**Current Affairs Set 9**

**Q1:** Recently Beirut port faced a huge blast. Where is Beirut port located?

1. Lebanon
2. Azerbaijan
3. Bahrain
4. Tanzania

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

A huge blast at Beirut port has killed more than 100 people and injured over 4000. Beirut is the capital city and largest city of Lebanon. It is located on the Mediterranean coast at the foot of the Lebanon Mountains.

**Q2:** Which country bars H1B visa holders from federal jobs?

1. U.K
2. U.S.A
3. France
4. EU

**Answer:** B

**Solution:**

The executive order in US will prevent federal agencies from contracting and subcontracting foreign workers- mainly those on H-1B visa from hiring. The H1B visa, most sought after among Indian IT professionals, is a non- immigrant Visa that allows US companies to employ foreign workers in speciality occupations that require theoretical and technical expertise.

**Q3:** Under which ministry National cooperative Development corporation have started an initiative Sahakar cooptube NCDC channel?

1. Ministry of agriculture
2. Ministry of MSME
3. Ministry of Agriculture and farmers welfare
4. Ministry of human resource development

**Answer:** C

**Solution:**

Sahakar cooptube NCDC channel is a new intiative by National cooperative development corporation to encourage farmers and and the youth to take benefit of cooperatives. NCDC is a statutory body under Ministry of agriculture and farmers welfare functioning as an apex financial and developmental institution exclusively devoted to cooperative sector. It strengthen and promotes programmes across sectors relating to agriculture and allied fields like dairy, poultry, livestock, fisheries, cotton ginning and spinning, sugar and notified services like hospitality, transport, rural housing, hospitals, health coreetc.

**Q4:** CERC give nod for third power exchange in the country. What is the full form of CERC?

1. Central electricity regulatory commission
2. Central electrifying regulation commission
3. Central efficient regulatory commission
4. Central regulatory commission

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

Central electricity regulatory commission (CERC) has approved the application of Pranurja solutions ltd, a company promoted by BSE, PTC ltd and ICICI bank, to setup a power exchange. Currently India has two power exchanges-

* Indian Energy Exchange (IEX)
* Power Exchange India (PXIL)

Power exchange facilitates over the counter sale and purchase of power via different types of contracts day ahead, term ahead, renewable certificate energy and recently introduced real time electricity market.

**Q5:** Which institute has started India’s first of its kind social, National initiative Women entrepreneurship and Empowerment (WEE)?

1. IIT Kanpur
2. IIT Delhi
3. IIT Nagpur
4. IIT Rohtak

**Answer:** B

**Solution:**

WEE is India’s first of its kind social, national initiative by IIT Delhi and supported by Department of science and technology. It aims to strengthen women entrepreneurship in the country and promote an ecosystem that enables creation and sustenance of such enterprises by women. It helps women ranging from college going students to middle aged housewives to take up entrepreneurship as a viable, fulfilling career option.

**Q6:** Recently BeiDou, a navigation satellite system in news. Which country related to it?

1. China
2. Japan
3. Russia
4. Israel

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

It is china’s Navigation satellite system to provide global services which become operational recently. It provides positioning accuracy of up to 10cm. GPS owned by the US is accurate to about 30cm. More than 100 countries including Pakistan and countries which are part of Belt and road initiative are already using this system.

**Q7:** Which ministry has approved Khadi Agarbatti Aatmanirbhar mission?

1. Ministry of Human resource development
2. Ministry of MSME
3. Ministry of commerce
4. Ministry of Food and public distribution

**Answer:** B

**Solution:**

Union minister for Micro small and medium enterprises has approved this programme which aims at creating employment for unemployed and migrant workers while increasing domestic Agarbatti production. Scheme is designed by Khadi and village industries commission in Public private partnership mode.

**Q8:** Total how many number of states and UT’s are connected under one nation one ration card?

1. Four
2. Five
3. Six
4. Eleven

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

Four more new states and union territories linked with one national one ration card. The states which linked recently are Jammu and Kashmir, Manipur, Nagaland and Uttarakhand. Now a total number of 24 states and union territories are connected under one nation one ration card (ONORC). The aim of ONORC is to ensure the delivery of food security entitlements to all beneficiaries covered under the national food security act 2013.

**Q9:** How many number of PAN-India Genome Sequencing of SARS-COV-2 completed successfully?

1. 500
2. 1000
3. 10000
4. 30000

**Answer:** B

**Solution:**

PAN India 1000 genome sequencing of SARS-Cov-2 completed successfully. Genome sequencing is figuring out order of DNA nucleotides, or bases, in a genome that make up an organism’s DNA. Department of Biotechnology had launched this project in May this year. .

**Q10:** How many covid-19 Biorepositories government dedicated to the nation?

1. Three
2. Five
3. Ten
4. Six

**Answer:** B

**Solution:**

Government dedicated to the nation the largest network of five dedicated Covid-19 Biorepositories established by department of biotechnology. These are as translational health service and technology institute Faridabad, Institute of life science Bhubaneswar, Institute of Liver and Biliary sciences Newdelhi, National center for cell science Pune and institute for stem cell science and regenerative Medicine Bangalore.

**Q11:** First critically sustained fission chain reaction achieved by Barakah Nuclear plant. Where it is located?

1. Russia
2. Saudi Arab
3. India
4. UAE

**Answer:** D

**Solution:**

First nuclear reactor of UAE, the Barakah nuclear energy plant has achieved first critically- a sustained fission chain reaction and successfully started up. This plant is located on the Persian gulf coast in the west of Abudhabi. When fully operational, Its four reactors have the power to generate 5,600 Megawatts of electricity.

**Q12:** Which of these state ranked high in the conservation of Asiatic wild dog Dhole?

1. J&K, Punjab, Himachal pradesh
2. Himachal Pradesh, Uttrakhand, Punjab
3. Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat
4. Karnataka, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh

**Answer:** D

**Solution:**

Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh rank high in the conservation of the endangered dhole, according to a study. Dholes play an important role as apex predators in forest ecosystems, Besides the tiger, Dhole is the only large carnivore in India that is under the IUCN’s endangered category.

**Q13:** Recently which Institute has launched 2020-21 version Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan?

1. Department of Innovative challenge
2. NCERT
3. UGC
4. Department of Basic Education

**Answer:** B

**Solution:**

Vidyarthi Vigyan Manthan 2020-21 is a national programme for popularizing science among school students of class 6th to 11th. It was designed to identify the bright minds with a scientific aptitude among the student community. It is a initiative by Vijnana Bharati (VIBHA), Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous organization under department of science and technology and NCERT.

**Q14:** Drugs controller general of India has given approval to conduct Phase II and III trials of which Covid vaccine in India?

1. Covishield
2. Zydas Cadila
3. Covaxin
4. Quinoxinon

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

Drugs controller general of India has given approval to Serum institute of India, Pune to conduct Phase II and III clinical trials of COVISHIELD in India. It is developed by Astrazeneca and Oxford University. Presently other vaccines like Bharat Biotech’s Covaxin and Zydus Cadila’s Zycov-D are also in trial phase.

**Q15:** Which organizations Dragon capsule return to earth surface recently?

1. JAXA
2. ISRO
3. NASA
4. SPACE-X

**Answer:** D

**Solution:**

It is a private company SpaceX spacecraft which can transport astronauts to and from orbit. It was launched to the international space station on a Falcon 9 rocket carrying two NASA astronauts. It is part of NASA’s commercial crew program (CCP). CCP aims to develop reliable and cost effective access to and from international space station.

**Q16:** Under which Yojana of union government bank account opened crossed 40 crore mark?

1. PMJDY
2. PMVVY
3. PMMRY
4. PMHGY

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

Recently bank accounts opened under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) crossed 40 crore mark. UP accounted for maximum number of accounts followed by Bihar. PMJDY under national mission for financial inclusion was launched in 2014 initially for a period of 4 years. Later program was extended beyond 2018 with the change in focus on opening accounts from every household to every adults.

**Q17:** The Reserve Bank of India has signed a $400 million currency swap facility with the central bank of which country?

1. Sri Lanka
2. Bangladesh
3. Kenya
4. Nepal

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

The Reserve Bank of India signed an agreement for extending a 400 million currency swap facility to the central bank of Sri Lanka. It is going to boost the foreign reserves of that country and also ensure the financial stability of the country, which is badly affected by the COVID 19 pandemic situation. This facility will be available till November 2022.

**Q18:** The Khelo India Youth Games in 2021 will be held in which among the following states?

1. Punjab
2. Haryana
3. Uttar Pradesh
4. Assam

**Answer:** B

**Solution:**

Haryana is going to host the 4th Edition of the Khelo India Youth Games in the year 2021. The games will be held in Panchkula. In all the three previous occasions, this event has generated considerable interest among the students and youths in the country. The main objective of the event is to bring the youth to sports so that India can win medals in the world events such as the Olympics.

**Q19:** Which among the following has developed the ‘Veli Brand’ for ensuring social distancing in the country?

1. IIT Kharagpur
2. IIT Delhi
3. IIT Bombay
4. IIM Kozhikode

**Answer:** D

**Solution:**

The Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode based startup Qual5 India has developed a wearable hand band known as the ‘Veli Brand.’ It will help in maintaining social distancing by sending an alarm in case of proximity with another person. It will vibrate and sound a buzzer if another band is there within 3 feet, in order to remind that social distancing needs to be practised.

**Q20:** Which state / UT has launched the ‘Macadamisation’ scheme in order to improve the condition of roads in the state?

1. Jammu and Kashmir
2. Uttarakhand
3. Uttar Pradesh
4. Ladakh

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

Jammu and Kashmir administration has launched the ‘Macadamisation Program’ for the improvement of roads in the UT. The LG of the UT has approved the project for 100 per cent Macadamisation of all roads in the UT, including the 11000 km fair-weather roads. Rs 200 Crores as the first tranche has also been released for this project.

**Q21:** Which among the following is NOT correct regarding the Consumer Protection Act 2019?

1. This is an amendment to the Consumer Protection Act 1986.
2. The act stipulates creation of Consumer Protection Councils.
3. Central Consumer Protection Authority is to be created.
4. This covers all the e-commerce platforms in the country.

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

The Consumer Protection Act 2019 came into force in July 2019. It has replaced the Consumer Protection Act 1986. The new act has been introduced to offer protection to the buyers from the traditional sellers as well as the e-commerce companies in the country. It includes Consumer Protection Councils, Consumer Disputes Redressal Commissions, Meditation, Product Liability, etc.

**Q22:** ANASIS II, launched recently by Space X, is the first military satellite of which country?

1. Japan
2. North Korea
3. South Korea
4. New Zealand

**Answer:** C

**Solution:**

Space X has launched South Korea’s first military satellite ANASIS II. This was deployed into a geostationary orbit by a Falcon 9 rocket. The satellite was launched from the Cape Canaveral Air Force Station in the US and with this; South Korea becomes the 10th such country to have a military communications satellite for providing permanent and secured military communications.

**Q23:** Who among the following has been conferred with the Toonz Media Group Award 2020?

1. Arnab Chaudhuri
2. Laxman Prasad
3. Rajesh Patel
4. Snighdha Mudge

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

The ‘Legend of Animation’ award conceived by the Toonz Media Group, as part of the Animation Masters Summit 2020 will be posthumously conferred on the legendary animation director Arnab Chaudhuri. The award is presented for his invaluable contribution to the animation and entertainment industry in the country. Arnab passed away on December 25, 2019.

**Q24:** Kulmeet Bawa has been appointed the MD in charge of India for which MNC?

1. SAP India
2. Google India
3. Amazon India
4. Facebook India

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

Systems, Applications and Products in Data Processing (SAP) has announced the appointment of Kulmeet Bawa as the President and Managing Director for SAP India. He replaced the incumbent MD Debdeep Sengupta. Kulmeet has been made responsible for driving and delivering an excellent enterprise experience to the companies operating in the sub-continent such as from India, Bangladesh and Sri Lanka.

**Q25:** The Defence Research and Development organization has provided which among the following to the Indian Army for surveillance purpose?

1. Bharat
2. Nikumbha
3. Anushila
4. Ayodhya

**Answer:** A

**Solution:**

The Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has provided drones named ‘Bharat’ to the Indian Army. These indigenously developed drones are sent in order to provide accurate surveillance along the Line of Actual Control in high altitude and mountainous terrains of Eastern Ladakh. Bharat drones are part of a series of drones developed in one of the world’s lightest and agile drone surveillance systems made in India.