in a row, in the overall category? <b>IIT Madras</b>
<b>947.</b> Among Management institutes, IIM _____ topped the NIRF rankings: <b>Ahmedabad</b>
<b>948.</b> Which medical institute secured first rank in the recent NIRF rankings? <b>AIIMS, Delhi</b>

949. Miranda College, topper of Colleges category in NIRF rankings, is located in which place? <b>New Delhi</b>
950. ADB granted a \$ 300 million loan as additional financing to scale up improvement of rural connectivity in which state? <b>Maharashtra</b>
951. The Union Cabinet approved the procurement of 56 C-295MW _____ aircraft for the Indian Air Force: <b>Transport</b>
952. Which global company will supply these C-295 MW aircrafts? <b>Airbus Defence and Space S.A., Spain</b>
953. Why the Satta-Gandharv stretch of National Highway 925 in Barmer, Rajasthan was in news recently? <b>A Hercules C-130 J cargo plane of Indian Air Force made a mock landing there</b>
954. Government launched 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' campaign for digital onboarding and training of which segment of people? <b>Street vendors</b>
955. Which country hosted the 13th BRICS Summit on Sep 09 in virtual mode? <b>India</b>
956. The world's largest plant designed to suck carbon dioxide out of the air and turn it into solid rock, began operations on Sep 8 in which country? <b>Iceland</b>
957. The CCEA approved on Sep 08 hike in the MSP of major _____ crops for the crop year 2022-23? <b>Rabi</b>
958. Which rabi crop enjoys the highest MSP of Rs. 5,500 per quintal? <b>Masur Dal</b>
959. Which global car company has decided to stop its manufacturing facilities in India? <b>Ford Motor Co</b>
960. India's tallest air purification tower was inaugurated in _____ on Sep 7: <b>Chandigarh</b>
961. President Ram Nath Kovind appointed former Lt. Gen. Gurmit Singh as the new Governor of which state? <b>Uttarakhand</b>
962. Banwarilal Purohit, new Governor of Punjab, has been shifted from which state? <b>Tamil Nadu</b>
963. Who has been appointed as the new Governor of Tamil Nadu? <b>R N Ravi</b>
964. The Government approved purchase of 6 AEW&C aircrafts for the India Air Force. What is full form of AEW&C? <b>Airborne Early Warning and Control</b>
965. AEW&C aircrafts are used for what purpose? <b>Surveillance</b>

966. Which ministry has constituted a committee for framing new laws for drugs, cosmetics and medical devices and replacing the existing Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940? <b>Ministry of health and family welfare</b>
967. Who has been appointed as the head of this committee? <b>Dr VG Somani</b>
968. Iqbal Singh Lalpura, retired IPS officer of Punjab cadre, has been appointed as the Chairperson of which apex national body? <b>National Commission for Minorities</b>
969. Name the CAG of India who has been elected as the chairman of the assembly of the Asian Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (ASOSAI), Beijing? <b>G C Murmu</b>
970. Govt launch PRANA portal for regulation of air pollution in 132 cities across the country. What is full form of PRANA? <b>Portal for Regulation of Air-pollution in Non-Attainment</b>
971. World First Aid Day is observed on which Saturday of September every year? <b>Second</b>
972. Najib Mikati has been elected as the Prime Minister of which country? <b>Lebanon</b>
973. Who has been appointed as the Prime Minister of Morocco? <b>Aziz Akhannouch</b>
974. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Minister of Gujarat? <b>Bhupendra Patel</b>
975. Who won Men's singles title at the US Open in New York? <b>Daniil Medvedev</b>
976. Daniil Medvedev hails from which country? <b>Russia</b>
977. Name the 18 year old British sensation who won the US Open women's singles title? <b>Emma Raducanu</b>
978. Daniel Ricciardo of Australia won the Italian Grand Prix at Monza, Italy for which team? <b>McLaren</b>
979. India's largest open-air fernery was inaugurated on Sep 12 at which place in Uttarakhand? <b>Ranikhet</b>
980. India's largest fernery, Jawaharlal Nehru Tropical Botanical Garden and Research Institute, is located at which place? <b>Thiruvananthapuram</b>
981. India has adopted Hindi as the Official language of the country, as per _____ of the Indian Constitution: <b>Article 343</b>
982. Which state secured first position in installation of off-grid solar pumps under Pradhan Mantri

Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyaan (PM-KUSUM)? <b>Haryana</b>
<b>983.</b> Engineer's Day on Sep 15 marks the birth day of which great engineer? <b>M Visvesvaraya</b>
<b>984.</b> What was the field of specialization of the Bharat Ratna M Visvesvaraya? <b>Designing dams and hydro projects</b>
<b>985.</b> International Day of Democracy is observed on which day of September? <b>15<sup>th</sup></b>
<b>986.</b> TBI has announced a project to link UPI with the payment platform PayNow of which country? <b>Singapore</b>
<b>987.</b> BCCI has announced name of which former cricketer to mentor the Indian team for the forthcoming T20 World Cup tournament? <b>M S Dhoni</b>
<b>988.</b> RBI announced the opening of the third cohort of regulatory sandbox on Sep 13 with what theme? <b>MSME Lending</b>
<b>989.</b> What is the name of the new grouping formed by the US, UK and Australia on Sep 16 for the Indo-Pacific region? <b>AUKUS</b>
<b>990.</b> Who is the Prime Minister of Australia? <b>Scott Morrison</b>
<b>991.</b> Name of which Indian Chief Minister was included in the TIME's list of '100 most influential people of 2021', released on Sep 15? <b>Mamata Banerjee, West Bengal</b>
<b>992.</b> Which is the highest national award given to recognise the contributions of healthcare workers? <b>The Florence Nightingale Award</b>
<b>993.</b> Which union ministry confers the Florence Nightingale Award? <b>Ministry of Health and Family Welfare</b>
<b>994.</b> Who is the current Minister of Health and Family Welfare? <b>Mansukh Mandaviya</b>
<b>995.</b> Indian Army participated in the multinational exercise ZAPAD 2021 from 3-16 September. It was hosted by which country? <b>Russia</b>
<b>996.</b> How many atoms of Oxygen form a molecule of Ozone gas? <b>Three</b>
<b>997.</b> The Ozone Layer is a fragile shield of gas that protects the Earth and its ecosystem from the harmful _____ rays of the sun: <b>Ultraviolet</b>
<b>998.</b> The Ozone Layer is found in lower portion of which layer of atmosphere? <b>Stratosphere</b>
<b>999.</b> The World Ozone Day on Sep 16 commemorates the signing of which protocol on this day in 1987?

<b>Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer</b>
<b>1000.</b> Which multi-nation body organized the military exercise "Exercise Peaceful Mission-2021" from Sep 13 to 25? <b>SCO - Shanghai Cooperation Organisation</b>
<b>1001.</b> Head quarter of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is based in which place? <b>Beijing</b>
<b>1002.</b> Which country hosted the "Exercise Peaceful Mission-2021" from Sep 13 to 25? <b>Russia</b>
<b>1003.</b> Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay launched on Sep 14 'Project Udaan', an artificial intelligence (AI)-based software ecosystem for what purpose? <b>To translates scientific and technical content from English to Hindi and several other Indian languages</b>
<b>1004.</b> What is the aim of the multi-agency Project iRASTE recently launched in Nagpur on Sep 13? <b>To achieve up to 50% decline in road accidents in Nagpur city</b>
<b>1005.</b> What is the full form of the acronym iRASTE? <b>Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering</b>
<b>1006.</b> NITI Aayog in collaboration with Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) of USA, launched campaign 'Shoonya' on Sep 15 for what purpose? <b>To promote use of zero-pollution delivery vehicles</b>
<b>1007.</b> Which country hosted the 21 <sup>st</sup> meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State on September 17? <b>Tajikistan</b>
<b>1008.</b> The SCO Council of Heads of State summit was held at which place? <b>Dushanbe, capital of Tajikistan</b>
<b>1009.</b> Harmilan Bains created a new national record in the _____ run at the National Open athletics championships in Warangal, Telangana? <b>500 meters</b>
<b>1010.</b> What is the name of the new online store meant exclusively for farmers launched by the global online retailer Amazon? <b>Kisan Store</b>
<b>1011.</b> Leading UK-based financial publication Euromoney has recognised which Bank as the World's Best Bank in its Awards for Excellence 2021? <b>DBS Bank, Singapore</b>
<b>1012.</b> From which state the famous Sirarakhong Chilli (also called Hatheli chilli) and Tamenglong Orange received the coveted Geographical Index (GI) tag? <b>Manipur</b>

1013.	International Equal Pay Day is observed on which day of September? <b>18<sup>th</sup></b>
1014.	India is the _____ largest producer of Bamboos in the world? <b>Second</b>
1015.	Which country is the largest producer of Bamboos in the world? <b>China</b>
1016.	Bamboo tree belongs to which category of plants? <b>Grass</b>
1017.	Indian Railways launched which programme to train 50,000 youths in the age group of 18 to 35 years, over the next three years? <b>Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana</b>
1018.	The United Nations Chief Antonio Guterres appointed which person from India as the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Advocate on Sep 17? <b>Kailash Satyarthi ( winner of Nobel Peace Prize along with Malala Yusufzai in 2014)</b>
1019.	What is the name of the main NGO being run by Kailash Satyarthi? <b>Bachpan Bachao Andolan</b>
1020.	The NITI Aayog has teamed up with which ed-tech company to offer free study material virtually to government school students from classes VI to XII across 112 aspirational districts? <b>BYJU'S</b>
1021.	What was the name of the 15th edition of Indo-Nepal Joint Military Training Exercise held from September 20 at Pithoragarh in Uttarakhand? <b>Surya Kiran</b>
1022.	The Central government has constituted a group of ministers (GoM) headed by _____ to look into better implementation of various welfare schemes meant for the SC/ST and OBCs, minorities and women: <b>Defence Minister Rajnath Singh</b>
1023.	MyGov India portal, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), launched the _____ Innovation Challenge on Sep 11 for Indian start-ups and tech entrepreneurs: <b>Planetarium</b>
1024.	Who won the Asian Snooker Championship 2021 by defeating Amir Sarkhosh on Sep 16 in Doha, Qatar? <b>Pankaj Advani</b>
1025.	Elected as the new Chief Minister of Punjab by the Congress party, after Captain Amarinder Singh resigned as chief minister on September 18? <b>Charanjit Singh Channi</b>

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