

**IBPS PO/IBPS Clerk Mains Special (2021-22 Edition)**

# **BOLT**

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## General Awareness Questions

1. \_\_\_\_\_ is the MD & CEO of upcoming Indian airline Akasa Air, co-founded by billionaire and stocks trader Rakesh Jhunjhunwala.

- (1) Vinay Dube
- (2) Praveen Iyer
- (3) Nikhil Ved
- (4) Ronojoy Dutta
- (5) Naresh Goyal

2. Read the following statements about Good Governance Index (GGI) 2021 and choose the correct statements:- A. GGI 2021 prepared by the Department of Administration Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG). B. Kerala has topped the composite ranking in the Good Governance Index (GGI), followed by Maharashtra and Goa. C. Delhi has topped the union territories category in CGI composite ranking 2021.

- (1) A and B only
- (2) A and C only
- (3) B only
- (4) C only
- (5) All of the above

3. The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) is a specialised and independent business division within the Digital India Corporation. Digital India Corporation is a not for profit Company set up by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Ministry of Finance
- (2) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (3) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (4) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (5) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

4. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Major Dhyan Chand Sports University in which district of Uttar Pradesh?

- (1) Varanasi
- (2) Agra
- (3) Meerut
- (4) Mirzapur
- (5) Lucknow

5. PM inaugurated a Multiproduct pipeline project from Bina in \_\_\_\_\_ to Panki in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Gujarat, Rajasthan
- (2) Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan
- (3) Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh
- (4) Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh
- (5) Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh

6. Which of the following is TRUE about NEAT 3.0?

- (1) A single platform to provide the best-developed ed-tech solutions and courses to students of the country.

(2) A single platform to provide the education loans to the students of the country.

(3) A single platform to provide the best-developed technology solutions to skilled persons of the country.

(4) A single platform to provide the best-developed gig-tech solutions to gig workers of the country.

(5) None of the above

7. The prize money of PM's Excellence Award was increased to Rs.20 lakh from \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Rs.18 lakh
- (2) Rs.6 lakh
- (3) Rs.15 lakh
- (4) Rs.5 lakh
- (5) Rs.10 lakh

8. Which of the following states/ UTs will host the National Youth Festival 2022?

- (1) Ladakh
- (2) Punjab
- (3) Gujarat
- (4) Kerala
- (5) Puducherry

9. The Union Cabinet gave its nod to investing Rs 12,031 crore for Green Energy Corridor Phase-II. Which of the following state is not included in this phase?

- (1) Gujarat
- (2) Himachal Pradesh
- (3) Karnataka
- (4) Kerala
- (5) Assam

10. Which of the following ministry released a manuals to curb cybercrime and promote cyber-hygiene?

- (1) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (2) Ministry of Defence
- (3) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- (4) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (5) Ministry of Women and Child Development

### Answer keys

- |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. 1 | 2. 2 | 3. 5 | 4. 3 | 5. 3  |
| 6. 1 | 7. 5 | 8. 5 | 9. 5 | 10. 1 |

11. Automatic Generation Control (AGC) project is expected to facilitate achieving the government's ambitious target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel-based generation capacity by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 2023
- (2) 2024
- (3) 2025

- (4) 2030  
(5) 2040

12. Recently KVIC has launched India's first 'Mobile Honey Processing Van' to support farmers and beekeepers. Who among the following is the current chairperson of KVIC?

- (1) Harsh Kumar Bhanwala  
(2) Vinai Kumar  
(3) Sanjay Agarwal  
(4) Sriram Kalyanaraman  
(5) Subhash Chandra Khuntia

13. Which of the following company has won the second phase of Passport Seva Programme valued at about Rs 6,000 crore?

- (1) WIPRO  
(2) Infosys  
(3) TCS  
(4) Cognizant  
(5) Capgemini

14. Union Minister of State for Science & Technology & Earth Sciences, Jitendra Singh, inaugurated India's 1st Open Rock Museum at \_\_\_\_

- (1) Chennai  
(2) Pune  
(3) Imphal  
(4) Hyderabad  
(5) Delhi

15. Recently, Union Steel Minister laid foundation stone for new 5 MTPA Project at JSW Steel Vijayanagar Works in

- (1) Jharkhand  
(2) Karnataka  
(3) Goa  
(4) Assam  
(5) Bihar

16. Which of the following is the world's 1st SMS that was recently sold as NFT at Paris auction house?

- (1) Hello World  
(2) Merry Christmas  
(3) Happy New Year  
(4) Good Morning  
(5) None of the Above

17. Which of the following telescope will be the most powerful observatory ever sent into space?

- (1) Hubble Space Telescope  
(2) Spitzer Space Telescope  
(3) Chandra X-ray Space Telescope  
(4) Compton Gamma Ray Space Telescope  
(5) James Webb Space Telescope

18. India will be chairing the Counter terrorism Committee in January 2022. Which of the following international body is associated with Counter terrorism Committee?

- (1) UNSC  
(2) Interpol  
(3) FATFA  
(4) WPO  
(5) UNPCC

19. Recently, the world's longest metro line was opened in which country?

- (1) China  
(2) Japan  
(3) Russia  
(4) South Korea  
(5) Indonesia

20. Government of Antigua and Barbuda joins Intl. Solar Alliance Framework Agreement, becoming \_\_\_\_\_ country to join International Solar Alliance.

- (1) 102nd  
(2) 101st  
(3) 103rd  
(4) 100th  
(5) 109th

#### Answer keys

11. 4	12. 2	13. 3	14. 4	15. 2
16. 2	17. 5	18. 1	19. 1	20. 1

21. Who became the first Indian to win two international skiing medals with bronze at Montenegro?

- (1) Anchal Thakur  
(2) Kamalpreet Kaur  
(3) Seema Punia  
(4) Shivpal Singh  
(5) M. Sreeshankar

22. Recently, which edition of Hockey India Junior Men National Championship was crowned by Uttar Pradesh ?

- (1) 10th  
(2) 15th  
(3) 16th  
(4) 11th  
(5) 20th

23. Which of the following nation has hosted the SAFF U-19 Women's Football Championship?

- (1) China  
(2) India  
(3) Japan  
(4) Bangladesh  
(5) Malaysia

24. Quinton de Kock announced his retirement from Test cricket recently. He is a famous player belongs to:-

- (1) Australia  
(2) South Africa  
(3) England  
(4) New Zealand

(5) West Indies

25. Who among the following India Cricketer is nominated for prestigious Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year-2021 award?

- (1) Mithali Raj
- (2) Harmanpreet Kaur
- (3) Veda Krishnamurthy
- (4) Smriti Mandhana
- (5) Priya Punia

26. India won the Cricket Under-19 Asia Cup by defeating which team in December 2021?

- (1) Pakistan
- (2) New Zealand
- (3) Australia
- (4) Sri Lanka
- (5) South Africa

27. Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra will continue to train with his German coach \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Klaus Bartonietz
- (2) Uwe Hohn
- (3) Galina Bukharina
- (4) Klaus Hohn
- (5) Galina Bartonietz

28. India's first multi-dimensional adventure sports expedition was conducted by National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (NIMAS) in

- (1) Italy
- (2) Nepal
- (3) France
- (4) Spain
- (5) USA

29. Which country recently won its maiden ATP Cup title?

- (1) China
- (2) Russia
- (3) Austria
- (4) Canada
- (5) Spain

30. As per a recent newspaper report, Prasara Bharati has signed a Memorandum of understanding (MoU) with which of the following to promote Indian Culture?

- (1) Centre for Cultural Resources and Training
- (2) Indian Council for Cultural Relations
- (3) The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage
- (4) Tata Institute of Social Sciences
- (5) None of the Above

31. The Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) in collaboration with which of the following has launched an accreditation programme that will enable hospitals to get a 'breastfeeding-friendly' tag?

- (1) NITI Aayog
- (2) Association of Healthcare Providers of India
- (3) Indian Society of Health Professionals
- (4) Association For Community Research & Action
- (5) Foundation of Healthcare Technologies Society

32. Which state has topped in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission?

- (1) Tamil Nadu
- (2) Telangana
- (3) Kerala
- (4) Gujarat
- (5) Assam

33. The Central government is set to upskill over 4,000 craftsmen, cane, and bamboo artisans from Nagaland under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana. This flagship scheme is launched in which year?

- (1) 2014
- (2) 2016
- (3) 2015
- (4) 2020
- (5) 2021

34. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi Scheme was launched in which year?

- (1) 2018
- (2) 2019
- (3) 2020
- (4) 2017
- (5) 2016

35. Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched a 100-day Reading Campaign named \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Padhe Bharat
- (2) Padhe India
- (3) Padhe Padhe
- (4) Padhe Bharat Badhe Bharat
- (5) None of the above

36. Which state having the highest number of villages as ODF plus under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) phase II programme?

- (1) Gujarat
- (2) Haryana
- (3) Punjab
- (4) Himachal Pradesh
- (5) Telangana

#### Answer keys

21. 1	22. 4	23. 4	24. 2	25. 4
26. 4	27. 1	28. 3	29. 4	30. 2

37. The Power Ministry successfully completed \_\_\_\_\_ years of distributing and selling LED lights under its flagship UJALA programme.

- (1) 4
- (2) 5
- (3) 6
- (4) 7
- (5) 3

38. Who among the following does Mohammed bin Sulayem succeed as F'd'ration Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA) president?

- (1) Jean Todt
- (2) Max Mosley
- (3) Christian Wolff
- (4) Michael Masi
- (5) None of the Above

39. Which of the following nation has appointed Indian-origin judge Narandran 'Jody' Kollapen to it's highest judicial bench?

- (1) Australia
- (2) USA
- (3) UK
- (4) South Africa
- (5) Brazil

40. Which of the following motor company has appointed Eishin Chihana as its new chairman ?

- (1) Ashok Leyland Ltd.
- (2) Bajaj Auto Ltd.
- (3) Force Motors Ltd.
- (4) Hero MotoCorp Ltd.
- (5) Yamaha Motor Ltd.

#### Answer keys

31. 2	32. 2	33. 3	34. 2	35. 1
36. 5	37. 4	38. 1	39. 4	40. 5

41. Which of the following designation is associated with Vikram Misri ?

- (1) Attorney General
- (2) Solicitor General
- (3) Chiefs of Staff Committee
- (4) Chief Information Commissioner
- (5) Deputy National Security Advisor

42. Who among the following took over as the 24th Chief of Indian Coast Guard in December 2021?

- (1) VS Pathania
- (2) Krishnaswamy Natarajan
- (3) Rakesh Pal
- (4) Prakash Badola
- (5) AK Harbola

43. Which electric vehicle company's autopilot team was hired Indian-origin Ashok Elluswamy as it's first employee?

- (1) Rivian
- (2) Lucid Motors

- (3) NIO
- (4) Tesla
- (5) XPeng

44. Which of the following airline has appointed Vinod Kannan as the chief executive officer?

- (1) Emirates
- (2) Vistara
- (3) Indigo
- (4) AirAsia
- (5) GoAir

45. Abdalla Hamdok, prime minister of \_\_\_\_\_ has recently resigned after the mass protests.

- (1) Eritrea
- (2) South Sudan
- (3) Sudan
- (4) South Africa
- (5) Andorra

46. Which of the following PSU has given additional charge of chairman and managing director post to Alka Mittal?

- (1) BHEL
- (2) ONGC
- (3) NTPC
- (4) BPCL
- (5) IOCL

47. Recently, centre has elevated the top IAS officer G Asok Kumar as Director General of:-

- (1) Ayushman Bharat
- (2) PMJDY
- (3) Shreyas
- (4) National Mission for Clean Ganga
- (5) Clean India Mission

48. Who among the following has won the Sushila Devi Award 2021 for the best book of fiction by a woman author?

- (1) Namita Gokhale
- (2) Shubhangi Swarup
- (3) Anukruti Upadhyay
- (4) Avni Doshi
- (5) Anuja Chauhan

49. Read the following statements about State Health Index for 2019'20 and Choose the correct statements:- A. NITI Aayog released the fourth edition of the State Health Index for 2019'20. B. The index is being compiled and published since 2017. C. In composite index score in 2019'20, the top-ranking states were Kerala and Tamil Nadu among the 'Larger States'.

- (1) A and C only
- (2) A and B only
- (3) A only
- (4) B only
- (5) All of the above

50. The Ministry of Education has launched the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) and IIT Madras has ranked top for the \_\_\_\_ consecutive year.

- (1) Tenth
- (2) Fourth
- (3) Sixth
- (4) Third
- (5) Seventh

#### Answer keys

41. 5	42. 1	43. 4	44. 2	45. 3
46. 2	47. 4	48. 3	49. 5	50. 4

51. Which of the following is the theme for the National Consumer Day 2021?

- (1) The Sustainable Consumer
- (2) Trusted Smart Products
- (3) Timely Disposal of Consumer Complaints
- (4) Building a Digital World Consumers can Trust
- (5) Tackling Plastic Pollution

52. On January 1st 2022, Defence Research and Development Organisation observed its \_\_\_\_\_ foundation day.

- (1) 60th
- (2) 62nd
- (3) 64th
- (4) 66th
- (5) 68th

53. World Braille Day was first observed in which year?

- (1) 2021
- (2) 2020
- (3) 2019
- (4) 2022
- (5) 2016

54. Every year on \_\_\_\_\_, the World Day of War Orphans is recognized.

- (1) January 4
- (2) January 5
- (3) January 6
- (4) January 7
- (5) January 2

55. NRI day is celebrated on \_\_\_\_

- (1) January 6
- (2) January 9
- (3) March 10
- (4) May 25
- (5) September 13

56. Which of the following day was declared as 'Veer Baal Diwas' by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi?

- (1) December 20
- (2) December 21
- (3) December 24
- (4) December 26

(5) December 28

57. Which edition of national conference on e-Governance to be held in Hyderabad in 2022?

- (1) 25
- (2) 26
- (3) 30
- (4) 21
- (5) 24

58. Inmarsat launched 'World's Most Sophisticated Communications Satellite' from:-

- (1) India
- (2) USA
- (3) Russia
- (4) Japan
- (5) China

59. Which nation has announced a five-year roadmap to achieve its goal of becoming a global robotics innovation hub by 2025?

- (1) China
- (2) Japan
- (3) India
- (4) South Korea
- (5) Singapore

60. Which of the following nation has recently launched a new nuclear powered icebreaker 'Sibir' (Project 22220)?

- (1) Norway
- (2) USA
- (3) Canada
- (4) Denmark
- (5) Russia

#### Answer keys

51. 5	52. 3	53. 3	54. 3	55. 2
56. 4	57. 5	58. 4	59. 1	60. 5

61. The 'Urban Geospatial Data Stories Challenge-2022' is organised by which of the following organisations/ministries?

- (1) NITI Aayog
- (2) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (3) Ministry of Defence
- (4) MyGov
- (5) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

62. Which of the following nation has successfully conducted a series of tests of the hypersonic Zirkon missile recently?

- (1) Russia
- (2) Japan
- (3) China
- (4) USA
- (5) India

63. Rajnath Singh has recently inaugurated Kalpana Chawla Centre For Research In Space Science And Technology at \_\_\_\_

- (1) IIT Madras
- (2) IISC Bangalore
- (3) Punjab University
- (4) IIT Delhi
- (5) Chandigarh University

64. Which of the following is the first of the indigenously built missile corvettes, was decommissioned recently.

- (1) INS Khukri
- (2) INS Tarasa
- (3) INS Tillanchang
- (4) INS Tarmugli
- (5) INS Sarayu

65. Read the following statements about the 11th edition Milan exercise 2022 and Choose the correct statements:- A. Formerly, this exercise held at Port Blair and now it is shifted to Visakhapatnam. B. The theme of this year exercise is 'camaraderie, cohesion and collaboration'. C. India has invited a total of 46 friendly foreign countries to participate in the multinational naval exercise Milan 2022.

- (1) A only
- (2) B only
- (3) C only
- (4) All of the above
- (5) None of the above

66. Who among the following has authored the book 'The Kashmir Conundrum: The Quest for Peace in a Troubled Land'?

- (1) Manoj Mukund Naravane
- (2) Shivshankar Menon
- (3) Nirmal Chander Vij
- (4) Shyam Saran
- (5) Vijay Keshav Gokhale

67. Pankaj Advani won his \_\_\_\_\_ National Billiards title recently.

- (1) 5th
- (2) 7th
- (3) 8th
- (4) 10th
- (5) 11th

68. E.O. Wilson passed away recently. He is known as \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Father of Apiculture
- (2) Father of Biome
- (3) Father of Taxonomy
- (4) Father of Phylum
- (5) Father of Biodiversity

69. Sindhutai Sapkal passed away recently. Which of the following statement is TRUE about her?

- (1) She was a legendary social worker.
- (2) She was a legendary athlete.
- (3) She was a legendary singer.
- (4) She was a legendary actress.
- (5) She was a legendary writer.

70. Centenarian freedom fighter Ayyappan Pillai passed away. He was an eminent \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) lawyer
- (2) cricketer
- (3) footballer
- (4) director
- (5) musician

#### Answer keys

61. 5	62. 1	63. 5	64. 1	65. 4
66. 3	67. 5	68. 5	69. 1	70. 1

71. Sidney Poitier, recently died at the age of 94, is a famous personality in the field of \_\_\_\_

- (1) Politics
- (2) Sports
- (3) Cinema
- (4) Journalism
- (5) Science

72. Who became the first Indian-origin woman to trek solo to South Pole?

- (1) Harpreet Chandi
- (2) Dhivya Suryadevara
- (3) Latika Nath
- (4) Bhakti Sharma
- (5) Anjali Sud

73. Justice Ayesha Malik, sometimes in news, is \_\_\_\_

- (1) First woman judge of International Court of Justice
- (2) First woman judge of Pakistan Supreme Court
- (3) First woman judge of Supreme Court of Bangladesh
- (4) First woman judge of International Criminal Court
- (5) First woman judge of Supreme Court of Nepal

74. India has released a special logo to mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan. The logo released to mark the occasion depicts a Peacock and a \_\_\_\_, which are national birds of India and Japan respectively.

- (1) Green Pheasant
- (2) Double-headed eagle
- (3) Emu
- (4) Red Grouse
- (5) The Gallic Rooster

75. The Union Cabinet has recently approved a MoU signed between India and \_\_\_ for bridge construction over Mahakali River.

- (1) Bangladesh
- (2) Bhutan
- (3) Nepal
- (4) Myanmar
- (5) Pakistan

76. Gahirmatha, Devi River mouth and Rushikulya sites are associated with tagging of?

- (1) Siberian Crane
- (2) Knife-tooth Sawfis
- (3) Ganges Shark
- (4) Olive ridley turtles
- (5) Ganga Dolphin

77. Which of the following is nicknamed as Antarctica's 'doomsday glacier'?

- (1) Jostedal Glacier
- (2) Baltoro Glacier
- (3) Mendenhall Glacier
- (4) Thwaites Glacier
- (5) Aletsch Glacier

78. What is the name of the indigenous in-house messaging application of Indian Army that was launched recently?

- (1) UMANG
- (2) eArmy
- (3) Mitra
- (4) ASIGMA
- (5) None of the Above

79. Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently launched a portal and logo dedicated to the Conformity Assessment Scheme (CAS) of milk products. They were developed by Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Dairy Development Department, Uttar Pradesh
- (2) National Dairy Development Board
- (3) Indian Agricultural Research Institute
- (4) Anand Agricultural University
- (5) Indian Veterinary Research Institute

80. In which river Renuka Dam project is situated?

- (1) Giri River
- (2) Tons River
- (3) Hindon River
- (4) Ken River
- (5) Chambal River

#### Answer keys

- |       |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 71. 3 | 72. 1 | 73. 2 | 74. 1 | 75. 3 |
| 76. 4 | 77. 4 | 78. 4 | 79. 2 | 80. 1 |

81. Under Ujjwala scheme, which of the following state has become the first LPG enabled and smoke free state in India?

- (1) Haryana
- (2) Assam
- (3) Himachal Pradesh
- (4) Uttar Pradesh
- (5) Tripura

82. Recently, which of the following has approved the acquisition of shareholding in Air India by Tata Sons?

- (1) Competition Commission of India
- (2) Ministry of Finance
- (3) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (4) Ministry of Civil Aviation
- (5) Confederation of Indian Industry

83. Harjinder Singh has been appointed as the Chef de Mission of India's contingent for the upcoming 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. He is the general secretary of :-

- (1) Ice Hockey Association of India
- (2) Figure Skating Association of India
- (3) Freestyle Skiing Association of India
- (4) Snowboard Association of India
- (5) Speed Skating Association of India

84. Who among the following has recently been appointed as a member of Badminton World Federation Athletes' Commission till 2025?

- (1) Robin Polii
- (2) Kim Wang
- (3) PV Sindhu
- (4) All of them
- (5) Greysia Tabelaing

85. CSC has recently tied up with Infosys to empower students in the age group of 10-22 yrs with digital skills through Infosys Springboard. Common Services Centres is the special purpose vehicle belongs to which ministry?

- (1) Ministry of Communications
- (2) Ministry of Electronics & IT
- (3) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (4) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (5) Ministry of Education

86. Senior Indian diplomat Pradeep Kumar Rawat has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) China
- (2) Japan
- (3) Thailand
- (4) Myanmar
- (5) Russia

87. Which is the highest ranked state-owned Indian PSU (that ranked 13) on the Wizikey's News Score 2021 list?

- (1) NTPC
- (2) ONGC
- (3) BHEL
- (4) BPCL

(5) IOC

88. Who has recently inaugurated good governance week campaign 'Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur'?

- (1) Giriraj Singh
- (2) Jitendra Singh
- (3) Jyotiraditya Scindia
- (4) Ramchandra Prasad Singh
- (5) Pashupati Kumar Paras

89. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the BrahMos Aerospace Limited?

- (1) B P Sharma
- (2) Atul Dinkar Rane
- (3) Prasiddhi Menon
- (4) Puja Ghimire
- (5) Manisha Dhingra

90. Where is MedTech Centre of Entrepreneurship inaugurated recently?

- (1) Kochi
- (2) Panaji
- (3) Kanpur
- (4) Lucknow
- (5) Chennai

#### Answer keys

81. 3	82. 1	83. 1	84. 3	85. 2
86. 1	87. 1	88. 2	89. 2	90. 4

91. Who is to be awarded the Lokmanya Tilak National Award for 2021?

- (1) Narendra Modi
- (2) Vinod Mehta
- (3) Sanjay Gupta
- (4) Baba Kalyani
- (5) Cyrus Poonawalla

92. Which country took over the Presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the month of August?

- (1) Russia
- (2) France
- (3) Italy
- (4) China
- (5) India

93. Who is the first Indian to win two Olympic Medals?

- (1) P V Sindhu
- (2) Sushil Kumar
- (3) MC Mary Kom
- (4) Mirabai Chanu
- (5) Sania Mirza

94. Which of the following is the first and the only approved drug in India for Spinal Muscular Atrophy?

- (1) Zanamivir

- (2) Peramivir
- (3) Risdiplam
- (4) Diazepam
- (5) Sulphonate

95. Glenmark Pharmaceuticals and SaNOTize Research and Development Corp announced a long term partnership to manufacture, market and distribute which product?

- (1) Inhaler
- (2) Capsules
- (3) Nasal Spray
- (4) Syrups
- (5) Tabulations

96. Which is the first air base to be equipped with Rafale aircraft?

- (1) Hasimara Air base
- (2) Ambala Air Force Station
- (3) Leh Air Force station
- (4) Port Blair Air base
- (5) Bhuj Air base

97. NITI Aayog and \_\_\_\_\_ have together released a report, titled 'Turning Around the Power Distribution Sector'.

- (1) Coal India
- (2) RMI India
- (3) ONGC
- (4) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural gas
- (5) GAIL

98. The first consignment of dragon fruit exported to London was sourced from the farmers of which state?

- (1) Assam
- (2) Gujarat
- (3) Rajasthan
- (4) Odisha
- (5) Andhra Pradesh

99. Esteban Ocon, who won the Hungarian Grand Prix 2021, belongs to which country?

- (1) Hungary
- (2) France
- (3) Italy
- (4) USA
- (5) UK

100. Which is the second highest motorable road in the world?

- (1) Tarmac road through Umlingla Pass
- (2) Bolivia road connecting volcano Uturuncu
- (3) Road to Khardung La pass
- (4) Leh Ladakh road
- (5) Road to Nathula pass

#### Answer keys

91. 5	92. 5	93. 2	94. 3	95. 3
96. 2	97. 2	98. 2	99. 2	100. 2

101. Which is the first institute of India to develop an earthquake alert app?

- (1) IIT, Bombay
- (2) IISC, Bangalore
- (3) IIT, Guwahati
- (4) IIT, Roorkee
- (5) IIM, Bangalore

102. Which institute has launched the country's first consortium for Virtual Reality called 'Consortium for VR/AR/MR Engineering Mission in India' (CAVE)?

- (1) Indian Institute of Technology, Madras
- (2) Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur
- (3) Indian Institute of Technology, Patna
- (4) Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
- (5) Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay

103. Which is the first state to issue order for implementation of New Education Policy 2020?

- (1) Uttar Pradesh
- (2) Gujarat
- (3) Uttarakhand
- (4) Odisha
- (5) Karnataka

104. Social Justice and Empowerment Minister has recently launched PM-DAKSH Portal and PM-DAKSH Mobile App to make the skill development schemes accessible to the target groups. What does 'K' stands for in PM-DAKSH Yojana?

- (1) Kushalta
- (2) Kisan
- (3) Kaushal
- (4) Karm
- (5) Kosh

105. Which of the following is true with respect to UNSC Open Debate?

- I) PM Narendra Modi will become the first Indian Prime Minister to preside over a UN Security Council Open Debate.
  - II) It will focus on Enhancing Maritime Security "A Case for International Cooperation"
  - III) It also aims to effectively counter climate change and ozone layer depletion
- (1) Both I and II
  - (2) Both II and III
  - (3) Both I and III
  - (4) Only III
  - (5) None of the above

106. Which of the following is NOT true with respect to Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana?

- I) Ujjwala 2.0 will provide one crore LPG connections to low-income families who were included in the first phase of the scheme.
- II) The Ujjwala 2.0 will be launched in Mahoba, Uttar Pradesh.

III) Ujjwala Yojana was launched by PM Modi on May 1st, 2016,

- (1) Only I
- (2) Only I and III
- (3) Both II and III
- (4) All I, II and III are true
- (5) None of the above

107. Which of the following Tata Group company is in talks with Telesat to sign a pact for launching fast satellite broadband services in India?

- (1) Tata Consultancy Services
- (2) Titan
- (3) Nelco
- (4) Larsen and Toubro
- (5) Tata Motors

108. Which country has granted a patent relating to a "food container based on fractal geometry" to an AI system called DABUS?

- (1) South Korea
- (2) Japan
- (3) China
- (4) France
- (5) South Africa

109. Which social media platform is launching a one-year joint initiative with UNICEF India for child welfare?

- (1) Twitter
- (2) Koo
- (3) Facebook
- (4) Google
- (5) LinkedIn

110. The 28th ASEAN Regional Forum Ministerial Meeting was held under the chairmanship of which country?

- (1) Israel
- (2) Russia
- (3) France
- (4) Brunei
- (5) India

#### Answer keys

101. 4	102. 1	103. 5	104. 1	105. 1
106. 1	107. 3	108. 5	109. 3	110. 4

111. Who is the first woman director of the Zoological Survey of India?

- (1) Dhriti Banerjee
- (2) Anjum Ghosh
- (3) Rekha Sharma
- (4) Mamata Banerjee
- (5) Seema Kaur

112. Which among the following organisation has announced 7th August as National Javelin Throw Day?

- (1) United Nations
- (2) Indian Olympics Association
- (3) Federation of Javelin Throw
- (4) Sports Association of India
- (5) Athletics Federation of India

113. Who is the author of the book 'Balakot Air Strike: How India Avenged Pulwama'?

- (1) Manu Dey
- (2) Manan Bhatt
- (3) Vivek Agnihotri
- (4) Anupam Kher
- (5) Ranjit Singh

114. ONGC supported 'Ujjwal Abahan' project is related to \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Cheaper Oil
- (2) Handicrafts
- (3) Education of Youth
- (4) Women empowerment
- (5) Wastewater treatment

115. Which of the following cities have been declared as the first Water Plus city of the country?

- (1) Bhopal
- (2) Junagarh
- (3) Pune
- (4) Bhubaneswar
- (5) Indore

116. Which among the following is the official mascot of Tokyo olympics 2020?

- (1) Shera
- (2) Borobi
- (3) Miraitowa
- (4) Wenlock
- (5) Vinicius

117. Bungus Awaam Mela was recently inaugurated in which state/UT of India?

- (1) Delhi
- (2) Himachal Pradesh
- (3) Punjab
- (4) Jammu & Kashmir
- (5) Uttarakhand

118. India's lightest metro train was rolled out in which country?

- (1) France
- (2) Italy
- (3) Japan
- (4) China
- (5) Russia

119. Who has been appointed as the coach of Indian women's national football team ?

- (1) Maymol Rocky
- (2) Thomas Dennerby
- (3) Sjoerd Marijne
- (4) Graham Reid
- (5) Colin Batch

120. TAPAS is the initiative to provide access to lectures by subject experts, study material, and more. It supplements the physical classroom without compromising on the quality of teaching. TAPAS stands for

- (1) Teaching Augmenting for Productivity and Services
- (2) Training for Augmenting Productivity and Studies
- (3) Teaching Augmenting for Productivity and Studies
- (4) Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services
- (5) Training for Advancement in Productivity and Services

#### Answer keys

111. 1	112. 5	113. 2	114. 2	115. 5
116. 3	117. 4	118. 2	119. 2	120. 4

121. Who is the first Indian to receive the highest civilian award in the United States?

- (1) Narendra Modi
- (2) Neeraj Chopra
- (3) Mahatma Gandhi
- (4) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (5) Subash Chandra Bose

122. What is the ranking of the USA in the global coronavirus innovation rankings for countries, as per a report prepared by StartupBlink?

- (1) 2nd
- (2) 3rd
- (3) 4th
- (4) 1st
- (5) 5th

123. The German Legend Gerd Muller is related to?

- (1) Cricket
- (2) Baseball
- (3) Volleyball
- (4) Football
- (5) Olympics

124. Who among the following is the first ever skateboarding Olympic gold Medal Winner?

- (1) Horigome Yuto
- (2) Kelvin Hoefler
- (3) Jagger Eaton
- (4) Nyjah Huston
- (5) Tony Honk

125. Who has been appointed as UNICEF India's Celebrity Advocate for their global campaign EVAC?

- (1) Priyanka Chopra
- (2) Deepika Padukone
- (3) PV Sindhu
- (4) Ayushmann Khurrana
- (5) Vicky Kaushal

126. India to support UN in roll out of UNITE AWARE. What is UNITE AWARE?

- (1) Covid management service
- (2) Peacekeeping Mission
- (3) Challenging terrorist
- (4) Solving border issues
- (5) None of the Above

127. Princepal Singh became the first Indian to be the part of an \_\_\_\_\_ winning team

- (1) National Basketball Association title
- (2) Asian Football Cup
- (3) FIFA Tournament
- (4) Olympics track and field games
- (5) Ground Exercise team

128. A new book titled "Mission Domination: An Unfinished Quest" authored by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Boria Majumdar & Kushan Sarkar
- (2) Boria Majumdar & Rohit Sharma
- (3) Vikram Seth & Kushan Sarkar
- (4) Rohit Sharma & Vikram Seth
- (5) Aravind Adiga & Kushan Sarkar

129. NITI Aayog launched the Forum for Decarbonising Transport in the country with \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) World Health Organisation
- (2) United Nations
- (3) World Resources Institute
- (4) International Monetary Funds
- (5) World Bank

130. Which among the following has topped the Niti Aayog's North Eastern Region (NER) District SDG Index Report 2021-22?

- (1) Jiribam
- (2) Siliguri
- (3) Kiphire
- (4) East Sikkim
- (5) Agartala

#### Answer keys

121. 3	122. 4	123. 4	124. 1	125. 4
126. 2	127. 1	128. 1	129. 3	130. 4

131. At the 7th meeting of the BRICS Environment Ministerial 2021, the Environment Ministers adopted the New Delhi Statement on Environment. Which edition of BRICS Summit will be chaired by India in 2021?

- (1) 12th
- (2) 10th
- (3) 11th
- (4) 13th
- (5) 14th

132. The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building ('NPCSCB') "Mission Karmayogi" was approved in the year?

- (1) 2019
- (2) 2017
- (3) 2020
- (4) 2021
- (5) 2018

133. In which state of India did Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated a project called 'My Pad, My Right'?

- (1) Manipur
- (2) Tripura
- (3) Assam
- (4) Nagaland
- (5) Meghalaya

134. Which digital payment firms has signed an agreement with IT ministry's startup hub to scale deep-tech startups?

- (1) Google Pay
- (2) BharatPe
- (3) PhonePe
- (4) Paytm
- (5) PayPal

135. Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Federal Republic of Germany?

- (1) Harish Pingala
- (2) Hiten Mehta
- (3) Jaishri Patel
- (4) Mukeshji Kunwar
- (5) Harish Parvathaneni

136. 30 August is observed as which of the following day?

- (1) National Fisheries Day
- (2) National Sports Day
- (3) National Small Industry Day
- (4) National Panchayati Raj Day
- (5) None of these

137. In Tokyo Paralympics, who won the silver medal in Men's High Jump T47 event?

- (1) Nishad Kumar
- (2) Vinod Kumar
- (3) Devendra Jhajhariya
- (4) Bajrang Sinha

(5) Ajeet Shekhar

138. Lovlina Borgohain won bronze medal in Tokyo 2020 Olympics in which category?

- (1) Featherweight (57kg)
- (2) Welterweight (69kg)
- (3) Middleweight (75kg)
- (4) Flyweight (51kg)
- (5) None of these

139. Recently, the UN created a permanent forum of people of \_\_\_\_

- (1) African descent
- (2) European descent
- (3) Asian descent
- (4) American descent
- (5) Indian descent

140. Recently, Dr. Basant Kumar Misra has been conferred the prestigious AANS International Lifetime Achievement Award 2021. This award is given to \_\_\_\_.

- (1) Neurosurgeons
- (2) Gynaecologist
- (3) Oncologist
- (4) Pathologist
- (5) Cardiologist

#### Answer keys

131. 4	132. 3	133. 2	134. 4	135. 5
136. 3	137. 1	138. 2	139. 1	140. 1

141. Which of the following is developing an innovative model to tackle electronic wastes (e-waste) by linking stakeholders in the formal and informal economy called "e-Source"?

- (1) IIT Delhi
- (2) IIT Mumbai
- (3) IIT Madras
- (4) IIT Kharagpur
- (5) IIT Palakkad

142. Which one of the following has launched the 3rd edition of week-long annual exercise- 'Gandiv'?

- (1) CRPF
- (2) CISF
- (3) NSG
- (4) SSB
- (5) Assam rifles

143. Microsoft stock became the world's most valuable after beating which of the following company?

- (1) Apple
- (2) Amazon
- (3) Alphabet
- (4) Saudi Aramco
- (5) Tesla

144. India is committed to achieve over \_\_\_\_\_ cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil-fuel energy resources by 2030.

- (1) 50%
- (2) 60%
- (3) 30%
- (4) 40%
- (5) 45%

145. At COP26, the Prime minister of India announced India will reach net zero emissions by

- (1) 2050
- (2) 2040
- (3) 2060
- (4) 2070
- (5) 2075

146. Recently, Shipping Minister Shri Sonowal inaugurated Valiyazhikkal Lighthouse in which of the following states?

- (1) Kerala
- (2) Goa
- (3) Tamil Nadu
- (4) Odisha
- (5) Andhra Pradesh

147. Ganga Atlas developed by which of the following IITs was launched during Ganga Utsav?

- (1) IIT Bombay
- (2) IIT Madras
- (3) IIT Delhi
- (4) IIT Roorkee
- (5) IIT Kanpur

148. Bhasha Sangam Initiative for schools is developed by \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) CBSE
- (2) NCERT
- (3) UGC
- (4) NITI Aayog
- (5) None of the above

149. Recently, Arun Chawla was appointed as director-general of \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) FICCI
- (2) NASSCOM
- (3) ICC
- (4) BCCI
- (5) CII

150. Indian Oil Corporation has planned to set up India's first mega-scale Maleic Anhydride Plant in \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Lucknow
- (2) Panipat
- (3) Raipur
- (4) Kandla
- (5) Pune

### Answer keys

141. 3    142. 3    143. 1    144. 4    145. 4  
146. 1    147. 5    148. 2    149. 1    150. 2

151. Recently, India announced collaboration on green hydrogen and gas with which of the following countries?

- (1) France
- (2) UK
- (3) USA
- (4) Italy
- (5) Germany

152. Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched an ambitious initiative called IRIS. What does 'R' denote in IRIS?

- (1) Resilient
- (2) Resource
- (3) Reform
- (4) Reinvent
- (5) Rural

153. The Climate Finance Leadership Initiative (CFLI) is an initiative of India and which one of the following countries?

- (1) United States
- (2) United Kingdom
- (3) Australia
- (4) Germany
- (5) Canada

154. Yahoo Inc., a technology company, has recently announced to exit which one of the following countries?

- (1) India
- (2) Australia
- (3) Ireland
- (4) China
- (5) Saudi Arabia

155. WHO has recently granted emergency use listing (EUL) to \_\_\_\_\_, adding to a growing portfolio of vaccines validated by WHO for the prevention of COVID-19.

- (1) Covishield
- (2) Covaxin
- (3) Moderna
- (4) Sputnik
- (5) All of the above

156. South African author Damon Galgut wins Booker Prize for \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) The Vow
- (2) The Prestige
- (3) The Promise
- (4) The Proposal
- (5) The Girl in black

157. Which of the following state/UT of India will start commercial cultivation of sea buckthorn berry in partnership with CSIR?

- (1) Delhi
- (2) Assam
- (3) Haryana
- (4) Ladakh
- (5) Mizoram

158. Recently, which of the following country approved world's first oral pill to treat Covid-19?

- (1) USA
- (2) Britain
- (3) France
- (4) Brazil
- (5) UAE

159. Which of the following nation has launched the world's first earth-science satellite dedicated to UN 2030 Agenda?

- (1) Japan
- (2) India
- (3) UK
- (4) USA
- (5) China

160. According to Public Affairs Index rankings 2021, which of the following state ranked the second position?

- (1) Kerala
- (2) Tamil Nadu
- (3) Karnataka
- (4) Chhattisgarh
- (5) Punjab

### Answer keys

151. 4    152. 1    153. 2    154. 4    155. 2  
156. 3    157. 4    158. 2    159. 5    160. 2

161. Which of the following country was India's first export destination for Linz-Donawitz slag?

- (1) Myanmar
- (2) Bhutan
- (3) Nepal
- (4) Sri Lanka
- (5) Bangladesh

162. Who is the author of "The Sage with Two Horns"?

- (1) Shashi Taroor
- (2) Anita Desai
- (3) Manu Kumar
- (4) Aravind Adiga
- (5) Sudha Murty

163. Which of the following Institution has released a comprehensive report titled 'Health Insurance for India's Missing Middle'?

- (1) Ministry of Finance
- (2) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

- (3) AIIMS
- (4) NITI Aayog
- (5) IRDA

164. Which of the following became the first state in the country to release a 'Wildlife Action Plan'?

- (1) Gujarat
- (2) Maharashtra
- (3) Kerala
- (4) Karnataka
- (5) Goa

165. Which of the following has been declared as the Oxford Dictionary's word of the year for 2021?

- (1) Vax
- (2) Selfie
- (3) Toxic
- (4) Climate change
- (5) Flood

166. Where is India's largest landfill gas-to-compressed biogas plant located?

- (1) Hyderabad
- (2) Chennai
- (3) Kolkata
- (4) Tripura
- (5) Panaji

167. 13 year old Tajamul Islam won gold medal In World Kickboxing Championship recently. She is a native of:

- (1) Haryana
- (2) Punjab
- (3) Jammu & Kashmir
- (4) Assam
- (5) West Bengal

168. Which edition of Cyber security conference 'c0c0n' will be held virtually from November 10-13?

- (1) 15th
- (2) 16th
- (3) 17th
- (4) 18th
- (5) 14th

169. Sankalp Gupta became India's \_\_\_\_\_ Grandmaster.

- (1) 71st
- (2) 81st
- (3) 61st
- (4) 41st
- (5) 91st

170. According to LEADS index 2021, Haryana jumped to the second-highest position up from \_\_\_\_\_ in the previous ranking.

- (1) 5th
- (2) 4th

- (3) 6th
- (4) 7th
- (5) 8th

### Answer keys

161. 5      162. 5      163. 4      164. 2      165. 1  
166. 1      167. 3      168. 5      169. 1      170. 3

171. Which of the following city has recently added in the UNESCO network of creative cities?

- (1) Srinagar
- (2) Leh
- (3) Pune
- (4) Kochi
- (5) Indore

172. Which of the following nation became the 101st member to join the International Solar Alliance?

- (1) USA
- (2) UK
- (3) Australia
- (4) Japan
- (5) China

173. "Shuttler's Flick: Making every match count" is the autobiography of

- (1) Srikanth Kidambi
- (2) Prakash Padukone
- (3) P. Gopi Chand
- (4) Ashwini Ponnappa
- (5) PV Sindhu

174. Which edition of Indo-Thai CORPAT between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy is being conducted from 12 to 14 November 2021?

- (1) 29th
- (2) 30th
- (3) 31st
- (4) 32nd
- (5) 33rd

175. Who is the new secretary general of the Upper House of Parliament?

- (1) PPK Ramacharyulu
- (2) Desh Dipak Verma
- (3) Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi
- (4) V. Lakshmikantha Rao
- (5) PC Mody

176. Who has been elected to the International Law Commission for a five-year term from India?

- (1) Bimal Patel
- (2) Fali Nariman
- (3) KK Venugopal
- (4) Gopal Subramaniam
- (5) Aryama Sundaram

177. PM Narendra Modi launched RBI Retail Direct Scheme recently. The scheme allows individual retail investors direct access to buy and sell \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) G-secs
- (2) Treasury bills
- (3) Dated Securities
- (4) SGB
- (5) All of the above

178. How many persons were honoured with Arjuna Award this year?

- (1) 27
- (2) 29
- (3) 31
- (4) 33
- (5) 35

179. Who among the following launched Merchant Shareholding Program for its merchant partners recently?

- (1) MobiKwik
- (2) PhonePe
- (3) BharatPe
- (4) RazorPay
- (5) Instamojo

180. Which has become the first Indian two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer to be a part of UN Global Compact?

- (1) TVS Motor company
- (2) Bajaj Auto
- (3) Hero Motocorp
- (4) Piaggio
- (5) Honda Motorcycle

#### Answer keys

171. 1	172. 1	173. 3	174. 4	175. 5
176. 1	177. 5	178. 5	179. 3	180. 1

181. "Unshackling India: Hard Truths and Clear Choices for Economic Revival" is a book written by

- (1) Ajay Chhibber
- (2) Salman Anees Soz
- (3) Arvind Panagariya
- (4) Bimal Jalan
- (5) Both A and B

182. With which of the following nation did India revive its Parliamentary Friendship Association recently?

- (1) Nepal
- (2) Bhutan
- (3) Myanmar
- (4) Sri Lanka
- (5) Maldives

183. The recently inaugurated Purvanchal Expressway is a 6 lane expressway, built in which state of India?

- (1) Madhya Pradesh
- (2) Bihar
- (3) West bengal
- (4) Uttar Pradesh
- (5) Rajasthan

184. Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas is celebrated on the birth anniversary of which freedom fighter?

- (1) Bhagat Singh
- (2) Birsa Munda
- (3) Jijiya Bai
- (4) Matangini Hazra
- (5) B.G Tilak

185. Babasaheb Purandare, who passed away recently, was renowned \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Historian
- (2) Physicist
- (3) Lawyer
- (4) Doctor
- (5) None of the above

186. Prime Ministry Narendra Modi inaugurated the redeveloped Rani Kamalapati Railway Station in which city of India?

- (1) Bhopal
- (2) Pune
- (3) Puri
- (4) Delhi
- (5) Varanasi

187. Recently, Australia lifted their maiden T20 Cricket World Cup title by defeating which of the following team in the finals?

- (1) West Indies
- (2) New Zealand
- (3) England
- (4) Pakistan
- (5) South Africa

188. \_\_\_\_\_ is a National Workshop on Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme launched by Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh.

- (1) Bhoojal
- (2) Bhumi Samvaad
- (3) Janma Bhumi
- (4) Land areas
- (5) None of the above

189. Guinness World Records recognised achievement of BRO for constructing world's highest motorable road at which of the following passes of Ladakh?

- (1) Zojila Pass
- (2) Lachulung La Pass
- (3) Taglang La Pass
- (4) Chang La Pass

(5) Umlingla Pass

190. Who among the following inaugurated the First Global Innovation Summit of the Pharmaceuticals sector?

- (1) Joe Biden
- (2) Boris Johnson
- (3) Narendra Modi
- (4) Xi Jinping
- (5) Justin Trudeau

#### Answer keys

181. 5    182. 4    183. 4    184. 2    185. 1

186. 1    187. 2    188. 2    189. 5    190. 3

191. India was reelected to the Executive Board of UNESCO with 164 votes for the term

- (1) 2024-25
- (2) 2022-24
- (3) 2021-22
- (4) 2023-25
- (5) 2021-25

192. The Jhansi project is one of the three ultra-mega solar parks that are proposed to be set up in the region to generate 2,000 MW solar power in "plug and play mode" under which scheme of central government?

- (1) UMREPP Scheme
- (2) Ujjwala Scheme
- (3) PMYUPD Scheme
- (4) SVANidhi Scheme
- (5) None of the above

193. Where was the 21st Annual Council of Ministers meeting of Indian Ocean Rim Association held?

- (1) Bhutan
- (2) Dhaka
- (3) Sri Lanka
- (4) Delhi
- (5) China

194. The Supreme Court has allowed the Central Government to disinvest the remaining \_\_\_\_\_ of its shares in Hindustan Zinc limited.

- (1) 19.5 percent
- (2) 29.5 percent
- (3) 39.5 percent
- (4) 49.5 percent
- (5) 9.5 percent

195. India holds which position in the Global Business Bribery Risk Rankings?

- (1) 82
- (2) 77
- (3) 67
- (4) 94

(5) 111

196. Which of the following Institution releases the Migration and Development Brief report?

- (1) IMF
- (2) UNICEF
- (3) AIIB
- (4) WTO
- (5) World Bank

197. Rashtra Raksha Samarpan Parv, a three day Defence Ministry's celebration event was held in

- (1) Delhi
- (2) Uttar Pradesh
- (3) Jammu and Kashmir
- (4) Madhya Pradesh
- (5) Sikkim

198. Recently AB de Villiers has announced retirement from all forms of cricket. He is from which of the following countries?

- (1) Australia
- (2) New Zealand
- (3) England
- (4) Ireland
- (5) South Africa

199. EASE Reforms Index is released by which of the following organizations?

- (1) Indian Banks' Association
- (2) RBI
- (3) NITI Aayog
- (4) Finance Ministry
- (5) NPCI

200. Who among the following is the author of the novel 'Lal Salaam'?

- (1) Nitin Gadkari
- (2) Rajnath Singh
- (3) Arjun Munda
- (4) Smriti Irani
- (5) Nirmala Sitharaman

#### Answer keys

191. 5    192. 1    193. 2    194. 2    195. 1

196. 5    197. 2    198. 5    199. 1    200. 4

201. 'Swachh Survekshan Awards 2021' list is released by which of the following ministries?

- (1) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (2) Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
- (3) Ministry of Rural Development
- (4) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- (5) NITI Aayog

202. Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum is located in which state of India?

- (1) Jharkhand
- (2) Rajasthan

- (3) Manipur
- (4) Assam
- (5) Haryana

203. Asian Archery Championships 2021 was held in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Bangkok
- (2) Dhaka
- (3) New Delhi
- (4) Beijing
- (5) Jakarta

204. The first ever All India Survey on Domestic Workers was recently launched. Which of the following is conducting the survey?

- (1) Labour Bureau
- (2) National Statistical Office
- (3) Office of the Economic Adviser
- (4) NITI Aayog
- (5) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

205. Which of the following is the theme-based tourist circuit train that was recently announced by Indian Railways?

- (1) Bharat Parv
- (2) Bharat Hind
- (3) Bharat Madaad
- (4) Bharat Gaurav
- (5) Bharat Garv

206. Who has been conferred with the Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021?

- (1) Anita Desai
- (2) Chetan Bhagat
- (3) Aravind Adiga
- (4) Kiran Desai
- (5) Ruskin Bond

207. Which of the following is the world's first planetary defense system that recently launched by NASA?

- (1) DART spacecraft
- (2) Chaldean spacecraft
- (3) Kalyke spacecraft
- (4) Himalia spacecraft
- (5) None of the above

208. Abhijit Banerjee has authored a new book titled "Cooking to Save your Life". Abhijit Banerjee received the Nobel prize in which field?

- (1) Physics
- (2) Chemistry
- (3) Medicine
- (4) Literature
- (5) Economics

209. Ban Ki-moon released his autobiography "Resolved: Uniting Nations in a Divided World". He is politician and diplomat from \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Japan
  - (2) China
  - (3) Thailand
  - (4) South Korea
  - (5) Philippines
- Answer key: 4

210. The 20th Meeting of SCO's Council of Heads of Government (CHG) was held in which city?

- (1) Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan
- (2) Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
- (3) Dushanbe, Tajikistan
- (4) Ashgabat, Turkmenistan
- (5) Tashkent, Uzbekistan

#### Answer keys

201. 4	202. 3	203. 2	204. 1	205. 4
206. 1	207. 1	208. 5	209. 4	210. 1

211. Which of the following day is observed as the Samvidhan Divas?

- (1) November 28
- (2) November 25
- (3) November 26
- (4) November 27
- (5) November 24

212. Which of the following is the fourth submarine in the series of six submarines of Project-75 that was recently commissioned?

- (1) INS Vela
- (2) INS Vikra
- (3) INS Virat
- (4) INS Vishak
- (5) INS Vimal

213. Which of the following has been ranked as the best police station in India?

- (1) Gangapur police station
- (2) Bhattu Kalan police station
- (3) Sadar Bazar police station
- (4) Shirala police station
- (5) Thottiyam police station

214. Who become first Indian to be honoured with Knighthood of Parte Guelfa?

- (1) Mohan Roy
- (2) Mohanlal
- (3) Ravi Pilla
- (4) Santhosh Roy
- (5) Sohan Roy

215. What is the name of the new SARS-CoV-2 variant: B.1.1.529, given by World Health Organisation?

- (1) Delta
- (2) Omega
- (3) Gamma
- (4) Omicron
- (5) Covid-21

216. Dairy Sahakar scheme has an investment outlay of \_\_\_\_\_ crore.

- (1) Rs.3000
- (2) Rs.4000
- (3) Rs.5000
- (4) Rs.6000
- (5) Rs.7000

217. Which among the following projects will be launched by Kerala tourism to help visitors experience the diversity?

- (1) PINK
- (2) STREET
- (3) ROADSIDE
- (4) PLACES
- (5) TOURISM

218. Which among the following has received a silver medal in the prestigious India International Trade Fair, 2021 for strengthening commitment to "Vocal for Local"?

- (1) STREET
- (2) PMVVY
- (3) HUNAR HAAT
- (4) Aadhar
- (5) Handicrafts

219. Who was elected as first woman president of Indian Mountaineering Foundation, recently?

- (1) Santosh Yadav
- (2) Premalata Agrawal
- (3) Harshwanti Bisht
- (4) Bachendri Pal
- (5) Arunima Sinha

220. Which of the following state ranked second in terms of percentage of the population living in poverty among all the States and the Union Territories in the First ever Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by NITI Aayog?

- (1) Jharkhand
- (2) Uttar Pradesh
- (3) Madhya Pradesh
- (4) Meghalaya
- (5) Bihar

#### Answer keys

211. 3	212. 1	213. 3	214. 5	215. 4
216. 3	217. 2	218. 3	219. 3	220. 1

221. The Centre recently constituted a Central Vista Oversight Committee. Who has been appointed as its Chairman?

- (1) P K Tiwari
- (2) Ratan P Watal
- (3) Shailendra Roy
- (4) Hardeep Singh Puri
- (5) S K Valiathan

222. Who won the Indian Film Personality of the Year Award for 2021 at the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India?

- (1) Prasoon Joshi
- (2) Kamal Hassan
- (3) Rakesh Omprakash Mehra
- (4) A. R. Rahman
- (5) Mani Ratnam

223. Which state recently delivered medicines to a remote primary health centre by using an e-VTOL (Virtual take-off and landing ) Drone AquilaX2?

- (1) Meghalaya
- (2) Manipur
- (3) Nagaland
- (4) Tripura
- (5) Assam

224. DBT-National Brain Research Centre (DBT-NBRC) recently developed project SWADESH. Where is National Brain Research Centre located?

- (1) Karnataka
- (2) Haryana
- (3) Kerala
- (4) Andhra Pradesh
- (5) New Delhi

225. Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited launched a Model Retail Outlet Scheme and a Digital Customer Feedback Program called

- (1) Darpan@petrolbunk
- (2) Darpan@oilbunk
- (3) Darpan@petrolpump
- (4) Darpan4petrolbunk
- (5) Darpan4petrolpump.

226. Which of the following states/UTs has recently held the first-ever Aharbal festival?

- (1) Assam
- (2) Mizoram
- (3) Jammu and Kashmir
- (4) Punjab
- (5) Ladakh

227. Which state became the first state in India to begin organised cultivation of true dalchini?

- (1) Bihar
- (2) Odisha
- (3) West Bengal
- (4) Assam
- (5) Himachal Pradesh

228. Which of the following is the recently dedicated Helpline number for senior citizens in India?

- (1) 14500
- (2) 12500
- (3) 10067
- (4) 14567

(5) 12445

229. Vayo Naman Programme, recently organised by government of India is in honour of:

- (1) Martyrs of Indian Army
- (2) Airforce workers
- (3) Martyrs of 26/11
- (4) Martyrs of IAF
- (5) Senior citizens

230. Which of the following companies have come together to establish a new experience studio at the NITI Aayog Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Centre?

- (1) Amazon
- (2) Intel
- (3) Microsoft
- (4) Both 1 and 2
- (5) Both 2 and 3

#### Answer keys

221. 2    222. 1    223. 1    224. 2    225. 3  
226. 3    227. 5    228. 4    229. 5    230. 4

231. Who inaugurated the India Pavilion at Dubai Expo 2020?

- (1) Dr Harsh Vardhan
- (2) Nitin Gadkari
- (3) Smriti Irani
- (4) Piyush Goyal
- (5) Narendra Modi

232. IISc-incubated startup L2MRail and the Society for Innovation and Development (SID) have signed an MoU with which state rail?

- (1) Tamil Nadu
- (2) Karnataka
- (3) Uttar Pradesh
- (4) Kerala
- (5) Hyderabad

233. Which among the following minister launched the DigiSaksham - a digital skills programme?

- (1) Labour and Employment Minister
- (2) Home Minister
- (3) Finance Minister
- (4) Housing and Urban Affairs Minister
- (5) Electronics and Information Technology Minister

234. The state government of Uttar Pradesh has named which actress as the brand ambassador of its 'one district-one product' programme?

- (1) Priyanka Chopra
- (2) Deepika Padukone
- (3) Kangana Ranaut
- (4) Alia Bhatt
- (5) Kareena Kapoor Khan

235. Union Cabinet has recently approved the doubling of the Nimach-Ratlam railway line at a cost of Rs 1,095.88 crore. In which state of India is the Nimach-Ratlam railway line located?

- (1) Gujarat
- (2) Maharashtra
- (3) Uttar Pradesh
- (4) Madhya Pradesh
- (5) Bihar

236. Sanjay Bhargava, will head which firm of Elon Musk in India?

- (1) Tesla
- (2) SpaceX
- (3) Starlink
- (4) Boeing
- (5) Falcon

237. The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank has approved USD 356.67 million loan for expansion of the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Kerala Rail
- (2) Bangalore metro
- (3) Chennai Metro rail system
- (4) Hyderabad Railways
- (5) None of the above

238. Khadi Dyers And Printers, which manufactured World's largest Khadi National Flag is located in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Lucknow
- (2) Kanpur
- (3) Gandhinagar
- (4) Mumbai
- (5) Indore

239. According to the Hurun India Rich List 2021, Mukesh Ambani continues to be the richest man in India for the \_\_\_\_\_ consecutive year with a wealth of Rs 7,18,000 crore.

- (1) 11th
- (2) 10th
- (3) 12th
- (4) 14th
- (5) 15th

240. Which of the following has recently build the first-ever integrated flyover cum metro viaduct structure where flyover and metro viaduct will run parallel?

- (1) Hyderabad Metro Rail
- (2) Chennai Metro Rail
- (3) Kochi Metro Rail Limited
- (4) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation
- (5) Mumbai Metro Rail Corporation Limited

#### Answer keys

231. 4    232. 4    233. 1    234. 3    235. 4  
236. 3    237. 3    238. 4    239. 2    240. 4

241. Recently, Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) program has been launched by which of the following nation in partnership with India?

- (1) Maldives
- (2) Mauritius
- (3) Seychelles
- (4) Srilanka
- (5) Costa Rica

242. Geologist Najla Bouden has recently designated as the first ever female prime minister of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Morocco
- (2) Tunisia
- (3) South Africa
- (4) Egypt
- (5) Andorra

243. The famed white onion of Alibag from which state has earned itself a 'Geographical Indication' recently?

- (1) Goa
- (2) Bihar
- (3) Odisha
- (4) Maharashtra
- (5) Gujarat

244. The Nobel Prize in the field of physiology or medicine has been awarded to the US. scientists David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian. They were cited for their discovery of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Receptors for temperature and touch
- (2) Possible blood tests and new medicines have saved millions of lives.
- (3) For their discoveries of how cells sense and adapt to oxygen availability.
- (4) To attack cancer by treating the immune system rather than the tumor.
- (5) All of the above

245. Kiren Rijiju has inaugurated a sports arbitration centre in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- (2) Patna, Bihar
- (3) Guwahati, Assam
- (4) Cuttack, Odisha
- (5) Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

246. Which of the following state government has recently launched the 'Swechha' programme to provide branded sanitary napkins to female students?

- (1) Andhra Pradesh
- (2) Telangana
- (3) Karnataka
- (4) Kerala
- (5) Odisha

247. Which of the following nation claimed about the first successful test launch of "Tsirkon" hypersonic missile from a submarine?

- (1) Russia
- (2) Australia
- (3) US
- (4) UK
- (5) Japan

248. Ministry of Tourism in association with the Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has organized the Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour as part of \_\_\_\_\_ initiative.

- (1) Dekho Apna Desh
- (2) Atma Nirbhar Bharat
- (3) Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
- (4) Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik
- (5) Swavalamban

249. The first consignment of GI tagged sweet dish Mihidana from which of the following state has recently been exported to Bahrain?

- (1) Odisha
- (2) Assam
- (3) West Bengal
- (4) Bihar
- (5) Uttar Pradesh

250. The Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2021 is awarded jointly to Benjamin List and David W. C. MacMillan for their work in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) The development of asymmetric organocatalysis
- (2) The development of a method for genome editing
- (3) The developed lithium-ion batteries
- (4) The directed evolution of enzymes research
- (5) The development of cryo-electron microscopy for the high-resolution structure determination of biomolecules

#### Answer keys

241. 3	242. 2	243. 4	244. 1	245. 1
246. 1	247. 1	248. 1	249. 3	250. 1

251. Who won the men's Goalkeeper of the Year award in FIH Hockey Stars Awards 2020-21?

- (1) Harmanpreet Singh
- (2) PR Sreejesh
- (3) Rupinder Pal Singh
- (4) Vivek Prasad
- (5) Manpreet Singh Sandh

252. Who became the first Indian woman wrestler to win a silver medal in the World Championships?

- (1) Babita Phogat
- (2) Anshu Malik

- (3) Sakshi Malik  
(4) Divya Kakran  
(5) Kavita Devi

253. Which of the following nation is the first of the BRICS bloc of major emerging economies to join the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People?

- (1) Brazil  
(2) Russia  
(3) India  
(4) China  
(5) South Africa

254. Abdulrazak Gurnah has won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature for his "uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents." He is a native of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Morocco  
(2) Tanzania  
(3) Egypt  
(4) Syria  
(5) Somalia

255. Union Minister of Civil Aviation flagged off the Doon Drone Mela 2021 in which of the following states?

- (1) Bihar  
(2) Punjab  
(3) Goa  
(4) Kerala  
(5) Uttarakhand

256. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Sarbanand Sonowal launched a port mobile application called \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) PortApp  
(2) GovPortApp  
(3) DigiPortApp  
(4) MyPortApp  
(5) None of the Above

257. Recently, a new version of the 'Mile Sur Mera Tumhara' song was released. This song is part of the initiatives being undertaken by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Ministry of Finance  
(2) Ministry of Railways  
(3) Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways  
(4) Ministry of Justice  
(5) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

258. Recently, India signed MoUs to boost 'green strategic partnership' with \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Norway  
(2) Denmark  
(3) Sweden  
(4) Spain  
(5) Italy

259. Recently, Union Finance Minister announced a new 3 km long four-lane bridge on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Ganga River  
(2) Krishna River  
(3) Brahmaputra River  
(4) Yamuna River  
(5) None of the above

260. India has recently signed an MoU with which of the following nation to collaborate for academic research in traditional medicine systems?

- (1) Germany  
(2) France  
(3) Canada  
(4) Georgia  
(5) Croatia

### Answer keys

251. 2	252. 2	253. 3	254. 2	255. 5
256. 4	257. 2	258. 2	259. 3	260. 5

261. Vallilath Madhathil Madhavan Nair has passed away recently. He was the oldest living former \_\_\_\_\_ of India.

- (1) Politician  
(2) Journalist  
(3) Diplomat  
(4) Freedom Fighter  
(5) Novelist

262. Which of the following State/UT government has launched the 'Desh ke Mentor' programme to provide career guidance to the students of class 9 to 12?

- (1) Delhi  
(2) Goa  
(3) Ladakh  
(4) Puducherry  
(5) Tamil Nadu

263. David Card, Joshua Angrist and Guido won 2021 Nobel Prize in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Medicine  
(2) Physics  
(3) Chemistry  
(4) Economics  
(5) Mathematics

264. Recently, Ibha has revealed as mascot of FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in India. Ibha is a/an \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Asiatic lioness  
(2) Snow Leopard  
(3) Red Panda  
(4) Asiatic Cheetah  
(5) Indian Rhinoceros

265. Recently, Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) has been accorded 'Maharatna' status. As on October 2021, how many Maharatna companies are there in India including PFC?

- (1) 10
- (2) 11
- (3) 12
- (4) 13
- (5) 14

266. Recently, who among the following has been appointed as advisor to PM Modi?

- (1) Amit Khare
- (2) Amitab Kant
- (3) Rajiv kumar
- (4) Krishnamurthy Subramanian
- (5) S. Ramakrishnan

267. Recently, the \_\_\_\_\_ and India agreed to combine forces of the Green Grids Initiative and the One Sun One World One Grid initiative.

- (1) Japan
- (2) United States
- (3) Myanmar
- (4) United kingdom
- (5) China

268. Where was the COP26 Summit held recently?

- (1) United Kingdom
- (2) India
- (3) Greece
- (4) Japan
- (5) United States

269. Which of the following department has recently launched India's first 'One Health' project?

- (1) Department of Biotechnology
- (2) Department of molecular science
- (3) Medical council of India
- (4) CGHS
- (5) CSIR

270. Recently, the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister launched CRISP-M tool. CRISP-M tool is:

- (1) A computer program used to prevent, detect, and remove malware.
- (2) A tool to fix Nutrient Based Subsidy Rates
- (3) A tool for integration of climate information in Geographic Information System.
- (4) A tool to fight important bacterial, viral and parasitic infections of zoonotic as well as transboundary pathogens in India.
- (5) None of the above

271. Amy Hunter has become world's youngest ODI centurion recently. She is a native of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Australia
- (2) Ireland
- (3) New Zealand
- (4) South Africa
- (5) England

272. What is the rank of India in Global Hunger Index 2021?

- (1) 102
- (2) 101
- (3) 103
- (4) 104
- (5) 105

273. The themes of World Food Day 2021 observed on 16 October is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Safe food now for a happy tomorrow
- (2) Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow
- (3) Safe food now for a better immunity
- (4) Safe food now for fighting pandemic
- (5) Safe food now for a sustainable tomorrow

274. Chennai Super Kings beat Kolkata Knight Riders to win the 2021 IPL title. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ time that CSK has won the tournament.

- (1) 1st
- (2) 2nd
- (3) 4th
- (4) 5th
- (5) 7th

275. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently launched PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan worth \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Rs 10 lakh crore
- (2) Rs 50 lakh crore
- (3) Rs 500 lakh crore
- (4) Rs 200 lakh crore
- (5) Rs 100 lakh crore

276. Nasa has launched which spacecraft as a part of its first space mission to study Trojans Asteroids?

- (1) Sushu
- (2) Lucy
- (3) Skyrie
- (4) Voltaire
- (5) Nimbus

277. Which of the following states developed the India's First Smartphone-Based E-Voting Solution in October 2021?

- (1) Karnataka
- (2) Kerala
- (3) Odisha
- (4) Tamil Nadu

#### Answer keys

261. 3	262. 1	263. 4	264. 1	265. 2
266. 1	267. 4	268. 1	269. 1	270. 3

(5) Telangana

278. Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Jonas Gahr Store on assuming the office of Prime Minister of which of the following countries?

- (1) Sweden
- (2) Finland
- (3) Norway
- (4) Poland
- (5) Belarus

279. India beat which of the following country in the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) finals to win the SAFF Championship title for 8th time in October 2021?

- (1) Bangladesh
- (2) Bhutan
- (3) Nepal
- (4) Sri Lanka
- (5) Maldives

280. Which of the following nation has recently launched its first solar exploration satellite aboard the Long March-2D rocket?

- (1) Japan
- (2) India
- (3) China
- (4) UAE
- (5) Spain

#### Answer keys

271. 2    272. 2    273. 2    274. 3    275. 5  
276. 2    277. 5    278. 3    279. 3    280. 3

281. World Statistics Day is celebrated around the globe every year on \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 20 October
- (2) 19 October
- (3) 18 October
- (4) 17 October
- (5) 21 October

282. What is the rank of India in the global food security index 2021?

- (1) 84
- (2) 45
- (3) 78
- (4) 71
- (5) 89

283. India has ranked which of the following position out of 43 pension systems across the world in the 2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey?

- (1) 34
- (2) 40
- (3) 23
- (4) 18
- (5) 20

284. Who is the author of 'The Custodian of Trust: A Banker's Memoir'?

- (1) Uday Kotak
- (2) Rajnish Kumar
- (3) Naina Lal Kidwai
- (4) Romesh Sobti
- (5) Arundhati Bhattacharya

285. India has decided to be part of a 4-country forum on economic cooperation. Which of the following country is not a part of this joint economic forum?

- (1) Israel
- (2) USA
- (3) UAE
- (4) Britain
- (5) All of the above

286. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the Infosys Foundation made 806-bedded

Vishram Sadan at which of the following State/UT?

- (1) Ladakh
- (2) Goa
- (3) Jammu and Kashmir
- (4) Punjab
- (5) New Delhi

287. James Pattinson has announced his retirement from international cricket. He is a faster bowler belongs to which of the following cricket team?

- (1) Australia
- (2) New Zealand
- (3) South Africa
- (4) West Indies
- (5) England

288. Which of the following regulator has recently approved the Betaine B.V's acquisition of Hinduja Global Solutions' healthcare BPO services?

- (1) RBI
- (2) SEBI
- (3) PFRDA
- (4) CCI
- (5) ICCCI

289. Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation has won the Earth Guardian Award for its efforts in supporting the conservation of tigers and biodiversity. Where is the Parambikulam tiger reserve located?

- (1) Telangana
- (2) Kerala
- (3) Tamil Nadu
- (4) Karnataka
- (5) Andhra Pradesh

290. ABHYAS, recently designed and developed by DRDO is a:

- (1) Missile
- (2) Rocket
- (3) Sub-marine
- (4) Drone
- (5) Ship

#### Answer keys

281. 1    282. 4    283. 2    284. 2    285. 4  
286. 5    287. 1    288. 4    289. 2    290. 4

291. Which of the following countries of Europe has most recently joined the growing group of nations to recognize the India's Serum Institute-manufactured Covishield vaccine?

- (1) UK
- (2) Turkey
- (3) Germany
- (4) Spain
- (5) Poland

292. Which of the following countries has elected its first ever president as it prepares to become a republic, removing Queen Elizabeth as head of state in 2021?

- (1) Barbados
- (2) Martinique
- (3) Saint Lucia
- (4) Saint Vincent
- (5) None of the above

293. The Jaynagar-Kurtha cross-border rail link, built with Government of India's assistance was recently handed over to the Government of

- (1) Bhutan
- (2) Bangladesh
- (3) Nepal
- (4) Sri Lanka
- (5) Myanmar

294. \_\_\_\_\_ film 'Koozhangal' is India's official entry to the Oscars 2022.

- (1) Telugu
- (2) Malayalam
- (3) Tamil
- (4) Bengali
- (5) Kannada

295. Which of the following has become the first state of India in achieving ODF & connecting every household with electricity?

- (1) Maharashtra
- (2) Kerala
- (3) Gujarat
- (4) Goa
- (5) Sikkim

296. Tata Power has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with \_\_\_\_\_ to collaborate in areas like smart grid technology, clean energy solutions.

- (1) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi
- (2) Indian Institute of Information Technology (IIT) Delhi
- (3) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT-BHU) Varanasi
- (4) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mumbai
- (5) CSIR

297. Who created the comic strip 'You Said It', featuring the "Common Man" a silent observer representing the average Indian?

- (1) Ramnath Krishnan
- (2) Neera Tanden
- (3) R. K. Laxman
- (4) R. K. Narayan
- (5) Osman Kavala

298. Fourth Assembly of ISA promises to achieve \$1 trillion global in solar investments by which year?

- (1) 2022
- (2) 2023
- (3) 2030
- (4) 2040
- (5) 2050

299. Konkan Shakti is the first tri-service exercise between which of the following nations?

- (1) India and USA
- (2) India and Srilanka
- (3) India and UK
- (4) India and UAE
- (5) India and France

300. Which of the following State has won the award for the 'city with the most sustainable transport system' recently?

- (1) Kerala
- (2) Punjab
- (3) Gujarat
- (4) Goa
- (5) Bihar

#### Answer keys

291. 5    292. 1    293. 3    294. 3    295. 4  
296. 1    297. 3    298. 3    299. 3    300. 1

301. Who has recently appointed as the CEO of Target Olympic Podium Scheme?

- (1) P.K. Garg
- (2) Tajinderpal Singh Toor
- (3) M. P. Jabir
- (4) Rahi Sarnobat
- (5) Tarundeep Rai

302. Prime Minister launched Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission from which of the following city?

- (1) Pune
- (2) Varanasi
- (3) Mathura
- (4) Kochi
- (5) Lucknow

303. Which of the following will build India's largest green hydrogen-making plant ?

- (1) GAIL
- (2) SAIL
- (3) BPCL
- (4) NTPC
- (5) HPCL

304. Which one of the following breed of buffalo is known as mini elephant?

- (1) Murrah
- (2) Nili-Ravi
- (3) Jafarabadi
- (4) Carabao
- (5) Banni

305. Actor Rajinikanth was conferred with the \_\_\_\_\_ Dadasaheb Phalke Award.

- (1) 51st
- (2) 61st
- (3) 41st
- (4) 71st
- (5) 81st

306. India has moved \_\_\_\_\_ spot ahead to the 106th position in the latest FIFA rankings.

- (1) Two
- (2) One
- (3) Three
- (4) Five
- (5) Four

307. Who is the author of new anthology "Writing for My Life"?

- (1) Vikram Seth
- (2) Salman Rushdie
- (3) Aravind Adiga
- (4) Khushwant Singh
- (5) Ruskin Bond

308. Which of the following nuclear-capable, surface-to-surface ballistic missile has recently tested by India successfully?

- (1) Tejas-3
- (2) Agni-5
- (3) Saras-3
- (4) Prithvi-5
- (5) Trishul-5

309. Which of the following state has inaugurated India's largest aromatic garden?

- (1) Uttarakhand
- (2) Punjab
- (3) Himachal Pradesh
- (4) Assam
- (5) Kerala

310. Which of the following scheme will open up new avenues of growth for the agriculture sector and help attain the goal of doubling farmers' income by removing barriers in the supply chain, logistics and transportation of farm produce?

- (1) Krishi UDAN 2.0
- (2) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana
- (3) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana
- (4) UDAN 2.0
- (5) Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojna

#### Answer keys

301. 1	302. 2	303. 1	304. 5	305. 1
306. 2	307. 5	308. 2	309. 1	310. 1

311. Roh Tae-woo passed away recently. He was the former president of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) China
- (2) Vietnam
- (3) Thailand
- (4) South Korea
- (5) Japan

312. Who is appointed as the head of the Pegasus snoopgate committee?

- (1) Alok Joshi
- (2) RV Raveendran
- (3) Dr. Sundeep Oberoi
- (4) N.V.Ramana
- (5) Ratan Kumar

313. Which technology gaint has announced the Appscale Academy programme in partnership with the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY)?

- (1) Apple
- (2) IBM
- (3) Google
- (4) Microsoft
- (5) Intel

314. Who was recently elected as Uzbekistan's president?

- (1) Shavkat Mirziyoyev
- (2) Islam Karimov
- (3) Emomali Rahmon
- (4) Otabek Umarov
- (5) Nigmatovich Aripov

315. Among the following, which company rebranded itself to 'Meta'?

- (1) Google
- (2) Snapchat
- (3) Zoom

- (4) Facebook  
(5) Microsoft

316. The Emission Gap report is published by which of the following institutions?

- (1) UNEP  
(2) UNDP  
(3) UNFCCC  
(4) UNICEF  
(5) OECD

317. Who among the following has been appointed as the Chairman of NCLAT?

- (1) Navrang Saini  
(2) Bibek Debroy  
(3) Ashok Bhushan  
(4) MS Sahoo  
(5) Adarsh Kumar Goel

318. Who among the following topped the Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2021?

- (1) Mukesh Ambani  
(2) Azim Premji  
(3) Shiv Nadar  
(4) Nandan Nilekani  
(5) Ratan Tata

319. Which of the following trains became the first passenger carrying train on Electric Traction?

- (1) Bengaluru Mail  
(2) Gatimaan Express  
(3) Chennai-Mysuru Shatabdi  
(4) Brahmaputra Mail  
(5) Shaktipunj Express

320. What is the name of the deep-sea vehicle under the newly launched Samudrayan initiative?

- (1) Samudra 6000  
(2) Samudra 5000  
(3) Matsya 6000  
(4) Matsya 5000  
(5) Samudra 4000

#### Answer keys

311. 4    312. 2    313. 3    314. 1    315.

316. 1    317. 3    318. 2    319. 4    320. 3

321. In Tokyo Paralympics 2020, India's High Jumper Mariyappan Thangavelu won the silver medal in which category?

- (1) T63  
(2) T47  
(3) T61  
(4) T41  
(5) T37

322. Zamboanga Sibugay-based fisherman and community environmentalist Roberto Ballon got the Ramon Magsaysay 2021. Zamboanga

Sibugay is a province located in the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Laos  
(2) Vietnam  
(3) Philippines  
(4) Malaysia  
(5) Thailand

323. Recently, Dale Steyn has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. He is a renowned player from \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) England  
(2) Australia  
(3) West Indies  
(4) South Africa  
(5) New Zealand

324. According to the Academic Ranking of World University (ARWU) 2021, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ are ranked the first and third position in India respectively.

- (1) IISc Bangalore and Banaras Hindu University  
(2) Banaras Hindu University and IISc Bangalore  
(3) IISc Bangalore and Calcutta University  
(4) Calcutta University and Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur  
(5) Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur and IISc Bangalore

325. The Union Minister for Women and Child Development inaugurated NUTRI GARDEN to mark the beginning of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Namami Gange  
(2) Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav  
(3) Poshan Maah 2021  
(4) SHIKHA 2.0  
(5) SAKHI 2021

326. Vasoo Paranjape, who passed away recently, was related to which field?

- (1) Hockey  
(2) Cricket  
(3) Football  
(4) Kabaddi  
(5) Wrestling

327. Who is the first woman Chairperson & Managing Director of public sector enterprise Engineers India Ltd?

- (1) Rubina Tyagi  
(2) Maitri Reddy  
(3) Soumya Sharma  
(4) Akriti Shukla  
(5) Vartika Shukla

328. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has launched the country's first QSim Toolkit. What does QSim stands for?

- (1) Quality Control Stimulator  
(2) Quality Assurance Simulation  
(3) Quantum Computer Simulator

- (4) Quantum core computation  
(5) Quality of Quantum Simulation

329. What is the name of India's first interactive geospatial website for digital payment insights, launched by PhonePe?

- (1) Pay  
(2) Power  
(3) DigiPay  
(4) PayDigital  
(5) Pulse

330. Japan's Prime Minister Yoshihide Suga stepped down recently. He belongs to which political party?

- (1) Liberal Democratic Party  
(2) Japanese Communist Party  
(3) Social Democratic Party  
(4) Japan New Party  
(5) Fair Party

#### Answer keys

321. 1    322. 3    323. 4    324. 1    325. 3  
326. 2    327. 5    328. 3    329. 5    330. 1

331. Government of India appointed Atul Bhatt as CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. Who was the previous CMD of the company?

- (1) LC Goyal  
(2) AG Thankappan  
(3) Suman Sharma  
(4) PK Rath  
(5) K Sreekant

332. How many medals did India win in Tokyo Paralympics 2020?

- (1) 17  
(2) 19  
(3) 21  
(4) 16  
(5) 18

333. How many teams are participating in the 130th edition of the Durand Cup?

- (1) 18  
(2) 20  
(3) 15  
(4) 16  
(5) 21

334. Rajni Kaul, who recently passed away, was the first woman News Broadcaster for

- (1) CNN  
(2) CNBC  
(3) TimesNow  
(4) New York Times  
(5) BBC Hindi

335. Kisan Store is an online platform launched by

- (1) Walmart India  
(2) Adani Group  
(3) Amazon India  
(4) ITC India  
(5) TATA Group

336. What is the theme of Shikshak Parv 2021?

- (1) Deepening family and community engagement.  
(2) Quality and Sustainable Schools: Learnings from Schools in India  
(3) Immersive learning through virtual reality.  
(4) Lifelong learners  
(5) Recover and Revitalize Education for the COVID-19 Generation

337. Which of the following became the first country in the world to vaccinate toddlers?

- (1) Cuba  
(2) Chile  
(3) Canada  
(4) USA  
(5) India

338. World EV(Electric Vehicles) Day is observed on September 9 every year. The first World EV day was observed in\_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 2021  
(2) 2020  
(3) 2019  
(4) 2018  
(5) 2017

339. Recently, who among the following was appointed as the chairman of National Commission for Minorities ?

- (1) Iqbal Singh Lalpura  
(2) Suresh N. Patel  
(3) Yashvardhan Kumar Sinha  
(4) K. N. Vyas  
(5) K. Sivan

340. The Central Government has signed a loan of \$300 million to improve rural connectivity in Maharashtra, with which of the following multilateral banks?

- (1) Asian Development Bank  
(2) New Development Bank  
(3) World Bank  
(4) International Monetary Fund  
(5) European Investment Bank

#### Answer keys

331. 4    332. 2    333. 4    334. 5    335. 3  
336. 2    337. 1    338. 2    339. 1    340. 1

341. Who has been awarded the Africa Food Prize 2021?

- (1) ICRISAT  
(2) ICAR

- (3) FAO  
(4) IRAI  
(5) World Food Programme

342. Author Susanna Clarke won the Women's Prize for Fiction 2021 for \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Dominicana  
(2) Piranesi  
(3) Jonathan Strange and Mr Norrell  
(4) The Mirror and the Light  
(5) A Thousand Ships

343. In September 2021, India hosted the first-ever 2+2 Ministerial Dialogue with which country?

- (1) Japan  
(2) Australia  
(3) UK  
(4) Germany  
(5) Italy

344. 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' is a special Campaign for Digital Onboarding and Training for \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Farmers  
(2) Students  
(3) Differently abled person  
(4) Street vendors  
(5) All of the above

345. Which of the following is India's First Satellite, Ballistic Missile Tracking Ship?

- (1) INS Vikram  
(2) INS Dhruv  
(3) INS Vishal  
(4) INS Swathi  
(5) INS Kalki

346. IIT Madras has created history for becoming the best ranking Indian institute for the \_\_\_\_\_ time in a row as per the

National Institutional Ranking Framework.

- (1) Third  
(2) Fourth  
(3) Fifth  
(4) Sixth  
(5) Seventh

347. Najib Mikati has recently appointed as the Prime Minister of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Oman  
(2) Yemen  
(3) Lebanon  
(4) Qatar  
(5) Syria

348. Bhupendra Patel is the new Chief Minister of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Gujarat  
(2) Bihar

- (3) Madhya Pradesh  
(4) Odisha  
(5) Goa

349. Who won the Men's Singles title at US Open 2021?

- (1) Novak Djokovic  
(2) Daniil Medvedev  
(3) Stan Wawrinka  
(4) Alexander Zverev  
(5) Bjorn Borg

350. The UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize established in 1989, with the support of the Government of the \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Myanmar  
(2) China  
(3) Japan  
(4) South Korea  
(5) Thailand

#### Answer keys

341. 1	342. 2	343. 2	344. 4	345. 2
346. 1	347. 3	348. 1	349. 2	350. 4

351. Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh  
(2) Noida, Uttar Pradesh  
(3) Guwahati, Assam  
(4) Cuttack, Odisha  
(5) Panaji, Goa

352. Recently, 'One Gram Panchayat-One DIGI-Pay Sakhi' has launched by which of the following union territory?

- (1) Jammu and Kashmir  
(2) Chandigarh  
(3) Puducherry  
(4) Andaman & Nicobar  
(5) Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu

353. Union cabinet has cleared a \_\_\_\_\_ production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for auto, auto-components and drone industries to ensure higher manufacturing output.

- (1) Rs 30,058 crore  
(2) Rs 56,058 crore  
(3) Rs 123,058 crore  
(4) Rs 5,058 crore  
(5) Rs. 26,058 crore

354. What is the name of the initiative, launched by NITI Aayog to promote zero-pollution delivery vehicles by working with consumers and industry?

- (1) Soorya  
(2) Samast

- (3) Sancheep  
(4) Shoonya  
(5) Shikhar

355. Which of the following states got its first and India's 61st Software Technology Park of India?

- (1) Uttar Pradesh  
(2) Goa  
(3) Gujarat  
(4) Tripura  
(5) Nagaland

356. The 21st SCO meeting was held at Dushanbe, the capital city of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Kazakhstan  
(2) Uzbekistan  
(3) Mongolia  
(4) Tajikistan  
(5) Iran

357. Sirarakhong Chilli & Tamenglong Orange which received the GI tag is associated with which of the following states?

- (1) Manipur  
(2) Bihar  
(3) Gujarat  
(4) Rajasthan  
(5) Kerala

358. India's first indigenous luxury cruise liner is launched by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Indian Navy  
(2) Ministry of Tourism  
(3) IRCTC  
(4) Air India  
(5) TRIFED

359. India's largest open air fernery that houses various threatened and rare species of ferns is located in which of the following states?

- (1) Himachal Pradesh  
(2) Sikkim  
(3) Meghalaya  
(4) Uttarakhand  
(5) Nagaland

360. Recently, Niti Aayog and which of the following organisations launched the 'Space Challenge' for school students?

- (1) ISRO  
(2) CBSE  
(3) CSIR  
(4) IIT- Delhi  
(5) Both (1) and (2)

361. Who is the author of book 'The Three Khans: And the Emergence of New India'?

- (1) Kaveree Bamzai  
(2) Ravish Kumar  
(3) Barkha Dutt  
(4) Shekhar Gupta  
(5) Neha Dixit

362. Consider the correct statements about Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana:-

- A. The government has launched Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana to empower youth by way of providing entry-level training in industry-relevant skills through Railway training institutes.  
B. The training will be provided to 50,000 candidates over a period of three years. Initially, the training will be provided to 1000 candidates.  
C. The program was launched by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

- (1) A only  
(2) B only  
(3) B and C only  
(4) A and B only  
(5) All of the above

363. Raja Rithvik R became the \_\_\_\_\_ Grandmaster of India.

- (1) 40th  
(2) 39th  
(3) 50th  
(4) 60th  
(5) 70th

364. Which state declared 'Katley' as the State fish?

- (1) Punjab  
(2) Gujarat  
(3) Odisha  
(4) Goa  
(5) Sikkim

365. 'Translating Myself and Others' is a book on translation related to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Salman Rushdie  
(2) Anita Desai  
(3) Ruskin Bond  
(4) Amit Tripathi  
(5) Jhumpa Lahiri

366. The 6th edition of SCO Exercise Peaceful Mission 2021 was held in:

- (1) China  
(2) Kyrgyzstan  
(3) Russia  
(4) India  
(5) Uzbekistan

#### Answer keys

351. 1    352. 1    353. 5    354. 4    355. 5

356. 4    357. 1    358. 3    359. 4    360. 5

367. What is India's Rank in Global Innovation Index (GII) 2021?

- (1) 48th
- (2) 38th
- (3) 27th
- (4) 46th
- (5) 12<sup>th</sup>

368. Which of the following states stood first in state food safety index based on 2020-21 ranking for their impressive performance?

- (1) Kerala
- (2) Tamil Nadu
- (3) Gujarat
- (4) Uttar Pradesh
- (5) Bihar

369. President Kovind recently conferred National Florence Nightingale Award 2020 to:

- (1) Brig S V Saraswati
- (2) Arundathi Roy
- (3) Mary Kom
- (4) Seema Rao
- (5) Mira Bai Chanu

370. Ek Pahal, recently in news is related to:

- (1) Tele-Medicine
- (2) Tele-Law
- (3) Online Education
- (4) E-Counselling
- (5) None of the above

#### Answer keys

361. 1	362. 5	363. 5	364. 5	365. 5
366. 3	367. 4	368. 3	369. 1	370. 2

371. International Sign Language day is celebrated on:

- (1) 20 September
- (2) 23 September
- (3) 28 September
- (4) 24 September
- (5) 9 September

372. Changemaker Award is part of the Goalkeepers Global Goals award instituted by:

- (1) Durban Declaration and Programme of Action (DDPA)
- (2) United Nations General Assembly
- (3) Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
- (4) Obama Foundation
- (5) UNEP

373. Which of the following entertainment companies have recently merged with Sony?

- (1) Zee
- (2) STAR
- (3) Colors
- (4) Amazon prime
- (5) Voot

374. According to WHO's revised Air Quality Guidelines recommended annual standard of PM 2.5 concentration has been decreased from 10 micrograms per cubic metre to \_\_\_\_\_ micrograms per cubic metre.

- (1) 3
- (2) 8
- (3) 2.5
- (4) 7.6
- (5) 5

375. Recently, which of the following nations have launched the "Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD)"?

- (1) India and UK
- (2) UK and USA
- (3) USA and India
- (4) USA and Australia
- (5) Australia and China

376. \_\_\_\_\_ was adjudged first state in the country in installation of off-grid solar pumps under PM-KUSUM.

- (1) Bihar
- (2) Haryana
- (3) Gujarat
- (4) Goa
- (5) Kerala

377. Star Indian cueist Pankaj Advani grabbed his \_\_\_\_\_ world title in Doha.

- (1) 50th
- (2) 24th
- (3) 38th
- (4) 54th
- (5) 88th

378. The Education Ministry formed a 12-member National Steering Committee for developing National Curriculum Frameworks. The committee will be chaired by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) K Kasturirangan
- (2) Bimal Jalan
- (3) K. Shivan
- (4) Amit Shah
- (5) Ramesh Pokriyal

379. Which of the following has become the first Space-tech startup to formally enter into agreement with ISRO?

- (1) Skyroot Aerospace
- (2) Agnikul.
- (3) Pixxel.
- (4) Dhruva Space.
- (5) Bellatrix Aerospace.

380. Kamla Bhasin passed away recently. She was an eminent

- (1) film director
- (2) women's rights activist

- (3) Kathak dancer
- (4) oncologist
- (5) environmental activist

#### Answer keys

371. 2    372. 3    373. 1    374. 5    375. 3  
376. 2    377. 2    378. 1    379. 1    380. 2

381. Which of the following city in India topped 'Top Emerging Ecosystems' ranking for the second year in a row on the Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2021 ?

- (1) Mumbai
- (2) New Delhi
- (3) Hyderabad
- (4) Chennai
- (5) Bengaluru

382. Antyodaya Diwas is observed every year on September 25 in the honour of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Mahatma Gandhi
- (2) Indira Gandhi
- (3) Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya
- (4) Syama Prasad Mukherjee
- (5) Nanaji Deshmukh

383. SAUBHAGYA- Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana completed four years of successful implementation recently. How many households have been electrified since the launch of SAUBHAGYA(figures till March 31,2021)?

- (1) 2.82 crore
- (2) 1.58 crore
- (3) 2.42 crore
- (4) 3.35 crore
- (5) 4.52 crore

384. Where was the air show titled "Give Wings to your Dreams" held recently as part of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'?

- (1) Chandigarh
- (2) Jaisalmer
- (3) Srinagar
- (4) Barmer
- (5) Pune

385. Where was the maiden National Cooperative Conference held recently?

- (1) Gujarat
- (2) New Delhi
- (3) Lucknow
- (4) Bhopal
- (5) Kolkata

386. The deep depression over the Bay of Bengal intensified into cyclone 'Gulab' on 26th September. Cyclone Gulab was named by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Oman
- (2) Yemen

- (3) India
- (4) Bangladesh
- (5) Pakistan

387. Who is the author of the book ' Battle of Rezang La' , that deals with 1962 Indo-China war?

- (1) Kulpreet Yadav
- (2) Chetan Bhagat
- (3) Amrita Pritam
- (4) Jhumpa Lahiri
- (5) Khushwant Singh

388. The Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology (SSB) is a science award in India given annually by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) ICAR
- (2) AIIMS
- (3) CSIR
- (4) DRDO
- (5) ISRO

389. Which edition of the 'Swachh Survekshan 2022' was released recently?

- (1) 10
- (2) 11
- (3) 12
- (4) 7
- (5) 8

390. India successfully test-fired a new version of the Akash missile from the integrated test range at Chandipur, Odisha. What is the new missile system called?

- (1) Akash Prime
- (2) Akash Supreme
- (3) Akash Uno
- (4) Akash First
- (5) Akash Power

#### Answer keys

381. 1    382. 3    383. 1    384. 3    385. 2  
386. 5    387. 1    388. 3    389. 4    390. 1

391. Who among the following launched 'Amul Honey'-a a product of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation under active cooperation with the National Bee Board?

- (1) Narendra Singh Tomar
- (2) Narendra Modi
- (3) Amit Shah
- (4) Piyush Goyal
- (5) Anurag Thaku

392. Which of the following ministry has announced the formation of a three-member committee to review the criteria for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) reservations?

- (1) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

- (2) Ministry of Corporate Affairs  
(3) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
(4) Ministry of Home affairs  
(5) Ministry of Finance

393. According to a recent report, India will have \_\_\_\_\_ nuclear reactors by 2024.

- (1) 5  
(2) 6  
(3) 7  
(4) 8  
(5) 9

394. Who recently inaugurated the Earth Station of Doordarshan Kendra in Gorakhpur along with three FM stations?

- (1) Anurag Singh Thakur  
(2) Nitin Gadkari  
(3) Smriti Irani  
(4) Amit Shah  
(5) None of the above

395. Government has cleared sale of its \_\_\_\_\_ stake in Central Electronics Limited (CEL), a state-owned engineering company, to Nandal Finance and Leasing Private Limited for ' 210 crore.

- (1) 10 per cent  
(2) 40 per cent  
(3) 100 per cent  
(4) 60 per cent  
(5) 50 per cent

396. Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar has launched the first indigenous server. What is its name?

- (1) Shoonya  
(2) Shakti  
(3) Agni  
(4) Param  
(5) Rudra

397. Which of the following launched the 'Certification Course on Home Energy Audit' Initiative?

- (1) Bureau of Energy Efficiency  
(2) Rural Electrification Corporation  
(3) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
(4) International Organization for Standardization  
(5) None of the above

398. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Rs 9,800-crore Saryu Nahar National Project in which state?

- (1) Bihar  
(2) Uttar Pradesh  
(3) Haryana  
(4) Gujarat  
(5) Odisha

399. NCW Launches a Pan-India Capacity Building Programme 'She is a Changemaker' for Women in which of the following Fields?

- (1) Media  
(2) Sports  
(3) Civil Service  
(4) Politics  
(5) Defense service

400. Indian badminton ace P V Sindhu won a \_\_\_\_\_ medal at the BWF World Tour Finals recently.

- (1) Gold  
(2) Silver  
(3) Bronze  
(4) Silver and Gold  
(5) Bronze and Silver

### Answer keys

391. 1	392. 1	393. 5	394. 1	395. 3
396. 5	397. 1	398. 2	399. 4	400. 2

401. Argentina lifted the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup trophy after by defeating\_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Spain  
(2) China  
(3) Germany  
(4) India  
(5) France

402. Which of the following nations have joined the US-led diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing over concerns about human rights in China?

- (1) UK, Canada, Australia  
(2) Italy, Japan, India  
(3) UK, Canada, India  
(4) India, Canada, Australia  
(5) Germany, Mongolia, Japan

403. Indian weightlifter Jhilli Dalabehera has won the gold medal in the women's 49kg category at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships . She hails from which state?

- (1) Bihar  
(2) Odisha  
(3) Jharkhand  
(4) Chattisgarh  
(5) West Bengal

404. Norway's Magnus Carlsen claimed his fifth world chess crown in championship held in which city?

- (1) London  
(2) Dubai  
(3) Moscow  
(4) New York  
(5) Madrid

405. Red Bull's Max Verstappen took his first Formula One title by winning the season-ending Grand Prix at \_\_\_\_\_ recently.

- (1) Monaco
- (2) Abu Dhabi
- (3) Qatar
- (4) Saudi Arabia
- (5) Brazil

406. Recently, Emma Raducanu is selected as the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year for 2021. She is associated with which of the following sport?

- (1) Badminton
- (2) Squash
- (3) Snooker
- (4) Tennis
- (5) Cricket

407. The state-owned IREDA has signed a pact with Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd. Where is the Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited located?

- (1) Dibrugarh, Assam
- (2) Ukhrul, Manipur
- (3) Kolasib, Mizoram
- (4) Unakoti, Tripura
- (5) Kohima, Nagaland

408. Which of the following section will get a benefit from the SBI - Adani Capital sign Pact?

- (1) Farmers
- (2) Traders
- (3) Women
- (4) Students
- (5) All of the above

409. India and Russia has formalized the agreement on the Program for Military Technical Cooperation from:-

- (1) 2021 - 2031
- (2) 2022 - 2024
- (3) 2021 - 2025
- (4) 2023 - 2025
- (5) 2021 - 2040

410. Which of the following digital payment system has partnered with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer its startup toolkit?

- (1) Paytm
- (2) Google Pay
- (3) Phone Pe
- (4) Mobi Wiki
- (5) PayPal

411. Which of the following has launched the 'e-Sawari India E-Bus Coalition' in partnership with CESL and World Resources Institute India?

- (1) Ministry of Finance
- (2) NITI Aayog
- (3) Highway Authority of India
- (4) Bharat Petroleum Limited
- (5) None of the above

412. ISRO has announced a collaboration with which of the following to strengthen the R&D of NavIC messaging service?

- (1) Oppo
- (2) Realme
- (3) Nokia
- (4) Samsung
- (5) Mi

413. The Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) has initiated the first-ever Development of the 'Indian Footwear Sizing system' in consultation with \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Central Institute of Plastics Engineering and Technology
- (2) Central Institute of Psychiatry
- (3) Centre for Excellence in Basic Sciences
- (4) Central Institute of Technology
- (5) Central Leather Research Institute

414. Ministry of Defence has entered into an MoU with the Indian Institute of Teacher Education. Where is the Indian Institute of Teacher Education located?

- (1) Lucknow
- (2) Delhi
- (3) Mumbai
- (4) Gandhinagar
- (5) Chennai

415. Inland Waterway Authority of India, Noida has signed a MoU with which institute for stabilization of the navigation channel along with River Ganga?

- (1) IIT Bombay
- (2) IIT Roorkee
- (3) IIT Kanpur
- (4) IIT Madras
- (5) IIT Guwahati

416. Which of the following agency has entered an LoU with the Karnataka's Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports?

- (1) UNDP
- (2) UNEP
- (3) UNICEF
- (4) ICC
- (5) UNDISD

#### Answer keys

401. 3	402. 1	403. 2	404. 2	405. 2
406. 4	407. 1	408. 1	409. 1	410. 1

417. 'Letter of Intent' has been recently signed between India and \_\_\_\_\_ for enhanced cooperation in the Postal Sector.

- (1) Vietnam
- (2) Bangladesh
- (3) Myanmar
- (4) Sri Lanka
- (5) China

418. The Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin(PMAY-G) has been extended till

- (1) December 2022
- (2) March 2023
- (3) March 2024
- (4) December 2024
- (5) May 2023

419. Which of the following State/ UT police force has recently launched an e-learning platform, 'Unnati'?

- (1) New Delhi
- (2) Lakshadweep
- (3) Jammu and Kashmir
- (4) Punjab
- (5) Ladakh

420. Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is a national mission for financial inclusion launched in which year?

- (1) 2019
- (2) 2016
- (3) 2015
- (4) 2014
- (5) 2020

#### Answer keys

411. 2    412. 1    413. 5    414. 4    415. 2  
416. 1    417. 1    418. 3    419. 1    420. 4

421. The Union Cabinet has approved an incentive scheme worth ' 1,300 crore to promote \_\_\_\_\_ Debit Cards and low-value (up to '2,000)\_\_\_\_\_transactions (person to merchants-P2M) in the country.

- (1) RuPay and BHIM-UPI
- (2) Visa and Google pay
- (3) American Express and Amazon pay
- (4) MasterCard and BHIM-UPI
- (5) Maestro and Google pay

422. As on December 2021, Which state has the highest number of beneficiaries under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Rojgar Yojana?

- (1) Kerala
- (2) Gujarat
- (3) Tamil Nadu
- (4) Karnataka
- (5) Maharashtra

423. The ULIP hackathon ' LogiXtics has been organised by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Atal Innovation Mission
- (2) NICDC Logistics Data Bank Services Limited (NLDSL)
- (3) National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC)
- (4) Both 2 and 3
- (5) Integrated Command and Control Center

424. Which of the following defence institute has appointed Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Mago as the new commandant?

- (1) Rashtriya Indian Military College, Dehradun
- (2) Army Cadet College , Dehradun
- (3) Indian Military Academy, Dehradun
- (4) National Defence Academy, Pune
- (5) National Defence College, New Delhi

425. Which of the following biennial national award was constituted by Retired ICAR Employees Association (RICAREA) and Nuziveedu Seeds Limited?

- (1) Dr. M S Swaminathan Award
- (2) Jawaharlal Nehru Award
- (3) Lal Bahadur Shastri Award
- (4) Indira Gandhi National Award
- (5) Dr. Varghese Kurian Award

426. Alka Upadhyaya has been appointed chairperson of which institution?

- (1) DRDO
- (2) ISRO
- (3) National Highways Authority of India
- (4) State Bank of India
- (5) LIC of India

427. Recently, FICCI has appointed Sanjiv Mehta as its President. Which of the following designation is also associated with Sanjiv Mehta?

- (1) Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Unilever Limited
- (2) Chairman and Managing Director of Jaguar and Company Limited
- (3) Chairman and Managing Director of InterGlobe Enterprises Limited
- (4) Chairman and Managing Director of Anand Automotive Limited
- (5) Chairman and Managing Director of Lifestyle International Limited

428. Catherine Russell is appointed as the next chief of which UN Agency?

- (1) UNESCO
- (2) UNDP
- (3) UNEP
- (4) UNICEF
- (5) UNIDO

429. Recently, H. E. Olaf Scholz was elected as Federal Chancellor of \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) France
- (2) Spain
- (3) Germany
- (4) Greece
- (5) Italy

430. Which of the following Indian recently joined to Board of Advisers for International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance?

- (1) T Swaminathan
- (2) RK Trivedi
- (3) Sunil Arora
- (4) RVS Peri Sastri
- (5) TN Seshan.

### Answer keys

421. 1    422. 5    423. 1    424. 5    425. 1  
426. 3    427. 1    428. 4    429. 3    430. 3

431. Who is the present head of the National Cricket Academy, 2021?

- (1) Rahul Dravid
- (2) VVS Laxman
- (3) Virendra Sehwag
- (4) Sourav Ganguly
- (5) Sachin Tendulkar

432. Who has been appointed as the Director General of Software Technology Parks of India?

- (1) Aswant Sinha
- (2) Amit Pankal
- (3) Arvind Kumar
- (4) Arun Kumar
- (5) Aswin Kumar

433. Who among the following is recently elected as the new president of Indian Newspaper Society?

- (1) L. Adimoolam
- (2) Mohit Jain
- (3) K. Raja Prasad Reddy
- (4) Tanmay Maheshwari
- (5) Rakesh Sharma

434. Plaza Premium Group has recently selected which of the following companies to transform airport hospitality experience?

- (1) Reliance group
- (2) IFFCO
- (3) TCS
- (4) Jaypee group
- (5) None of the above

435. Lionel Messi won the men's Ballon d'Or for a record-extending \_\_\_\_\_ time during the 65th Ballon d'Or ceremony.

- (1) 10th
- (2) 4th

- (3) 5th
- (4) 8th
- (5) 7th

436. Who among the following has been crowned as the woman of the year by World Athletics?

- (1) Anju Bobby George
- (2) P.T. Usha
- (3) Seema Punia
- (4) Neelam Jaswant Singh
- (5) Chitra Soman

437. Who is the author of 'A biography of Dadabhai Naoroji'?

- (1) Dinyar Patel
- (2) Amitav Ghosh
- (3) T. Arjun Das
- (4) Vikram Seth
- (5) Vinay Ghosh

438. Recently, Viktor Axelsen has named the male player of the year by Badminton World Federation. Viktor Axelsen is a native of :

- (1) Australia
- (2) Denmark
- (3) Germany
- (4) Italy
- (5) Spain

439. The American Mathematical Society has unanimously nominated esteemed Indian-American mathematician Nikhil Srivastava for the first Ciprian Foias Prize in which of the following mathematical theory?

- (1) Operator Theory
- (2) Automata theory
- (3) Algebraic K-theory
- (4) Information theory
- (5) Perturbation theory

440. Damodar Mauzo won the 57th Jnanpith Award for their contribution to Indian literature. Short story writer and novelist Damodar Mauzo writes in which Indian language?

- (1) Assamese
- (2) Konkani
- (3) Manipuri
- (4) Dogiri
- (5) Odiya

### Answer keys

431. 2    432. 3    433. 2    434. 3    435. 5  
436. 1    437. 1    438. 2    439. 1    440. 2

441. Who was awarded the prestigious Dr. Ida S. Scudder Oration award for 2021?

- (1) Azim Premji
- (2) N. R. Narayana Murthy
- (3) Nandan Nilekani
- (4) S. Gopalakrishnan

(5) S. D. Shibulal

442. Who received the 2021 Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians?

- (1) Shai Evra
- (2) Adam Harper
- (3) Maryna Viazovska
- (4) Neena Gupta
- (5) Yifeng Liu Jack Thorne

443. Who among the following has been awarded the UK's top design honor: the Royal Institute of British Architects Royal Gold Medal for 2022?

- (1) Achyut Kanvinde
- (2) Brinda Somaya
- (3) B. V. Doshi
- (4) Charles Correa
- (5) Hafeez Contractor

444. Who was named the SJFI Sportsman of the Year award 2021?

- (1) Sunil Gavaskar
- (2) Neeraj Chopra
- (3) Sumit Antil
- (4) Pramod Bhagat
- (5) A. Vinod

445. Some statements about 'World Inequality Report 2022' are given below. Choose the correct statements from the following:- A. India is among the most unequal countries in the world, with rising poverty and an 'affluent elite.' B. The top 10% and top 1% in India hold 57% and 22% of the total national income respectively. C. The share of female labour income share in India is significantly lower than the average in Asia

- (1) A only
- (2) B & C only
- (3) A & C only
- (4) A & B Only
- (5) All of the above

446. According to the Asia Power Index 2021. Which of the following is the most powerful Asian nation?

- (1) China
- (2) India
- (3) Thailand
- (4) Myanmar
- (5) South Korea

447. Which country topped the Global Health Security Index 2021?

- (1) Finland
- (2) USA
- (3) Canada
- (4) Thailand
- (5) Australia

448. According to the IMD World Talent Ranking Report 2021, which of the following BRICS nation was ranked behind India?

- (1) Brazil
- (2) China
- (3) Russia
- (4) South Africa
- (5) Switzerland

449. According to the reports of the data analytics company YouGov, who among the following personalities is listed the world's most admired women?

- (1) Queen Elizabeth II
- (2) Michelle Obama
- (3) Angelina Jolie
- (4) Oprah Winfrey
- (5) Malala Yousafzai

450. India is \_\_\_\_\_ most affected country by spam calls in 2021 as per Truecaller.

- (1) First
- (2) Ninth
- (3) Fourth
- (4) Fifth
- (5) Sixth

#### Answer keys

441. 1	442. 4	443. 3	444. 2	445. 5
446. 1	447. 2	448. 1	449. 2	450. 3

451. Which of the following day is marked as the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery?

- (1) December 1
- (2) December 2
- (3) December 4
- (4) December 8
- (5) December 7

452. International Day of Persons with Disabilities is a global observance celebrated every year on:-

- (1) December 6
- (2) December 5
- (3) December 3
- (4) December 8
- (5) December 7

453. United Nations General Assembly decided to keep December 4 as International Day of Banks and it was celebrated for the first time in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 2021
- (2) 2020
- (3) 2018
- (4) 2017
- (5) 2015

454. When is National Energy Conservation Day observed?

- (1) 7th November
- (2) 14th December
- (3) 5th July
- (4) 8th March
- (5) 11th June

455. Which of the following day is observed as the International Human Solidarity Day?

- (1) December 21
- (2) December 25
- (3) December 28
- (4) December 20
- (5) December 19

456. Which of the following Institution has recently organised a knowledge-sharing workshop on Natural Farming?

- (1) NITI Aayog
- (2) National Horticulture Board
- (3) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
- (4) Ministry of commerce and industry
- (5) National Centre of Organic Farming

457. Which of the following countries are part of the G20 Troika?

- (1) Indonesia, Italy, and India
- (2) Indonesia, Israel, and India
- (3) Indonesia, Israel, and Australia
- (4) Singapore, Israel, and India
- (5) Italy, Israel, and India

458. EAM S Jaishankar addressed which edition of the Indian Ocean Conference in Abu Dhabi?

- (1) 5th
- (2) 4th
- (3) 2nd
- (4) 7th
- (5) 3<sup>rd</sup>

459. Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman participated virtually in the G20 International Seminar hosted under the presidency of:-

- (1) Italy
- (2) China
- (3) Indonesia
- (4) Japan
- (5) Australia

460. 5th Indian Ocean Conference was recently held in \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Abu Dhabi
- (2) Colombo
- (3) Tehran
- (4) Lahore
- (5) Dubai

### Answer keys

- |        |        |        |        |        |
|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 451. 2 | 452. 3 | 453. 2 | 454. 2 | 455. 4 |
| 456. 1 | 457. 1 | 458. 1 | 459. 3 | 460. 1 |

461. Which edition of the India International Science festival commences in Panaji, Goa?

- (1) 10th
- (2) 11th
- (3) 7th
- (4) 4th
- (5) 6th

462. Which one of the following is the theme for All India Mayors' Conference 2021?

- (1) New Urban India.
- (2) Valuing our Communities and Cities.
- (3) Better City, Better life.
- (4) Adapting Cities for Climate Resilience.
- (5) Accelerating urban action for a carbon-free world.

463. Cambridge Dictionary has recently named which among the following as the Word of the Year 2021?

- (1) perseverance
- (2) clarity
- (3) vision
- (4) NFT
- (5) mask

464. Which of the following space agency has recently launched its first-ever laser communications system?

- (1) ISRO
- (2) NASA
- (3) JAXA
- (4) ESA
- (5) Roscosmos

465. Which of the following telecom operator is currently spearheading the 'O-RAN Alliance' initiatives in India to build 5G solutions?

- (1) Airtel
- (2) BSNL
- (3) MTNL
- (4) Reliance Jio
- (5) Vodafone Idea

466. The Central government has approved a plan to produce over five lakh AK-203 assault rifles at Korwa in Uttar Pradesh's Amethi. Which of the following nation is partnered with India to implement this project?

- (1) Japan
- (2) USA
- (3) Russia
- (4) Israel
- (5) UAE

467. Which edition of Exercise EKVURIN between India and Maldives will be conducted at Kadhdhoo Island?

- (1) 12th
- (2) 11th
- (3) 13th
- (4) 14th
- (5) 16th

468. Which of the following company built the four large survey vessels - 'Sandhayak'?

- (1) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers, Kolkata
- (2) Hooghly Dock & Port Engineers Limited Howrah, Kolkata
- (3) Bharati Shipyard Limited, Mumbai
- (4) MOC Shipyards Private Limited, Goa
- (5) Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam

469. Tata Steel has deployed a ship powered by biofuel for transportation of its imported raw material. The recent voyage involved a cargo of 1,60,000 tonnes of coal transported from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Australia to Odisha
- (2) New Zealand to Kolkata
- (3) Japan to Odisha
- (4) China to Kolkata
- (5) Australia to Kolkata

470. Which of the following regional grouping is associated with PANEX-21 exercise?

- (1) BIMSTEC
- (2) SAARC
- (3) ASEAN
- (4) SCO
- (5) BRICS

#### Answer keys

461. 3    462. 1    463. 1    464. 2    465. 1

466. 3    467. 2    468. 1    469. 1    470. 1

471. DRDO and IAF flight-tested the indigenously designed and developed Helicopter launched Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile. The weapon can neutralize targets in a range up to \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) 8 km
- (2) 10 km
- (3) 12 km
- (4) 15 km
- (5) 20 km

472. Recently India test-fired the air version of \_\_\_\_\_ and hence clearing the system for its serial production.

- (1) BrahMos
- (2) Pinaka
- (3) Agni-P
- (4) Dhanush
- (5) Sagarika

473. A long-range Supersonic Missile Assisted Torpedo (SMART) was successfully test fired off Balasore coast in Odisha. The SMART weapon system is developed by which country?

- (1) Russia
- (2) France
- (3) USA
- (4) Israel
- (5) India

474. Which premier agency has recently tested its Solid Fueled Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology for the fourth time with a demonstration flight?

- (1) BARC
- (2) DRDO
- (3) ISRO
- (4) NASA
- (5) ICAR

475. The CADS-500 is used for precise delivery of payload \_\_\_\_\_ at predetermined location by making use of manoeuvrable capabilities of Ram Air Parachute (RAP).

- (1) upto 500 kg
- (2) upto 500 g
- (3) upto 50 kg
- (4) more 500 kg
- (5) None of the above

476. Recently, India successfully test-fired new generation ballistic missile 'Agni-P'. What does 'P' stand for in Agni-P ?

- (1) Pro
- (2) Penta
- (3) Prime
- (4) Paleo
- (5) Posterior

477. Agni-5 is capable of striking targets at ranges up to \_\_\_\_\_ with a \_\_\_\_\_ degree of accuracy.

- (1) 5,000 kilometres ; low
- (2) 500 kilometres ; low
- (3) 500 kilometres ; high
- (4) 5,000 kilometres ; high
- (5) 50 kilometres ; very high

478. Which of the following nation is the current chair of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium?

- (1) India
- (2) Japan
- (3) Italy
- (4) Indonesia
- (5) France

479. Who is the author of the book 'Democracy, Politics, and Governance'?

- (1) A. Surya Prakash
- (2) Sandip Sen

- (3) Milan Vaishnav
- (4) Rasheed Kidwai
- (5) M. Venkaiah Naidu

480. B.K. Madhur's autobiography 'At Home In The Universe' released recently. He is considered as the Pioneer of \_\_\_\_\_ in India.

- (1) Housing Finance
- (2) Rural Credit
- (3) Transport Credit
- (4) Multi-level Marketing
- (5) Industrial Credit

#### Answer keys

471. 2    472. 1    473. 5    474. 2    475. 1  
476. 3    477. 4    478. 5    479. 1    480. 1

481. Who is the author of book - 'Rewinding of First 25 years of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology'?

- (1) S S Oberoi
- (2) Sam Pitroda
- (3) Ashwini Vaishnav
- (4) Tushar Mehta
- (5) Rajeev Chandrasekhar

482. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has recently imposed a penalty of Rs 202 crore on \_\_\_\_\_ and suspended its approval for the e-tailer's deal with Future Coupons, seeking more information.

- (1) Myntra
- (2) Flipkart
- (3) Olx
- (4) e-bay
- (5) Amazon

483. Telugu lyricist Sirivennela Seetharama Sastry passed away recently. Which of the following honour was given in 2019 for his contribution to the film world and literature?

- (1) Padma Shri
- (2) Padma Bhushan
- (3) Padma Vibhushan
- (4) Bharat Ratna
- (5) None of the above

484. Vinod Dua recently passed away at 67. He was associated with which field?

- (1) Politics
- (2) Architecture
- (3) Journalism
- (4) Administrator
- (5) None of the above

485. Eileen Ash, the oldest test cricketer passed away recently. For which of the following national cricket team Eileen Ash play?

- (1) Australia
- (2) England

- (3) New Zealand
- (4) South Africa
- (5) West Indies

486. Which state government has roped in Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt as the brand ambassador for the '50 Years of Arunachal Pradesh' celebration?

- (1) Assam
- (2) Arunachal Pradesh
- (3) Manipur
- (4) Tripura
- (5) Mizoram

487. Aung San Suu Kyi was sentenced to four years imprisonment recently. She is a prominent civilian leader who belongs to ?

- (1) Bhutan
- (2) China
- (3) Myanmar
- (4) Thailand
- (5) Vietnam

488. Who among the following personality was SpaceX's first flight surgeon?

- (1) Anil Menon
- (2) Raja Jon Vurputoor Chari
- (3) Sunita Williams
- (4) Rakesh Menon
- (5) Akhil Menon

489. India's Harnaaz Sandhu became Miss Universe 2021, bringing the crown home after \_\_\_\_\_ years.

- (1) 18
- (2) 19
- (3) 20
- (4) 21
- (5) 22

490. Who among the following has been named as the Time magazine's "Person of the Year" for 2021?

- (1) Jeff Bezos
- (2) Bill Gates
- (3) Elon Musk
- (4) Ratan Tata
- (5) Mukesh Ambani

#### Answer keys

481. 1    482. 5    483. 1    484. 3    485. 2  
486. 2    487. 3    488. 1    489. 4    490. 3

491. Which one of the following has launched a new savings insurance policy called Dhan Rekha?

- (1) New India Assurance
- (2) National Insurance Company
- (3) Life Insurance Corporation
- (4) Oriental Insurance Company
- (5) United India Insurance

492. Tamil Nadu declares 5,151 hectares of Kaliveli in Villupuram as bird sanctuary. kaliveli is famous for:-

- (1) Swamp/ Wetlands
- (2) Evergreen Forest
- (3) Grasslands
- (4) Semi-Arid Forest
- (5) None of the above

493. Which of the following Indian renewable energy company has signed world's largest green power purchase agreement with Solar Energy Corporation of India?

- (1) Synergy Green Industries Ltd.
- (2) Ujaas Energy Limited.
- (3) Surana Solar Limited.
- (4) Adani Green Energy Ltd
- (5) Reliance Power Ltd

494. Which of the following company will develop electric vehicles (EV) with BMW's motorcycle brand in India, joining a host of Indian automakers that have sought to expand their clean mobility offering?

- (1) Maruti Suzuki
- (2) Hyundai India
- (3) Tata Motors
- (4) Mahindra & Mahindra
- (5) Honda Cars

495. Which state's Police Department has launched the 'Call Your Cop' Mobile Application To Curb Violence?

- (1) Assam
- (2) Nagaland
- (3) Arunachal Pradesh
- (4) Sikkim
- (5) Uttarakhand

496. NITI Aayog along with which of the following announced the launch of 'Convoke 2021-22'?

- (1) Bharti foundation
- (2) Adani foundation
- (3) TATA foundation
- (4) Reliance foundation
- (5) Piramal foundation

497. Recently, India, Germany Development Bank sign 442.26 million loan pact for \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Surat Smart city Project
- (2) Varanasi Metro Rail Project
- (3) Varanasi Smart city Project
- (4) Surat Metro Rail Project
- (5) Ahemdabad Metro Rail Project

498. Which of the following statement is True about the SAHAY Scheme ?

(1) Jharkhand government has launched a new scheme to promote savings among youths of the worst Maoist-hit districts .

(2) Chattisgarh government has launched a new scheme to promote sports among youths of the worst Maoist-hit districts .

(3) Jharkhand government has launched a new scheme to promote sports among youths of the worst Maoist-hit districts .

(4) Chattisgarh government has launched a new scheme to promote savings among youths of the worst Maoist-hit districts .

(5) Jharkhand government has launched a new scheme to promote sports among youths of the urban area.

499. Which of the following state government has recently announced that the creation of three new districts, namely Tseminyu, Niuland and Chumoukedima?

- (1) Assam
- (2) Nagaland
- (3) Arunachal Pradesh
- (4) Mizoram
- (5) Tripura

500. Which of the following state government has partnered with UNCDF for Mission Shakti Living Lab to empower women economically and drive gender equality?

- (1) Karnataka
- (2) Kerala
- (3) Odisha
- (4) Haryana
- (5) Punjab

#### Answer keys

491. 3	492. 1	493. 4	494. 3	495. 2
496. 1	497. 4	498. 3	499. 2	500. 3

501. Which of the following is the first city in India to establish an International Arbitration and Mediation Centre?

- (1) Chennai
- (2) Mumbai
- (3) Ahmedabad
- (4) Hyderabad
- (5) Kochi

502. Which of the following became the first state to introduce Banadhikar app, a GPS-based mobile application for demarcation of forest land rights?

- (1) Assam
- (2) Nagaland
- (3) Tripura
- (4) Manipur
- (5) Bihar

503. Asian Development Bank has approved a loan of \_\_\_\_\_ for water supply and sanitation projects in Uttarakhand.

- (1) USD 125 million
- (2) USD 625 million
- (3) USD 525 million
- (4) USD 725 million
- (5) USD 925 million

504. Which of the following state has appointed Rishabh Pant as its brand ambassador?

- (1) Uttarakhand
- (2) Uttar Pradesh
- (3) Himachal Pradesh
- (4) Bihar
- (5) Odisha

505. International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has approved a USD 135 million loan to West Bengal recently. IBRD, a lending arm related to which of the following international financial institution?

- (1) International Monetary Fund
- (2) World Bank
- (3) Asian Development Bank
- (4) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- (5) New Development Bank

506. As of December 2021, how many Intangible Cultural Heritage elements from India have now been inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List?

- (1) 10
- (2) 11
- (3) 13
- (4) 14
- (5) 15

507. Chandeeep Singh became the first Indian to ever win a medal at Para World Taekwondo Championships. He belongs to the state/UT of

- (1) Punjab
- (2) Chandigarh
- (3) Uttar Pradesh
- (4) Jammu and Kashmir
- (5) Bihar

508. Name India's first woman psychiatrist, who passed away recently:-

- (1) Sarada Menon
- (2) Sangeeta Menon
- (3) Savitri Menon
- (4) Sindhu Menon
- (5) Sandhya Menon

509. The 'Young Geospatial Scientist' award and a gold medal have been presented every year since 2011 to promising scientists below 35 years of age in memory of:-

- (1) D.R. Khullar
- (2) B.P. Radhakrishna
- (3) Frederick Leslie Ransome

- (4) M. S. Krishnan
- (5) Rachapudi Kamakshi

510. India has the \_\_\_\_\_-largest SaaS ecosystem globally.

- (1) third
- (2) second
- (3) fourth
- (4) fifth
- (5) sixth

#### Answer keys

501. 4      502. 3      503. 1      504. 1      505. 2

506. 4      507. 4      508. 1      509. 5      510. 1

511. The National Green Tribunal allowed the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor Expressway. When was the National Green Tribunal established?

- (1) 2005
- (2) 2014
- (3) 2015
- (4) 2010
- (5) 2002

512. AIBA rebrands itself as IBA with reforms for 2028 Olympics. Where is the headquarters of IBA?

- (1) Switzerland
- (2) Geneva
- (3) Paris
- (4) Brussels
- (5) New Delhi

513. Which of the following is the first country in the world to implement a national working week that is shorter than the global five-day week?

- (1) USA
- (2) UAE
- (3) China
- (4) Japan
- (5) Israel

514. Which of the following war is associated with the Vijay Diwas (December 16)?

- (1) Indo-Pakistani War of 1965
- (2) Indo-Pakistani War of 1971
- (3) Kargil War of 1999
- (4) Sino-Indian War of 1962
- (5) Indo-Pakistani War of 1949

515. Recently, Union Power Minister said that electricity is available for about 22 hours per day in villages and 23.5 hours in cities across the country. Who is the current Union Minister of Power ?

- (1) Pralhad Joshi
- (2) Raj Kumar Singh
- (3) Narayan Tatu Rane
- (4) Sarbananda Sonowal

(5) Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi

516. Center accepted the plea and awarded GI tag to Mithila Makhana. Which of the following act is associated with the labelling of GI?

- (1) Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1950
- (2) Intellectual Property Act, 2011
- (3) Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 2011
- (4) Geographical Indications of Goods Act, 1999
- (5) Intellectual Property Act, 1999

517. Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM) aims at

- (1) eliminating rural poverty through mobilizing poor women into community institutions like Self Help Groups (SHGs)
- (2) strengthening women livelihood base by accessing necessary credit from banks
- (3) eliminating rural poverty through mobilizing poor citizen into community institutions
- (4) Both 1 and 2
- (5) None of the above

518. Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act was passed in \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) 2021

(2) 2020

(3) 2013

(4) 2014

(5) 2017

519. Who inaugurated the reconstructed Ramna Kali temple in Ramna, Dhaka?

- (1) Narendra Modi
- (2) Rajnath Singh
- (3) Amit shah
- (4) S. Jayashankar
- (5) Ram Nath Kovind

520. Who became the first Indian man to take home a silver medal in BWF World Championships ?

- (1) Kidambi Srikanth
- (2) Lakshya Sen
- (3) Prakash Padukone
- (4) HS Prannoy
- (5) Pullela Gopichand

**Answer keys**

511. 4      512. 1      513. 2      514. 2      515. 2

516. 4      517. 4      518. 3      519. 5      520. 1

## Financial/Economy/Banking Awareness Questions

521. Which is the first US-based bank to set up a branch in GIFT-IFSC?

- (1) HDFC Bank
- (2) Axis Bank
- (3) IndusInd Bank
- (4) Citibank
- (5) Canara Bank

522. What is PRISM, that is placed by RBI to strengthen compliance by supervised entities?

- (1) Web-based end-to-end workflow automation system
- (2) Software to manipulate fraud Payment systems
- (3) Application based software for security
- (4) An Antivirus Software
- (5) Automation Software to be implemented in every e-commerce sites

523. Celesta, Imperio and Signet are variants of credit cards of which of the following banks?

- (1) ICICI Bank
- (2) HDFC Bank
- (3) ICICI Bank
- (4) State Bank of India
- (5) Federal Bank

524. Kotak Mahindra Bank to sell what % of stake in Airtel Payments Bank to Bharti Enterprises?

- (1) 8.4%
- (2) 8.5%
- (3) 8.6%
- (4) 8.7%
- (5) 8.8%

525. Which among the following banks has ranked 1 in the MeitY Digital Payment Scorecard for the months of February and March 2021?

- (1) Axis Bank
- (2) HDFC Bank
- (3) Bank of Baroda
- (4) Canara Bank
- (5) State Bank of India

526. Recently India Post has launched 'ePLI' bonds in collaboration with which of the following ministry?

- (1) Ministry of Finance
- (2) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (3) Ministry of Social justice and Empowerment
- (4) Ministry of Electronics & IT
- (5) Ministry of Science and technology

527. SEBI has constituted a four-member high powered advisory committee on settlement orders and compounding of offences. Who is the chairman of this committee?

- (1) Vijay C Daga
- (2) P R Ramesh

- (3) D N Raval
- (4) Sumit Agarwal
- (5) B.Srikrishna

528. Which of the following statement is TRUE about the 'Regulatory Sandbox' in Indian financial sector?

- (1) Regulatory sandbox usually refers to live testing of new products or services in a controlled environment
- (2) RBI has come up with Regulatory Sandbox with the objective to foster responsible innovation in financial services
- (3) Regulatory Sandbox is based on thematic cohorts.
- (4) RBI will soon open the fourth cohort under the Regulatory Sandbox (RS) on prevention and mitigation of financial frauds.
- (5) All of the above

529. Which of the following bank has listed billion-dollar 10-year bond on AFRINEX?

- (1) SBI Bank
- (2) EXIM Bank
- (3) Axis Bank
- (4) Bandhan Bank
- (5) Yes Bank

530. Unity Small Finance Bank, the joint venture between \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ has commenced operations as a small finance bank.

- (1) Centrum Group, Bharatpe
- (2) Bharatpe, Reliance Group
- (3) Centrum Group, Google Pay
- (4) Reliance Group, Centrum Group
- (5) Google Pay, Reliance Group

### Answer keys

521. 4	522. 1	523. 5	524. 3	525. 3
526. 4	527. 1	528. 5	529. 2	530. 1

531. Recently, which of the following banks has announced a bancassurance partnership with Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited?

- (1) Axis Bank
- (2) Federal Bank
- (3) SBI Bank
- (4) ICICI Bank
- (5) HDFC Bank

532. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a \_\_\_\_\_ loan to support India's National Industrial Corridor Development Program (NICDP).

- (1) USD 450 million
- (2) USD 250 million
- (3) USD 950 million
- (4) USD 750 million

(5) USD 650 million

533. ESAF has partnered with NABARD for local economic development in which of the following state?

- (1) Kerala
- (2) Karnataka
- (3) Goa
- (4) Tripura
- (5) Punjab

534. Which of the following regulatory body has given an approval to FPI to acquire debt securities issued by Infrastructure investment Trusts and Real Estate Investment Trusts ?

- (1) SEBI
- (2) RBI
- (3) IRDA
- (4) IFSCA
- (5) CCI

535. India Post Payments Bank has announced a strategic partnership with which of the following insurance company to offer the term and annuity products to customers?

- (1) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- (2) United India Insurance
- (3) Aditya Birla Sun life Insurance
- (4) Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- (5) Aegon Life Insurance

536. The integrated ombudsman scheme recently launched by PM Modi, amalgamated \_\_\_\_\_ ombudsman scheme of RBI.

- (1) 2
- (2) 3
- (3) 4
- (4) 5
- (5) None of the above

537. PM Narendra Modi launched RBI Retail Direct Scheme recently. The scheme allows individual retail investors direct access to buy and sell \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) G-secs
- (2) Treasury bills
- (3) Dated Securities
- (4) SGB
- (5) All of the above

538. Recently SEBI stated that silver held by a silver exchange traded fund (ETF) should be valued as per \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) New York Bullion Market Association
- (2) Paris Bullion Market Association
- (3) Bombay Bullion Market Association
- (4) London Bullion Market Association
- (5) Beijing Bullion Market Association

539. MobiKwik launched RuPay Card in partnership with NPCI and Axis Bank recently. Customers will now be able to get up to \_\_\_\_\_ of their MobiKwik wallet balance mirrored on the MobiKwik RuPay Prepaid Card.

- (1) Rs 1 lakhs
- (2) Rs 1.5 lakhs
- (3) Rs 2.5 lakhs
- (4) Rs 2 lakhs
- (5) Rs 3 lakhs

540. Who among the following launched Merchant Shareholding Program for its merchant partners recently?

- (1) MobiKwik
- (2) PhonePe
- (3) BharatPe
- (4) RazorPay
- (5) Instamojo

### Answer keys

531. 2	532. 2	533. 1	534. 2	535. 1
536. 2	537. 5	538. 4	539. 4	540. 3

541. Reserve Bank of India has directed Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs) to appoint an Internal Ombudsman within 6 months. Deposit-taking NBFCs with more than \_\_\_\_\_ branches need to appoint an internal ombudsman within 6 months.

- (1) 20
- (2) 5
- (3) 10
- (4) 15
- (5) 25

542. The Headquarters of Karnataka Bank is located at \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Bengaluru
- (2) Shivamogga
- (3) Hubli
- (4) Gulbarga
- (5) Mangaluru

543. EASE Reforms Index is released by which of the following organizations?

- (1) Indian Banks' Association
- (2) RBI
- (3) NITI Aayog
- (4) Finance Ministry
- (5) NPCI

544. Which of the following bank has recently announced the launch of an online platform - 'Trade Emerge'?

- (1) SBI Bank
- (2) IDBI Bank
- (3) HDFC Bank
- (4) Axis Bank
- (5) ICICI Bank

545. Which of the following bank has collaborated with Amazon Pay and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer customers an instant payment systems via Unified Payment Interface ?

- (1) Axis Bank
- (2) ICICI Bank
- (3) SBI Bank
- (4) HDFC Bank
- (5) Yes Bank

546. Recently, RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 crore on which bank after the bank had held shares in borrower companies?

- (1) Axis bank
- (2) HDFC bank
- (3) SBI
- (4) Bank of India
- (5) UCO bank

547. RBI recently allowed unrestrained promoter shareholding in the first five years of operations and hiking the same to \_\_\_\_\_ after 15 years from \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 25%,10%
- (2) 23%,12%
- (3) 26%,12%
- (4) 24%,14%
- (5) 26%,15%

548. Recently, Export-Import Bank of India committed loans worth \_\_\_\_\_ for domestic manufacturers of Covid-19 vaccines or related products.

- (1) \$400 million
- (2) \$300 million
- (3) \$200 million
- (4) \$100 million
- (5) \$500 million

549. Which of the following bank has launched India's first credit card made from recycled PVC plastic?

- (1) HSBC Bank
- (2) HDFC Bank
- (3) Axis Bank
- (4) IDBI Bank
- (5) ICICI Bank

550. Which bank has appointed Pinak Chakraborty as its new Chief Information Officer?

- (1) India Post Payment Bank
- (2) NSDL Payment Bank
- (3) Paytm Payment Bank
- (4) Jio Payment Bank
- (5) Airtel Payments Bank

551. RBI has imposed Rs 2 cr penalty on which of the following Payment System Operators for a regulatory violation?

- (1) Tata Communications Payment Solutions and Appnit Technologies Pvt Ltd
- (2) Appnit Technologies Pvt Ltd and American Express Banking Corp.,
- (3) Tata Communications Payment Solutions and American Express Banking Corp.,
- (4) Diners Club International Ltd and Appnit Technologies Pvt Ltd.
- (5) Tata Communications Payment Solutions and Diners Club International Ltd

552. RBI has appointed an advisory committee to advise the administrator of Reliance Capital. Who among the following personalities is not included in the committee?

- (1) Sanjeev Nautiyal
- (2) Srinivasan Varadarajan
- (3) Praveen P Kadle
- (4) Nageswara Rao Y
- (5) None of the above

553. The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs.1 cr on the Union Bank of India for \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Deficiencies in regulatory compliances with regard to its auto loan portfolio.
- (2) Violating certain provisions related to the sale of stressed assets and reporting of frauds.
- (3) Violating prudential norms on the operation of its investment portfolio.
- (4) Violating the directions issued by RBI on cyber security framework.
- (5) None of the above

554. Which of the following authority has recently granted permission to double the WhatsApp user base for the payments service to 40 million?

- (1) NPCL
- (2) SEBI
- (3) RBI
- (4) SIDBI
- (5) NACL

555. Which bank has announced the launch of FIRST Private Infinite, the country's first-ever standalone metal debit card, in partnership with Visa?

- (1) SBI
- (2) PNB
- (3) AXis Bank
- (4) IDFC First
- (5) Federal Bank

#### Answer keys

541. 3	542. 5	543. 1	544. 5	545. 5
546. 3	547. 5	548. 4	549. 1	550. 5

556. Which of the following firms is the manufacturer of RuPay On-the-Go contactless wearable keychain, a product of City Union Bank (CUB) and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for its debit card customers?

- (1) Accel Frontline
- (2) Sessaasai
- (3) Collabera
- (4) Datamatics
- (5) Firstsource

557. What is the maximum amount offered by the digital overdraft (OD) facility of ICICI Bank and Flipkart?

- (1) '35 Lakh
- (2) '45 Lakh
- (3) '25 Lakh
- (4) '65 Lakh
- (5) '75 Lakh

558. RBI has recently enhanced the transaction limit to \_\_\_\_\_ from Rs. 2 Lakh for UPI payments for RBI's Retail Direct scheme & IPO offering applications.

- (1) Rs. 15 Lakh
- (2) Rs. 6 Lakh
- (3) Rs. 5 Lakh
- (4) Rs. 10 Lakh
- (5) Rs. 7 Lakh

559. Which schedule in the RBI Act, 1934 is associated with the Scheduled Banks status?

- (1) First
- (2) Second
- (3) Third
- (4) Fourth
- (5) Sixth

560. Recently, the RBI has given approval to Life Insurance Corporation to increase stake in which bank to nearly 10 percent?

- (1) IDBI Bank
- (2) HDFC Bank
- (3) AXIS Bank
- (4) IndusInd Bank
- (5) YES Bank

#### Answer keys

551. 1      552. 4      553. 2      554. 1      555. 4  
556. 2      557. 3      558. 3      559. 2      560. 4

561. SEBI extended the deadline for implementing the risk management framework for mutual funds till \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) January 1, 2022
- (2) March 1, 2022
- (3) April 1, 2022
- (4) December 1, 2022
- (5) April 1, 2023

562. Which bank has been conferred with two DigiDhan awards instituted by the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology?

- (1) Union bank of India
- (2) Canara Bank
- (3) Karnataka Bank
- (4) UCO Bank
- (5) State Bank of India

563. PNB launched PNB Pride-CRMD module tool, an android-based application for \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) Differently-abled employees
- (2) Senior Citizens
- (3) Differently-abled customers
- (4) Women Entrepreneurs
- (5) None of the above

564. The bob World Wave launched by Bank of Baroda will provide contactless payments of up to \_\_\_\_\_ in all NFC enabled PoS devices.

- (1) Rs 2000
- (2) Rs 5000
- (3) Rs 7000
- (4) Rs 1000
- (5) Rs 10,000

565. Which among the following has launched a plan called Dhan Rekha Plan?

- (1) State Bank of India
- (2) Life Insurance Corporation
- (3) Bank of India
- (4) Axis Bank
- (5) ICICI Prudential

566. Which bank has signed a MoU with Centrum Housing Finance for sourcing and financing housing loan borrowers under co-lending model?

- (1) Bank of India
- (2) State Bank of India
- (3) UCO Bank
- (4) Bank of Baroda
- (5) Reserve Bank of India

567. Which of the following international financial institution has recently approved a \$112 million loan for the establishment of Assam Skill University?

- (1) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- (2) International Monetary Fund
- (3) Asian Development Bank
- (4) New Development Bank
- (5) World Bank

568. \_\_\_\_\_ has entered into an agreement with Serum Institute of India to speed up the vaccination program in partnership with industry including health care providers.

- (1) State bank of India
- (2) Reserve bank of India
- (3) Confederation of Indian Industry

- (4) Bharat Biotin  
(5) Government of India

569. Markets regulator Sebi has introduced the concept of "accredited investors" in the Indian securities market, where an individual can be an accredited investor if his/her net worth is \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Rs 5 crore  
(2) Rs 2.5 crore  
(3) Rs 7.5 crore  
(4) Rs 8 crore  
(5) Rs 4 crore

570. Which digital payment firms has signed an agreement with IT ministry's startup hub to scale deep-tech startups?

- (1) Google Pay  
(2) BharatPe  
(3) PhonePe  
(4) Paytm  
(5) PayPal

#### Answer keys

561. 3      562. 3      563. 1      564. 2      565. 2  
566. 4      567. 3      568. 3      569. 3      570. 4

571. India's economy grew by \_\_\_\_\_ during the April-June quarter of this financial year, as against a 24.4% contraction seen during the same period last year.

- (1) 12.1%  
(2) 20.1%  
(3) 26.1%  
(4) 30.1%  
(5) 10.1%

572. For the full Financial Year 2020 - 2021, India's GDP contracted by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 5.4%  
(2) 7.3%  
(3) 9.4%  
(4) 8.6%  
(5) 5.7%

573. India's exports to ASEAN account for \_\_\_\_\_ of total exports.

- (1) 10.6%  
(2) 8.95%  
(3) 21.54%  
(4) 11.28%  
(5) 15%

574. Recently, the GST Council's \_\_\_\_\_ meeting was held in Lucknow under the chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman

- (1) 40th  
(2) 35th  
(3) 45th  
(4) 50th

(5) 38th

575. \_\_\_\_\_ emerged as top sector with 23% share of the total FDI Equity inflow during first four months of this financial year.

- (1) Computer Software & Hardware  
(2) Services Sector  
(3) Agricultural Industry  
(4) Health Industry  
(5) Auto-mobile Industry

576. The government will borrow \_\_\_\_\_ in second half of FY22 to fund revenue gap.

- (1) Rs 5.03 lakh crore  
(2) Rs 9.03 lakh crore  
(3) Rs 15.03 lakh crore  
(4) Rs 50.03 lakh crore  
(5) Rs 10.03 lakh crore

577. Which of the following sectors of Indian economy has received the highest amount of AIIB's Financing?

- (1) Energy & transport sector  
(2) Agricultural Sector  
(3) Construction Sector  
(4) Banking and Financing Sector  
(5) Healthcare sector

578. Recently, a gold exchange is being set up by SEBI to trade gold in the form of \_\_\_\_\_:

- (1) Cryptocurrency  
(2) Digital Bonds  
(3) Electronic Gold Receipt  
(4) Digital Currency  
(5) All of the above

579. India has the highest Fintech adoption rate of \_\_\_\_\_ as opposed to the global average rate of 64 percent.

- (1) 87%  
(2) 80%  
(3) 95%  
(4) 69%  
(5) 78%

580. WTO estimates global merchandise trade volume growth at \_\_\_\_\_ in 2021.

- (1) 19.4%  
(2) 12.6%  
(3) 10.8%  
(4) 23.5%  
(5) 11.6%

#### Answer keys

571. 2      572. 2      573. 4      574. 3      575. 5  
576. 1      577. 1      578. 3      579. 1      580. 3

581. The latest round of Ficci's Economic Outlook Survey has put forth an annual median GDP growth forecast for 2021-22 at \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 9.1 percent
- (2) 6.1 percent
- (3) 8.1 percent
- (4) 4.1 percent
- (5) 3.1 percent

582. Recently, Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC) has been accorded 'Maharatna' status. As on October 2021, how many Maharatna companies are there in India including PFC?

- (1) 10
- (2) 11
- (3) 12
- (4) 13
- (5) 14

583. Recently, Mobikwik and Cardekho have become 32nd and 33rd unicorns of India. What should be the valuation a startup company to become unicorn?

- (1) \$10 million
- (2) \$1 billion
- (3) \$5 billion
- (4) \$10 billion
- (5) \$100 billion

584. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has recently launched PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan worth how much?

- (1) Rs 10 lakh crore
- (2) Rs 50 lakh crore
- (3) Rs 500 lakh crore
- (4) Rs 200 lakh crore
- (5) Rs 100 lakh crore

585. Which of the following country was India's first export destination for Linz-Donawitz slag?

- (1) Myanmar
- (2) Bhutan
- (3) Nepal
- (4) Srilanka
- (5) Bangladesh

586. The finance ministry has issued a uniform staff accountability framework for bad loans of up to \_\_\_\_\_ to protect employees taking bonafide business decisions.

- (1) Rs 150 crore
- (2) Rs 15 crore
- (3) Rs 25 crore
- (4) Rs 50 crore
- (5) Rs 45 crore

587. The National Payments Corporation of India said its international arm NIPL and global digital commerce enabler Network International have

signed an agreement for a mobile-based real-time payment system in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) USA
- (2) UAE
- (3) UK
- (4) Srilanka
- (5) Japan

588. What is the share of MSME GVA in all India GDP for the financial year 2019-20?

- (1) 28%
- (2) 30%
- (3) 33%
- (4) 36%
- (5) 40%

589. Recently, EPFO has decided to invest how much percentage of its annual deposits in InvITs and alternative funds?

- (1) 5%
- (2) 10%
- (3) 8%
- (4) 12%
- (5) 7.5%

590. According to the recent reports, which of the following statements are true about Goods and Services Tax? A. GST collections grew 20% year-on-year to Rs. 1,31,526 crore in November 2021. B. Tax collections from the exports of goods are the main contribution to GST. C. Tax collections from the import of goods are not the main contribution to GST.

- (1) A & B only
- (2) B & C only
- (3) A & C only
- (4) All of the above
- (5) None of the above

#### Answer keys

581. 1	582. 2	583. 2	584. 5	585. 5
586. 4	587. 2	588. 2	589. 1	590. 5

591. Which of the following has recently launched NTS platform for tokenization of RuPay cards?

- (1) NPCI
- (2) NTPC
- (3) BPCL
- (4) HPCL
- (5) ONGC

592. Which of the following bank has recently launched refurbished mobile banking app 'mPay Delight'?

- (1) Axis Bank
- (2) J&K Bank
- (3) ICICI Bank
- (4) IDBI Bank
- (5) HDFC Bank

593. Which of the following section will receive benefit from the PNB Pride-CRMD module tool?

- (1) Widow or Widower employees
- (2) Differently-abled employees
- (3) Daily Waged employees
- (4) Customer Service employees
- (5) All of the above

594. Recently, Agri-fintech firm Dvara E-Dairy Solutions Pvt Ltd has entered into a partnership with which of the following Small Finance Bank to provide service for the small dairy farmers?

- (1) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- (2) ESAF Small Finance Bank
- (3) Fincare Small Finance Bank
- (4) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank.
- (5) Jana Small Finance Bank

595. Recently, NPCI and \_\_\_\_\_ launched the plug-and-play RuPay credit card stack, 'nFiNi'.

- (1) Bill Desk
- (2) Pine labs
- (3) Fiserv
- (4) Paytm
- (5) Razorpay

596. Which of the following countries has the highest FinTech adoption rate in the world for 2021?

- (1) India
- (2) China
- (3) US
- (4) Sri Lanka
- (5) Myanmar

597. Sprint01 is a banktech that hosted jointly by IFSCA and GIFT city in collaboration with \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) ISRO
- (2) NITI Aayog
- (3) RBI
- (4) SBI
- (5) SEBI

598. PM Modi will inaugurate the 'InFinity Forum', a 2-day thought leadership Forum on FinTech, in December 2021. It is organized by which of the following?

- (1) IFSCA
- (2) RBI
- (3) NITI Aayog
- (4) SEBI
- (5) IRDAI

599. Recently, Union Minister for MSME launched Special Credit Linked Capital Subsidy Scheme (SCLCSS) for which of the following sector(s)?

- (1) Agriculture and allied sector
- (2) Manufacturing sector
- (3) Service sector

(4) All of the above

(5) Both 1 and 2

600. Which of the following is NOT true with respect to the e-Rupi to be launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi? I) It is to be launched on the eve of World Environment Day to save paper and to promote paperless transaction. II) It is a contactless digital payment instrument. III) It has been developed by National Payments Corporation of India.

- (1) Only I
- (2) Only II
- (3) Only III
- (4) Both I and II
- (5) Both II and III

### Answer keys

591. 1	592. 2	593. 2	594. 5	595. 3
596. 1	597. 2	598. 1	599. 3	600. 1

601. The National Mission on Edible Oils to be implemented with a financial outlay of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Rs 11,000 crore
- (2) Rs 1000 crore
- (3) Rs 11,100 crore
- (4) Rs 12,000 crore
- (5) Rs 13,200 crore

602. Which of the following is correct with respect to the National Monetisation pipeline? I) It will list out the govt's infrastructure assets to be sold over the next four-years. II) It will serve as a medium-term roadmap for the asset monetisation. III) It is to be launched by Finance Minister of India

- (1) Both I and II
- (2) Both II and III
- (3) Both I and III
- (4) All of the above are true
- (5) None of the above

603. The Competition Commission of India has imposed a penalty of \_\_\_\_\_ upon Maruti Suzuki India Limited.

- (1) 100 Crore
- (2) 200 Crore
- (3) 250 Crore
- (4) 150 Crore
- (5) 300 Crore

604. Banks get RBI nod to use any other ARR in place of LIBOR. Which of the following is the full form of LIBOR?

- (1) London interbank offered rate
- (2) London interranga offered rate
- (3) London intertransfer offered rate
- (4) London interbank order rate
- (5) London interbank ommission rate

605. Who has been recently appointed as MD and CEO of Indian Bank?

- (1) Apurva Dev
- (2) Shanti Lal Jain
- (3) Shiv Kumar Roy
- (4) Y.S Reddy
- (5) Ravi Shankar

606. Nitin Chugh has recently stepped down from the position of MD and CEO of which bank?

- (1) HDFC Bank
- (2) AU Small Finance Bank
- (3) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- (4) Axis Bank
- (5) Indian Bank

607. Recently, who among the following has been appointed as the president of the Institute of Economic Growth Society?

- (1) Tarun Das
- (2) Ajit Mishra
- (3) NK Singh
- (4) Urjit Patel
- (5) Manmohan Singh

608. Hitendra Dave has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of HSBC India for a period of \_\_\_\_\_ years.

- (1) Three
- (2) Two
- (3) One
- (4) Four
- (5) Five

609. Who has been appointed as the Executive Director of the Reserve Bank of India, recently?

- (1) Ajay Kumar
- (2) Karan Bhalla
- (3) Deepak Kishor
- (4) Balram Sahani
- (5) Pradeep Banerjee

610. Who has been appointed as the part time chairman of IDFC FIRST Bank Limited?

- (1) Sanjeeb Chaudhuri
- (2) Bhanu Patel
- (3) AM Khanwilkar
- (4) RF Nariman
- (5) Mallikarjuna Rao

#### Answer keys

601. 1	602. 4	603. 2	604. 1	605. 2
606. 3	607. 3	608. 1	609. 1	610. 1

611. Which of the following MNC bank has recently appointed former SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar as its director for Asia unit?

- (1) Bank of America
- (2) HSBC Bank
- (3) Barclays Bank
- (4) DBS Bank India Limited

(5) Deutsche Bank

612. Who will be heading the five-member committee on New Umbrella Entity (NUE) licences set up by the Reserve Bank of India?

- (1) Shaktikanta Das
- (2) Deepak Mishra
- (3) Rajiv Nigam
- (4) P Vasudevan
- (5) Nirmala Sitharaman

613. Who among the following is the Chairman and Managing Director of India Trade Promotion Organisation?

- (1) A G Thankappan
- (2) L C Goyal
- (3) Suman Sharma
- (4) Amitabh Chaudhry
- (5) Vibha Padalkar

614. Harsha Bangari took charge as the Managing Director of which of the following banks?

- (1) SBI
- (2) India Exim Bank
- (3) ICICI
- (4) HDFC
- (5) Indian bank

615. Recently, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted its approval for the re-appointment of V. Vaidyanathan as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of \_\_\_\_\_

- (1) IDBI Bank
- (2) Bank of Baroda
- (3) Axis Bank
- (4) IDFC FIRST Bank
- (5) ICICI Bank

616. Amit Saxena, Global Deputy CTO of \_\_\_\_\_ has recently joined as the Chief Technology Officer of RBI Innovation Hub.

- (1) Punjab National Bank
- (2) State Bank of India
- (3) Bank of Baroda
- (4) Axis Bank
- (5) ICICI Bank

617. Recently, which one of the following has bagged a five-year contract from German bank NORD/LB?

- (1) Sony India Ltd.
- (2) TCS Ltd
- (3) Infosys Ltd.
- (4) Wipro Ltd
- (5) Tech Mahindra Ltd

618. Padmaja Chundurur has been appointed Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) National Securities Depositories Limited.
- (2) Securities and Exchange Board of India.

- (3) Confederation of Indian Industry.  
 (4) Life Insurance Corporation of India.  
 (5) Central Depository Services Limited.

619. Which of the following bank has recently appointed Gobind Jain as new Chief Financial Officer?

- (1) IndusInd Bank  
 (2) Axis Bank  
 (3) SBI Bank  
 (4) Federal Bank  
 (5) Punjab National Bank

620. Who is elected as the new chairman of Indian Banks' Association?

- (1) A. K. Goel  
 (2) Rajkiran Rai G  
 (3) Amit Kumar  
 (4) Sanjay Kapur  
 (5) Amit Mishra

#### Answer keys

611. 2      612. 4      613. 2      614. 2      615. 4  
 616. 2      617. 2      618. 1      619. 1      620. 1

621. Recently, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of who among the following as the Chairman of Karnataka Bank?

- (1) S A Panse  
 (2) Pradeep Kumar Panja  
 (3) Sanjiv Misra  
 (4) Ashwani Kumar  
 (5) Ajai Kumar

622. Who among the following is the Chairman of the reconstituted Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)?

- (1) Amitabh Kant  
 (2) Rajiv Kumar  
 (3) Bibek Debroy  
 (4) Poonam Gupta  
 (5) Rakesh Mohan

623. Who among the following has replaced Jes Staley as the CEO of Barclays bank?

- (1) Sunjay Sudhir  
 (2) Pavan Kapoor  
 (3) Dinesh Patnaik  
 (4) CS Venkatakrishnan  
 (5) Arun Chawla

624. Who among the following recently got an extension as the Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED)?

- (1) Sanjay Mishra  
 (2) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal  
 (3) Pankaj Kumar Singh  
 (4) Rakesh Asthana  
 (5) M. Ajit Kumar

625. Recently, Pradip Shah, founder of IndAsia Fund Advisors, has been appointed chairman of NARCL. What is the full form of NARCL?

- (1) National Asset Restructuring Company  
 (2) National Asset Reconstruction Company  
 (3) Non- Asset Reconstruction Company  
 (4) National Asset Reconstruction Corporation  
 (5) Non- Asset Restructuring Corporation

626. IPPB and NPCI Bharat BillPay announced the facilitation of doorstep cash-based assisted bill payments across India. Where is the Headquarters of IPPB located?

- (1) Delhi  
 (2) Mumbai  
 (3) Chennai  
 (4) Jaipur  
 (5) Kanpur

627. As of September 2021, How many ATMs have been installed by commercial banks?

- (1) 7,13,145  
 (2) 6,13,145  
 (3) 2,13,145  
 (4) 2,23,145  
 (5) 4,13,145

628. Centre developed a blueprint for Maritime Vision 2030 focusing on lower logistics costs to achieve \_\_\_\_\_ economy by 2025.

- (1) \$ 9 trillion  
 (2) \$ 15 trillion  
 (3) \$ 5 trillion  
 (4) \$ 25 trillion  
 (5) \$ 10 trillion

629. The government has recently expanded the Steering Committee for Advancing Local Value-Add and Exports committee. Currently, how many members are in SCALE committee?

- (1) 12  
 (2) 13  
 (3) 14  
 (4) 15  
 (5) 16

630. The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) in December 2021, kept the repo rate unchanged at 4 per cent for the \_\_\_\_\_ consecutive time.

- (1) seventh  
 (2) eighth  
 (3) ninth  
 (4) thirteenth  
 (5) tenth

#### Answer keys

621. 2      622. 3      623. 4      624. 1      625. 2  
 626. 1      627. 3      628. 3      629. 3      630. 3

631. As per the Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) Regulations, 2015, any Indian resident may carry outside currency notes of up to \_\_\_\_\_, other than to Nepal and Bhutan.

- (1) Rs 25,000
- (2) Rs 15,000
- (3) Rs 20,000
- (4) Rs 45,000
- (5) Rs 50,000

632. Which one of the following is India's first sectoral index in the Agri commodities basket that recently launched by NCDEX?

- (1) SAUREX
- (2) GUAREX
- (3) WARUEX
- (4) AGIREX
- (5) NCAGEX

633. The Greater Male Connectivity Project has received a Line of Credit of \_\_\_\_\_ from India.

- (1) \$100 million
- (2) \$500 million
- (3) \$400 million
- (4) \$300 million
- (5) \$200 million

634. What is the theme for 'HARBINGER 2021 " Innovation for Transformation' ?

- (1) Digital is the way of life
- (2) Hyper-connected world for future
- (3) Embracing the digital infrastructure
- (4) Smarter Digital Payments
- (5) None of the above

635. The integrated ombudsman scheme recently launched by PM Modi, amalgamated \_\_\_\_\_ ombudsman scheme of RBI.

- (1) 2
- (2) 3
- (3) 4
- (4) 5
- (5) None of the above

636. The RBI in its recent clarification said which of the following cannot use the words "bank", "banker" or "banking" as part of their names?

- (1) Payments Bank
- (2) Cooperative Societies
- (3) RRBs
- (4) SFBs
- (5) SCBs

637. Which of the following bank has recently announced the launch of an online platform - 'Trade Emerge'?

- (1) SBI Bank
- (2) IDBI Bank
- (3) HDFC Bank

- (4) Axis Bank
- (5) ICICI Bank

638. Which of the following country is planning to build the world's first "Bitcoin City"?

- (1) Honduras
- (2) Mexico
- (3) Brazil
- (4) Andorra
- (5) El Salvador

639. According to a report of NASSCOM, the crypto industry in India has the potential to add \$184 billion of economic value, in the form of investments and cost savings, by \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 2024
- (2) 2025
- (3) 2030
- (4) 2035
- (5) 2040

640. Government has appointed veteran banker K V Kamath as chairperson of \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) NABARD
- (2) SIDBI
- (3) NIIT
- (4) NAFED
- (5) NaBFID

#### Answer keys

631. 1	632. 2	633. 3	634. 4	635. 2
636. 2	637. 5	638. 5	639. 3	640. 5

641. Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has recently approved proposal of Department of Fertilisers for fixation of Nutrient Based Subsidy Rates for:

- (1) Nitrogen
- (2) Phosphorus
- (3) Sulphur
- (4) Potash
- (5) All of the above

642. Which among the following has set up an expert panel headed by former Environment and Forest Secretary C K Mishra to suggest a framework to develop a world-class sustainable finance hub?

- (1) ISA
- (2) RBI
- (3) SBI
- (4) IFSCA
- (5) FCI

643. Google has announced the rollout of tokenisation for Google Pay users with which of the following card company?

- (1) Europay
- (2) Mastercard
- (3) None of these

- (4) American Express  
(5) Rupay

644. Which of the following bank has achieved top position in Digital Payments for 2020-21?

- (1) Axis Bank  
(2) ICICI Bank  
(3) IDBI Bank  
(4) HDFC Bank  
(5) Bank of Baroda

645. U GRO Capital has signed a co-lending agreement with Central Bank of India. The agreement will ensure the availability of credit to which of the following sect ?

- (1) Large scale Enterprises  
(2) Small Scale Enterprises  
(3) Micro Small Medium Enterprises  
(4) Both A & B  
(5) All of the above

646. What is the penalty amount imposed by the RBI on One Mobikwik Systems, Spice Money for not complying with the net-worth requirement for Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOUs)?

- (1) Rs. 25 lakhs  
(2) Rs. 50 lakhs  
(3) Rs. 1 crore  
(4) Rs. 2 crores  
(5) Rs. 5 crores

647. As per recent RBI Guidelines, what is the maximum stake a corporate-promoted NBFC can have in private sector banks?

- (1) 10%  
(2) 15%  
(3) 20%  
(4) 25%  
(5) 30%

648. BOB Financial Solutions and Indian Navy have launched a co-branded credit card for navy personnel. The credit card will be equipped with contactless features and will be offered on the \_\_\_\_\_ platform.

- (1) Google Pay  
(2) Phone Pe  
(3) Paytm  
(4) PayPal  
(5) RuPay

649. Which of the following has become the first Indian bank to go live on UPI for Cross Border Payments/NRI Remittances?

- (1) Axis Bank  
(2) SBI Bank  
(3) IndusInd Bank  
(4) Bank of Baroda  
(5) HDFC Bank

650. Recently, which of the following bank has announced the launch of 'Green Fixed Deposits'?

- (1) IndusInd Bank  
(2) Axis Bank  
(3) ICICI Bank  
(4) HDFC Bank  
(5) SBI Bank

#### Answer keys

641. 5	642. 4	643. 2	644. 5	645. 3
646. 3	647. 2	648. 5	649. 3	650. 1

651. Axis Bank is second largest in PoS machines. What does PoS stand for?

- (1) Point of Service Mechanism  
(2) Point of Sale Machine  
(3) Point of Service Machine  
(4) Point of Service Maturity  
(5) Point of Savings Mechanism

652. Western Union has inked a MoU with NIPL to enable Inbound Bank Account Payouts in India. Which of the following statement is TRUE about NIPL?

- (1) NIPL is the International arm of National Payment Corporation of India.  
(2) NIPL is the International arm of NITI Aayog.  
(3) NIPL is the International arm of RBI.  
(4) NIPL is the International arm of SEBI.  
(5) NIPL is the International arm of National stock exchange of India.

653. Read the following and choose the correct statements:- A. The gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio of scheduled commercial banks is likely to decrease to 9.5 % in September 2022. B. A non performing asset (NPA) is a loan or advance for which the principal or interest payment remained overdue for a period of 30 days. C. The capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) of scheduled commercial banks rose to a new peak of 5.6 % in September 2021.

- (1) A and B only  
(2) B and C only  
(3) C and A only  
(4) All of the above  
(5) None of the above

654. Which of the following banks is set to acquire 9.95% stake in GIFT-IFSC-based Clearing Corporation?

- (1) Indian Bank  
(2) Bank of Baroda  
(3) Punjab National Bank  
(4) State Bank of India  
(5) Canara Bank

655. Recently, Fino Payments Bank has received the RBI approval for commencing International Remittance business under the MTSS. What is the full form of MTSS?

- (1) Monitor Trading Service Scheme
- (2) Minimum Transfer Service Scheme
- (3) Money Transfer Service Scheme
- (4) Minimum Trading Service Scheme
- (5) Monitoring Transfer Service Scheme

656. Read the following statements about recent 'offline payment transactions' in news and choose the INCORRECT statement:- A. NPCI has set the upper limit for individual offline payment transactions at '200. B. Offline payments can be made using any channel or instrument like cards, wallets, & mobile devices. C. The total limit for offline transactions on a payment instrument shall be '2,000 at any point in time.

- (1) A only
- (2) B and C only
- (3) C and A only
- (4) C only
- (5) B only

657. Recently, State Bank of India (SBI) stated that IMPS transactions up to \_\_\_\_\_ done using digital mediums like Net banking and mobile banking will not attract service charge.

- (1) Rs. 15 Lakh
- (2) Rs. 25 Lakh
- (3) Rs. 10 Lakh
- (4) Rs. 5 Lakh
- (5) Rs. 2 Lakh

658. Read the following statements about LIC and Choose the correct statements:- A. Recently, LIC's assets at \$463 billion exceeds the GDP of several economies. B. LIC is the largest asset manager in India with Rs 36.7 trillion Assets Under Management. C. LIC is ranked 5th globally in terms of life insurance Gross written premium .

- (1) B only
- (2) A and B only
- (3) All of the above
- (4) C only
- (5) A only

659. Airtel Payment Bank has received RBI's approval to operate as scheduled bank. Which of the following Schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 deals with the "Scheduled Commercial Bank" status?.

- (1) First
- (2) Second
- (3) Third
- (4) Fourth
- (5) Sixth

660. Which of the following bank has recently invested a \$20 mn in payment solutions provider Pine Labs?

- (1) Axis Bank
- (2) ICICI Bank
- (3) SBI Bank
- (4) IDBI Bank
- (5) HDFC Bank

### Answer keys

651. 2	652. 1	653. 5	654. 4	655. 3
656. 1	657. 4	658. 3	659. 2	660. 3

661. Read the following statements about D-SIBs and Choose the incorrect statements:- A. D-SIBs stands for Domestic Systemically Important Banks. B. RBI places D-SIBs in appropriate buckets depending upon their Systemic Importance Scores (SISs). C. D-SIB is a bank that could disrupt the domestic economy should it fail.

- (1) A only
- (2) B only
- (3) C only
- (4) Both A and B
- (5) None of the above

662. NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd. (NBBL), the wholly-owned subsidiary of National Payments Corporation of India has introduced a unique functionality called UPMS. What is the full form of UPMS?

- (1) Unified Performance Management Scheme
- (2) Unique Performance Management System
- (3) Unified Presentment Monetary Scheme
- (4) Unique Presentment Monetary System
- (5) Unified Presentment Management System

663. The \_\_\_\_\_-based lender South Indian Bank has won the UiPath Automation Excellence Awards 2021 for Best Automation under Crisis for Business Continuity.

- (1) Tamil Nadu
- (2) Kerala
- (3) Andhra Pradesh
- (4) Maharashtra
- (5) None of these

664. Google Cloud has tied up with which of the following to develop blockchain, crypto ecosystem?

- (1) WazirX
- (2) CoinDCX
- (3) Binance
- (4) CryptoWire
- (5) Zebpay

665. Which bank announced a strategic collaboration with Google to fuel the Bank's customer experience strategy and expand its value proposition?

- (1) RBL Bank

- (2) SBI
- (3) UCO Bank
- (4) Union Bank of India
- (5) Axis Bank

666. Nirmala Sitharaman chaired the \_\_\_\_\_ GST council meet in Delhi in December 2021.

- (1) 44th
- (2) 45th
- (3) 46th
- (4) 47th
- (5) 48th

667. ICRA Ltd. expects the Indian economy to maintain a real GDP growth of 9.0% each in FY2022 and FY2023. ICRA is a credit rating company based in which country?

- (1) UK
- (2) USA
- (3) India
- (4) Germany
- (5) Russia

668. Nippon India MF has launched auto ETF. Which of the following statements are TRUE about exchange traded fund (ETF)?

- (1) ETF is a type of security that tracks an index sector, commodity, or other asset.
- (2) ETF can be purchased or sold on a stock exchange the same way a regular stock can.
- (3) ETF can be structured to track anything from the price of an individual commodity to a large and diverse collection of securities.
- (4) Both A and B
- (5) All of the above

669. Which of the following is India's first crypto index that launched by CryptoWire?

- (1) IC15
- (2) ICY14
- (3) C-15
- (4) CPT-15
- (5) CRIND-15

670. The growth in real GDP during 2021-22 is estimated at \_\_, as per the recently released First Advance Estimates of 2021-22.

- (1) 8.6%
- (2) 9.0%
- (3) 9.2%
- (4) 10.0%
- (5) 10.5%

#### Answer keys

661. 5    662. 5    663. 2    664. 4    665. 1  
666. 3    667. 3    668. 5    669. 1    670. 3

671. Startup India Innovation Week from January 10th to 16th 2022 is being organized by \_\_\_\_

- (1) Department of Financial services
- (2) RBI

- (3) SEBI
- (4) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- (5) Ministry of MSME

672. Which of the following is the major green bonds issuer in the world?

- (1) IMF
- (2) UNDP
- (3) World Bank
- (4) ADB
- (5) WWF

673. Mamaearth parent company Honasa consumer became the first Unicorn of 2022. Unicorn is the term used in the venture capital industry to describe a startup company with a value of over \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) 1 Million Dollar
- (2) 1 Billion Dollar
- (3) 10 Billion Dollar
- (4) 5 Billion Dollar
- (5) 15 Billion Dollar

674. SIDBI has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Bengal government to develop its MSME ecosystem. What does SIDBI stand for?

- (1) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- (2) Small Investment Development Bank of India
- (3) Small Industries Directive Bank of India
- (4) Small Industries Development Bureau of India
- (5) Small and Medium Enterprises Bank of India

675. Which of the following has partnered with Paytm Payments Bank to offer international remittance directly to Paytm Wallet?

- (1) Moneygram.
- (2) OFX.
- (3) WorldRemit.
- (4) Xoom.
- (5) Remit2India

676. Which of the following bank has signed a MoU with AIC STPINEXT Initiatives to strengthen tech startup ecosystem in India?

- (1) SBI Bank
- (2) ICICI Bank
- (3) IDBI Bank
- (4) HDFC Bank
- (5) Axis Bank

677. Total assets managed under National Pension Scheme and Atal Pension Yojana cross, the two flagship pension schemes of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), have crossed Rs \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) ' 6.99 lakh crore
- (2) ' 8.99 lakh crore
- (3) '15.99 lakh crore
- (4) '10.99 lakh crore

(5) '12.99 lakh crore

678. Who among the following has been appointed as co-chairman of Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC)?

- (1) Sanjay Chamria
- (2) Dinanath Dubhashi
- (3) Rajeev Ahuja
- (4) Kamlesh Gandhi
- (5) Vishwavir Ahuja

679. Who among the following has been appointed as new Managing Director of RBL Bank?

- (1) Vishwavir Ahuja
- (2) Sanjiv Chadha
- (3) Sashidhar Jagdishan
- (4) Rajeev Ahuja
- (5) Sandeep Bakhshi

680. Which of the following small finance bank has appointed former RBI deputy governor H R Khan as the non-executive independent director (additional director) on the board?

- (1) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- (2) ESAF Small Finance Bank
- (3) Fincare Small Finance Bank
- (4) Jana Lakshmi Small Finance Bank
- (5) AU Small Finance Bank

#### Answer keys

671. 4	672. 3	673. 2	674. 1	675. 1
676. 4	677. 1	678. 4	679. 4	680. 5

681. Govt re-appointed Vijay Paul Sharma as CACP Chairman. CACP is an acronym for:

- (1) Council for Agricultural Costs & Prices
- (2) Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices
- (3) Corporation for Agricultural Costs & Prices
- (4) Controller for Agricultural Costs & Prices
- (5) Committee for Agricultural Costs & Prices

682. Atul Keshap, the former US envoy to India, has been appointed as President of the U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC), announced the US Chamber of Commerce. He will replace whom?

- (1) Nisha Biswal
- (2) Ajay Kumar Choudhary
- (3) Deepak Kumar
- (4) K. J. Srinivasa
- (5) Priyapal Singh

683. Who has recently taken charge as the MD & CEO of UCO Bank?

- (1) Hitendra Dave
- (2) Soma Sankara Prasad
- (3) Ashu Khullar
- (4) Chandra Shekhar Ghosh
- (5) Shri Karnam Sekar

684. Who has been appointed as a Vice President of the Beijing-based multilateral funding institution AIIB?

- (1) Urjit Patel
- (2) D J Pandian
- (3) B.P. Kanungo
- (4) M. K. Jain
- (5) N. S. Vishwanathan

685. Read the following statements and choose the correct one:- A. The consolidated balance sheet of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) expanded in size in 2020-21 despite the coronavirus pandemic. B. Deposits grew by 10.1% at the end of September 2021 as compared with 11.0% a year ago. C. The capital to risk-weighted assets (CRAR) ratio of SCBs strengthened from 14.8% at the end of March 2020 to 16.3% in March 2021

- (1) A only
- (2) B only
- (3) C only
- (4) A & B only
- (5) All of the above

686. According to a report by IHS Markit, India would be \_\_\_ largest and \_\_\_ largest economy in Asia and the World respectively by 2030.

- (1) 3rd and 4th
- (2) 2nd and 3rd
- (3) 4th and 5th
- (4) 3rd and 5th
- (5) 1st and 4th

687. State-owned Bank of Baroda has signed cricketer\_\_\_\_\_ as its brand endorser.

- (1) 'Shafali Verma
- (2) Harmanpreet Kaur
- (3) Mithali Raj
- (4) Smriti Mandhana
- (5) Pooja Vastrakar

688. The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has inaugurated 'LIC Digi Zone' in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (1) Chennai
- (2) Kochi
- (3) Mumbai
- (4) Bengaluru
- (5) Great Noida

689. Which of the following country was admitted as the 4th new member of BRICS New Development Bank in December 2021?

- (1) Italy
- (2) Egypt
- (3) Bangladesh
- (4) UAE
- (5) Uk

690. Which of the following banks is the highest bidder of Citibank's consumer business in India?

- (1) HDFC Bank
- (2) Axis Bank
- (3) ICICI Bank
- (4) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- (5) State Bank of India

#### Answer keys

681. 2      682. 1      683. 2      684. 1      685. 5  
686. 2      687. 1      688. 3      689. 2      690. 2

691. Which of the following company is set to acquire 100% stake in Allyis India and Green Investments?

- (1) TCS
- (2) Tech Mahindra
- (3) Infosys
- (4) CTS
- (5) Wipro

692. Which of the following company has signed a definitive agreement to pick up a 100% stake in Faradion Ltd for an enterprise value of '100 million'?

- (1) Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd.
- (2) ReNew Power Ventures
- (3) Suzlon
- (4) Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd
- (5) Adani Power

693. HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited has completed the acquisition of which of the following insurance companies in December 2021?

- (1) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Co. Ltd.
- (2) Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce Life Insurance Company Limited
- (3) Pramerica Life Insurance Limited
- (4) Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance Co. Ltd.
- (5) Exide Life Insurance Company Limited

694. Recently Reliance retail has invested \$200 million in delivery firm Dunzo for 26% stake. Dunzo is based in \_\_\_\_

- (1) Surat
- (2) Kolkata
- (3) Hyderabad
- (4) Delhi
- (5) Banaglore

695. Which company recently announced a plan to acquire the New York City luxury hotel Mandarin Oriental for \$98.15 million?

- (1) Tata Sons
- (2) Adani Enterprises
- (3) Sahara Group
- (4) Bharti Enterprises
- (5) Reliance Industries Ltd

696. The Reserve Bank of India stated that the Certificate of Authorisation (CoA) of Payment

System Operator(s) \_\_\_\_\_ has been canceled.

- (1) Muthoot Vehicle and Asset Finance Limited
- (2) Eko India Financial Services Ltd
- (3) Acko India Financial Services Ltd
- (4) Both 1 & 2
- (5) Both 1 & 3

697. SEBI's market data advisory committee will now be chaired by S Sahoo. Who headed this 20-member committee earlier?

- (1) Prithvi Haldea
- (2) Reena Garg
- (3) Anuj Kumar
- (4) Madhabi Puri
- (5) None of the above

698. IRDAI has said that the state-owned LIC, GIC Re and New India continue to be identified as D-SIIs. What does D-SIIs stand for?

- (1) Dedicated Services and Important Investments
- (2) Domestic Services and Important Insurers
- (3) Domestic Systemically Important Investors
- (4) Direct Systemically Important Investors
- (5) Domestic Systemically Important Insurers

699. Read the followings statements about tokenisation and Choose the incorrect option from the following:- A. It refers to replacement of actual credit and debit card details with an alternate code called the 'token'. B. It is safer as the actual card details are not shared with the merchant during transaction processing. C. It contains a set of unique characters.

- (1) A and B only
- (2) B and C only
- (3) C and A only
- (4) All of the above
- (5) None of the above

700. Recently, Airtel Payments Bank has tied up with Park to offer FASTag-based smart parking solutions. The headquarters of Airtel Payments Bank is located at \_\_\_\_

- (1) New Delhi
- (2) Mumbai
- (3) Bangalore
- (4) Chennai
- (5) Hyderabad

701. Who will replace Mallikarjuna Rao, incumbent MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank?

- (1) Vikram Batra
- (2) Atul Kumar Goel
- (3) Ankit Agarwal
- (4) Anil Kumar
- (5) Atul Mishra

702. Which of the following state government partnered with National Payments Corporation of India & State Bank of India, for enabling and implementing e-RUPI?

- (1) Kerala
- (2) Karnataka
- (3) Tamil Nadu

- (4) Telangana
- (5) Punjab

**Answer keys**

691. 2	692. 4	693. 5	694. 5	695. 5
696. 4	697. 4	698. 5	699. 5	700. 1
	701. 2	702. 2		

## General Awareness Answer keys

1. 1	2. 2	3. 5	4. 3	5. 3	6. 1	7. 5	8. 5	9. 5	10. 1
11. 4	12. 2	13. 3	14. 4	15. 2	16. 2	17. 5	18. 1	19. 1	20. 1
21. 1	22. 4	23. 4	24. 2	25. 4	26. 4	27. 1	28. 3	29. 4	30. 2
31. 2	32. 2	33. 3	34. 2	35. 1	36. 5	37. 4	38. 1	39. 4	40. 5
41. 5	42. 1	43. 4	44. 2	45. 3	46. 2	47. 4	48. 3	49. 5	50. 4
51. 5	52. 3	53. 3	54. 3	55. 2	56. 4	57. 5	58. 4	59. 1	60. 5
61. 5	62. 1	63. 5	64. 1	65. 4	66. 3	67. 5	68. 5	69. 1	70. 1
71. 3	72. 1	73. 2	74. 1	75. 3	76. 4	77. 4	78. 4	79. 2	80. 1
81. 3	82. 1	83. 1	84. 3	85. 2	86. 1	87. 1	88. 2	89. 2	90. 4
91. 5	92. 5	93. 2	94. 3	95. 3	96. 2	97. 2	98. 2	99. 2	100. 2
101. 4	102. 1	103. 5	104. 1	105. 1	106. 1	107. 3	108. 5	109. 3	110. 4
111. 1	112. 5	113. 2	114. 2	115. 5	116. 3	117. 4	118. 2	119. 2	120. 4
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501. 4	502. 3	503. 1	504. 1	505. 2	506. 4	507. 4	508. 1	509. 5	510. 1
511. 4	512. 1	513. 2	514. 2	515. 2	516. 4	517. 4	518. 3	519. 5	520. 1

**Financial/Economy/Banking Awareness Answer keys**

521. 4	522. 1	523. 5	524. 3	525. 3	526. 4	527. 1	528. 5	529. 2	530. 1
531. 2	532. 2	533. 1	534. 2	535. 1	536. 2	537. 5	538. 4	539. 4	540. 3
541. 3	542. 5	543. 1	544. 5	545. 5	546. 3	547. 5	548. 4	549. 1	550. 5
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691. 2	692. 4	693. 5	694. 5	695. 5	696. 4	697. 4	698. 5	699. 5	700. 1
701. 2	702. 2								

## General Awareness Solutions

1. **1**

Rakesh Jhunjhunwala-backed Akasa Air revealed its much-anticipated brand identity with the unveiling of its 'Rising A' symbol and tagline, 'It's Your Sky'. The airline is wearing a 'Rising A' symbol to represent 'the spirit of flying, the aim of height and the pursuit of dreams.' Belson Coutinho, Co-Founder and Chief Marketing & Experience Officer, Akasa Air. Vinay Dube, Akasa Air Founder, MD and CEO. Akasa Air, which received its no-objection certificate from the Ministry of Civil Aviation in October, is expected to take to the skies in the summer of 2022. The colours of the livery unveiled by the airline include 'Sunrise Orange' and 'Passionate Purple'.

2. **2**

Gujarat has topped the composite ranking in the Good Governance Index (GGI), followed by Maharashtra and Goa while Uttar Pradesh showed an incremental growth of 8.9 per cent in the indicators launched by Union Home Minister Amit Shah on the occasion of the Good Governance Day. As many as 20 states have improved their composite GGI scores in 2021. Delhi has topped the union territories category composite ranking. GGI 2021 prepared by the Department of Administration Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) on Good Governance Day at Vigyan Bhawan.

3. **5**

The India Semiconductor Mission (ISM) is a specialised and independent business division within the Digital India Corporation. It has been set up with the aim to build a vibrant semiconductor and display ecosystem to enable India's emergence as a global hub for electronics manufacturing and design. Digital India Corporation is a not for profit Company set up by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India.

4. **3**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Major Dhyan Chand Sports University in Meerut. The University will be established at Salawa and Kaili villages of Sardhana town in Meerut at an estimated cost of about 700 Crore rupees. The University will have the capacity of training 1080 sportspersons including 540 female and 540 male sportspersons.

5. **3**

The Multiproduct pipeline from Bina Refinery (MP) to POL Terminal at Panki, Kanpur (UP) was inaugurated by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. The 356 Km long project has a capacity of around 3.45 million metric tonne per annum. This Project also includes augmentation of Tankage capacity and construction of Rail Loading Gantry at Panki POL Terminal.

6. **1**

Union Education Minister and Skill Development Minister Dharmendra Pradhan has launched NEAT 3.0, a single platform to provide the best-developed ed-tech solutions and courses to students of the country. NEAT stands for National Educational Alliance for Technology. The minister also launched AICTE prescribed technical books in regional languages. AICTE:- All India Council for Technical Education NEAT is an initiative to provide the use of best-developed technological solutions in the education sector to enhance the employability of the youth on a single platform for learners' convenience. The AICTE should integrate courses in NEAT with skill India to tap the opportunities in emerging areas of skill to boost employability and prepare our youth for the future. AICTE and ed-tech companies should offer e-resources at the least possible cost. all ed-techs are welcome to work with a collaborative approach for making education accessible and affordable. But ed-techs must remember that there is no place for monopoly and exploitation

7. **5**

Dr Jitendra Singh has launched the Web Portal for PM's Excellence Award. The entire concept and format of the PM's Excellence Award has undergone a revolutionary change since 2014. Prime Ministers Awards for Excellence in Public Administration to acknowledge, recognize and reward the extraordinary and innovative work done by officers of the Central and State Governments. PM's Award for Excellence in Public Administration portal for the year 2021-2022 is [www.pmawards.gov.in](http://www.pmawards.gov.in). Now this award is based on the performance of the District, rather than that of the District Collector/individual civil servant. The prize money was also doubled this year from Rs.10 lakh to Rs.20 lakh to the awarded District/Organization which is to be utilized for implementation of project/programme or bridging resource gaps in any area of public welfare. For the year 2021, the scheme for Prime Minister's Awards

for Excellence in Public Administration aims to recognize the contribution of civil servants in:

1) Promoting 'Jan Bhagidari' or Peoples' participation in Poshan Abhiyan 2) Promoting excellence in sports and wellness through Khelo India scheme 3) Digital Payments and good governance in PM SVANidhi Yojana 4) Holistic Development through One District One Product scheme 5) Seamless, End-to-End Delivery of Services without Human Intervention and 6) Innovations.

#### 8. 5

In Puducherry, the 25th National Youth Festival will be held from January 12th to 16th, 2022. Recently in news:- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur and Lt. Governor of Puducherry Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan has unveiled the Logo and Mascot of the 25th National Youth Festival to be held in Puducherry from January 12 to 16. The tag-line of the National Youth Festival, Shaksham Yuva Shashakth Yuva meaning Capable Youth- Forceful Youth, Able Youth- Strong Youth. National Youth Festival is organized by the Government of India every year in collaboration with one of the States from January 12th to 16th to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda i.e. 12th January. The basic objective of the NYF is to bring the youth of the country together in an attempt to showcase their talents in various activities.

#### 9. 5

The Union Cabinet gave its nod to investing Rs 12,031 crore for laying transmission lines to evacuate electricity generated from renewable power projects in seven states. The project, called Green Energy Corridor Phase-II, would involve laying 10,750 circuit kilometers of transmission lines by 2026. The scheme will help in achieving the target of 450 GW installed RE capacity by 2030. The scheme's total estimated cost is Rs 12,031.33 crore, including Central Financial Assistance (CFA) of 33 per cent of the project cost (about Rs 3970.34 crore). The scheme will facilitate grid integration and power evacuation of about 20 GW of renewable energy (RE) projects in seven states -- Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

#### 10. 1

Union home secretary Ajay Bhalla has released a set of manuals focused on prevention of cybercrime and inculcating cyber-hygiene across rural areas, in industrial bodies and among the general public. The manuals are part of a focussed awareness campaign for prevention of cybercrimes. The released documents include manuals 'one basic and one advanced manual on cyber hygiene for cyberspace' 'dos and don'ts' and a newsletter of the Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C), which operates under the cyber and information security division (CIS) of the ministry of home affairs.

#### 11. 4

Union Power Minister R K Singh has dedicated to the nation the Automatic Generation Control (AGC) project which would help in maintaining the frequency and reliability of the electricity system. This is also expected to facilitate achieving the government's ambitious target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel-based generation capacity by 2030. Union Power Minister R K Singh has dedicated to the nation the Automatic Generation Control (AGC) project which would help in maintaining the frequency and reliability of the electricity system. This is also expected to facilitate achieving the government's ambitious target of 500 GW non-fossil fuel-based generation capacity by 2030.

#### 12. 2

Chairman KVIC Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena launched the country's first Mobile Honey Processing Van at Village Sirora in Ghaziabad. This mobile honey processing unit can process up to 300 KG of honey in 8 hours. The van is also equipped with a testing laboratory, that would instantly examine the quality of honey.

#### 13. 3

Tata Consultancy Services, India's largest IT services firm, has won the second phase of the Passport Seva Programme of the ministry of external affairs. Analysts estimate the deal to be valued at about Rs 6,000-8,000 crore over a decade. This is the country's largest mission-critical e-governance programme till date.

#### 14. 4

Union Minister of State for Science & Technology & Earth Sciences, Jitendra Singh, inaugurated India's 1st Open Rock Museum at Hyderabad. The museum displays around 35 different varieties of rocks from different parts of India with ages ranging from 3.3 billion yrs. to around 55 million yrs.

15. 2

Union Steel Minister laid the foundation stone for the new 5 MTPA project at JSW Steel Vijayanagar Works integrated steel facility in Ballari, Karnataka. This brown-field expansion project is being undertaken through JSW Vijayanagar Metallica Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of JSW Steel Ltd.

16. 2

The world's first SMS has been sold as a non-fungible token (NFT) for \$149,729 ('132,680) at auction in Paris. Reading "Merry Christmas," the message was sent by British programmer Neil Papworth from his computer on December 3 1992 to Richard Jarvis, then director of UK telecommunications company Vodafone. Non-fungible tokens are a form of cryptocurrency that convert digital pieces of art into unique, verifiable goods that can be traded on the blockchain. Each NFT is one-of-a-kind, meaning that no two tokens are the same.

17. 5

James Webb Space Telescope, a revolutionary instrument designed to provide mankind with the first-ever glimpse into an infant universe as it existed when the earliest galaxies are believed to have been formed. Named after James Edwin Webb, the chief of the American space agency during most of the agency's formative decade of the 1960s. The new space telescope is about 100 times more sensitive than its predecessor, Hubble, and is expected to profoundly transform scientists' understanding of the universe and our place in it. It lifted off into space from Arianespace's ELA-3 launch complex at the European Spaceport located near Kourou, French Guiana, South America. Webb is a large, space-based, infrared observatory, and a successor to the Hubble Space Telescope. Development of the \$10 billion telescope began in 1996. The infrared telescope is the largest space observatory ever built, and the first of its kind.

18. 1

India will be chairing the Counter terrorism Committee in January 2022 at United Nations Security Council. The committee stands for greater significance for India, as the country has been pitching pertinent measures to evict and fight terrorism on the global platform. The UNSC Committee on Counterterrorism will be chaired by India after 10 years. India last chaired this committee in 2012. Earlier this year, on January 8, 2021, India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations Ambassador TS Tirumurti had declared that India will chair 3 important communities at UN Security Council in 202-22, including the Taliban Sanctions Committee, Libya Sanctions Committee and the counter-terrorism Committee. The Security Council has five permanent members'China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States'collectively known as the P5.

19. 1

Upholding its rank as the city with the largest Metro network in the world, China's Shanghai has opened two new metro lines ' Line 14 and Phase One of Line 18. With the new lines, the total length of Shanghai's metro network has extended to 831 km, continuing to be the longest in the world.

20. 1

Antigua and Barbuda has become the 102nd country to join International Solar Alliance. Antigua and Barbuda joined the International Solar Framework in the presence of Indian High Commissioner Dr. K. J. Srinivasa. Antigua and Barbuda has joined the ISA by signing the International Solar Alliance Framework Agreement.

21. 1

Indian skier Anchal Thakur won her second international medal in alpine skiing at the FIS Alpine Ski Competition in Kolasin in Montenegro, keeping alive her hopes of qualifying for the next year's Winter Olympics in Beijing. Aanchal won third place in the giant slalom section of the FIS Alpine Ski Competition. Montenegro is a Balkan country ;Capital: Podgorica; Currency: Euro. Aanchal had earlier scripted history by winning India's first international medal in skiing (slalom) in the 2018 Alpine Ejder 3200 Cup, Turkey.

22. 4

Uttar Pradesh Hockey maintained their unbeaten record in the 11th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2021 in Kovilpatti in Tamil Nadu with a decisive 3 - 1 victory over Hockey Chandigarh in the final of the competition. Tournament top scorer Sharda Nand Tiwari opened the scoring for Uttar Pradesh. In the 3rd/4th Place playoff match, Hockey Association of Odisha edged out Haryana 3 ' 2 in a closely contested affair to clinch 3rd place in the competition.

23. 4

Bangladesh Under-19 Women's team defeated India by 1-0 to lift the SAFF U-19 Women's Football Championship in Dhaka. Shaheda Akter Ripa of Bangladesh scored the maximum number of goals in the tournament. She was given the 'most valuable player' of the game award. Earlier in the championship, Bangladesh had defeated Bhutan by 6-0, Sri Lanka by 12-0, India by 1-0 and drew with Nepal. India had defeated Sri Lanka 5-0 and Bhutan by 3-0. The exciting match played at the jam packed Birshreshtha Shaheed Sepoy Mohammad Mostafa Kamal Stadium in Dhaka went Bangladesh way with the solitary late goal scored by Anai Mogini in the 81st minute of the game.

24. 2

South Africa's wicketkeeper-batter Quinton de Kock announced his retirement from Test cricket with immediate effect late. His announcement came just hours after South Africa's 113-run defeat to India in the first Test of the three-match series. De Kock cited his intentions to spend more time with his growing family for the timing.

25. 4

India women's team cricketer Smriti Mandhana was today nominated for the prestigious Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year-2021 award.

26. 4

India lifted the Under-19 Asia Cup by defeating Sri Lanka by nine wickets in a rain-interrupted One-Day International final in Dubai through Duckworth-Lewis-Stern method. India won a record-extending eighth Asia Cup in the nine years that the competition has been played in.

27. 1

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra will continue to train with his German coach Klaus Bartonietz, whose contract has been extended till the 2024 Paris Games, the Athletics Federation of India (AFI) confirmed. Bartonietz took charge as Chopra's coach from compatriot and former world record holder javelin thrower Uwe Hohn. The AFI also said that the 400m coach Galina Bukharina will also remain at the helm of affairs till the end of this year's Asian Games in Hangzhou, China.

28. 3

Shri Rajnath Singh, on January 07, 2022, flagged-in India's first multi-dimensional adventure sports expedition conducted by National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (NIMAS) in France. The expedition was conducted in November 2021 and the team was led by Director NIMAS Colonel Sarfaraz Singh.

29. 4

Canada recently won its maiden ATP Cup title. Felix Auger-Aliassime beat Spanish star Roberto Bautista Agut in a gripping encounter to earn Canada a maiden ATP Cup. This followed Denis Shapovalov ending Pablo Carreno Busta's winning start to the season 6-4, 6-3.

30. 2

Prasar Bharati and Indian Council for Cultural Relations signed a MoU for promoting Indian culture. The performances of the eminent artists associated with ICCR will be telecast on the national and International Channels of Doordarshan. This MoU will be in operation for the period of three years from December 2021 till December 2024. The dance and music performances will be showcased on DD National, DD India, regional channels of Doordarshan and Prasar Bharati News Services (Digital Platform of Prasar Bharati) in the form of a weekly programme. The MoU aims to bring forth the best of Indian Culture to the National and International audiences and provide TV and Digital platforms to the performing artists. Prasar Bharati CEO - Shashi Shekhar Vempati. Director General, Doordarshan - Mayank Kumar Agrawal. Director General, ICCR - Dinesh K Patnaik

31. 2

The Breastfeeding Promotion Network of India (BPNI) in collaboration with Association of Healthcare Providers of India (AHPI) has launched an accreditation programme that will enable hospitals to get a 'breastfeeding-friendly' tag. This programme is called 'Baby Friendly Hospital Initiative (BFHI)'. The certification process involves two stages 'the first stage includes self-assessment by a hospital, followed by an external assessment by an authorised appraiser who interviews doctors, nurses and patients as well as reviews different practices and training of staff. Early initiation of breastfeeding

continues to be low in the country. According to the National Family Health Survey-5 (2019-2021), while there were 88.6% institutional births, only 41.8% of infants were breastfed within the first one hour, which has improved only marginally from 41.6% during NFHS-4 (2015-2016). Provision of mother's breast milk to infants within one hour of birth ensures that the infant receives the colostrum, or 'first milk', which is rich in protective factors.

### 32. 2

Telangana stood first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) that was launched 4 years in the past to stimulate native financial growth, improve fundamental companies and create properly deliberate clusters. Sangareddy and Kamareddy districts stood in the primary two positions among the many 300 clusters. Tamil Nadu and Gujarat took the second and third positions respectively. Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission focuses to set up 300 rural clusters by the year 2020 in order to enhance economic, social, and infrastructure development in the rural parts of India. It is launched to replace the erstwhile PURA mission. The Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission or SPMRM is a new initiative from the incumbent Modi government that aims to set up 300 rural clusters by 2020. This scheme is set to replace the Provision of Urban Amenities in Rural Areas (PURA) mission launched by the erstwhile UPA government. The scheme was launched in 2014-15 budget and was formally launched on 16th August 2015 by the Union Cabinet.

### 33. 3

Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana:- This is the flagship scheme (launched in 2015) for skill training of youth to be implemented by the new Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship through the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC). The scheme will cover 10 million youth during the period 2016 -2020. Under this Scheme, Training and Assessment fees are completely paid by the Government. Skill training would be done based on the National Skill Qualification Framework (NSQF) and industry led standards. Recently in news:- The Central government is set to upskill over 4,000 craftsmen, cane, and bamboo artisans from Nagaland under the Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana. The objective is to upskill the local weavers and artisans to enhance their productivity through RPL assessment and certification in traditional handicrafts

### 34. 2

PM KISAN scheme was launched in the year 2019. Under the PM-KISAN scheme, financial benefit of six thousand rupees per year is provided to the eligible family of farmer. The amount is being transferred in three installments of two thousand rupees. The fund is transferred directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiaries. So far, over one lakh 60 thousand crore rupees have been transferred to farmer's families.

### 35. 1

Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan will launch 100-day Reading Campaign 'Padhe Bharat'. The reading campaign aims to have participation of all stakeholders at national and state level including children, teachers, parents, community and educational administrators. Children studying in Balvatika to grade eight will be part of this campaign.

### 36. 5

Telangana tops other states in the country in having the highest number of villages as ODF plus under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Gramin) phase II programme. Of 12,769 villages, 8,035 villages are aspiring villages with clean and good sanitation practices having green surroundings, enabling people to lead a quality life while piped and safe drinking water is supplied. Panchayat raj and rural development department said 56% of Telangana's villages were ODF plus aspiring villages, Tamil Nadu has 29% and Puducherry has 17% of ODF plus aspiring villages. The government has focused on garbage collection and scientific disposal, construction of dedicated compost sheds, providing water tankers and tractors to every panchayat to promote greenery in villages. ODF plus village is defined as 'a village which sustains its Open Defecation Free (ODF) status, ensures solid and liquid waste management and is visually clean.' This includes ensuring that all households in a village, as well as the Primary School, Panchayat Ghar and Anganwadi Centre, have access to a toilet and that all public places and at least 80% of households effectively manage their solid and liquid waste and have a minimal litter and minimal stagnant water.

### 37. 4

The Power Ministry has successfully completed seven years of distributing and selling LED lights under its flagship UJALA programme. The initiative evolved into the world's largest zero subsidy domestic

lighting programme with more than 36.78 crore LEDs distributed across the country. The programme also resulted in massive energy savings.

**38. 1**

Mohammed Ben Sulayem has been elected as the new president of the F'd'ration Internationale de l'Automobile (FIA). He succeeds Jean Todt, who retires from the role after 12 years, having served the maximum three terms possible. Sulayem is first non-European president of motorsport's governing body. Sulayem is a 14-time Middle East rally champion and was previously vice president of mobility and tourism at the FIA.

**39. 4**

Narandran 'Jody' Kollapen, who is Indian origin, has been appointed to South Africa's highest judicial bench, the Constitutional Court. The appointment of 64-year-old Kollapen & Rammaka Steven Mathopo as the latest additions to the Constitutional Court after a lengthy process of public interviews. Both will take office from January 1, 2022. Capitals: Cape Town, Pretoria, Bloemfontein. President: Cyril Ramaphosa; Currency:- rand.

**40. 5**

India Yamaha Motor (IYM) Pvt Ltd. has announced that Eishin Chihana has taken charge of the Group's India operations as its new Chairman. He has replaced Mr. Motofumi Shitara. Chihana has been associated with Yamaha Motor Company and its group companies across the globe since 1991. He is an expert in different verticals like Sales, Marketing & Business Management.

**41. 5**

China expert and former Indian envoy to Beijing Vikram Misri has been appointed as the Deputy National Security Advisor (NSA) in the National Security Council Secretariat. Misri, an expert on China's issue is a 1989 batch IPS officer will succeed Pankaj Saran. He will report to national security adviser Ajit Doval. In 2012, he was appointed the private secretary to Prime Minister Manmohan Singh. The other two deputy NSAs are Rajender Khanna and Datta Pandsalgikar.

**42. 1**

Director General VS Pathania, took over as the 24th Chief of Indian Coast Guard. He is an alumnus of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington and National Defence College, New Delhi. The Flag Officer is a qualified helicopter pilot and holds a Master's Degree in Defence & Strategic Studies from the University of Madras.

**43. 4**

Tesla founder and CEO Elon Musk, disclosed that Indian-origin Ashok Elluswamy was the first employee to be hired for his electric vehicle company's Autopilot team. Before joining Tesla, Elluswamy was associated with Volkswagen Electronic Research Lab and WABCO Vehicle Control System. Ashok is the head of Autopilot engineering.

**44. 2**

Vinod Kannan took over as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Vistara airline. Kannan replaced Leslie Thng who was the CEO from July 16, 2017 to December 31, 2021. Vistara said Deepak Rajawat has been elevated to take up the role of Vistara's Chief Commercial Officer. Vistara, is a 51:49 joint venture between Tata Sons Private Limited and Singapore Airlines.

**45. 3**

Sudan's Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok has resigned after another day of mass protests rocked the capital Khartoum. Thousands marched against a recent deal he had done to share power with the army. It is another blow to Sudan's fragile attempts at a transition to democratic rule after the overthrow of Sudan's long-term authoritarian President Omar al-Bashir in 2019.

**46. 2**

Alka Mittal, has been given the additional charge of chairman and managing director of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC). With this appointment, Mittal has become the first woman ever to head ONGC as its CMD. She will hold the post for six months or until a regular appointment for the position is announced, whichever is earlier. Subhash Kumar, was given the additional charge of the post from April 1, 2021..

47. 4

Senior IAS officer, G Asok Kumar posted as additional secretary, Union ministry of Jal Shakti assumed the charge as Director General of National Mission for Clean Ganga, Ministry of Jal Shakti. Kumar, a 1991 batch of IAS officer has earlier also served in Civil Aviation and Power ministries and was also executive director of projects in National Mission for Clean Ganga.

48. 3

Anukrti Upadhyay has won the Sushila Devi Award 2021 for the Best Book of Fiction for her novel, Kintsugi, which was published by Fourth Estate imprint. This prize has been instituted by the Shri Ratanlal Foundation. Kintsugi ' named after the ancient Japanese art of mending broken objects with gold ' is a novel about young women breaching boundaries, overcoming trauma, and challenging the social order.

49. 5

NITI Aayog released the fourth edition of the State Health Index for 2019'20. The report, titled "The Healthy States, Progressive India", ranks states and Union Territories on their year-on-year incremental performance in health outcomes as well as their overall status. The index is being compiled and published since 2017. On overall ranking based on the composite index score in 2019'20, the top-ranking states were Kerala and Tamil Nadu among the 'Larger States', Mizoram and Tripura among the 'Smaller States', and DH&DD and Chandigarh among the UTs. The reports aim to nudge states/UTs towards building robust health systems and improving service delivery.

50. 4

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) has secured the top position as the most innovative educational institute in India. The Ministry of Education has launched the Atal Ranking of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) and IIT Madras has bagged rank 1 for the third consecutive year. IIT Madras falls under the 'Centrally Funded Technical Institutions (CFTI)/Central University/Institute of National Importance (technical)' category. This Third Edition of ARIIA has a special framework for non-technical institutions which will further strengthen the innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem in our education institutions. IIT Madras' initiatives like Nirmaan, IIT Madras Incubation Cell (IITMIC), IIT Madras Research Park, Gopalakrishnan Deshpande Centre for Innovation and Entrepreneurship and others help encourage innovation and entrepreneurship at multiple levels.

51. 5

December 24 is observed as the National Consumer Day or Bharatiya Grahak Diwas. Consumers are provided protection against unfair trade practices like hoarding, fake advertisements, false gift offers and many others. The overhauled Consumer Protection Bill, 2019 was passed by the Indian Parliament in August that year. 2021 Theme of National Consumer Day is 'Tackling Plastic Pollution'. There is a confusion between National Consumer Day and World Consumer Rights Day. Both the days have similar motives but they are celebrated on two different dates. World Consumer Rights Day is celebrated on March 15 and National Consumer Day is observed on December 24.

52. 3

Defence Research and Development Organisation is celebrating its 64th foundation day. It was on this day(Jan1st) in 1958 when DRDO was formed to make India strong and self-reliant in terms of science and technology and especially in military technologies. In the span of 63 years the organization has transformed the landscape of defence research and in the country.

53. 3

Commemorating the birth anniversary of the inventor of the Braille system, Louis Braille, and remembering his contribution towards the welfare of visually impaired people, January 4 is observed as the World Braille Day. World Braille Day was formed in 2019 by the United Nations General Assembly. The day is observed on the birth anniversary of Louis Braille who was born on January 4, 1809. The Braille language is a tactical method of representing alphabetic and numerical symbols using six dots. The method even helps visually impaired people to identify not only letters and numbers but also musical notes, scientific and mathematical symbols through the sense of touch.

54. 3

Every year on January 6, the World Day of War Orphans is recognized. The World Day of War Orphans 2022 reminds the world that caring for children in awful conditions is a duty, particularly in the face of a pandemic. The French organisation SOS Enfants en Detresses founded the World Day of War Orphans.

55. **2**

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, also known as Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day is celebrated to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots. It is celebrated every two years on 09 January.

56. **4**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared that December 26 shall henceforth be marked as 'Veer Baal Diwas' to pay homage to the courage of the 'Sahibzades', four sons of Guru Gobind Singh, the last Sikh guru. While all four were martyred, the date has been chosen as it was the day observed as the martyrdom day of the Sahibzadas Zorawar Singh and Fateh Singh.

57. **5**

The Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances (DARPG) and Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), in association with the state government of Telangana will organise the 24th national conference on e-Governance (NCeG) 2020-21 in Hyderabad. The theme of this conference is 'India's Techade: Digital Governance in a Post Pandemic World'.

58. **4**

Global satellite communications company Inmarsat has launched its first next-generation satellite, known as the I-6. Billed as the most sophisticated commercial communications satellite ever launched, the I-6 F1 is the first of seven new fully-funded Inmarsat satellites to be launched by 2024. The satellite was launched by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries from Japan. The Inmarsat-6s (I-6) are Inmarsat's first ever dual band hybrid L- and Ka-band satellites, with increased capacity and new technological advances for ELERA's transformational L-band services alongside additional Global Xpress (GX) high-speed broadband capacity.

59. **1**

China announced a 5-year roadmap to achieve its goal of becoming a global robotics innovation hub by 2025. It aims to do this by focusing on enhancements in key areas such as control panels & servomotors. China's Ministry of Industry & Information Technology revealed operating income from the country's robotics industry is expected to grow by around 20% per year by 2025. The 2021 World Robot Report shows that global manufacturing robot density hit an average of 126 robots per 10,000 employees in 2020, up from just 66 units in 2015. The three most automated countries are all in the Asia-Pacific region. South Korea leads the way with 932 units per 10,000 employees, followed by Singapore at 605 and Japan at 390.

60. **5**

Russia has launched a new nuclear powered icebreaker 'Sibir' (Project 22220) that will contribute to the rapidly growing fleet of lethal icebreakers to keep the Northern Sea Route open for year-round shipping through the Arctic enabling wider presence of India in the region. Arctic region is opening new opportunities for hydrocarbons. Russia - Chairman of Arctic council from 2021- 2023. Ural, Yakutia, and Chukotka nuclear icebreakers are now being built in St. Petersburg. The Project 22220 icebreakers will help unleash the traffic potential of the Northern Sea Route.

61. **5**

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) announced the opening of Urban Geospatial Data Stories Challenge to foster adoption of geospatial technologies & to promote innovation in India's urban ecosystem. The Challenge has been designed to promote Geospatial Policy and to make India a Geospatial enabled nation.

62. **1**

The Project 22350, Admiral Gorshkov, successfully conducted a series of tests of the hypersonic Zircon missile, a total of about 10 launches. Russia had confirmed that the military successfully fired a simultaneous salvo of its Zircon hypersonic missiles. Russia has carried out a number of successful tests of its Zircon hypersonic cruise missile. Russian President Vladimir Putin lauded the weapon as part of a new generation of unrivalled arms systems. Russia, the United States, France and China have all been experimenting with so-called hypersonic glide vehicles ' defined as reaching speeds of at least Mach 5.

63. **5**

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated Kalpana Chawla Centre for Research in Space Science and Technology (KCCRSST) at Chandigarh University. He also launched a Scholarship Scheme, worth Rs 10 crore, for the wards of Defence Personnel of the three Services. It is established with the objective of training students in space science and satellite development.

64. **1**

INS Khukri, the first of the indigenously built missile corvettes, was decommissioned "after 32 years of glorious service". The corvette was built by the Mazagaon Dock Shipbuilders on August 23, 1989 and had the distinction of being part of both the Western and Eastern Fleets. The ship solemn ceremony was held at Visakhapatnam. The ship was commissioned in Mumbai by Krishna Chandra Pant, the then Raksha Mantri and Sudha Mulla, wife of late Capt Mahendra Nath Mulla, MVC with Commander (now Vice Admiral Retired) Sanjeev Bhasin as her first Commanding Officer. According to an official release on Friday, the ship was affiliated with the Gorkha Brigade of the Indian Army and Lt General PN Ananthanarayan, President Gorkha Brigade, attended the solemn ceremony.

65. **4**

India has invited a total of 46 friendly foreign countries to participate in the multinational naval exercise Milan in Visakhapatnam, scheduled from February 25, 2022. The theme of this 11th edition of exercise Milan is camaraderie, cohesion and collaboration. Initiated in 1995, Exercise Milan is held biennially and conducted with friendly navies. The countries that have been extended invitations for participation include Russia, the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Israel, Iran, France, Japan, South Korea, Vietnam, Bangladesh, Brazil, United Arab Emirates, among others. In this regard, Eastern Naval Command Chief Staff Officer (Technical) Rear Admiral Sanjay Sadhu launched an official website of the Milan-2022 exercise. As per an official, India has increased its naval engagements with friendly nations at bilateral, trilateral and multilateral levels since 2018. Earlier, it was being held at Port Blair but this time it has been shifted to Visakhapatnam.

66. **3**

Former Chief of Army Staff, Gen. Nirmal Chander Vij released his new book titled 'The Kashmir Conundrum: The Quest for Peace in a Troubled Land'. The book claims to offer a 'complete picture' of the conflicts in Jammu and Kashmir, and the way forward. The book is published by HarperCollins India.

67. **5**

Ace cueist Pankaj Advani defended his national billiards title 'his 11th in the tournament' after he defeated his PSPB teammate Dhruv Sitwala 5-2 in a best of nine games final. Advani responded with breaks of 56 and 46 to restore parity at 1-1 after Sitwala's breaks of 64 and 42 late.

68. **5**

E.O. Wilson, known as 'Father of Biodiversity,' dies at 92. E.O. Wilson, the former Harvard University biologist and Pulitzer Prize winner whose study of ants and human behavior made him one of the world's most influential scientists and prompted his calls for action to protect millions of species on the planet, has died. He was 92.

69. **1**

Legendary social worker Sindhutai Sapkal - who is known for her work in raising orphaned children - passed away. Sindhutai was 73. She passed away in the Galaxy Hospital in Pune. In 2021, she was conferred with the coveted Padma Shri honour. Sindhutai devoted herself to orphans. She is fondly called "mai", which means "mother". She has nurtured over 1,500-plus orphaned children. She has a grand family of 382 sons-in-law, 49 daughters-in-law, and over a thousand grandchildren. She has received around 270 awards from various national and international organisations. A Marathi movie 'Mee Sindhutai Sapkal' was also released as her biopic in 2010.

70. **1**

Veteran freedom fighter, eminent lawyer and one of the early leaders of the BJP in Kerala, K Ayyappan Pillai passed away in the city at the age of 107 years. Pillai was one of the senior most members of the bar associations in the country. The centenarian was also the one of the first councillors of the Thiruvananthapuram Corporation.

71. **3**

Bahamian-American actor Sidney Poitier, who won an Academy Award for Best Actor in 1964, has died at the age of 94. In 1963, Poitier had made a film in Arizona, Lilies of the Field. The performance led to a huge milestone making him the first black winner of a lead-acting Oscar.

72. **1**

British-born Sikh army officer Preet Chandi has become the first woman of color to complete a solo expedition to the South Pole. Chandi, who has spent the past few months skiing solo and unsupported across Antarctica. Chandi, who adopted the nickname "Polar Preet" for her blog and fundraising efforts, spent two and a half years preparing for the grueling expedition. Capt. Chandi announced her history-making feat on her live blog at the end of Day 40 after travelling 700 miles (1,127 kilometres) while pulling a pulk or sledge with all of her kit and battling temperatures of minus 50 degrees Celsius and wind speeds of around 60mph. As part of a Medical Regiment in the northwest of England, Capt. Chandi's primary role is to organise and validate training for medics in the Army as Clinical Training Officer. Other women have skied to the South Pole, with Norway's Liv Arnesen the first in the world to make the trip alone and unsupported in 1994. But Chandi believes she is the first woman of color to do so solo and unsupported.

73. **2**

Pakistan on 6 Jan moved closer to appoint the first woman judge of the Supreme Court, after a high-power panel approved the elevation of Lahore High Court judge Ayesha Malik to the apex court. The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP) ' headed by Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed ' approved Malik's elevation by a majority of five votes against four.

74. **1**

India has released a special logo to mark the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations with Japan. The logo released to mark the occasion depicts a Peacock and a Green Pheasant, which are national birds of India and Japan respectively. The Green Pheasant forms the numeral 7 with its tail and the Peacock forms the numeral 0.

75. **3**

The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Nepal for the construction of a bridge over Mahakali River at Dharchula (India) - Dharchula (Nepal). The Cabinet also approved the signing of an agreement between India and Spain on "Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters".

76. **4**

Scientists have resumed tagging of Olive Ridley sea turtles at Rushikulya rookery along the Odisha coast, which would help them identify the migration path and places visited by the marine reptiles after congregation and nesting. The exercise was undertaken in Odisha in January 2021 after a span of about 25 years and 1,556 turtles had been tagged. Researchers of the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) are carrying out tagging of Olive Ridley turtles at three mass nesting sites ' Gahirmatha, Devi River mouth and Rushikulya. The metal tags affixed to turtles are non-corrosive and they do not harm their body. The metal can be removed later. The tags are uniquely numbered containing details such as name of organisation, country-code and email address.

77. **4**

A team of scientists are sailing to "the place in the world that's the hardest to get to" so they can figure out how much and how fast seas will rise because of global warming eating away at Antarctica's ice. Thirty-two scientists on Thursday are starting a more than two-month mission aboard an American research ship to investigate the crucial area where the massive but melting Thwaites glacier faces the Amundsen Sea and may eventually lose large amounts of ice because of warm water. The Florida-sized glacier has gotten the nickname the "doomsday glacier" because of how much ice it has and how much seas could rise if it all melts over the time.

78. **4**

Indian Army has launched indigenous in-house messaging application called ASIGMA. ASIGMA, which stands for Army Secure IndiGeneous Messaging Application, is a new generation, state-of-the-art, web-based application developed entirely in-house. The new application is being deployed on the Army's internal network as a replacement of Army Wide Area Network (AWAN) messaging application.

79. **2**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a portal and logo dedicated to the Conformity Assessment Scheme (CAS) of milk products developed by the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) with the help of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). The Unified Dairy Mark was launched under the CAS, which was notified by the BIS. The NDDB and the BIS have been involved in the certification of processes and products, respectively. While NDDB has been awarding 'Quality Mark' to various dairy plants of cooperatives that adhere to the process standards across the dairy value chain, the BIS has been providing product certification for various milk products being under the mandatory product certification of BIS for products. The CAS will simplify the certification process and the easily recognizable logo will reassure consumers about the quality of the dairy product and in turn, increase sales thereby augmenting the income of dairy farmers associated with this sector.

80. **1**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has embarked on a visit to Mandi, also known as 'Chhoti Kashi', and inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of hydropower projects worth Rs 11,000 cr that will help boost the state's economy and provide additional power to the states. He laid the foundation stone of Renukaji Dam project. Renukaji Dam project has been conceived as a storage project on Giri River (tributary of river Yamuna) in Sirmour District of Himachal Pradesh. It will generate electricity for the Himachal Pradesh. The 40 MW project will be built at a cost of around Rs 7,000 cr. One project that has been lying pending for around three decades will prove to be beneficial for Delhi, which will be able to receive around 500 million cubic metre water supply per year. The Prime Minister also laid the foundation stone of the Luhri Stage 1 Hydro Power Project. The 210 MW project will be built at a cost of over Rs 1,800 crore.

81. **3**

Himachal Pradesh has become the first LPG enabled and smoke free state in the country due to Ujjwala scheme of the Central Government and housewives welfare scheme of the State Government. The Center had started the Ujjwala scheme to rid women of serious diseases caused by smoke while lighting a wood stove. The state government also started to benefit more and more women. 1.36 lakh free domestic kitchen connections were given by the central government at a cost of Rs 21.81 crore under the Ujjwala scheme, while 3.23 lakh housewives spent about Rs 120 crore under the Himachal Pradesh state government's housewives welfare scheme. Provided free gas cylinders to them. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is a scheme of the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for providing LPG connections to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households. The scheme was launched on 1st May 2016 in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh. The target under the scheme was to release 8 Crore LPG Connections to the deprived households by March 2020.

82. **1**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved acquisition of a shareholding in Air India by Talace Private Limited, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Tata Sons. The regulator also approved stake acquisition by Talace in Air India Express and Air India SATS Airport Services along with the acquisition of shares in Air India. Civil aviation minister Jyotiraditya Scindia.

83. **1**

The Indian Olympic Association of India (IOA) has appointed Ice Hockey Association of India's general secretary, Harjinder Singh (former footballer), as the Chef de Mission of the country's contingent for the upcoming 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing. Singh was the Chef de Mission of the Indian contingent for the 23rd Winter Olympic Games too, which was held in Pyeongchang, South Korea in 2018. The Beijing Games, the 24th edition of the showpiece that started way back in 1924, will be held from 4 to 20 February. US, UK, Australia, Lithuania and Canada have decided to boycott the Beijing Winter Olympics due to the alleged human rights abuse in China. But Russian President Vladimir Putin recently confirmed he will attend the opening of the Winter Olympics in Beijing as a show of unity. Kashmir's Arif Khan is the only Indian athlete to have so far qualified for the upcoming Games.

84. **3**

Iris Wang (USA), Robin Tabeling (NED), Greysia Polii (INA), Kim Soyeong (KOR), Pusarla V Sindhu (IND) and Zheng Si Wei (CHN) are the ones appointed as members of the BWF Athletes' Commission. The Chair of the BWF Athletes' Commission, following a vetting process as required for all Council members, will become a member of Council until the next elections in 2025.

85. 2

CSC, an SPV under the Ministry of Electronics & IT, has tied up with Infosys to empower students in the age group of 10-22 yrs with digital skills through Infosys Springboard, a digital platform that helps accelerate reskilling and improves employability. They will work together to upskill students from underprivileged communities in rural & semi-urban areas. Infosys Springboard will help to bridge the digital divide and add value to our goal of inclusive education through CSCs. Infosys Springboard aims to enhance digital literacy of students and help them be competent in digital technologies and supporting life skills.

86. 1

Senior Indian diplomat Pradeep Kumar Rawat, who is well-versed in negotiating with Chinese diplomats, has been appointed as India's next Ambassador to China. Rawat's appointment comes amid the lingering border stand-off in eastern Ladakh. Rawat is currently the country's envoy to the Netherlands. He was an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1990 batch. He was joint secretary (East Asia) in the MEA when the Doklam border stand-off took place in 2017. He was involved in the negotiations during the early days before he moved to Indonesia as ambassador. Rawat served as India's envoy to Indonesia and Timor-Leste from September 2017 to December 2020. He had earlier served in Hong Kong and Beijing and speaks fluent Mandarin.

87. 1

Reliance Industries Ltd, India's largest corporate by revenues, profits and market value, topped 2021 Wizikey News Score ranking as India's most-visible corporate in the media. State Bank of India is a close second on the ranking, followed by Bharti Airtel, Infosys and Tata Motors. Wizikey's News Score is industry's first integrated metric that measures news visibility. Reliance is ranked at No.8 on the global ranking. Globally, Facebook is ranked No.1 on the index, followed by Alphabet Inc, which owns Google. Amazon is ranked at No.3 followed by Apple Inc, Samsung Electronics, Netflix and Microsoft. Others on the India list include HDFC at No.6, followed by HDFC Bank, TCS, Maruti Suzuki India, Vodafone Idea and ICICI Bank. NTPC is the highest-ranked state-owned firm on the list, coming in at No.13. The recognition to Reliance comes on the back of Exchange4Media Group's recognition recently to the billionaire Mukesh Ambani-led group as one of India's Brands with Best In-house Communications Professionals 2021. Wizikey's News Score is the world's first standardised metric to measure news visibility for brands and individuals using artificial intelligence, big data, machine learning and media intelligence. Wizikey in a separate report 'Hottest Startups of 2021' identified the top-200 most influential start-ups in India across sectors such as fintech, edtech, B2B e-commerce, enterprise tech and logistics, with crypto start-ups making their debut.

88. 2

As a part of Azaadi Ka Amrut Mahotsav celebrations in the 75th Year of India's Independence, a Good Governance Week is being celebrated from Dec 20-25, 2021 with Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances as the Nodal Department. 'Prashasan Gaon Ki Aur'- a Nation-wide campaign for Redressal of Public Grievances & Improving Service Delivery. Minister of State for PMO; Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions :- Dr Jitendra Singh

89. 2

Atul Dinkar Rane has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the BrahMos Aerospace Limited that manufactures the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile. His pioneering contributions and techno-managerial leadership has been transformative for the successful development and induction of BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile into Armed Forces. BrahMos is a medium-range ramjet supersonic cruise missile, Maximum speed: Mach 4.

90. 4

Union Minister Rajeev Chandrashekhkar has inaugurated the MedTech Centre of Entrepreneurship established at Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGI) in Lucknow. The center will boost cross-disciplinary application development like medical plus technology in the state. Dr Saurabh Srivastava, former chairman of NASSCOM, the chief mentor of MedTech CoE. MedTech is a Centre of Entrepreneurship (CoE) in Medical Electronics and Health Informatics is an initiative of the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), an autonomous society under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY). This CoE at Lucknow is being set up by STPI & MeitY in collaboration with Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGI), Lucknow, Department of IT & Electronics (Govt. of UP), Association of Medical Device Industry (AIMED) and Andhra Pradesh MedTech

Zone (AMTZ). The Medi electronics sector is currently estimated to be at \$10 billion and is expected to grow to \$50 billion by 2025.

91. **5**

Dr.Cyrus Poonawalla, chairman of Pune based vaccine maker Serum Institute of India (SII), will be honoured with the prestigious Lokmanya Tilak National Award for 2021.

The award ceremony will take place on August 13 and comprises cash prize of Rs.1 lakh and a memento. The award is annually given on August 1, the death anniversary of Lokmanya Tilak. The award was started in 1983. Some recipients: Indira Gandhi, S M Joshi, Manmohan Singh etc

92. **5**

India took over the Presidency of the United Nations Security Council for the month of August. The External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar said, India's vision has been steered by Dialogue and Cooperation, mutual respect and commitment to International law. Maritime security, peacekeeping and counter-terrorism will be the focus areas for India during its presidency

93. **2**

Indian shuttler P V Sindhu won the bronze medal in the women's single match in Tokyo 2020 Olympics . PV Sindhu defeated He Bing Jiao of China by 21-13 and 21-15 in the bronze medal match and became the first Indian woman to win two Olympic medals. Sindhu won silver at Rio 2016. Wrestler Sushil Kumar is the first and only other Indian to win two Olympic medals.

First Indian to win two olympic medal : Wrestler Sushil Kumar

First Indian Woman to win Olympic medal : P V Sindhu

94. **3**

Swiss drug major Roche launched Evrysdi (risdiplam), the first and only approved drug in India for Spinal Muscular Atrophy (SMA), a progressive rare neuromuscular disease. Evrysdi, a breakthrough orally administered treatment for SMA patients, was first approved by the USFDA in 2020 and is made available in India within 11 months of US approval.

95. **3**

Glenmark Pharmaceuticals and SaNOTize Research and Development Corp announced an exclusive long term strategic partnership to manufacture, market and distribute its breakthrough Nitric Oxide Nasal Spray (NONS) in Asian markets including India, Singapore, Malaysia, Hong Kong, Taiwan, Nepal, Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Timor Leste and Vietnam, Glenmark said in a regulatory filing

96. **2**

The Indian Air Force (IAF) formally inducted the second squadron of Rafale jets at West Bengal's Hasimara air base in Eastern Air Command (EAC). Hasimara is the second IAF base to be equipped with Rafale aircraft. The first squadron of the Rafale jets is stationed at Ambala Air Force station. India has so far received 26 Rafale aircraft out of the 36 it has ordered from Dassault Aviation. The Rafale jets are India's first major acquisition of fighter planes in 23 years after the Sukhoi jets were imported from Russia

97. **2**

NITI Aayog today released a report which presents reform pathways to transform the country's power distribution sector. The report, titled 'Turning Around the Power Distribution Sector', is co-authored by NITI Aayog, RMI and RMI India. The report presents a review of reform efforts in the Indian and global power distribution sector. This report presents policymakers with a menu of reform options

98. **2**

In a major boost to exports of exotic fruit, consignments of fiber and mineral rich dragon fruit, which are sourced from farmers of Gujarat and West Bengal, have been exported for the first time to London and Bahrain. The consignment of exotic fruit exported to London was sourced from farmers of Kutch, Gujarat, while the consignment exported to Bahrain was sourced from the farmers of West Bengal

99. **2**

Frenchman Esteban Ocon won a chaotic Hungarian Grand Prix while Lewis Hamilton finished third to take the Formula One championship lead from Max Verstappen. Sebastian Vettel lost his second-place

finish in Hungarian Formula One Grand Prix after being disqualified by stewards for a fuel irregularity. Verstappen placed 10th after being taken out early in the race.

100. **2**

Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has constructed and black-topped the highest motorable road in the world at 19,300 ft at Umlingla Pass in Eastern Ladakh, creating a record in high-altitude road construction. It has constructed a 52-km long tarmac road through Umlingla Pass, bettering the previous record of a road in Bolivia connecting to its volcano Uturuncu at 18,953 ft.

With this record, India has smashed Bolivia's record, which connected a road to its volcano Uturuncu at 18,953 feet. Previous to Bolivia's record, the Khardung La pass in Ladakh at 17,600 feet was the highest motorable road in the world.

101. **4**

Uttarakhand becomes the first state to launch an earthquake alert app named 'Uttarakhand Bhookamp Alert'. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami launched the app, available for download on both Android and iOS platforms. The app was developed by the Uttarakhand State Disaster Management Authority and the Indian Institute of Technology-Roorkee

102. **1**

Indian Institute of Technology Madras has launched the country's first consortium for Virtual Reality called 'Consortium for VR/AR/MR Engineering Mission in India' (CAVE). This consortium, including a group of academic institutions, industries, start-ups and government bodies, is coordinated by IIT Madras.

The consortium will promote best practices, dialogue with all stakeholders

103. **5**

Karnataka becomes first state to issue order to implement New Education Policy 2020 from current academic session. Karnataka Government has issued an order to implement the National Education Policy from the current academic year 2021-22. Karnataka has become the first state in the country to issue an order to implement the new Education policy. NEP aims at increasing the Gross Enrollment ratio in higher education from 26.8% in 2018 to 50 percent by 2035 in the area of education

104. **1**

Social Justice and Empowerment Min Dr Virendra Kumar launched PM-DAKSH Portal and PM-DAKSH Mobile App developed by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with NeGD, to make the skill development schemes accessible to the target groups. With this youth of the target groups will now be able to avail the benefits of skill development training programmes. The Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi : PM-DAKSH Yojana

105. **1**

PM Narendra Modi will become the first Indian Prime Minister to preside over a UN Security Council Open Debate. PM Modi will chair a high-level open debate on "Enhancing Maritime Security " A Case for International Cooperation". The open debate will focus on ways to effectively counter maritime crime and insecurity, and strengthen coordination in the maritime domain.

106. **1**

PM Narendra Modi will launch the second phase of Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (Ujjwala 2.0) by handing over the LPG connections at Mahoba in Uttar Pradesh. Under Ujjwala 2.0, one crore LPG connections will be provided to those low-income families who could not be covered under the first phase of the scheme. This will provide the first refill and hotplate stove free of cost to the beneficiaries. Ujjwala Yojana was launched by PM Modi on May 1st, 2016. Ujjwala 1.0 covered more than 1.47 cr connections.

Here only statement I is not true as the LPG connections will be provided to the families who could not be covered under the first phase of the scheme.

107. **3**

Tata group company Nelco is in talks with Canadian firm Telesat to ink a commercial pact for launching fast satellite broadband services in India under the latter's Lightspeed brand, a move which will pit the combine against Bharti Enterprises-backed OneWeb, Elon Musk's SpaceX and Amazon. OneWeb and Musk's Starlink are gearing up to start satellite broadband services in India next year.

108. **5**

South Africa grants a patent relating to a "food container based on fractal geometry" to an artificial intelligence (AI) system called DABUS. DABUS (which stands for "device for the autonomous bootstrapping of unified sentience") is an AI system created by Stephen Thaler, a pioneer in the field of AI and programming. The system simulates human brainstorming and creates new inventions.

109. **3**

Facebook is launching a one-year joint initiative with UNICEF India on ending violence against children with a special focus on online safety. The partnership seeks to create a safe environment for children online as well as offline, and aims to improve the 'resilience' and 'capacity' of children to access the digital world safely as well as increase skills of communities.

110. **4**

The Minister of State for External Affairs Dr. Rajkumar Ranjan Singh led India's delegation to the 28th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Foreign Ministers Meeting. The Meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Brunei Darussalam. The ARF member countries exchanged views on international and regional issues, as well as future direction of the ARF.

111. **1**

For the first time a woman, Dhriti Banerjee has been appointed as the director of the Zoological Survey of India. She has been an eminent scientist conducting research in zoogeography, taxonomy, morphology among others. Started in July 1916, the ZSI is headquartered in Kolkata with 16 regional centres under the ministry of environment and forests and climate change.

112. **5**

The Athletics Federation of India has announced that August 7 each year would be celebrated as National Javelin Throw Day with competitions in all States and Union Territories to commemorate Neeraj Chopra winning the country's first athletics gold medal in the Olympic Games in Tokyo. He became only the second Indian to win an individual Olympic gold in Tokyo, after Abhinav Bindra.

113. **2**

A new book revisits the chain of real-life events surrounding February 2019 Pulwama suicide bombing attack, and India's strong hit-back in the form of Balakot airstrikes twelve days later. "Balakot Air Strike: How India Avenged Pulwama", published by Garuda Prakashan, is written by Navy veteran Manan Bhatt. The book is a detailed account of the two epochal events.

114. **2**

Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas Rameswar Teli launched 3rd ONGC handicraft project 'Ujjwal Abahan'. The ONGC supported Assam Handloom project will support and train over a hundred artisans of Bhatiapar of Sivasagar, Assam in Hathkargha handicraft. This project is in line with the government's observance of "Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav"

115. **5**

Cleanest city of the country Indore has now been declared as the first Water Plus city of the country. The results were released by the Central Government. Indore is the number one city in the country for four times in the cleanliness category. The Water Plus certificate is awarded to cities that have met all the standards of ODF Double Plus. Reuse of treated wastewater is also ensured for this award

116. **3**

The cartoony Miraitowa is the official mascot of the Tokyo Olympics, and it comes with surprising powers the athletes can only envy. Every Olympics has its own mascot, officially hailed as the ambassador of the Games. Tokyo has two: Miraitowa for the Olympics and Someity for the Paralympic Games.

The name MIRAITOWA is based on the Japanese words "mirai", meaning "future", and "towa", meaning "eternity", representing the wish that the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games will lead to a future of everlasting hope in the hearts of everyone around the world.

117. **4**

In the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha inaugurated the "Bungus Awaam Mela" at Bungus Valley in north Kashmir's Kupwara district amidst grand arrangements

for village games, exhilarating local performances, and other activities to celebrate the 75th year of Independence Day at Bungus valley

**118. 2**

India's lightest and Pune's first Metro train was rolled out in Italy. It will be delivered in India by December 2021. Titagarh Wagons Ltd, a company based out of Titagarh in West Bengal displayed its first train manufactured for Pune Metro. The company's subsidiary in Europe, Titagarh Firema, was given a contract for the design, manufacture and supply of 34 trains to MahaMetro

**119. 2**

Thomas Dennerby has been appointed Indian women's national team coach ahead of the 2022 AFC Women's Asian Cup in India next year.

Dennerby replaces Maymol Rocky, who stepped down due to personal reasons.

Dennerby, who was earlier in charge of the Indian U-17 Women's World Cup squad, has over 30 years of coaching experience with several national squads

**120. 4**

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar launched an online portal TAPAS (Training for Augmenting Productivity and Services). TAPAS is the National Institute of Social Defence (NISD) initiative to provide access to lectures by subject experts, study material, and more. It supplements the physical classroom without compromising on the quality of teaching. The main objective of introducing the course modules is to impart training and enhance the knowledge and skills for the capacity building of the participants.

**121. 3**

Mahatma Gandhi would be the first Indian to receive a Congressional Gold Medal, an honour bestowed upon great figures as George Washington, Nelson Mandela, Martin Luther King Jr, Mother Teresa, and Rosa Parks. The prestigious Congressional Gold Medal to Mahatma Gandhi is given posthumously in recognition of his promotion of peace and nonviolence. The medal is the highest civilian award in the United States.

**122. 4**

India fell six spots to the 32nd place in the global coronavirus innovation rankings for countries, as per a report prepared by StartupBlink in association with Health Innovation Exchange, UNAIDS. The report features the top-ranked 40 countries and 100 cities in the world based on innovative solutions developed to face the pandemic. There are 3 most notable innovations in the country. They are OneBreath for treatment, CareMother for diagnostics and Serum Institute of India for prevention.

**123. 4**

Legendary Germany and Bayern Munich footballer (striker) Gerd Muller has died at the age of 75. Muller won the 1972 European Championship, the 1974 World Cup, a Club World Cup, three European Cups, a European Cup-Winners' Cup, four Bundesliga titles and four German Cups. He also won the Ballon d'Or in 1970. His total of 365 Bundesliga goals remains a German record.

**124. 1**

Skateboarding at the Tokyo 2020 provided an exciting and momentous occasion as the sport made its debut at the games. Japan's Horigome Yuto won the first ever Olympic Skateboarding gold medal in the inaugural men's street skateboarding event at Ariake Urban Sports Park. After a gruelling seven rounds, the Japanese skateboarder took the title in style with a score of 37.18. Brazil's Kelvin Hoefler and Jagger Eaton of the USA scored 36.15 and 35.35 respectively to secure the silver and bronze medals.

**125. 4**

Bollywood star Ayushmann Khurrana has been appointed as UNICEF India's Celebrity Advocate for their global campaign EVAC (Ending Violence Against Children). Through the initiative, he aims at building awareness on a national level about online safety for Indian children. Khurrana believes in ending violence against children everywhere & to help them participate actively in the digital society.

**126. 2**

India to support UN in roll out of UNITE AWARE " a technology platform for peacekeeping missions. External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar is currently chairing the UN Security Council Open Debate on 'Technology and Peacekeeping' at UN headquarters in New York. He announced India's support to the

UN in roll out of UNITE AWARE " a technology platform for peacekeeping missions. UN peacekeeping missions continue to operate in challenging settings involving terrorists

127. 1

Young cager Princepal Singh etched his name in the record books when he became the first Indian to be part of an NBA title-winning team. Princepal is part of the Sacramento Kings which clinched the 2021 NBA Summer League crown. The 6-foot-9 forward made history by being the first Indian to be part of a championship roster at any level of the NBA.

128. 1

A new book titled "Mission Domination: An Unfinished Quest" authored by Boria Majumdar & Kushan Sarkar.

It was revealed that Rohit Sharma wasn't happy after World Cup 2019 despite his individual brilliance and the book was released recently.

The book recalled the moments after the World cup 2019 loss as well.

It has been published by Simon and Schuster Publisher India Private Limited.

129. 3

GoI's think-tank NITI Aayog, in collaboration with World Resources Institute (WRI), launched the Forum for Decarbonising Transport in the country. The forum launched by NITI Aayog and WRI aims to create a platform to initiate dialogues for the development of uniform policies and help achieve specific results in reducing carbon emissions by promoting electric vehicles.

130. 4

East Sikkim has topped in terms of meeting sustainable development goals in the Niti Aayog's North Eastern Region (NER) District SDG Index Report 2021-22 and Nagaland's Kiphire featured at the bottom. It was the release of the first edition of the NER District SDG Index Report and Dashboard 2021-22 by NITI Aayog and the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region.

131. 4

At the 7th meeting of the BRICS Environment Ministerial 2021, the Environment Ministers adopted the New Delhi Statement on Environment, which is aimed at furthering the spirit of Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation, and Consensus in Environment among the BRICS Nations. The 13th BRICS Summit is going to be held under India's Chairmanship in 2021.

132. 3

Mission Karmayogi aims to create a dedicated workforce not only for the Civil Services but more than that it would serve the cause of Indian society. The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building ('NPCSCB') "Mission Karmayogi" was approved by the Government in 2020 with the objective of enhancing governance through Civil Services Capacity Building.

133. 2

In Tripura, Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated a project called 'My Pad, My Right' initiated by NABARD and NAB FOUNDATION at Killa village in Gomati district on the second and concluding day of her visit to the state. The project aims to bring livelihood and menstrual hygiene closer to rural women by way of grant, wage support and capital equipment.

134. 4

Digital payments and financial services firm Paytm has signed an agreement with IT ministry's startup hub to scale deep-tech startups by providing access to platform, knowledge series, experts, resources, and larger community of stakeholders. The collaboration also focuses on fostering partnerships with incubators, accelerators, investors, offering a startup toolkit to solve payments.

135. 5

Harish Parvathaneni (IFS: 1990) appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Federal Republic of Germany. He is presently Additional Secretary in the Ministry. He is expected to take up the assignment shortly.

136. **3**

National Small Industry Day: 30 August

The National Small Industry Day is celebrated on 30 August. This day is specially dedicated to motivate and promote small industrial businesses. It also helps to promote the small-scale business industry growth.

137. **1**

In Tokyo Paralympics, India's Nishad Kumar has won silver medal with a best effort of 2.06 meter in Men's High Jump T47 event. Nishad Kumar also created a new Asian Record with the effort. Ram Pal finished 5th with a personal best mark of 1.94m. Also, In Tokyo Paralympics, Vinod Kumar wins Bronze medal with a best effort of 19.91 meter in Men's Discus Throw F52 event.

138. **2**

- Recently, in August 2021, Lovlina Borgohain won the bronze medal in women's Welterweight (69kg) boxing category, after going down against Busenaz Surmeneli from Turkey.
- She is the 2nd Indian female boxer, after MC Mary Kom, to win an Olympic bronze.
- Lovlina Borgohain hails from Golaghat district of Assam.

139. **1**

- Recently, in August 2021, United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) approved a resolution to establish a Permanent Forum of People of African Descent, to provide expert advice on addressing the challenges of racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and intolerance.
- The resolution adopted by consensus by the 193-member world body also calls for the forum to serve as "a platform for improving the safety and quality of life and livelihoods of people of African descent" and their full inclusion in the societies where they live.
- The forum's establishment comes during the International Decade for People of African Descent, established by the General Assembly, which began on January 1, 2015, and ends on December 31, 2024. It is focusing on the themes of recognition, justice and development.

140. **1**

Odisha-born neurosurgeon Dr Basant Kumar Misra has been conferred the prestigious American Association of Neurological Surgeons' 'International Lifetime Achievement Award in Neurosurgery'. Misra is the first Indian physician to receive the AANS honor which was conferred on him at a virtual ceremony during the AANS Annual Scientific Meeting 2021 held in Orlando, Florida. He was the world's first surgeon to perform Computer-Guided Aneurysm surgery.

141. **3**

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras is developing an innovative model to tackle electronic wastes (e-waste) by linking stakeholders in the formal and informal economy, Called "e-Source", the exchange platform that will serve as an online marketplace for Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and facilitate a formal supply chain between various stakeholders (buyers and sellers). The initiative is being spearheaded by Indo-German Centre for Sustainability (IGCS).

E-Source is a unique open-source platform that will evolve towards using machine learning for better traceability of e-waste in compliance with guidelines and help increase the opportunities for repair and re-use of e-waste,

142. **3**

The National Security Guard (NSG), the federal contingency 'Zero Error' Force mandated to neutralise terrorism and hijacking threats in all its manifestations at the pan India level, has launched a weeklong exercise 'Gandiv' to validate planning parameters.

The exercise will cover potential targets in multiple cities of Uttar Pradesh, NCR, Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh, etc.

NSG Founded: 22 September 1986;

Headquarters: New Delhi

143. **1**

Microsoft's stock becomes world's most valuable after it's share rose as much as 1.1% to hit a market value of 2.46 trillion Dollars blowing past Apple in October last week. The drop in Apple Inc.'s shares propelled Microsoft Corp. to the position of the world's largest listed company by market capitalization.

144. **4**

Power Ministry has said that India is committed to achieve more than 40 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil-fuel energy resources by 2030. The Ministry said, government has identified new areas to achieve higher levels of penetration of Renewable energy by proposing certain Amendments to Energy Conservation Act, 2001.

145. **4**

At COP26, Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave a five-pronged target for India and finally committed to a Net Zero-emission target by 2070, joining the likes of the US, the UK, and China. Net Zero is achieved when the amount of greenhouse gas produced is offset by the amount removed from the atmosphere. Prime Minister also upped the renewable energy target of the country to 500 Gw by 2030.

146. **1**

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH Shri Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated a new Lighthouse at Valiyazhikkal in Alappuzha district of Kerala. Construction of the lighthouse will immensely benefit the mariners plying in this Kerala region and the local fishermen will benefit for Daymark in the day time and Safe return in Night time from the sea.

147. **5**

The 5th edition of Ganga Utsav began virtually with much fun and festivities. The much-awaited Ganga Utsav 2021 The River Festival will not only celebrate the glory of the river Ganga but all the rivers of the country. Taking inspiration from the Prime Minister's call for 'Nadi Utsav' i.e. celebrating rivers, the aim is to take Ganga Utsav to all the river basins in India. Continuous Learning and Activity Portal (CLAP) developed by NMCG in association with Tree Craze Foundation was launched. NMCG also got registered in the Guinness Book of World Records on the first day of the Ganga Utsav " the River Festival 2021 for most photos of handwritten notes uploaded to Facebook in one hour. Ganga Atlas developed by IIT Kanpur Launched during Ganga Utsav.

148. **2**

Bhasha Sangam is an initiative of the Ministry of Education under Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat, to teach basic sentences of everyday usage in 22 Indian languages. The idea is that people should acquire basic conversational skills in an Indian language other than their mother tongue. Bhasha Sangam Mobile App was developed in collaboration with myGov, by a start-up Multibhashi. Bhasha Sangam Initiative for schools is developed by NCERT.

149. **1**

Industry chamber FICCI announced Arun Chawla has been appointed as its new director-general. He joined the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry in 2011 and is currently the deputy secretary-general of the chamber.

150. **2**

Indian Oil Corp (IOC) will invest Rs 3,681 crore in setting up India's first mega-scale Maleic Anhydride Plant to manufacture value-added chemical products at its Panipat refinery and petroleum complex (PRPC) in Haryana. The project is proposed to have a capacity of 120,000 tonnes per annum of Maleic Anhydride (MAH).

151. **4**

A joint statement issued after Prime Minister Narendra Modi held the first in-person meeting with his Italian counterpart Mario Draghi on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Rome, said the two leaders agreed to encourage joint investments of Indian and Italian companies in energy transition-related fields. Two countries have agreed to explore the development of green hydrogen, setting up renewable energy corridors, and joint projects in the natural gas sector as the two nations sought to strengthen partnerships in the energy transition.

152. **1**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched Infrastructure for Resilient Island States (IRIS) for developing the infrastructure of small island nations, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi saying it will give new hope, new confidence, and satisfaction of doing something for the most vulnerable countries facing the biggest threat from climate change. The IRIS initiative is a part of Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).

153. **2**

The Climate Finance Leadership Initiative launched jointly by the UK and India in September this year to support climate and green energy projects in India will have leading Indian and global business groups as founding members. CFLI India members include Tata Sons, GIC Private Limited, Goldman Sachs, HDFC Bank, HSBC, Kotak Mahindra Bank, L&T, SBI, and Macquarie Group.

154. **4**

Yahoo Inc. announced that it has pulled out of China, citing an increasingly challenging operating environment. The withdrawal was largely symbolic, as many of the company's services were already blocked by China's digital censorship. The company's move comes as the American and Chinese governments feud over technology and trade.

155. **2**

WHO has granted emergency use listing (EUL) to COVAXIN (developed by Bharat Biotech), adding to a growing portfolio of vaccines validated by WHO for the prevention of COVID-19. The Technical Advisory Group of WHO, which met earlier in the day to decide on Covaxin, has recommended emergency use listing (EUL) status for the vaccine for use on all age groups above 18. The two doses of the vaccine are to be administered at a gap of four weeks.

156. **3**

South African playwright and novelist Damon Galgut won the 2021 Booker Prize for "The Promise", his third shortlisted novel which chronicles a family in his homeland from the late apartheid era through to Jacob Zuma's presidency. Spanning several decades, the book shows the family's growing disintegration as the country emerges into democracy.

157. **4**

CSIR, UT of Ladakh will start commercial cultivation of sea buckthorn berry

158. **2**

Britain's health regulators have approved the world's first pill to treat cases of symptomatic COVID-19. Medicines and Healthcare Products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) said, the antiviral molnupiravir has been found to be safe and effective at reducing the risk of hospitalisation and death in people with mild to moderate COVID-19, who are at increased risk of developing disease.

159. **5**

China successfully launched a Guangmu Earth-science satellite via a Long March-6 carrier rocket from Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center.

Guangmu is the world's first Earth-science satellite dedicated to serving the United Nations 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda upon the 50th anniversary of the restoration of the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the UN.

Developed by the Chinese Academy of Sciences, the satellite will carry out precision analysis of energy consumption, habitat patterns and coastal areas in the vicinity of human populations, and provide data for sustainable development indicators. The 395th flight of the Long March rocket series, marks a perfect conclusion for the Long March-6 carrier rocket's four missions this year. The launch vehicle is the country's new-generation, non-polluting liquid-fueled rocket, capable of performing a variety of orbital launch missions that can support multi-satellite launches, satellite constellation and complementary satellite network missions. It can carry a payload of up to one ton to the 700-kilometer Sun-synchronous orbit.

160. **2**

Kerala has been ranked as the best-governed state in the Public Affairs Index (PAI) 2021.

Kerala has been ranked among the top three states in all major pillars analysed in the index including equity, growth and sustainability.

Public Affairs Index (PAI) 2021 released by the Public Affairs Centre.

Karnataka dropped three places to be adjudged seventh in the Public Affairs Index (PAI) 2021.

Top performers: Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Telangana occupy the top three spots due to their consistent performance across both pillars.

Meanwhile, in its analysis of various centrally sponsored schemes, Public Affairs Centre (PAC), a Bengaluru-based not-for-profit think tank, found that Karnataka implemented the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) in the best manner among all the schemes in the state.

The report highlighted that four out of the top five positions in the Covid-19 response index were southern states including Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Andhra Pradesh (top three) besides Karnataka (5th). This index subsumed preparedness and containment.

161. **5**

India's first export of LD slag to Bangladesh. LD (Linz-Donawitz) slag is produced during the steel-making process. Tata Steel BSL has exported 9,000 tonnes of LD slag, a by-product of manufacturing the metal, to Bangladesh, in the first such shipment from India to the neighbouring country. It shipped out the product through Dhamra Port to the Bangladesh market from its unit in Odisha's Dhenkanal district.

162. **5**

One of India's favourite authors Sudha Murty has a Diwali gift for children " her latest book "The Sage with Two Horns" in which she tells numerous lesser-known and fascinating stories that have been lost in the pages of Indian mythology.

This is the fifth and last book of her 'Unusual Tales from mythology' series featuring kings and queens, gods and goddesses, sages, etc.

"The Sage with Two Horns" has stories ranging from quarrels among gods and the follies of great sages to the benevolence of kings and the virtues of ordinary mortals.

It is the follow up to "The Man from the Egg", "Serpent's Revenge", "The Upside-Down King" and "The Daughter from the Wishing Tree".

Over the five volumes, Sudha Murthy has gone through different versions of the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and the Bhagavad Gita in different states and languages. Each book is independent of the other but even together, they are far from being exhaustive, she writes. Published by Puffin, the book has illustrations by Priyanka Gupta.

163. **4**

NITI Aayog released a comprehensive report titled Health Insurance for India's Missing Middle, which brings out the gaps in the health insurance coverage across the Indian population and offers solutions to address the situation.

The report was launched in the presence of NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant and Additional Secretary Dr Rakesh Sarwal.

This report is an effort to re-invigorate the dialogue on increasing financial protection for health and the broader goal of Universal Health Coverage. The Ayushman Bharat " Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana" a flagship scheme towards Universal Health Coverage, and State Government extension schemes "provides comprehensive hospitalization cover to the bottom 50% of the population. Around 20% of the population is covered through social health insurance, and private voluntary health insurance primarily designed for high-income groups. The remaining 30% of the population, devoid of health insurance, is termed as the "missing middle". The missing middle contains multiple groups across all expenditure quintiles and is spread across both urban and rural areas.

The report has recommended three models for increasing the health insurance coverage in the country. The first model focuses on increasing consumer awareness of health insurance, while the second model is about "developing a modified, standardized health insurance product" like 'Arogya Sanjeevani', a standardised health insurance product launched by the Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI) in April 2020. The third model expands government subsidized health insurance through the PMJAY scheme to a wider set of beneficiaries. This model can be utilized for segments of the missing middle which remain uncovered, due to limited ability to pay for the voluntary contributory models outlined above. This is the only model out of three proposed which has fiscal implications for the Government.

164. **2**

Maharashtra became the first state in the country to release a 'Wildlife Action Plan'. The course of action is for 10 years (2021-2030) where the effect of climate change on wildlife and other ecosystems within the state will be recognised and studied, in order to be prepared to tackle it.

165. **1**

The Oxford Dictionary has declared 'Vax' as the word of the year for the year 2021 due to its frequent usage throughout the year as medical breakthroughs happened around the world.

The word Vax is defined as, "a colloquialism meaning either vaccine or vaccination as a noun and vaccinate as a verb."

According to 'a report into the language of vaccines' by Oxford Languages, the word 'vax' had appeared more than 72 times by September than the same time last year. Post the development of vaccines for Covid-19, the year 2021 marked large-scale vaccine drives in nations worldwide - just in India, 100 crore vaccine doses were administered as of October 21, 2021. The appearance of the word 'vaccine' itself doubled between September 2020 and September 2021 according to the report by Oxford Languages. Other words related to vaccines like 'vaccinate' and 'vaccination' also recorded a 34-fold increase and an 18-fold increase, respectively, as stated in the report.

**166. 1**

Telangana's capital city Hyderabad is now home to India's largest landfill gas-to-compressed biogas plant as Ramky Enviro has inaugurated the facility at the Hyderabad Integrated Municipal Solid Waste site.

The project converts landfill gas into compressed biogas & offers significant benefits such as carbon sequestration, reduced emissions of GHGs into the environment.

The successful transformation of one of the largest municipal waste dumpsites in India to a significant source of sustainable energy and green auto fuel, is a great example of circular economy innovation at scale, one that is unprecedented globally. Ramky Enviro Engineers Ltd (REEL) provides comprehensive environment management services. REEL offers environmental services and infrastructure solutions under various categories such as waste management, waste to energy, recycling and environment solutions such as remediation. It manages approximately six million tonnes per annum of municipal solid waste in 21 cities spread across India and over one million tonnes per annum of industrial hazardous waste.

**167. 3**

Tajamul Islam, 13, is the first Kashmiri girl to have represented India and won the gold medal "in the under-14 age category" in World Kickboxing Championship held at Cairo in Egypt.

She was born in Tarkpora, a remote village in north Kashmir's Bandipora district.

Tajamul is also a brand ambassador of Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) scheme.

**168. 5**

Chief of Defence Staff General Bipin Rawat will inaugurate the 14th edition of 'c0c0n', an annual Hacking and Cyber Security Briefing, which will be held virtually from Nov 10-13.

The conference, which is being conducted by Kerala Police in association with two non-profit organisations, Society for the Policing of Cyberspace and Information Security Research Association.

Theme of this year's 'c0c0n' is - Improvise, Adapt and Overcome.

The conference aims to discuss at the international level the challenges facing the digital world during the COVID period and the solutions needed to overcome them. It also provides an information sharing platform on cyber security issues, enhancement of law enforcement

agencies/corporates/researchers/academia's effectiveness and efficiency through the improvement of the technical and administrative capabilities in incident handling and a channel to discuss strategic directions and future challenges.

The Jana Sevaka pilot project was launched in T. Dasarahalli assembly constituency of Bengaluru North on March 2, 2019 and was extended to three more assembly constituencies eventually. The scheme had seen over 95,000 applications received through Janasevaka.

**169. 1**

Sankalp Gupta has become India's 71st Grandmaster by scoring 6.5 points and finishing second in the GM Ask 3 round-robin event in Arandjelovac, Serbia.

The Maharashtra player also touched the 2500 Elo rating mark during the tournament.

To achieve the GM title, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points.

**170. 3**

Gujarat, Haryana & Punjab are the best performing states in terms of mobility of goods and efficiency of logistics chain, according to the third edition of the government's ranking of states based on logistics infrastructure.

Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra made up the rest of the top-5 states.

Haryana jumped to the second-highest position up from 6th in the previous ranking.

Launched in 2018, the Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) index developed by the Commerce and Industry Ministry and Deloitte ranks states in terms of the logistical support they provided to promote goods trade.

For representation purposes, states have been ranked in three separate classes including 'North Eastern States & Himalayan UTs' and 'Other UTs' group. Within this, Jammu and Kashmir has come out as the top ranker followed by Sikkim and Meghalaya.

**171. 1**

Srinagar, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir, is among the 49 cities selected worldwide to join the UNESCO creative cities network (UCCN) with Prime Minister Narendra Modi hailing the inclusion as a "fitting recognition" for the vibrant cultural ethos of the old city. It has been designated as a creative city of craft and folk arts.

**172. 1**

The US became the 101st member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), an inter-governmental organisation formed by India and France to accelerate the global adoption of solar power. The US special envoy for climate, John Kerry, announced at the COP26 in Glasgow that the US has joined the ISA as a member country after signing the framework agreement.

**173. 3**

India's chief national badminton coach P. Gopi Chand formally launched his autobiography Shuttler's Flick: Making every match count, co-authored by Priya Kumar.

**174. 4**

The 32nd Indo-Thai CORPAT between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy is being conducted from 12 " 14 November 2021. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Karmuk, an indigenously built Missile Corvette and His Majesty's Thailand Ship (HTMS) Tayanchon, a Khamrosin Class Anti-submarine Patrol Craft, along with Maritime Patrol Aircraft from both navies are participating.

**175. 5**

PC Mody, a former chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), will be the new secretary general of the Upper House of Parliament. Rajya Sabha Chairman M Venkaiah Naidu has signed an order to this effect.

PC Mody replaces PPK Ramacharyulu, who was appointed on September 1, as secretary general of Rajya Sabha.

**176. 1**

Professor Bimal Patel, Vice-Chancellor, Rashtriya Raksha University and Member of National Security Advisory Board of India, has been elected to the International Law Commission for a five-year term starting January 1, 2023.

India topped the Asia-Pacific group with 163 votes for Patel.

**177. 5**

Individuals can now directly purchase treasury bills, dated securities, sovereign gold bonds (SGB) and state development loans (SDLs) from primary as well as secondary markets, thanks to the RBI Retail Direct Scheme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Opening of G-Secs to retail investors will help the government mop up additional sources of funds to meet its financial requirement to carry out public expenditure.

**178. 5**

India this year honoured 35 Arjuna awardees and a total of 10 coaches were conferred with the Dronacharya awards this year. Some Arjuna awardees include Shikhar Dhawan, CA Bhavani Devi(Fencing), Olympic bronze-winning men's hockey team and other medal winners from Paralympic Games.

Arjuna award carries a prize money of Rs 15 lakh, a bronze statue and a scroll of honour.

**179. 3**

BharatPe launches Merchant Shareholding Program(MSP) for its merchant partners. BharatPe will be rolling out this MSP to its 7.5 million existing merchant partners and extend this to new merchants who join it.

It plans to create an equity pool structure worth upto \$100 mn for MSP to be allotted to eligible merchants over the course of the next 4 years. The company is aiming that the MSP pool will be worth close to \$ 1bn by the time it goes public.

180. 1

The TVS Motor company has become the first Indian two-wheeler and three-wheeler manufacturer to be a part of UN Global Compact, a voluntary initiative based on CEO commitments to implement universal sustainability principles.

TVS Motor Company will now support the principles of the United Nations Global Compact on human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption.

181. 5

"Unshackling India: Hard Truths and Clear Choices for Economic Revival" is a book by Ajay Chhibber and Salman Anees Soz. The new book examines whether India can use the next 25 years, when it will reach the hundredth year of independence, to not only restructure its economy but rejuvenate its democratic energy and unshackle its potential to become a genuinely developed economy by 2047.

182. 4

India- Sri Lanka Parliamentary Friendship Association for the 9th Parliament of Sri Lanka was established at the Parliament complex in the presence of Speaker of Parliament, Mahinda Yapa Abeywardana. High Commissioner of India to Sri Lanka Gopal Baglay was also present.

The association existed in the past & is being revived for the current Parliament, elected in August 2020.

183. 4

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate Purvanchal Expressway at Karwal Kheri in Sultanpur district, Uttar Pradesh.

The Purvanchal Expressway is 341 Km long. It starts from village Chaudsarai, district Lucknow located on Lucknow-Sultanpur road (NH-731) and ends at village Hydaria located on National Highway No. 31, 18 km east of UP-Bihar border.

The expressway is 6-lane wide which can be expanded to 8-lane in future.

184. 2

The Nation celebrates birth anniversary of tribal freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas on 15th November.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Bhagwan Birsa Munda Smriti Udayan Sah Swantantra Senani Sangrahalaya in Ranchi on 15th November.

185. 1

Renowned historian and author Babasaheb Purandare passed away in Pune after a brief illness. He was running the 100th year of his age.

Babasaheb was a well-known orator, ballad singer, theatre artist, and history chronicler who inspired the modern-day youth to follow the footsteps of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

186. 1

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the redeveloped Rani Kamlapati Railway Station in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

The redeveloped Rani Kamlapati Railway station, named after brave and fearless Queen Kamalapati of the Gond kingdom, is the first world class railway station in Madhya Pradesh.

The station is also developed as a hub for integrated multi-modal transport.

187. 2

In T-20 WORLD CUP Cricket, Australia lifted their maiden T20 World Cup title as they defeated New Zealand in the final by 8 wickets at Dubai International stadium tonight. Chasing a victory target of 173, Australia won the game with 7 balls to spare. They made 173 for the loss of 2 wickets.

188. 2

Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Giriraj Singh inaugurated 'Bhumi Samvaad' - National Workshop on Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme (DILRMP) in New Delhi. The Minister also launched the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) portal and Dashboard which is an advanced software application for the registration system.

189. 5

Director General of Border Roads Lt Gen Rajeev Chaudhry received the Guinness World Records certificate for the achievement of Border Roads Organisation of constructing and blacktopping the world's highest motorable road.

It has been constructed at 19,024 feet at Umlingla Pass in Ladakh. Official adjudicator of the Guinness World Records Rishi Nath acknowledged this remarkable achievement in a virtual ceremony.

**190. 3**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the First Global Innovation Summit of the Pharmaceuticals sector. Chemical and Fertilizers Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya will also be present on the occasion. This is a distinctive initiative that aims to bring together key Indian and international stakeholders from the government, industry, academia, investors, and researchers to discuss and strategize priorities to foster a thriving innovation ecosystem in the pharmaceuticals industry in India. It will also highlight the opportunities in the Indian pharma industry that has huge growth potential.

**191. 5**

India gets reelected to the Executive Board of UNESCO with 164 votes for the term 2021-25," the Paris-based Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation). India has been reelected to the UNESCO Executive Board, one of the three constitutional organs of the United Nations, for the 2021-25 term. The election of members of the executive board took place in November 2021.

**192. 1**

The Jhansi project is one of the three ultra-mega solar parks that are proposed to be set up in the region to generate 2,000 MW solar power in "plug and play mode" under the Centre's Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks (UMREPP) scheme. Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lay the foundation stone of the 600 MW ultra-mega solar park in Jhansi. The Jhansi project is one of the three ultra-mega solar parks that are proposed to be set up in the region to generate 2,000 MW solar power in "plug and play mode" under the Centre's Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks (UMREPP) scheme.

**193. 2**

India reaffirmed its strong commitment to strengthening Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) in the 21st Annual Council of Ministers (COM) meeting. The largest and pre-eminent organization in the Indian Ocean Region, is promoting peace, security, and prosperity in the region as well as in the wider Indo-Pacific. IORA COM was held in a hybrid format in Dhaka. At the end of this meeting, Dhaka Communique was adopted.

**194. 2**

The Supreme Court has allowed the Central Government to disinvest its remaining shares in Hindustan Zinc Limited. The Bench of Justice D.Y. Chandrachud and A.S. Bopanna held that the Centre can disinvest the remaining 29.5 percent of its shares in Hindustan Zinc, since it is not a government company anymore.

**195. 1**

India has slipped to 82nd position in 2021, five places down from the 77th rank last year, in a global list that measures business bribery risks.

The list by TRACE, an anti-bribery standard-setting organisation, measures business bribery risk in 194 countries, territories, and autonomous and semi-autonomous regions.

According to this year's data, North Korea, Turkmenistan, Venezuela and Eritrea pose the highest commercial bribery risk, while Denmark, Norway, Finland, Sweden, and New Zealand present the lowest. In 2020, India ranked 77 with a score of 45 while this year, the country stood at 82nd position with a score of 44, the data showed. This score is based on four factors " business interactions with the government, anti-bribery deterrence and enforcement, government and civil service transparency, and capacity for civil society oversight which includes the role of the media. India fared better than its neighbours " Pakistan, China, Nepal, and Bangladesh. Bhutan, meanwhile, secured 62nd rank.

**196. 5**

According to World Bank report, India received USD 87 bn in remittances in 2021, and the US was the biggest source, accounting for over 20% of these funds. India is followed by China, Mexico, the Philippines, and Egypt.

Flows to India (the world's largest recipient of remittances) are expected to reach USD 87 billion, a gain of 4.6% with the severity of COVID-19 caseloads.

"Migration and Development Brief " report released by Migration and Development Briefs are prepared by the Migration and Remittances Unit, Development Economics (DEC), World Bank.

In India, remittances are projected to grow three percent in 2022 to USD 89.6 billion, reflecting a drop in overall migrant stock, as a large proportion of returnees from the Arab countries await the return. Remittances to low and middle-income countries are projected to have grown a strong 7.3 percent to reach USD 589 billion in 2021.

197. **2**

India has been among the largest arms buyer countries in the world. But now, India is working to make its forces self-reliant. Jhansi will be a major player in this enterprise, PM Modi said. He was addressing the concluding ceremony of the Rashtra Raksha Samparpan Parv in Jhansi, Uttar Pradesh where he dedicated to the nation multiple initiatives in defence sector.

198. **5**

South African legend and former captain AB De Villiers has announced retirement from all forms of cricket, bringing the curtains down on an illustrious career. The 37-year-old made the announcement on Twitter, ending a 17-year career, which saw him play in 114 Tests, 228 ODIs and 78 T20Is for the Proteas.

199. **1**

Union Bank of India ranked 3rd amongst 12 PSBs in EASE 4.0 Reforms Index for Q1 FY22, as per the rank list released by Indian Banks' Association (IBA). The Bank has been actively adopting the reforms initiatives recommended under the EASE Agenda enabling it to retain the overall position of Second Runner Up from the last three consecutive quarters since December 2020.

200. **4**

Union Minister Smriti Zubin Irani has turned author with her debut novel "Lal Salaam". The novel, inspired by the tragic killings of 76 CRPF personnel in Dantewada in April 2010, is a tribute to the exceptional men and women who have given a lifetime of service to the country, especially in confronting the challenges in the red corridor.

201. **4**

The President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, addressed the Swachh Amrit Mahotsav and presented the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2021, being organised by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in New Delhi.

202. **3**

Home Minister Amit Shah will lay the Foundation Stone for setting up of the Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum at Luangkao village in Manipur's Tamenglong district. The project has been sanctioned by the Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs at an estimated cost of 15 crore rupees. The State Cabinet had decided to set up the Museum at Luangkao Village in Tamenglong District which is the birthplace of renowned freedom fighter Rani Gaidinliu and decided to name the Museum as Rani Gaidinliu Tribal Freedom Fighters Museum. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs is celebrating its Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav week beginning on 15th November which was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as Janjatiya Gaurav Divas.

203. **2**

India bagged a total of seven medals at the Asian Archery Championships 2021 held in Dhaka. India's recurve archery teams added two silver medals and a bronze on the final day of the Championships. India ended the week-long continental event with seven medals - one gold, four silvers, and two bronze.

204. **1**

Union Minister for Labour and Employment, Shri Bhupender Yadav flagged off the first ever All India Survey on Domestic workers being conducted by Labour Bureau, Chandigarh. Domestic workers (DWs) constitute a significant portion of total employment in the informal sector. However, there is a dearth of data on the magnitude and prevailing employment conditions of DWs. eSHRAM portal - a centralized database of unorganized workers seeded with Aadhar

205. **4**

The Indian Railways is in the process of finalising theme-based tourist circuit trains through private and state-owned service providers in a move to display the country's rich cultural heritage.

To promote the first-of-its-kind theme-based trains, the railways have dedicated more than 3,000 AC and non-AC coaches of various categories to run around 190 tourist circuits.

The first Bharat Gaurav train may begin by January, 2022.

The IRCTC is already running the Ramayana train circuit. Plans are underway to start the gurdwara train circuit connecting prominent gurdwaras across India. These trains will be called Gurukripa  
Railway Minister:- Ashwini Vaishnaw.

206. **1**

Anita Desai, one of India's best-known authors nationally and internationally, has been conferred with the Tata Literature Live! Lifetime Achievement Award for 2021. A household literary name in India, Mrs. Desai's authorship has spanned more than 50 years, with memorable works such as *Fire On The Mountain*, *Cry The Peacock*, *A Village By The Sea*, *The Clear Light Of Day*, etc. Anita Desai's blend of lyrical style, ease with different cultures, and a clear-eyed examination and confrontation of realistic truths about society and relationships, made for a unique reading experience that fast led her to occupy a leading place among her peers. She has received several awards and honours in the course of her long-spanning literary career, including the Padma Bhushan, Sahitya Akademi Award and later Fellowship, and the Benson Medal of the Royal Society of Literature. Thrice featured on the Booker Prize short list, she taught for many years at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology where she is now an Emerita Professor.

207. **1**

The world's first planetary defense system called the DART spacecraft was successfully launched by NASA from the Vandenberg US Space Force Base. It was carried aboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket.

The DART spacecraft was built by the Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory in Maryland at the direction of NASA's Planetary Defense Coordination Office.

The target of the spacecraft is a small moonlet called Dimorphos which is about 160-meter in diameter. The spacecraft will collide with it at a speed of about 6.6 kilometers per second or 24,000 kilometers per hour. The collision is expected to take place between September 26 and October 1, 2022.

Didymos is a perfect system for the test mission because it is an eclipsing binary which means it has a moonlet that regularly orbits the asteroid and we can see it when it passes in front of the main asteroid.

208. **5**

Economist Abhijit Banerjee explores the social dimension of food in his latest book 'Cooking to Save Your Life' with grocery runs, dinner parties and lemon dal.

The book, divided into segments "he calls them chapters" such as soups, vegetables, meats and more.

The book has illustrations by France-based Cheyenne Olivier and published by Juggernaut Books.

Abhijit Banerjee won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2019. He is the author of two books written with Esther Dufflo, *Poor Economics* and *Good Economics for Hard Times*.

209. **4**

HarperCollins is delighted to publish an extraordinary and inspirational life story, Ban Ki-moon's personal account of his decade at the helm of the United Nations.

RESOLVED: *Uniting Nations in a Divided World* is Ban Ki-moon's personal account of his decade at the helm of the organization during a period of historic turmoil and promise.

He was the eighth Secretary-General of the United Nations.

Author Ban Ki-Moon (South Korean politician and diplomat) on publication of his personal accounts that: "New Delhi was his first diplomatic posting and often say he left half of his heart in India, the birthplace of his first child. India and its people have made essential contributions to the United Nations from principled positions in the Security Council to significant participation in peacekeeping missions around the world.

210. **1**

External affairs minister (EAM) S Jaishankar is slated to attend the 20th meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Council of Heads of Government (CHG).

The meeting will take place under the chairmanship of Kazakhstan.

The 20th Meeting of SCO CHG was held in Nur-Sultan, Kazakhstan (in virtual format).

The SCO is an intergovernmental organization founded in Shanghai on 15 June 2001. The SCO currently comprises eight Member States (China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), four Observer States interested in acceding to full membership (Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran, and Mongolia) and six "Dialogue Partners" (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and

Turkey). In 2021, the decision was made to start the accession process of Iran to the SCO as a full member, and Egypt, Qatar as well as Saudi Arabia became dialogue partners.

**211. 3**

In a bid to commemorate the adoption of the Constitution of independent India, the 26th of November is celebrated as the Constitution Day of India. This year marks the 72nd anniversary of the historic event that marked the dawn of a new era back in 1949.

The day, which is also known as Samvidhan Divas or National Law Day, or National Constitution Day.

On this day in 1949, the Constitution of India was adopted and it came into effect on 26 January, 1950. PM Narendra Modi in 2015 declared 26 November as Constitution Day while laying the foundation stone for Dr. B R Ambedkar's Statue of Equality memorial.

**212. 1**

INS Vela, the fourth submarine in the series of six submarines of Project-75, was commissioned in the presence of Admiral Karambir Singh, Chief of the Naval Staff.

The Scorpene Class submarines are being built in India by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group (earlier DCNS), France.

The Scorpene submarines are extremely potent platforms, they have advanced stealth features and are also equipped with both long range guided torpedoes as well as anti-ship missiles. These submarines have a state of the art SONAR and sensor suite permitting outstanding operational capabilities. They also have an advanced Permanent Magnetic Synchronous motor (PERMASYN) as its propulsion motor. The delivery of Vela is yet another affirmation of the impetus being given by the Indian Navy towards consolidating its position as a 'Builder's Navy' as also indicative of MDL's capabilities as a premier ship and submarine building yard. The commissioning of the submarine is coinciding with 'Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' celebrations.

**213. 3**

Sadar Bazar police station in Delhi has been ranked as the best police station in the country as part of the annual home ministry exercise to grade police stations based on parameters including handling of crime, infrastructure, and approachability of personnel. Gangapur PS in Ganjam district of Odisha was adjudged as the second best police station and Bhattu Kalan PS in Fatehabad, Haryana as the third best. Other police stations among the country's top 10 are Valpoi PS in North Goa, Goa; Manvi PS in Raichur, Karnataka; Kadmat Island PS in Lakshadweep; Shirala PS in Sangli, Maharashtra; Thottiyam PS in Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu; Basantgarh PS in Udhampur, Jammu & Kashmir; and Rampur Chauram PS in Arwal, Bihar.

**214. 5**

Sohan Roy, a Forbes-listed entrepreneur from Kerala & who has a passion for getting noticed in the film industry through his unconventional contribution to humanity & the world cinema has now become the 1st Indian who has been awarded the honorary title of 'Knight of Parte Guelfa' in Italy. The knighthood was conferred on Roy for his humanitarian & environmental protection efforts.

**215. 4**

The World Health Organisation (WHO) declared SARS-CoV-2 variant: B.1.1.529 as a new variant of concern named Omicron. The Technical Advisory Group on SARS-CoV-2 Virus Evolution (TAG-VE), an independent group of experts that periodically monitors and evaluates the evolution of SARS-CoV-2 held a meeting. This variant has a large number of mutations, some of which are concerning.

**216. 3**

The Dairy Sahakar with a total investment of Rs 5,000 crore will be implemented by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) under the ministry of cooperation to realise the vision "from cooperation to prosperity".

**217. 2**

In a pioneering initiative to take tourism deep into the state's interiors and rural hinterland, Kerala Tourism will launch the 'STREET' project in select spots in seven districts, which would help visitors experience the diversity of offerings in these locales. In the first phase, the project would be implemented in Kadalundi in Kozhikode, Thrithala and Pattithara in Palakkad, Pinarayi and Ancharakkandi in Kannur, Maravanthuruthu and Manchira in Kottayam, Valiyaparamba in Kasaragod, Kanthalloor in Idukki and Chekadi in Wayanad.

218. **3**

The HUNAR HAAT, organized by the Ministry of Minority Affairs at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, received the prestigious India International Trade Fair, 2021 Silver Medal for strengthening commitment to "Vocal for Local" and its strong presence at the Trade Fair. Lakhs of people visited "Hunar Haat" at Pragati Maidan where sale of indigenous products worth crores of rupees took place.

219. **3**

Noted mountaineer from Uttarakhand Harshwanti Bisht has earned the distinction of being elected the first woman president of the Indian Mountaineering Foundation (IMF).

Bisht, who did a course in mountaineering from the Uttarkashi-based Nehru Institute of Mountaineering in 1975, scaled the Nanda Devi peak in 1981 which earned her the Arjuna award.

220. **1**

First ever Multi-dimensional Poverty Index (MPI) by NITI Aayog - 50% population of Bihar 'multidimensionally poor'. Bihar with 51.91% has the maximum percentage of the population living in poverty among all the States and the Union Territories followed by Jharkhand (42.16%), Uttar Pradesh (37.79%), Madhya Pradesh (36.65%) and Meghalaya (32.67%). (1.72%), Lakshadweep (1.82%), Goa (3.76%) and Sikkim (3.82%)

221. **2**

The Centre has constituted a Central Vista Oversight Committee to directly oversee the Rs 20,000 crore project for a period of two years.

Former Finance Secretary Ratan P Watal has been appointed the Chairman. PK Tiwari, former Deputy CAG, Shailendra Roy, former Director L & T, Prof Mausam, IIT, Delhi has been appointed members. Joint Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) will be Convenor.

222. **1**

Director Masakazu Kaneko of 'Ring Wandering' received the Golden Peacock and a Certificate, in addition to a cash prize of Rs. 20 lakh at the 52nd edition of the International Film Festival of India. Czech Director Václav Kadrnka's 'Saving One Who Is Dead' won the Silver Peacock for the Best Director.

Lyricist Prasoon Joshi won the Indian Film Personality of the Year Award for 2021.

Lingui, The Sacred Bonds by Mahamat-Saleh Haroun won the ICFT-UNESCO Gandhi Medal.

Uttar Pradesh has been picked as the most friendly state for film shooting at the 52nd International Film Festival of India held in Goa.

223. **1**

An e-VTOL (Virtual take-off and landing) Drone AquilaX2 was used to deliver medicines to a remote primary health centre in Meghalaya's West Khasi Hills district, 25 km away from the district headquarter covering a distance of 25 kms in less than 25 minutes.

224. **2**

DBT-National Brain Research Centre (DBT-NBRC) at Haryana have recently developed project SWADESH, a unique brain initiative focusing on certified neuroimaging, neurochemical, neuropsychological data and analytics that are made accessible to researchers for managing brain disorders.

SWADESH was inaugurated by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of Science and Technology.

NBRC is the only institute in India dedicated to Neuroscience Research and Education.

SWADESH is the first large-scale multimodal neuroimaging database designed specifically for the Indian population with big-data architecture and analytics for various disease categories under one platform.

225. **3**

Indian Oil, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited announced the launch of Model Retail Outlet Scheme and a Digital Customer Feedback Program called Darpan@petrolpump.

Scheme involves an intense 5 Level evaluation process of over 70000 retail outlets on a set of core service and facility parameters & standard of customer amenities e.g., clean and hygienic washrooms, customer centric innovative offerings etc.

Top performers will be awarded the "Shresth" and "Uttam", Awards by the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas and the "Rajya Sarv Pratham" awards by the respective Oil Companies.

226. **3**

The first-ever Aharbal festival was held in the Kulgam district of Jammu and Kashmir with an aim to promote tourism in Kashmir, especially at Aharbal waterfall as a tourist destination.

Aharbal Waterfall, also called "The Niagara of Kashmir", because of the sheer volume of river that falls down.

Aharbal Waterfall is formed when the Veshaw River.

River Veshaw is a tributary of River Jhelum.

227. **5**

Himachal Pradesh becomes first state in India to begin organised cultivation of true dalchini.

The CSIR's Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology (IHBT) has introduced cinnamon cultivation in Himachal Pradesh on pilot basis. True cinnamon or *Cinnamomum verum* is grown mainly in Sri Lanka, while minor producing countries include Seychelles, Madagascar, and India. India imports 45,318 tonnes of cinnamon annually from China, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, Indonesia and Nepal.

228. **4**

Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry will organise Vayo Naman Programme in honour of senior citizens on occasion of International Day of Older Persons. Vice President will dedicate Elderly Help Line 14567 to Nation & launch Senior Able Citizens Reemployment in Dignity (SACRED) & Senior Care Ageing Growth Engine (SAGE) Portals on this occasion.

229. **5**

Social Justice and Empowerment Ministry will organise Vayo Naman Programme in honour of senior citizens on occasion of International Day of Older Persons. Vice President will dedicate Elderly Help Line 14567 to Nation & launch Senior Able Citizens Reemployment in Dignity (SACRED) & Senior Care Ageing Growth Engine (SAGE) Portals on this occasion.

230. **4**

NITI Aayog, Amazon Web Services and Intel have come together to establish a new experience studio at the NITI Aayog Frontier Technologies Cloud Innovation Centre. The studio will be a hub for collaboration and experimentation to enable problem-solving and innovation between government stakeholders, start-ups, enterprises and industry domain experts.

231. **4**

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal inaugurated the India Pavilion at Dubai Expo 2020, featuring an innovative kinetic facade made up of 600 individual colourful blocks. Among the 192 participating countries, India has the biggest pavilion in the expo. Fifteen states and nine central ministries from India are participating in this six-month-long expo.

232. **4**

IISc Bangalore, IISc-incubated startup L2MRail and the Society for Innovation and Development (SID) have signed an MoU with Kerala Rail aimed at enhancing rail safety, especially in vulnerable terrains. The L2M Rail team and IISc have pioneered Fibre Bragg Grating sensing technology, to develop a Structural Health Monitoring System which will monitor civil engineering structures.

233. **1**

Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav launched DigiSaksham - a digital skills programme to enhance the employability of youth by imparting digital skills. This joint initiative with Microsoft India is an extension of the Government's ongoing programmes to support the youth from rural and semi-urban areas.

234. **3**

The Uttar Pradesh government named actor Kangana Ranaut as the brand ambassador of its ambitious 'one district-one product' programme. The actor met Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath at his official residence.

The UP govt has launched the one district-one product (ODOP) programme with the aim to create product-specific traditional industrial hubs across 75 districts of state.

235. **4**

Union Cabinet headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the doubling of the Nimach-Ratlam railway line in Madhya Pradesh at a total estimated cost of Rs 1,095.88 crore.

The total length of doubling of the Nimach-Ratlam railway line is 132.92 km. The project will be completed in four years.  
The total estimated cost of the doubling Rajkot-Kanulus railway project will be Rs 1,080.58 crore.

236. **3**

Sanjay Bhargava, who had worked with Elon Musk as part of a team that had founded electronic payment firm, PayPal, will now head the tech billionaire entrepreneur's Starlink satellite broadband venture in India.

Bhargava joins SpaceX as Starlink's country director (India), as the Musk-led US aerospace company gears up to compete with Bharti group-backed OneWeb.

237. **3**

The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) has approved USD 356.67 million loan for expansion of the Chennai Metro rail system.

Phase-II of the Chennai Metro Rail will span the area from the Lighthouse in the east to Poonamallee Bypass in the west. This will ensure seamless multimodal transport across Chennai, by providing integrated access to suburban rail & bus station.

238. **4**

World's largest Khadi National Flag unveiled in Leh.

Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh, R. K Mathur unveiled the monumental National Flag at an event organized by Fire Fury Corps, Indian Army at Leh.

The unfurled flag is the largest handwoven & handspun cotton Khadi flag ever manufactured in India & it measures 225 feet by 150 feet and weighs 1000 kg.

The Sura-Soi Engineer Regiment -brought the national flag from Mumbai to Leh.

**The flag is made by Khadi Dyers and Printers based in Mumbai.**

239. **2**

Hurun India Rich List 2021:

# Mukesh Ambani continues to be the richest man in India for the 10th consecutive year with a wealth of Rs 7,18,000 crore.

# With a net worth of Rs 5,05,900 crore, Gautam Adani moved up two places to the second spot in the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021.

#Shiv Nadar, founder and chairman emeritus of HCL Technologies, retained the third rank, in the list even as HCL's limited exposure to Covid affected segments such as travel, retail, and hospitality resulted in a 67% increase in his wealth to INR 2,36,600 crore.

# SP Hinduja and family moved down two positions to the fourth rank in the list. "The brothers saw the valuation up by 53 per cent to INR 2,20,000 cr backed by the performance of their flagship companies such as Ashok Leyland and IndusInd Bank, whose share price went up by 74% and 61% respectively.

# Indian steel magnate Lakshmi Mittal moved up eight positions to the fifth rank with a wealth of Rs 1,74,400 crore.

#Managing Director of the Serum Institute of India, Cyrus S Poonawalla occupied the sixth position in the list. According to the report, his wealth increased by 74 per cent to Rs 1,63,700 Cr, on the back of providing 60 cr doses or 92 per cent of the Covid-19 vaccines delivered in India.

#With a net worth of Rs 1,54,300 crore, Radhakishan Damani of Avenue Supermarts, retained the seventh position in the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021.

#With Rs 1,31,600 crore, Vinod Shantilal Adani moved up twelve places to eighth rank in IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021.

#Kumar Mangalam Birla of the Aditya Birla Group stormed into the top 10 in the IIFL Wealth Hurun India Rich List 2021 with a net worth of Rs 1,22,200 cr.

# The tenth position in the list is secured by Jay Chaudhry of cloud security company Zscaler. The Himachal-born IIT alumni founded the cyber security firm in 2007 and currently owns 42 per cent of the Nasdaq listed firm, which has a market cap of INR 2,81,000 crore.

240. **4**

Delhi Metro To Build First-Ever Integrated Flyover Cum Metro Viaduct Structure Where Flyover And Metro Viaduct Will Run Parallel.

For the first time in the history of Delhi Metro, an Integrated 'flyover cum Metro viaduct structure' along with a vehicle underpass is being built near Soorghat on the Majlis Park " Maujpur corridor of Phase " IV in north-east Delhi, in association with PWD.

This 12.098 kilometers long corridor is comprising of eight stations and is completely elevated.

241. **3**

Seychelles' Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB) programme launched in partnership with India. Tax Inspectors Without Borders (TIWB), a joint initiative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), launched its programme in Seychelles on 4th October 2021.

India was chosen as the Partner Administration and has provided a Tax Expert for this programme. This programme is the 6th TIWB program which India has supported by providing Tax Expert.

242. **2**

Tunisia's president named geologist Najla Bouden as the country's first-ever female prime minister-designate, to form a government with limited executive clout after the president seized wide-ranging powers two months ago. Romdhane will be Tunisia's tenth prime minister since a 2011 uprising overthrew longtime dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, sparking the Arab Spring revolt  
Capital: Tunis; Currency: Tunisian dinar; President Kais Saied

243. **4**

The Alibaug (Maharashtra's Raigad district) white onion was given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag bringing worldwide recognition to its unique sweet taste, no-tears factor, as well as its medicinal properties.

The soil of Alibaug taluka has low sulphur content. The NABL-approved lab test report mentions low pungency, sweet taste, 'no tear' factor, low pyruvic acid, high protein, fat & fibre, etc.

Recently in news:-

Kuttiattoor mango and Edayur chilli get Geographical Indication tag from the GI Registry at Chennai, following applications from the growers from respective regions.

The Intellectual Property Cell of the Kerala Agricultural University had facilitated the registration process.

The fruit of Edayur chilli is a drooping berry, solitary, with a moderately triangular shape.

244. **1**

The Nobel Prize in the field of physiology or medicine has been awarded to the US. scientists David Julius and Ardem Patapoutian. They were cited for their discovery of receptors for temperature and touch.

The prizes, for achievements in science, literature, and peace, were created and funded in the will of Swedish dynamite inventor and businessman Alfred Nobel.

The prestigious award comes with a gold medal and 10 million Swedish kronor.

245. **1**

Union Law Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the country's first "Sports Arbitration Centre of India" in Ahmedabad, Gujarat which will serve as an independent body to fast track disputes in the sports sector. The SACI is promoted by Ahmedabad-based SE TransStadia Pvt Ltd as an independent body to fast track disputes in the sports sector.

246. **1**

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy launched the 'Swechha' program to tackle the stigma attached to menstruation, prioritize female personal hygiene, and encourage a healthy dialogue of information. Under the initiative, the state government will provide quality branded sanitary napkins to female students at government educational institutions, free of cost.

Andhra Pradesh Governor:- Biswabhusan Harichandan

247. **1**

The Russian military had successfully test-fired a hypersonic "Tsirkon" missile from a submarine for the first time. Hypersonic missiles fly much faster and are more agile than standard ones, making them much more difficult for missile defense systems to stop. The U.S. military conducted its first flight test of a hypersonic missile system in 2011.

The missile was launched from the Severodvinsk nuclear submarine, Barents Sea.

248. **1**

Union Minister of State for Tourism Ajay Bhatt flagged off the "Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour" from Safdarjung railway station (part of Delhi Suburban Railways).

Ministry of Tourism in association with the Indian Railway Catering & Tourism Corporation (IRCTC) has organized the Buddhist Circuit Train FAM Tour as part of the Union government's "Dekho Apna Desh" initiative. Dekho Apna Desh is an ongoing tourism campaign intended to boost domestic travel in India. Domestic tourism is steadily growing as more Indians flock to mainly outdoor destinations in their home country, including Goa, Jaipur, and Uttarakhand.

249. **3**

The first consignment of GI tagged sweet dish Mihidana from West Bengal exported to Bahrain In an effort to promote indigenous & Geographical Identification (GI) tagged products, first consignment of GI tagged sweet dish Mihidana sourced from Bardhaman, West Bengal has been exported to the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The consignment of unique sweet dish Mihidana was exported to Bahrain by APEDA registered M/S DM Enterprises, Kolkata & imported by Aljazira Group, Bahrain.

250. **1**

2021 Nobel Prize for Chemistry goes to Benjamin List and David W.C. MacMillan.

Benjamin List of Germany and Scotland-born David W.C. MacMillan developed "asymmetric organocatalysis" " work that has already had a significant impact on pharmaceutical research, said Goran Hansson, secretary-general of the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences.

The prize money comes from a bequest left by the prize's creator, Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel, who died in 1895.

251. **2**

Team India showed their dominance in the FIH Hockey Stars Awards 2020-21.

# Drag-flickers Harmanpreet Singh & Gurjit Kaur won the men's and women's Player of the Year awards.

# Savita Punia: women's Goalkeeper of the Year

# PR Sreejesh: men's Goalkeeper of the Year.

# Sjoerd Marijne: best coach award (women's).

# Graham Reid-best coach award (men's).

# Vivek Prasad - Award for rising star in men

# Sharmila Devi- Award for rising star in women

252. **2**

Anshu Malik scripted history as she became the first Indian woman wrestler to win a silver medal in the World Championships. Also Read - World Wrestling Championships: Wrestler Sarita Mor Wins Bronze Medal in 59 kg Category. The 20-year-old lost her final bout 1-4 to two-time Olympic medallist Helen Maroulis at the World Championships in Oslo, Norway.

253. **3**

India officially joined the High Ambition Coalition for Nature and People, a group of more than 70 countries encouraging the adoption of the global goal to protect at least 30 percent of the world's land and ocean by 2030 (30x30).

India is the first of the BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) bloc of major emerging economies to join the HAC.

254. **2**

Tanzanian novelist Abdulrazak Gurnah has won the 2021 Nobel Prize in Literature for his "uncompromising and compassionate penetration of the effects of colonialism and the fate of the refugee in the gulf between cultures and continents."

Born in 1948, the writer grew up in Zanzibar. After the island liberated itself from the British Empire in 1963, a violent uprising led to widespread persecution of Arab-descended minorities. As a member of a targeted ethnic group, 18-year-old Gurnah was forced to seek refuge in England, writes Alison Flood for the Guardian.

Gurnah's debut novel, *Memory of Departure*, relates the travails of a young man on the East African coast who comes of age under the oppressive conditions of a totalitarian regime. In *Paradise*, which was shortlisted for the 1994 Booker Prize and is described in the statement as his "breakthrough" work, Gurnah writes from the perspective of Yusuf, a 12-year-old boy who is forced into indentured servitude in East Africa in the years leading up to World War I.

255. **5**

Union Minister of Civil Aviation flagged off the Doon Drone Mela 2021 in Dehradun, Uttarakhand. Minister flagged off the event with a paragliding demonstration and also interacted with the drone companies exhibiting their prototypes at the Doon Drone Mela.

256. **4**

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Shri Sarbanand Sonowal launched a port mobile application called MyPortApp in Kolkata. The App includes all port details digitally and monitors operations virtually. Targeted towards Port Users for availing various Port services, the App is aimed to promote transparency and easy access of port-related information. The app also has various information like Vessel Berthing, Rake & Indent, Rake Receipt, Container Status, Tariff, Bills, Port Holidays, etc., and can be accessed anywhere 24x7 and reach out directly to the port.

257. **2**

Minister of State for Railways and Textiles dedicated a new version of the 'Mile Sur Mera Tumhara' song to the Nation. The new version of this song has been prepared by Railway employees and officers. This song is part of the initiatives being undertaken by the Ministry of Railways to celebrate the 75th anniversary of India's Independence- Azaadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and to showcase Indian Railways' achievements, developments, and integration on pan India basis.

258. **2**

India and Denmark signed MoUs to boost a 'green strategic partnership'. India and Denmark agreed on measures to take forward their unique "green strategic partnership" and signed four agreements aimed at boosting cooperation in green technologies and management of natural resources such as groundwater. This partnership is an example of how by collective effort, through technology, one can work for green growth while preserving the environment.

259. **3**

Union Finance Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman announced in Guwahati that the Government of India has approved the construction of a 3 km long 4-lane bridge on the Brahmaputra river in Kamrup district. The bridge will be constructed at an estimated total cost of Rs 3094 crores. Smt. Sitharaman added that the bridge will facilitate direct connectivity to the internationally renowned silk town of Sualkuchi and the industrial region of Amingaon with Guwahati and the International airport. The bridge will decongest the city of Guwahati and increase transport efficiency thus helping in cutting down travel time for daily commuters from the adjoining districts of Nalbari and Barpeta travelling to Guwahati

260. **5**

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed between the All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA) and Croatia's Kvarner Health Tourism Cluster. AIIA is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Ayush.

261. **3**

Vallilath Madhathil Madhavan Nair, the oldest living former diplomat of India, passed away, two days short of his 103rd birthday. He is survived by wife Krishnakumari.

Mr. Nair joined the Indian Civil Service or the ICS in 1942 and was allotted to the Bihar Cadre. He was permanently seconded to the Indian Foreign Service on November 1, 1944.

262. **1**

Delhi government has launched the 'Desh ke Mentor' programme to provide career guidance to the students of class 9 to 12.

The Delhi government school students will be mentored by people who are experts in their field, giving students insight into diverse career options. Under the initiative, people in the age group of 18-35 can register themselves as mentors.

Actor Sonu Sood : the brand ambassador of this Programme.

These mentors will adopt up to 10 students to provide counseling regarding career and teenage issues. Under this programme, the mentors will dedicate 10 minutes each week to the students.

The initiative has been launched under the 'Youth for Education' programme by the Directorate of Education. Students from Delhi's government schools can remotely participate in the initiative. For this, the government has launched an app. To download the app, give a missed call on 7500040004 this number after which the app can be downloaded.

263. 4

Three US-based economists won the 2021 Nobel prize for economics for pioneering research on the labour market impacts of minimum wage, immigration and education, and for creating the scientific framework to allow conclusions to be drawn from such studies that can't use traditional methodology. Peter Fredriksson, chair of the Economic Sciences Committee.

Canadian-born David Card of the University of California at Berkeley was awarded one half of the prize, while the other half was shared by Joshua Angrist from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Dutch-born Guido Imbens, 58, from Stanford University. Card worked on research that used restaurants in New Jersey and in eastern Pennsylvania to measure the effects of increasing the minimum wage. He and his late research partner Alan Krueger found that an increase in the hourly minimum wage did not affect employment, challenging conventional wisdom which held that an increase in minimum wage will lead to less hiring. Card's work also challenged another commonly held idea, that immigrants depress wages for native-born workers. He found that incomes of the native-born can benefit from new immigration, while it is earlier immigrants who are at risk of being negatively affected. Angrist and Imbens won their half of the award for working out the methodological issues that enable economists to draw solid conclusions about cause and effect even where they cannot carry out studies according to strict scientific methods. In 1968, Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank) established the Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel, founder of the Nobel Prize. The Prize is based on a donation received by the Nobel Foundation in 1968 from Sveriges Riksbank on the occasion of the Bank's 300th anniversary. The first Prize in Economic Sciences was awarded to Ragnar Frisch and Jan Tinbergen in 1969.

264. 1

Ibha revealed as mascot of FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup in India.

The Fédération Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) Ibha as the official mascot of FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup 2022 in India. Ibha, an Asiatic lioness, was unveiled on the day coinciding with the International Day of the Girl Child.

FIFA Women's World Cup kicks off in Australia and New Zealand in 2023.

Sarai Bareman, FIFA Chief Women's Football Officer.

Praful Patel, President of All-India Football Federation.

Ibha symbolizes courage and strength, which are core qualities of every woman, while also embodying the vibrance and visionary spirit of the tournament. The next edition of the FIFA U-17 Women's World Cup will take place in India from October 11-30 in 2022. FIFA- President: Gianni Infantino ; FIFA- Headquarters: Zurich, Switzerland.

265. 2

GoI accorded 'Maharatna' status to the state-owned Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC), thus giving PFC greater operational and financial autonomy. An order to this effect was issued by the Department of Public Enterprises, under the MoF. PFC (1986) is the largest Infrastructure Finance Company, exclusively dedicated to Power Sector under the administrative control of MoP. The other 10 Maharatna companies include NTPC, ONGC, SAIL, BHEL, IOCL, HPCL, CIL, GAIL, BPCL and Power Grid Corporation of India.

266. 1

Former secretary (HRD), information and broadcasting (I&B), Amit Khare, was appointed as the advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet appointed him as Advisor to the Prime Minister in Prime Minister's Office, on contract basis for a term of two years.

267. 4

One Sun One World One Grid (OSOWOG) initiative was put forth by Narendra Modi, at the 1st Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA) in 2018. In 2021, UK and India agreed to combine forces of the Green Grids Initiative and the One Sun One World One Grid initiative and jointly launch GGI-OSOWOG at the COP26 summit being hosted by the UK at Glasgow in November 2021.

268. 1

The COP26 summit is being hosted by the UK at Glasgow in November 2021.

269. 1

Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of S&T, GoI supported a mega consortium on 'One Health'. Dr. Renu Swarup, Secretary, D/o Biotechnology, Govt. of launched 1st 'One Health' project.

This programme envisages carrying out surveillance of important bacterial, viral and parasitic infections of zoonotic as well as transboundary pathogens in India.

270. **3**

Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister launched CRISP-M tool for integration of climate information in Geographic Information System, GIS-based watershed planning under MNREGA. This tool will be used in seven states namely: Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Rajasthan.

271. **2**

Ireland's Amy Hunter became world's youngest ODI centurion.

The 16-year old schoolgirl from Belfast overtook the record previously held by India's Mithali Raj, who scored 114 not out against Ireland at the age of 16 years and 205 days in June 1999.

Hunter hit eight fours in her 127-ball innings at number three and reached her century with a leg-side flick for four as Ireland finished its innings on 312-3 in Harare.

She is just the fourth woman to hit an ODI century for Ireland and the first since 2000.

272. **2**

The Global Hunger Index ranked India at 101 position out of a total 116 countries. India is also among the 31 countries where hunger has been identified as serious. India ranked 94 among 107 countries in the Global Hunger Index (GHI). Only 15 countries fare worse than India. India was also behind most of the neighbouring countries.

Countries worse than India, include Papua New Guinea (102), Afghanistan (103), Nigeria (103), Congo (105), Mozambique (106), Sierra Leone (106), Timor-Leste (108), Haiti (109), Liberia (110), Madagascar (111), Democratic Republic of Congo (112), Chad (113), Central African Republic (114), Yemen (115) and Somalia (116).

India was also behind most of the neighbouring countries. Pakistan was placed at 92 rank, Nepal at 76 and Bangladesh also at 76.

The Index tracks key indicators used to measure progress toward Zero Hunger by 2030 at national, regional, and global levels. Based on the values of the four indicators - undernourishment, child wasting, child stunting and child mortality- the GHI determines hunger on a 100-point scale, where 0 is the best possible score (no hunger) and 100 is the worst. Each country's GHI score is classified by severity, from low to extremely alarming.

GHI published United Nations sources (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, World Health Organization, UNICEF, and Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation), the World Bank, and Demographic and Health Surveys.

273. **2**

The day acknowledges the founding of the Food and Agriculture organisation and also highlights the section across the globe that starves from extreme hunger. The Food and Agriculture Association (FAO) was coined on October 16, 1945, by the United Nations. The year, 2021 will mark the 76th anniversary of this historic day. Theme 2021: "Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow"

Global event for World Food Day will take place at Expo Dubai

274. **3**

Chennai Super Kings beat Kolkata Knight Riders to win its 4th IPL title

Chennai Super Kings beat Kolkata Knight Riders by 27 runs to win its fourth IPL title in Dubai. Ruturaj Gaikwad who scored 32 off 27 deliveries in the final clash, has won the Orange Cap for scoring highest run with 635 runs.

The Purple Cap goes to RCB's Harshal Patel, who has registered 32 wickets in 15 games in this IPL season.

275. **5**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan worth Rs 100 lakh crore, which aims at streamlining infrastructure development undertaken by several ministries and departments in the country and enhancing multi-modal connectivity.

Aim is to bring down logistics cost, which is currently around 13% of gross domestic product in the next 5 yrs

Gati Shakti will undertake adoption and utilisation of geospatial information technology

276. **2**

Nasa launched Lucy spacecraft, the first space mission to study the Trojans Asteroids. Lucy will journey for 12 years, observing one main belt asteroid and seven Trojan asteroids.

The swarms of Trojan asteroids associated with Jupiter are thought to be remnants of the primordial material that formed the outer planets.

Jupiter Trojan asteroids are leftover raw materials from the formation of big planets

277. **5**

Telangana Develops India's First Smartphone-Based E-Voting Solution. The initiative is done by the Telangana State Election Commission with the implementation support of the Emerging Technologies Wing of the state's IT Dept, and the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing.

278. **3**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Jonas Gahr Store on assuming the office of Prime Minister of Norway. Jonas Gahr Store is the leader of Norway's Labor Party, which won the elections in September, became the country's new prime minister.

279. **3**

India clinched the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Championship for eighth time defeating Nepal 3-0 in Male. India dominated possession in the first-half but they failed to score any goal. However, captain Chhetri put India ahead minutes into the second half and even before Nepal could settle down, Suresh made it 2-0.

280. **3**

China sent its first solar exploration satellite into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in northern Shanxi Province.

The satellite was launched aboard a Long March-2D rocket and entered its planned orbit successfully. Ten small satellites including an orbital atmospheric density detection experimental satellite.

It was the 391st flight mission of the Long March carrier rocket series.

281. **1**

World Statistics Day is celebrated around the globe every year on 20 October to highlight the achievements of the Fundamental Principles of Official Statistics.

282. **4**

India is ranked at 71st position in the Global Food Security (GFS) Index 2021 of 113 countries, but the country lags behind its neighbours Pakistan and Sri Lanka in terms food affordability.

283. **2**

India has ranked 40th out of 43 pension systems across the world in the 2021 Mercer CFS Global Pension Index survey, suggesting the need for strategic reforms in India to revamp the pension system so as to ensure adequate retirement income.

India had stood at 34th position out of 39 pension systems rated in 2020.

284. **2**

The Custodian of Trust: A Banker's Memoir, Former SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar's memoir.

As the Chairman of SBI, Kumar recounts, his term was rather momentous as the period-from 2017 to 2020-during which he shouldered this responsibility was rather unique under any circumstances.

285. **4**

India, United States, Israel and the UAE have decided to form a forum for future economic cooperation and to explore possibilities of joint infrastructure projects.

286. **5**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Infosys Foundation made 806-bedded Vishram Sadan at National Cancer Institute (NCI) in Jhajjar Campus of AIIMS New Delhi.

The 806 bedded Vishram Sadan is a part of Infosys' Corporate Social Responsibility to provide air-conditioned accommodation facilities to the accompanying attendants of the Cancer Patients.

It is built at the cost of about ₹ 93 crore.

287. **1**

James Pattinson, the Australian fast bowler, has announced his retirement from international cricket ahead of the Ashes that begins in December.

In an injury-ravaged career, Pattinson played 21 Tests, 15 ODIs and 4 T20Is since making his debut in 2011, picking 81, 16 and 3 wickets respectively.

He played his last ODI in September 2015.

288. **4**

Competition Commission of India approves Betaine B.V's acquisition of Hinduja Global Solutions' healthcare BPO services.

The transaction will involve the acquisition of worldwide healthcare business process outsourcing (BPO) services of Hinduja Global Solutions, along with certain assets, contracts and employees by Betaine, the fair trade regulator.

289. **2**

Parambikulam Tiger Conservation Foundation has won the Earth Guardian Award for its efforts in supporting the conservation of tigers and biodiversity. The award was instituted by NatWest Group India (formerly RBS India) at the 11th edition of the NatWest Group Earth Heroes Awards.

290. **4**

ABHYAS is designed and developed by DRDO's Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), Bengaluru. ABHYAS is a high-speed expendable aerial target drone. It can be used as an aerial target for evaluating various missile systems. This indigenous target aircraft, once developed, will meet the requirements of high speed expendable aerial targets (HEAT) for Indian Armed forces.

291. **5**

Poland has joined the growing group of nations to recognize the India's Serum Institute-manufactured Covishield vaccine. Poland now recognizes Covishield as a vaccine equivalent to those recognized by the EU. This means that fully vaccinated individuals who took the Covishield vaccine are exempt from quarantine after entering the territory of Poland.

292. **1**

Barbados has elected its first ever president as it prepares to become a republic, removing Queen Elizabeth as head of state. Dame Sandra Mason, 72, is set to be sworn in November, which will mark the country's 55th anniversary of independence from Britain. The first woman to serve on the Barbados Court of Appeals, Dame Sandra has been governor-general since 2018.

293. **3**

India handed over 34.9 km long cross-border rail link connecting Jayanagar in Bihar to Kurtha in Nepal-to-Nepal government.

The Jaynagar - Kurtha section is part of the 68.7 km Jaynagar - Bijalpura- Bardidas rail link built under the Government of India's grant assistance programme. Under the grant assistance of India, the gauge conversion of 34.9 km narrow gauge, from Jaynagar in India to Kurtha in Nepal, has now been completed.

294. **3**

Tamil film 'Koozhangal', has been announced as India's official entry to the Oscars 2022. Shaji N. Karun, the Chairperson of the 15-member Selection Committee, set up by the Film Federation of India, made the announcement. 'Koozhangal' had also won the prestigious Tiger Award, the top honour at the 50th edition of the International Film Festival Rotterdam.

295. **4**

India set a target of electrifying every household and Goa achieved that. The minister also lauded Goa for providing tap water to every household under Har Ghar Jal Mission and it has become the first state to achieve the feat. Mr Thakur said, Goa also achieved 100 per cent target in providing free ration to the poor and needy

296. **1**

Tata Power has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi have to collaborate in areas like smart grid technology, clean energy solutions.

297. **3**

Rasipuram Krishnaswami Laxman, famously known as R. K. Laxman was an Indian cartoonist who created the comic strip 'You Said It', featuring the "Common Man" a silent observer representing the average Indian.

The comic strip chronicled the life of the average Indian, his hopes, aspirations, and trouble. The character is a much beloved one among the Indian masses and has entertained generations of Indians over the past several decades.

He was honoured with The Ramon Magsaysay Award in 1984 in the category Journalism, Literature, and the Creative Communication Arts (JLCCA).

In 2005 he was awarded the Padma Vibhushan, India's second highest civilian honour.

298. **3**

The fourth general assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA), was held virtually. It was presided by Union Minister Shri R.K. Singh, Minister for Power, New and Renewable Energy, Government of India and the President of the ISA Assembly. A total of 108 countries participated in the Assembly.

299. **3**

The maiden India-UK tri-services joint exercise, Konkan Shakti 2021, has commenced.

The exercise is aimed at bolstering the continuing co-operation between the two countries.

300. **1**

Kerala has won the award for the 'city with the most sustainable transport system'.

The award, which will be presented on October 29 at Delhi, has been given in recognition of the projects implemented -- like Kochi Metro, Water Metro and e-mobility -- to enhance the transport facilities in the city of Kochi.

The award would be presented by Union minister of MoHUA.

Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs: -Hardeep Singh Puri.

The award is given in recognition of the transport facilities in various states and Union Territories of India.

Kerala:- capital : Thiruvananthapuram; CM: Pinarayi Vijayan; Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan

301. **1**

The Sports Authority of India (SAI) appointed Commodore PK Garg as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) at the Mission Olympic Cell meeting.

302. **2**

Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission aims to fill gaps in public health infrastructure, especially in critical care facilities and primary care in both urban & rural areas. It will provide support for 17,788 rural health & wellness centres in 10 high focus states.

He also inaugurated various development projects worth around Rs 5,200 crore in Varanasi.

303. **1**

State-owned GAIL (India) Ltd will build India's largest green hydrogen-making plant as it looks to supplement its natural gas business with carbon-free fuel.

Speaking at India Energy Forum by CERAWeek, GAIL chairman and managing director Manoj Jain said the company has floated a global tender to procure an electrolyser.

304. **5**

The first IVF calf of Banni breed of buffaloes, found primarily in Gujarat's Kutch region, was born at a farmer's house in the state's Gir Somnath district, Gujarat. The process was carried out to enhance the number of genetically superior buffaloes to increase milk production.

Banni buffalo is known for its resilience & higher milk producing capacity in an arid environment.

Banni breed of buffalo is known as mini elephant.

A "Banni" buffalo belonging to a dairy farmer from Dhanej village in Gir Somnath gave birth to an IVF male calf, in what the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying called the birth of the first calf of the breed born using in-vitro fertilisation (IVF).

India has more than 109 million buffaloes that are 56 per cent of the world's buffalo population.

in-vitro fertilisation :- A procedure in which eggs are removed from a woman's ovary and combined with sperm outside the body to form embryos.

305. **1**

Actor Rajinikanth was conferred with the 51st Dadasaheb Phalke Award. He received the prestigious award from Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu for his stupendous contribution to Indian cinema.

306. **2**

India has also moved one spot ahead to the 106th position after the Sunil Chhetri-led side won the SAFF Championship. The Blue Tigers had defeated Nepal in the summit clash.

Belgium remain on top despite UEFA Nations League defeats to France (3rd, 1) and Italy (4th, 1).

Among the top five, only Les Bleus and Gli Azzurri have improved their positions.

FIFA is the highest governing body of association football.

HQ: Zürich, Switzerland

307. **5**

A new anthology, "Writing for My Life", released brings together some of the most exemplary stories, essays, poems and memories by celebrated award-winning author Ruskin Bond. It is published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI). It comes 25 years after the publication of his another anthology, "The Best of Ruskin Bond".

Anthology, a collection of selected literary pieces or passages, or works.

His first novel, "The Room on the Roof", written when he was seventeen, received the John Llewellyn Rhys Memorial Prize in 1957.

308. **2**

India successfully test-fired a surface-to-surface ballistic missile, Agni-5, from APJ Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast.

The missile, which uses a three-stage solid-fuelled engine, is capable of striking targets up to a 5,000-km range with a very high degree of accuracy.

The first test of the missile was carried out in April 2012

The successful test-firing of the missile, built by DRDO.

The successful launch aligns with India's policy to have a "credible minimum deterrence" that underpins the commitment to 'No First Use'.

DRDO stands for Defence Research & Development Organisation. DRDO was formed in 1958.

309. **1**

The research wing of Uttarakhand forest department inaugurated the biggest aromatic garden of India in Lalkuan of Nainital district. Established in an area of over 3 acre, the garden has 140 different species of aromatic species from across India.

310. **1**

Civil Aviation Minister Jyotiraditya released Krishi UDAN 2.0, which lays out the vision of improving value realization through better integration and optimization of Agri-harvesting and air transportation. The scheme proposes to facilitate and incentivize the movement of Agri-produce by air transportation. Krishi UDAN 2.0 is an example of the government's collaborative approach to policymaking.

This scheme will open up new avenues of growth for the agriculture sector and help attain the goal of doubling farmers' income by removing barriers in the supply chain, logistics and transportation of farm produce. The scheme will also strengthen cargo-related infrastructure at airports and off airports, by facilitating the development of a hub and spoke model and a freight grid. Airside transit and transshipment infrastructure will be created at Bagdogra and Guwahati airports, and at Leh, Srinagar, Nagpur, Nashik, Ranchi, and Raipur airports as a part of a focus on NER, Tribal and Hilly Districts. The Krishi Udan scheme, launched by the Centre in September 2020, waived airport charges such as parking charges and terminal navigational landing charges on select Indian airports for air cargo operators if the agricultural cargo is over 50 per cent of the total chargeable weight carried.

311. **4**

Former South Korean President Roh Tae-woo, who took part in a military coup and later won the election that was the country's first move towards democracy before he was imprisoned for corruption, died. He was 88.

Roh was a key participant in the 1979 military coup that made his army friend and coup leader Chun Doo-hwan president.

312. **2**

The Supreme Court has formed an expert panel to probe into the Pegasus snoopgate.

The expert committee will be headed by former Supreme Court judge Justice RV Raveendran.

**313. 3**

MeitY Startup Hub, an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Google has announced a partnership to launch a growth and development program called the Appscale Academy.

The program is aimed to train early to mid-stage startups across India on building high-quality apps for the world.

Jeet Vijay, CEO, MeitY Startup Hub.

As part of the 6-month program, 100 selected startups will get trained through a curriculum including sessions on data safety and security practices, monetisation, UX design and global market expansion. The startups will receive access to virtual instructor-led webinars, self-learning material, and mentorship sessions with local and global industry professionals, and many will get an opportunity to pitch to leading venture capitalists.

**314. 1**

Uzbek President Shavkat Mirziyoyev has been re-elected for a second five-year term, according to the preliminary results of a poll that Western observers criticised as uncompetitive despite recent political reforms.

Mirziyoyev's win will allow him to deepen his reform campaign and likely lead to Uzbekistan opening up further to foreign trade and investment.

Capital: Tashkent; Currency: Som

**315. 4**

Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said his company is rebranding itself as Meta in an effort to encompass its virtual-reality vision for the future.

The metaverse will be a place people will be able to interact, work and create products and content in what he hopes will be a new ecosystem that creates "millions" of jobs for creators.

What is the metaverse? Think of it as the internet brought to life, or at least rendered in 3D.

Zuckerberg has described it as a virtual environment you can go inside of instead of just looking at on a screen. Essentially, it's a world of endless, interconnected virtual communities where people can meet, work and play, using virtual reality headsets, augmented reality glasses, smartphone apps or other devices.

**316. 1**

Latest UNEP Emissions Gap Report finds new and updated Nationally Determined Contributions only take 7.5% off predicted 2030 emissions, while 55% is needed to meet the 1.5°C Paris goal

Net-zero commitments could shave off another 0.5°C, if these pledges were made robust and if 2030 promises were made consistent with the net-zero commitments.

**317. 3**

Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has appointed Retired Supreme Court (SC) judge Justice Ashok Bhushan as the chairperson of the National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) for 4 years from the date of assuming the charge or till the time he turns 70 years of age. Currently, Justice M Venugopal is the Acting Chairperson of the appellate tribunal.

National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) was constituted under Section 410 of the Companies Act, 2013 for hearing appeals against the orders of National Company Law Tribunal(s) (NCLT), with effect from 1st June, 2016.

NCLAT is also the Appellate Tribunal for hearing appeals against the orders passed by NCLT(s) under Section 61 of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code, 2016 (IBC), with effect from 1st December, 2016.

NCLAT is also the Appellate Tribunal for hearing appeals against the orders passed by Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India under Section 202 and Section 211 of IBC.

Principal bench of NCLAT is in New Delhi. NCLAT has a bench in Chennai.

**318. 2**

Azim Premji topped the Edelgive Hurun India Philanthropy List 2021. With this, he has become India's 'most generous' billionaire for 2nd straight year. With a total donation of ₹1,9713 crore in FY 2021, amounting to ₹127 crore per day, Premji, 76, saw his contribution increase by nearly a fourth. He was followed by Shiv Nadar, Mukesh Ambani, Kumar Mangalam Birla, Nandan Nilekani in the list. Nine women found place on the rankings, led by Rohini Nilekani of Rohini Nilekani Philanthropies ( ₹1,69 crore), USV's Leena Gandhi Tewari ( ₹1,24 crore) and Anu Aga of Thermax ( ₹1,20 crore).

319. 4

The train No. 05956 Delhi " Kamakhya (Brahmaputra) Mail Special became the first Mail/Express train to run on electric traction up to Kamakhya station of Guwahati after successful operation of a parcel train on electric traction.

320. 3

India's first manned ocean mission "Samudrayan" was launched in Chennai on Oct 29, 2021, by Union Minister Jitendra Singh. With this, India joins elite club of select nations USA, Russia, Japan, France & China having such underwater vehicles for carrying out subsea activities. Matsya 6000, the deep sea vehicle, will be ready for qualification trials by December 2024. The Matsya 6000 under Samudrayan initiative is capable of carrying three human beings in titanium alloy personnel sphere of 2.1 metre diameter enclosed space with an endurance of 12 hours and an additional 96 hours in case of emergency situation. The Samudrayan project, undertaken by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT), will be a part of the ₹16,000 crore Deep Ocean Mission.

321. 1

# Thangavelu Mariyappan and Sharad Kumar won silver and bronze medals, respectively in the men's high jump - T63 final.

# Shooting: Singhraj Adana won bronze in 10m air pistol final and Rubina Francis came seventh in the women's 10m air pistol SH1 final.

# Bhagyashri Jadhav finished seventh with a personal best throw of 7m in the Women's Shot Put F34 final.

# Archery: Rakesh Kumar lost 143-145 to Ai Xinliang of China

322. 3

Zamboanga Sibugay( Zamboanga Sibugay, officially the Province of Zamboanga Sibugay, is a province in the Philippines located in the Zamboanga Peninsula region in Mindanao)-based fisherman and community environmentalist Roberto Ballon among 2021 Ramon Magsaysay awardees

The Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation announced this year's five awardees in a virtual event.

The other 2021 Ramon Magsaysay awardees are Pakistani social entrepreneur Muhammad Amjad Saqib, Bangladeshi scientist Firdausi Qadri, Steven Muncy who helps displaced refugees of Southeast Asia, and Indonesian production house Watchdoc.

323. 4

South African pacer Dale Steyn has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket. Since making his international debut in 2004, he played 93 Tests, 125 ODIs and 47 T20Is.

The right-arm pacer, who holds the record for the fastest bowler to 400 Test wickets (80 matches), bagged 439 wickets in the longest format, 196 wickets in the ODIs and 64 wickets in T20 international.

324. 1

Shanghai Ranking Consultancy has released the Academic Ranking of World University (ARWU) 2021. IISc Bangalore has been ranked as the best university in the country while Calcutta University has been ranked second in the 2021 ARWU ranking. The 2021 ARWU released by Shanghai Ranking Consultancy is one of the premier and globally recognized rankings of higher educational institutions. Banaras Hindu University has been ranked third this time. Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi secures the fourth position. The fifth rank goes to the Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur. Indian Institute of Technology Madras is ranked sixth and Jawaharlal Nehru University is seventh. Delhi University has got the eighth position and the All India Institute of Medical Sciences has been ranked ninth and the Vellore Institute of Technology completes the top ten.

325. 3

The Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Zubin Irani inaugurated NUTRI GARDEN to mark the beginning of Poshan Maah " 2021 at All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA). Plantation of Shigru (Sahijan) and Amla saplings were also carried out. AIIA, New Delhi under the direction of the Ministry of Ayush initiated the celebration of Poshan Maah - 2021.

326. 2

Vasoo Paranjape, the former Mumbai cricket player and renowned coach passed away at the age of 82. He scored 785 runs in 29 first-class matches representing Mumbai and Baroda. He played a crucial role

in shaping the careers of Sunil Gavaskar, Dilip Vengsarkar, Sanjay Manjrekar, Rahul Dravid, Sachin Tendulkar, Yuvraj Singh and Rohit Sharma, among others.

**327. 5**

State-owned engineering consultancy firm Engineers India Ltd (EIL) announced Vartika Shukla has assumed charge as the first woman Chairperson & Managing Director of the company. Shukla joined EIL in 1988 and possesses consulting experience comprising Design, Engineering and implementation of complexes in Refining, Gas Processing, Petrochemicals, Fertilizers sectors.

**328. 3**

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has launched the country's first 'Quantum Computer Simulator (QSim) Toolkit'. Quantum Computing is a rapidly emerging computational paradigm which can perform a variety of tasks with greater speed and efficiency than present day digital computers by harnessing the power of Quantum Mechanics.

**329. 5**

PhonePe has launched 'PhonePe Pulse'. It is India's first interactive website with data, insights and trends on digital payments in the country.

PhonePe also released Pulse Report, an in-depth study on the evolution of digital payments over the past 5 years. It includes detailed geographical and category specific trends.

Sameer Nigam is the Founder and CEO of PhonePe.

**330. 1**

Japan's PM Yoshihide Suga stepped down, setting stage for new premier. Suga, who took over after Shinzo Abe resigned last September citing ill health, has seen his approval ratings drop below 30% as the nation struggles with its worst wave of COVID-19 infections ahead of a general election this year. Yoshihide Suga belongs to Liberal Democratic Party (LDP).

**331. 4**

Government appointed Atul Bhatt as CMD of Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. Bhatt was the CMD of state-owned consultancy firm MECON, which offers a full range of services required to set up a project from concept to commissioning including turnkey execution. He replaces P K Rath who retired as CMD RINL on May 31. RINL is a special steel-making player based in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

**332. 2**

Krishna Nagar won Gold medal in Badminton at the Paralympics Games in Tokyo. 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. Badminton and Taekwondo made their debut in Tokyo, both of which were represented by India.

**333. 4**

The 130th edition of the Durand Cup kicked off at the Vivekananda Yubabharati Krirangan in Kolkata. West Bengal CM Mamata Banerjee kicked the ball and inaugurated the tournament. 16 teams are playing in this edition of the oldest club football tournament in Asia. The final match will be held on 3rd October.

**334. 5**

Rajni Kaul who was the first News Broadcaster for BBC Hindi passed away in Faridabad, Haryana. She was 93. She was not only the first woman to join BBC Hindi as a staff member but she also became the first woman to read a news bulletin in Hindi on the network in 1961. She was well-known for her programme Indradhanush.

**335. 3**

Amazon India has announced the launch of Kisan Store - an online platform that will enable farmers across India to get access to more than 8,000 agriculture inputs such as seeds, farm tools and accessories, plant protection, nutrition, and more. Listed by small and medium businesses (SMBs) these products will be available at competitive prices on Amazon India.

**336. 2**

PM Modi launches key initiatives in education sector on 'Shikshak Parv'

Theme of ShikshakParv 2021- Quality & Sustainable Schools: Learnings from Schools in India.

Modi launched the Indian Sign Language Dictionary (audio and text embedded sign language video for the hearing impaired, in conformity with Universal Design of Learning), Talking Books (audio books for the visually impaired), School Quality Assurance and Assessment Framework of CBSE, NISHTHA teachers' training programme for NIPUN Bharat and Vidyanjali portal (for facilitating education volunteers, donors and CSR contributors for school development).

**337. 1**

Cuba became the first country in the world to vaccinate children from the age of two against Covid-19, using home-grown jabs that are yet to be recognized by the World Health Organization.

Several other countries in the world are vaccinating children from the age of 12, and some are conducting trials on younger kids.

Capital of Cuba: Havana; Currency: Peso;

President: Miguel Díaz-Canel

**338. 2**

World EV Day is observed on September 9 every year. The day marks the celebration of e-mobility.

Special awareness campaigns are organised globally to educate people about the benefits of electric vehicles.

World EV Day was an initiative created by sustainability media company Green.TV. The first World EV day was observed in 2020. It was largely a social media campaign that encouraged drivers to recognise the benefits of electric vehicles and make a commitment that the next car they drive will be electric and not run on conventional fuels. While China is the largest EV market in the world, India is emerging as the next favourite destination for automotive companies. The government has promised to offer all possible help to take the electric vehicle industry forward. Notably, India's automotive industry is the fifth largest in the world. It is set to become the third largest by 2030.

**339. 1**

Former IPS officer Iqbal Singh Lalpura has been appointed chairman of the National Commission for Minorities. He hails from Punjab and has authored several books on Sikh philosophy. He has also won several awards such as the president's police medal, police medal for meritorious services, Shiromani Sikh Sahitkar Award and Sikh scholar award.

**340. 1**

The central government and the Asian Development Bank signed a \$300 million loan as additional financing to scale up improvement of rural connectivity to help boost rural economy in Maharashtra.

The additional financing for the ongoing Maharashtra Rural Connectivity Improvement Project will help improve an additional 1,100 rural roads and bridges in 34 districts.

**341. 1**

The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) has been awarded the 2021 Africa Food Prize for work that has improved food security across 13 countries in sub-Saharan Africa.

ICRISAT, a CGIAR Research Centre, is a non-profit, non-political public international research organisation that conducts agricultural research for development in Asia.

**342. 2**

Author Susanna Clarke won the Women's Prize for Fiction 2021 for her novel 'Piranesi'.

Novelist and Booker-winner Bernardine Evaristo chaired the Women's Prize judging panel this year. 'Piranesi' is narrated by a man living in a labyrinthine, statue-filled house "alone except for a visitor known as the Other" that comprises his whole universe. Susanna Clarke: English author known for her debut novel Jonathan Strange & Mr. Norrell

**343. 2**

India and Australia began a high-level foreign and defence ministerial dialogue aimed at further ramping up their overall defence and strategic cooperation including in the Indo-Pacific amid China's increasing military assertiveness in the region. External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Defence Minister Rajnath Singh held the inaugural 'two-plus-two' talks in New Delhi with their Australian counterparts Marise Payne and Peter Dutton. The in-person talks are taking place at a time the global focus has been on the situation in Afghanistan and the issue is likely to figure in the deliberations.

344. 4

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs in collaboration with the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology launched the pilot drive 'Main Bhi Digital 3.0' " A special Campaign for Digital Onboarding and Training for street vendors under PM SVANidhi scheme across 223 cities in the country. The drive is in line with PM Narendra Modi's vision of Sabka Saath Sabka Vikas.

345. 2

The INS Dhruv is a research vessel and missile range instrumentation ship built by India's Hindustan Shipyard Limited (HSL). The ship can gather electronic intelligence and will be used to track missiles and satellites to aid India's strategic weapons and anti-ballistic missiles. It will be jointly operated by National Technical Research Organization, Defense Research and Development Organization and the Indian Navy.

346. 1

IIT Madras has created a history for becoming the best ranking Indian institute for the third time in a row. The institute has been an undefeated champion since 2019. IISc has continued to obtain the second rank. IISc used to be the best-ranking institute in 2018 and before. In the six years of NIRF, no other institute has got the top spot yet. In the university category, IISc Bengaluru was the best-ranked varsity followed by JNU and BHU at the second and third spot, as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) 2021. IISc Bengaluru " overall second, the best in university category " is also the top ranking institute in newly introduced category research.

347. 3

A new government has been announced in Lebanon over a year after the previous administration quit following the devastating Beirut port explosion. Najib Mikati -Lebanon's richest man - becomes Prime Minister, a position he has held twice before. His appointment, along with the naming of a new cabinet, ends months of political paralysis.

Lebanon Capital: Beirut: Currency:-Lebanese pound

348. 1

Ghatlodia BJP MLA Bhupendra Patel was sworn in as the new Chief Minister of Gujarat. State governor Acharya Devvrat administered the oath of office and secrecy at Raj Bhavan in Gandhinagar. 59-year-old first-time MLA, Patel was unanimously elected leader of BJP Legislature Party. This came after the resignation of Vijay Rupani as Chief Minister of Gujarat.

349. 2

Daniil Medvedev of Russia lifted his first Grand Slam trophy after beating Novak. Djokovic 6-4, 6-4, 6-4 in the US Open men's singles final at the Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York. The second seed Medvedev ended Djokovic's bid for a calendar slam and a 21st major by dominating from start to finish. Medvedev capped off a stellar US Open outing with a memorable win. Emma Raducanu is the US Open 2021 Women's Singles champion. She won her maiden Grand Slam title beating Leylah Fernandez 6-4, 6-3! Emma Raducanu is the youngest Grand Slam champion in 17 years. The 18-year-old qualifier from Britain beat the 19-year-old Leylah Fernandez of Canada.

350. 4

The UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize (3 awards)

Established in 1989, with the support of the Government of the Republic of Korea. It gives special consideration to mother language-based literacy development.

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Each of the three UNESCO King Sejong prizewinners receives a medal, a diploma and US\$20,000. Recent news:- The National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) of India, Noida won the prestigious UNESCO King Sejong Literacy Prize 2021 for 'enabling education of persons with disabilities through technology-enabled inclusive learning materials, with a specific focus on Indian Sign language-based content' in an award function organised at UNESCO's New Delhi.

351. 1

Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh State University in Aligarh.

The university is being established by the Uttar Pradesh government in the memory and honour of Raja Mahendra Pratap Singh, the great freedom fighter, educationist and social reformer. It is being set up in a total area of over 92 acres at Lodha village and Musepur Kareem Jarouli village of Aligarh's Kol tehsil.

**352. 1**

In order to promote door-to-door digital banking and financial services in remote areas of Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha launched 'One Gram Panchayat-One DIGI-Pay Sakhi' in the union territory at a function here, an official spokesman said. The mission was launched at Jammu & Kashmir Entrepreneurship Development Institute, Pampore. Initially, the DIGI-Pay facility will be provided in 2,000 remote villages of the UT. In the first phase, 80 women from self help groups from across the Jammu and Kashmir division have been selected as DIGI-Pay Sakhis.

**353. 5**

Union cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi cleared a Rs 26,058 crore production linked incentive (PLI) scheme for auto, auto-components and drone industries to ensure higher manufacturing output.

The new PLI scheme will now incentivize the emergence of advanced automotive technologies' global supply chain in India.

Union I&B minister, Anurag Thakur.

**354. 4**

NITI Aayog, with RMI and RMI India's support, launched Shoonya--an initiative to promote zero-pollution delivery vehicles by working with consumers and industry. The campaign aims to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) in the urban deliveries segment and create consumer awareness about the benefits of zero-pollution delivery.

**355. 5**

Nagaland will get its first software Technology Park centre in September 2021. The Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) Centre, Kohima will be inaugurated by the Union Minister of State for Entrepreneurship, Skill Development, Electronics & Technology, Rajeev Chandrasekhar.

**356. 4**

The 21st meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of State was held on 17 September 2021 in Dushanbe in hybrid format.

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Emomali Rahmon, the President of Tajikistan.

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Summit via video-link. At Dushanbe, India was represented by External Affairs Minister, Dr. S. Jaishankar.

Dushanbe is the capital of Tajikistan.

**357. 1**

Sirarakhong Chilli & Tamenglong Orange of Manipur receive GI tag. Manipur Chief Minister, N. Biren Singh has announced that the famous Sirarakhong Chilli and Tamenglong Orange have now received the Geographical Index (GI) tag. He made the announcement while speaking at the inaugural function of the Van Dhan Vikas Kendra (VDVK) Mela, 2021, organised by the State Forest Department.

**358. 3**

IRCTC has joined hands and signed the agreement with Cordelia Cruises being operated by M/s Waterways Leisure Tourism Pvt. Ltd for promotion and marketing of the first indigenous luxury cruise in India. This is another incredible luxury travel offering under IRCTC's umbrella of tourism services to the public.

**359. 4**

India's largest open air fernery developed in Uttarakhand. The fernery has been developed over four acres and houses various 'threatened' and rare species of ferns at Ranikhet in Uttarakhand's Almora district.

**360. 5**

Niti Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission in collaboration with ISRO and CBSE has launched 'Space Challenge' for school students across India.

361. **1**

In her latest book, *The Three Khans: And the Emergence of New India (Westland)*, senior journalist Kaveree Bamzai has juxtaposed the careers of the 3 Khans, Aamir, Shah Rukh, & Salman, with the most tumultuous times in the history of the republic. Art often responds to social and political dimensions, & in a country short of role models, film stars often play a double roles

362. **5**

The government has launched Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana to empower youth by way of providing entry-level training in industry-relevant skills through Railway training institutes.

The training will be provided to 50,000 candidates over a period of three years. Initially, the training will be provided to 1000 candidates. The program was launched by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw. To begin with, training will be provided in electrician, welder, machinist and fitter trades; training programs in other trades will be added by zonal railways and Production units based on regional demands and needs assessment.

The candidate must follow the given eligibility criteria to become eligible for Rail Kaushal Vikas Yojana:-  
Age limit of the candidate: 18-35 years.

Candidates must have at least matriculation certificate.

Candidate must have Aadhaar card and a bank account to apply in the scheme.

363. **5**

Hyderabad's promising R Raja Rithvik became chess Grandmaster after he crossed the ELO Rating of 2500. The 17-year-old achieved this GM title in Vezerkepzo Grandmaster Chess Tournament at Budapest, Hungary. He thus became the 70th Grandmaster from the country.

Raja Rithvik defeated FIDE Master Finek Vaclav of Czechoslovakia in 57 moves and reached the live rating of 2501.

Subbaraman Vijayalakshmi, first woman Grandmaster of India.

364. **5**

The Sikkim government has declared *Neolissochilus hexagonolepis* commonly known as Copper Mahseer and locally named as 'Katley' as a State fish to highlight the importance of the fish and to give emphasis to its conservation measures. In Sikkim, Katley is found in varied altitudes covering entire state predominantly confined in Teesta and Rangit rivers and their tributaries.

In 2014 the fish was also categorized as endangered by the IUCN.

365. **5**

Jhumpa Lahiri, the Pulitzer Prize-winning fiction writer, will highlight her work as a translator. Lahiri's 'Translating Myself and Others' will come out next spring. Lahiri has lived off and on in Rome for nearly a decade, and her translation projects include 'The Penguin Book of Italian Short Stories' and her novel 'Whereabouts', which she first wrote in Italian.

Her new book will features essays on the meaning of translation.

366. **3**

The sixth edition of SCO Exercise Peaceful Mission 2021 was held at Orenburg Region of South West Russia.

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) is an intergovernmental organization founded in Shanghai on 15 June 2001. The SCO currently comprises eight Member States (China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan), four Observer States interested in acceding to full membership (Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran, and Mongolia) and six "Dialogue Partners" (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Nepal, Sri Lanka and Turkey).

367. **4**

India has climbed two spots and has been ranked 46th by the World Intellectual Property Organization in the Global Innovation Index 2021 rankings. India has been on a rising trajectory, over the past several years in the GII, from a rank of 81 in 2015 to 46 in 2021.

368. **3**

FSSAI released 3rd State Food Safety Index to measure State performance across 5 parameters of food safety. Health minister felicitated 9 leading States & UTs based on 2020-21 ranking for their impressive performance. Gujarat stood 1st followed by Kerala & Tamil Nadu. Among smaller states, Goa was 1st followed by Meghalaya & Manipur.

369. **1**

President Ram conferred the Award to Deputy Director General of Military Nursing Service Brig S V Saraswati for her immense contribution to the MNS as nurse administrator. National Florence Nightingale Award is the highest national distinction a nurse can achieve for selfless devotion and exceptional professionalism.

370. **2**

Department of Justice and NALSA has undertaken a special pan-India campaign to mainstream legal aid and to actualize the aspiration of access to justice for every citizen. Department of Justice launched the "Ek Pahal /एक पहल" drive across the country from 17th September till 2nd October to encourage mass registration under Tele-Law.

371. **2**

UN declared 23rd September as the International Sign Language Day, ISLRTC has celebrated it every year.

372. **3**

Bangladeshi Fairouz Faizah Beether gets 2021 Changemaker Award for her work promoting good health and well-being. The Award celebrates an individual who has inspired change using personal experience or from a position of leadership. Changemaker Award is part of the Goalkeepers Global Goals award instituted by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to accelerate progress towards attaining the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the UN.

373. **1**

Sony comes to Zee Entertainment's rescue, signs term sheet for merger  
53% of the merged entity would be owned by Sony India shareholders and the rest by Zee's holders. Majority of the board will be nominated by Sony. The deal provides an exclusive negotiation period of 90 days during which Zee and Sony will conduct mutual diligence and negotiate definitive, binding agreements. Zee CEO Punit Goenka will lead the entity.

374. **5**

WHO released their revised Air Quality Guidelines for the first time after 16 years. The 2021 guideline stipulates that the annual average for PM 10 should not exceed 15 micrograms per cubic metre of air, while the 24-hour average should not exceed 45 micrograms per cubic metre. Compared to this, the earlier limit was 20 micrograms per cubic metre annually and 50 micrograms per cubic metre in a day. Similarly, the recommendation for PM 2.5 is that the annual average should not exceed 5 micrograms per cubic metre, or 15 micrograms per cubic metre in a day. The earlier limit was 10 micrograms per cubic metre annually and 25 micrograms per cubic metre in a day.

375. **3**

India and the United States of America (USA) launched the "Climate Action and Finance Mobilization Dialogue (CAFMD)". The CAFMD is one of the two tracks of the India-U.S. Climate and Clean Energy Agenda 2030 partnership launched at the Leaders' Summit on Climate in April 2021, by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and US President Joseph Biden. India and the United States are natural partners with shared values and our agenda encompasses all major pillars of our strategic priorities - including defense, security, energy, technology, education and healthcare.

376. **2**

Haryana was adjudged first in the country in installation of off-grid solar pumps under Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha Evam Utthan Mahaabhiyaan with installation of 14,418 pumps against 15,000 sanctioned pumps for the year 2020-21. This announcement was made by the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy in the concluding session of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.

Haryana Chief Minister:- Manohar Lal Khattar ;  
Governor:- Bandaru Dattatreya

377. **2**

Star Indian cueist Pankaj Advani grabbed his 24th world title when he triumphed at the IBSF 6-Red Snooker World Cup with a victory over Pakistan's Babar Masih in the final. Advani, who won his 11th Asian title last week, started the final with a comfortable 42-13 win in the opening frame.

Babar drew parity by winning the second 38-14.

**378. 1**

National Education Policy (NEP) 2020: Education Ministry forms committee to draw national curriculum frameworks

The 12-member committee will be chaired by former ISRO chief K Kasturirangan.

The committee will develop four National Curriculum Frameworks - the National Curriculum Framework for School Education, National Curriculum for Early Childhood Care and Education, National Curriculum Framework for Teacher Education, and National Curriculum Framework for Adult Education.

K Kasturirangan also chaired drafting committee of National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

**379. 1**

Skyroot Aerospace, a Hyderabad-based Space technology startup, has become the first private company to formally enter into an agreement with ISRO and is set to benefit from the latter's expertise and access facilities to test and qualify its small rocket ahead of launch next year. Skyroot Aerospace, a Hyderabad-based Space technology startup, has become the first private company to formally enter into an agreement with ISRO and is set to benefit from the latter's expertise and access facilities to test and qualify its small rocket ahead of launch next year.

Skyroot is building the Vikram series of rockets to carry small satellites into space.

**380. 2**

Feminist activist, author and a stalwart of the women's rights movement in India, Kamla Bhasin, passed away.

Since the 1970s, Bhasin has been a prominent voice in the women's movement both in India, as well as in other South Asian countries. In 2002, she founded the feminist network 'Sangat', which works with underprivileged women from rural and tribal communities, often using non-literary tools such as plays, songs and art.

Bhasin has authored several books on gender theory and feminism, many of which have been translated into more than 30 languages. Interestingly, the iconic albeit controversial chant of 'Azaadi', which has reverberated across protest sites over decades, is said to have been first been popularised by Bhasin as a feminist slogan against patriarchy.

**381. 1**

Bengaluru rose up three spots to be ranked 23rd in an annual analysis of the world's most favourable ecosystems to build a globally successful startup.

Delhi held on to its 36th position in the Global Startup Ecosystem Report 2021' by Startup Genome, with Mumbai topping a parallel 'Top Emerging Ecosystems' ranking for the second year in a row.

Silicon Valley, London, New York, Beijing and Boston complete this year's top five.

**382. 3**

Antyodaya Diwas is observed every year on September 25.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, in 2014, dedicated it in honour of late Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya to mark his birth anniversary.

He was a veteran politician who was one of the key leaders of Bharatiya Jana Sangh from which the BJP emerged.

**383. 1**

SAUBHAGYA- Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana completed four years of successful implementation. 2.82 crore households have been electrified since the launch of SAUBHAGYA. These figures are till March 31st of this year.

SAUBHAGYA is one of the largest household electrification drives in the world. SAUBHAGYA was announced by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 25th September 2017.

**384. 3**

As part of ongoing celebration commemorating 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', Air Force Station Srinagar will conduct an air show at Dal lake in Srinagar on September 26.

The event, being organised in collaboration with the J & K Government, will be flagged off by Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha, at Sher-e-Kashmir International Convention Centre (SKICC). The event is titled "Give Wings to your Dreams"

385. **2**

The maiden National Cooperative Conference (Sehkarita Sammelan) was held at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium in the national capital. Amit Shah addressed the Conference. Amit Shah is the first Minister of Cooperation of India.

Conference was organised by cooperative bodies IFFCO, National Cooperative Federation of India, Amul, Sahakar Bharti, NAFED and KRIBHCO, among others.

386. **5**

The deep depression over the Bay of Bengal intensified into cyclone 'Gulab' on 26th sept.

Cyclone Gulab made landfall in coastal regions of Andhra Pradesh and Odisha,

The cyclone crossed the coasts between Kalingapatnam in Andhra Pradesh and Gopalpur and weakened into a deep depression overnight. Cyclone Gulab is the 2nd to hit Odisha in 4 months after Cyclone Yaas in May.

Cyclone Gulab was named by Pakistan. It refers to Rose in English.

387. **1**

A new book tells the story of 120 Indian soldiers who put up a valiant fight against the 5,000-strong Chinese military troops in the 1962 Indo-China war, preventing a possible occupation of the entire Ladakh region.

"The Battle of Rezang La", published under Penguin Random House's "Veer" imprint, is written by ex-naval officer and author Kulpreet Yadav.

On 18 November 1962, the Charlie Company of the 13 Kumaon Battalion, Kumaon Regiment, fought a Chinese attack at Rezang La Pass in Ladakh. The all-Ahirs company, comprising 120 soldiers -- mostly from villages of South Haryana -- was led by Major Shaitan Singh. Of these 120 soldiers, 110 were martyred in the attack. Yadav, who has authored several books in diverse genres, including espionage, true crime and romance, was also the winner of the best fiction author award for "Murder in Paharganj" at the Gurgaon Literary Festival (2018).

388. **3**

The names of 11 scientists, who received the country's highest science award Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for science and technology 2021, were announced during the 80th foundation day of the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

The prize is given to Indian scientists below the age of 45 for outstanding research in seven fields.

SSB Prizes, each of the value of Rs 5,00,000, are awarded annually for notable and outstanding research, applied or fundamental, in the following disciplines: (i) Biological Sciences, (ii) Chemical Sciences, (iii) Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences, (iv) Engineering Sciences, (v) Mathematical Sciences, (vi) Medical Sciences and (vii) Physical Sciences.

389. **4**

Union housing and urban affairs minister Hardeep Singh Puri launched the 'Swachh Survekshan 2022', the seventh edition of the annual cleanliness survey under which district rankings have been introduced for the first time.

This survey will create a level playing field for smaller cities by introducing 2 population categories:- under 15,000 & btw 15,000-25,000.

390. **1**

India successfully test-fired a new version of the Akash missile from the integrated test range at Odisha's Chandipur. The new missile named Akash Prime intercepted and destroyed an unmanned aerial target which mimicked an enemy aircraft during its maiden flight test.

Akash Prime is equipped with indigenous active RF seeker for improved accuracy, which makes sure that the target at which the missile is fired is hit. Other improvements were also incorporated in Akash Prime like ensuring reliable performance under a low-temperature environment at higher altitudes.

391. **1**

Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched Amul Honey " a product of Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation under active cooperation with National Bee Board. The Mission is being implemented in the country for doubling income of farmers and beekeepers through beekeeping with the budgetary allocation of 500 crores rupees.

National Bee Board -HQ :- New Delhi; Founded : 2000

392. 1

The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has announced the formation of a three-member committee to review the criteria for Economically Weaker Section (EWS) reservations. The committee will comprise Former Finance Secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey, Member Secretary ICSSR Prof VK Malhotra, and Principal Economic Advisor to the Indian government Sanjeev Sanyal. The committee will examine various approaches followed in the country so far for identifying the economically weaker sections. It will also send its recommendations to the Centre in the next three weeks. Recently, the union government has decided to revisit the criteria set out for eligibility for its 10% reservation under the economically weaker sections (EWS) category. The main criterion is a family income ceiling of '8 lakh. The decision came after the Supreme Court closely questioned it on how it arrived at the income figure while considering a challenge to the implementation of 27% reservation for the Other Backward Classes and 10% for the EWS under the all-India quota for medical admissions.

393. 5

The nation will have nine nuclear reactors by 2024 and a new nuclear project, the first in northern India, will come up 150 kms away from Delhi in Gorakhpur of Haryana, the government informed the Rajya Sabha. By 2024, India will have nine nuclear reactors plus 12 new additional ones which were approved during the Covid times with a capacity of 9000 MW. Most of our nuclear projects were with the support of Russia and France and now more and more of our reactors are becoming indigenous. The Budget proposed by the Department of Atomic Energy, for Capital expenditure during 2021-22 was Rs 17,796.24 crore, and approved BE 2021-22 for Capital Expenditure is Rs11,403.20 Crore. There is a shortfall of Rs 6393.04 crore. There are presently 22 reactors with a total capacity of 6780 MW in operation and one reactor, KAPP-3 (700 MW) has been connected to the grid on January 10, 2021. In addition, there are 8 reactors (including 500 MW PFBR being implemented by BHAVINI) totaling 6000 MW under construction at various stages.

394. 1

Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur and Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath inaugurated Earth Station of Doordarshan Kendra in Gorakhpur. Three FM stations of All India Radio in Etawah, Lakhimpur Kheri, and Bahraich districts were also inaugurated at this juncture virtually.

395. 3

Government has cleared sale of its entire 100 per cent stake in Central Electronics Limited (CEL), a state-owned engineering company, to Nandal Finance and Leasing Private Limited for ' 210 crore, a statement issued by the finance ministry. The "winning bid of Rs 210,00,60000" was placed by Nandal Finance and Leasing Private Limited Ashwini Vaishnav - Union Minister Meity

396. 5

Minister of State for Electronics and IT Rajeev Chandrasekhar on Friday launched the first indigenous server, Rudra, developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM). The server design can be used for manufacturing classical standalone commercial server.

397. 1

Bureau of Energy Efficiency virtually launched 'Certification Course on Home Energy Audit (HEA) ', during "National Energy Conservation Week: 8th'14th Dec 2021", marked as Iconic Week under "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav". HEA enables appropriate accounting, quantification, verification, monitoring, and analysis of energy use of various energy-consuming equipment in the home.

398. 2

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Rs 9,800-crore Saryu Nahar National Project at Balrampur in Uttar Pradesh. The project was pending for the past 40 years. The project began in 1978, but due to issues like lack of continuity of budgetary support, interdepartmental coordination, and adequate monitoring, the project was delayed.

399. 4

To improve the leadership skills of grassroots women political leaders, the National Commission for Women (NCW) launched a pan-India capacity building program, 'She is a Changemaker' for women representatives at all levels, gram panchayats to parliament members and political workers including office bearers of National/State political parties.

400. **2**

Indian badminton ace P V Sindhu settled for a silver medal at the BWF World Tour Finals after going down meekly against Korean teen sensation An Seyoung. With this victory, An Seyoung became the 1st ever South Korean woman to win the season-ending title. It was also her 3rd straight title in Bali, following wins at the Indonesia Masters and Indonesia Open. ' The world number one Viktor Axelsen defeated Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn in the summit clash to clinch the BWF World Tour Finals in Bali.

401. **3**

Argentina lifted the coveted trophy of the Junior Men's Hockey World Cup after defeating Germany, 4-2 in the Summit Clash in Bhubaneswar. Argentina's forward Lautaro Domene made all the difference in the match with his hat-trick and then in the last minute Agostini sealed the championship trophy with his brilliant goal. For Germany, Hayner and Phandt scored a goal each, but that was not enough to stop Argentina to win the final. Earlier, India suffered a 1-3 defeat against France in the bronze medal match.

402. **1**

United Kingdom, Canada and Australia have joined the US-led diplomatic boycott of the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing over concerns about human rights in China. New Zealand has confirmed it will not send officials to Beijing mostly because of the coronavirus pandemic, but it also voiced concern over human rights issues in China. International Olympic Committee is a non-governmental sports organisation based in Lausanne, Switzerland. Founded: 23 June 1894, Paris, France President: Thomas Bach

403. **2**

Indian weightlifter Jhilli Dalabehera (22 year old) has won the gold medal in the women's 49kg category at the Commonwealth Weightlifting Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. Dalabehera lifted the total weight of 167kg with 73kg in snatch and 94kg in clean and jerk to win the yellow metal in the 49kg category. Sanket Mahadev Sargar clinched the gold medal in the men's 55kg snatch category. Jhilli Dalabehera hails from the state of Odisha. Jhilli Dalabehera had won the silver medal in the previous edition of Asian Weightlifting Championships. Jhilli Dalabehera was honoured with the Ekalabya Puraskar in 2019 for her consistent performances in weightlifting.

404. **2**

Norway's Magnus Carlsen claimed his fifth world chess crown in a championship held in Dubai. He retained the world championship with a fourth win over Ian Nepomniachtchi in the 11th encounter of their showdown in Dubai. The 31-year-old Carlsen benefited from a blunder by his Russian challenger to win his fourth game of the match, with the black pieces, to take an unassailable lead in the best-of-14 contest.

405. **2**

Red Bull's Max Verstappen took his first Formula One title, denying rival Lewis Hamilton a record eighth, with a last-lap overtake to win a season-ending Abu Dhabi Grand Prix at the Yas Marina Circuit. Hamilton's Mercedes team secured the constructors' championship for an unprecedented eighth successive year.

406. **4**

Tennis star Emma Raducanu is the BBC's Sports Personality of the Year for 2021. She beat Tom Daley(diver) and Adam Peaty (swimmer) into second and third place, while England's men's footballers were named team of the year and Gareth Southgate the coach, as a triumphant period for British sport across the board was commemorated at a ceremony in Salford. Tom Daley won gold for the first time at his fourth Olympics in Tokyo.

407. **1**

State-owned Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has signed a pact with Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Ltd (BVFCL) to provide its techno-financial expertise in developing renewable energy projects and fundraising. Under the MoU, IREDA will undertake techno-financial due diligence of renewable energy, green hydrogen, green ammonia, etc. for BVFCL. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) was established on 11th March 1987 as a Public Limited Government Company under the Companies Act, 1956 and it promotes, develops and extends financial assistance for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency/Conservation Projects. The

Namrup Fertilizer Complex was renamed as Brahmaputra Valley Fertilizer Corporation Limited after bifurcation from Hindustan Fertilizer Corporation Limited from 01/04/02. It is located on the bank of dilli river in the south-western border of Dibrugarh District in Assam.

408. 1

State Bank of India (SBI) has signed an agreement with Adani Capital, the non-banking finance company (NBFC) arm of the Adani Group, for co-lending to farmers for purchase of tractors and farm implement. RBI had issued guidelines on the co-lending schemes for banks and NBFCs for priority-sector lending, to improve credit flow towards underserved sectors of the economy. Registered in 2017, Adani Capital is a non-deposit-taking systemically important NBFC with total assets under management (AUM) of Rs 1,292 crore as of March 31. The NBFC had 28,000 customers spread across 63 branches in 6 states including Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Uttar Pradesh.

409. 1

India and Russia has concluded a much awaited deal worth '5,100 crore for the joint production of more than 500,000 AK-203 assault rifles at a facility in Uttar Pradesh's Amethi district. The deal was finalised at a bilateral meeting between defence minister Rajnath Singh and his Russian counterpart Sergey Shoigu. Two countries also renewed their military-technical cooperation arrangement for 2021- 31. Apart from the bilateral meeting between the two defence ministers, the other events scheduled before the summit include a meeting between external affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov, and the inaugural 2 2 dialogue of the defence and foreign ministers. Agreements in trade, space, technology and energy are expected to be signed during the summit. The two sides are looking forward to intense engagement on issues ranging from bilateral cooperation in trade, connectivity and energy to regional security concerns, such as the situation in Afghanistan.

410. 1

India's leading digital ecosystem for consumers and merchants, Paytm, has partnered with Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer its startup toolkit to startups onboarded on AWS Activate, a program that offers startups free tools, resources, & more to quickly get started on AWS. The Paytm startup toolkit is a single-stop platform that offers solutions in payments, banking, etc. Amazon Web Services is a comprehensive, evolving cloud computing platform provided by Amazon that includes a mixture of infrastructure as a service (IaaS), platform as a service (PaaS) and packaged software as a service (SaaS) offerings.

411. 2

Government think tank NITI Aayog announced the launch of 'e-Sawaari India Electric Bus Coalition' in partnership with Convergence Energy Service Ltd (CESL) and World Resources Institute, India (WRI India), with support from Transformative Urban Mobility Initiative (TUMI). It is a paced electrification of the bus transport system in India. CESL, CEO Mahua Acharya. NITI Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant.

412. 1

The Indian Space Research Organisation has signed an agreement with Chinese smart devices maker Oppo's Indian arm to strengthen the research and development of the NavIC messaging service. The messaging service is mainly used for broadcasting safety-of-life alerts in areas with poor or no communication, particularly in the oceans.

413. 5

DPIIT has initiated the first-ever Development of 'Indian Footwear Sizing system' in consultation with Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) to identify the footwear size ranges required to cover the need of the local population for footwear and to define proportions and rules of constructing shoe lasts required for providing well-fitting and healthy footwear.

414. 4

Ministry of Defence has entered into an MoU with the Indian Institute of Teacher Education to facilitate training for teachers of Sainik Schools. The MoU is a significant step towards the capacity building of teachers of Sainik Schools in terms of imparting quality education to students with Indian ethos.

415. 2

IIT Roorkee signed an MOU with Inland Waterway Authority of India (IWAI), Noida for stabilization of the navigational channel at 17 locations along a stretch of the Ganga river from Varanasi to Sahibganj,

NW-1. Professor Z. Ahmad, Department of Civil Engineering, IIT Roorkee, was the signatory to the agreement on behalf of IIT Roorkee.

416. **1**

Karnataka's Department of Youth Empowerment and Sports has (Letter of Understanding) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), as part of the state-level initiative 'Code-Unnati', with an aim to improve access to entrepreneurship and employment opportunities among youth including women. UNDP is the largest UN development aid agency. UNDP Headquartered at:- New York, USA.

417. **1**

Minister of State for Communications, held a bilateral meeting with the delegation from Vietnam. In line with the comprehensive strategic and economic partnership and growing relations between the Republic of India and Socialist Republic of Vietnam, the Ministers of the two countries signed a 'Letter of Intent' for enhanced cooperation in the Postal Sector. Details: The Letter of Intent recognises the joint objectives of both the countries to facilitate cooperation in the field of Posts and Telecom, promote sharing of information and experience, cooperate to implement projects in Human Resource Development and to promote enhanced cooperation of postal designated operators and service providers of both the countries

418. **3**

Cabinet approves extension of Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana-Gramin(PMAY-G) till March 2024. PMAY-G has been granted an extension beyond March 2021 and till March 2024. The continuation of the scheme ensures the remaining 155.75 lakh households within the overall target of 2.95 crore houses under PMAY-G will be provided assistance for the construction of pucca houses with basic amenities to achieve the objective of 'Housing for All' in rural areas. The total financial implication for the remaining construction is Rs.1,98,581 crore

419. **1**

Delhi Police Commissioner Rakesh Asthana has launched an e-learning initiative by the southwest district of the police force to help educate youths and impart skill training to school dropouts from the weaker sections of society. The e-learning platform, 'Unnati', was launched under the Delhi Police's flagship scheme 'YUVA'. The platform provides training, counseling and placement to trainees. Recordings of live sessions are also available online in case someone misses a class.'YUVA' is aimed at helping the youth, especially those from the weaker sections of society, and school dropouts get an education and acquire skills to realise their dreams of a secure future.

420. **4**

PMJDY is a scheme introduced by the government in 2014. Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) is a national mission for financial inclusion to ensure access to financial services, namely, banking/savings and deposit accounts, remittance, credit, insurance, pension in an affordable manner. Account can be opened in any bank branch or business correspondent (Bank Mitra) outlet. PMJDY accounts are being opened with zero balance. Recently in news:- The country's largest lender State Bank of India collected around Rs. 346 cr from 2017-18 up to Oct 2021 in the form of additional services to customers holding basic savings, including Jan Dhan accounts, which were beyond their free services. Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana provide basic minimum facilities free of charge and without the need to maintain a minimum balance.

421. **1**

The Union Cabinet approved an incentive scheme worth ' 1,300 crore to promote RuPay Debit Cards and low-value (up to '2,000) BHIM-UPI transactions (person to merchants-P2M) in the country. The scheme has been formulated in compliance with the Budget announcements (FY 2021-22) by the Government to further boost digital transactions in the country. Under the scheme, the acquiring banks will be incentivised by the Government by paying a percentage of the value of transactions (P2M) done through RuPay Debit cards and low-value BHIM-UPI modes of payments, at an estimated financial outlay of '1,300 crore for one year w.e.f. April 01, 2021.

422. **5**

As on December 4, 2021, as many as 6,49,560 beneficiaries were recorded in Maharashtra, followed by Tamil Nadu (5,35,615), Gujarat (4,44,741) and Karnataka (3,07,164). The government had launched ABRY to incentivize employment generation in Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) registered establishments during COVID-19 for a period from October 1, 2020 to March 31. Under the

ABRY, the government is paying both employees' and employers' contributions of 24 per cent of wages (12 per cent of wages for each) in respect of establishments having 1,000 employees and employees' contribution of 12 of wages to establishments employing more than 1,000 employees. As on December 4, 2021, employment opportunities have been created for 39.73 lakh new employees and benefits of Rs 2612.10 crore were credited upfront in their accounts.

423. **1**

ULIP is designed to enhance efficiency and reduce logistics cost in India by creating a transparent platform that can provide real-time information to all stakeholders and remove all asymmetry information. The ULIP hackathon 'LogiXtics' is organised by NITI Aayog and Atal Innovation Mission and supported by National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (NICDC) and NICDC Logistics Data Bank Services Limited (NLDSL).

424. **5**

Lt Gen Manoj Kumar Mago has taken over as the Commandant of National Defence College, New Delhi. Lt Gen Mago, who hails from Ludhiana, was commanding the 10 Corps at Bathinda before being given the assignment at NDC that entails evolving a strategic culture among the country's senior-most officials of the military, the civilian bureaucracy and the Indian Police Service. He was commissioned into the 7th Battalion of the Brigade of Guards in 1984.

425. **1**

V Praveen Rao, Vice-Chancellor of Prof. Jayashankar Telangana State Agricultural University (PJTSAU), has been selected for Dr M S Swaminathan Award for the period 2017-19. The biennial national award was constituted by Retired ICAR Employees Association (RICAREA) and Nuziveedu Seeds Limited. It carries a cash prize of ₹2 lakh and a citation. The award selection committee, headed by former ICAR Director-General, RS Paroda.

426. **3**

Ika Upadhyaya has been appointed as the chairperson of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI). #Sanjay Bandopadhyay has been named chairman, Inland Waterways Authority of India. #Sundeep Kumar Nayak has been appointed as the Director General, National Productivity Council, Department for Promotion of Industry & Internal Trade.

427. **1**

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) announced that Sanjiv Mehta, the Chairman and Managing Director of Hindustan Unilever Limited (HUL) will be appointed as its President on December 18. Mehta, presently the Senior Vice President of FICCI, will be succeeding media industry veteran Uday Shankar. Arun Chawla, Director-General of FICCI.

428. **4**

United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres on Friday announced that Catherine Russell of the US is set to become the upcoming Executive Director of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF). The head of the White House Office of Presidential Personnel, Russell will succeed Henrietta Fore. Catherine Russell will start her new job early next year and will be UNICEF's eighth Executive Director as well as the organization's fourth female leader in its 75-year existence.

429. **3**

Olaf Scholz was appointed as Germany's new Chancellor, marking the end of former Chancellor Angela Merkel's 16 years in power. The head of the Social Democratic Party (SPD), Scholz won the secret vote in the Parliament yesterday with 395 votes to 303. This big victory came after SPD's narrow win in September's federal elections.

430. **3**

Former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India Sunil Arora has joined the Board of Advisors for International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA). The institute is assisted by a 15-member Board of Advisors that consists of eminent personalities from various fields. Arora was the 23rd CEC of India and held office from Dec 2, 2018, to April 12, 2021. IDEA is an inter-governmental organization based in Stockholm, Sweden.

431. **2**

Former India batter VVS Laxman began his stint as the new head of the National Cricket Academy. VVS Laxman has replaced Rahul Dravid, who left the top job at NCA to join the senior national men's cricket team as its head coach. He was also directly involved with the Indian developmental teams which include India A, India Under-19, India Under-23 teams.

432. **3**

Arvind Kumar has joined as Director General of Software Technology Parks of India. Software Technology Parks of India is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology Government of India. STPI is fuelling the culture of tech entrepreneurship and innovation in the country by launching 25 Centres of Entrepreneurship in emerging technology domains.

433. **2**

Mr. Mohit Jain of The Economic Times has been elected President of The Indian Newspaper Society for the year 2021-22. He succeeds Mr. L. Adimoolam of Health & The Antiseptic. The 82nd Annual General Meeting of the Indian Newspaper Society 'an apex body of Publishers of Newspapers, Magazines & Periodicals in the country, was held through Video Conference ('VC')/ Other Audio-Visual Means ('OAVM') today. K. Raja Prasad Reddy (Sakshi) is the Deputy President, Mr. Rakesh Sharma (Aaj Samaj) is the Vice President and Mr. Tanmay Maheshwari (Amar Ujala) is the Honorary Treasurer of the Society for the year 2021-22.

434. **3**

Tata Consultancy Services announced that Plaza Premium Group (PPG), a global airport hospitality services provider based in Hong Kong, has selected TCS to develop an end-to-end digital platform. The partnership will focus on improving customer experience and operational excellence at Plaza Premium's 70 airport locations that serve 20 million passengers annually.

435. **5**

Lionel Messi won the men's Ballon d'Or for a record-extending seventh time during the 65th Ballon d'Or ceremony at Theatre du Chatelet, in Paris. Alexia Putellas became the third winner of the women's award for an outstanding season with Barcelona and Spain. List of all winners during the 2021 Ballon d'Or awards ceremony: Kopa trophy (best player under 21) ' Barcelona's Pedri Best Striker of the Year award ' Lewandowski Women's Ballon d'Or 2021 ' Barcelona's Alexia Putellas Yachine Trophy 2021 ' PSG's Gianluigi Donnarumma Men's Ballon d'Or 2021 ' PSG's Lionel Messi. Club of the Year award ' Chelsea

436. **1**

Legendary Indian athlete Anju Bobby George has been bestowed with the Woman of the Year Award by World Athletics for grooming talent in the country and for her advocacy of gender equality. Anju, the only Indian to have won a medal in the World Championships with a long jump bronze in the 2003 edition. Senior Vice President of the Indian Athletics Federation, Anju Bobby George. Olympic champions Elaine Thompson-Herah of Jamaica and Karsten Warholm of Norway were named the World Athletes of the Year at the World Athletics Awards 2021 Thompson-Herah produced one of the finest sprint seasons in history this year, retaining her Olympic 100m and 200m titles in Tokyo and adding a third gold medal in the 4x100m relay. On top of her Olympic triple, she also clocked world-leading times of 10.54 and 21.53 over 100m and 200m respectively, moving to second on the world all-time lists and coming within touching distance of the long-standing world records.

437. **1**

A biography of Dadabhai Naoroji, one of the founders of the Indian National Congress, by Dinyar Patel was named winner of the Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay NIF Book Prize 2021. The winner was selected by a jury chaired by political scientist Niraja Gopal Jayal and also comprising entrepreneurs Nandan Nilekani & Manish Sabharwal and historians Srinath Raghavan and Nayanjot Lahi. This is the fourth edition of the prize instituted in 2018. The prize celebrates high-quality non-fiction literature on modern and contemporary India from writers of all nationalities published in the previous calendar year and carries a cash award of Rs 15 lakh and a citation. The prize is named after institution-builder Chattopadhyay who had contributed significantly to the freedom struggle, to the women's movement, to refugee rehabilitation, and to the renewal of handicrafts. Kamaladevi Chattopadhyay is the first lady in India to stand in elections from Madras Constituency although she lost in the elections she pioneered the path for women in India. "Naoroji: Pioneer of Indian Nationalism" by Harvard University Press is an "exemplary biography about one of India's first nationalists, written with great lucidity and detail by a

promising scholar". "In his keenly-researched work, Dinyar Patel illuminates the life and legacy of Dadabhai Naoroji as a key figure in the history of India's movement towards Independence.

438. **2**

Denmark's Viktor Axelsen and Chinese Taipei's Tai Tzu Ying were named male and female player of the year respectively by the Badminton World Federation (BWF). Starting from the Barcelona Spain Masters in February 2020, world number one Axelsen made 10 out of 11 finals and won seven of them including the Olympic gold in Tokyo this summer. Complete list of award winners- Male Player of the Year: Viktor Axelsen Female Player of the Year: Tai Tzu Ying Most improved player of the Year: Lee Yang and Wang Chi-Lin Pair of the Year: Greysia Polii and Apriyani Rahayu Eddy Choong Most Promising Player: Kunlavut Vitidsarn Male Para Badminton Player of the Year: Qu Zimo Female Para Badminton Player of the Year: Leani Ratri Oktilla Para Badminton Pair of the Year: Lucas Mazur and Faustine Noel Special mention: Kevin Cordon

439. **1**

The American Mathematical Society (AMS) has unanimously nominated esteemed Indian-American mathematician Nikhil Srivastava for the first Ciprian Foias Prize in Operator Theory (Operator theory is the branch of functional analysis which deals with bounded linear operators and their properties). Along with Srivastava, who teaches at the University of California, Berkeley, Adam Marcus and Daniel Spielman are the other two recipients. Srivastava has now received the Ciprian Foias Prize for the third time after jointly winning the George Polya Prize in 2014 and the Held Prize in 2021. The prize recognises the groundbreaking work in developing and introducing techniques to understand the characteristic polynomial of matrices, including the iterative sparsification method which also partners with Batson and the process of interlacing polynomials.

440. **2**

Noted Assamese poet Nilmani Phukan won the 56th Jnanpith Award and Konkani short story writer and novelist Damodar Mauzo won the 57th Jnanpith Award for their contribution to Indian literature. Jnanpith is the highest literary prize of India, awarded to the writers in the scheduled languages of the country. The last Jnanpith was given to Malayalam poet Akkitham in 2019. Padma Shri Phukan was conferred with Sahitya Akademi Award in 1981. Assam Valley Literary Award (1997), Sahitya Akademi Fellowship (2002) and many more. Damodar Mauzo was born in Goa. He is also a critic and a scriptwriter. He won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1983.

441. **1**

Azim Premji, founder chairman of Wipro Limited and founder of Azim Premji Foundation is this year's recipient of the 10th annual Dr. Ida S. Scudder Humanitarian Oration, jointly established by Christian Medical College Vellore (CMC) and the U.S.-based Vellore CMC Foundation. The award is presented to Mr. Premji in recognition of his contributions to society.

442. **4**

Professor Neena Gupta, a mathematician at the Indian Statistical Institute in Kolkata, has been awarded the 2021 DST-ICTP-IMU Ramanujan Prize for Young Mathematicians from developing countries for her outstanding work in affine algebraic geometry and commutative algebra.

443. **3**

Balkrishna Doshi - has been awarded the UK's top design honor: the Royal Institute of British Architects Royal Gold Medal for 2022. Already an awardee of India's top civilian honors - Padma Shri and the Padma Bhushan - Doshi also won the prestigious Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2018, the first Indian to do so. His memorable designs include IIM campuses in Bangalore.

444. **2**

The Sports Journalists' Federation of India (SJFI), at its Annual General Meeting (AGM), decided to confer the prestigious SJFI Medal on legendary cricketer Sunil Gavaskar. Neeraj Chopra, who won India's lone gold medal at the Tokyo Olympics, was named the SJFI Sportsman of the Year award. The AGM elected A. Vinod (Kerala) as the new SJFI President. On 27 February 1976, Sports Journalists' Federation of India (SJFI) was formed. Weightlifter Mirabai Chanu, who clinched a silver at the quadrennial extravaganza, was adjudged SJFI Sportswoman of the Year. The Indian men's team which won the hockey bronze in Tokyo was declared SJFI Team of the Year. Sumit Antil and Pramod Bhagat, the stars of India's Paralympics campaign, were declared the SJFI Parathletes of the Year in the men's category while shooter Avani Lekhra was named the SJFI Parathlete of the Year in the women's section.

OGQ, which has been supporting Indian athletes at the Olympics for more than a decade, won the Special Recognition Award.

445. **5**

As per the 'World Inequality Report 2022', India is among the most unequal countries in the world, with rising poverty and an 'affluent elite.' The report highlights that the top 10% and top 1% in India hold 57% and 22% of the total national income respectively while the bottom 50% share has gone down to 13%. The share of female labour income share in India is equal to 18%. In India, particularly, private wealth went up from 290% in 1980 to 560% in 2020. Gender inequality in India is also considerably on the higher end of the spectrum. The share of female labour income share in India is significantly lower than the average in Asia (21%, excluding China) & is among the lowest in the world. Although, the number is slightly higher than the average share in Middle East (15%). Kendriya Sainik Board has Hon'ble Defence Minister as its President. Defence Minister of India:- Rajnath Singh. Kendriya Sainik Board Secretariat is headed by a serving officer of the rank of Brigadier or equivalent from the Navy / Air Force. Kendriya Sainik Board Secretariat is an attached office of Department of Ex-Servicemen Welfare (DESW), Ministry of Defence.

446. **1**

India has risen as the fourth most powerful country in Asia, according to a report by Lowy Institute Asia Power Index 2021. It has been ranked fourth among the 26 countries and territories in Indo-Pacific for comprehensive power. The report has also added that the nation could have performed even better had it not been for the COVID-19 pandemic. According to Asia Power Index 2021:- Top 10 Powerful countries are:- USA, China, Japan, India, Russia, Australia, South Korea, Singapore, Indonesia, Thailand,

447. **2**

Countries across all income levels remain dangerously unprepared to meet future epidemic and pandemic threats according to the Global Health Security Index 2021. USA, which was ranked first in the 2019 index, retained its position atop the rankings, with a score of 75.9, while Australia, Finland, Canada and Thailand rounded out the top five. India with a score of 42.8 slipped 0.8 points since 2019.

448. **1**

India has slipped 6 places to 59 rank on a global annual list of 63 countries, due to low quality of life and expenditure on education, according to the latest edition of IMD World Talent Ranking, which was topped by Switzerland. The ranking, which is based on the performance in three main categories -- investment and development, appeal and readiness. India is lagging behind the BRICs nations - China(42nd), Russia (47), South Africa (50). Brazil (61st).

449. **2**

PM Modi 8th most admired global personality, Barack Obama tops the list. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has ranked 8th on the list of the world's top 20 most admired men, in a survey carried out by data analytics company YouGov. The list has been compiled taking feedback from 42,000 people in 38 countries, the survey company said. PM Modi is ahead of Shah Rukh Khan, Amitabh Bachchan and Virat Kohli. YouGov is a British international Internet-based market research and data analytics firm. List of world's 10 most admired women:- 1. Michelle Obama 2. Angelina Jolie 3. Queen Elizabeth II 4. Oprah Winfrey 5. Scarlett Johansson 6. Emma Watson 7. Taylor Swift 8. Angela Merkel 9. Malala Yousafzai 10. Priyanka Chopra

450. **3**

Spam call rates in India have spiked again, with the country moving up in global rankings from 9th position to 4th position owing to a significant increase in sales and telemarketing calls in 2021, according to the latest insights by callerID, spam detection and blocking company, Truecaller.

451. **2**

December 2 marks the International Day for the Abolition of Slavery. The day commemorates the brutal history of slavery practiced by colonial rulers of past centuries and aims to eradicate modern forms of slavery, such as trafficking in persons, sexual exploitation, child labour, forced marriage, and the forced recruitment of children for use in armed conflict. 2021 theme is 'Ending Slavery's Legacy of Racism: A Global Imperative for Justice'. The International Day for the Abolition of Slavery marks the date of the adoption of the United Nations Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the

Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others. The resolution 317(IV) of December 2, 1949, by the General Assembly, aims to abolish modern forms of slavery which have their roots in history.

452. **3**

International Day of Persons with Disabilities is a global observance celebrated every year on December 3 with a motive to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in all spheres of society. This year, the theme for IDPD is 'Leadership and participation of persons with disabilities toward an inclusive, accessible and sustainable post-COVID-19 world.' The annual observance of this day was proclaimed in 1992 by United Nations General Assembly resolution 47/3 with an aim to increase awareness of the issues faced by persons with disabilities in every aspect of political, social, economic and cultural life. After working in the field of disability for decades, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), adopted in 2006. The CRPD advanced the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and other international development frameworks. The main purpose was to increase the participation of disabled people in society, end discrimination towards them, and create equal opportunities for them.

453. **2**

United Nations General Assembly decided to keep December 4 as International Day of Banks and it was celebrated for the first time in 2020. It was celebrated to recognise the importance of multilateral and international development banks in financing sustainable developments. It is also observed in recognition of the vital role of banking systems in Member State.

454. **2**

National Energy Conservation Day is observed on December 14, every year. The day focuses on making people aware of global warming and climate change and promotes efforts towards saving energy resources. The Government of India has set up the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) on 1st March 2002 under the provision of the Energy Conservation Act, 2001. The BEE is a constitutional body that works under the Indian Government and helps in the development of policies and strategies to reduce the use of energy.

455. **4**

December 20 is marked as the International Human Solidarity Day. It is a UN observance day that honors 'unity in diversity'. International Human Solidarity Day aims to promote solidarity for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals including poverty eradication. The basic purpose of this day is to promote the culture of cooperation, equality & social Justice. It was on December 22, 2005, the UN General Assembly declared 'solidarity' to be one of the most crucial pillars of human relationship. A World Solidarity Fund was introduced on December 20, 2002 by the UN General Assembly to alleviate poverty worldwide. It became part of the Trust Fund of the UN's Development Program in February 2003.

456. **1**

As a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav to celebrate and commemorate 75 years of progressive India, NITI Aayog is organizing a series of events from November 2021 - April 2022. The opening remark of the event was given by Dr. Neelam Patel, Senior Adviser (Agriculture), NITI Aayog which was followed by an address by Ramesh Chand, Member (Agriculture). NITI Aayog CEO:- Amitabh Kant. National Institution for Transforming India, better known as NITI Aayog, was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on 1 January 2015. NITI Aayog is the premier policy think tank of the Government of India, providing directional and policy inputs. Apart from designing strategic and long-term policies and programmes for the Government of India, NITI Aayog also provides relevant technical advice to the Centre, States, and Union Territories. NITI Aayog is chaired by the Hon'ble Prime Minister and comprises Chief Ministers of all the States and Union Territories with legislatures and Lt Governors of other Union Territories. The Governing Council was reconstituted vide a notification dated 19 February 2021 by the Cabinet Secretariat.

457. **1**

India has joined the G20 Troika comprising the current, previous, and incoming presidencies of the grouping, the Ministry of External Affairs. The G20 Troika consists of Indonesia, Italy, and India. India will assume the G20 Presidency on December 1, 2022, from Indonesia, and will convene the G20 Leaders' Summit for the first time in India in 2023. The G20 is the international forum that brings together the world's major economies. Its members account for more than 80 percent of world GDP, 75

percent of global trade and 60 percent of the population of the planet. The Group of Twenty (G20) is an important multilateral forum for global economic cooperation. The members of the G20 are: Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union. Formed:- 26 September 1999

458. **1**

EAM S Jaishankar addresses 5th Indian Ocean Conference in Abu Dhabi External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar met the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan and Foreign Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed in UAE. Jaishankar is here to attend the 5th Indian Ocean Conference on December 4-5. The theme of the Indian Ocean Conference 2021 is "Indian Ocean: Ecology, Economy, Epidemic". Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham

459. **3**

Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman participated virtually from New Delhi in the G20 International Seminar hosted in Bali by the G20 Presidency of Indonesia. She also underlined the importance of Inclusion, Investment, Innovation and Institutions to support the path of global recovery. G20's theme for the year, 'Recover Together, Recover Stronger'. The Group of Twenty (G20) is an important multilateral forum for global economic cooperation formed in 1999. The G20 comprises nineteen countries with some of the world's largest economies, as well as the European Union (EU). The countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom (UK), and the United States. Spain is invited as a permanent guest.

460. **1**

5th Indian Ocean Conference was recently held in Abu Dhabi. In the fifth Indian Ocean Conference in Abu Dhabi, Dr. S Jaishankar has stressed the importance of respecting and facilitating freedom of navigation and overflight and unimpeded commerce in a globalized world. He stated that the consequences of China's growing capabilities are profound because of the extrapolation of its domestic seamlessness to the world outside.

461. **3**

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurated the seventh edition of India International Science Festival at Panaji, Goa. The theme of 4-day science festival is 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' - "Celebrating Creativity, Science, Technology and Innovation for a prosperous India". First India International Science Festival was held in 2015 at IIT Delhi.

462. **1**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate and address the All India Mayors' Conference, which is being organised in Varanasi. The mayors from various states will participate in the conference on the theme "New Urban India". A special focus of these efforts has been the state of Uttar Pradesh, which has witnessed tremendous progress & transformation of the urban landscape. Head of municipal corporations is known as mayor. A mayor is the ceremonial head while the administrative head is the Municipal Commissioner. Municipal Commissioner is appointed by the state government who is an IAS office. The job of the Municipal commissioner is to implement the policies of the Municipal corporation and preparation of the budget. Whereas, the mayor assumed a political role. In seven states: Haryana, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand; Mayors are directly elected by the people and thus hold the executive powers of the municipal corporations.

463. **1**

Perseverance, a word which captures the undaunted will of people across the world to never give up, despite the many challenges of the last 12 months, is Cambridge Dictionary's Word of the Year 2021. Perseverance has been looked up more than 243,000 times on the website in 2021, the first time it has made a noticeable appearance. NASA's Perseverance Rover made its final descent to Mars on 18 February

464. **2**

NASA's Laser Communications Relay Demonstration (LCRD) will send data to and from ground stations and, eventually, in-space user missions over laser links. LCRD leverages the work done in the telecommunications industry for the past several decades. LCRD will showcase the unique capabilities of

optical communications. Most NASA missions use radio frequency communications to send data to and from spacecraft

465. **1**

Bharti Airtel and technology services major Capgemini have announced to collaborate on bringing India-specific, 5G-based enterprise grade solutions to the country. Capgemini's 5G Lab within its Mumbai campus and Airtel's 5G Lab in Manesar, Haryana, will be the development hubs. Focused on smart health and immersive remote assistance for field operations and maintenance. 5G: 5th generation mobile network. The 5G use case solutions leverage computer vision, video analytics, augmented reality and AI/ML technologies. Earlier this year, Airtel demonstrated India's first 5G experience over a LIVE 4G network. The telecom major has also demonstrated India's first rural 5G trial as well as the first cloud gaming experience on 5G. Airtel is currently spearheading the 'O-RAN Alliance' (O-RAN (Open - Radio Access Network) ALLIANCE is Transforming the Radio Access Networks Industry Towards Open, Intelligent, Virtualized and Fully Interoperable RAN ) initiatives in India to build 5G solutions.

466. **3**

The Central government has approved a plan to produce over five lakh AK-203 assault rifles at Korwa in Uttar Pradesh's Amethi. Uttar Pradesh is on way to become a defence manufacturing hub of India. The 7.62 X 39mm caliber AK-203 rifles will replace in-service INSAS Rifle inducted over three decades back. Indo-Russian Rifles Private Ltd will implement this project AK-203 assault rifles, with an effective range of 300 metres, are lightweight, robust and easy to use modern assault rifles with proven technology that will enhance the combat potential of soldiers to adequately meet present and envisaged operational challenges The project has been created with erstwhile OFB [now Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited (AWEIL) and Munitions India Limited (MIL)] of India and Rosoboronexport (RoE) and concern Kalashnikov of Russia

467. **2**

The 11th edition of Exercise EKUVERIN between India and Maldives will be conducted at Kadhdhoo Island, Maldives. The exercise will enhance synergy & inter-operability between Armed Forces of both the nations in terms of understanding transnational terrorism both on land & at sea, conducting Counter-Terrorism & Counter-Insurgency Operations, etc.

468. **1**

The Indian Navy launched 'Sandhayak', the first of the four large survey vessels, in Kolkata. The ship was launched by Pushpa Bhatt, spouse of Minister of State for Defence Ajay Bhatt, who was the Chief Guest at the event. The primary role of these survey ships would be to conduct full-scale coastal & deep-water hydrographic survey of ports, harbours, navigation channels, etc. According to the Navy, the ships will replace the existing Sandhayak-class survey ships and are equipped with new generation hydrographic equipment to collect oceanographic and geophysical data. The ships are 110 metres long, 16 metres wide with a deep displacement of 3,300 tons and a complement of 235 personnel. The ship's propulsion system consists of two main engines in twin shaft configuration and is designed for a cruise speed of 14 knots and maximum speed of 18 knots. The ship has taken its name from the first ship of the erstwhile Sandhayak-class survey ships. The erstwhile Sandhayak, incidentally, was also launched in Kolkata 44 years ago, on April 6, 1977. The contract for building four survey ships was signed between the Defence Ministry and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) on October 30, 2018, at a total cost of Rs 2,435 crore. As per a build strategy adopted by GRSE, the first ship is being built at GRSE Ltd and construction of the balance of three ships is envisaged at L&T Shipbuilding in Kattupalli.

469. **1**

Tata Steel has deployed a ship powered by biofuel for transportation of its imported raw material. The initiative is in line with its sustainability objectives & efforts to reduce "scope 3" greenhouse gas emission in ocean trade. "Scope 3" emissions, refer to value chain emissions. The bulk carrier named Frontier Sky, owned by NYK & operated by Tata NYK Shipping Pte Ltd. The Frontier Sky has successfully completed trial use of biofuel to transport cargo provided by Tata Steel. The voyage involved a cargo of 1,60,000 tonnes of coal transported from Gladstone, Australia to Dhamra in Odisha. NYK, the Japanese shipping major, provided technical support, including biofuel refuelling arrangements and engine operation planning.

470. 1

Pune will host a multilateral and multi-agency exercise for the member countries of BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) between December 20 and 22, which will focus on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations. A curtain raiser event for the HADR exercise titled, PANEX-21, was held in New Delhi. Exercise will witness participation from subject matter experts and delegates from India, Bangladesh, Nepal, Bhutan, Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Thailand. The inaugural edition of the BIMSTEC Nations Military Field Training Exercise 'MILEX-18' was held at the Foreign Training Node in Pune in September 2018. The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization comprising seven Member States lying in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal constituting a contiguous regional unity. The BIMSTEC provides a unique link between the South and South-East Asia with 5 countries - Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka from South Asia and two countries - Myanmar and Thailand from the South-East Asia.

471. 2

DRDO and Indian Air Force (IAF) flight-tested the indigenously designed and developed Helicopter launched Stand-off Anti-tank (SANT) Missile from Pokhran ranges. The missile is equipped with a state-of-the-art MMW seeker which provides high precision strike capability from a safe distance. The weapon can neutralize targets in a range up to 10 km.

472. 1

India successfully test-fired the air version of the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, describing the launch as a 'major milestone' in BrahMos development. The missile was successfully test-fired from Indian Air Force's (IAF) Sukhoi 30 MKI supersonic fighter aircraft from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), based in Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha. During the test, the structural integrity and functional performance have been proven. It clears the system for the serial production of air version BrahMos missiles within the country. BrahMos is a joint India-Russia venture, between the DRDO and Russia's NPO Mashinostroyeniya, which, together, formed the Brahmos Aerospace. The missile derives its name from two rivers: the Brahmaputra in India and the Moskva of Russia.

473. 5

India successfully test fired a long-range Supersonic Missile Assisted Torpedo (SMART) off Balasore coast in Odisha. The weapon system is being developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) for the Indian Navy. The system has been designed to enhance anti-submarine warfare capability far beyond the conventional range of the torpedo.

474. 2

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) tested its Solid Fueled Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) technology for the fourth time with a demonstration flight. The development of SFDR technology will enable India to make its own long-range air-to-air missile, which could mirror the capabilities of the best missiles in this class, like MBDA's Meteor. MBDA's Meteor, which the Indian Air Force uses on its Rafales. India has been working on the Mark-II version of home grown Astra air-to-air missile, which will have a range of around 160 kilometre. The SFDR propulsion system, which was also tested in 2019, is critical for the missile's performance in the terminal phase of its flight towards the target. The ramjet motor [propulsion system] provides the [Meteor] missile with thrust all the way to target intercept, providing the largest No-Escape Zone of any air-to-air missile.

475. 1

The CADS-500 is used for precise delivery of payload upto 500 kgs at predetermined location by making use of manoeuvrable capabilities of Ram Air Parachute (RAP). It uses Global Positioning System for the coordinates, altitude and heading sensors for the heading information during its flight. The CADS, with its onboard electronics unit, autonomously steers its flight path using waypoint navigation towards target location by operating controls.

476. 3

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired the new generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile 'Agni Prime' from APJ Abdul Kalam island off the coast of Odisha in Balasore. Capable of eliminating an enemy 5,000 kilometres away India has successfully test-fired the new generation nuclear-capable ballistic missile 'Agni P'.

477. **4**

Agni-5 is capable of striking targets at ranges up to 5,000 kilometres with a very high degree of accuracy.

478. **5**

France is the current chair of the Indian Ocean Naval Symposium and shall take over the Presidency of the European Union from January 2022. Recently in news:- The third Annual Defence Dialogue between India and France took place between Defence Minister Rajnath Singh and his French counterpart Florence Parly in New Delhi. A wide range of bilateral, regional, defence and defence industrial cooperation issues were discussed in the annual meeting. India - France annual bilateral Army Exercise is Shakti.

479. **1**

Vice President of India, Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu has made this assertion while releasing the English and Hindi versions of books titled 'Democracy, Politics, and Governance' authored by Dr. A. Surya Prakash, Vice Chairman, Executive Council of Nehru Memorial Museum and Library and a leading commentator on parliamentary and constitutional issues and a veteran journalist.

480. **1**

'At Home In The Universe', a book that chronicles a poor boy's journey from a village in South India to the pinnacle of corporate success and personal spiritual growth spanning over six decades, has been released in Mumbai. The book has been released by R.C. Sinha, IAS (Rtd), advisor to the Ministry of Road Development, Government of India. B.K. Madhur, former Chief Executive Officer at DHFL Property Services Ltd In this unusual autobiography, B.K. Madhur shares the tremendous obstacles he faced early in life as the son of a landless farmer and daily wage labourer in a remote village in South India (in Kasaragod district of present day Kerala) shortly after Independence. The book has engaging accounts of his rise from an ordinary salesman to a successful marketing maverick before finding his metier in 1984 when he helped establish Dewan Housing, one of India's pioneering housing finance companies at a time when even the concept of housing finance was alien to the financial system.

481. **1**

The book- 'Rewinding of First 25 years of Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology', narrating the first 25 years of MeitY, is authored by S S Oberoi, the former adviser at the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). S S Oberoi was the first head of the Software Development Agency and the first adviser of Information Technology. The book was launched by Ajay Prakash Sawhney, Secretary of MeitY.

482. **5**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 202 crore on Amazon and suspended its approval for the e-tailer's deal with Future Coupons, seeking more information.

483. **1**

Award-winning Telugu lyricist and Padma Shri awardee Sirivennela Seetharama Sastry passed away following lung cancer-related complications. He was 66. He was also honoured with Padma Shri in 2019 for his contribution to the film world and literature. penned songs for Swarna Kamalam , Swayamkrushi , Shrutilayalu , Swara Kalpana , Swati Kiranam, etc.

484. **3**

Veteran journalist Vinod Dua passed away recently. He was 67. His daughter Dua confirmed it on a social media post. Vinod Dua, one of the pioneers in Hindi broadcast journalism, worked with Doordarshan to present youth programme Yuva Manch in the mid-'70s and later with several other television news channels. He was awarded Padma Shri in 2008.

485. **2**

Ash, who was the oldest Test cricketer, made her debut for England against Australia in 1937, and played seven Tests in all, taking 10 wickets at 23, including best figures of 3/35. Her career was interrupted by the Second World War ' she was seconded to MI6, the UK's intelligence service ' and retired from the sport in 1949.

486. **2**

Arunachal Pradesh government has roped in Bollywood actor Sanjay Dutt as the brand ambassador for '50 Years of Arunachal Pradesh' celebration. The popular actor kicked off the media campaign for the month-long celebrations, from 20th January to 20th February 2022, commemorating the birth of Arunachal Pradesh as an identity. CM :- Pema Khandu; Governor:- B. D. Mishra. Known erstwhile as North Eastern Frontier Agency (NEFA), Arunachal Pradesh came into existence as a Union Territory on 20th January 1972. The month-long state-wide celebrations is scheduled to start on from 20th January 2022 at Ziro in Lower Subansiri district. It will cover all the five river basins of the state after which the first districts were named viz, Kameng, Subansiri, Siang, Lohit and Tirap.

487. **3**

Myanmar's ousted civilian leader, Aung San Suu Kyi, was sentenced to four years imprisonment after being found guilty on two charges, the first verdicts in a raft of criminal cases that the country's military has brought against her since seizing power 10 months ago. Ms. Suu Kyi, 76, was convicted of charges of incitement and violating pandemic rules. She won the 1991 Nobel peace prize for non-violent struggle for protecting democracy & Human rights.

488. **1**

Nasa-turned-SpaceX flight surgeon Anil Menon is among the 10 latest trainee astronauts who will join the 2021 class of the American space agency as it plans for the first human missions to the moon in more than 50 years. Born to Indian and Ukrainian parents and raised in Minneapolis, Minnesota, Menon is a lieutenant colonel in the US air force. He served Nasa as the crew flight surgeon for various expeditions on the International Space Station (ISS). Menon started as a Nasa flight surgeon in 2014 and supported four long-duration crew members on ISS as the deputy crew surgeon for Soyuz missions Soyuz 39 and Soyuz 43 and prime crew surgeon for Soyuz 52. In 2018, the 45-year-old Menon joined SpaceX where he started its medical program and helped prepare for the Elon Musk-owned company's first human flights.

489. **4**

India's Harnaaz Sandhu became Miss Universe 2021, bringing the crown home after 21 years. Punjab-based Harnaaz Sandhu, who represented the country at the 70th Miss Universe 2021, has won the title. Harnaaz, 21, won the Miss Universe crown 21 years after Lara Dutta won the title in 2000. At the contest held in Eilat, Israel, she beat contestants Paraguay and South Africa. Andrea Meza, former Miss Universe 2020 from Mexico, crowned Harnaaz at the event. Before Harnaaz, only two Indians have won the Miss Universe crown. First, Sushmita Sen won the title in 1994. Lara Dutta was crowned Miss Universe six years later in 2000.

490. **3**

Tesla Chief Executive Officer Elon Musk was named Time magazine's "Person of the Year" for 2021. Musk is also the founder and CEO of SpaceX, and leads brain-chip startup Neuralink and infrastructure firm The Boring Company. Tesla's market value soared to more than \$1 trillion this year, making it more valuable than Ford Motor and General Motors combined. The "Person of the Year" signifies somebody "who affected the news or our lives the most, for better, or worse."

491. **3**

LIC has launched a new plan called Dhan Rekha, a non-linked, non-participating, individual savings life insurance plan. There are special premium rates for female lives. The plan is allowed to third gender & all benefits under the plan are fully guaranteed. The minimum sum assured under this plan is Rs 2 L, with no limit for maximum sum assured.

492. **1**

Tamil Nadu government declared 5,151.60 hectares of swamp/wetlands in Villupuram district as Kazhuveli Wetland Birds Sanctuary effectively putting brakes on some of the controversial infra projects proposed in the ecologically sensitive region. The declaration was made in exercise of the power conferred in subsection (1) of section 18 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972. Kazhuveli or Kaliveli wetland system is one of the largest waterfowl congregation sites in Tamil Nadu, and a well-known raptor roosting site for species like the Eastern Imperial Eagle, Greater Spotted Eagle, Red-necked Falcon and several harriers. The Grey-tailed Tattler, a rare migratory wader, has been recorded only here and in Pulicat across the country.

493. 4

Adani Green Energy (AGEL) has inked a pact with state run Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) to supply 4667 MW of green energy. The world's largest ever green power purchase agreement (PPA). India's dual objective to accelerate India's renewable energy footprint as well as promote domestic manufacturing under the Aatmanirbhar Bharat programme. Adani Group has committed USD 50-USD 70 billion of investment in the renewables space. This agreement keeps us well on track to our commitment to become the world's largest renewables player by 2030. The AGEL-SECI agreement to supply 4,667 MW is part of a manufacturing-linked solar tender of 8,000 MW awarded to AGEL by SECI which set a record for being the world's largest solar development tender ever awarded.

494. 3

India's TVS Motor Company will develop electric vehicles (EV) with BMW's motorcycle brand in India, joining a host of Indian automakers that have sought to expand their clean mobility offering. The tie-up comes at a time when new-age start-ups like Ola Electric & Ather are ramping up investment in electric scooters. Top automakers like Mahindra & Mahindra and Tata Motors are also investing heavily in EVs as India has been encouraging automakers to go electric in a bid to reduce pollution and fuel imports.

495. 2

In an attempt to curb the violence, and enabling citizens to directly communicate with the police personnel, the Nagaland Director General of Police (DGP) T. John Longkumer recently launched the 'Call your Cop' at Police Headquarters in Kohima. CUG App envisages to make it convenient for the public to directly communicate with police officials Nagaland Capital: Kohima Chief minister: Neiphiu Rio

496. 1

NITI Aayog along Bharti foundation announced the launch of 'Convoke 2021-22'. Convoke is a National research Symposium that aims at addressing challenges in imparting education and strengthening its quality with a special focus on all teachers, educationists, heads of schools across India. Through this platform, School Teachers/ Heads/Principals of Govt Schools and teachers from Bharti Foundation network will be encouraged to use research-based solutions.

497. 4

The Government of India and the Germany Development Bank - KfW (Kreditanstalt fur Wiederaufbau) signed a 442.26 million euros loan pact for Surat Metro Rail project. The total cost of the project is 1.5 billion euros, of which KfW is financing 442.26 million euros The project is being co-financed by French Development Agency, AFD (Agence Francaise de Developpemet).

498. 3

The Hemant Soren-led Government took an appreciable step to promote sports among youths of the worst Maoist-hit districts in Jharkhand. During the launch of Sports Action towards Harnessing Aspiration of Youths (SAHAY), the Government aims to promote sports hence dissuading youths from joining the ranks of rebels. In the first phase, a target of enrolling 72,000 youths has been set up by the sports department in the age group of 14 to 19 years in the Maoist-hit areas of West Singhbhum, Seraikela, Kharsawan, Khunti, Gumla, and Simdega. Based on the feedback of the first phase, the scheme would be rolled out in other districts of Jharkhand.

499. 2

The Nagaland government has announced the creation of three new districts, namely Tseminyu, Niuland and Chumoukedima. This comes less than a year after the 12th district of the state 'Noklak' was inaugurated. With the addition of the three new districts, Nagaland will now have 15 districts. Tseminyu is the sub-division of the Kohima district. Chumukedima has created as an urban-rural district & Niuland is a border district.

500. 3

The Odisha government and the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) signed an agreement to announce the launch of Mission Shakti Living Lab to empower women economically and drive gender equality. This will address barriers that limit the access of women to autonomy and financial freedom with the use of digital technologies and e-commerce. Mission Shakti was launched in 2001 to bolster the holistic development of women. The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) is the capital investment agency of the United Nations for the LDCs. It provides access to microfinance and investment capital. Headquarters: New York, USA; Founded: 1966

501. 4

India's first international arbitration and mediation centre was jointly inaugurated by Chief Justice of India NV Ramana and Telangana chief minister K Chandrasekhara Reddy in Hyderabad. CM Chandrasekhara Reddy handed over keys of two floors space at VK towers in Gachibowli to CJI Ramana for commencement of the operations temporarily. A permanent building is yet to be completely built at puppalaguda in Hyderabad.

502. 3

Union Minister for Rural Development and Panchayati Raj, Giriraj Singh, has launched the National Generic Document Registration System (NGDRS) and Banadhikar app, a GPS-based mobile application for demarcation of forest 'patta' (land rights) for the landless indigenous people under the Forest Rights Act. Tripura became the first state in the country to introduce this app. Tripura CM: Biplab Kumar Deb; Governor: Satyadev Narayan Arya. The Forest Rights Act (FRA), 2006 recognizes the rights of the forest dwelling tribal communities and other traditional forest dwellers to forest resources, on which these communities were dependent for a variety of needs, including livelihood, habitation and other socio-cultural needs.

503. 1

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a loan of USD 125 million (around Rs 938 crore) for water supply and sanitation projects in Uttarakhand. The funds will be utilised to improve access to quality water supply and sanitation services in the Himalayan state. Under this project, 136 kilometres of water pipe system will be constructed. Uttarakhand CM:- Pushkar Singh Dhami; Governor:- Gurmit Singh.

504. 1

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announced that Indian wicket-keeper batsman Rishabh Pant has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the state. The 24-year Pant, who was rested for the New Zealand Tests, is currently in South Africa as the Indian Team is all set to face Proteas in the three-match Test series, starting December 26.

505. 2

International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has approved a USD 135 million loans to West Bengal to improve the operational efficiency and reliability of electricity supply in select pockets in the state. The IBRD and its concessional lending arm, the International Development Association (IDA), are collectively also called the World Bank. CM:- Mamata Banerjee; Governor:- Jagdeep Dhankhar The International Bank of Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) is a development bank administered by the World Bank. The IBRD offers financial products and policy advice to countries aiming to reduce poverty and promote sustainable development. The International Bank of Reconstruction and Development is a cooperative owned by 189 member countries. Founded: 1944; Headquarters: Washington, D.C., U.S.

506. 4

In total, 14 Intangible Cultural Heritage elements from the country have now been inscribed on UNESCO's Representative List. Recently in news:- Durga Puja is a classic fusion of religion and culture, regarded with a lot of pride and celebrated predominantly by the Bengali community. The Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage has inscribed 'Durga Puja in Kolkata' on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The decision came recently during the 16th session, taking place virtually. Durga Puja is a five-day festival which begins on the fifth night of the nine-day Navratri festival and ends on the tenth day, which is Dashami. During this time, people collectively worship and invoke Goddess Durga, who is regarded as the feminine energy of the cosmos, also known as 'Shakti'.

507. 4

Para-Athlete Chanddeep Singh has bagged Silver medal at Para World Taekwondo Championships and became first Para Athlete from J&K to achieve such a great place at World level. He is also the first Indian to win a medal at this event. He won the medal in the Men's plus 80 kg event at the 9th Para World Taekwondo Championships held at Istanbul in Turkey from 9th to 12th December 2021.

508. 1

Sarada Menon, considered India's first woman psychiatrist, passed away at the age of 98 at her home in Chennai. She has been a recipient of several awards, including the Padma Bhushan in 1992 for her

work in the field of mental health. She was born in Mangaluru, Menon graduated from the Madras Medical College and trained in psychiatry in Bengaluru's NIMHANS. She became the first woman psychiatrist in the country when she began working in 1959 at what is now the Institute of Mental Health (previously government Kilpauk mental hospital) in Chennai. She held the post of superintendent of the institute for more than 18 years. Soon after her retirement, Menon founded the Schizophrenia Research Foundation (SCARF) in 1984. SCARF has been affiliated with the World Health Organisation (WHO) as a collaborating centre for mental health research and training since 1996, and it continues to be a premier NGO offering treatment and rehabilitation for those with mental illness and support for their caregivers

509. **5**

Ropesh Goyal from IIT-Kanpur won the 'Young Geospatial Scientist' award in recognition of his unique contribution to developing the Indian Geoid Model & computation software. Member of Space Commission, GOI and Former ISRO Chairman AS Kiran Kumar presented the award to Goyal during the inaugural event of the DigiSmart India 2021 conference hosted by the Geospatial World. The 'Young Geospatial Scientist' award and a gold medal have been presented every year since 2011 to promising scientists below 35 years of age in memory of Rachapudi Kamakshi, a strategic analyst with a strong inclination towards geography and geospatial studies. The Rachapudi Kamakshi Memorial Trust is an organisation founded to help and encourage students and young and talented individuals with great ideas and research work in the field of geospatial sciences. Rachapudi Kamakshi (1981-2010), who had a keen interest in geomorphology, remote sensing and GIS, had done geography honours from BR Ambedkar College, Delhi University, and pursued MBA from IIPM Delhi before moving to the US in 2005.

510. **1**

Indian Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) companies are poised to reach \$30 billion in revenue, capturing 8% to 9% share of the global SaaS market by 2025, according to a new report by Bain & Company. The report said that investments in the space increased by 170% over 2020 and are expected to reach \$4.5 billion in 2021. India has the third-largest SaaS ecosystem globally after USA and China.

511. **4**

The National Green Tribunal allowed the Delhi-Dehradun Economic Corridor Expressway and formed a 12 member committee to ensure no damage is caused to the environment by unscientific muck dumping or obstruction of animal corridors on the Ganeshpur-Dehradun Road (NH-72A) stretch. NGT directed the National Highway Authority of India to deposit '1 crore in a separate account for research of Sal regeneration. The National Green Tribunal has been established on 18.10.2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010 for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources.

512. **1**

The International Boxing Association has changed its acronym from AIBA to IBA, promising to adopt a set of governance reforms so as to keep the sport's inclusion at the 2028 Olympics. Boxing, weightlifting and modern pentathlon were all left off the initial list of sports for the 2028 Los Angeles Games and were asked to make changes by the International Olympic Committee (IOC). AIBA is a sport organization that sanctions amateur (Olympic-style) boxing matches and awards world and subordinate championships. Its headquarters is located at Lausanne, Switzerland.

513. **2**

UAE has announced to change its existing five-day workweek to a 4.5 day starting Jan 1, becoming world's first country to make employee-friendly transition as part of its efforts to improve productivity and work-life balance. According to new schedule, Monday to Thursday work timings would be from 7.30 am - 3.30 pm, followed by a half day on Friday from 7.30 am - 12.30 pm. Capital: Abu Dhabi; Currency:- Dirham.

514. **2**

December 16 is a day recognized to honour the valour of soldiers. Celebrated across the nation as Vijay Diwas; on this day India emerged triumphant against Pakistan in 1971 war. 93,000 Pakistani soldiers surrendered at the end of the conflict. Following India's triumph, East Pakistan, now known as Bangladesh, gained independence. Lt Gen AAK Niazi, the Pakistani Army's commander in East Pakistan (now Bangladesh), agreed to surrender to India's Eastern Army Commander, Lt Gen Jagjit Singh Arora.

General Niazi accepted the surrender documents on the evening of December 16 and the war was officially won by India. This is why the day is known as Vijay Diwas and is commemorated every year.

515. **2**

Union Power Minister R K Singh said that electricity is available for about 22 hours per day in villages and 23.5 hours in cities across the country. The availability of power in rural and urban areas has increased tremendously in comparison to 2014, he said while addressing a function to mark the National Energy Conservation Day. India has achieved the Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) target of having 40 per cent energy production from non-fossil sources. Gram Ujala Scheme was launched by the Union minister of power and new and renewable energy RK Singh in March this year, is an attempt to raise awareness against climate change and to save electricity. The move will save 2025 million kilowatt of energy per year.

516. **4**

Geographical Indications Register (GIR) under the Central Ministry of Commerce accepted the call to rename Bihar Makhana to Mithila Makhana & also suggested other changes to the brand's logo to better reflect its origins, in addition to identify & protect the geographical indications of the product. Mithila region is known for this specific type of aquatic cultured fox nut. A geographical indication (GI) is a name or a sign used on certain products that corresponds to a specific geographical location or origin. These products with a GI label are protected under the Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act 1999.

517. **4**

Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM), a flagship programme of Ministry of Rural Development aims at eliminating rural poverty through mobilizing poor women into community institutions like Self Help Groups (SHGs) and strengthening their livelihood base by accessing necessary credit from banks. The Mission was launched in June, 2011 and as on 15th December, 2021, 8.04 crore rural women have been mobilized into 73.5 Lakh Self Help Groups and it is envisaged that by 2024, about 10 crore women would be mobilized into Self Help Groups.

518. **3**

In India, land acquisition is a concurrent subject, and is governed by central and state laws. The main central Act governing land acquisition is the Right to Fair Compensation and Transparency in Land Acquisition, Rehabilitation and Resettlement Act (LAAR act) was passed in 2013. It replaced the Land Acquisition Act, 1894 (1894 Act). Many states have also enacted laws to regulate land acquisition. The 2013 Act differed from the 1894 Act in several ways. It narrowed the definition of 'public purpose' i.e. the types of projects for which land could be acquired. It required the consent of land owners if the project was for a public private partnership (PPP) or a private company. Compensation was set at two to four times of prevailing market rates and minimum norms for rehabilitation and resettlement of affected persons were prescribed. The Act also required a Social Impact Assessment (SIA) to be conducted to determine whether the potential benefits of the project would outweigh the social costs.

519. **5**

President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the reconstructed Ramna Kali temple in Ramna, a part of the Bangladeshi capital Dhaka where the landmark Suhrawardy Udyan is located. The temple was destroyed by Pakistani forces during their Operation Searchlight in March 1971, the brutal crackdown that led to the genocide & the Bangladesh War of Liberation.

520. **1**

India's shuttler Kidambi Srikanth scripted history, as he became the first male player from the nation to win a silver medal beating Singapore's Loh Kean Yew in BWF World Championships at Carolina Marin Stadium in Huelva, Spain. It was the first final of the division for both nations, and Singapore becomes the fifth nation to win gold in the men's singles at the Worlds. Lakshya Sen, from India, bagged a bronze medal. Srikanth became the first Indian man to take home a silver medal from the competition, with the previous best result by an Indian man being a bronze medal -- Prakash Padukone (1983), HS Prannoy (2019), Lakshya Sen (2021).

## Financial/Economy/Banking Awareness Solutions

521. **4**

Citibank, which is headquartered in the USA and has a strong international presence, received a license from the IFSC Authority to set up its banking unit at India's first International Financial Services Centre at GIFT City, Gujarat. With this, Citibank will become the first US-based bank to set up a branch in GIFT-IFSC. Citibank will be serving both Indian as well as global customers.

522. **1**

The Reserve Bank of India 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). This is aimed at helping supervised entities to strengthen their internal defences and resilience and bringing focus on root cause analysis.

523. **5**

Federal Bank launched three variants of credit card, in association with Visa. They are named Celesta, Imperio and Signet. Celesta card is targeted at high net-worth individuals (HNIs), Imperio is for family-oriented customers and Signet is targeted at young, early professionals. MD and CEO of Federal Bank: Shyam Srinivasan. Headquarters: Aluva, Kochi.

524. **3**

Kotak Mahindra Bank to sell 8.6% stake in Airtel Payments Bank to Bharti Enterprises. Kotak Mahindra Bank had executed a Share Purchase Agreement for sale of 20 crore equity shares of Airtel Payments Bank Limited to Bharti Enterprises Limited. The sale is expected to be completed by September 15 for a cash consideration of Rs 294 crore. Chairman of Airtel Payments Bank: Sunil Bharti Mittal.

525. **3**

Bank of Baroda, announced that the bank has Ranked #1 with a total of 86% marks on the scorecard issued by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) for the months of February and March 2021. The scorecard ranks 44 banks (Public Sector Banks, Private Banks, Foreign Banks, Payments Banks, Small Finance Banks) on various parameters on the digital business.

526. **4**

Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, launched the digital version of the Postal Life Insurance policy bonds, also termed as 'ePLI bond', on the occasion of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. ePLI bond is made available in collaboration with DIGILOCKER, National eGovernance Division (NeGD), Ministry of Electronics & IT (MeitY) Government of India. DigiLocker has been providing a secure cloud-based platform for storage, sharing and verification of documents & certificates for various organisations

527. **1**

SEBI has constituted a four-member high powered advisory committee on settlement orders and compounding of offences. The committee will be chaired by Vijay C Daga. The other members of the panel are - former law secretary in Ministry of Law & Justice, PK Malhotra; ex-Chairman of Deloitte Haskins & Sells LLP PR Ramesh and DN Raval, Partner at Raval & Raval Associates. The panel will work as per the Settlement Proceedings Regulations, 2018. Under the settlement mechanism, an alleged wrongdoer can settle a pending case with the regulator without admission or denial of guilt by paying a settlement fee. The settlement mechanism is a tool for ensuring speedy and efficient resolution of disputes. In September, Sebi proposed to overhaul the rule governing consent settlements to make the system more effective. The time limit for filing settlement applications should be reduced from 180 to 60 days. The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India. It was established on 12 April 1992 and given Statutory Powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.

528. **5**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will open the fourth cohort under the Regulatory Sandbox (RS) on prevention and mitigation of financial frauds. Regulatory sandbox usually refers to live testing of new products or services in a controlled environment. RBI has come up with Regulatory Sandbox with the objective to foster responsible innovation in financial services, promote efficiency and bringing benefit to consumers. The RBI Sandbox is based on thematic cohorts. The central bank has so far introduced three cohorts. Six entities have successfully exited the first cohort on 'Retail Payments' while under the second cohort on 'Cross Border Payments', eight entities are undertaking tests. The application window for the

third cohort of 'MSME Lending' is currently open. With a view to preparing the fintech eco-system, it is proposed that the topic for the fourth cohort be 'Prevention and Mitigation of Financial Frauds'. The focus would be 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. Regulatory sandbox refers to live testing of new products or services in a controlled/test regulatory environment for which regulators may permit certain relaxations for the limited purpose of the testing. In a report released last month, global fraud consultancy Kroll said more Indian companies have acknowledged fraud attacks. The survey found that 65% of companies acknowledged that their organization was a victim of fraud in 2019, compared with 57% respondents in the 2019 edition.

529. 2

Export-Import Bank of India has listed its \$1-billion 10-year bond on the Mauritius-based pan-African exchange AFRINEX. The transaction at a coupon of 2.25 per cent per annum, marked a record low for any Indian issuer for a 10-year US dollar issuance. This issue was 3.5 times oversubscribed by several high-quality investors. The Bank, which has a substantially dollarised balance sheet, is one of the largest Indian issuers of long-term debt in the international debt capital markets and its paper is treated as quasi-sovereign. The funds thus raised have been used by the Bank to support Indian project exports, overseas investments by way of long-term credit and its export lines of credit portfolio. EXIM Bank:- Founded in: 1982; Headquarters:- Mumbai

530. 1

Unity Small Finance Bank, the joint venture between Centrum Group and Bharatpe has commenced operations as a small finance bank. Unity Bank will be a digital-first bank with a business model of collaboration and open architecture, uniting all its stakeholders to deliver a seamless digital experience. Bharatpe was co-founded by Ashneer Grover and Shashvat Nakrani in 2018. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) had issued a licence to the bank under Section 22 (1) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949 to carry on the business of small finance banks in India. The bank commences operations with Centrum's successful MSME and microfinance businesses and teams, a capital infusion of approximately Rs 1,100 crore, total assets of about Rs 2,400 crore, an active customer base of over 2 lakhs, 145 offices including a branch in Centrum House, Mumbai. On October 12, the RBI gave the final licence to Unity Small Finance Bank, a consortium floated by Centrum Financial Services and Resilient Innovations, an arm of the digital lending platform Bharatpe, four months after giving it an in-principle nod to establish a small finance bank and then take over the scam-ridden Punjab and Maharashtra Cooperative (PMC) Bank, which was under direct RBI control since mid-2019. The purpose of Bharatpe is to provide small merchants with easy access to finance. In 2018, it launched the first UPI interoperable QR code, the first zero MDR payment acceptance service and in 2020, it launched the only zero MDR card acceptance terminals BharatSwipe.

531. 2

Federal Bank and Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited (ABHICL) have announced their bancassurance partnership. Through this partnership, Federal Bank will be able to provide their customers innovative health insurance solutions offered by ABHICL. Consumers can avail benefits of various retail and group affinity products through the Bank's various distribution channels. Customers will have access to ABHICL's industry-first innovative solutions such as, Day 1 cover for asthma, high blood pressure, high cholesterol, diabetes; wellness coaching on nutrition and fitness; counselling on mental health; incentivised wellness benefits of up to 100% HealthReturns™ (health premiums) and chronic management program, etc.

532. 2

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved a USD 250 million (about Rs 1,875 crore) loan to support India's National Industrial Corridor Development Program (NICDP). This is the first subprogram of the programmatic USD 500 million loan to develop 11 industrial corridors spanning 17 states. The national programme also seeks strong institutional and regulatory frameworks. NICDP aims to develop world-class industrial nodes that are supported by efficient urban agglomerations and multimodal connectivity, including international gateways like ports and airports and inclusive, climate-resilient, and sustainable infrastructure. The Asian Development Bank (ADB), a multilateral development finance institution, was founded in 1966 by 31 member governments to promote the social and economic progress of the Asian and Pacific region. Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines President: Masatsugu Asakawa Founded: 19 December 1966 Membership: 68 countries

533. 1

ESAF Small Finance Bank has launched State Level Local Sustainable Economic Development Training Programme in Kerala in collaboration with NABARD. Initially, this project will benefit 300 panchayats across Kerala. It was aimed at bringing financial empowerment and economic independence at the local level. It is a step towards building financial literacy at grass root levels. ESAF Small Finance Bank - HQ: Thrissur, Kerala; Formed :2017. National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development is an apex regulatory body for overall regulation of regional rural banks and apex cooperative banks in India. Founded: 12 July 1982; Headquarters: Mumbai.

534. 2

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given a go-ahead to Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) acquiring debt securities issued by Infrastructure investment Trusts (InvITs) and Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs). Necessary amendments to Foreign Exchange Management (Debt Instruments) Regulations 2019, were earlier notified in October. An announcement was made in the Union Budget 2021-22 that debt financing of InvITs and REITs by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) will be enabled by making suitable amendments in the relevant legislations. Accordingly, it has been decided to permit FPIs to invest in debt securities issued by InvITs and REITs. Investment trust, also called closed-end trust, financial organization that pools the funds of its shareholders and invests them in a diversified portfolio of securities. It differs from the mutual fund, or unit trust, which issues units representing the diversified holdings rather than shares in the company itself. A real estate investment trust (REIT) is a company that owns, operates, or finances income-generating real estate. Modeled after mutual funds, REITs pool the capital of numerous investors.

535. 1

India Post Payments Bank, Department of Posts & Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance co. has announced a strategic partnership for offering term and annuity products to customers through the Bank's extensive network. Term & Annuity Products viz. Bajaj Allianz Smart Protect Goal & Bajaj Allianz Guaranteed - Pension Goal of Both the products available on easy to sell POS platform. IPPB:- wholly owned by the Government of India through Department of Post. The tie-up will enable customers, particularly from weaker sections and living in unbanked and underserved areas, to become financially secure and empowered, and is in line with IPPB's objective of offering value added products and services to its customers. Bajaj Allianz Life Smart Protect Goal, a comprehensive and value-added term insurance product, is designed to give immediate financial support to a family in the event of an untimely death of the breadwinner. Bajaj Allianz Life Guaranteed Pension Goal, an annuity plan, aims to meet post retirement expenses as it offers guaranteed and fixed regular income till the person is alive. Both these products will be available to customers in addition to DoP's existing PLI (Postal Life Insurance) & RPLI (Rural Postal Life Insurance) products.

536. 2

PM Narendra Modi launched RBI's integrated ombudsman scheme. The integrated ombudsman scheme amalgamates 3 ombudsman scheme of RBI- banking ombudsman scheme of 2006, ombudsman scheme for NBFCs of 2018 & ombudsman scheme of digital transactions of 2019. The scheme strengthens the grievance redress mechanism for consumers of different regulated entities like Banks, NBFCs and payments system operators.

537. 5

Individuals can now directly purchase treasury bills, dated securities, sovereign gold bonds (SGB) and state development loans (SDLs) from primary as well as secondary markets, thanks to the RBI Retail Direct Scheme launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Opening of G-Secs to retail investors will help the government mop up additional sources of funds to meet its financial requirement to carry out public expenditure.

538. 4

Just like Gold ETFs, SEBI also wants mutual funds to arrive at the value of silver as per the London Bullion Market Association (LBMA). SEBI has stated that the silver held by a silver exchange traded fund (ETF) should be valued at the "AM fixing price of London Bullion Market Association in US dollars per troy ounce for silver having a fineness of 999.0 parts per thousand"

539. 4

MobiKwik launched RuPay Card in partnership with NPCI, Axis Bank. The card will be offered free of charge to customers and will be fully digital keeping in line with the growing demand for digital payments

across online and brick and mortar stores. Customers will now be able to get up to Rs 2 lakhs of their MobiKwik wallet balance mirrored on the MobiKwik RuPay Prepaid Card.

**540. 3**

BharatPe launches Merchant Shareholding Program(MSP) for its merchant partners. BharatPe will be rolling out this MSP to its 7.5 million existing merchant partners and extend this to new merchants who join it. It plans to create an equity pool structure worth upto \$100 mn for MSP to be allotted to eligible merchants over the course of the next 4 years. The company is aiming that the MSP pool will be worth close to \$ 1bn by the time it goes public.

**541. 3**

Reserve Bank of India has 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 a minimum of 5 thousand Crore rupees have been asked to appoint an internal ombudsman within 6 months.

**542. 5**

Karnataka Bank is a Mangaluru-headquartered private sector lender.

**543. 1**

Union Bank of India ranked 3rd amongst 12 PSBs in EASE 4.0 Reforms Index for Q1 FY22, as per the rank list released by Indian Banks' Association (IBA). The Bank has been actively adopting the reforms initiatives recommended under the EASE Agenda enabling it to retain the overall position of Second Runner Up from the last three consecutive quarters since December 2020.

**544. 5**

ICICI Bank has announced the launch of its online platform, 'Trade Emerge', to offer comprehensive digital banking & value-added services to exporters and importers across India. This digital facility is associated with 'India Filings', an online business and tax compliance platform. It will also help traders avail certain export benefits under India's Foreign Trade policy. India has emerged as a key player in the global export-import space with a consistent growth history. During April to October 2021, our overall exports (merchandise and services combined) and imports are estimated to be nearly \$780 billion. The platform will make cross-border trade hassle-free, expeditious and convenient, as it offers an array of services in one place, eliminating the need for companies to coordinate with multiple touchpoints.

**545. 5**

Yes Bank has collaborated with Amazon Pay and Amazon Web Services (AWS) to offer customers an instant payment systems via Unified Payment Interface (UPI). The integration will enable Amazon Pay to issue UPI IDs with the @yapl handle and allow customers to make secure, fast and convenient payments. In FY2020-21, Yes Bank recorded a market share of around 40% by volume in the UPI ecosystem and around 30% by volume in the UPI merchant acquiring business.

**546. 3**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 crore on the State Bank of India (SBI) after an inspection found that the bank had held shares in borrower companies, as pledgee, of an amount exceeding 30% of paid-up share capital of those companies in contravention of RBI guidelines. The Statutory Inspections for Supervisory Evaluation (ISE) of the bank was conducted by RBI with reference to its financial positions.

**547. 5**

RBI accepted most of the recommendations(21 out of 33) of its working group on corporate ownership of private sector banks, by allowing unrestrained promoter shareholding in the first five years of operations and hiking the same to 26% after 15 years from the extant 15% and also the new capital requirements. RBI constituted the working group on June 12, 2020.

**548. 4**

Export-Import Bank of India has committed loans worth \$100 million for domestic manufacturers of Covid-19 vaccines or related products. The loans are also being extended to other countries. With vaccine portfolio size of \$250 million in Africa, this will be an advantage for Indian firms as the financing mandates Africa to source vaccines and related products only from India.

549. 1

HSBC India has launched India's first credit card made from recycled PVC plastic. This roll-out is part of a new programme launched by HSBC Group to introduce sustainable cards across all its global locations with a view to supporting its global commitments to sustainability & a net-zero future. Made from 85% recycled plastic, the new cards will help save 3.18 gm of plastic. The cards have been introduced in partnership with global cards manufacturer IDEMIA and will help gradually eliminate single-use PVC plastic. This initiative has initially been rolled out for HSBC Cashback Credit Card and will be gradually extended to all card variant.

550. 5

Airtel Payments Bank has appointed Pinak Chakraborty as its new Chief Information Officer. He will be leading Airtel Payments Bank's overall technology strategy & be responsible for digital innovation and transformation of products and services. Prior to joining the Bank, he was heading product engineering for PayMaya, a fintech based out of the Philippines. Airtel payment bank:- MD & CEO:- Anubrata Biswas; COO :- Ganesh Ananthanarayanan.

551. 1

The (RBI) fined Tata Communications Payment Solutions (TCPSL) Rs 2 crore and Appnit Technologies Pvt Ltd (ATPL) Rs 54.93 lakh for failing to comply with orders given under the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007. (PSS Act). These were offences of the type specified in Section 26(6) of the PSS Act, notices were sent to the entities. According to Section 26(6) of the PSS Act, if any provision of this Act is violated, or if any default is made in complying with any other requirement of this Act, then the person guilty of such contravention or default, as the case may be, shall be punishable with a fine of up to ten lakh, and where a contravention or default is continuing, with a further fine of up to 25,000 for each day after the first during which the contravention or default occurs. It was observed that TCPSL was non-compliant with the directions issued by RBI on White Label ATM deployment targets and net-worth requirement. ATPL was non-compliant with the directions issued by RBI on maintenance of escrow account balance and net-worth requirement. The RBI had issued notice to these two authorised Payment System Operators (PSOs).

552. 4

The Reserve Bank of India has appointed an advisory committee to advise the administrator of Reliance Capital. The committee includes Sanjeev Nautiyal, ex-DMD of State Bank of India, Srinivasan Varadarajan, ex-DMD of Axis Bank, and Praveen P Kadle, ex-MD & CEO, Tata Capital Limited. On November 29, 2021, the RBI superseded the board of directors of Reliance Capital Ltd and appointed Nageswara Rao Y, former executive director of Bank of Maharashtra, as the administrator. The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Rules, 2019 provide for the concerned financial sector regulator to appoint a Committee of Advisors to advise the Administrator in the operations of the financial service provider during the corporate insolvency resolution process. The RBI superseded the board of Reliance Capital due to the defaults of the company in meeting various payment obligations and citing governance concerns.

553. 2

The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs.1 cr on the Union Bank of India for violating certain provisions related to the sale of stressed assets and reporting of frauds. This action is based on the deficiencies in regulatory compliance & is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers. Rajkiran Rai G, MD, and CEO, Union Bank of India.

554. 1

Facebook-owned messaging platform WhatsApp has been granted permission to double its user base for the payments service to 40 million by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). WhatsApp has a total user base of 400 million and the development will help the platform compete better with entrenched rivals like Google Pay and Phone Pe. ICICI Bank, Axis Bank, HDFC Bank & SBI acting as WhatsApp's payment service provider.

555. 4

IDFC FIRST Bank announced the launch of FIRST Private Infinite, the country's first-ever standalone metal debit card, in partnership with Visa. FIRST Private Infinite is a lifetime free card designed specifically for customers who are part of the Bank's FIRST Private program, a premium savings and wealth offering. CEO: V. Vaidyanathan Headquarters: Mumbai

556. **2**

City Union Bank (CUB), in collaboration with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and its manufacturing partner Seshaasai, has announced the launch of RuPay On-the-Go contactless wearable keychain for its debit card customers. Currently, the keychain will be linked to the operative account of the customers. N Kamakodi, MD & CEO, City Union Bank. The keychain can be requested through net banking, mobile banking, and at CUB's branches. This On-the-Go solution allows the bank's customers to carry payment cards on their keychains, making for fast and convenient payments up to '5,000 at all Rupay-enabled point of sale devices (PoS) without entering a PIN. Customers would be required to hold the keychain in front of the PoS devices during payment, similar to tapping the card. For payments above '5,000, customers need to tap, followed by entering their PIN. Currently, the keychain will be linked to the operative account of the customers. However, as a part of the second phase of the launch, CUB is planning to integrate the On-the-Go wearables with prepaid/credit cards to serve non-CUB customers as well.

557. **3**

ICICI Bank has partnered with Flipkart to offer an instant and completely digital overdraft (OD) facility of up to '25 L to individual sellers & businesses registered on the e-commerce platform. Enabled by API integration, the partnership helps sellers to avail an OD from the Bank instantly in a process from application to sanction to disbursement, that is entirely digital.

558. **3**

The RBI governor Shaktikanta Das announced that UPI-based payment products will be launched for feature phone users. Also enhanced the transaction limit to Rs. 5L from Rs. 2 L for UPI payments for RBI's Retail Direct scheme & IPO offering applications. RBI's Retail Direct scheme facilitates investment by individuals into government securities by opening gilt securities. Gilt-edged securities refer to high-grade bonds that some national governments and private organizations issue in an effort to generate revenue.

559. **2**

Paytm Payments Bank Limited, an associate entity of Paytm, has received Scheduled Bank status from RBI and has been included in the 2nd Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934. As per RBI Act 1934, banks satisfying the central bank that its affairs are not being conducted in a manner detrimental to the interests of its depositors are included in the 2nd schedule. Paytm Payments Bank has emerged as one of the largest enablers of digital payments in the country with its payment instruments such as Paytm Wallet, Paytm FASTag, net banking and Paytm UPI. The bank powers 33.3 crore Paytm Wallets and enables consumers to make payments at over 87,000 online merchants and 2.11 crore in-store merchants.

560. **4**

Private bank IndusInd Bank announced that the RBI has given approval to Life Insurance Corporation to increase its stake in the bank to nearly 10%. The RBI approval is subject to compliance with the direction on 'Prior Approval for Acquisition of Shares and Voting Private Sector Banks' as well as regulations of the Sebi and any guidelines or regulations.

561. **3**

SEBI extended the deadline till April 1 next year for implementing the risk management framework for mutual funds as well as the two-tier structure for benchmarking of certain categories of schemes. Meanwhile, the watchdog has come out with guidelines on the usage of pool accounts by mutual funds as well as norms for investment in the Bills Re Discounting Scheme (BRDS).

562. **3**

Karnataka Bank has been conferred with two DigiDhan awards instituted by the Union Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. The bank received these awards for achieving the target with the highest percentage in BHIM-UPI transactions under the private sector bank category consecutively for two years ' 2019-20 and 2020-21.

563. **1**

Punjab National Bank (PNB) launched the PNB Pride-CRMD module tool, an android-based application for differently-abled employees, to monitor and effectively follow up with the special mention account (SMA)

borrowers. SMA accounts are stressed loans that are recognized early, which enables banks to initiate remedial action in time.

564. **2**

Bank of Baroda (BOB) has joined hands with National Payments Corporations of India (NPCI) to launch bob World Wave, a wearable line of products for payments, integrated with a complete health ecosystem. A bob World Wave wearable device will allow customers to monitor their SpO2, body temperature, heart rate and blood pressure. With bob World Wave, BOB is providing an exclusive 3-months free wellness package along with a personal health coach, doctor tele-consultation and interactive video coaching. The device will provide contactless payments of up to '5,000 in all NFC enabled PoS devices. Customers can do contactless payment above '5,000 using a PIN.

565. **2**

The Life Insurance Corporation of India has launched a new non-linked, non-participating, individual savings life insurance plan called Dhan Rekha, it offers special premium rates for female lives. The plan is also allowed for the third gender adding that all benefits under the plan are fully guaranteed. The minimum sum assured under this plan is '2 lakh and there is no limit for maximum sum assured.

566. **4**

Bank of Baroda (BoB) has signed a MoU with Centrum Housing Finance (CHFL) for sourcing and financing housing loan borrowers under co-lending model. With this tie-up the bank will be able to penetrate deep into markets in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities at competitive rates. Bank of Baroda would be able to garner housing loan business to the extent of '1,000 crore in one financial year

567. **3**

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) has approved \$112 million loan for Assam to strengthen skill education & training through establishment of Assam Skill University (ASU). It will also support the design and delivery of industry-aligned and flexible skills education & training programs, including cutting-edge digital skills programs, career development programs & services. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty. It assists its members and partners by providing loans, technical assistance, grants, and equity investments to promote social and economic development. Headquarters: Mandaluyong, Philippines, President: Masatsugu Asakawa. Founded: 19 December 1966.

568. **3**

Confederation of Indian Industry, CII, has entered into an agreement with Serum Institute of India (SII) to speed up the vaccination program in partnership with industry including health care providers. CII and SII partnership will ensure to connect hospitals and corporates to fast track vaccination which is necessary for post pandemic growth of the country

569. **3**

Markets regulator Sebi has introduced the concept of "accredited investors" in the Indian securities market, a move expected to open up a new channel for raising funds. A person or entity will be identified as an accredited investor on the basis of net worth or income. The one with at least Rs 2 crore annual income or net worth at least Rs 7.50 crore can be an accredited investor. SEBI Chairperson : Ajay Tyagi  
SEBI headquarters : Mumbai SEBI : Securities and Exchange Board of India

570. **4**

Digital payments and financial services firm Paytm has signed an agreement with IT ministry's startup hub to scale deep-tech startups by providing access to platform, knowledge series, experts, resources, and larger community of stakeholders. The collaboration also focuses on fostering partnerships with incubators, accelerators, investors, offering a startup toolkit to solve payments.

571. **2**

India's economy grew by 20.1% during the April-June quarter of this financial year, as against a 24.4% contraction seen during the same period last year. The massive growth seen in the first quarter has made India the fastest-growing major economy across the globe. India's GDP at constant prices (2011-12) in the first quarter stood at Rs 32.38 lakh crore, however still lower than the Rs 35.66 lakh crore seen in the first quarter of 2019-20, signalling that India is yet to emerge from the covid induced slump. The construction sector's GVA was 68.3% higher than the previous year. The services sector grew at

3.7% from the year-ago period. In the previous quarter, India's economy had grown by 1.6%. For the full financial year 2020-21, India's GDP contracted by 7.3%.

**572. 2**

India's economy grew by 20.1% during the April-June quarter of this financial year, as against a 24.4% contraction seen during the same period last year. The massive growth seen in the first quarter has made India the fastest-growing major economy across the globe. The construction sector's GVA was 68.3% higher than the previous year. For the full financial year 2020-21, India's GDP contracted by 7.3%.

**573. 4**

India's exports to ASEAN account for 11.28 percent of total exports.

**574. 3**

The GST Council's 45th meeting was held in Lucknow under the chairmanship of the Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman. The Council decides to set up 2 GoMs to examine issue of correction of inverted duty structure for major sectors and for using technology to further improve compliance, including monitoring. Council also recommends major changes in GST rates and scope of exemption on Services and also Recommends several clarifications in relation to GST rates on Goods and Services.

**575. 5**

India has attracted FDI inflow of \$27.37 billion which is 62% higher as compared to last year. FDI equity inflow grew by 112% in the first 4 months of this financial year compared to same period last year. Automobile Industry emerged as top sector with 23% share of the total FDI Equity inflow followed by Computer Software & Hardware with 18% and Services Sector 10%

**576. 1**

The government will borrow Rs 5.03 lakh crore in the second half of the current fiscal to fund the revenue gap for reviving the pandemic-hit economy. During the first half (April-September), the government has raised Rs 7.02 lakh crore by issuing bonds. Out of gross market borrowing of Rs 12.05 lakh crore projected for FY 2021-22 in the Union Budget.

**577. 1**

Energy & transport sectors has received highest amount of AIIB's financing. AIIB approved USD356.67 million loan to India involves the construction of a new corridor in Chennai's metro network as part of Chennai Metro Rail Phase 2. It will span from Lighthouse in the east to Poonamalee Bypass in the west to ensure seamless multimodal transport across Chennai by providing integrated access to suburban rail, bus stations and the city's main airport.

**578. 3**

SEBI also approved amendments to delisting framework for equity shares. A gold exchange is being set up to trade gold in the form of EGR, which will help in having transparent domestic spot price discovery mechanism. Instrument representing gold will be called Electronic Gold Receipt (EGR) & will be having trading, clearing & settlement features akin to other securities

**579. 1**

Finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said that India has the highest Fintech adoption rate of 87% as opposed to the global average rate of 64 percent, which shows that India is a prime destination for digital payments and activities. The finance minister added that digital payment transactions have grown tremendously, from Rs two trillion in 2019 to Rs four trillion in 2020

**580. 3**

WTO estimates global merchandise trade volume growth at 10.8% in 2021. The World Trade Organization (WTO) has projected that the global merchandise trade volume will grow 10.8 per cent this year, higher than 8 per cent estimated in March (followed by a 4.7 per cent rise in 2022). Growth should moderate as merchandise trade approaches its pre-pandemic long-run trend and supply-side issues such as semiconductor scarcity & port backlogs. WTO- HQ: Geneva, Switzerland; Founded: 1 Jan1995; Director General: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

581. 1

The latest round of Ficci's Economic Outlook Survey has put forth an annual median GDP growth forecast for 2021-22 at 9.1 percent. This marks a marginal improvement from the growth projection of 9 per cent recorded in the previous survey round (July 2021). The survey was conducted in September 2021 and drew responses from leading economists representing the industry, banking and financial services sector. With regard to heading back to the process of normalization, it was largely felt that the Reserve Bank may indicate a change of stance from accommodative to neutral in the February 2022 policy meeting. FICCI ( Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry):-'Established in 1927, FICCI is the largest and oldest apex business organisation in India. A non-government, not-for-profit organisation, FICCI is the voice of India's business and industry.' President: Harshavardhan Neotia ; CEO: Sangita Reddy ; Headquarters: New Delhi

582. 2

GoI accorded 'Maharatna' status to the state-owned Power Finance Corporation Ltd (PFC), thus giving PFC greater operational and financial autonomy. An order to this effect was issued by the Department of Public Enterprises, under the MoF. PFC (1986) is the largest Infrastructure Finance Company, exclusively dedicated to Power Sector under the administrative control of MoP. The other 10 Maharatna companies include NTPC, ONGC, SAIL, BHEL, IOCL, HPCL, CIL, GAIL, BPCL and Power Grid Corporation of India.

583. 2

IPO-bound fintech firm Mobikwik became the 32nd Indian unicorn after a recent secondary ESOP sale round. Girnar Software Pvt. Ltd, which runs CarDekho, an online portal for new and used cars, has raised \$250 million. The fundraising has made CarDekho the 33rd Indian startup to become a unicorn. In the venture capital industry, the term unicorn refers to any startup that reaches the valuation of \$1 billion.

584. 5

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan worth Rs 100 lakh crore, which aims at streamlining infrastructure development undertaken by several ministries and departments in the country and enhancing multi-modal connectivity. Aim is to bring down logistics cost, which is currently around 13% of gross domestic product in the next 5 yrs Gati Shakti will undertake adoption and utilisation of geospatial information technology

585. 5

India's first export of LD slag to Bangladesh. LD (Linz-Donawitz) slag is produced during the steel-making process. Tata Steel BSL has exported 9,000 tonnes of LD slag, a by-product of manufacturing the metal, to Bangladesh, in the first such shipment from India to the neighbouring country. It shipped out the product through Dhamra Port to the Bangladesh market from its unit in Odisha's Dhenkanal district.

586. 4

To protect the people taking bonafide business decisions, the finance ministry has issued a uniform staff accountability framework for NPA accounts up to Rs 50 crore. These guidelines shall be implemented with effect from April 1, 2022, for accounts turning non-performing assets (NPAs) beginning next financial year. Banks have been advised to revise their staff accountability policies based on these broad guidelines and frame the procedures with approval of the respective boards. The Indian Bank Association, being a key stakeholder of the framework, was involved in the process right from the beginning. These guidelines will help quell apprehension that bankers could be hauled up for their bonafide commercial decision go wrong. It will also help banker to take credit decisions faster and help support economy. Stressing that the new guidelines will surely boost the morale of the PSBs employees immensely, it said banks will have to complete staff accountability exercise within six months from the date of classification of the account as Non Performing Asset. Further, it said that depending on the business size of the banks, threshold limits have been advised for scrutiny of the accountability by the chief vigilance officer (CVO).

587. 2

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) said its international arm NIPL and global digital commerce enabler Network International have signed an agreement for a mobile-based real-time payment system in the UAE. Network International enables digital commerce across the Middle East and Africa. NPCI- an initiative of the Reserve Bank of India and Indian Banks' Association. NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and Network International have signed a memorandum of understanding for collaboration on acceptance of NIPL's mobile-based real-time payment system, Unified Payments Interface (UPI), in the UAE. The proposed rollout of UPI mobile payment solutions on Network

International's merchant network in the UAE is expected to commence in the first quarter of 2022 across the company's key retail merchant partner outlets. It will also be facilitating UPI payments in sectors such as jewellery, supermarkets, and duty-free retailers. In 2020, UPI facilitated transactions worth USD 457 billion, which is equivalent to approximately 15 percent of India's GDP

588. **2**

Share of MSME GVA in all India GDP for FY20 is 30%. Share in exports is nearly 48%.

589. **1**

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO), its the meeting of its Central Board of Trustees (CBT), has approved measures to invest up to 5 per cent of its annual deposits in infrastructure investment trusts (InvITs) and other alternative funds. The CBT empowered Finance Investment and Audit Committee (FIAC) to decide upon the investment options.

590. **5**

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collections grew 25% year-on-year to Rs 1,31,526 crore in November, surpassing October's Rs 1.30 lakh crore mop-up. Tax collections from the import of goods also contributed to the numbers, which were 43% higher, while revenues from domestic transactions, including import of services, were 20% higher compared to November 2020.

591. **1**

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced the launch of the NPCI Tokenization System (NTS) that will support tokenization of cards as an alternative to storing card details with merchants. The NPCI Tokenization System will support the tokenization of RuPay cards to further enhance the safety of customers and provide a seamless shopping experience. NPCI's Token Reference On File (TROF) service will help millions of RuPay cardholders maintain the security of their financial data. Experts say the card details of cardholders will be completely safe and secure at the RuPay Network Secure vault. Based on the set of guidelines that have been mandated by the RBI, sensitive customer information is to be stored in the form of an encrypted 'token' to help secure transactions. These tokens then allow payments to be processed without disclosing the customer details or allowing the payment intermediaries to store customer data that could breach security and privacy. With NTS, acquiring Banks, Aggregators, Merchants and others can get themselves certified with NPCI and can play the role of Token Requestor to help save the Token reference number (Token Reference On File) against all card numbers saved. All these businesses can maintain their RuPay consumer base utilizing TROF for future transactions initiated by their respective RuPay consumers.

592. **2**

To make daily transactions of its customers more secure and easier, J&K Bank has launched its revised and refurbished Mobile Banking App - mPay Delight - for the Public. Chairman and Managing Director of, R K Chhibber unveiled the app. It has been made more user friendly, vibrant & easier to use with biometric fingerprint authentication for faster and more secure Logins. J&K bank is a Scheduled Commercial Bank and one of the oldest private sector bank in India (Formed on:- 1 October 1938), having its Corporate Headquarters in Srinagar. It is under the ownership of Ministry of Finance.

593. **2**

Punjab National Bank (PNB) has launched PNB Pride-CRMD module tool, an android-based application for differently-abled employees, to monitor and effectively follow up with the special mention account (SMA) borrowers. SMA accounts are stressed loans recognized early, enabling banks to initiate timely remedial actions, and preventing such borrowers from slipping to NPA. NPA:- Non performing Assets. Pride Module has built-in talkback software that allows the visually impaired to access the system independently and enables them to get in touch with the customers simply by tapping on their phones. The app aims to promote the rights and well-being of persons with disabilities, and the platform opens new vistas of opportunities for 'PNB Warriors' with visual or any other physical impairment, helping them to make a valuable and tangible contribution.

594. **5**

Agri-fintech firm Dvara E-Dairy Solutions Pvt Ltd has entered into a partnership with Jana Small Finance Bank (Jana SFB) to service small dairy farmers. Dvara E-Dairy hopes to use digital technology to assist small and medium dairy farmers with financial and livestock management solutions. Jana SFB has a large branch network in India's rural and agricultural areas. Jana SFB product - Surabhi e-Tag provides accurate cattle identification based on the muzzle identity. Similarly, the Surabhi Score, based on digital

assessment, complements the underwriting of cattle loans based on dairy activities and customised cattle management recommendations. This helps dairy farmers improve their livelihood and achieve household financial goals.

595. **3**

The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and Nasdaq-listed Fiserv Inc. entered into an understanding that will enable the launch of plug-and-play RuPay credit card stack, 'nFiNi'. This BaaS (banking-as-a-service) programme provides a ready stack of services required for fintechs and banks to issue RuPay credit cards.

596. **1**

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal has said that India is poised to become one of the largest digital markets in the world. Addressing the Second Global Fintech Fest-2021 through video conferencing, he said at 87 per cent, India has the highest FinTech adoption rate in the world against the global average of 64 per cent.

597. **2**

I-Sprint'21: IFSC Regulator Backed Global FinTech Hackathons Sprint01 - BankTech Hosted By IFSCA & GIFT City International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and GIFT City launched I-Sprint'21, the global FinTech Hackathon Series of IFSCA. The first Sprint of the series 'Sprint01: BankTech' is focussed on FinTechs for the Banking sector. IFSCA introduced a framework for 'Regulatory Sandbox' in October 2020. Injeti Srinivas- Chairperson, IFSCA Sprint01: BankTech is hosted jointly by IFSCA and GIFT city in collaboration with NITI Aayog. The Partners to the Hackathon are ICICI Bank, HSBC Bank, iCreate, Zone Startups and Invest-India. The aim of the Hackathon is: to connect IFSCA and GIFT IFSC with FinTech Ecosystem to solve Business Problems for the Banking Units at GIFT IFSC and to promote retail business for the Banking Units at GIFT IFSC. Major rewards and recognition proposed under Sprint01: BankTech are: FinTech finalists to be allowed direct entry into IFSCA Regulatory/Innovation Sandbox. FinTechs will work directly with the Partner Banks on the problem statement who will provide the APIs, mentoring, guidance, etc. Opportunity for the FinTechs to show-case during the Flagship FinTech Forum of IFSCA scheduled during Dec'2021 iCreate sponsored Price money of Rs 24 lakh Business Support Solution Partner benefits of upto \$25,000 per startup from Zone Startups India's network. The International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has been established on April 27, 2020 under the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019. It is headquartered at GIFT City, Gandhinagar in Gujarat.

598. **1**

PM Modi will inaugurate the 'InFINITY Forum', a 2-day thought leadership Forum on FinTech, on 3rd December 2021. The event is being hosted by International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) under the aegis of GoI in collaboration with GIFT City and Bloomberg on December 3 and 4, 2021, in virtual mode. Indonesia, South Africa and the U.K. are partner countries.

599. **3**

Union Minister for MSME, Shri Narayan Rane has launched SCLCSS which will help in meeting the technology related requirements of enterprises in the services sector and has a provision of 25% capital subsidy for procurement of Plant & Machinery and service equipment through institutional credit to the SC-ST MSEs without any sector specific restrictions on technology upgradation.

600. **1**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch e-RUPI, a cashless and contactless instrument for digital payment. e-Rupi is a person and purpose specific digital payment solution. It is a QR code or SMS string-based e-Voucher, which is delivered to the mobile of the beneficiaries. eRupi has been developed by National Payments Corporation of India on its UPI platform. World Environment day is observed on 5th of June every year, and the e-Rupi is set to launch on 2nd August 2021, hence statement I is not true.

601. **1**

National Mission on Edible Oils- Oil Palm to be implemented with a financial outlay of over Rs 11,000 crore. The Union Cabinet has given approval to launch a new Mission on Oil palm to be known as the National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) . It will be a new Centrally Sponsored Scheme with a special focus on the North east region and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands. Due to the heavy dependence on imports for edible oils, it is important to make efforts to increase the domestic production of edible oils

602. **4**

FM Nirmala Sitharaman to launch the National Monetisation pipeline(NMP), which will list out the govt's infrastructure assets to be sold over the next four-years. The NMP comprises a four-year pipeline of the central govt's brownfield infrastructure assets. Besides providing visibility to investors, NMP will also serve as a medium-term roadmap for the asset monetisation initiative of the government.

603. **2**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) passed a final order against Maruti Suzuki India Limited (MSIL) for indulging in anti-competitive conduct of Resale Price Maintenance (RPM) in the passenger vehicle segment by way of implementing Discount Control Policy vis-'-vis dealers, and accordingly, imposed a penalty of '200 crore upon MSIL, besides passing a cease-and-desist order.

604. **1**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has permitted banks, which are authorized to deal in foreign exchange, to use any other widely accepted/alternative reference rate (ARR) in place of the London interbank offered rate (LIBOR) for interest payable in respect of export/import transactions. LIBOR- the global reference rate for unsecured short-term borrowing in the interbank market. A reference rate is a benchmark interest rate used to determine other interest rates. For example, LIBOR provides an indication of the average rates at which LIBOR panel banks could obtain wholesale, unsecured funding for set periods in particular currencies. Lenders then use this rate to determine interest rates for a variety debt instruments - such as mortgages and commercial loans - and financial products like derivatives. LIBOR is administered by the Intercontinental Exchange or ICE. It is computed for five currencies with seven different maturities ranging from overnight to a year. The five currencies for which LIBOR is computed are Swiss franc, euro, pound sterling, Japanese yen and US dollar.

605. **2**

The Appointments Committee of Cabinet has approved the proposal to appoint Shanti Lal Jain as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of the Chennai-headquartered Indian Bank. Jain, 56, is currently the Executive Director of state-run Bank of Baroda. The Department of Financial Services had proposed his appointment as the MD and CEO of Indian Bank.

606. **3**

Ujjivan Small Finance Bank's managing director and chief effective officer Nitin Chugh has tendered his resignation. The resignation will come into effect from September 30, 2021. Ujjivan Small Finance Bank had roped in Chugh from HDFC Bank in May 2019, he took over the baton from predecessor Samit Ghosh in December 2019. RBI had approved the appointment for three years.

607. **3**

NK Singh, who has chaired the Fifteenth Finance Commission, has replaced former prime minister Dr. Manmohan Singh as the president of the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG) Society. Former CII DG Tarun Das is the Chairman and Prof Ajit Mishra is the IEG Director.

608. **1**

The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Hitendra Dave as Chief Executive Officer, HSBC India for a period of three years with effect from August 24, 2021. Dave is a General Manager within the HSBC Group and a member of the Asia Pacific Executive Committee of HSBC, underlining the importance of the India business to HSBC.

609. **1**

The Reserve Bank of India has appointed Ajay Kumar as Executive Director (ED) with effect from August 2021. Prior to being promoted as ED, Kumar was heading the New Delhi Regional Office of the Bank as Regional Director. He has served in foreign exchange, banking supervision, financial inclusion, currency management and other areas in the Reserve Bank.

610. **1**

The Reserve Bank of India has approved the appointment of Sanjeeb Chaudhuri as the part-time chairman of the IDFC FIRST Bank Limited. Chaudhuri was listed among the Top 25 Media Visionaries in Asia Pacific in 2016 and is a featured speaker at premier global marketing and media events in Europe and Asia.

611. 2

Banking giant HSBC has appointed former SBI chairman Rajnish Kumar as a non-executive director for its Hong Kong-headquartered Asia unit. Kumar, who retired from the country's largest lender after four decades of service. He was previously appointed as senior advisor by Baring Private Equity Asia and an advisor to Kotak Investment Advisors. HSBC's operations in India, which include 26 retail branches and other financial services, are a part of HSBC Asia.

612. 4

RBI will set up a committee to scrutinise applications and give recommendations on new umbrella entity (NUE) licences, people aware of the development said. The five-member committee will be headed by RBI chief general manager P Vasudevan. NUEs will establish their own payment infrastructure to compete with National Payments Corp. of India (NPCI).

613. 2

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved the extension in the tenure of Goyal, a 1979-batch IAS (retired) officer of Kerala cadre, as the CMD of ITPO for a period of one year beyond 01.09.2021 i.e. up to 01.09.2022 or until further orders. Goyal, who had briefly worked as the Union home secretary, was on August 31, 2015 appointed the ITPO chief. ITPO is the premier trade promotion agency of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

614. 2

Harsha Bangari took charge as the Managing Director of Export-Import Bank of India (India Exim Bank). The top position in the bank was vacant ever since David Rasquniha completed his three-year tenure as MD in May 2021. Prior to her elevation as MD, Bangari was the Deputy Managing Director (DMD) of the bank, which is the national export credit agency.

615. 4

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has granted its approval for the re-appointment of V. Vaidyanathan as the Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of IDFC FIRST Bank. Vaidyanathan's re-appointment as MD & CEO is for 3 years, effective from December 19, 2021. Vaidyanathan took over as the MD & CEO of IDFC FIRST Bank in December 2018 after Capital First & IDFC Bank merger.

616. 2

Amit Saxena, Global Deputy CTO of State Bank of India joined RBI Innovation Hub as the Chief Technology Officer (CTO). On Aug 6, 2020, the Reserve Bank announced that it would set up Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) to promote innovation across the financial sector by leveraging on technology and creating an environment that would facilitate and foster innovation. Rajesh Bansal CEO of RBI Innovation Hub.

617. 2

Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS) has bagged a five-year IT transformation contract from NORD/LB, a leading German commercial bank that is targeting a new business model by 2024 with a more agile operating model. TCS will work with the bank to simplify and transform its application estate across multiple businesses ' financial markets, wholesale and retail banking,etc.

618. 1

Padmaja Chunduru has been appointed Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of National Securities Depositories Limited. This accounts for over 89 percent of all securities dematerialised in the country. Chunduru has served as MD and CEO of the Indian Bank from September 2018 to August 2021. She has worked with SBI as Deputy Managing Director (Digital Banking). NSDL is India's first and largest securities depository.

619. 1

The private lender IndusInd Bank announced the appointment of CFO Gobind Jain with effect from September 29, 2021. He succeeds SV Zaregaonkar, who has worked with the bank for more than 25 years and is getting superannuated. Jain has more than 29 years of experience in the banking industry. In Jain's previous stint, he served at KMBL as Joint President. Prior to that, he worked with ICICI Bank, Bank of America NT and SA, Bank Internasional Indonesia, and Reserve Bank of India.

620. 1

The Indian Banks' Association (IBA) elected UCO Bank Managing Director A. K. Goel as its chairman. Goel replaces Union Bank Managing Director and CEO Rajkiran Rai G as head of the banking sector association. Goel has been recommended for the post of the managing director of Punjab National Bank (PNB) by the Banks Board Bureau.

621. 2

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of Pradeep Kumar Panja as part-time Chairman of Karnataka Bank, the lender stated in a regulatory filing last week. The appointment will come into effect from November 14, 2021 and will be for a period of three years. Pradeep Kumar Panja retired as Managing Director (Corporate Banking) of State Bank of India (SBI).

622. 3

The government reconstituted the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) for another two years retaining Bibek Debroy as its chairman. While Rakesh Mohan, Poonam Gupta and TT Ram Mohan have been appointed as its new part-time members, V Anantha Nageswaran has been dropped. Apart from Debroy, Neelkanth Mishra, Nilesh Shah and Sajid Chinoy have been retained. The council has been tasked with analysing any issue, economic or otherwise, referred to it by the Prime Minister, according to its terms of reference. It can also take up issues of macro-economic importance suo motu.

623. 4

British bank Barclays's chief executive Jes Staley had quit. Staley has been replaced with immediate effect by its head of global markets, C.S. Venkatakrishnan. Before joining Barclays in 2016, Venkat worked at JPMorgan Chase from 1994, holding senior roles in asset management and investment banking. Staley became CEO of Barclays in October 2015.

624. 1

The Government has extended the tenure of Director of Enforcement Directorate (ED) Sanjay Mishra by one year till November 18, 2022. He became the first beneficiary of the Ordinance promulgated by the Modi government that provided the extension of the tenure of the ED as director. Mishra, a 1984-batch Indian Revenue Service (IRS) cadre of the Income Tax Department.

625. 2

**Pradip Shah**, founder of IndAsia Fund Advisors, has been appointed chairman of National Asset Reconstruction Company (NARCL) while Aditya Birla Asset Reconstruction Company managing director Sanjay Jain will be the chief executive of India Debt Resolution Company (IDRCL), the privately owned asset management company (AMC) mandated to resolve bad loans acquired by NARCL. Also, Diwakar Gupta, former managing director of State Bank of India is selected as chairman of IDRCL. In May, Padmakumar Nair, chief general manager of SBI, was appointed as the MD of NARCL.

626. 1

IPPB and NPCI Bharat BillPay announced the facilitation of doorstep cash-based assisted bill payments across India. The platform will enable bill payments, utility, and other recurring services for non-IPPB customers as well. The service is expected to benefit millions of unbanked and underserved customers in remote locations with access to doorstep payment solutions. The Headquarters of IPPB is located in Delhi.

627. 3

The number of ATMs across the country stood at over 2.13 lakh by the end of September this year, and over 47 per cent of these are in rural and semi-urban areas. According to the RBI data, scheduled commercial banks have installed 2,13,145 ATMs (automated teller machines) up to September 2021. In addition to this, 27,837 White Label ATMs (WLA) were also installed. RBI has apprised that WLA operators are required to deploy a minimum of 1,000 ATMs every year and to maintain a deployment ratio of 1:2:3 for metro and urban, semi-urban and rural regions respectively. WLA scheme (ATMs set up, owned and operated by non-banks are called WLAs. Non-bank ATM operators are authorised under the Payment & Settlement Systems Act, 2007 by the Reserve Bank of India) was introduced as an extended delivery channel for banking services, especially in tier III and VI centres.

628. 3

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways has prepared a blueprint - Maritime India Vision 2030 (MIV 2030), to ensure coordinated & accelerated growth of India's maritime sector in the next decade with the

objective of driving India to the forefront of the Global Maritime Sector. India is aiming to increase the supply chain efficiency & lower logistics costs. India to achieve its well-defined goal of being a USD 5 trillion economy by 2025. MIV 2030 has identified initiatives such as developing world-class Mega Ports, trans-shipment hubs and infrastructure modernization of ports. These initiatives would help in lowering overall operational costs of ports, reducing turnaround time for vessels, increasing efficiency and throughput, providing ability to handle larger ships and developing Indian Port's strategic importance in the South Asian region.

629. **3**

Government has expanded the SCALE committee (Steering Committee for Advancing Local Value-Add and Exports) by adding 3 new members, hailing from diverse industry backgrounds, according to an industry insider. The new appointees are:- # Panasonic India Chairman & CEO Manish Sharma, Toyota Kirloskar, # Vice-Chairman Vikram S Kirloskar, # Asian Paints promoter Jala Dani. Currently, the 14-member committee is headed by former Mahindra CEO Pawan Goenka. Besides, Invest India CEO Deepak Bagla, PI Industries CMD Salil Singhal and JSW Steel Group CFO Sehshagiri Rao are on the board of the SCALE Committee. It has representation from industry bodies such as FICCI, CII, ASSOCHAM and officials from commerce and other ministries.

630. **3**

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the repo rate unchanged at 4 per cent for the ninth consecutive time while maintaining an 'accommodative stance' as long as necessary. The reverse repo rate too was kept unchanged at 3.35 percent. The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and bank rate also remained unchanged at 4.25 percent. The projection for real GDP growth is maintained at 9.5 per cent. However, the RBI revised its Q3FY22 GDP growth to 6.6 per cent from 6.8 per cent earlier. Additionally, Q4FY22 GDP was cut to 6 per cent from 6.1 per cent earlier. The real GDP growth is projected at 17.2 per cent for Q1FY23 and at 7.8 per cent for Q2FY23. The RBI governor said that the FY22 CPI inflation target is maintained at 5.3 per cent. This consists of 5.1 per cent in Q3FY22, and 5.7 per cent in Q4FY22 with risks broadly balanced.

631. **1**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) permitted Indians as well as OCI card holders going on pilgrimage to Gurdwara Darbar Sahib in Kartarpur, Pakistan through the Kartarpur Sahib Corridor to carry up to Rs 11,000 in rupees or US dollars, lower than the usual limit of Rs 25,000. The 4 km-long corridor provides visa free access to Indian Sikh pilgrims to visit the Darbar Sahib. The Kartarpur corridor was reopened last month. As per the Foreign Exchange Management (Export and Import of Currency) Regulations, 2015, any Indian resident may carry outside currency notes of up to Rs 25,000, other than to Nepal and Bhutan. The same limit applies for bringing in the currency.

632. **2**

India's first sectoral index in the Agri commodities basket i.e. GUAREX was launched by the National Commodity and Derivatives Exchange Limited (NCDEX). GUAREX is a price based sectoral index which tracks the movement in the futures contracts of guar gum refined splits and guar seed on a real-time basis. This index product will offer a lot of opportunities to value chain participants in terms of risk management as well as various trading strategies. The Exchange had earlier launched the indicative or spot contracts for NCDEX GUAREX on July 5, 2021, disseminating the real-time values on its website.

633. **3**

The contract for the largest infrastructure project in the Maldives was signed in Male. The Greater Male Connectivity Project will consist of a 6.74 km-long bridge and causeway link between Male and nearby islands of Villingli, Gulhifalhu and Thilafushi. Indian construction giant AFCONS received the project. The project is funded by \$100 million and a Line of Credit of \$400 million from India.

634. **4**

The Reserve Bank of India has announced the launch of its first global hackathon 'HARBINGER 2021 "Innovation for Transformation"' with the theme 'Smarter Digital Payments'.

The hackathon will invite participants to identify and develop solutions that have the potential to make digital payments accessible to the under-served, enhance the ease of payments and user experience. The winner will get Rs 40 L & runner-up will get Rs 20 L.

635. **2**

PM Narendra Modi launched RBI's integrated ombudsman scheme. The integrated ombudsman scheme amalgamates 3 ombudsman scheme of RBI- banking ombudsman scheme of 2006, ombudsman scheme for NBFCs of 2018 & ombudsman scheme of digital transactions of 2019.

The scheme strengthens the grievance redress mechanism for consumers of different regulated entities like Banks, NBFCs and payments system operators.

636. **2**

Reserve Bank has cautioned the public against co-operative societies using words "bank", "banker" or "banking" as part of their names unless specifically permitted. It also clarified that deposits with these societies are not eligible for insurance cover.

Cooperative societies cannot use the words "bank", "banker" or "banking" as part of their names.

637. **5**

ICICI Bank has announced the launch of its online platform, 'Trade Emerge', to offer comprehensive digital banking & value-added services to exporters and importers across India.

This digital facility is associated with 'India Filings', an online business and tax compliance platform. It will also help traders avail certain export benefits under India's Foreign Trade policy.

India has emerged as a key player in the global export-import space with a consistent growth history. During April to October 2021, our overall exports (merchandise and services combined) and imports are estimated to be nearly \$780 billion.

The platform will make cross-border trade hassle-free, expeditious and convenient, as it offers an array of services in one place, eliminating the need for companies to coordinate with multiple touchpoints.

638. **5**

El Salvador plans to build the world's first "Bitcoin City", funded initially by bitcoin-backed bonds.

El Salvador plans to issue \$1 billion in tokenised US-dollar denominated 10-year bonds to pay 6.5 per cent via the Liquid Network.

Half of the funds of the so-called "volcano bond" will be converted to Bitcoin and the other half will be used for infrastructure.

El Salvador (Central American country): President: Nayib Bukele, Capital: San Salvador.

Bitcoin City will be built near the Conchagua volcano which will provide energy for mining, Bukele said, adding that Bitcoin bond issuance will begin in 2022. The only tax in Bitcoin City will be a 10 percent value-added tax to fund city construction and services.

In September, El Salvador became the first country to accept Bitcoin as legal tender.

639. **3**

The crypto industry in India has the potential to add \$184 billion of economic value, in the form of investments and cost savings, by 2030, according to a report from the country's premier trade body for the tech industry (NASSCOM).

The report, entitled "Crypto Industry in India," was published by the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) in conjunction with Binance-owned crypto exchange WazirX. The report, entitled "Crypto Industry in India," was published by the National Association of Software and Services Companies (NASSCOM) in conjunction with Binance-owned crypto exchange WazirX.

The "CryptoTech" industry "companies involved in trading, payments, remittances, retail and more" is expected to reach a size of \$241 million in India by 2030, and \$2.3 billion globally by 2026.

The industry currently employs 50,000 people in India, a number which NASSCOM expects to grow to over 800,000 by the end of the decade.

640. **5**

The government announced the appointment of veteran banker K V Kamath as chairperson of the newly set up Rs. 20,000 crore development finance institution NaBFID to catalyse investment in the funds-starved infrastructure sector.

Parliament had in March cleared the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) Bill 2021.

Kamath, the first head of the New Development Bank (NDB) set up by the BRICS group of countries, had completed his five-year tenure last year.

The DFI has been established as a statutory body to address market failures that stem from the long-term, low margin and risky nature of infrastructure financing.

It will help fund about 7,000 infra projects under the National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP) which envisages an investment of Rs 111 lakh crore by 2024-25.

The National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development Bill, 2021 was introduced in Lok Sabha on March 22, 2021. The Bill seeks to establish the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NBFID) as the principal development financial institution (DFIs) for infrastructure financing. DFIs are set up for providing long-term finance for such segments of the economy where the risks involved are beyond the acceptable limits of commercial banks and other ordinary financial institutions. Unlike banks, DFIs do not accept deposits from people. They source funds from the market, government, as well as multi-lateral institutions, and are often supported through government guarantees. NBFID will be set up as a corporate body with authorised share capital of one lakh crore rupees. Shares of NBFID may be held by: (i) central government, (ii) multilateral institutions, (iii) sovereign wealth funds, (iv) pension funds, (v) insurers, (vi) financial institutions, (vii) banks, and (viii) any other institution prescribed by the central government. Initially, the central government will own 100% shares of the institution which may subsequently be reduced up to 26%.

**641. 5**

Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved proposal of Department of Fertilizers for fixation of Nutrient Based Subsidy Rates for Phosphatic & Potassic fertilisers (P&K) for year 2021-22. Approved rate for Nutrient Based Subsidy (NBS) for Nitrogen has been fixed at 18.789 rs/kg, for Phosphorus 45.323 rs/kg, for Potash 10.116 rs/kg & 2.374 rs/kg for Sulphur.

**642. 4**

International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) set up an expert panel headed by former Environment and Forest Secretary C K Mishra to suggest a framework to develop a world-class sustainable finance hub at IFSC.

India aspires to be a frontrunner in climate action, which is evident in its commitment towards Nationally Determined Contributions under Paris Agreement

**643. 2**

Mastercard and Google announced the rollout of tokenisation for Google Pay users, who will be able to make hassle-free transactions using their Mastercard credit and debit cards. Through tokenisation, Mastercard cardholders will be able to make payments through a secure digital token without having to share their credit / debit card details such as card number, expiry date. Google Pay Android users will be able to scan and pay across all Bharat QR-enabled merchants, tap-and-pay, and make in-app transactions through their Mastercard debit and credit card. To register, users can do a one-time setup by entering card details and OTP to add their card on the Google Pay app. Mastercard Digital Enablement Service (MDES) allows payment credentials to be securely stores in the mobile devices. When making a purchase with a Mastercard debit or credit card using Google Pay, cardholders and merchants will enjoy a similar experience as a regular card-based transaction with enhanced safety and convenience. Even if the cardholder's mobile device is misplaced, details of the card still remain secure as they are stored as digital tokens.

**644. 5**

Bank of Baroda (BOB) has announced it has won the top position in overall digital transactions amongst large banks for FY20-21. The bank showed the exceptional growth of digital payment transactions achievement and was felicitated by the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY), Govt. of India at the Digital Payments Utsav. Has Mukh Adhia (Chairman); Sanjiv Chadha (MD & CEO of BOB). To commemorate 75th anniversary of Independence of India, MeitY is celebrating 'Digital Payments Utsav'. As a part of the celebration, Bank of Baroda has been conferred with 5 DigiDhan awards for FY 2019-20 & 2020-21 in various categories. Bank of Baroda (BoB) has become India's third largest bank after its merger with Dena Bank and Vijaya Bank.

**645. 3**

U GRO Capital, an NSE & BSE listed, MSME lending FinTech platform, announced that it has signed a co-lending agreement with Central Bank of India. Under this partnership, the two entities aim to disburse up to INR 10 billion to U GRO Capital's varied MSME segments under its programs like Pratham, Sanjeevani, Saathi, GRO MSME and Machinery financing, in next 12 months. Central Bank of India (nationalised bank)- under the ownership of Ministry of Finance.

**646. 3**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of '1 crore each on payment system operators One Mobikwik Systems Private Ltd. and Spice Money Ltd. for deficiencies in regulatory compliance. The two entities had not complied with the directions issued by the Reserve Bank on net-worth requirement

for Bharat Bill Payment Operating Units (BBPOUs). As these were offences of the nature referred to in a Section of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, notices were issued to the entities. Minimum net worth of BBPOUs: Rs.100 cr (to be maintained at all times)

647. **2**

Corporate houses, which are not allowed to own a bank, can now pick up 15 per cent stake in commercial banks through their non-banking financial companies (NBFCs). The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed non-promoters to hold up to 15 per cent in private sector banks, following the recommendation of an internal working group (IWG) that was set up to review the existing guidelines on ownership and corporate structure for these entities. Voting rights, however, are likely to be capped at 10 per cent as is the case with other investors. The IWG had recommended that all types of non-promoters can have 15 per cent in private sector banks as compared to 10 per cent currently. The banking regulator slightly modified the proposal, saying that it will allow only financial entities, supranational institutions and government undertakings to own 15 per cent stake in banks. All other types of non-promoters, including individuals, will continue to have a cap of 10 per cent.

648. **5**

BOB Financial Solutions Ltd, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda, and Indian Navy have launched a co-branded credit card for navy personnel. The credit card will be equipped with contactless features and will be offered on the RuPay platform. A navy personnel up to the age of 64 years will be eligible to choose from three variants of the co-branded credit card. While the base variant will be offered as a lifetime free credit card, the other two variants will be offered at joining and annual fees, with welcome gifts and easily achievable spend-based fee reversal/waiver. The top variant will offer unlimited complimentary domestic airport lounge access and reduced markup on international spends. All three variants will offer base and accelerated reward points. Features such as personal accident insurance, 1% fuel surcharge waiver, lifetime free add-ons, EMI offers and periodic merchant offers through tie-ups done by BOB Financial as well as NPCI will also be applicable to all three variants. The uniquely designed credit cards will offer uninterrupted payment convenience and comfort to the personnel of Indian Navy.

649. **3**

IndusInd Bank has partnered with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for offering real-time cross-border remittances to India using UPI IDs, for its Money Transfer Operator (MTO) partners. IndusInd Bank has become the first Indian bank to go live on UPI for Cross Border Payments/NRI Remittances. Under this arrangement, the MTOs will be using the IndusInd Bank channel to connect with NPCI's UPI payment systems for validation and cross-border payment settlement into beneficiary accounts. IndusInd Bank has started off with Thailand for Foreign Inward Remittance (FIR) through UPI. National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), enabling digital payments and settlement systems in India, is an initiative of RBI and Indian Banks' Association (Formed in 2008). UPI or Unified Payments Interface is an immediate real-time payment system that helps in instantly transferring the funds between the two bank accounts through a mobile platform. Hence, UPI is a concept that allows multiple bank accounts to get into a single mobile application. This idea was developed by the National Payments Corporation of India.

650. **1**

IndusInd Bank has announced the launch of 'green fixed deposits', whereby the deposit proceeds will be used to finance projects and firms supporting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). A green deposit is a fixed-term deposit for investors looking to invest their surplus cash reserves in environmentally friendly projects. These deposits will be offered to both retail & corporate customers. The Bank will use the proceeds from these deposits to finance a wide array of sectors falling under the SDG category including, energy efficiency, renewable energy, green transport, sustainable food, agriculture, forestry, waste management and greenhouse gas reduction.

651. **2**

Axis Bank has become the second-largest merchant-acquiring bank in the country, leapfrogging two spaces during 2021 by installing over two lakh card-swipe machines during the year. This is part of the bank's 'Axis One' strategy where it approaches the customers offering its entire gamut of products instead of a standalone service. A POS machine (Point of Sale Machine) is the most advanced payment accepting machine. It accepts all kinds of credit and debit card payments and issues receipts along with maintaining transactions.

652. 1

Western Union, a global leader in cross-border, cross-currency money movement & payments, & NPCI International Payments Ltd, the International arm of National Payment Corporation of India, have signed a MoU to enable real-time bank account payouts in India. It will help the customers in India to receive international money transfers in real time into their bank accounts. NIPL is a wholly owned subsidiary of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), an umbrella organisation for operating retail payments and settlement systems in India and an initiative of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

653. 5

The gross non-performing asset (GNPA) ratio of scheduled commercial banks is likely to increase to 9.5 % in September 2022 from 6.9 % in September 2021 in a severe stress scenario. In the report, the central bank noted that the scheduled commercial banks would, however, have sufficient capital, both at the aggregate & individual levels, even under stress conditions. A non performing asset (NPA) is a loan or advance for which the principal or interest payment remained overdue for a period of 90 days. The capital to risk-weighted assets ratio (CRAR) of scheduled commercial banks rose to a new peak of 16.6 per cent and their provisioning coverage ratio (PCR) stood at 68.1 per cent in September 2021. In the Reserve Bank's latest Systemic Risk Survey (SRS), all broad categories of risks to the financial system - global; macroeconomic; financial market; institutional; and general - were perceived as 'medium' in magnitude, but risks arising on account of global and financial markets were rated higher than the rest. Commodity prices, domestic inflation, equity price volatility, asset quality deterioration, credit growth, and cyber disruptions were rated as the major risks.

654. 4

State Bank of India is set to acquire up to 9.95 per cent stake in India International Clearing Corporation (IFSC) Ltd subject to maximum investment of '34.03 crore. The Clearing Corporation is a GIFT City (Gandhinagar, Gujarat) based Market Infrastructure Institution (MII).

655. 3

Fino Payments Bank has received the RBI approval for commencing International Remittance business under the MTSS. The Bank will be undertaking inward cross-border money transfer activities and will be partnering with an Overseas Principal. It has also received the approval to partner with one of the largest global remittance service providers as its Overseas Principal. Money Transfer Service Scheme -MTSS.

656. 1

RBI has set the upper limit for individual offline payment transactions at '200 and said such payments could only be done face-to-face. Offline payments can be made using any channel or instrument like cards, wallets, & mobile devices. These are part of the its 'framework for facilitating small value digital payments in offline mode". An offline payment is a transaction which does not require internet/telecom connectivity. RBI had permitted a pilot scheme to encourage technological innovations that enable small value digital transactions done offline. The regulator said that authorised Payment System Operators (PSOs) and Payment System Participants (PSPs) looking to facilitate small value offline digital payments have to comply with the new guidelines. The total limit for offline transactions on a payment instrument shall be '2,000 at any point in time.

657. 4

The State Bank of India (SBI) stated that IMPS transactions up to Rs 5 L done using digital mediums like Net banking and mobile banking (including Yono) will not attract service charge. The charges for sending money via IMPS for amounts between Rs 2 L and Rs 5 L will be Rs 20 plus GST. SBI has increased the IMPS limit for money transfers done at its bank branches.

658. 3

LIC assets at \$463 billion exceeds the GDP of several economies, and it is ranked 5th globally in terms of life insurance GWP and 10th globally in terms of total assets. Its assets are 1.1 times more than the entire Indian MF industry i.e. Rs 31.4 trillion (till March 31, 2021). LIC is the largest asset manager in India with Rs 36.7 trillion AUM. LIC is ranked 5th globally in terms of life insurance Gross written premium . LIC's Assets Under Management on a standalone basis was equal to 18 per cent of India's GDP for FY21.

659. 2

The Reserve Bank of India has included Airtel Payment Bank in the 'Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934'. A bank mentioned in the Second Schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act is

known as "Scheduled Commercial Bank". At present, one in six villages in the country is being served by Airtel Payments Bank. Airtel Payments Bank - which has one of the largest retail networks with over 500,000 neighbourhood banking points - saw a marked increase in new accounts opened during the FY21. It is among the fastest-growing banks with over 115 million users across the country and more than 8 million merchants. The bank is among the top five issuers of FASTag and processors for the Bharat Bill Payment System.

660. **3**

Payment solutions provider Pine Labs Pvt Ltd, which is headed for a US listing, has raised an additional \$20 million (around Rs 150 crore) in new investment from the State Bank of India (SBI). Pine Labs will invest the new funds in scaling Plural, its newly launched brand of online payment products, and aims to become an omnichannel partner of choice for merchants. In 2021, Pine Labs raised a total of \$600 million from US-based asset management firm Fidelity, Blackrock and others, followed by a \$100 million fundraise from US-based Invesco Developing Markets Fund. Pine Labs recently announced that its buy now pay later (BNPL) service will expand across India and Southeast Asia. Its other investors include Sequoia Capital, Temasek Holdings, Actis, PayPal and Mastercard.

661. **5**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has stated State Bank of India (SBI), ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank continue to be identified as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs), under the same bucketing structure as in the 2020 list of D-SIBs. RBI places D-SIBs in appropriate buckets depending upon their Systemic Importance Scores (SISs). Based on the bucket in which a D-SIB is placed, an additional common equity requirement is applied to it. Under RBI's 'Framework for dealing with D-SIBs', SBI is placed in the third bucket, whereby it is required to maintain Additional Common Equity Tier 1 (CET1) at 0.60 per cent of its Risk Weighted Assets (RWAs). ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank are placed in the first bucket, whereby they are required to maintain Additional CET1 at 0.20 per cent of their RWAs. A domestic systemically important bank (D-SIB) is a bank that could disrupt the domestic economy should it fail.

662. **5**

NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd. (NBBL), the wholly-owned subsidiary of National Payments Corporation of India has introduced a unique functionality called 'Unified Presentment Management System' (UPMS). Through UPMS, NBBL will enable the customers to set up standing instructions 'from any channel and for any mode on their recurring bill payments. The bills will be automatically fetched from the billers and presented to customers for their action, in terms of auto-debit and bill payment management. UPMS will help in democratizing recurring bill payments and making them further convenient for customers. Leading ecosystem partners including Axis Bank and IDFC FIRST Bank amongst Private Banks and PhonePe amongst Consumer Tech companies are actively engaged in taking UPMS services to their Billers and Consumers, while many others are accessing the sandbox as a first step to deployment.

663. **2**

The Kerala-based lender South Indian Bank has won the UiPath Automation Excellence Awards 2021 for Best Automation under Crisis for Business Continuity. The award was bestowed upon the Bank for its exceptional use of Robotic Process Automation capabilities under difficult times for solving severe operational constraints, thereby ensuring business continuity.

664. **4**

CryptoWire will explore Google Cloud's advanced solutions including smart data analytics, machine learning, and artificial intelligence to deliver a superior customer experience. TickerPlant has entered into an alliance with Google Cloud for the development of the CryptoWire ecosystem, catering to all stakeholders of crypto and the blockchain industry on a common platform.

665. **1**

RBL Bank and Google announced a strategic collaboration to fuel the Bank's customer experience strategy and expand its value proposition to serve its rapidly growing customer base through its digital platform, Abacus 2.0. This collaboration will enable better customer data management, and analytics, enabling effective cross-selling within the Bank's large customer base.

666. **3**

The GST Council's 46th meeting was held in New Delhi under the chairmanship of Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman.

667. **3**

ICRALtd. expects the Indian economy to maintain a real GDP growth of 9.0% each in FY2022 and FY2023, amidst the uncertainty ignited by the Omicron variant of Covid-19. The rating agency highlighted that the available data for Q3 FY2022 does not offer convincing evidence that the Monetary Policy Committee's (MPC's) criteria of a durable and sustainable growth recovery. ICRA was established in 1991 with headquarters in India.

668. **5**

Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited (NAM India), asset manager of Nippon India Mutual Fund (NIMF) has announced the launch of Nippon India Nifty Auto ETF. The New Fund Offer (NFO) will open on 5 January 2022 and close on 14 January 2022 and the minimum investment amount required is '1,000. Investors can add in multiples of Re 1 thereafter. The Nippon India Nifty Auto ETF is an open-ended scheme that will replicate the Nifty Auto Index. ETF or exchange-traded fund will predominantly invest in stocks comprising the Nifty Auto Index in the same proportion as the index adding that it will provide exposure to top 15 (as per Nifty Auto Index methodology) companies representing auto-related sectors like automobiles 4 wheelers, automobiles 2 and 3 wheelers, auto ancillaries, and tyres. An exchange traded fund (ETF) is a type of security that tracks an index sector, commodity, or other asset, but which can be purchased or sold on a stock exchange the same way a regular stock can. An ETF can be structured to track anything from the price of an individual commodity to a large and diverse collection of securities. ETFs can even be structured to track specific investment strategies.

669. **1**

CryptoWire, a global crypto super app which is a special business unit of TickerPlant, has announced the launch of India's first index of Cryptocurrencies - IC15, which is a rule-based broad market index by market capitalisation. The Base Value of the index is set at 10,000 and the base date is April 1, 2018. CryptoWire Managing Director and CEO Jigish Sonagara. Bitcoin, Ethereum, XRP, Bitcoin Cash, Cardano, Litecoin, Binance Coin, Chainlink, Polkadot, Uniswap, Dogecoin, Solana, Terra, Avalanche, and Shiba Inu will be the constituents of IC15. CryptoWire's Index Governance Committee, comprising domain experts, industry practitioners, and academicians, will maintain, monitor, and administer the index while rebalancing it every quarter.

670. **3**

The growth in real GDP during 2021-22 is estimated at 9.2 per cent as compared to the contraction of 7.3 per cent in 2020-21. Real GVA at Basic Prices is estimated at '135.22 lakh crore in 2021-22, as against '124.53 lakh crore in 2020-21, showing a growth of 8.6 percent.

671. **4**

DPIIT is set to organize the Startup India Innovation Week from January 10th to 16th 2022. This week-long virtual innovation celebration aims to commemorate the 75th year of India's independence 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' and is designed to showcase the spread and depth of entrepreneurship across India.

672. **3**

A green bond is a debt instrument that is specifically used to raise money for climate and environmental projects. The green' projects typically include those relating to renewable energy, clean transportation, sustainable water management etc. The World Bank is a major issuer of green bonds in the world. It has issued 164 such bonds since 2008, worth a combined \$14.4 billion. In 2020, the total issuance of green bonds was worth almost \$270 billion, according to the Climate Bond Initiative.

673. **2**

Unicorn is the term used in the venture capital industry to describe a startup company with a value of over \$1 billion. Personal care-focused e-commerce platform Honasa Consumer, which sells its products under the labels of Mamaearth, The Derma Co and House of Brands, has raised \$52 million in the latest funding round led by Sequoia, valuing it at \$1.2 billion, thus becoming the first unicorn in the new year. The round has also given its employees an opportunity to monetise their vested ESOP

674. **1**

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Bengal government to develop its MSME ecosystem. SIDBI is the country's principal financial institution engaged in the promotion, financing and development of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME). The key areas of partnership will be to study the existing framework and guide stakeholders for

cluster/ sector-specific products / interventions for MSMEs. The SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India) is a wholly-owned subsidiary of IDBI (Industrial Development Bank of India), established under the special Act of the Parliament 1988 which became operative from April 2, 1990. SIDBI was made responsible for administering Small Industries Development Fund and National Equity Fund that were administered by IDBI before. SIDBI is the Primary Financial Institution for promoting, developing and financing MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise) sector.

675. **1**

Paytm Payments Bank, an associate entity of Paytm, and Nasdaq-listed MoneyGram, a global leader in digital P2P payments, have entered into a partnership to enable MoneyGram customers globally to send money in real-time to a Paytm Wallet user in India. This is MoneyGram's first mobile wallet partnership in India. MoneyGram:- an American cross-border P2P payments & money transfer company. With this partnership, MoneyGram users abroad can now conveniently transfer money to full KYC Paytm wallet users in India from the comfort of their homes. It is an important development as the country's evolution to digital receives is occurring rapidly. India is the world's largest inbound market with remittances estimated at \$83 billion for the year 2020.

676. **4**

AIC STPINEXT Initiatives (STPINEXT), a special purpose vehicle of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI), has signed two memorandums of understanding (MoUs), one with HDFC Bank and another with Excel point Systems India Pvt Ltd, a niche technology player, for fostering entrepreneurship and nurturing tech startups in the country.

677. **1**

Total assets managed under NPS and APY, the two flagship pension schemes of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), have crossed '6.99 lakh crore. Total assets under management (AUM) as on January 1, 2022, stood at '6,99,172 crore. Total AUM under the National Pension System and Atal Pension Yojana was at '5,78,025 crore as of March 31, 2021. NPS, which mainly caters to organised sector employees, is segmented into Central government, State government, corporate sector employees, all citizens model and NPS Lite. Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority is the regulatory body under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Finance, Government of India for overall supervision and regulation of pension in India. (Founded: 23 August 2003); (Headquarters: New Delhi).

678. **4**

Finance Industry Development Council (FIDC), which is a representative body of asset and loan financing NBFCs, has announced fresh appointments to its board of directors. Kamlesh Gandhi, CMD of MAS Financial Services has been appointed as Co-Chairman, FIDC in addition to Umesh Revankar, CEO and MD of Shriram Transport Finance Group. Sanjay Chamria has resigned as the Co-Chairman and Director, FIDC. Dinanath Dubhashi, MD and CEO, L&T Finance Holdings has been appointed as an additional Director of FIDC.

679. **4**

RBL Bank MD, CEO Vishwavir Ahuja has resigned and Rajeev Ahuja has been appointed as new MD. Private lender RBL Bank has said its chief executive Vishwavir Ahuja will go on leave with immediate effect. Rajeev Ahuja is currently the executive director at the bank.

680. **5**

AU Small Finance Bank has appointed Harun Rashid Khan as Non-Executive Independent Director (Additional Director) on the Board, for a period of three years, effective immediately. He is a former Deputy Governor and the Executive Director at the Reserve Bank of India. AU Small Finance started its banking operations in April 2017.

681. **2**

The Centre has again appointed Vijay Paul Sharma as the chairman of Commission for Agricultural Costs & Prices (CACP) after he relinquished the post in May last year following completion of the five-year tenure. The role of CACP chairman will be crucial in the proposed committee on the minimum support price (MSP) and other reforms.

682. 1

Atul Keshap, former US envoy to India, has been appointed as President of the U.S.-India Business Council (USIBC), announced the US Chamber of Commerce. Nisha Biswal, a former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for South Asia, and Ambassador Keshap's predecessor as President of USIBC, will remain deeply involved with the organization.

683. 2

Mr. Soma Sankara Prasad has assumed the charge of Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer in UCO Bank. Prior to joining UCO Bank, he served as Deputy Managing Director in State Bank of India. During his tenure in UCO Bank, Shri Prasad shall focus on strengthening the Bank fundamentally, improving profitability and growing consistently across all key parameters.

684. 1

Former RBI Governor Urjit Patel has been appointed as a Vice President of the Beijing-based multilateral funding institution AIIB. India is a founding member of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) with the 2nd highest voting share after China. He will be one of the five Vice Presidents of the AIIB with a three-year tenure.

685. 5

The consolidated balance sheet of scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) expanded in size in 2020-21 despite the coronavirus pandemic and the resultant economic recession. Nascent signs of recovery are visible in credit growth in the current fiscal so far. Deposits grew by 10.1% at the end of September 2021 as compared with 11.0% a year ago. The capital to risk-weighted assets (CRAR) ratio of SCBs strengthened from 14.8% at the end of March 2020 to 16.3% in March 2021 and further to 16.6% at the end of September 2021. This was partly aided by higher retained earnings, recapitalisation of PSBs and capital raising from the market by both PSBs and private sector banks. The gross non-performing assets (GNPA) ratio of SCBs declined from 8.2% at end of March 2020 to 6.9% at end-September 2021. Return on assets (RoA) of SCBs improved from 0.2% at end-March 2020 to 0.7% at end-March 2021, aided by stable income and decline in expenditure

686. 2

By 2030, India is expected to replace Japan as Asia's second-largest economy, surpassing Germany and the United Kingdom to become the world's No. 3 economy, according to IHS Markit. India is currently the world's sixth-largest economy, behind the United States, China, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom.

687. 1

State-owned Bank of Baroda has signed cricketer Shafali Verma as its brand endorser. Shafali has created various records, one of which is when she became the youngest woman cricketer to play for India in her debut game against South Africa. The Bank has a digital-first policy to attract the youth and provide them a seamless banking experience at their fingertips.

688. 3

The Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has inaugurated 'LIC Digi Zone' at Bandra Kurla Complex, Mumbai, to enhance its sales and services for its customers. The Corporation will offer information regarding its products and services through kiosks installed in the Digi Zone premises. Customers can buy policies online, pay premium and avail other services. LIC chairman:- M R Kumar.

689. 2

The BRICS New Development Bank (NDB) has announced the admission of Egypt as its new member. Egypt is the fourth new member admitted into NDB, after Bangladesh, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Uruguay, further expanding the bank's global outreach. Headquartered in Shanghai, the NDB was established by BRICS nations, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

690. 2

Private sector Axis Bank has emerged as the highest bidder to buy Citi's consumer banking business, according to reports. The valuation could be around USD 2 billion (about '13,000 crore). American banking major Citibank in April announced its plan to exit from the consumer banking business in India as part of a global strategy. Apart from the institutional banking business, Citi will continue to focus on offshoring or global business support rendered from centres in Mumbai, Pune, Bengaluru, Chennai and Gurugram.

691. **2**

Tech Mahindra has approved a proposal for the acquisition of a 100 per cent stake in Allyis India and Green Investments, for a total consideration of up to USD 125 million. The acquisition is expected to bolster Tech Mahindra's capabilities in digital experience solutions - learning and development, marketing, instructional design; and engineering - cloud and automation.

692. **4**

Reliance New Energy Solar Ltd, a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), has signed a definitive agreement to pick up a 100% stake in Faradion Ltd for an enterprise value of '100 million. Based out of Sheffield and Oxford in the UK, Faradion has a patented sodium-ion battery technology. Reliance New Energy Solar will also invest '25 million in growth capital.

693. **5**

HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited has announced the completion of the acquisition of Exide Life Insurance Company Limited after receiving all the necessary regulatory approvals. Exide Life will operate as a wholly owned subsidiary of HDFC Life. The Competition Commission of India had approved the acquisition by HDFC Life Insurance Company of 100% shareholding in Exide Life

694. **5**

Reliance Industries Ltd's retail arm has invested \$200 million for a 25.8% stake in Benaguru-based Indian online delivery platform Dunzo to get a foothold into the rapidly growing market of superfast dispatch of household goods. Dunzo will use the funds to expand to 15 cities from its current seven-city operation.

695. **5**

The Reliance Industries Ltd. (RIL) announced that the Reliance Industrial Investments and Holdings Ltd (RIIHL), its wholly-owned subsidiary, had entered into an agreement to acquire the entire share capital of the Columbus Centre Corporation (Cayman), and the indirect owner of a 73.37% stake in the Mandarin Oriental New York, a premium luxury hotel for \$ 98.15 million.

#### **FinTech**

696. **4**

The Reserve Bank of India stated that the Certificate of Authorisation (CoA) of Payment System Operators (PSOs) Muthoot Vehicle and Asset Finance Limited and Eko India Financial Services Ltd has been canceled. The CoAs of both these PSOs were cancelled by the apex bank on account of non-compliance with the regulatory requirements.

697. **4**

SEBI has restructured its advisory committee on market data that recommends policy measures pertaining to areas like securities market data access and privacy. Rejigging its market data advisory committee, Sebi has said the panel will now be chaired by S Sahoo, Professor at National Law University, Delhi and former chairperson, Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India. The 20-member committee was earlier headed by Madhabi Puri Buch, ex-whole time member of SEBI.

698. **5**

Insurance regulator IRDAI has said that the state-owned LIC, GIC Re and New India continue to be identified as Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) for 2021-22. D-SIIs refer to insurers of such size, market importance and domestic and global inter connectedness, whose distress or failure would cause a significant dislocation in the domestic financial system. D-SIIs are perceived as insurers that are 'too big or too important to fail' (TBTF). 'This perception and the perceived expectation of government support may amplify risk taking, reduce market discipline, create competitive distortions, and increase the possibility of distress in future. The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India is a regulatory body under the jurisdiction of Ministry of Finance (Founded: 1999; Headquarters: Hyderabad).

699. **5**

SBI Cards and Payment Services has tied up with Paytm for card tokenisation to protect data of the cardholders. SBI Card has collaborated with Paytm to enable cardholders to tokenise their cards on devices and make payments through Paytm. This card tokenisation facility is available only on Android NFC (near field communication) devices. Tokenisation refers to masking the original card number by

replacing it with a set of unique characters, termed as token, which secures the customer's card details when a transaction is under process.

**700. 1**

Airtel Payments Bank has announced a collaboration with Park to offer FASTag-based smart parking solutions to marquee commercial and residential properties across the country. The headquarters of Airtel Payments Bank is located at New Delhi.

**701. 2**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Atul Kumar Goel, MD & CEO of UCO Bank, as MD & CEO of Punjab National Bank (PNB) with effect from February 1 next year. Goel will serve as PNB chief until December 31, 2024, which is his attaining the superannuation age. Goel will replace Mallikarjuna Rao, incumbent MD & CEO of PNB. He will serve as Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in PNB, which is the country's second-largest public sector bank.

**702. 2**

The NPCI, SBI and Department of e-Governance, government of Karnataka have partnered for enabling & implementing e-RUPI, a cashless & contactless payment solution for students under the State's scholarship programme. e-RUPI will be used to ensure a leak-proof delivery of education fees of eligible students by paying digitally to the college by Karnataka government. e-RUPI is basically a digital voucher which a beneficiary gets on his phone in the form of an SMS or QR code. It is a pre-paid voucher, which he/she can go and redeem it at any centre that accepts its. e-RUPI is a one time contactless, cashless voucher-based mode of payment that helps users redeem the voucher without a card, digital payments app, or internet banking access.

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