Table of Contents

1. BUSINESS & ECONOMY 3
2. INTERNATIONAL 6
3. INDIAN AFFAIRS 10
4. SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY 19
5. ENVIRONMENT 27
6. DEFENCE 30
7. PERSONS 32
8. AWARDS AND HONOURS 33
9. ARTS & CULTURE 34
10. SUMMITS & CONFERENCE 37
11. SCHEMES 43
12. IMPORTANT DAYS 45
13. AGREEMENTS MOU 56
14. INDEX / LIST 59
15. QUIZ CORNER 61
BUSINESS & ECONOMY

OPEC Plus Oil Output Deal Adjusted To Balance The Market

After news of a highly effective Pfizer vaccine against Covid-19 and Saudi Arabia's assurance that an OPEC+ oil output deal could be adjusted to balance the market, Oil prices have jumped.

**Highlights:**

Opec plus refers to the alliance of crude producers, who have been undertaking corrections in supply in the oil markets since 2017.

OPEC plus countries include Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, South Sudan and Sudan.

The OPEC - Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries was founded in Baghdad, Iraq with the signing of an agreement in Sept 1960 by 5 countries namely, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia Venezuela and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

These countries to become the Founder Members of the Organization. OPEC is a permanent and intergovernmental organization.

OPEC's aim is to co-ordinate and unify petroleum policies among Member Countries, to secure fair and stable prices for petroleum producers; an efficient, economic and regular supply of petroleum to consuming nations; and a fair return on capital to those investing in the industry.

Headquarters of OPEC is in Vienna, Austria.

Membership of Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries is open to any country that is a substantial exporter of oil and which shares the ideals of the organization.

---

**IFSC Authority approves the International Financial Services Centres Authority (Banking) Regulations, 2020**

International Financial Services Centres (IFSC) Authority approves the International Financial Services Centres Authority (Banking) Regulations, 2020.

**Highlights:**

Setting out the prerequisites for setting up IFSC Banking Units (IBUs).

Allowing people occupant outside India (having total assets at least USD 1 Million) to open unfamiliar money accounts in any uninhibitedly convertible cash at IFSC Banking Units (IBUs).
Allowing people inhabitant in India (having total assets at least USD 1 Million) to open unfamiliar money accounts in any unreservedly convertible cash at IFSC Banking Units (IBUs) to embrace any passable current record or capital record exchange or any mix thereof under the Liberalized Remittance Scheme (LRS) of the Reserve Bank of India.

Setting out the reasonable exercises of IBUs including credit upgrade, credit protection, and deal, acquisition of portfolios, take part in figuring and relinquishing of fare receivables and attempt gear renting, including aeroplane renting.

Allowing the Authority to decide the business that a Banking Unit might be allowed to direct in INR with people occupant in India and people inhabitant outside India, subject to settlement of the budgetary exchange comparable to such business in unreservedly convertible unfamiliar money.

**DIPAM Signs an Agreement With World Bank**

Department of Investment and Public Asset Management - DIPAM signs an agreement with World Bank for advisory services on asset monetization.

**Highlights:**

According to the agreement, the World Bank will provide DIPAM with consulting services on asset monetization.

DIPAM's mission is to promote the monetization of the government's CPSE's non-core assets in strategic investments or closures and enemy assets worth 1 billion rupees and above.

DIPAM has a framework for monetizing non-core assets.

The World Bank consulting project approved by the Minister of Finance aims to analyze India's public asset monetization, benchmark India's institutions and business models against international best practices, and support the development of business guidelines and the ability to implement these guidelines.

The project is expected to promote and accelerate the monetization process of non-core assets and help release the value of these unused/used assets, which may greatly increase financial resources for further investment and growth.

**Inflation Data for October was Released**
The wholesale price inflation data for the month of October 2020 was released. **Highlights:**

The wholesale price-based inflation is measured by the Wholesale Price Index (WPI).

Wholesale Inflation rose to its highest level in eight months, reaching 1.48% in October 2020, compared with 0% in October 2019 and 1.32% in September 2020. Wholesale price inflation data was released by the Ministry of Industry and Commerce.

The inflation rate for manufactured goods reached a 19-month high of 2.1 months, and the core inflation rate rose to the highest level in 18 months at 1.7%.

Core inflation excludes volatile commodities from the commodity basket that tracks overall inflation.

These volatile commodities mainly include food and beverages (including vegetables) as well as fuel and light oil (crude oil).

**Inflation:**

Inflation denotes to the increase in the price of most goods and services that are used daily or daily, such as food, clothing, housing, entertainment, transportation, consumer necessities, etc. It measures the average price change of a basket of goods and services over time. Inflation indicates a decline in the purchasing power of a country's currency unit. This may eventually lead to a slowdown in economic growth. However, moderate inflation is needed in the economy to ensure that production is promoted. In India, the inflation rate is mainly measured by two main indexes-WPI (Wholesale Price Index) and CPI (Consumer Price Index), which measure price changes at the wholesale and retail levels respectively.

**Wholesale Price Index:**

The Wholesale Price Index measures the changes in the prices of goods sold and traded in bulk by wholesale businesses to other businesses. Published by the Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. It is the most widely used inflation indicator in India. Major criticism for this index is that the general public does not buy products at wholesale price. The base year of All-India WPI has been revised from 2004-05 to 2011-12 in 2017.
INTERNATIONAL

Railway Line to Connect China and Tibet

China has begun to build a strategic railway line (this is the second major railway line to Tibet) that will connect Sichuan Province in southwest China with Linzhi, Tibet, near the border of Arunachal Pradesh in India. Linzhi (also known as Nyingchi) is located near the border of Arunachal Pradesh.

**Highlights:**

The India-China border dispute involves a 3,488-kilometer line of actual control, which is the actual border between the two countries. China claims that Arunachal Pradesh is a part of southern Tibet, but India firmly rejected it.

Just like the Qinghai-Tibet Railway Line (which connected Lhasa (the capital of the Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR)) to the mainland in 2006), this will be the second route to connect the Tibet Autonomous Region with the mainland.

The Sichuan-Tibet Railway departs from Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan Province, and enters Tibet via Qamdo, shortening the journey from Chengdu to Lhasa from 48 hours to 13 hours.

When there is a crisis on the border, the railway can act as a "fast track" for the transportation of strategic materials.

Since this railway runs near the southwest border of China, it will greatly improve the efficiency and convenience of military personnel and material transportation and logical materials.

Tristan Da Cunha Declared Marine Reserves In The Atlantic Ocean

Tristan da Cunha was declared the largest fully protected marine protected area in the Atlantic Ocean.

**Tristan da Cunha:**

It is also home to the most remote human settlement in the world. This is also an isolated British Overseas Territory. It is a remote volcanic island group in the South Atlantic. It has its own constitution. It is also home to tens of millions of seabirds and several unique terrestrial birds. It is also home to the World Heritage Site of Gough and the inaccessible islands, which is one of the most important seabird islands in the world.
Key facts:
After joining the British "Blue Belt Project", it will become the largest forbidden zone in the Atlantic Ocean and the fourth largest in the world. This means that fishing, mining and any such activities are prohibited. This will close more than 90% of its waters for harmful activities such as trawling, sand mining and deep-sea mining.

BRICS Adopts a New Strategy For Counter-Terrorism
The Group of Five BRICS countries have adopted a new counter-terrorism strategy to deal with terrorism effectively.
Highlights:
The goal is to complement and strengthen the existing bilateral and multilateral relations between the BRICS countries. And make a meaningful contribution to the global effort to prevent and combat the threat of terrorism.
The BRICS countries reiterate that terrorism in various forms, and manifestations are one of the most severe threats to international peace and security. Any terrorist act is a crime without justification.
They also recognized that the international community should take the necessary steps to strengthen cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism, including the transboundary movement of terrorists.
The abbreviation of the BRICS countries is associated with five major emerging economies: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Iran would implement the 2015 nuclear energy cooperation agreement

Iran will fully implement the 2015 nuclear energy cooperation agreement, if the US president-elect Biden lifts sanctions on Tehran. Earlier, Biden had promised that if Iran also resumes compliance, it will return to the historic 2015 agreement.
Highlights:
Iran has reached a Joint Comprehensive Action Plan (JCPOA) with the six world powers known as P5+1 (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States), commonly referred to as the Iran Nuclear Agreement. ) In July 2015.
According to this framework, Iran will redesign, transform and reduce its nuclear facilities to remove all nuclear-related economic sanctions. The agreement also allows nuclear activity to be tracked with strong transparency and inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). US President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew from the Iran nuclear agreement in 2018, claiming that it did not resolve Iran's ballistic missile program or its role in the Middle East conflict. The United States has also imposed severe economic sanctions on Iran. In response to the U.S. withdrawal, Iran announced that it would violate the restrictions on nuclear activities stipulated in the 2015 agreement.

**2015 Nuclear Deal:**
The Iran Nuclear Agreement is also known as the Joint Comprehensive Action Plan (JCPOA). In 2015, Iran reached a long-term agreement with the P5+1 group of powers (the United States, the United Kingdom, France, China, Russia, and Germany) on its nuclear program. According to the agreement, Tehran agreed to impose a 10-year limit on nuclear production. As of May 2018, a broad consensus has been reached on Iran's compliance with the agreement. On May 8, 2018, the US (United States) President Donald Trump announced that the US would withdraw from the transaction.

**Mission Purvodaya - Japan to Become a Partner Country**
The Union Minister of the Iron &Steel and the Japanese ambassador to India met with the Chief Minister of Odisha State to discuss the ways for Japan to become a partner country of the Purvodaya Mission.

**Highlights**
The Purvodaya delegation in the steel industry envisages the establishment of an integrated steel hub in eastern India. Of India's anticipated new steel production capacity, more than 75% of the resources will come from eastern India, and Odisha alone will exceed 100 MTPA. High-grade steel, downstream industries, auxiliary equipment, capital goods and cluster development have great scope for growth. Japan's technical expertise and investment will further strengthen the steel sector in Odisha and promote socio-economic growth. It is estimated that by 2030-31, of the 300 million tons of production capacity, this
region alone can exceed 200 million tons. The mission aims to accelerate the development of eastern India by establishing an integrated steel hub.

**Foreign Office Consultations Between India and Kazakhstan Held**

Foreign Office Consultations between India and Kazakhstan held
The 7th round of Foreign office consultations was held between India and Kazakhstan was held on November 17, 2020.

**Highlights:**
During the consultation, the 2 sides reviewed the entire scope of bilateral cooperation within the framework of their strategic partnership.
Consultations covered political, economic and commercial, energy, defence, space, consular and cultural affairs.
Signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) on "India grant assistance for the implementation of high-impact community development projects in Kazakhstan".

**India and Bhutan to Launch RuPay Card Phase-2 in Bhutan**

The Prime Ministers of India and Bhutan will virtually launch the second phase of the RuPay card in Bhutan in November 2020.

**Highlights:**
During the visit of the PM of India to Bhutan in August 2019, the two prime ministers jointly initiated the first phase of the project.
The implementation of the first phase of the Bhutan RuPay card enables Indian tourists in Bhutan to access ATMs and point-of-sale terminals in Bhutan.
Now, the second phase will allow Bhutanese cardholders to access the RuPay network in India.
Hunar Haat Programmes to Restart After Seven Months

Hunar Haat programmes to restart after a gap of seven months. It was temporarily closed due to the pandemic. Hunar Haat is a mission of indigenous crafts, culture etc.

**Highlights:**

Hunar Haats have become a Mega Mission of indigenous art, food and culture and financial strengthening of expert craftsmen and specialists.

Through these Haats, over the most recent 3 years, around 3 lakh needy expert craftsmen, specialists and culinary specialists have been given work and business openings.

The recipients incorporate an enormous number of ladies craftsmen as well.

The public authority intends to put together around 100 Hunar Haats the nation over in the following 5 years.

Hunar Haats give a stage to the craftsman/skilled workers from the minority networks for promoting their items.

Coordinated by the Minority Affairs Ministry, these Haats support the craftsmen rehearsing indigenous ability or artworks.

Aside from giving work openings, they likewise give these craftsman new organizations.

These Haats are coordinated under the USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) plan of the central government.

**USTTAD:**

The main aim of Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development (USTTAD) to safeguard the legacy of conventional expressions and artworks of minority networks and construct limit of customary specialties people and craftsman and set up linkages of customary abilities with the worldwide market. It was launched in 2015.

Viability Gap Funding Scheme Approved by The Cabinet

Union Cabinet approves Continuation and Revamping of the Scheme for Financial
Support to Public-Private Partnerships (PPP) in Infrastructure Viability Gap Funding (VGF) Scheme.

**Highlights:**
The approval has been given to continue the scheme till 2024-25 with a total outlay of Rs.8100 crore.

The Revamped Scheme is principally identified with the presentation of the accompanying two sub-plans for mainstreaming private cooperation in social framework:

**Sub-scheme 1:** caters to social sectors like wastewater treatment, water supply, solid waste management, health and education, etc. These undertakings face bankability issues and helpless income streams to provide food completely to capital expenses.

The tasks qualified under this class ought to have in any event 100% operational cost recuperation.

**Sub-scheme 2:** will support demonstration/pilot social sector projects. The undertakings might be from the wellbeing and instruction areas where there is at any rate 50% operational cost recovery.

The scheme aims to advance PPPs in social and financial framework prompting the productive making of resources and guaranteeing their legitimate activity and upkeep and make the monetarily/socially fundamental ventures economically reasonable.

The plan would be valuable to people in general everywhere as it would help in the production of foundation for the nation.

**Commencement of Skill India Mission**
Skill India starts training of 3 lakh migrant laborers from 116 regions distinguished across 6 states under Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan. The initiative focuses to empower migrant workers and the rural population in the post-COVID era.

**Highlights:**
The initiative aims to empower migrant workers and rural populations in the post-COVID era through demand-driven skills and guidance under the Central Sponsorship and Central Management (CSCM) component of Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY) 2016-2020.

In cooperation with relevant regional collectors/district county heads/deputy
commissioners, the Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) is promoting the program in these areas to conduct skills training within 125 days. With the support of MSDE, the National Skills Development Corporation (NSDC) is implementing training programs through existing training providers and project implementation agencies operating under PMKVY 2016-20 or state plans.

Skill India Mission is a government program launched in 2015. This is an umbrella plan, which contains many skill plans and plans.

The primary goal is to equip the country's youth with sufficient skills to enable them to work in relevant sectors and increase productivity.

**Garib Kalyan Rozgar Abhiyan:**
This massive rural public works program was launched to increase livelihood in rural India. The counties will join this program through the Common Service Centers and Krishi Vikas Kendras (KVK). The campaign will be spread over 125 days and is designed to work in mission mode to help migrant workers. This will require the intensified and targeted implementation of 25 different types of work to create jobs and infrastructure in rural areas.

Total expenditure for the program would be Rs. 50,000 crore. Workers will be employed in rural construction, rural connections including Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana, national highways, railway works, community sanitation complex, gram panchayats, anganwadis, water conservancy, well digging, plantations and horticulture. The program will ensure coordination between 12 different ministries / departments.

**Scientists Selected for Swarna Jayanti Fellowships**

The Department of Science and Technology - DST has selected 21 scientists to participate in the 2020 Swarna Jayanti Scholarship.

**Highlights:**

Scientists selected for this award will be allowed to carry out unfettered research freely and flexibly in accordance with the expenditures approved in the research plan.

The Swarna Jayanti Scholarship Program is established by the government. Commemorate the 50th anniversary of India's independence.

It provides specialist help and support to selected young scientists who have a good track record and enables them to engage in basic research in the frontier fields.
of science and technology.

Under the plan, the winners will receive support from DST, which will cover all requirements for performing research and will include Rs scholarships. 25,000/- per month for five years.

In addition, DST also provides support to the winners by providing them with a five-year research grant of 500,000 rupees. In addition to the salary received from his alma mater, a fellowship is also provided.

In addition to fellowships, grants for equipment, computing equipment, consumables, emergency expenses, domestic and international travel, and other special requirements (if any) are also covered based on the results.

Scholarships are aimed at specific scientists rather than specific institutions. They are very selective and have strict academic monitoring.

Ministry Notified Draft Rules Under the Code on Social Security

The Ministry of Labor & Employment has notified the draft rules of the 2020 Social Security Act. The draft rules provide for registration based on Aadhaar, including self-registration by unorganized workers, gig and platform workers, construction workers and other construction workers on the central government portal.

**Highlights:**

The rules also stipulate the remuneration for regular hire of employees.

The rules provide for a single electronic registration of enterprises, including cancellation of registration at the end of business activities.

It also provides regulations on the methods and conditions for exiting the enterprise from EPFO and ESIC coverage.

The rules have detailed self-assessment and Cess payment procedures for buildings and other construction workers.

The interest rate for late payment of such taxes has been reduced from 2% of the monthly or monthly portion to 1%.

GAIL Completes Kochi-Mangaluru Pipeline

Kochi Mangaluru natural gas pipeline project is ready for commissioning. The pipeline will supply natural gas to all seven areas (Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad,
Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargod) that Kerala passes through and the hilly Wayanad area.

**Highlights:**
The 444-kilometre-long natural gas pipeline was launched in 2009 with an estimated cost of Rs 29.15 billion.
The project will be put into use in 2014.
However, due to opposition in terms of security and commercial reasons, land prices are the main obstacle, so the cost of the project has almost doubled to 57.5 billion rupees.
The 1st phase of the project was put into use in the Kochi Metropolitan Area in August 2013.
GAIL India has completed the last 540 meters of the sinister extension of the Chandragiri River in northern Kerala.
The pipeline will supply natural gas to all seven areas (Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargod) that Kerala passes through and the hilly Wayanad area.
Kuttanad is the main connection point of the pipeline, from which the pipeline branches to Mangaluru and Bengaluru.

**Significance of the project:**
With the commissioning of the pipeline, the demand for natural gas in Kerala is expected to increase from the current 60 million cubic meters to 800-90 million cubic meters per year. Through tax alone, the country can make a profit of 100 billion rupees, which can profit from it. In addition, huge environmental benefits are also expected. The pipeline will supply natural gas to all seven areas (Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargod) that Kerala passes through and the hilly Wayanad area.

**INTACH to Recognize Global Geoparks**
The Indian National Trust for Arts and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) is working to gain recognition for the Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) Geopark, which consists of ErraMattiDibbalu (red dunes), natural rock formations, Borra caves and Composition of volcanic ash deposits.

**Key Facts:**
INTACH was founded in New Delhi in 1984 with the vision to spearhead heritage
awareness and conservation in India.
In 2019, INTACH organised a campaign to create public awareness on geologically and culturally important spots in the region.
UNESCO Global Geopark promotes the importance and significance of protecting the earth's diversity through active participation in local communities and has gained international recognition.
There are 161 UNESCO Global Geoparks distributed in 44 countries/regions, but India does not yet own one.

**Important Sites in Visakhapatnam**

**ErraMattiDibbalu:** This is a coastal red sedimentary mound located between Visakhapatnam and Biyunipunathnam. The width of the red dunes ranges from 200 meters to two kilometres, and they are five kilometres along the coast. Only two other low-latitude tropical areas in South Asia (Terry Sands in Tamil Nadu and Red Coast Sands in Sri Lanka) have been reported. It is one of 34 Indian National Geological Heritage Monuments declared by the Geological Survey of India (GSI). The term geological heritage is used for natural geological or landform features that have aesthetic, intrinsic or scientific and educational value. These features can provide unique insights into the geological processes that affect the formation or evolution of the earth.

**Natural Rock Formations (Eastern Ghats) at Mangamaripeta:**
An example is a natural arch on Mangamaripeta Beach opposite the Thotlakonda Buddhist site. It probably dates back to the period after the last ice age about 10,000 years ago, similar to the natural rock arch of Silathoranam in the Tirumala Hills.

**Borra Caves:** Discovered by GSI's William King George, these 1-million-year-old caves attract large numbers of tourists every day. They are located at an altitude of 1400 m.
These caves are famous for the formation of stalactites and stalagmites, such as Shiva-Parvathi, Rishi's beard, mother and child, crocodile, the human brain, tiger and cow udder.

**Volcanic Ash Deposits:** These are said to be caused by the eruption of the Toba volcano in Indonesia near Araku (Andhra Pradesh) 73,000 years ago.

**UNESCO:**
The UNESCO-United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization seeks to establish peace through international cooperation in education, science and
culture. UNESCO's plan will help achieve the sustainable development goals set out in the "2030 Agenda" adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. It has 193 Members and 11 Associate Members. India joined UNESCO in 1946. In 2019, the USA and Israel formally quit UNESCO. It is headquartered in Paris, France.

**TRIFED has Expanded Tribes India Product Range**

TRIFED expanded the Tribes India product range. New initiatives include products produced by prisoners in Jagdarpur Central Prison. Tribal India Electronics Market is committed to enhancing the capabilities of tribal enterprises, providing a larger handicraft market for tribes, product production and helping them to self-reliant and build Atmanirbhar Bharat.

**Highlights:**

The TRIFED (Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India) was established in 1987. It is the highest national organization operating under the administration of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.

TRIFED is headquartered in New Delhi and has a network of 13 regional offices throughout the country.

is engaged in the procurement and marketing of tribal art and handicrafts through its 40 retail outlets called TRIBES INDIA. TRIBES INDIA provides a series of tribal products.

The ultimate goal of TRIFED is to promote the socio-economic development of the tribal nation by marketing tribal products such as metal crafts, tribal textiles, pottery, pottery, tribal paintings and pottery in most of the country's markets.

TRIFED acts as a facilitator & service provider for tribal products.

The TRIFED method aims to equip tribal people with knowledge, tools and information bases so that they can conduct business in a more systematic and scientific way.

It also involves building the capacity of tribal people by raising awareness, establishing self-help groups (SHG) and providing them with training in specific activities.

**Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention**
Union Health Minister addresses the Global Prevention Coalition (GPC) for HIV Prevention.

**About the GPC:**
In October 2017, the Global HIV Prevention Coalition (GPC) was established to strengthen and maintain a political commitment to primary prevention by setting a common agenda among UN member states, donors, civil society organizations and implementers.

GPC takes the country and the community as the centre, and strives to ensure the responsibility of providing prevention services on a large scale to achieve the goals of the 2016 Political Declaration to End AIDS, including reducing the HIV infection rate by 75% and reducing the number of infections to less than 500,000 by 2020, and end the AIDS epidemic in 2030.

GPC is supported by UNAIDS.

**Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge Launched for Many Cities**

The Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge in 243 cities.

**Background:**
The Law on Prohibition of Hiring Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation (2013) and the Supreme Court's decisions clearly prohibit dangerous cleaning, that is, manual entry into septic tanks or sewers without protective equipment and following operating procedures. Despite this, frequent fatal deaths among people cleaning septic tanks and sewers are still a concern. Septic tanks and sewers usually belong to economically disadvantaged and marginalized communities.

**About the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge:**
The challenge is to prevent the hazardous cleaning of sewers and septic tanks and promote their mechanized cleaning. The challenge will be broadly focused on raising citizens' awareness of this key issue, as well as building infrastructure for mechanized cleaning and labor capacity building. In addition, a special service hotline number has been set up to register complaints and provide real-time solutions for sludge or sewer overflow. The actual field evaluation of participating cities will be conducted by an independent agency in May 2021, and the evaluation results will be announced on 15th August 2021. Cities will be divided into three sub-categories Population exceeds 10 lakhs, 3-10 lakhs, Up to 3 lakhs. The total prize...
money is 52 crore rupees and the prize money will be distributed to all categories of winning cities.
The Collaboration of TMT with Indian Astronomers

Indian astronomers collaborated with 2020 Physics Nobel laureate Professor Andrea Ghez on the Thirty Meter Telescope Project (TMT).

**Highlights:**
- The TMT is being introduced at Maunakea in Hawaii, and it can reform the comprehension of the universe and the enigmas in it.
- The venture is a worldwide association between CalTech, Universities of California, Canada, Japan, China, and India through the Department of Science and Technology (DST) and Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).
- The TMT or Thirty Meter Telescope, as it is called, is a joint venture (JV) including five nations, however, the $2 billion undertaking has been damaged by fights for longer than 10 years.
- The TMT will empower researchers to study fainter objects far away known to mankind, which would give data about beginning phases of the advancement of the universe.
- Likewise, it will give out better subtleties of not really far-away articles like unfamiliar planets and different items in the Solar System and planets around different stars.
- Canada, the United States (US), Japan and China are the other and more huge accomplices as far as the money related and infrastructural parts of the TMT.
- The degree of contribution decides the measure of review time, or slots, that the part nation's researchers jump on the machine.
- The proposed site is viewed as sacred to indigenous Hawaiians, and furthermore has an excessive number of observatories for one more such huge foundation to come up, say bunches that have challenged the site.

Covid Vaccine Jointly Developed by Pfizer and BioNTech

A vaccine jointly developed by Pfizer and BioNTech was 90 per cent effective in preventing Covid-19 infections in ongoing Phase 3 trials.

**Highlights:**
- The Pfizer and BioNTech vaccine uses messenger RNA (mRNA) technology,
which relies on synthetic genes that can be generated and manufactured in weeks, and produced at scale more rapidly than conventional vaccines.

Unlike traditional vaccines, which work by training the body to recognise and kill proteins produced by pathogens, mRNA tricks the patient's immune system to produce viral proteins itself. The proteins are harmless, but sufficient to provoke a robust immune response.

The huge thought behind immunizing the general population is to arrive at an intonation point where endless individuals will have taken the antibody that the infection needs more practical hosts to keep hopping from individual to individual and, in the end, as the staggering number of individuals who are basically incompletely resistant increment, the infection ceases to exist. This is a type of crowd invulnerability.

**DRDO Successfully Test-fired QRSAM**

The Defense Research and Development Organization - DRDO successfully tested the Quick Response Surface-to-Air Missile System (QRSAM) on November 13, 2020. The test was conducted at the comprehensive test field in Chandipur on the Odi Saha coast. The test is a continuation of a series of missile tests conducted by DRDO in the past two months.

**Highlights:**

QRSAM is a tank-based system, which means it is stored and operated from specially designed compartments.

In the tank, the internal environment is controlled, so not only is it easy to transport and store, but the shelf life of the weapon is also greatly improved. The system can detect and track moving targets and engage them after a short pause.

It is a short-range surface-to-air missile (SAM) system, mainly designed and developed by DRDO, to provide a defensive barrier for the army's mobile armored forces to protect them from enemy air attacks.

The entire weapon system has been configured on a mobile mobile platform that can provide air defense capabilities while on the move. It was designed to introduce it to the Army, with a range of 25 to 30 kilometers.

The QRSAM weapon group that functions on the move consists of a fully automated command and control system.

It also consists of two radars-active array battery surveillance radar and active
DRDO Successfully Test-fired QRSAM

The Defense Research and Development Organization - DRDO successfully tested the Quick Response Surface-to-Air Missile System (QRSAM) on November 13, 2020. The test was conducted at the comprehensive test field in Chandipur on the Odi Saha coast. The test is a continuation of a series of missile tests conducted by DRDO in the past two months.

**Highlights:**

QRSAM is a tank-based system, which means it is stored and operated from specially designed compartments.

In the tank, the internal environment is controlled, so not only is it easy to transport and store, but the shelf life of the weapon is also greatly improved. The system can detect and track moving targets and engage them after a short pause.

It is a short-range surface-to-air missile (SAM) system, mainly designed and developed by DRDO, to provide a defensive barrier for the army's mobile armored forces to protect them from enemy air attacks.

The entire weapon system has been configured on a mobile mobile platform that can provide air defense capabilities while on the move. It was designed to introduce it to the Army, with a range of 25 to 30 kilometers.

The QRSAM weapon group that functions on the move consists of a fully automated command and control system.

It also consists of two radars-active array battery surveillance radar and active array battery multifunctional radar-with a transmitter.

Both radars have 360-degree coverage with "mobile search" and "mobile tracking" functions.

The system has a compact structure, uses a single-stage solid-propelled missile, and has a midway inertial navigation system with a two-way data link and a terminal active seeker developed by DRDO.
Emergency Retrieval System (ERS) For Power Lines Was Developed

An indigenous technology, the Emergency Retrieval System (ERS) was developed to quickly retrieve power transmission in the event of a transmission tower failure.

**Highlights:**
ERS is developed by the Structural Engineering Research Center (SERC), which is composed of the Scientific and Industrial Research Council (CSIR).
Currently, the ERS system is imported and the cost is relatively high. This technological development will make Indian manufacturing an import substitute for the first time.
In addition, it will cost about 40% of the imported system.
ERS is a lightweight modular system used as a temporary support structure that can restore power immediately after the transmission line tower collapses in the event of natural disasters (such as hurricanes/earthquakes) or man-made damage.
It is made of a structurally highly stable box-shaped section.
It is lightweight, modular and reusable.
It can also be quickly assembled at the disaster site to restore power within 2-3 days.
Developed by the Structural Engineering Research Center (SERC), which is composed of the Scientific and Industrial Research Council (CSIR).

Kerala Fibre Optic Network Project  Free Internet

Kerala's goal is to provide free internet to poor families and public institutions by December.

**Highlights:**
The project aims to achieve the government's goal of making Internet access as a "civil right."
Aims to provide free high-speed Internet to more than 2 million families below the poverty line (BPL).
This is a cooperation plan between the State Electricity Company Kerala Electricity Authority and Kerala IT Infrastructure Co., Ltd.
Internet service providers and cable TV operators can also join fibre optic network projects to provide services.
The state government stated that it will link up to 30,000 government offices and schools through high-speed networks. Once the project is launched, it will be another milestone for the state. The state has achieved a number of Human Development Indicators (HDI) that match the first world countries, especially in health.

**Step Up For TB 2020 Report Was Released**

The Step Up for TB 2020 report by the Stop TB Partnership and Médecins Sans Frontières/Doctors Without Borders (MSF) has highlighted India's conservative approach regarding the new medicines for Drug-Resistant TB, putting lives of patients including children in danger.

**Highlights**

The current Pandemic has further aggravated the sufferings of TB patients in the country in terms of disease diagnosis, surveillance and treatment.

The report provides data on 37 high-burden countries, including India (accounting for 77% of the estimated global tuberculosis cases), and assesses the extent to which national policies are in line with international policies based on World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines and the latest report Best practice is consistent with scientific research.

This is the fourth edition of this report, focusing on national policies and practices related to the four key areas of the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP): Diagnosis, Treatment (including models of care), Prevention, Medicines procurement policies.

**India Specific Findings:**

India has been criticized for failing to expand the new disease resistance (DR)-TB drugsBedaquiline and Delamanid, and even more is needed during Covid-19. Pretomanidis the third new drug developed for this therapy.

By March 2020, less than 10% of MDR-TB patients eligible for Bedaquiline treatment in India have received the drug. This is shocking because India is home to one-quarter of the world's drug-resistant tuberculosis patients. India has the highest burden of tuberculosis in the world. In 2018, 2.15 million tuberculosis cases were reported, an increase of 16% compared to 2017.

**India's Initiative to Fight TB:**

National Tuberculosis Elimination Programme
Eliminating TB by 2025
The Nikshay Ecosystem
Nikshay PoshanYojana (NPY)
TB HaregaDeshJeetega Campaign
The Saksham Project
The Government of India has partnered with the Global Fund to launch JEET (Joint Effort for Elimination of TB), a private sector engagement program operating across the country.

Global Efforts:
The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched a joint initiative "Find. Treat. All. #EndTB" with the Global Fund and the Stop Tuberculosis Partnership.

Tuberculosis (TB): TB - Tuberculosis is caused by bacteria (Mycobacterium tuberculosis) that most often affect the lungs. Tuberculosis is spread from person to person through the air. When people with lung Tuberculosis cough, sneeze or spit, they propel the Tuberculosis germs into the air. Symptoms: Cough with sputum and blood at times, chest pains, weakness, weight loss, fever and night sweats. Tuberculosis (TB) remains the world's deadliest infectious disease, killing more than 1.4 million people in 2019, despite being curable.

Covid Patients Are Infected With GBS
Some patients infected with Covid-19 have been found to have Guillain-Barre syndrome (GBS), a very rare autoimmune disease in which the patient's immune system attacks the nerves. The exact cause of Guillain-Barr syndrome is not known, but according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

Highlights:
GBS is a very rare autoimmune disease in which the patient's immune system attacks the nerves. The exact cause of Guillain-Barr syndrome is unknown, but according to the World Health Organization (WHO), GBS usually precedes infection. This may be a bacterial or viral infection. It may also be triggered by vaccination or surgery.

In the past, patients with Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS), Zika virus, human immunodeficiency virus (HIV), herpes virus and Campylobacter jejuni all showed symptoms of GBS.
In order to kill the coronavirus, the immune system accidentally starts attacking its
own peripheral nervous system.

The peripheral nervous system is a neural network that leads from the brain and spinal cord (the central nervous system) to different parts of the body. Attacking them will affect limb function.

The interval between the onset of GBS symptoms and Covid-19 infection is 5-10 days, but some doctors say that after a Covid-19 infection, it may take several weeks for a person to develop GBS.

**Fly Ash to Replace Natural Aggregates**

National Thermal Power Corporation has developed geopolymers made from fly ash to replace natural aggregates used in construction.

**Highlights:**

- Fly ash is a fine powder, a by-product of the combustion of pulverized coal in power plants. Fly ash is a pozzolan, a substance containing aluminium and siliceous substances, which forms cement in the presence of water. When mixed with water and lime, fly ash can form compounds similar to Portland cement.
- Fly ash can be used as the main material for many cement-based products, such as poured concrete, concrete blocks and bricks. One of the most common uses of fly ash is in Portland cement concrete pavement or PCC pavement.
- Road construction projects using PCC can use a large amount of concrete, and replacing it with fly ash can bring significant economic benefits. Fly ash is also used as embankment and mine filling.
- As part of the concept of optimal waste utilization, the fly ash from thermal power plants can be fully utilized.
- The aggregates of soil polymers can not only improve the utilization rate of fly ash, but also save the environment. In addition, the land demand for ash ponds is negligible. Geopolymers are inorganic materials, usually ceramic materials, that can form long-distance, covalently bonded amorphous (amorphous) networks.
- In fact, geopolymer mortar based on fly ash will act as a binder. Geopolymer aggregates will help reduce carbon emissions and have great potential to reduce water consumption.
- According to one estimate, the country's total annual demand for infrastructure development is about 2 billion tons.
- The aggregate developed by NTPC using fly ash will meet the demand to a large
extent and will also reduce the environmental impact of natural aggregates that require quarrying.
New Species of a frog is found in Andaman

A group of scientists reported on a new tree frog from the Andaman Islands, called the striped bubble nest frog.

**Striped bubble nest frog:**
**Biological name:** Rohanixalus vittatus

It belongs to the genus of the old world tree frog family Rhacophoridae.

This is the first report of a tree frog species from the Andaman Islands.

They are also known as Asian Glass Frogs or See Through Frogs

The female (mother) will take care of the ovoid egg until it hatches and helps release the release into the water.

A large number of egg-shaped clutches (over 50) of different developmental stages may be found on a single leaf or plant.

Usually, many women will participate in such activities in the form of "community" eggs.

Frequent male-female fights, including pushing, kicking and moving to mate with females have also been reported.

Two New Ramsar Sites were Declared

Lake Meteor in Lonar in Buldhana District of Maharashtra and Soor Sarovar in Agra were declared Ramsar sites, which are protected status granted by the International Ramsar Wetland Convention. With the latest data included, the total number of Ramsar sites in India is 41, the highest in South Asia.

**Highlights:**

The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands is an intergovernmental treaty passed in 1971 in the Iranian city of Ramsar on the southern coast of the Caspian Sea.

It entered into force for India on February 1, 1982. Those wetlands of international importance are declared Ramsar wetlands.

The mission of the convention is to "conserve and rationally use all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, and contribute to the realization of sustainable development throughout the world.

The Montreux Record is a record of wetland sites on the list of internationally
important wetlands. The ecological characteristics of these wetlands have occurred, are occurring or may change due to technological development, pollution or other human disturbance. It is recognized as part of the Ramsar List.

Currently, India has two wetlands in the Montreux record: Keoladeo National Park - Rajasthan and Loktak Lake - Manipur. Chilika Lake- Odisha was placed in the record, but then deleted from the record.

**Lonar Lake:**

Lonar Lake, located in the volcanic basalt of the Deccan Plateau, was formed by a meteor impact between 35,000 and 50,000 years ago. The lake is part of the Lonar Wildlife Sanctuary, which is under the unified control of the Melghat Tiger Reserve (MTR).

It is also called the Moon Crater and is a notified National Geological Heritage Monument. Geographical heritage refers to geological features with inherent or cultural significance that can provide insight into the evolution or history of the earth, or can be used for education.

It is the second Ramsar site in Maharashtra, second only to Nandur Madhmeshwar bird sanctuary in the Nashik region. The water of the lake is highly salty and alkaline, and contains special microorganisms such as anaerobic bacteria, cyanobacteria and phytoplankton.

**Soor Sarovar Lake:**

It is also known as Lake Keetham and is located in the Soor Sarovar Bird Sanctuary, which was declared a bird sanctuary in 1991. The lake is located by the Yamuna River in Agra, Uttar Pradesh. The Soor Sarovar Bird Sanctuary covers an area of 7.97 square kilometres. Today, there are more than 165 species of migratory and resident birds. It also has a bear rescue centre to rescue dancing bears.

**Deemed Forests in the State of Karnataka**

Karnataka has announced that it will declassify 6.64 billion hectares (nearly 67%) of the state's 994,000 hectares of forest and hand it over to the tax bureau. In Karnataka, the recognized forest issue is a controversial issue, and cross-party legislators often allege that large amounts of agricultural and non-forest land are unscientifically classified as such issues.

**Highlights:**

Deemed forests, comprising about 1% of India's forest land, are a controversial
subject as they refer to land tracts that appear to be a forest, but have not been notified so by the government or in historical records.

The concept of deemed forests has not even been clearly defined in any law including the Forest Conservation Act 1980.

Areas included in Karnataka: The expert committee formed by the state government determined the "deemed forest" as:
- Regardless of ownership, land with forest characteristics.
- The densely wooded area of the tax bureau has not been handed over to the forest department.
- It is recommended that densely forested areas be handed over to the Ministry of Forestry.
- The dense woodland is allocated to the transferee, but there is no cultivation.
- Dense plantation in the forest department.

The Expert Committee identified 4.318 million hectares of forest land in Karnataka in its 1997 and 2002 reports, including 33.23 billion hectares of reported forest area based on forest records and 994 million hectares of "deemed forests."
Commencement of Second Phase of Exercise Malabar

The second phase of the Malabar exercise, which will take place from November 17 to 20, will involve increasingly complex coordinated operations between Australia, India, Japan and the US Navy.

**Highlights:**
The second phase of the Malabar exercise, which will take place from November 17 to 20, will involve increasingly complex coordinated operations between Australia, India, Japan and the US Navy.
In addition to the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya and its fighter jets and helicopter wings, the local destroyers Kolkata and Chennai, the stealth frigate Talwar, the fleet support ship Deepak and integrated helicopters will also participate in the exercise.
The Indian Navy's indigenously-built Khandari submarine and P8I maritime reconnaissance aircraft will also demonstrate their capabilities during the exercise.
The Malabar series of exercises began with the annual bilateral naval exercises between India and the United States in 1992. Over the years, the scope and complexity have increased.
The 24th edition of MALABAR, currently being implemented, highlights the growing convergence of views of the four dynamic democracies on maritime issues and demonstrates their commitment to an open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and a rules-based international order.

Commencement of Second Phase of Exercise Malabar

The second phase of the Malabar exercise, which will take place from November 17 to 20, will involve increasingly complex coordinated operations between Australia, India, Japan and the US Navy.

**Highlights:**
The second phase of the Malabar exercise, which will take place from November 17 to 20, will involve increasingly complex coordinated operations between Australia, India, Japan and the US Navy.
In addition to the aircraft carrier INS Vikramaditya and its fighter jets and
helicopter wings, the local destroyers Kolkata and Chennai, the stealth frigate Talwar, the fleet support ship Deepak and integrated helicopters will also participate in the exercise.

The Indian Navy's indigenously-built Khandari submarine and P8I maritime reconnaissance aircraft will also demonstrate their capabilities during the exercise.

The Malabar series of exercises began with the annual bilateral naval exercises between India and the United States in 1992. Over the years, the scope and complexity have increased.

The 24th edition of MALABAR, currently being implemented, highlights the growing convergence of views of the four dynamic democracies on maritime issues and demonstrates their commitment to an open and inclusive Indo-Pacific and a rules-based international order.
VEERMAMUNIVAR'S 140TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY WAS CELEBRATED ON 8 NOVEMBER

The 140th anniversary of Veermamunivar's birth was celebrated on November 8, 2020. Veermamunivar, a Jesuit priest, is famous in the Tamil literature circle for his epic Thembavani. Christian missionaries also composed small literary works including Thevaram based on hymns sung by the Saivaite saints.

**Highlights:**

Veermamunivar was attracted by the bhakti movement that thrived in Tamil Nadu and the singing of hymns by the Nayanmar and Azwar people.

The Bhakti movement refers to the trend of spiritual spirituality that appeared in Hinduism in the Middle Ages, which later became the de facto catalyst for the formation of Sikhism.

It originated in southern India (now Tamil Nadu and Kerala) in the eighth century and spread northward. From the 15th century, it swept across the east and north of India, and reached its peak in the 15th to 17th centuries CE.

The movement began with Saiva Nayanars and Vaisnava Alvars, who lived between the 5th and 9th centuries AD. Their efforts eventually helped spread Bhakti's poems and ideas throughout India from the 12th to the 18th century.

The movement was inspired by many poets and saints, who advocated a wide range of philosophical positions, from the dualism of Devata theology to the absolute monism of Advata Vedanta.

The Bhakti movement began with the purpose of reforming Hinduism.
National Water Awards Winners were Declared

The winners of the National Water Awards for the year 2019 have been declared. The awards are given in several categories such as Best State', Best District', Best School', Best Newspaper', Best NGO', Best Industry', etc. with sub-categories also.

Highlights:

The Best State Awards for first 3 positions were backed Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

Special Category States- 1st place is given to Mizoram

Best District Awards in Revival of Rivers and Water Conservation were given to:

Ayodhya and Almora- North
Vellore and YSR Kadapa- South
Sangli and Kachchh- West
Bilaspur and Surajpur -East
West Tripura (WC) - Northeast
Khandana and Vizianagaram - Aspirational district category
ARTS & CULTURE

Culture Minister Hands Over Idols of Lord Rama, Lakshmana And Goddess Sita Dating Back To 13th Century

Union Minister of State for Culture & Tourism handed over the Bronze idols of Lord Rama, Lakshmana and Goddess Sita to Idol Wing, Government of Tamil Nadu at a ceremony held today in ASI Headquarters, DharoharBhawan in New Delhi.

**Highlights:**

Previously, on September 15, 2020, these bronze idols were handed over to the Indian High Commission in London by the London Metropolitan Police.

According to photographs completed in 1958, these idols belonged to Sri Rajagopal Vishnu Temple (a temple built during the Vijayanagara period) in Anandamangaram, Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu.

According to an investigation by the Police Idol Unit of Tamil Nadu, these idols were stolen from the Vishnu Temple in Rajagopal, Sri Lanka on November 23/24, 1978.

The bronze idols of Lord Rama, Lakshmana and Goddess Sita are the masterpieces of Indian Metal Art respectively. In terms of style, the history of these sculptures can be traced back to the 13th century AD.

The Minister congratulated the Archaeological Survey of India, Special Idol Wing, Government of Tamil Nadu, DRI and High Commission of India, London for their continuous efforts in bringing these idols back to the country.

The Minister also announced that as a part of the commemoration ceremony of 75th year of Indian Independence, the agencies/applicants working in the areas of Indian Independence Movement, the life of freedom fighters, Indian traditions, heritage and culture, tourism development and promotion and other issues relating to national importance will be exempt from payments of fees/charges for shooting/photography in different monuments of ASI (except World heritage sites/Iconic sites) during the period commencing from the Birth Anniversary of former Prime Minister Late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee on December 25, 2020 to August 15, 2021.

The applicants/agencies will need to apply online for permission to carry out such shooting activities.
Remains of Kakatiyas Has Founded at Mamunoor

The Structural remains of an uncompleted grand shrine of Kakatiyas have been found at Mamunoor in Warangal Urban district. The character of the temple is identical with the Thousand Pillar temple built by Rudradeva Maharaja the illustrious king of Kakatiya dynasty.

**Highlights:**

The 13th-century shrine found in the Warangal downtown area of Telangana is unfinished, but its architecture is extraordinary and delicate.

It contains a very wide floor plan, possibly a spacious floor plan of Trikuta Shrine, used to install the entrance porch, vestibule and sanctuary.

King Deva of Ganapati (AD 1199-1262) may have started the construction of this mansion in the last years of his reign, but his successors Rudramadevi or Pratapa Rudradeva did not build it because of their expeditions to enemies and leaders.

The features of this temple are the same as the Temple of Thousand Pillars built by Rudradeva Maharaja, the outstanding king of the Katathi Dynasty.

**Swayambhu temple and Keerthi Thoranas, Warangal fort:**

The Warangal Fort is a huge structure with three different circular fortresses surrounded by a moat. According to the main point of view, four paths with ornamental and noble passages, called Keerthi Thorana or Hamsa Thorana, lead to the centre, where there was once a huge Shiva Temple (Swayambhu Gudi). The archaeological remains from the exploration plan of the Swayambhu Temple show that the huge scale of the temple is confirmed by Kridabhiramamu's contemporary works. The portico is obvious, but most of the temple is archaeologically important because it can clearly see the entire portico and portico.

**Rudreswara Temple (Thousand pillars temple), Hanumakonda:**

Rudreswara Temple is known locally as Veyisthambala Gudi (Temple of Thousand Pillars) and is one of the best and earliest examples of Kakatiya art, architecture and sculpture. And It was built by Rudra Deva, and named after him Sri Rudreswara (Sri Rudreswara) Temple Temple, the main god is Rudreswara (Rudreswara), adopted later The Chalukyan and early Kakatiyan architectural styles are star-shaped and triple luminous (Trikutalaya). The temple is a model of architecture and sculpture, with 1,000 pillars, indicating that the temple has many pillars. There are exquisitely carved pillars, perforated screens, and exquisite icons; the rock-cut
elephant and the whole dolomite Nandi are part of the temple.

**Rudreswara (Ramappa) temple, Palampet:**
Rudreswara (Ramappa) Temple is 65 km from the Warangal Hotel in Palampet. The Ram Papa Temple is probably the only temple in India known by the name of the sculptor who built it. The chief sculptor is Rappappa, who is now famous for this temple, not after the presiding god Ramalingeswara as usual. Ramappa Temple was built by King Kakati Ganapathi Deva on behalf of Chief King Rudra Samani in Ranakude, Atulu Province. This temple is correctly described as "the brightest star in the Deccan Medieval Temple Galaxy".
SUMMITS & CONFERENCE

Summit of SCO Council Was Held on 10 November

The 20th Summit of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of State was held on November 10, 2020.

**Highlights:**

The summit was chaired by the President of the Russian Federation Mr Vladimir Putin.

Other Member States were represented by their Presidents, while India and Pakistan were represented at the level of Prime Minister.

Other participants were Secretary General of the SCO Secretariat, Executive Director of the SCO Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure, the Presidents of the four Observers (Afghanistan, Belarus, Iran, Mongolia) of the SCO.

It is the 1st meeting in Virtual Format and third meeting that India participated after becoming a full-time member in 2017.

India (a non-permanent member of the UNSC) beginning from 1 January 2021, will focus on the theme of 'reformed multilateralism' to bring about desirable changes in global governance.

India's firm belief in regional peace, security & prosperity, raising voice against terrorism, smuggling of illegal weapons, drugs and money-laundering.

India's strong cultural and historical connection with the SCO region and reiterated India's strong responsibility towards fortifying network in the district with activities like International North-South Transport Corridor, Chabahar Port and Ashgabat Agreement.

India likewise stretched out full help to noticing the twentieth commemoration of SCO in 2021 as the "SCO Year of Culture".

Prime Minister congratulated President EmomaliRahmon of the Republic of Tajikistan for assuming the chairmanship of SCO next year and assured full cooperation from India.

India Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited Meeting was on 12 November

The 33rd Annual General Meeting of Shareholders (IREDA) of India Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) was held on November 12, 2020.
The meeting emphasized that the country's green energy mix continues to grow in quantity and quality.

**Highlights:**
The meeting emphasized that the quantity and quality of the country's green energy continue to grow. It is expected to be further promoted through various government policy measures, such as the PM-KUSUM plan, solar and wind energy hybrid technology, ethanol and compressed biogas (CBG) and other biofuels, electric vehicles and related infrastructure, coastal wind energy, solar roof plans, etc.

The Ministry of New Energy and Renewable Energy launched the "Pradhan Mantri Kisan Urja Suraksha even Utthan Mahabhiyan (PM KUSUM) Program", which aims to install solar pumps and grid-connected solar and other renewable energy power plants in the country for farmers.

The target of the plan is to increase the production capacity of solar and other renewable energy sources by 25,750 MW by 2022, with the total support of Rs. Rs 34,422 crore, including service fees to implementing agencies. The plan consists of three parts:

Component A: Decentralized ground-mounted renewable power plants of 10,000 MW. The scale of a single power plant does not exceed 2 MW. Component B: Install 17.5 million independent solar agricultural pumps, the capacity of a single pump is up to 7.5 HP. Component C: The single pump capacity of Solaris 100 thousand grid-connected agricultural pumps does not exceed 7.5 HP.

The plan will have a significant impact on the environment in terms of saving carbon dioxide emissions. Together, all three components of the plan may save about 27 million tons of carbon dioxide emissions each year.

In addition, the measures in Part B of the plan regarding stand-alone solar pumps may result in annual savings of 1.2 billion litres of diesel fuel and foreign exchange savings due to reduced crude oil imports.

The plan has direct employment potential. In addition to increasing self-employment, the proposal may also create jobs equivalent to 63.1 trillion working years for skilled and unskilled workers.

**IREDA:**
IREDA (Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency) is India's leading financial institution dedicated to clean energy expansion. Since its establishment in 1987, IREDA has provided the largest share of funding for renewable energy
projects in India. The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) is a non-bank financial institution under the administration of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

**India-Luxembourg Virtual Summit to be on 19 November**

A Virtual Summit will be held between Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Luxembourg H.E. Mr Xavier Bettel on November 19, 2020.

**Highlights:**
- This will be the first independent summit between India and Luxembourg in the past two decades.
- The leaders will discuss all aspects of bilateral relations, including strengthening cooperation between India and Luxembourg in the post-COVID world.
- They will exchange views on international and global issues of common concern.
- Recently, India and Luxembourg continue to maintain high-level exchanges.
- The prime ministers of the two countries have met three times before.

**PM to inaugurate Bengaluru Tech Summit on 19th November**

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate Bengaluru Tech Summit on 19th November 2020 via video conferencing.

**Highlights:**
- The Bangalore Tech Summit is scheduled to be held from 19th to 21st November 2020.
- The summit was organised by the Government of Karnataka along with Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), Karnataka government's Vision Group on Information Technology, Biotechnology &StartUp, Software Technology Parks of India (STPI) and MM ActivSci-Tech Communications.
- The Bangalore Tech Summit will invite H.E. Prime Minister of Australia Mr Scott Morrison, Vice Chairman of the Swiss Confederation Mr Guy Palmerin and many other internationally renowned figures.
- In addition to them, thought leaders, industry leaders, technical experts, researchers, innovators, investors, policymakers and educators from India and the world will also participate in the summit.
- This year, the theme of the summit is "The next step is now."
The summit will discuss the major challenges in the post-pandemic world, focusing on the impact of outstanding technologies and innovations in the fields of "information technology and electronics" and "biotechnology"

**PM Modi to Address The 3rd Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum**

PM Shri Narendra Modi will deliver a speech at the 3rd Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum on 17th November 2020.

**Highlights:**

Bloomberg New Economic Forum was established in 2018 by Mr Michael Bloomberg.

It seeks to build a community of leaders for real dialogue, to provide feasible solutions to the serious challenges facing the world economy during the historic turning point.

The first forum was held in Singapore, and the second annual forum was held in Beijing.

These cover a range of topics including global economic management, trade and investment, technology, urbanization, capital markets, climate change and inclusiveness.

This year, as the world economy is struggling to cope with the Covid-19 pandemic, the forum will witness discussions around refuelling and pointing the way for the future.

**East Asia Summit Held in Vietnam**

The 15th East Asia Summit was held in Hanoi, Vietnam on November 14, 2020.

**Highlights:**

The East Asia Summit is a major forum in the Asia-Pacific region, covering issues related to security and defence.

Since its establishment in 2005, it has been playing an important role in East Asia's strategy, geopolitics and economic development.

The East Asia Summit is regarded as a forum led by leaders to exchange views on
strategic issues and compliance with international law, respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, and promote a rule-based global order.

It includes 10 ASEAN member states, as well as India, China, Japan, the Republic of Korea, Australia, New Zealand, the United States and Russia.

G20 Leaders Summit to be On 21 November

At the invitation of His Majesty King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, Custodian of the Two Holy Mosques, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will be attending the 15th G20 Summit chaired by the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia,

**Highlights**

The theme of the 15th G20 Summit is "Realizing the "Opportunities for All in the 21st Century" meeting to be held from November 21 to November 22, 2020.

The summit is to be held in a virtual format.

The upcoming summit will be the second G20 summit in 2020.

Following the telephone conversation between the Prime Minister and the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia, the last G20 Special Leaders Summit was held in March 2020, and the leaders kept pace with the times.

The Group of 20 (G20) countries helped to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and form a globally coordinated response.

The aim of the upcoming G20 summit will be the inclusive, resilient and sustainable recovery from COVID-19.

During the G20 summit, leaders will discuss pandemic prevention and ways to resume work.

Leaders will also share their vision for building an inclusive, sustainable and resilient future.

India will enter the G20 Troika, along with Saudi Arabia when Italy will take over the Presidency of the G-20 on 1st December, 2020.

APEC Meeting was Held Virtually

Recently the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Vision Leaders Meeting was held recently. APEC (Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation) is a regional economic forum established in 1989 to take advantage of the growing
interdependence in the Asia-Pacific region.

**Highlights:**

The goal of APEC is to create greater prosperity for the people in the region by promoting balanced, inclusive, sustainable, innovative and safe growth and accelerating regional economic integration.

APEC is a cooperative, multilateral economic and trade forum.

The APEC secretariat is located in Singapore and is the core support mechanism of the APEC process.

There are currently 21 member economies. It includes Australia; Brunei Darussalam; Canada; Chile; People's Republic of China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Republic of Korea; Malaysia; Mexico; New Zealand; Papua New Guinea; Peru; Filipinos; Russian Federation; Singapore; China Taipei; Thailand; United States; Vietnam; India is a non-member.

**First-Ever India-Luxembourg Virtual Summit Was Held**

The first-ever India-Luxembourg Virtual Summit was held. In 1948, India established diplomatic relations with the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg.

**Highlights:**

Three important agreements were signed at the virtual summit:

1. Memorandum of Understanding between India International Exchange (India INX) and Luxembourg Stock Exchange: Provide cooperation in the financial services industry, maintain an orderly securities market, ESG (environmental, social and governance) and green finance in the local market.
2. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the National Bank of India and the Luxembourg Stock Exchange: Provide cooperation for financial services in the local market, industry maintenance of orderly securities markets, ESG (Environmental, Social and Governance) and green finance.
3. Memorandum of Understanding between Invest India and Luxinnovation: Support and develop mutual commercial cooperation between Indian and Luxembourg companies, including the promotion and facilitation of or proposed inbound foreign direct investment from Indian and Luxembourg investors.
SCHEMES

PLI Scheme Extended to 10 Key Sectors

Union Cabinet has revealed the Production-Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme to encourage domestic manufacturing investments in ten key sectors.

**Highlights:**

- PLI centres to support homegrown assembling and cut down on imports by giving money motivators on gradual deals from items made in the nation.
- Other than welcoming unfamiliar organizations to set shop in India, the plan means to urge neighbourhood organizations to set up or extend, existing assembling units.
- 10 new areas added. The ten areas have been recognized based on their capability to make occupations and make India confident, which include:
  - Advance ChemistryCell (ACC) Battery
  - Electronic/Technology Products
  - Automobiles & Auto Components
  - Pharmaceuticals drugs
  - Telecom & Networking Products
  - Textile Products: MMF segment and technical textiles
  - Food Products
  - High-Efficiency Solar PV Modules
  - White Goods (ACs & LED)
  - Speciality Steel

PM FME Scheme is Added With Capacity Building Component

The Union Minister for Food Processing Industries inaugurates capacity building component as a part of PM-FME Scheme.

**Highlights:**

- The Minister also released GIS One District One Product (ODOP).
- The GIS One District One Product digital map of India provides detailed information on ODOP products in all states and provides convenience for stakeholders.
- The digital map also has indicators for tribes, SC, ST and ideal areas.
- This will enable stakeholders to make concerted efforts for the development of its
value chain.

**Getting MGNREGS Wages Harder than the Labour**

The problems faced by rural workers who rely on the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Program (MGNREGS).

**Highlights:**

According to a study by the Indian company LibTech, many workers are forced to go to the bank multiple times, increasing travel costs and loss of income, and face the trouble of repeated refusal to pay, biometric errors and misinformation, just to make their own wages.

The study found that almost 40% of workers must go to bank branches multiple times to withdraw money.

The branch is usually located at the block headquarters, far from home. The time at the bank is three to four hours. Workers also lose their wages when they try to withdraw money.

This effectively solves the situation where one-third of the weekly salary is spent. Studies have also found that only one in ten workers will receive a text message stating that their wages have been recorded. One-third of workers must visit bank branches to find out whether their wages have been credited.

It was also discovered that although they were told that the salary was credited, they found that the money was not credited to the account.

The challenge of the last mile makes it difficult for workers to get their wages in time.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, this situation has worsened as transportation has become more difficult.
IMPORTANT DAYS

Foundation Day Celebrations at NIPER-Hyderabad


**Highlights:**
- NIPERs are organizations of national significance under the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers, GOI.
- NIPERs are autonomous foundations engaged with advanced education, innovative work in the drug sciences.
- The first NIPER was set up in Mohali in 1998.
- As of now, there are seven such NIPERs in Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Hajipur, Guwahati and Rae Bareli. The six were set up in 2007.
- NIPER is an individual from the Association of Indian Universities and the Association of Commonwealth Universities.
- Thrust areas for research of the organizations incorporate tuberculosis, jungle fever, diabetes, Leishmaniasis and immunomodulation.

National Education Day is on 11th November

National Education Day is acknowledged on November 11 every year in the view of honouring first educational minister Mr Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

**Highlights:**
- The day is observed as appreciation for India's first education minister Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, whose birth commemoration falls on 11 November.
- In his reign as education minister from 1947 to 1958, Azad made several significant commitments in the field of education.
- The Union HRD Ministry (at present the Education Ministry) organized the recognition of the National Education Day in 2008.

**Maulana Abul Kalam Azad:**
Maulana Abul Kalam Azad has his native in Mecca of Saudi Arabia to a Muslim researcher from Bengal with an Afghan family, Maulana Muhammad Khairuddin
and his Arab spouse. The family of Abul Kalam Azad had moved to Saudi Arabia after the Revolt of 1857. In 1890 they got back to Calcutta. Azad mastered a few dialects like Urdu, Persian, Hindi, English, Bengali and Arabic. He indicated learnedness at a youthful age and was contributing articles to magazines and educating while in his youngsters itself. He was distributing a famous month to month magazine Lissan-us-Sidq when he was only 12 years of age.

National Epilepsy Day is on 17 November

National Epilepsy Day is celebrated every November 17. The purpose of celebrating this day is to raise people's awareness of epilepsy. 

Highlights:

- Epilepsy is a chronic brain disease. It can cause repeated attacks or attacks. Seizures occur due to sudden and excessive discharge of brain cells or neurons.
- The disease can only be diagnosed after the patient has at least one attack. Epilepsy mostly occurs in children and children over 65 years of age.
- According to the World Health Organization, about 50 million people worldwide suffer from epilepsy. 80% of them are from developing countries.
- This disease can be cured. However, most patients with epilepsy in developing countries do not receive proper treatment. In India, more than 10 million people suffer from epilepsy. It affects women and men of all races.
- In low- and middle-income countries, people with epilepsy have higher early deaths than high-income countries.
- In low-income countries, approximately 75% of epilepsy patients are at risk of premature death. This is due to the lack of antiepileptic drugs.
- The treatment gap for epilepsy is very high. If they have appropriate medicines, about 70% of epilepsy patients can have seizures for free. The cost of medicine is very low, about $5 per year. The problem is that either the disease cannot be determined or the medicine cannot be obtained.
- Half of the adults with epilepsy suffer from anxiety and depression. These health conditions worsen epilepsy. Children with epilepsy have difficulty learning.

National Children's Day is observed on 14 November

India celebrated Children's Day on November 14th to commemorate Nehru's
birthday. Jawaharlal Nehru was born on November 14, 1889, Nehru has great love, care and affection for children, so they call him Chacha Nehru.

**Highlights:**

Celebrate Children's Day to raise awareness of children's rights, care and education. Children are the country's future and the key to success and development.

It leads the country in new technological ways. There is no doubt that they are gifts from the gods to their parents, innocent, admirable, and loved by everyone and Chacha Nehru. Children's Day is also called Bal Diwas. Chacha Nehru mainly likes children and roses.

According to Jawaharlal Nehru (Jawaharlal Nehru), children should be nurtured with care and love, because they are the country's future and tomorrow's citizens. They are the power of the country and the foundation of society.

Children's Day is celebrated every year to raise awareness of children's rights, care and education. Children are the key to national success and development.

Jawaharlal Nehru also loves children.

He has always liked being with children. After India became independent, he did a lot of outstanding work for children and youth. When he became prime minister, his first task was to educate children.

**Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru:**

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was born on November 14, 1889. He is the first prime minister of India to rule the country for the longest time. He is a great follower of peace and prosperity. Pandit Nehru Jayanti is a national festival in India. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru is not only known for his political career or service to the country, but also famous among children. His love for children is the same as for red roses.

**World Diabetes Day is observed on 14 November**

The World Health Organization - WHO launched an initiative to expand people's access to affordable insulin on the occasion of World Diabetes Day. November 14 is the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting. He and Charles Best discovered insulin together in 1922.

**Highlights:**

The theme for World Diabetes Day 2020 is The Nurse and Diabetes.
India's National Non-Communicable Disease (NCD) goal is to prevent the prevalence of obesity and diabetes from rising.

The 2010 National Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Disease, and Stroke Prevention and Control Program (NPCDCS) supports diagnosis and cost-effective treatment at various levels of healthcare.

Diabetes is a non-communicable disease - NCD that occurs when the pancreas cannot produce enough insulin (a hormone that regulates blood sugar or glucose) or the body cannot effectively use the insulin it produces.

Diabetes affects five major organs, namely the kidneys, heart, blood vessels, nervous system and eyes (retina).

Factors leading to increased diabetes include unhealthy diet, lack of physical exercise, harmful use of alcohol, overweight/obesity, smoking, etc.

World Road Traffic Victims Memorial Day is Observed on 15 November

World Road Traffic Victims Memorial Day was held on November 15, 2020. November 15th is World Road Traffic Victims Memorial Day. World Road Traffic Victims Memorial Day is scheduled for November 15, 2020. Every third Sunday in November is a proper recognition of road traffic accident victims and their families.

Road traffic victims:
Road traffic accidents are the major reason for death for all age groups, as well as the leading cause of death for children and young people aged 5-29. The United Nations reports that in low-income countries, the risk of death from road traffic accidents is higher than in high-income countries. In addition, more than half of road traffic deaths are among vulnerable road users.

History:
The World Road Traffic Victims Day was launched in 1993 by the Road Peace Organization. This anniversary is observed and promoted by a number of non-governmental organizations worldwide, including the European Federation of Road Traffic Victims (FEVR) and related organizations. On October 26, 2005, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed Resolution 60/5, and designated the third Sunday in November each year as the World Road Traffic Victims Memorial Day. The World Health Organization and the United Nations Road Safety Cooperation Organization encourage governments and non-governmental organizations around the world to commemorate this day.
International Day for Tolerance is celebrated on 16 November

Every year, UNESCO and several other international organizations celebrate the International Day for Tolerance on November 16. This day is celebrated to raise awareness of the importance of tolerance in society. It also aims to raise awareness of the negative effects of intolerance.

**Highlights:**

According to UNESCO, tolerance is an attribute that helps people live in peace. According to UNESCO's 1995 Declaration of Principles of Tolerance, tolerance is the acceptance, respect and appreciation of world cultures and human lifestyles. This is also the basic theme of the 2020 International Day for Tolerance.

The United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution commemorating the International Day of Tolerance in 1996.

UNESCO awards the Madan Jeet Singh Prize every year to promote tolerance and non-violence. The award was awarded on the International Day of Tolerance. The winner will receive a prize amount of 100,000 U.S. dollars.

Madan Jeet Singh is an Indian diplomat. He was born in Lahore, British India in 1924. In 1942, he actively participated in the Mahatma Gandhi movement to disperse India against Indian colonial rule.

Madan Jeet is in jail for his actions against the British government. He joined the Indian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in 1953 and has served in Greece, Yugoslavia, the Lost, Sweden, Spain, the Soviet Union, Sweden, and Denmark. He joined India in 1982 as UNESCO Ambassador. In 2000, Madan Jit became a goodwill ambassador to the United Nations.

The UNESCO Executive Board established the UNESCO Madan Jet Singh Prize to recognize his life-long dedication to the cause of peace and community harmony, in recognition of his tolerance and non-violence.

UNESCO will celebrate 1995 as the United Nations Year of Tolerance. This is related to the 125th birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. The 1995 celebration was funded by Madan Jeet Singh.

**Formation of Jharkhand State**

The Prime Minister paid tribute to the chief of the tribe, Birsa Munda, on the 10th
anniversary of his birth on November 15. Jharkhand, carved from Bihar, was formally established on Munda's birthday in 2000.

**Highlights:**

The name "Jharkhand" means "Forest Land". November 15, 2000—the birthday anniversary of the legendary Bhagwan Birsa Munda, the state was established under the Bihar State Reorganization Act.

Jharkhand shares borders with Bihar in the north, Uttar Pradesh and Chhattisgarh in the north, Orissa in the south and West Bengal in the east.

Most of the state is located on the Chotanagpur Plateau, which is the birthplace of the Koel, Damodar, Brahmani, Kharkai and Subarnarekha rivers, and its upper basin is located in Jharkhand.

The forest protects the habitat of tigers and Asian elephants (Betra National Park). Jharkhand holds 40% and 29% of India's mineral and coal reserves, respectively. Jharkhand has 32 tribal groups, including Munda, Cole, Santare, Oran, Comte, Azul, Gunde, etc.

**Birsa Munda:**

Munda was born on November 15, 1875, belonged to the Munda tribe in the Chotanagpur Plateau area. Birsa Munda, also known as Dharti Aaba (Father of the Earth), mobilized tribal communities against Britain and forced colonial officials to enact laws to protect tribal land rights. Birsa died of cholera in the jail.

**Indian Army Celebrates 240th Corps of Engineers Day**

Indian Army celebrated the 240th Corps of Engineers Day on 18 November 2020.

**Highlights:**

At the grand ceremony held at the "National War Memorial", Chief Engineer Lieutenant General SK Shrivastava, along with other serving officials, JCO and other military ranks, laid a wreath here to pay tribute to those brave soldiers who gave their lives for the country.

The Engineer Corps not only provides combat engineering support, but also develops infrastructure for the armed forces and other defense organizations, and maintains connectivity across our vast border areas, and can also provide assistance to civilians during natural disasters.

These tasks are performed through the four pillars of the Corps: Combat Engineer, Military Engineer Service, Border Highway Organization, and Military
Investigation.

The Engineer Corps was divided into three groups, namely Madras Sappers, Bengal Sappers and Bombay Sappers, which merged into the Corps on November 18, 1932.

Since its establishment, history is full of outstanding contributions to war and peace by the Engineer Corps.

**World Philosophy Day is Observed on 3rd November**

Every year 3rd Thursday of November is celebrated as World Philosophy Day. Philosophy denotes the study of the nature of existence and reality, what may be known, and right and wrong behavior. It comes from the Greek philosopha, which means "love of wisdom".

**Highlights:**

- It is one of the most important areas of human thought, because it aspires to understand the true meaning of life.
- UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization established World Philosophy Day in 2002 with the following goals:
  - Update national, sub-regional, regional and international commitments to philosophy;
  - Strengthen philosophical analysis and research on major contemporary issues in order to more effectively deal with the challenges faced by mankind today;
  - To increase the public's importance to philosophy and its critical use in many societies' choices from the influence of globalization or entry into modernity;
  - Assess the state of philosophy teaching around the world, with special emphasis on unequal opportunities;
  - Emphasize the importance of popularizing philosophy education for future generations.

The 2020 edition invites the world to reflect on the meaning of the current pandemic and emphasizes that more than ever, it is necessary to resort to philosophical reflection to deal with the multiple crises we are experiencing.

The health crisis has brought into question all aspects of our society.

Philosophy helps us to walk the necessary distance to better advance by stimulating critical thinking about issues that already exist but have been pushed to the forefront by the epidemic.
World Toilet Day is observed on 19th November

Every year, November 19th is World Toilet Day. World Toilet Day is the United Nations Day of Remembrance, which aims to celebrate toilets and raise awareness of the 4.2 billion people who do not have safe sanitation facilities.

**Highlights:**
- World Toilet Day involves taking action to respond to the global health crisis and achieving Sustainable Development Goal 6: water and sanitation for all by 2030.
- The theme of World Toilet Day 2020: Sustainable Sanitation and Climate Change.
- 2013 is the first official World Toilet Day.
- One-third of the people on this planet still cannot use clean and safe toilets; 1,000 children die every day due to poor sanitation; better sanitation can improve nutrition and health, especially for women and children.
- In India, Jal Shakti (Jal Shakti) Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) led the "Swachi Bharat Mission-Glayen (SBMG)" commemorative event to improve people's safety Awareness of sanitation and promotion of the major contributions of various regions to Swachhata.

Africa Industrialization Day is Observed on 20 November

Every November 20th is Africa Industrialization Day. The day focused on the problems and challenges of African industrialization. An event was also held on Africa Industrialization Day to make all the media notice the problems and difficulties of African industrialization. Africa Industrialization Day is held on a global scale, not a public holiday.

**Highlights:**
- The Theme for 2020 is Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the African Continental Free Trade Area era. Since 2018, Africa Industrialization Day has been successfully commemorated with weeklong events.
- Africa Industrialization Day was officially established by the United Nations General Assembly in the organization of the Second African Industrial Development Decade in 1989 and has been praised every year since then.
- Africa Industrialization Day was established by the 25th regular meeting of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) Heads of State and Government in 1989.
Africa Industrialization Day presented an interesting stage to increase general participation and discussion of Africa's industrialization plan, and pointed out the opportunities and difficulties associated with this progress drive. There are many activities on Africa Industrialization Day.

Many of these include nearby and public pioneers and public and general non-legislative associations. Africa Industrialization Day makes every effort to work with the pioneers or representatives of any number of African countries in Africa to encourage dialogue about African industrialization and to investigate the progress of the previous year.

The UNIDO (United Nations Industrial Development Organization) plays a vital role in organizing and coordinating these events on or around Africa Industrialization Day.

In addition, the UNIDO base camp in Vienna, Austria also delivered clear instructions. These announcements came from the pioneers of the African Union, the Economic Commission for Africa and the United Nations.

It is trustworthy that these gatherings will raise the world's awareness of the importance of Africa's industrialization and remind the global network that more than 30 of the world's 50 least developed countries are located in Africa.

**Background:**
In July 1989, the OAU (Organization of African Unity) announced the commemoration of Africa Industrialization Day at the 25th regular meeting of the OAU Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. On December 22, 1989, the UNGA (United Nations General Assembly) declared November 20 as Africa Industrialization Day. This day was first observed around the world in 1990.

**World Children's Day is Observed on 20 November**

The World Children's Day is celebrated on November 20 every year to promote international solidarity and awareness of children around the world and improve the welfare of children.

**Highlights:**

In order to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the founding of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) launched the Going Blue campaign. The Indian Parliament is also part of the Parliament. India celebrates Children's Day on November 14 every year. India ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1992.

The mortality rate of children under the age of 5 has dropped significantly from 117 per 1,000 live births in 1990 to 39 in 2016. The number of children receiving drinking water increased from 62% in 1992 to 92% in 2019.

The National Child Policy of 2013 was passed to confirm the government's commitment to a rights-based approach to the ongoing challenges in the situation of children.

In the same period, the "Right to Education Act 2009" increased the primary school enrollment rate of girls from 61% to almost universal.

According to the 2006 Prohibition of Child Marriage Law, the prevalence of child marriage dropped from 47% in 2005-2006 to girls before the age of 18, and to 27% in 2015-2016.

Through innovative programs and methods such as Beti Bachao-Beti Padhao, Child-Friendly Schools, Children's Budget and POSHAN Abhiyan, the state and federal governments are ensuring that children receive appropriate protection and opportunities for growth and development.

The theme of International children day 2020 is, Investing in our future means investing in our children.

**Convention on the Rights of the Child:**
It is a treaty adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1989. According to the "Convention", everyone under the age of 18 is considered a child. It stipulates the racial, political, economic, social and cultural rights of every child, regardless of race, religion or ability. It includes the right to education, the right to rest and leisure, and the right to protect against mental or physical abuse (including rape and sexual exploitation). This is the widely ratified human rights treaty in the world.

**World Television Day is Observed on 21 November**

Every year, the world celebrates World Television Day on November 21 to recognize the importance of visual media.
**Highlights**

The first World Television Forum was celebrated on 21st November in 1996 and the day later came to be known as World Television Day.

Television is a symbol of communication and globalization.

It can educate, inform, entertain and influence our decisions and opinions.

Since its invention, TV has undergone several changes from colour TV to smart TV, and several upgrades over the years have impacted the consumers' lives.

**Visual media and its impacts:**

The television brought forth an opportunity for people to have access to entertainment.

It gives humans the opportunity to consume and feel information.

With the advent of television, people felt that they were part of the same universe and similar to each other.

Not only that, TV has also become a way of socializing.

In every family, people gather in front of the screen to watch their favorite shows.

When they watch shows and movies, a sense of representation surpasses them.
AGREEMENTS MOU

RAA Signed Between Japan and Australia

Japan and Australia signed a landmark defence agreement (Reciprocal Visit Agreement - RAA) to counter the growth of China's influence in the South China Sea and the entire Pacific island nations.

**Highlights:**
- The Reciprocal Visit Agreement (RAA) was reached a few weeks after the foreign ministers of the Quartet Alliance, including the United States and India, met in Tokyo.
- The agreement allows the Japanese and Australian troops to visit each other's countries and conduct training and joint operations.
- The Prime Minister of Australia said the treaty would strengthen the security relationship between the two countries and promote cooperation between the Defence Forces.
- The two sides also agreed that a framework was needed to allow the Japanese army to protect the Australian military when needed.

GoI and NDB Signs Agreement for USD 500 Million

The New Development Bank (NDB), headquartered in Shanghai, has approved a US$500 million loan fund for the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) project to further improve the public transport system and ease the national capital area. Crowding took a step forward. The Ministry of Urban Affairs, the Ministry of Finance, the National Capital Region Transportation Corporation (NCRTC) and multilateral banks signed loan agreements.

**Highlights:**
- These funds will be used to finance rolling stock, signalling systems, operating structures, operating personnel's residences, train control and telecommunications systems.
- The loan term of the China Development Bank is 25 years and the grace period is 8 years. The lack of effective public transportation options and the rapid increase in vehicle traffic have made the National Capital Region one of the most polluted areas in the world.
The Ministry of Finance stated that by 2030, NCR is expected to become the most populous urban area in the world, which will increase the pressure on housing, water supply, electricity and transportation facilities.

The purpose of the express rail project is to establish a high-speed commuter rail network connecting Delhi with adjacent cities. The 82-kilometer Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut RRTS will be implemented in phases between cities. The train will reduce the time of travel from Delhi to Meerut from the current 3-4 hours to less than one hour.

Funds from the New Development Bank will also be used to purchase signal, telecommunications and train control systems with advanced functions, such as automatic train operation, automatic train protection, automatic train supervision and integration with platform screen doors.

The project can serve as a demonstration of the development of high-capacity rapid urban transport corridors in other urban areas of India.

**MOU Signed For Indias First Green Energy Convergence Project**

Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), a joint venture between PSU under the Ministry of Power and the Department of New Renewable Energy (DNRE) of Goa City, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to implement India's first convergence project in India.

**Highlights:**

According to the MoU, EESL and DNRE will conduct feasibility studies and subsequently implement decentralized solar projects.

EESL will implement solar projects, including:

- (a) Establish a 100 MW decentralized ground-mounted solar power project on government land for agricultural water pumping.
- (b) Replace approximately 6,300 agricultural pumps with BEE-star energy-saving pumps.
- (c) Distribute approximately 160,000 LED bulbs to rural families.

These projects will speed up the use of renewable energy, especially in the state's agriculture and rural electricity.

**World Bank, GoI and Meghalaya Govt. signs Meghalaya Integrated Transport Project**
The government of India, the government of Meghalaya and the World Bank signed a $120 million project to improve and modernize the transportation sector in Meghalaya.

**Highlights:**

The project will improve approximately 300 kilometres of strategic road sections and independent bridges through the use of innovative, climate-resilient, nature-based solutions. It will support innovative solutions, such as precast bridges, to reduce construction time and costs.

MITP will help Meghalaya develop reliable, climate-resistant and safe roads, which are vital to the state's economic development.

About half of the state's 5,362 residential areas lack transportation links. The operation will also support the state government's "Restart Meghalaya Mission" to revive and promote development activities affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
Arunachal Pradesh Tops the Sex Ratio

The Registrar of India released the 2018 report on "Indian vital statistics based on the civil registration system". Sex ratio is a demographic concept used to measure the ratio of women to men in a given population. The sex ratio at birth is the no. of women born per 1,000 men.

**Highlights:**

According to the report, the sex ratio in Arunachal Pradesh is the highest in the country, while the sex ratio in Manipur is the worst.

Arunachal Pradesh recorded 1084 women per 1,000 men, followed by Nagaland (965) Mizoram (964), Kerala (963) and Karnataka (957).

Manipur (757), Lakshadweep (839) and Dammam and Diu (877), Punjab (896) and Gujarat (897) reported the most serious reports.

The number of registered births in 2018 increased from 2.21 million in the previous year to 2.33 million. The number of birth registrations increased from 81.3% in 2009 to 89.3% in 2018.

The prescribed time limit for registration of a birth or death is 21 days. However, some countries still record births and deaths even after one year.

The life or death reported one year later should be registered by the first-class magistrate only after the correctness has been verified and the prescribed fees have been paid.

Param Siddhi Supercomputer Positioned In 63rd Place

India's AI supercomputer Param Siddhi ranks 63rd among the world's top 500 most powerful non-distributed computer systems.

**About Param Siddhi**

Param Siddhi is a high-performance computing artificial intelligence (HPC-AI) supercomputer established under C-DAC's National Supercomputing Mission (NSM).

The supercomputer with Rpeak 5.267 Petaflops and 4.6 Petaflops Rmax (continued) was conceived by C-DAC and jointly developed with the support of the Department of Science and Technology (DST) of the Department of Electronics...
and Information Technology of NSM.

The Param Siddhi supercomputer is based on the NVIDIA DGX Super POD reference architecture network and the HPC-AI engine, software framework and cloud platform developed locally by C-DAC, which will help deep learning, visual computing, virtual reality, accelerated computing and graphics virtualization.

**India ranked 77th In Global Bribery Risk Matrix Of TRACE**

In 2019, India ranked 78th with 48 points. By 2020, India will perform better than China, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal. Bhutan is the only neighbour who ranked higher than India. Bhutan is ranked 48th.

**Highlights:**

The ranking is prepared by TRACE International. It is the world's leading anti-bribery standard-setting organization. The TRACE Bribery Risk Matrix (2020) measures bribery in 194 jurisdictions.

The jurisdictions are ranked based on scores. The score is calculated based on four parameters. They are the transparency of the government and the civil service system, business dealings with the government, the ability of civil society to monitor, and the deterrence and law enforcement capabilities of anti-bribery.

Although jurisdictions are weighed based on these four parameters, their role must also be considered when scoring the media. When a country gets the highest score, it means that the country is at higher risk of commercial bribery. The smaller the score, the less bribery the country has.

India's overall score is 45. In the field of interaction with the government, India scored 50 points. In the field of anti-bribery deterrence and law enforcement, India scored 53 points.

In the field of government and civil service transparency, India scored 36 points. India's opinion poll scored 40. This shows that compared with other major parameters, India's civil servants are highly transparent. Civil servants have always been regarded as the pillars of Indian governance.

Denmark tops the list, followed by Norway, Finland, Sweden and New Zealand. At the bottom are North Korea, Turkmenistan, South Sudan, Venezuela and Eritrea.
QUIZ CORNER

1) Foundation Day of NIPER-Hyderabad is on ________________

A. November 10  
B. November 11  
C. November 12  
D. November 13

Answer A


2) The first NIPER was set up in Mohali in _____________

A. 1997  
B. 1998  
C. 1987  
D. 1989

Answer B

Explanation NIPERs are autonomous foundations engaged with advanced education, innovative work in the drug sciences. The first NIPER was set up in Mohali in 1998.

3) Which of the following places doesn't have NIPER?

A. Ahmedabad  
B. Kolkata  
C. Hyderabad  
D. None of these

Answer D

Explanation The first NIPER was set up in Mohali in 1998. As of now, there are seven such NIPERs in Ahmedabad, Kolkata, Hyderabad, Hajipur, Guwahati and Rae Bareli. The six were set
4) National Education Day is on _____________

A. November 09  
B. November 10  
C. November 11  
D. November 12

**Answer C**

**Explanation** National Education Day is acknowledged on November 11 every year in the view of honouring first educational minister Mr Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

5) National Education Day is observed on the birthday of _____________

A. Maulana Abul Kalam Azad  
B. Fakhruddin Ali Ahmed  
C. Triguna Sen  
D. None of the above

**Answer A**

**Explanation** National Education Day is acknowledged on November 11 every year in the view of honouring first educational minister Mr Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.

6) Maulana Abul Kalam Azad was born in _____________

A. Medina  
B. Mecca  
C. Pakistan  
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Maulana Abul Kalam Azad has his native in Mecca of Saudi Arabia to a Muslim researcher from Bengal with Afghan family, Maulana Muhammad Khairuddin and his Arab spouse.
7) Which of the following languages are known by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad?

A. Hindi  
B. English  
C. Persian  
D. All the above

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Azad mastered a few dialects like Urdu, Persian, Hindi, English, Bengali and Arabic. He indicated learnedness at a youthful age and was contributing articles to magazines and educating while in his youngsters itself.

8) Hunar Haats have become a Mega Mission of indigenous ________________

A. Art  
B. Food  
C. Culture  
D. All the above

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Hunar Haats have become a Mega Mission of indigenous art, food and culture and financial strengthening of expert craftsmans and specialists.

9) Haats are coordinated under the ________________

A. Ministry of Home Affairs  
B. Ministry of External affairs  
C. USTTAD  
D. None of the above

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Aside from giving work openings, they likewise give these craftsmans new organizations. These Haats are coordinated under the USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) plan of the central government.

10) USTTAD was launched in ____________
A.2016
B.2012
C.2010
D.2015

Answer D

Explanation The main aim of Upgrading the Skills and Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development (USTTAD) to safeguard the legacy of conventional expressions and artworks of minority networks and construct limit of customary specialties people and craftsmans and set up linkages of customary abilities with the worldwide market. It was launched in 2015.

11) Which of the following states took the 1st position National Water Awards 2019?

A.TamilNadu
B.Rajasthan
C.Maharashtra
D.None of the above

Answer A

Explanation The Best State Awards for first 3 positions were backed Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

12) Which of the following states took the 2nd position National Water Awards 2019?

A.Tamilnadu
B.Rajasthan
C.Maharashtra
D.None of the above

Answer C

Explanation The winners of the National Water Awards for the year 2019 have been declared. The Best State Awards for first 3 positions were backed Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.
13) Which of the following states took the 3rd position National Water Awards 2019?

A. Tamilnadu  
B. Rajasthan  
C. Maharashtra  
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The winners of the National Water Awards for the year 2019 have been declared. The Best State Awards for first 3 positions were backed Tamil Nadu, Maharashtra and Rajasthan.

14) Which of the following states backed the National Water Awards 2019 in North?

A. Vellore and YSR Kadapa  
B. Ayodhya and Almora  
C. Sangli and Kachchh  
D. Bilaspur and Surajpur

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Best District Awards in Revival of Rivers and Water Conservation were given to: Ayodhya and Almora - North Vellore and YSR Kadapa - South Sangli and Kachchh - West Bilaspur and Surajpur - East West Tripura (WC) - Northeast

15) Which of the following states backed the National Water Awards 2019 in South?

A. Vellore and YSR Kadapa  
B. Ayodhya and Almora  
C. Sangli and Kachchh  
D. Bilaspur and Surajpur

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Best District Awards in Revival of Rivers and Water Conservation were given to: Ayodhya and Almora - North Vellore and YSR Kadapa - South Sangli and Kachchh - West
16) Which of the following states backed the National Water Awards 2019 in West?
A. Vellore and YSR Kadapa
B. Ayodhya and Almora
C. Sangli and Kachchh
D. Bilaspur and Surajpur

Answer C

Explanation Best District Awards in Revival of Rivers and Water Conservation were given to:
Ayodhya and Almora - North Vellore and YSR Kadapa - South Sangli and Kachchh - West
Bilaspur and Surajpur - East West Tripura (WC) - Northeast

17) Which of the following states backed the National Water Awards 2019 in North - East?
A. Vellore and YSR Kadapa
B. Ayodhya and Almora
C. Sangli and Kachchh
D. West Tripura

Answer D

Explanation Best District Awards in Revival of Rivers and Water Conservation were given to:
Ayodhya and Almora - North Vellore and YSR Kadapa - South Sangli and Kachchh - West
Bilaspur and Surajpur - East West Tripura (WC) - Northeast

18) Which of the following states backed the National Water Awards 2019 in East?
A. Vellore and YSR Kadapa
B. Ayodhya and Almora
C. Sangli and Kachchh
D. Bilaspur and Surajpur

Answer D
Explaination Best District Awards in Revival of Rivers and Water Conservation were given to: Ayodhya and Almora - North Vellore and YSR Kadapa - South Sangli and Kachchh - West Bilaspur and Surajpur - East West Tripura (WC) - Northeast

19) Which among the following countries comes under OPEC +?

A. Azerbaijan
B. Oman
C. Russia
D. All the above

Answer D

Explaination OPEC plus countries include Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan.

20) OPEC is a _____________________________

A. Permanent and intergovernmental organization
B. Non-permanent and intergovernmental organization
C. Non-permanent and governmental organization
D. None of the above

Answer A

Explaination OPEC plus countries include Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Brunei, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Mexico, Oman, Russia, South Sudan and Sudan. OPEC is a permanent and intergovernmental organization.

21) Which among the following sectors comes under PLI schemes?

A. Food Products
B. Pharmaceuticals drugs
C. Telcome and Networking Products
D. All the above

Answer D

Explaination Food Product, Pharmaceuticals drug and Telcome and Networking Products are comes under PLI schemes.
22) Skill India Mission is a government program launched in
__________________
A.2015
B.2016
C.2017
D.2018

Answer A

Explanation Skill India Mission is a government program launched in 2015. This is an umbrella plan, which contains many skill plans and plans. The primary goal is to equip the country's youth with sufficient skills to enable them to work in relevant sectors and increase productivity.

23) National Epilepsy Day is celebrated November ____________ annually
A.16
B.17
C.18
D.19

Answer B

Explanation National Epilepsy Day is celebrated every November 17. The purpose of celebrating this day is to raise people's awareness of epilepsy.

24) Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was born on ____________
A.November 15, 1889.
B.November 13, 1889.
C.November 14, 1889
D.November 16, 1889.

Answer C

Explanation Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was born on November 14, 1889. He is the first prime minister of India to rule the country for the longest time. He is a great follower of peace and prosperity.
25) Who is the first Prime Minister of India?

A. Dr Rajendra Prasad  
B. Pandit Nehru  
C. Mahatma Gandhi  
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was born on November 14, 1889. He is the first prime minister of India to rule the country for the longest time. He is a great follower of peace and prosperity.

26) When the World Diabetes Day is celebrated?

A. 14 November  
B. 15 November  
C. 19 November  
D. 16 November

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The World Health Organization - WHO launched an initiative to expand people's access to affordable insulin on the occasion of World Diabetes Day. November 14 is the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting. He and Charles Best discovered insulin together in 1922.

27) November 14 is the birthday of ____________________________

A. Sir Frederick Banting  
B. Pandit Nehru  
C. Both A and B  
D. None of these

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The World Health Organization - WHO launched an initiative to expand people's access to affordable insulin on the occasion of World Diabetes Day. November 14 is the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting. Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru was born on November 14, 1889. He is the first prime minister of India to rule the country for the longest time. He is a great follower of peace and prosperity.
28) Sir Frederick Banting and Charles Best discovered insulin together in

A.1920  
B.1919  
C.1923  
D.1922

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The World Health Organization - WHO launched an initiative to expand people's access to affordable insulin on the occasion of World Diabetes Day. November 14 is the birthday of Sir Frederick Banting. He and Charles Best discovered insulin together in 1922.

29) Which among the following areas will get the natural gas pipeline in Kochi-Mangaluru Pipeline?

A. Kannur  
B. Kasrgod  
C. Ernakulam  
D. All the above

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Kochi Mangaluru natural gas pipeline project is ready for commissioning. The pipeline will supply natural gas to all seven areas (Ernakulam, Thrissur, Palakkad, Malappuram, Kozhikode, Kannur and Kasargod) that Kerala passes through and the hilly Wayanad area.

30) Which among the following is declared as the largest and fully protected marine reserves in the Atlantic Ocean?

A. St. Helena  
B. Gough island  
C. Tristan da Cunha  
D. Ascension

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Tristan da Cunha was declared the largest fully protected marine reserves in the Atlantic Ocean.
31) Which among the following is prohibited after joining in the British Blue Belt Project?

A. Fishing  
B. Mining  
C. Both a and b  
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** After joining the British "Blue Belt Project", it will become the largest forbidden zone in the Atlantic Ocean and the fourth largest in the world. This means that fishing, mining and any such activities are prohibited.

32) Which among the following states that provides free internet to poor families and public institutions?

A. Karnataka  
B. Kerala  
C. Meghalaya  
D. Assam

**Answer B**

**Explanation** Kerala's goal is to provide free internet to poor families and public institutions by December. The project aims to achieve the government's goal of making Internet access as a "citizen right."

33) The first Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum was held in______________

A. Beijing  
B. Singapore  
C. India  
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The first forum was held in Singapore. In 3rd Annual Bloomberg New Economy cover a range of topics including global economic management, trade and investment,
technology, urbanization, capital markets, climate change and inclusiveness.

34) Which among the following topics will be covered in 3rd Annual Bloomberg New Economy Forum?

A. Trade and investment  
B. Capital markets  
C. Climate change  
D. All the above  

Answer D

Explanation In 3rd Annual Bloomberg New Economy cover a range of topics including global economic management, trade and investment, technology, urbanization, capital markets, climate change and inclusiveness.

35) Wholesale price-based inflation data is released by _____________

A. Ministry of Industry and Commerce  
B. Ministry of Corporate Affairs  
C. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
D. None of the above  

Answer A

Explanation The Wholesale Price Index measures the changes in the prices of goods sold and traded in bulk by wholesale businesses to other businesses and it is Published by the Office of Economic Adviser, Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

36) Reciprocal Visit Agreement is a ________________ Agreement.

A. Defence  
B. Navy  
C. Environment  
D. None of these  

Answer A

Explanation Japan and Australia signed a landmark defence agreement (Reciprocal Visit Agreement - RAA) to counter the growth of China's influence in the South China Sea and the
entire Pacific island nations.

37) In India, which among sites in Visakhapatnam is working to gain UNESCO Global geoparks?

A. Erra Matti Dibbalu  
B. Natural rock formations  
C. Borra caves  
D. All the above  

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The Indian National Trust for Arts and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) is working to gain recognition for the Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) Geopark, which consists of Erra Matti Dibbalu (red sand dunes), natural rock formations, Borra caves and Composition of volcanic ash deposits.

38) Which among the following areas are related to National Tuberculosis Program?

A. Diagnosis  
B. Treatment (including models of care)  
C. Medicines procurement policies  
D. All the above  

**Answer D**

**Explanation** The four key areas of the National Tuberculosis Program (NTP) are Diagnosis, Treatment (including models of care), Prevention and Medicines procurement policies.

39) Symptoms of TB are ____________

A. Chest pain  
B. Weight loss  
C. Both a and b  
D. None of the above  

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Symptoms of TB are Cough with sputum and blood at times, chest pains, weakness,
weight loss, fever and night sweats

40) Sri Rajagopal Vishnu Temple belongs to ________________

A. Chola Period  
B. Vijayanagara period  
C. Nayakars  
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** According to photographs completed in 1958, these idols belonged to Sri Rajagopal Vishnu Temple (a temple built during the Vijayanagara period) in Anandamangaram, Nagapatinam, Tamil Nadu.

41) The bronze idols of Lord Rama, Lakshmana and Goddess Sita can be traced back to ________________

A. 12th century  
B. 14th century  
C. 13th century  
D. 11th century

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The bronze idols of Lord Rama, Lakshmana and Goddess Sita can be traced back to the 13th century AD.

42) Recently, Indian Army celebrated ________________ anniversary of corps Engineers day

A. 175  
B. 200  
C. 210  
D. 240

**Answer D**

**Explanation** Indian Army celebrated the 240th Corps of Engineers Day on 18 November 2020. At the grand ceremony held at the "National War Memorial", Chief Engineer Lieutenant General
SK Shrivastava, along with other serving officials, JCO and other military ranks, laid a wreath here to pay tribute to those brave soldiers who gave their lives for the country.

43) How many groups are there in Engineer corps?

A. 3  
B. 4  
C. 5  
D. 6

Answer A

Explanation The Engineer Corps was divided into three groups, namely Madras Sappers, Bengal Sappers and Bombay Sappers.

44) World Philosophy day was introduced in ________________

A. 2002  
B. 2003  
C. 2004  
D. 2005

Answer A

Explanation UNESCO - United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization established World Philosophy Day in 2002 with the following goals: Update national, sub-regional, regional and international commitments to philosophy; Strengthen philosophical analysis and research on major contemporary issues in order to more effectively deal with the challenges faced by mankind today;

45) World Toilet Day is observed on ________________ November

A. 10  
B. 11  
C. 18  
D. 19

Answer D

Explanation Every year, November 19th is World Toilet Day. World Toilet Day is the United
Nations Day of Remembrance, which aims to celebrate toilets and raise awareness of the 4.2 billion people who do not have safe sanitation facilities.

46) Africa Industrialization Day is Observed on ______________________

A. 20 November  
B. 21 November  
C. 22 November  
D. 23 November

**Answer A**

**Explanation** Every November 20th is Africa Industrialization Day. The day focused on the problems and challenges of African industrialization. An event was also held on Africa Industrialization Day to make all the media notice the problems and difficulties of African industrialization. Africa Industrialization Day is held on a global scale, not a public holiday.

47) Africa Industrialization Day 2020 theme is

______________________________

A. Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).
B. Positioning African Industry to Supply the AfCFTA Market
C. Promoting Regional Value Chains in Africa: A pathway for accelerating Africa's structural transformation, industrialization and pharmaceutical production
D. None

**Answer A**

**Explanation** The Theme for 2020 is Inclusive and sustainable industrialisation in the African Continental Free Trade Area era. Since 2018, the Africa Industrialization Day has been successfully commemorated with weeklong events.

48) Africa Industrialization Day was first observed around the world in

______________________________

A. 1991
B. 1890
C. 1990
D. 1891
Answer C

Explanation On December 22, 1989, the UNGA (United Nations General Assembly) declared November 20 as Africa Industrialization Day. This day was first observed around the world in 1990.

49) World Children's Day is Observed on _____________

A. 14 November  
B. 11 November  
C. 08 November  
D. 20 November  

Answer D

Explanation The World Childrens Day is celebrated on November 20 every year to promote the international solidarity and awareness of children around the world and improve the welfare of children.

50) India celebrates Childrens Day on __________________________every year

A. November 20  
B. November 14  
C. November 11  
D. November 10  

Answer B

Explanation In order to commemorate the 31st anniversary of the founding of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the United Nations Childrens Fund (UNICEF) launched the Going Blue campaign. The Indian Parliament is also part of the Parliament. India celebrates Childrens Day on November 14 every year. India ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child in 1992.

51) The United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration of the Rights of the Child in _____________

A. 1959  
B. 1989  
C. 1969
D.1979

Answer A


52) Which of the following does not come under P5 Countries?

A. China
B. Russia
C. Germany
D. None of these

Answer D

Explanation Iran has reached a Joint Comprehensive Action Plan (JCPOA) with the six world powers known as P5+1 (China, France, Germany, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States), commonly referred to as the Iran Nuclear Agreement. In July 2015.

53) What is the theme of the 15th G20 Summit?

A. Realizing the Opportunities for All in the 21st century
B. Building Consensus for fair and sustainable development
C. Both a and b
D. None of the above

Answer A

Explanation The theme of the 15th G20 Summit is "Realizing the Opportunities for All in the 21st Century.

54) India took _____________th Place In Global Bribery Risk Matrix Of TRACE

A. 75
B. 45
C. 77
D. 47
India took 77th Place In Global Bribery Risk Matrix Of TRACE
In 2019, India ranked 78th with 48 points. By 2020, India will perform better than China, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Nepal. Bhutan is the only neighbor ranked higher than India. Bhutan is ranked 48th.

55) The United Nations General Assembly passed the Convention on the Rights of the Child in ______________

A. 1969
B. 1986
C. 1989
D. 1990

Answer C


56) Television is a symbol of ________________________

A. Communication
B. Globalization
C. Both a and b
D. None of the above

Answer C

Explanation Television is a symbol of communication and globalization. Every year, the world celebrates World Television Day on November 21 to recognize the importance of visual media.

57) Every year, the world celebrates World Television Day on ________________

A. 20th November
B. 21st November
C. 22nd November
D. 23rd November
Answer B

**Explanation** The first World Television Forum was celebrated on 21st November in 1996 and the day later came to be known as World Television Day.

58) What is the IUCN status for Willow Warbler?

A. Extinct  
B. Critically Endangered  
C. Least Concern  
D. None of the above

**Answer C**

**Explanation** IUCN status for Willow Warbler is Least Concern. The Willow Warbler was seen for the first time in the Vellayani-Punchakkari rice fields in Kerala, India.

59) Which ministry launched the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge?

A. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
B. Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs  
C. Ministry of Rural Development  
D. None of the above

**Answer B**

**Explanation** The Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge in 243 cities.

60) Based on which category the cities will be divided for Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge?

A. Population exceeds 10 lakhs  
B. Population upto 4 lakhs  
C. Both a and b  
D. None of the above

**Answer A**
**Explanation** According to Safaimitra Suraksha Challenge the cities will be divided into three sub-categories Population exceeds 10 lakhs, 3-10 lakhs and Up to 3 lakhs.

61) Who signed Indias First Green Energy Convergence Project?

A. Ministry of Power  
B. Department of New Renewable Energy  
C. Both a and b  
D. None of the above

**Answer C**

**Explanation** The Ministry of Power and the Department of New Renewable Energy (DNRE) of Goa City, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MOU) to implement Indias first convergence project in India.

62) Which among the following that covered in 7th round of Foreign Office Consultations?

A. Space  
B. Defence  
C. Both a and b  
D. None of the above

**Answer C**

**Explanation** Consultations covered political, economic and commercial, energy, defense, space, consular and cultural affairs.
DON'T MISS THESE OTHER USEFUL PDFS

May 2020 Current Affairs

June 2020 Current Affairs

July 2020 Current Affairs

August 2020 Current Affairs

September 2020 Current Affairs

October 2020 Current Affairs

Fresherslive provides current affairs for competitive exams like UPSC, PSC, IAS, RRB, IBPS PO Clerk, SBI, RBI, SSC, PSU, and so on.