

CURRENT AFFAIRS JANUARY - 2021

1. India launched the ‘Year of Environment’ with which friendly country?

- [A] Nepal
- [B] France
- [C] Brazil
- [D] Japan

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [France]

Notes:

Environment Minister Prakash Javadekar launched the Indo-French year of Environment along with his French counterpart.

India and France have environment projects being undertaken in Assam, Rajasthan and a project to be started in Jharkhand. The objective of this event is to strengthen Indo-French cooperation in sustainable development.

2. India conducted a joint forum meet with which country, under its ‘Act East Policy’?

- [A] Nepal
- [B] Japan
- [C] Thailand
- [D] Singapore

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Japan]

Notes:

India conducted the 5th Act East Forum (AEF) meet with Japan and both the countries reviewed progress of various ongoing projects in the North-eastern region.

India's 'Act East Policy' and Japan's vision for a 'Free and Open Indo-Pacific' are realised through the Act East Forum, which also provides a collaborative platform in the North Eastern Region. The meeting was co-chaired by Foreign Secretary Harsh Vardhan Shringla.

3. Which construction major has bagged the contract for construction of steel bridges for Mumbai and Ahmedabad bullet train project?

- [A] Tata Projects
- [B] Adani Group
- [C] GMR Infrastructure
- [D] L&T Construction

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: D [L&T Construction]

Notes:

The Indian construction major L&T Construction, has bagged the contract for building 28 steel bridges for Mumbai and Ahmedabad bullet train project.

The order costs about Rs.1000 crore to Rs.2500 crore. It involves procurement, fabrication, assembly and erection of bridges at various sites in the line. This project has been bagged as a consortium of L&T and Japan's IHI Infrastructure Systems.

4. External Affairs Minister S Jai Shankar proposed Eight Guiding principles to repair the strained relations with which country?

- [A] China
- [B] Pakistan
- [C] Afghanistan
- [D] United States

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [China]

Notes:

Union External Affairs Minister S Jai Shankar recently delivered his virtual keynote address at the All-India Conference of China Studies.

During the conference, he proposed Eight Guiding principles to repair the strained relations of India with China. He also highlighted the disturbance in their ties due to the stand-off at Ladakh sector of the Line of Actual Control (LAC).

5. As per the NSO's revised estimates released recently, what was India's GDP growth rate for 2019-20?

[A] 1.3%

[B] 3.2%

[C] 4.0%

[D] 5.2%

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [4.0%]

Notes:

The National Statistical Office (NSO) recently released its revised national account data. As per the data, the economic growth rate for 2019-20 was revised downwards to 4 per cent.

The decrease from the previous estimate of 4.2 per cent was mainly due to contraction in secondary sectors like manufacturing and construction. Real GDP growth of 2018-19 is estimated at 6.5 per cent, against the 6.1 per cent revealed in January estimate.

6. Al Hol, which was making news recently for its refugee camp, is a town in which country?

[A] Israel

[B] Syria

[C] China

[D] Chile

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Syria]

Notes:

The UN counterterrorism chief has urged countries to repatriate the children stranded in a massive camp in Al Hol.

Out of the 27,000 abandoned children, many of them are children of Islamic State extremists. Al Hol camp is the largest camp for refugees and displaced Syrians in the country, located in the north-eastern Syria.

7. Zaskar valley, which was making news recently, is located in which state/UT?

[A] Ladakh

[B] Goa

[C] Sikkim

[D] Himachal Pradesh

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [Ladakh]

Notes:

The 13-day long Khelo India Zaskar winter sports and youth festival concluded at Zaskar Valley of the Union Territory of Ladakh.

The festival was organized by the Department of Sports & Youth Services and the Ladakh Tourism Department, under the Khelo India scheme. It aims to promote the economic activities and winter tourism in Ladakh.

8. 'Neptune Declaration', which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which sector?

[A] Aviation

[B] Migrant Labourers

[C] Maritime

[D] Sports

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Maritime]

Notes:

The 'Neptune Declaration on Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change', is a declaration released by the global maritime industry recently.

The declaration focusses on recognising seafarers as key workers by all governments in line with the UNGA resolution adopted recently. The Maritime Union of India (MUI) urged the Centre to consider the declaration while formulating 'Maritime India Vision 2030'.

9. What is the new FDI limit in insurance companies, as proposed in Union Budget 2021-22?

- [A] 26%
- [B] 51%
- [C] 74%
- [D] 100%

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [74%]

Notes:

The Union Budget 2021-22 contain that the permissible Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) limit in Insurance Companies would be increased from 49% to 74%. Foreign ownership with safeguard would be allowed in this segment.

Insurance Act of 1938 would be amended to make effect to the proposed hike in FDI limit.

10. Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy is associated with which sport?

- [A] Hockey
- [B] Cricket
- [C] Foot Ball
- [D] Golf

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Cricket]

Notes:

In this year's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 cricket tournament held at Ahmedabad, Tamil Nadu team defeated Baroda to win the trophy title. Last year Tamil Nadu lost the trophy against Karnataka.

During this year's tournament, Tamil Nadu remained unbeaten till the final match. At the finals, the team chased Baroda's modest score of 120, with 2 overs and 7 wickets remaining.

11. Which country is to introduce a bill to ban all private cryptocurrencies and create a sovereign digital currency?

[A] China

[B] India

[C] Japan

[D] New Zealand

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [India]

Notes:

The Indian Government is to introduce a bill in Parliament to ban all private cryptocurrencies and create a sovereign digital currency by the Reserve Bank of India.

The bill is to allow certain exceptions to promote the underlying technology of cryptocurrency and its uses. A legislative framework on official digital currency is also expected to be created.

12. Which disease is also called as the 'Hansen's' disease?

[A] Cholera

[B] Polio

[C] Leprosy

[D] Cancer

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Leprosy]

Notes:

Leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, is an infectious disease caused by a bacillus *Mycobacterium leprae*. It is named after the Norwegian physician Gerhard Armauer Hansen, who identified the bacterium.

World Leprosy Day is celebrated on the last Sunday of January every year to increase awareness on the disease. In India, the day is being observed on January 30 this year, on the death anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi.

13. Which country recently commenced operations in its 'Hualong One unit' nuclear reactor?

- [A] Russia
- [B] China
- [C] Israel
- [D] UAE

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [China]

Notes:

The China National Nuclear Corporation has stated that it has begun commercial electricity production from its "Hualong One unit" which are the third-generation pressurised water nuclear reactors of the country.

The reactor constructed for more than five years at Fuqing in Fujian province was first connected to the grid in November.

14. Which organization has released the framework for strengthening the grievance redress mechanism in banks?

- [A] SEBI
- [B] RBI
- [C] Ministry of Finance
- [D] IBBI

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [RBI]

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India has recently announced a framework to strengthen the grievance redress mechanism in Banks. The framework mandates all banks (excluding regional rural banks) to have enhanced disclosures on complaints.

This move of Reserve Bank comes at the back drop of increase in customer complaints in the banking industry in the recent years.

15. Arun Hydropower Project, which was making news recently, is being constructed in which country?

- [A] India
- [B] Nepal
- [C] Bangladesh
- [D] Bhutan

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Nepal]

Notes:

The Investment Board Nepal (IBN), chaired by the Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli has awarded the Arun Hydropower Project to India's Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam.

The project to develop the 679-megawatt Lower Arun Hydropower Project, is awarded to the SJVN under the build, own, operate and transfer (BOOT) delivery method. The project cost is estimated at over 100 billion Nepalese rupees.

16. Which country is resettling its refugees in the Bhashan Char Island?

- [A] China
- [B] Bangladesh
- [C] Nepal
- [D] Sri Lanka

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Bangladesh]

Notes:

Bangladesh has sent a third group of Rohingya refugees to Bhashan Char Island, which is a newly developed island in the Bay of Bengal.

Around 4,000 refugees have been sent to the island since December. After the third set of 1,778 refugees, the fourth set is also expected to be sent soon. There have been several calls from human rights activists against resettlement of refugees in the island.

17. What is the rank of India in the production of silk, globally?

- [A] First
- [B] Second
- [C] Third
- [D] Fourth

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Second]

Notes:

China is the largest producer of silk, in the world. It is followed by India in the second place. India is the only country in the world which produces all four major varieties of silk namely – Mulberry, Eri, Tassar, and Muga.

Recently, the Textiles Minister Smriti Irani inaugurated India's biggest silk fair, the 8th India International Silk Fair. It is held on the virtual platform of Indian Silk Export Promotion Council.

18. 'Neptune Declaration', which was seen in the news recently, is associated with which sector?

- [A] Aviation
- [B] Migrant Labourers
- [C] Maritime
- [D] Sports

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Maritime]

Notes:

The 'Neptune Declaration on Seafarer Wellbeing and Crew Change', is a declaration released by the global maritime industry recently.

The declaration focusses on recognising seafarers as key workers by all governments in line with the UNGA resolution adopted recently. The Maritime Union of India (MUI) urged the Centre to consider the declaration while formulating 'Maritime India Vision 2030'.

19. Who won the men's singles final at badminton World Tour held in Bangkok?

[A] Anders Antonsen

[B] Lin Dan

[C] Jan o Jorgensen

[D] Lee Chong Wei

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [Anders Antonsen]

Notes:

Anders Antonsen of Denmark won the men's singles final at badminton World Tour held in Bangkok recently. In the final match, he defeated Viktor Axelsen of Denmark.

The tournament is hosted by Thailand in a bio secure coronavirus bubble. The tournament contained no spectators, to guard against the pandemic.

20. Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy is associated with which sport?

[A] Hockey

[B] Cricket

[C] Foot Ball

[D] Golf

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Cricket]

Notes:

In this year's Syed Mushtaq Ali Trophy T20 cricket tournament held at Ahmedabad, Tamil Nadu team defeated Baroda to win the trophy title. Last year Tamil Nadu lost the trophy against Karnataka.

During this year's tournament, Tamil Nadu remained unbeaten till the final match. At the finals, the team chased Baroda's modest score of 120, with 2 overs and 7 wickets remaining.

21. What does R stand for in the statutory body of India, 'NCPCR'?

[A] Reforms

[B] Response

[C] Rights

[D] Remote

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Rights]

Notes:

India's apex rights body NCPCR – National Commission for Protection of Child Rights has identified 50 “religious places” for complete elimination of child labour.

These places include Taj Mahal and Shri Ram Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya. The commission has stated that collaborative intervention would be made with stakeholders including child welfare police officers, anti-human trafficking unit etc in this regard.

22. “Yudh Abhyas” is a joint military exercise between India and which country?

[A] China

[B] USA

[C] Japan

[D] Australia

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [USA]

Notes:

This year, the 16th edition of India-USA joint military exercise – Yudh Abhyas would be held between February 8 and 21.

This year's exercise would be conducted at Indio-Pakistan border. The exercise aims to enhance cooperation between the two countries and will have a special focus on counter-terrorism operations.

23. Which country hosted the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' Conclave in February 2021?

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] India
- [C] Bangladesh
- [D] Maldives

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [India]

Notes:

India hosted the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) Defence Ministers' Conclave on February 4, 2021 on the side-lines of Aero India 2021 event.

The broad theme of the conclave is 'Enhanced Peace, Security and Cooperation in the Indian Ocean'. During the conclave, India announced that it is ready to supply missile systems, LCA and other weapons systems to the countries in Indian Ocean Region.

24. Which technology entrepreneur has been appointed to the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB)?

- [A] Rajni Bector
- [B] Rattan Lal
- [C] Sridhar Vembu
- [D] Ali Manikfan

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Sridhar Vembu]

Notes:

The founder of the Indian multinational Software company Zoho, Sridhar Vembu has been appointed to the National Security Advisory Board (NSAB). Padma Shri

The board is led by National Security Advisor (NSA) Ajit Doval. Other new members are former ISRO Chairman K Radhakrishnan, academic member Anshuman Tripathy and former ambassador Arun K Singh.

25. What is the nominal growth of India, as estimated by Moody's for the FY 2021-22?

[A] 5%

[B] 10%

[C] 15%

[D] 17%

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: D [17%]

Notes:

The global rating agency Moody's has estimated India's nominal economic growth at 17% for the next financial year 2021-22.

The firm said that the 2021-22 budget presented recently in the Parliament has a focus on higher capital expenditure, financial sector reforms and asset sales. These measures are expected to stimulate growth.

26. What is the theme of the International Day of Human Fraternity 2021?

[A] A Pathway to the Future

[B] Fraternity and Unity

[C] Together we stand against Covid-19

[D] Global Brotherhood

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [A Pathway to the Future]

Notes:

The International Day of Human Fraternity is observed every year by the United Nations on February 4. This year the theme is :A Pathway to the Future

In the year 2019, on the same day, the document entitled “Human fraternity for world peace and living together” was signed in 2019.

27. Which southern state became the second in the country to undertake power sector reforms stipulated by Finance Ministry?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Kerala

[C] Andhra Pradesh

[D] Telangana

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Andhra Pradesh]

Notes:

Andhra Pradesh became the second State in the country to undertake the power sector reforms stipulated by the Department of Expenditure, Ministry of Finance.

The state has been granted permission to mobilise additional financial resources equivalent to 0.15 per cent of its Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP), which means an additional borrowing of Rs 1,515 crore.

28. Which Union Ministry has tied up with Zomato, to implement the PM- SVANidhi scheme?

[A] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

[B] Ministry of Food Processing

[C] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

[D] Ministry of Labour and Employment

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs]

Notes:

As a part of Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNibhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) entered into an agreement with Zomato.

This partnership will enable the company to onboard street food vendors on its platform and improve their business with a wider market access. MoHUA also launched the Mobile Application for PMSVANidhi se Samriddhi. It links the scheme's beneficiaries with various Government schemes.

29. India's first thunderstorm research testbed is to be set up in which state/UT?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Odisha

[C] West Bengal

[D] Maharashtra

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Odisha]

Notes:

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) has announced that the country's first thunderstorm research testbed is to be set up in Balasore, Odisha.

The testbed will be established in a collaboration between the Ministry of Earth Sciences, IMD, DRDO and ISRO. It aims to reduce human fatalities and loss of property due to lightning strikes.

30. 'Chah Bagicha Dhan Puraskar' is an initiative of which Indian state/UT?

[A] Rajasthan

[B] Assam

[C] Madhya Pradesh

[D] Odisha

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Assam]

Notes:

The Chah Bagicha Dhan Puraskar scheme is a scheme launched by the Assam State government in 2017-18, to provide financial assistance to those working in tea gardens.

Rs 5000 had been deposited to the bank account holders in tea garden areas. Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman is to attend the third phase of Chah Bagicha Dhan Puraskar mela in Guwahati, to distribute Rs 3000 each to nearly 7.5 lakh people at tea garden areas.

31. Which country is set to create a public platform to track polluters?

[A] United Kingdom

[B] China

[C] Brazil

[D] Australia

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [China]

Notes:

China has recently announced that it will set up a new information platform to track emissions of polluting enterprises.

It will also help the authorities to penalise those who break the rules or try to evade the supervisory guidelines. Around 2 million companies in China are obliged to obtain permits, for emitting pollutants like sulphur dioxide or wastewater.

32. Dobhi – Durgapur Natural Gas Pipeline, a part of Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project, is located in which state/UT?

[A] Assam

[B] West Bengal

[C] Odisha

[D] Bihar

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [West Bengal]

Notes:

The Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi dedicated the 348 km Dobhi – Durgapur Natural Gas Pipeline section

The LPG import terminal is a part of the Pradhan Mantri Urja Ganga project. He also laid the foundation stone of the second Catalytic-Isodewaxing unit of Haldia Refinery in the state.

33. RBI would purchase four government securities amounting Rs.20,000 crore through which operation?

[A] Reverse Repo

[B] Repo

[C] Operation Swap

[D] Open Market Operation

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: D [Open Market Operation]

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is set to purchase four government securities (G-Secs) amounting Rs.20,000 crore under the Open Market Operations (OMO).

The motive behind this move is to bring down the yield on securities, that has reached a intra-day high of 6.1634% recently.

34. An investment of Rs.400 crore is to be made in which Union state/UT, to make it a fisheries hub?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Goa

[C] Kerala

[D] Odisha

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Goa]

Notes:

The Union Minister for Fisheries Giriraj Singh has announced an investment of Rs.400 crore to the state of Goa. This investment is intended to make the coastal state a hub for fisheries in the country.

It has been stated that out of the said Rs.400 crore, an investment of Rs.41.47 crore has already been sanctioned to the state from the Central Government.

35. When is the International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation observed?

- [A] January 31
- [B] February 1
- [C] February 6
- [D] February 28

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [February 6]

Notes:

The International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation is observed every year by the United Nations on February 6th. It was first observed in the year 2003.

This is a part of the UN's efforts to eradicate Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). The theme for this year is "No Time for Global Inaction, Unite, Fund, and Act to End Female Genital Mutilation."

36. Civil Aviation Ministry and DGCA granted permission to which sports authority to use drones for live shooting?

- [A] Hockey India
- [B] BCCI
- [C] All India Football Federation
- [D] Athletics Federation of India

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [BCCI]

Notes:

Union Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) and Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) have granted permission to the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) for using drones

The conditional exemption has been provided for live aerial shooting of the Indian Cricket tournaments in 2021, including the Indian Premier League. Drone operator Quidich will deploy the vehicles to capture the matches.

37. Which institution released the ‘Annual Report of the Ombudsman Schemes for 2019-20’?

[A] NITI Aayog

[B] RBI

[C] SEBI

[D] NPCI

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [RBI]

Notes:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) released the Annual Report of the Ombudsman Schemes for the year 2019-20.

As per the report, all the three Ombudsmen- Banking, NBFC and Digital transactions received around 3.3 lakh complaints in 2019-20 as compared to around 2 lakh in 2018-19. It was an increase of around 65 per cent, out of which over 92 per cent were disposed off.

38. The Rajya Sabha has passed a bill to regularise unauthorised colonies in which state/UT?

[A] Maharashtra

[B] New Delhi

[C] West Bengal

[D] Uttar Pradesh

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [New Delhi]

Notes:

The Rajya Sabha has passed the National Capital Territory of Delhi Laws (Special Provisions) Second (Amendment) Bill, 2021. It seeks to regularise unauthorised colonies in Delhi.

This bill replaces the ordinance promulgated by President Ram Nath Kovind on December 30, 2020. The bill aims to provide ownership right to over 1.35 crore people of Delhi, living in unauthorised colonies through “Jahan Jhuggi Wahan Makaan”.

39. India signed a MoU with which country to build the ‘Lalandar or Shatoot dam’?

[A] Nepal

[B] Afghanistan

[C] Bangladesh

[D] Sri Lanka

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Afghanistan]

Notes:

India recently signed an agreement with Afghanistan for building Lalandar or Shatoot dam. The MoU was signed by Union External affairs minister S Jaishankar and his Afghan counterpart.

The dam is expected to provide water supply to almost two million people in Kabul city. The dam would also provide irrigation water to nearby areas. This is the second major dam being built by India in Afghanistan, after the Friendship Dam or Salma dam.

40. Which country is set to build the world’s first energy island?

[A] Switzerland

[B] UAE

[C] Denmark

[D] Poland

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: C [Denmark]

Notes:

Denmark has recently approved a plan to build the world's first energy island in the North Sea. The artificial island will be linked to offshore wind turbines.

The island would provide power to households and green hydrogen to shipping and aviation industries. It is claimed that the park can produce and store green energy to cover the electricity needs of 3 million households.

41. Soyuz-2 carrier rocket is the flagship launch vehicle of which country?

[A] China

[B] Russia

[C] Israel

[D] United States

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Russia]

Notes:

Soyuz-2 is a flagship three-stage launch vehicle of Russia, which places satellites in the low Earth orbit. It is the modernised form of the Soyuz rocket.

Recently, it was announced that the country has planned to launch around 40 satellites from over 12 countries using the Soyuz-2 rocket. It includes the CAS500-1 (Compact Advanced Satellite 500) of South Korea.

42. Which scheme is implemented at Anganwadi centres to provide health and pre-school education services?

[A] PM Matru Vandana Yojana

[B] Integrated Child Development Scheme

[C] Mahila Shakti Yojana

[D] Beti Bachao Beti Pado

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Integrated Child Development Scheme]

Notes:

Under the Integrated Child Development Scheme, a package of six services is provided at various anganwadis, including supplementary nutrition, pre-school non-formal education, immunisation, health education etc.

As per the recent data, there has been a steady decline in the number of anganwadi beneficiaries, which dropped to 8.55 crore by March, 2020 from 10.45 crore beneficiaries in 2014-15.

43. The foreign grants received by NGOS in the country are regulated by which act?

[A] Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)

[B] Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA)

[C] Anti-money Laundering Act

[D] Non-Government Organisations Act

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA)]

Notes:

Foreign grants received by NGOs are regulated by the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 or FCRA. After registering with the Home Affairs Ministry, the NGO would be provided a unique FCRA registration number, to be renewed every five years.

As per the recent Government data, the FCRA licences of over 20,600 NGOs were cancelled in the last 10 years, on violation of the provisions of FCRA act.

44. 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000', which was making news recently, belongs to which category of scheme?

[A] Central Sector

[B] Centrally sponsored

[C] Core

[D] Core of the core

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [Central Sector]

Notes:

As per the Ministry of Agriculture, a new Central Sector Scheme titled 'Formation and Promotion of 10,000 Farmer Produce Organizations (FPOs)' has been launched.

The budgetary provision for the scheme is Rs 6,865 crore. The FPOs will be provided financial assistance of up to Rs 18 lakh per organisation for a period of three years.

45. During the kharif marketing season, the Government has procured over 620 lakh tonnes of which food-grain?

[A] Wheat

[B] Paddy

[C] Maize

[D] Gram

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [Paddy]

Notes:

As per the recent data given by the Agriculture Ministry, the Government has procured over 620 lakh tones of paddy, in the current Kharif Marketing Season.

This is said to be an increase of 17.60 per cent against the last year of around 527 lakh tonnes. Punjab contributed over 202 lakh tonnes, 32.71 per cent of total procurement. Over 1,17,000 crores have been spent for Minimum Support Price.

46. Government is to frame design for Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels (DSFV), to implement which scheme?

[A] PM KISAN Yojana

[B] PM Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)

[C] PM Fishery Kisan Yojana

[D] PM Machli Vikas Yojana

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [PM Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY)]

Notes:

The Government has set up a Nodal Authority to frame Approved Standardised Deep-Sea Fishing Vessels (DSFV) Design and Specifications (ASDDS).

This step aims to help state fisheries departments to fast track the implementation of the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY). Those vessels constructed in compliance with Shipping Ministry shall be eligible for subsidy under PMSSY scheme.

47. Which type of Steel has been included under the Production Linked Scheme (PLI)?

[A] Speciality Steel

[B] Stainless Steel

[C] Carbon Steel

[D] Alloy Steel

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [Speciality Steel]

Notes:

The Government has approved inclusion of 'Specialty Steel' under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme.

A financial outlay of Rs 6322 Cr has been made to promote the domestic manufacturing of 'Specialty Steel'. It aims to attract capital investment, generate employment and enhance technology up-gradation in the steel sector.

48. Which country has recently launched a 10-year space program?

[A] Israel

[B] China

[C] USA

[D] Turkey

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: D [Turkey]

Notes:

The Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan recently unveiled an ambitious 10-year space program for the nation.

This program includes missions to the moon, manned mission to space and developing internationally viable satellite systems.

49. The ‘NPCI PayAuth Challenge’ global hackathon, is supported by which international platform?

[A] APIX

[B] SoFi

[C] Coinbase

[D] Stripe

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: A [APIX]

Notes:

National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is set to launch ‘NPCI PayAuth Challenge’, a global-level hackathon.

The hackathon is supported by the world’s first open architecture API marketplace, APIX. It is a cross-border sandbox platform. The hackathon aims to get alternatives for the authentication of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions.

50. Which institution is to invest USD 100 million into the NIIF Fund of Funds (FoF)?

[A] World Bank

[B] New Development Bank

[C] Asian Development Bank

[D] Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

Hide Answer

Correct Answer: B [New Development Bank]

Notes:

New Development Bank (NDB), also called as the BRICS Bank, has committed to invest USD 100 million into the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund- Fund of Funds (FoF).

With this new commitment, the NIIF has secured USD 800 million in commitments. The other investors are Government of India (GoI), Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) and Asian Development Bank (ADB).