

GUPTA

CLASSES

CURRENT AFFAIRS

(February 2022)

English

Part-1



GUPTA

CLASSES

Current Affairs Q&A PDF – February 2022

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NATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. Government of India recently (in Jan'22) approved the sale of 93.71 % stake in _____ to Tata Steel Long Products (TSLP) Ltd for Rs 12,100 crore.

- 1) Bharat Aluminum Company
- 2) Hindalco Industries
- 3) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd
- 4) Jindal Steel and Power Ltd
- 5) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd

Answer- 3) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd

Explanation:

The government of India (GoI) approved the sale of ~**93.71** percent stake in Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited (**NINL**) to Tata Steel Long Products (**TSLP**) Limited, at an enterprise value of **Rs 12,100 crore**. This is the **1st** instance of privatization of a public sector steel manufacturing enterprise in India.
i. The Department of Disinvestment & Public Asset Management (DIPAM) was authorized to undertake the transaction.

About Tata Steel Long Products (TSLP) Limited:

Headquarters – Keonjhar, Odisha

Managing Director – Ashish Anupam

2. Geological Survey of India (GSI) recently (in Jan'22) approved to set up of India's 1st GeoPark on the banks of the Narmada river.

Where will the GeoPark be set up?

- 1) Nashik, Maharashtra
- 2) Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
- 3) Junagadh, Gujarat
- 4) Amravati, Maharashtra
- 5) Rajkot, Gujarat

Answer- 2) Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

Explanation:

The Geological Survey of India (GSI), Ministry of Mines, approved the setting up of **India's 1st geopark** at Lamheta village, on the banks of the Narmada river in Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh (MP). The estimated cost of this project is Rs 35 crore.

- i. The GSI has sanctioned Rs. 1.30 crore for the formation of Geopark in 5 acres of land at the Lamheta village which is located 20 km away from the Jabalpur district headquarters.
- ii. MP will also establish a science centre at the cost of Rs 15.20 crore, shared by the Centre and the state (MP) at Bhedaghat, Jabalpur, MP that is known for white marble rock formations and also a famous tourist hotspot.

3. Which state/UT celebrated the 2 day Spituk Gustor Festival on 30th & 31st January 2022?

- 1) Assam
- 2) Ladakh
- 3) Jammu & Kashmir
- 4) Sikkim
- 5) Nagaland

Answer- **2) Ladakh**

Explanation:

Spituk Gustor Festival, a two day annual celebration of **Ladakhi** culture and traditional heritage began on 30th January 2022 in Leh and Ladakh Union Territory (UT). The 2022 festival is celebrated on 30th & 31st January.

i. It is a celebration of peace and prosperity that is celebrated at the Spituk Monastery in Leh and Ladakh UT.

ii. The two-day festival is observed during the 28th and 29th days of the 11th month of the Tibetan Calendar.

iii. On the same day, the Geluk Pa Order of Tibetan Buddhism founded by Je Tsongkhapa (1357-1419) is also commemorated, an annual winter festival that aims at increasing brotherhood and friendship among believers.

4. In which State/UT Monpa tribes recently (in Jan'22) celebrated the 3 days long Torgya Festival?

- 1) Arunachal Pradesh
- 2) Ladakh
- 3) Sikkim
- 4) Jammu & Kashmir
- 5) Mizoram

Answer- **1) Arunachal Pradesh**

Explanation:

The three days long **Torgya Festival** of the Monpa tribal community of **Arunachal Pradesh** began at Tawang Monastery, Arunachal Pradesh.

i. This year is the 'Dungyur Torgya' festival, which marks special occasion as every 3rd year, the festival is organized on a broader level with the name Dungyur Festival during which Dalai Lama offers blessings (also known as Tse-Boom) to other lamas by sending Feb Jum which is a holy item to be used in rituals.

5. Which State's Chief Electoral Officer recently (in Jan'22) "Shera" as its Election Mascot?

- 1) Uttarakhand
- 2) Punjab
- 3) Goa
- 4) Manipur
- 5) Uttar Pradesh

Answer- **2) Punjab**

Explanation:

The Chief Electoral Officer's (CEO) office of **Punjab** unveiled its election mascot, "**Shera**" (Lion). It aims to increase voter awareness, participation and promote ethical voting in the Punjab Assembly polls that are scheduled on 20 February 2022.

i. The mascot "Shera", depicting a lion. It represents the rich cultural heritage of Punjab. Posters, effigies and huge cut-outs of "Shera" will be used to spread awareness and promotion.

ii. It is promoted under the Systematic Voters Education and Electoral Participation (SVEEP) project of Election Commission of India (ECI).

6. In February 2022, _____ notified “Scheme on Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector-_____” to boost competitiveness of the capital goods sector.

- 1) Ministry of Heavy Industries; Phase-I
- 2) Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Phase-III
- 3) Ministry of Heavy Industries; Phase-II
- 4) Ministry of Commerce and Industry; Phase-I
- 5) Ministry of Finance; Phase-II

Answer- 3) Ministry of Heavy Industries; Phase-II

Explanation:

Ministry of Heavy Industries (MHI) has notified “**Scheme on Enhancement of Competitiveness in the Indian Capital Goods Sector- Phase-II**” for providing assistance to Common Technology Development and Services Infrastructure with the financial outlay of Rs. 1207 crores.

i. The objective (phase II) – To enhance the competitiveness of the capital goods sector that contributes at least 25 percent to the manufacturing sector and also to expand and enlarge the impact created by phase I pilot scheme.

7. On 31st January, 2022, PM Narendra Modi addressed a programme on 30th Foundation Day of the National Commission for Women (NCW).

What is the Theme of the programme?

- 1) Women in leadership
- 2) She – The Change Maker
- 3) Reclaim Safety of Women by Night
- 4) Enhance the Women Health
- 5) Fight against COVID

Answer- 2) She – The Change Maker

Explanation:

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi virtually addressed the programme organized on the occasion of the **30th Foundation Day** of the National Commission for Women (NCW). The theme of the programme was “**She – The Change Maker**”.

8. In February 2022, India nominated the Hoysala temple for UNESCO’s World Heritage Sites List 2022-2023. The temple is located in which city of Karnataka?

- 1) Belur
- 2) Halebid
- 3) Somnathapura
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

Answer- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

Explanation:

The Hoysala temples of **Belur, Halebid and Somnathapura**, the ‘Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala’, in Karnataka have been finalized as India’s nomination for United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation’s (UNESCOs) World Heritage List for the year 2022-2023.

i. The other three include the Hampi Monuments of Vijayanagara, Pattadakal Temples complex of the Chalukyan era and the Western Ghats.

9. Which State celebrated the Mandu Festival from 30th December 2021 to 3rd January 2022?

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

Answer- 3) Madhya Pradesh

Explanation:

Mandu Festival is annually celebrated in **Madhya Pradesh (MP)**, organized by the Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board. The festival is also dedicated to the Hindu God Ganesha. Mandu festival is celebrated in Mandu, Ujjain and Indore.

- i. Mandu or Mandavgad is an ancient city in the present-day Mandav area of the Dhar district
- ii. The Mandu Festival has been celebrated from 30th December 2021 to 3rd January 2022.

10. In which institution the Global Center of Excellence in Affordable and Clean Energy (GCoE-ACE) was launched by K. Vijay Raghavan?

- 1) IIT Kanpur
- 2) IIT Ropar
- 3) IIT Madras
- 4) IIT Bombay
- 5) IIT Dharwad

Answer- 5) IIT Dharwad

Explanation:

The one of its kind Global Center of Excellence in Affordable and Clean Energy(GCoE-ACE) was launched at the Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**), **Dharwad(IITDh)**, Karnataka.

- i. The center was launched in the presence of Prof. K. Vijay Raghavan, Principal Scientific Adviser, Government of India. Aim: To boost research in affordable and clean energy.

11. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Scheme of Assistance to National Sports Federations (NSFs) as of February 2022?

A) Union Government approved the continuation of Scheme of Assistance to NSFs with an outlay of Rs. 1575 crore for 15th Finance Commission Cycle.

B) The Scheme of Assistance to NSFs is the flagship Central Sector Scheme (CSS) that provides financial support to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

C) The Scheme is the main source of funding for preparation of Indian athletic teams for all major National & International competitions.

- 1) Only A
- 2) Only B
- 3) Only C
- 4) Only A & B
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- 5) All A, B & C

Explanation:

The Union Government approved the continuation of Scheme of Assistance to NSFs with an outlay of **Rs. 1575 crore** for **15th** Finance Commission Cycle.

i. The Scheme of Assistance to NSFs is the **flagship Central Sector Scheme (CSS)** that provides financial support to the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

ii. The Scheme is the main source of funding for preparation of national athletic teams for all major National and International competitions.

12. Which country recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with India to construct the 2nd motor bridge over Mahakali River?

- 1) Thailand
- 2) Afghanistan
- 3) Bangladesh
- 4) Nepal
- 5) Bhutan

Answer- **4) Nepal**

Explanation:

India and **Nepal** signed a MoU for the **construction** of a **motorable bridge** over the **Mahakali River** connecting Dharachula (India) with Darchula (Nepal), under Indian grant assistance.

i. The bridge is about 110-metre and is the second motor bridge on the India-Nepal border in Uttarakhand. The other one is the Banbasa bridge in Champawat, Uttarakhand.

13. Which Organization recently (in Feb'22) signed a Cooperation Agreement with India for one year to work on the mega astronomy project?

- 1) Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational Sciences
- 2) National Centre for Radio Astronomy
- 3) Square Kilometre Array Observatory
- 4) Raman Research Institute
- 5) Radio Astronomy Centre

Answer- **3) Square Kilometre Array Observatory**

Explanation:

India signed an interim agreement to confirm commitment to work on the mega astronomy project, Square Kilometre Array Observatory (**SKAO**), the agreement will be valid only for one year.

The Cooperation Agreement was signed between representatives of TIFR – National Centre for Radio Astrophysics (NCRA), On behalf of Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), India and Director General of SKA in a virtual meeting.

14. Who recently (in Feb'22) felicitated the 'Beating Retreat' Drone Light Show named "StartUps" that was conceptualized by Botlab Dynamics Private Limited(Botlab)?

- 1) Raj Nath Singh
- 2) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar
- 3) Jitendra Singh
- 4) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
- 5) Dharmendra Pradhan

Answer- **3) Jitendra Singh**

Explanation:

Dr **Jitendra Singh**, Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Science and Technology, felicitated the '**Beating Retreat' Drone Light Show – "StartUps"**.

i. The Drone Light Show, the first-of-its-kind laser show, conceptualized by Botlab Dynamics Private Limited (Botlab), a start-up funded by Technology Development Board, Department Of Science & Technology (DST) and incubated at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Delhi in association with the Ministry of Defence.

15. Which Institute recently (in Feb'22) partnered with National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Ltd (NIIF) to establish India's 1st chair in Environmental, Social & Governance (ESG)?

- 1) IIM Kozhikode
- 2) IIM Indore
- 3) IIM Ahmedabad
- 4) IIM Calcutta
- 5) IIM Bangalore

Answer- 3) IIM Ahmedabad

Explanation:

The Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad has collaborated with National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Ltd (NIIF) to establish India's first research chair in Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG).

i. The newly formed 'NIIF Chair in ESG at IIMA' will work closely with the Arun Duggal ESG Centre for Research and Innovation at IIMA.

16. Which of the following places were recently (in Feb'22) renamed in Madhya Pradesh by the Government of India?

- 1) Hoshangabad Nagar as 'Narmadapuram'
- 2) Shivpuri as 'Kundeshwar Dham'
- 3) Babai as 'Makhan Nagar'
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

Answer- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

Explanation:

The government of India (GoI) has approved the renaming of 3 places in Madhya Pradesh (MP), Hoshangabad Nagar as "Narmadapuram", Shivpuri as "Kundeshwar Dham" and Babai as "Makhan Nagar".

i. The approval for the renaming was granted by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

17. Which of the following Pilgrimage sites was recently (in Feb'22) included under the PRASHAD Scheme by the Ministry of Tourism?

- 1) Bodh Gaya
- 2) Punaura Dham
- 3) Prem Mandir
- 4) Shirdi
- 5) Vrindavan

Answer- 2) Punaura Dham

Explanation:

The Ministry of Tourism has included the destination of Punaura Dham in Sitamarhi in the Ramayana Circuit of Swadesh Darshan Scheme. The Punaura Dham has been included under the PRASHAD

Scheme (Pilgrimage Rejuvenation And Spiritual, Heritage Augmentation Drive) of the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India.

i. This was proposed by the State government of Bihar.

Punaura Dham:

i. Punaura Dham, located in Punaura village, is the birthplace of Goddess Sita.

ii. The shrine compound includes a Ram Janaki Temple and a pond called Sita Kund and a Hall.

18. In which place GAIL India recently (in Feb'22) started India's 1st Project of Mixing Hydrogen into Natural Gas system under National Hydrogen Mission?

1) Jamshedpur, Jharkhand

2) Indore, Madhya Pradesh

3) Noida, Uttar Pradesh

4) Patna, Bihar

5) Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Answer- **2) Indore, Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

GAIL (India) Limited (Formerly known as Gas Authority of India Limited) has started India's maiden project of mixing hydrogen into the natural gas system at **Indore, Madhya Pradesh (MP)**.

i. The hydrogen blended natural gas will be supplied to Avantika Gas Limited, one of GAIL's Joint Venture (JV) companies with Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (HPCL) in Indore, MP.

ii. This is a pilot project which is in line with the **National Hydrogen Mission**, for establishing the techno-commercial feasibility of blending hydrogen in the City Gas Distribution (CGD) network and moving towards a hydrogen-based and carbon-neutral future.

19. Which Ministry recently (in Feb'22) Inaugurated 'Innovations in Public Administration', a Capacity Building Commission under Mission Karmayogi?

1) Ministry of Home Affairs

2) Ministry of Planning

3) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions

4) Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology

5) Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship

Answer- **3) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions**

Explanation:

Dr Jitendra Singh, **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions** inaugurated '**Innovations in Public Administration**' program of Capacity Building Commission (**CBC**) of **Mission Karmayogi** to identify successful innovations in public service pioneered by civil servants.

i. The event also marked the launch of the **web portal** <https://innovateindia.mygov.in/cbc-inviting-innovations> through which CBC invites all Government Employees to share their successful innovations.

ii. The portal would be open from 4th February 2022 to 5th March 2022 for government employees to share innovations undertaken by them.

20. Which is the 1st Railway Station to be constructed in the Mumbai - Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Corridor that is set to host India's 1st Bullet Train?

1) Bilimora

2) Sabarmati

3) Vadodara

- 4) Surat
- 5) Thane

Answer- **4) Surat**

Explanation:

Surat (Gujarat) is set to become the **first station** to be ready between Mumbai – Ahmedabad Bullet Train route for India's first futuristic High Speed Rail project, Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail (MAHSR) Corridor.

i. National High Speed Rail Corporation Ltd. (**NHSRCL**) is the implementing agency for the project.

21. Which country recently (in Feb '22) signed an agreement with the Hindustan Engineering and Industries Limited (HEIL) to procure 420 broad gauge wagons from India?

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

Answer- **1) Bangladesh**

Explanation:

Bangladesh Railway has signed an agreement with the Hindustan Engineering and Industries Limited (**HEIL**), an enterprise of the Hindustan Group, to procure 420 broad gauge wagons from India.

i. The total cost of the agreement is ~Tk 231 crore (Tk – Bangladeshi Taka) (~ Rs 200 crore).

ii. The wagons are procured under the "**Rolling Stock Operation Improvement Project**" of the Bangladesh Railway, funded by the Government of Bangladesh (**GoB**) and the Asian Development Bank (**ADB**).

22. In which state/UT the ancient festival of Kanchoth was celebrated in February 2022?

- 1) Uttar Pradesh
- 2) Jammu & Kashmir
- 3) Punjab
- 4) Rajasthan
- 5) Uttarakhand

Answer- **2) Jammu & Kashmir**

Explanation:

The **ancient festival of Kanchoth festival** is celebrated with religious fervour across the Chenab valley region of Jammu and Kashmir (**J&K**).

i. The festival is annually celebrated, mainly by the Nag followers, during the Shukla Paksha of Magh month which usually falls in January or February.

ii. The Kanchoth is the 3-day festival celebrated by married women who pray for the long life of their husbands.

23. In which place did PM Narendra Modi recently (in Feb'22) unveil the world's 2nd tallest statue in sitting posture, "Statue of Equality" to commemorate Sri Ramanujacharya?

- 1) Jaipur, Rajasthan
- 2) Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- 3) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- 4) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

5) Hyderabad, Telangana

Answer- **5) Hyderabad, Telangana**

Explanation:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated a **216-foot tall 'Statue of Equality'** to commemorate Sri Ramanujacharya, an 11th-century Bhakti Saint, at Jeeyar Integrated Vedic Academy (JIVA), in Muchintal **Hyderabad, Telangana.**

i. The statue is mounted on a **54-feet high lotus** built base building named '**Bhadra Vedi**' & the statue is made up of Panchaloha, a combination of **5 metals:** gold, silver, copper, brass and zinc.

ii. The statue has been conceptualized by Sri Chinna Jeeyar Swamy of Sri Ramanujacharya Ashram & built by **Aerosun Corporation.**

24. In February 2022, IUCN declared _____ from _____ as India's 1st 'Other Effective area-based Conservation Measures' (OECM) site.

1) Yamuna Biodiversity Park; Jaipur, Rajasthan

2) Aravalli Biodiversity Park; Gurugram, Haryana

3) Vanaparvam Biodiversity Park; Kozhikode, Kerala

4) Aravalli Biodiversity Park; Pune, Maharashtra

5) Yamuna Biodiversity Park; Gurugram, Haryana

Answer- **2) Aravalli Biodiversity Park; Gurugram, Haryana**

Explanation:

The International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) declared the **Aravalli Biodiversity Park** in **Gurugram, Haryana** as India's **1st 'other effective area-based conservation measures' (OECM) site** on the occasion of World Wetlands Day (2nd February, 2022).

i. The OECM tag is given by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (**IUCN**) to areas that are not protected but support rich biodiversity.

25. Name the hackathon competition that was launched (in Feb'22) by the Ministry of Power under the RDSS Scheme to Enable Advanced Technology in Power Distribution.

1) Hedera India Hackathon-2022

2) Green Energy Hackathon-2022

3) Sustainable Energy Hackathon-2022

4) Powerthon-2022

5) Energy Hackathon-2022

Answer- **4) Powerthon-2022**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Power (**MoP**) virtually launched a hackathon competition named "**Powerthon-2022**" under **RDSS** (Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme) to find technology based solutions to solve the complex problems in power distribution and to ensure quality and reliable power supply.

i. This is being launched on the lines of MoU between REC Ltd. (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited), and Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) under IIT Bombay as 'incubator cum technology partner'.

26. In February 2022, the Union Health Minister Mandaviya launched Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 4.0 towards children & pregnant women.

Under which health Program IMI 4.0 was launched?

- 1) Janani Suraksha Yojana
- 2) Ayushman Bharat Yojana
- 3) National Health Mission
- 4) Universal Immunization Program
- 5) Rashtriya Bal Swasthya Karyakram

Answer- 4) Universal Immunization Program

Explanation:

The Union Health Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya launched **Intensified Mission Indradhanush (IMI) 4.0** in **New Delhi** to protect children and pregnant women from severe diseases.

i. By launching IMI 4.0, India operates the largest immunization program globally, covering over 30 million pregnant women and 26 million children every year under the Universal Immunization Program **(UIP)**.

About UIP:

i. The Immunization Programme was introduced in India in 1978 as 'Expanded Programme of Immunization' (EPI) by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare but 1985, the programme was modified as UIP to be implemented in a phased manner to cover all districts in the country by 1989-90.

27. In February 2022, the Union Cabinet approved continuation of the Indian Footwear and Leather Development Programme (IFLDP).

Which of the following points is 'NOT correct' with respect to the recent approval on IFLDP?

- 1) The continuation of IFLDP from 2021-22 till March 2024 with a financial outlay of Rs. 2567 crore.
- 2) Of the 6 sub-schemes under IFLDP, Rs 300 crore is allocated for Mega Leather Footwear and Accessories Cluster Development (MLFACD).
- 3) 10 Indian Design Studios will be developed at a cost of Rs. 100 crore
- 4) Rs 300 crore is allocated for IDLS sub-scheme to provide to the sectoral units for their modernization
- 5) Rs.200 crore is allocated for Establishment of Institutional Facilities.

Answer- 1) The continuation of IFLDP from 2021-22 till March 2024 with a financial outlay of Rs. 2567 crore.

Explanation:

Cabinet approved the continuation of IFLDP from 2021-22 till **March 2026** with a financial outlay of **Rs. 1700 crore**.

i. Of the 6 sub-schemes under IFLDP, Rs 300 crore is allocated for Mega Leather Footwear and Accessories Cluster Development (MLFACD).

ii. 10 Indian Design Studios will be developed at a cost of Rs. 100 crore

iii. Rs 300 crore is allocated for IDLS sub-scheme to provide to the sectoral units for their modernization.

iv. Rs.200 crore is allocated for Establishment of Institutional Facilities.

28. Which Institute recently (in Feb'22) established a water management and policy centre named 'AquaMAP' to solve India's Water Crisis?

- 1) IIT Bombay
- 2) IIT Roorkee
- 3) IIT Delhi

4) IIT Kanpur

5) IIT Madras

Answer- **5) IIT Madras**

Explanation:

The Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT Madras**) has set up an inter disciplinary water management and policy centre named '**AquaMAP**'. This project aims to improve India's Water security and provide sustainable water management practices, thereby setting up water innovation villages.

Objective: To address complex real-life water problems through a consortium approach and setting up a hydro-informatics laboratory to provide smart solutions to tackle water related issues.

29. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) collaborated with AIM-NITI Aayog under SAMRIDH initiative to accelerate health innovation & entrepreneurship in India?

1) Asian Development Bank

2) US Agency for International Development

3) International Development Association

4) World Health Organization

5) United Nations Development Programme

Answer- **2) US Agency for International Development**

Explanation:

Atal Innovation Mission (**AIM**) of **NITI Aayog**, and the US Agency for International Development (**USAID**) jointly took over a new partnership under the 'Sustainable Access to Markets and Resources for Innovative Delivery of Healthcare' (**SAMRIDH**) initiative to improve access to affordable and quality healthcare for vulnerable populations in tier-2, tier-3 cities, rural and tribal regions of India.

About U.S Agency for International Development (USAID):

Headquarters- Washington, D.C., United States

Founder- John F. Kennedy

Founded- 3 November 1961

Administrator- Samantha Power

30. Dronacharya Awardee, Gaurav Khanna recently (in Feb'22) launched India's 1st Para-Badminton Academy in which place?

1) Mumbai, Maharashtra

2) Gandhinagar, Gujarat

3) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

4) Patna, Bihar

5) Kolkata, West Bengal

Answer- **3) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**

Explanation:

Gaurav Khanna, Dronacharya Awardee and Head National Coach of the Indian Para-badminton team, in association with Ageas Federal Life Insurance, launched India's 1st Para-Badminton Academy in **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh (UP)**.

i. Gaurav Khanna also unveiled the Ageas Federal 'Quest for Fearless Shuttlers' programme to identify and train the new talents for the 2028 and 2032 Paralympics.

31. In February 2022, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the ___ Anniversary celebrations of International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in ____.

- 1) 25th; Avikanagar, Rajasthan
- 2) 50th; Patancheru, Hyderabad
- 3) 75th; Avikanagar, Rajasthan
- 4) 25th; Patancheru, Hyderabad
- 5) 50th; Avikanagar, Rajasthan

Answer- 2) 50th; Patancheru, Hyderabad

Explanation:

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi visited the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in **Patancheru, Hyderabad** and kickstarted the **50th** Anniversary celebrations of ICRISAT.

i. During the Occasion, He also inaugurated **2 ICRISAT research facilities**, Climate Change Research Facility on Plant Protection and Rapid Generation Advancement Facility, dedicated to the smallholder farmers of Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.

32. Which company recently (in Feb'22) set up Gujarat's first wind-solar hybrid project at Bharuch, in southern Gujarat?

- 1) Tata Power Solar
- 2) Vikram Solar
- 3) Azure Power
- 4) ReNew Power
- 5) Suzlon Energy

Answer- 4) ReNew Power

Explanation:

Gujarat's first wind-solar hybrid project has been set up by **ReNew Power** at the Chlor-Alkali unit of Grasim Industries in Vilayat, Bharuch, in southern Gujarat. The project is being developed by ReNew Green Solutions (**RGS**), the **B2B** (Business to Business) arm of **ReNew Power**.

i. The first phase of the hybrid project, with 17.6 MW (Mega Watt) commercial-scale wind-solar.

ii. Its Phase-II will be commissioned in the next financial year (FY23) with an additional 16.68 MW.

33. In February 2022, _____ became the 1st UT to integrate with the National Single Window System (NSWS) to enable the Ease of Doing Business.

- 1) Delhi
- 2) Ladakh
- 3) Jammu & Kashmir
- 4) Puducherry
- 5) Chandigarh

Answer- 3) Jammu & Kashmir

Explanation:

Jammu & Kashmir (**J&K**) became the 1st Union Territory (UT) to integrate with the National Single Window System (NSWS) which marks a major leap in Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) in the UT.

i. NSWS is linked with India Industrial Land Bank (IILB) which hosts 45 industrial parks of J&K that will help Investors to discover available land parcels in J&K.

34. Which district secured 1st Rank for Most Improved Aspirational District in NITI Aayog's Delta Rankings for December 2021?

- 1) Baramulla, J & K
- 2) Malkangiri, Odisha
- 3) Begusarai, Bihar
- 4) Chhatarpur, Madhya Pradesh
- 5) Ramgarh, Jharkhand

Answer- 2) Malkangiri, Odisha

Explanation:

The NITI (National Institute of Transforming India) Aayog announced the five most improved aspirational districts in the field of Agriculture and Water Resources sector for Champions of Change Delta Ranking, December 2021.

Ranking	District	State
1	Malkangiri	Odisha
2	Chhatarpur	Madhya Pradesh
3	Baramulla	Jammu and Kashmir
4	Ramgarh	Jharkhand
5	Begusarai	Bihar

35. India's 1st commercial biomass-based hydrogen plant with an investment of Rs. 24 crore will be set up in which place?

- 1) Bagalkot, Karnataka
- 2) Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh
- 3) Dhanbad, Jharkhand
- 4) Jamnagar, Gujarat
- 5) Kannauj, Uttar Pradesh

Answer- 2) Khandwa, Madhya Pradesh

Explanation:

India's 1st commercial biomass-based hydrogen plant is coming up in the **Khandwa district of Madhya Pradesh (MP)** which is a joint venture of Watomo Energies Limited and Biezel Green Energy with an investment of Rs. 24 crore.

i. The plant will produce a tonne of hydrogen per day, from 30 tonnes of biomass feedstock. It will also produce biochar and methane.

36. Which state/UT recently (in Feb'22) launched India's 1st QR code-based Mechanism to Certify Handmade Carpets?

- 1) Telangana
- 2) Andhra Pradesh
- 3) Jammu & Kashmir
- 4) Gujarat
- 5) New Delhi

Answer- 3) Jammu & Kashmir

Explanation:

The Lieutenant Governor of the Union Territory (UT) of Jammu & Kashmir (**J&K**), Manoj Sinha launched the Quick Response (QR) Code-based mechanism for labelling the handmade carpets in J&K, a first-of-its-kind in the country.

Objective- With the QR-based application, customers can check and verify authenticity and other requisite details of carpets produced in Jammu and Kashmir.

37. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) launched Community Innovator Fellowship (CIF) along with Atal Innovation Mission (AIM)-NITI Aayog?

- 1) UNICEF India
- 2) World Bank India
- 3) UNDP India
- 4) WHO India
- 5) UNEP India

Answer- **3) UNDP India**

Explanation:

Atal Innovation Mission (**AIM**), National Institution for Transforming India (**NITI**) Aayog in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), India launched the Community Innovator Fellowship (**CIF**) marking the 'International Day of Women & Girls in Science'.

Aim - To provide necessary infrastructure and knowledge building for the young community innovators in their entrepreneurial journey.

38. In February 2022, FM Nirmala Sitharaman launched the first colour souvenir coin on _____ during the 17th foundation day of SPMCIL.

- 1) Mahabharata
- 2) Panchatantra
- 3) Bhagavad Gita
- 4) Aesopica
- 5) Jataka tales

Answer- **2) Panchatantra**

Explanation:

The Finance Minister (FM) Nirmala Sitharaman launched the **first** colour souvenir coin on '**Panchatantra**' on the occasion of **17th foundation day** of Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (**SPMCIL**).

About Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL):

Chairman & Managing Director- Tripti Patra Ghosh

Incorporated - 13th January, 2006

39. In which city of Rajasthan "Desert Festival" also known as 'Maru Mahotsav 2022' was celebrated in February 2022?

- 1) Udaipur, Rajasthan
- 2) Bikaner, Rajasthan
- 3) Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- 4) Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- 5) Jaipur, Rajasthan

Answer- **4) Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**

Explanation:

The renowned **Jaisalmer Desert Festival**, also known as **Maru Mahotsav of Jaisalmer**, (Golden City of India) is being held from 13 to 16 February 2022 at Pokaran village in **Jaisalmer, Rajasthan**.

- i. The Jaisalmer Desert Festival is an annual event that takes place in February month in the beautiful city of Jaisalmer. It is held in the Hindu month of Magh (**February**), three days prior to the full moon.
- ii. The festival is celebrated amidst the beautiful dunes of the **Thar Desert** in the Sam dunes (42 kilometres from Jaisalmer).

40. In February 2022, the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW) sanctioned Rs 24.53 crore for dredging in the ____ to boost the Indo-Bangla waterway project.

- 1) Meghna River
- 2) Gomati river
- 3) Brahmaputra River
- 4) Muhuri River
- 5) Padma River

Answer- **2) Gomati river**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (**MoPSW**) has sanctioned **Rs 24.53 crore** for dredging in the **Gomati river** and setting up **10 jetties** for a waterway project to Boost **Indo-Bangla Waterway Project**.

- i. 10 floating jetties will be constructed from Udaipur in Gomati district, Tripura to Sonamura, Tripura.
- ii. Out of 15.5 km of river, only 1.5-km stretch is in India and the other 14-km is in Bangladesh.
- iii. A permanent jetty would come up near Srimantapur Land Customs Station in Sonamura, Tripura with an estimated cost of Rs 5.04 crore.

41. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Common Service Centres (CSC) to boost skill development programmes for youths in rural areas?

- 1) National Cooperative Development Corporation
- 2) National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency
- 3) National Skill Development Corporation
- 4) National Youth Development Fund
- 5) National Rural Development Fund

Answer- **3) National Skill Development Corporation**

Explanation:

The National Skill Development Corporation (**NSDC**) signed an **MoU** with Common Service Centres (**CSC**) for the delivery of services related to various skill development programmes for the youths in remote and rural areas across India.

- i. With the support of CSCs, the NSDC will identify skill seekers at the grassroots level in rural areas and connect them with the right skilling opportunities.

About National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC):

NSDC is a unique public-private partnership (PPP) and works under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE).

Established- 31 July 2008

Chairman- A M Naik

42. The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (MoTA) recently (in Feb'22) sanctioned Rs 2.26 crore for organizing the Koya Tribal festival of "Medaram Jathara 2022".

In which state Medaram Jatara 2022 is celebrated?

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

Answer- 2) Telangana

Explanation:

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs (**MoTA**) has sanctioned **Rs 2.26 crore** for various activities related to the **tribal festival of Medaram Jathara 2022**, the second-largest fair of India, after the Kumbh Mela.

- i.** It is celebrated by the second-largest Tribal Community of **Telangana**, the **Koya tribe** for four days.
- ii.** For 2022, it is being celebrated from **February 16-19** and it was declared as State Festival during 1998.

43. The Indian Government recently (in Feb'22) banned the import of foreign manufactured _____, which includes exceptions for research and development (R&D), defence and security purposes.

- 1) Passenger Aircraft
- 2) Light Combat Helicopters
- 3) Sonar Systems
- 4) Drones
- 5) Submarines

Answer- 4) Drones

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) has announced a ban on import of foreign manufactured **drones**, with exceptions for research and development (R&D), defence & security purposes. This move is made by Go to strengthen the domestic drone manufacturing industry under '**Made in India Drones**' by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT).

- i.** The DGFT notified the Indian Trade Classification (**Harmonised System**), 2022 effecting the prohibition of drones for import.

Exceptions for the Import of Drones

- i.** The Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) provided the exceptions to import drones for Government & Educational institutes for R&D, defence and security with proper "due clearances" from DGFT.
- ii.** Also import of drone components will not require any prior approvals.

44. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) partnered with CSC e-Governance Services to support the "Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan" (PMGDISHA).

- 1) Renault India
- 2) Hyundai India
- 3) Tata Motors
- 4) Maruti Suzuki
- 5) Honda Motor

Answer- 1) Renault India

Explanation:

Automaker **Renault India** has joined hands with **CSC e-Governance Services** (Common Service Centres) to support the Pradhan Mantri Gramin Digital Saksharta Abhiyaan (**PMGDISHA**), a programme aimed at providing digital literacy.

i. As a part of the partnership, the company has handed over five cars to CSC e-Governance Services which will act as '**Knowledge Repository on Wheels**' to upskill people in rural and semi-urban areas across India and help them develop financial and digital skills through information and knowledge.

45. In February 2022, the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) banned 53 apps from China that are considered a threat to India's security.

MeitY banned the apps under ___ section of the Information Technology Act of _____.

- 1) 52C; 2017
- 2) 69A; 2000
- 3) 49A; 2019
- 4) 52C; 2000
- 5) 69A; 2019

Answer- **2) 69A; 2000**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) issued interim directions to ban **Garena Free Fire Singapore** based company and **53 mobile applications** of Chinese origin. The ban was recommended by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA), as these apps pose a threat to India's security. The 54 apps allegedly obtain various critical permissions and collect sensitive user data.

i. MeitY had banned the apps under **Section 69A** of the **Information Technology Act 2000** which empowers to issue directions for blocking for public access of any information through any computer resource.

46. In February 2022, the 4th India–Australia energy dialogue 2022 was held virtually and Letter of Intent (LoI) were signed between two countries on New & Renewable Energy Technology.

Who co-chaired the Dialogue along with Angus Taylor?

- 1) Raj Kumar Singh
- 2) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar
- 3) Narendra Modi
- 4) Amit Shah
- 5) Bhagwanth Khuba

Answer- **1) Raj Kumar Singh**

Explanation:

The 4th India–Australia energy dialogue 2022 was held virtually which was co-chaired by **Raj Kumar Singh**, Indian Minister of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), and Angus Taylor, Australian Minister for Energy and Emissions Reduction.

Signing of LoI: The dialogue saw the signing of a Letter of Intent (LoI) between India and Australia to reduce the cost of renewable energy (RE) technologies and to increase the manufacturing and deployment of ultra low-cost solar and clean hydrogen to reduce global emissions.

About Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE):

Union Minister– Raj Kumar Singh (Constituency- Arrah, Bihar)

Minister of State (MoS)- Bhagwanth Khuba (Constituency- Bidar, Karnataka)

47. Name the 12.758km longest tunnel on the Indian Railways that was connected in February 2022 by the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) Project.

- 1) T-27
- 2) T-48
- 3) T-35
- 4) T-49
- 5) T-17

Answer- **4) T-49**

Explanation:

The main tunnel **T-49** between **Sumber** and **Arpinchala station** of the Katra-Banihal Section of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (**USBRL**) Project, the **longest tunnel of the Indian Railway** has been connected.

T49 is a tunnel of length 12.758 kilometres (km) long has become the longest tunnel surpassing the Pee Panjal Tunnel of 11.2 km length constructed by USBRL on the Banihal-Qazigund section.

48. In February 2022, Central Government of India approved the proposals for the construction of 60,000 houses in _____ states under _____ scheme.

- 1) 6; Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban
- 2) 5; Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana
- 3) 4; Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana
- 4) 5; Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana - Urban
- 5) 4; Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana

Answer- **4) 5; Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban**

Explanation:

Central Government of India gave approval to the project proposals for the construction of more than 60,000 houses in 5 states including Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka and Rajasthan under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana – Urban (PMAY-U), during the 58th meeting of Central Sanctioning and Monitoring Committee (CSMC).

i. The virtual meeting was chaired by Manoj Joshi, Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA).

ii. A booklet titled ‘Transformative Reforms Towards Housing for All’ was released by Manoj Joshi, Secretary, MoHUA.

49. Which company recently (in Feb’22) partnered with NITI Aayog to launch the 1st ever open-to-all hackathon that highlights the path-breaking solutions for the fintech ecosystem?

- 1) PhonePe
- 2) Freecharge
- 3) MobiKwik
- 4) Google Pay
- 5) BHIM

Answer- **1) PhonePe**

Explanation:

PhonePe partnered with National Institution for Transforming India (**NITI**) **Aayog**, to host the first-ever **open-to-all hackathon** that aims to showcase path-breaking solutions for the fintech ecosystem. The Hackathon will provide an opportunity for innovators, digital creators and developers from all over India to think, ideate and code.

About National Institute for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog:

Establishment – 2015

CEO- Amitabh Kant

Chairperson – Prime Minister (PM) of India (Currently, PM, Narendra Modi)

Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi

50. As per the Second Advance Estimates, India's estimated foodgrains production stands at _____ for the FY 2021-22.

- 1) 125.98 Million Tonnes
- 2) 456.78 Million Tonnes
- 3) 256.08 Million Tonnes
- 4) 316.06 Million Tonnes
- 5) 167.02 Million Tonnes

Answer- 4) 316.06 Million Tonnes

Explanation:

In the Second Advance Estimates of production of major crops for the year 2021-22 released by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (**MoA&FW**), India's estimated **foodgrains production** is **316.06 million tonnes**.

i. It is higher by 5.32 million tonnes than the production of foodgrains during 2020-21.

51. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Green Hydrogen/ Green Ammonia Policy that was notified in February 2022?

A) The Ministry of Power has notified the Policy for implementation by the concerned stakeholders in line with the National Hydrogen Mission (NHM).

B) The Manufacturers may purchase renewable power from the power exchange or set up renewable energy capacity themselves under the Green Hydrogen policy.

C) Under the policy, green hydrogen and green ammonia plants will be granted open access to renewable energy (RE) within 15 days of receipt of the application.

- 1) Only A
- 2) Only B
- 3) Only A & B
- 4) Only B & C
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- 5) All A, B & C

Explanation:

The Ministry of Power has notified the Policy for implementation by the concerned stakeholders in line with the National **Hydrogen Mission (NHM)**.

i. The Manufacturers may purchase renewable power from the power exchange or set up renewable energy capacity themselves under the Green Hydrogen policy.

ii. Under the policy, green hydrogen and green ammonia plants will be granted open access to renewable energy (RE) within **15 days of receipt** of the application.

52. In which state India's 1st water taxi service was inaugurated (in Feb'22) by Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways?

- 1) Karnataka
- 2) Maharashtra

- 3) Kerala
- 4) Odisha
- 5) West Bengal

Answer- **2) Maharashtra**

Explanation:

India's 1st water taxi service to enable faster connectivity between Mumbai and Navi Mumbai in **Maharashtra** was inaugurated by the Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

i. Maharashtra Chief Minister (CM) Uddhav Thackeray also inaugurated the newly constructed **Belapur jetty**.

ii. About India's 1st water taxi service: The services will commence at the Domestic Cruise Terminal (DCT) and will connect the nearby locations at Nerul, Belapur, Elephanta island and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT).

iii. About Belapur jetty: It is built at a cost of Rs. 8.37 crore. It was funded in the 50-50 model under the Sagarmala scheme of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways.

53. What was the percentage reduction in agriculture cess for crude palm oil by the government of India from 7.5% earlier w.e.f 12th February 2022?

- 1) 25%
- 2) 50%
- 3) 20%
- 4) 5%
- 5) 10%

Answer- **4) 5%**

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) has reduced agri-cess for **crude palm oil (CPO)** from **7.5% to 5%** with effect from **12th February 2022**. Following the reduction of the agri-cess, the import tax gap between CPO and Refined Palm Oil has increased to 8.25%.

i. This will benefit the domestic edible oil refiners and also check the prices of cooking oils.

ii. The GoI has also extended the current basic rate of import duty of 0% on CPO, crude soybean oil and crude sunflower oil till September 30, 2022.

54. Which company recently (in Feb'22) partnered with TransUnion CIBIL to launch a Nationwide MSME Consumer Education Program to spread awareness about CIBIL Rank among MSME consumers?

- 1) SME India
- 2) Federation of Indian MSME
- 3) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry
- 4) NASSCOM
- 5) Confederation of Indian Industry

Answer- **3) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry**

Explanation:

TransUnion CIBIL Limited (TransUnion CIBIL), formerly known as Credit Information Bureau (India) Limited (CIBIL), partnered with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (**FICCI**) to launch a nationwide MSME consumer education program to support MSME's across India to get awareness about credit management, CIBIL Rank and commercial credit information.

MSME Consumer Education Program:

- i. The objective of the programme is to empower MSME's with knowledge on how to build a good credit history and CIBIL Rank to avail easier and faster access to finance.
- ii. The program will kick off with MSME clusters in Maharashtra, Assam, and Tripura and aims to reach thousands of MSMEs across key clusters in India.

55. In February 2022, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the 'Kisan Drone Yatra' and Flagged off 100 'Kisan Drones' to Spray Pesticides in Farms across India.

'Kisan Drone Yatra' is an initiative by _____.

- 1) Airnetz Aviation Pvt Ltd
- 2) Boeing India Pvt Ltd
- 3) Aroon Aviation Services Pvt Ltd
- 4) Garuda Aerospace Pvt Ltd
- 5) Dassault-Reliance Aerospace Ltd

Answer- 4) Garuda Aerospace Pvt Ltd

Explanation:

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi inaugurated the '**Kisan Drone Yatra**', an **initiative** by **Garuda Aerospace Pvt Ltd** and flagged off 100 'Kisan Drones' in various cities and towns across India to spray pesticides in farms across the states of India.

- i. The 100 Kisan Drones was set off in 100 villages in 16 states across India which includes Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Goa.

56. In which city the Asia's biggest Bio-Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Gobar-Dhan Plant at the cost of Rs 150 crore was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in February 2022?

- 1) Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- 2) Pune, Maharashtra
- 3) Indore, MadhyaPradesh
- 4) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Patna, Bihar

Answer- 3) Indore, MadhyaPradesh

Explanation:

PM Narendra Modi has inaugurated Asia's biggest **Bio-Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) Galvanising Organic Bio-Agro Resources Dhan (GOBAR-DHAN) plant** at the cost of Rs 150 crore in **Indore, MadhyaPradesh**. The principle of the Bio-CNG plant is to implement "waste to wealth", and "circular economy" to maximise resource recovery.

- i. The plant produces around 17,000 to 19000 kg of biogas and 100 tonnes of organic compost per day.
- ii. The plant is based on the concept of "zero landfill models".

57. In which state the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare recently (in Feb'22) inaugurated India's & South Asia's 1st Biosafety level-3 (BSL-3) containment mobile laboratory under PM-ABHIM Mission?

- 1) Nashik, Maharashtra
- 2) Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh
- 3) Surat, Gujarat
- 4) Kolkata, West Bengal
- 5) Jamshedpur, Jharkhand

Answer- **1) Nashik, Maharashtra**

Explanation:

Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Bharati Pravin Pawar inaugurated **India's and South Asia's first** Biosafety level-3 (**BSL-3**) containment mobile laboratory in **Nashik, Maharashtra**.

The mobile laboratory, which can commute to various locations, will provide a public health solution.

i. This is a part of the Government of India(GoI)'s efforts to strengthen healthcare infrastructure through the Pradhan Mantri Ayushman Bharat Health Infrastructure Mission(**PM-ABHIM**).

About the Mobile Laboratory:

- The mobile laboratory was designed and built by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with Klenzaid, Mumbai based manufacturer of Aseptic, Bioclean and Containment (bio-safety) equipment.
- The laboratory was built at a cost of ~Rs 25 crores.

58. In February 2022, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated two new railway lines (5th & 6th line) between _____ and _____ in Maharashtra.

- 1) Diva & Solapur
- 2) Nashik & Thane
- 3) Solapur & Nashik
- 4) Thane & Diva
- 5) Kolhapur & Pune

Answer- **4) Thane & Diva**

Explanation:

PM Narendra Modi dedicated two additional railway lines (5th & 6th line) connecting **Thane and Diva** in Maharashtra over video conferencing and he also flagged off 2 suburban trains of the Mumbai Suburban Railway.

i. The 9.44-km-long 5th and 6th railway lines were built at a cost of ~Rs 620 crores, features a 1.4 km long rail flyover, 3 major bridges and 21 minor bridges.

ii. These 2 lines will enable the introduction of 36 new suburban trains in Mumbai.

59. In which state the 48th edition of the Khajuraho Dance Festival will be held from 20th to 26th February, 2022?

- 1) Punjab
- 2) West Bengal
- 3) Madhya Pradesh
- 4) Rajasthan
- 5) Uttar Pradesh

Answer- **3) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

Madhya Pradesh (MP) Governor Mangubhai Patel Inaugurated the Week long 48th Khajuraho Dance Festival in Khajuraho, located in Chhatarpur district, MP. The 48th edition of Khajuraho Dance Festival will be held from 20th to 26th February, 2022.

i. The Khajuraho Dance Festival is organised annually by the Government of Madhya Pradesh, Culture' Department through Ustad Alauddin Khan Sangeet and Kala Academy, Madhya Pradesh Sanskriti Parishad, Bhopal

ii. The festival will be presenting artists with the 'National Kalidas Award' for dance for the years 2019-20 and 2020-21 and the 'MP State Rupankar Kala Award' at this ceremony.

iii. On the first day, disciples of the late 'Pandit Birju Maharaj' will perform which will be the centre of attraction.

60. Which State's Startup Mission recently (in Feb'22) collaborated with Google to launch the Google for Startups Accelerator to Foster Global Links during the 3rd edition of Huddle Global 2022?

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

Answer- **5) Kerala**

Explanation:

During the 'Huddle Global 2022', Kerala Startup Mission (**KSUM**) collaborated with **Google** to launch Google for Startups Accelerator, India to attach native startups with the worldwide startups and to leverage Google's programme which comprises mentorship and coaching of startup groups to assist scale up their options.

i. The third edition of the 2 day 'Huddle Global 2022' organised by KSUM was inaugurated by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan.

ii. With this collaboration India will become a part of a rising community of prime, unbiased accelerators throughout Latin America, Africa, Europe, and Asia.

Note- Paul Ravindranath, will head Google for Startups Accelerator, India.

61. The Central Government recently (in Feb '22) approved the continuation of the Central Sector Umbrella Scheme of "Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM)" from 2021-22 to ____ with an outlay of _____.

- 1) 2023-24; Rs 11,980 crore
- 2) 2024-25; Rs 13,020 crore
- 3) 2025-26; Rs 10,769 crore
- 4) 2024-25; Rs 11,980 crore
- 5) 2025-26; Rs 13,020 crore

Answer- **5) 2025-26; Rs 13,020 crore**

Explanation:

The **Central Government** approved the continuation of the Central Sector Umbrella Scheme of '**Border Infrastructure and Management (BIM)**' over the 15th Finance Commission Cycle **from 2021-22 to 2025-26** with an outlay of **Rs 13,020 crore**.

i. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) is responsible for the improvement of BIM.

ii. This continuation will strengthen the border infrastructure for improving border management, policing and guarding the borders.

62. Which company recently (February 22nd) announced its participation in the "SEA-ME-WE-6" undersea cable consortium as a "major investor" to scale up its high-speed global network capacity?

- 1) Bharti Airtel
- 2) Vodafone Idea
- 3) MTNL

- 4) BSNL
- 5) Reliance Jio

Answer- **1) Bharti Airtel**

Explanation:

Bharti Airtel has announced its participation in 'SEA-ME-WE-6' undersea cable consortium as a 'major investor' to scale up its high-speed global network capacity and its overall investment in the cable system will be around 20 per cent that will go live in 2025.

- i. Uses of undersea cable systems – Undersea cable systems along with data centres supports 5G and the digital economy that builds large integrated capacities to enable India's digital ecosystem.
- ii. SEA-ME-WE-6 will connect 19,200 route kilometres (Rkm) from Singapore to France which will be the largest undersea cable system globally through which Airtel could increase its capacity to 100 TeraBytes per second (TBps) to its global network.

63. Which company recently (in Feb '22) announced that it will land the multi-terabit India-Asia-Xpress (IAX) undersea cable system in Hulhumale, Maldives to connect India & Singapore?

- 1) KEI Industries Ltd
- 2) Larsen & Toubro Ltd
- 3) Bharti Airtel Ltd
- 4) Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd
- 5) Adani Group

Answer- **4) Reliance Jio Infocomm Ltd**

Explanation:

Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited (**RJIL**), a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) will land the multi-terabit India-Asia-Xpress (IAX) undersea cable system in Hulhumale, Maldives in collaboration with Ocean Connect Maldives.

Aim – To diversify the economy and establish it as a key communications hub in South Asia.

- i. The high capacity and high-speed IAX system will connect Hulhumale directly with the world's major internet hubs in India and Singapore.
- ii. The IAX system originates in Mumbai in the west and connects directly to Singapore, with branches including additional landings in India, Malaysia, and Thailand.
- ii. The IAX system will be ready for service by the end of 2023, while IEX will be ready for service in mid-2024.

64. In February 2022, the Ministry of Rural Development launched the Rural Connectivity GIS (Geographic Information System) Data in Public Domain.

Under which scheme the implementation was launched?

- 1) Deen Dayal Antyodaya Yojana
- 2) Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana
- 3) National Rurban Mission
- 4) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana
- 5) Pradhan Mantri Awaas Yojana

Answer- **4) Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**

Explanation:

Giriraj Singh, Union Minister for Rural Development, launched the **Rural Connectivity GIS** (Geographic Information System) Data in Public Domain in India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, Delhi.

- i. As a part of the implementation of **Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY)**, GIS data for more than 8 lakh rural facilities as points, 10 lakh habitations and 25 lakh Km of rural roads have been collected and digitized using the GIS platform developed for the PMGSY.
- ii. The National Rural Infrastructure Development Agency (NRIDA), the nodal implementing agency of PMGSY has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 3 GIS Firms.
- iii. NRIDA is also collaborating with Gati Shakti for releasing Rural Connectivity GIS Data in Public Domain.

65. In February 2022, the Ministry of Education approved the continuation of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (NMMSS) for a period of _____ with an outlay of Rs 1827.00 crore.

- 1) 4 years
- 2) 5 years
- 3) 6 years
- 4) 2 years
- 5) 3 years

Answer- **2) 5 years**

Explanation:

The **Ministry of Education** has approved the continuation of the National Means-cum-Merit Scholarship (**NMMSS**) over the 15th Finance Commission cycle for a period of **five years** i.e. from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a financial outlay of **Rs. 1827.00 crore** with minor modifications in eligibility criteria such as increasing income ceiling from Rs.1.5 lakh per annum to Rs.3.5 lakh per annum and revising the renewal criteria under the scheme.

Objective – To award economically weaker students who are meritorious in order to reduce drop-outs at the 8th grade and to encourage them to continue their education at a secondary stage.

66. In February 2022, The 'Upper Bhadra Project' got national project status by the central government's high-powered committee and received a Rs 12,500 crore grant from the centre. 'Upper Bhadra Project' is the 1st project in _____ state to get National Status.

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

Answer- **5) Karnataka**

Explanation:

Karnataka Chief Minister (CM) Basavaraj Bommai announced the '**Upper Bhadra Project**' has been given the national project status by the central government's high-powered committee which becomes the **first project** in Karnataka to get the status and receive a Rs 12,500 crore grant from the centre.

About Upper Bhadra Project:

Upper Bhadra Project is a major lift irrigation scheme under implementation in the central region of Karnataka State which is being undertaken by 'Visvesvaraya Jala Nigam Limited'.

67. The ____ anniversary of the launch of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) was observed on ____.

- 1) 5th; 23rd February 2022
- 2) 6th; 21st February 2022
- 3) 4th; 22nd February 2022
- 4) 6th; 23rd February 2022
- 5) 5th; 22nd February 2022

Answer- 2) 6th; 21st February 2022

Explanation:

21st February 2022 marked the **6th** anniversary of the launch of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (**SPMRM**), undertaken by the Ministry of Rural Development.

i. On 21st February 2016, Prime Minister(PM), Narendra Modi launched the SPMRM with an aim to develop 300 Rurban clusters in India by provisioning economic, social and physical infrastructure facilities.

ii. So far, the Ministry of Rural Development has approved 296 clusters under SPMRM.

68. Which state/UT is set to launch a 4-year mentorship programme named "Project Arohan" to provide guidance to students and hone their skills?

- 1) Mizoram
- 2) Odisha
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Assam
- 5) Delhi

Answer- 4) Assam

Explanation:

The government of **Assam** is set to launch a 4-year mentorship programme – "**Project Arohan**" – to mentor the students of Assam and to hone their skills.

i. Himanta Biswa Sarma, CM of Assam, met with Anita Rajan, Chief Executive officer (CEO) of Tata STRIVE, the skill development initiative of Tata Trusts, to seek cooperation for Project Arohan.

About Assam:

Governor- Prof. Jagadish Mukhi

National Park- Kaziranga National Park, Dibru - Saikhowa National Park

69. Which organization/Ministry recently (in Feb'22) released the report titled 'COVID-19-India's Vaccine Development Story' & and 'India's COVID - 19 Vaccination Administration Journey'?

- 1) Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation
- 2) Ministry of Women & Child Development
- 3) NITI Aayog
- 4) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- 5) WHO India

Answer- 4) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Explanation:

The Union **Minister of Health and Family Welfare**, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, released two reports titled '**COVID-19-India's Vaccine Development Story**' and '**India's COVID - 19 Vaccination Administration Journey**' of the Institute for Competitiveness, India is a part of the global network of the Institute for Strategy and Competitiveness and affiliated to Harvard Business School.

- i. It highlights the success of the COVID-19 vaccination development journey of India.
- ii. The reports also acknowledge the significant challenges for delivering and administering vaccines to a majority of **1.3 billion eligible** people for the **COVID-19 vaccines**.

70. In February 2022, Indian Railways and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd. commissioned India's 1st Solar Photovoltaic Plant with a capacity of 1.7MW in _____.

- 1) Nagpur, Maharashtra
- 2) Bina, Madhya Pradesh
- 3) Amritsar, Punjab
- 4) Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Answer- **2) Bina, Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

Indian Railways along Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (**BHEL**), has successfully commissioned **India's first Solar Photovoltaic Plant** of 1.7-MegaWatt (MW) at Bina, **Madhya Pradesh**. The plant is under extensive testing and will be in operation for Indian Railways.

The solar plant will be directly connected to the overhead traction system and will produce approximately 25 lakh units of energy annually.

Aim:

- i. The installation of the solar plants is to achieve conversion of Indian Railways to 'Net Zero' Carbon Emission and 'Go Green' by 2030.
- ii. Aiming to reduce 2,160 tonnes of carbon dioxide emission every year.
- iii. Aims to save around Rs 1.37 crore every year.

71. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) as of February 2022?

- A) The 4 plastic packaging categories classified by the new rules are rigid plastic packaging, flexible plastic packaging of a single layer, multi-layered plastic packaging and plastic sheet.
- B) The Ministry has notified four plastic packaging categories under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and sets the EPR target of 70% for 2022-23.
- C) The guidelines on EPR along with the prohibition of identified single-use plastic items with effect from 1st July 2022.

- 1) Only B
- 2) Only C
- 3) Only A & B
- 4) Only B & C
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- **5) All A, B & C**

Explanation:

The 4 plastic packaging categories classified by the new rules are rigid plastic packaging, flexible plastic packaging of a single layer, multi-layered plastic packaging and plastic sheet.

- i. The Ministry has notified four plastic packaging categories under Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and sets the EPR target of 70% for 2022-23.
- ii. The guidelines on EPR along with the prohibition of identified single-use plastic items with effect from 1st July 2022.

72. In which state the Indian Railway is constructing India's 1st cable-stayed railway bridge called 'Anji Khad bridge' over anji river under Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project?

- 1) Arunachal Pradesh
- 2) Jammu & Kashmir
- 3) Uttarakhand
- 4) Himachal Pradesh
- 5) Sikkim

Answer- 2) Jammu & Kashmir

Explanation:

India's first cable-stayed railway bridge called '**Anji Khad bridge**' (Rs 21,653-crore) is being constructed in Reasi, Jammu and Kashmir (**J & K**).

i. The under-construction Anji Khad bridge, situated over Anji river, part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (**USBRL**) project, will connect Katra and Reasi areas through rail links.

ii. The bridge will stand at a height of 331 metres above the river bed – higher than the Eiffel Tower in Paris. The total length of the bridge is 473.25 metres and it is supported by 96 cables.

73. In February 2022, the Ministry of Railways approved to set up India's biggest world-class wrestling academy at _____.

- 1) Rourkela, Odisha
- 2) Dibrugarh, Assam
- 3) Roorkee, Uttarakhand
- 4) Mohali, Punjab
- 5) Kishanganj, Delhi

Answer- 5) Kishanganj, Delhi

Explanation:

The Ministry of Railways has approved to set up India's biggest world Class wrestling academy at Indian Railways, **Kishanganj, Delhi**.

i. The state of the art wrestling academy will be set up at an estimated cost of Rs 30.76 crores.

ii. The academy will be equipped with advanced training facilities Indian Railways promotes sports in India through the Railway Sports Promotion Board (RSPB).

74. Name the hackathon that was conducted by the Indian Army in 2021 to boost cyber warfare.

- 1) Mhow Kshetram
- 2) Sainya cyberwar
- 3) Raksha Kshetram
- 4) Sainya Ranakshetram
- 5) Rashtriya Cyberwar

Answer- 4) Sainya Ranakshetram

Explanation:

Indian Army conducted the first of its kind Hackathon "**Sainya Ranakshetram – 2021**" from 1st October to 31st December 2021, to promote proficiency and expertise in the use of emerging technologies, and showcase the technological side of the Indian Army.

i. The event was conducted in collaboration with Rashtriya Raksha University, Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

ii. The Hackathon to boost Cyber Warfare was conducted at the Military College of Telecommunication Engineering (MCTE), Mhow (Military Headquarters Of War), Madhya Pradesh under the guidance of Army Training Command (ARTRAC), Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

75. Which of the following points are correct with respect to Rajasthan's Budget 2022-23 released in February 2022?

A) CM Ashok Gehlot presented Rajasthan's first-ever agriculture budget separately, with a provision of Rs 4,127.12 crore for the Agriculture Department.

B) Rajasthan has become the first state to go back to the Old Pension Scheme from the National Pension Scheme for its government employees appointed on or after January 1, 2004.

C) Work for Home-Job Work Scheme for women in the state was also proposed during the budget which will benefit 20,000 women.

1) All A, B & C

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A

5) Only B

Answer- **1) All A, B & C**

Explanation:

CM Ashok Gehlot presented Rajasthan's first-ever agriculture budget separately, with a provision of Rs 4,127.12 crore for the Agriculture Department.

i. Rajasthan has become the first state to go back to the Old Pension Scheme from the National Pension Scheme for its government employees appointed on or after January 1, 2004.

ii. Work for Home-Job Work Scheme for women in the state was also proposed during budget which will benefit 20,000 women.

76. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Delhi cabinet approval in February 2022?

1) The Delhi Cabinet has approved to set up India's 1st 'electronic-waste eco-park' which will recycle, refurbish and dismantle e-waste in a scientific and safe way.

2) Delhi Government also announced the framing of Delhi Film Policy 2022 to make the city a brand for shooting locations and to promote tourism.

3) The government is to create an 'e-Film Clearance Portal' and provide an aid of Rs.3 crores for film production.

4) Both 1 & 2

5) All 1, 2 & 3

Answer- **5) All 1, 2 & 3**

Explanation:

The Delhi Cabinet has approved to set up India's 1st '**electronic-waste eco-park**' which will recycle, refurbish and dismantle e-waste in a scientific and a safe way.

i. Delhi Government also announced the framing of **Delhi Film Policy 2022** to make the city a brand for shooting locations and to promote tourism.

ii. The government is to create an '**e-Film Clearance Portal**' and provide an aid of Rs.3 crores for film production.

Four objectives of Delhi Film policy 2022-

- Association of the people of Delhi with the policy,

- Making the national capital a brand for shooting location,
- Turning the city into a hub for the production of domestic & international films
- Create jobs for the people.

77. Name the initiative that was planned to be promoted by the Government of India to strengthen India's educational institutions in the health sector.

- 1) Heal by India
- 2) Develop Health care
- 3) Digital Care
- 4) Grow in India
- 5) Healthy India

Answer- **1) Heal by India**

Explanation:

The Government of India (**GoI**) is planning to promote “**Heal by India**” initiated to strengthen India’s educational institutions in the health sector and to enhance education to produce quality human resources in health, which will support them to become eligible to work globally.

i. The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (**MoHFW**) has organized a Chintan Shivir – ‘Heal by India’ for two days.

78. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the National Strategy on Additive Manufacturing policy in India launched in February 2022?

- 1) The Ministry of Science and Technology launched the National Strategy on Additive Manufacturing or 3D printing policy in India.
- 2) It aims to increase the share of global additive manufacturing to 5 percent by contributing \$1 billion to GDP by 2025.
- 3) The Strategy has set a target to develop the 3D printing, 500 Products by 2025.
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **5) Both 2 & 3**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**) launched the National Strategy on Additive Manufacturing or 3D printing policy in India.

i. The strategy aims to increase the share of global additive manufacturing to 5 percent by contributing **\$1 billion** to Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) by **2025**.

Aim: The National Strategy for Additive Manufacturing targets 50 India specific technologies to be developed on 3D printing, 100 new start-ups, 500 products, 10 existing and new manufacturing sectors by 2025.

79. In February 2022, The/Nudge Foundation and Ashirvad Pipes launched The/Nudge Prize-Ashirvad Water Challenge to startups in partnership with _____ to provide clean drinking water to rural households.

- 1) Ministry of Jal Shakti
- 2) Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser of GoI
- 3) National Mission for Clean Ganga
- 4) Jal Jeevan Mission
- 5) NITI Aayog

Answer- 2) **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser of GoI**

Explanation:

The/Nudge Foundation, and Ashirvad Pipes has launched The/Nudge Prize- Ashirvad Water Challenge in partnership with the **Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser** to the Government of India (GoI).

i. The startup prize of Rs.2.5 crore invites startups and innovators to create solutions to provide clean drinking water to the underprivileged and rural households, that will ensure clean drinking water for all Indians by 2024.

80. In February 2022, Mizoram government presented a budget for FY 22-23 with the total receipt of _____.

- 1) Rs 3,678.34 crore
- 2) Rs 5,346.12 crore
- 3) Rs 2,859.26 crore
- 4) Rs 14,008.15 crore
- 5) Rs 9,876.12 crore

Answer- 4) **Rs 14,008.15 crore**

Explanation:

Pu Zoramthanga, the CM of Mizoram who also holds the finance portfolio presented the state budget for **2022-23** with the total receipt from Revenue Receipt and Capital Receipt is estimated to be **14,008.15 crores** for BE 2022-23, which is 2,859.26 crores higher than BE of 2021-22, i.e., 26.65%.

i. He also presented the supplementary demands for grants for 2021-22 fiscal, amounting to Rs.6,025.44 crore.

ii. Revenue Receipt for the year 2022-2023 is 11,426.21 crore.

81. As per the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, _____ became the Top State in Overall Installed Renewable Capacity by surpassing Karnataka, and _____ is the 1st state in India to cross 10,000 MW of total solar capacity (as of February 2022).

- 1) Gujarat & Rajasthan
- 2) Rajasthan & Tamil Nadu
- 3) Tamil Nadu & Gujarat
- 4) Gujarat & Tamil Nadu
- 5) Tamil Nadu & Rajasthan

Answer- 5) **Tamil Nadu & Rajasthan**

Explanation:

According to the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MoNRE), **Tamil Nadu (TN)** has achieved the **first** position in overall installed renewable energy capacity in India **surpassing Karnataka**.

i. As of 31st January 2022, TN's total installed renewable capacity stood at 15,914 MegaWatt (MW) as compared to Karnataka's total clean energy capacity of 15,795 MW.

ii. **Rajasthan's** overall renewable energy capacity was 14,983 MW and also the **1st state in India to cross 10,000 MW** of total solar capacity and stood at 10,507 MW, followed by Karnataka (7,535 MW) and Gujarat (6,310 MW) and Tamil Nadu (4,894 MW).

iii. Rajasthan and Gujarat added the highest renewable capacity (4.8 GW and 2.4 GW respectively) in the current fiscal year till 31st January 2022.

82. In February 2022, the Indian government announced the purchase of _____ wheat and 4.29 MT of _____ during 2022-23 under the minimum support price (MSP) programme.

- 1) 24.67MT; Rabi-grown rice
- 2) 44.4MT; Rabi-Barley
- 3) 24.67MT; Rabi-Mustard
- 4) 44.4MT; Rabi-grown rice
- 5) 35.87MT; Rabi-Barley

Answer- 4) 44.4MT; Rabi-grown rice

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) announced the purchase of **44.4 million tonnes (MT) of wheat and 4.29 MT of rabi-grown rice** during **2022-23** under the minimum support price (**MSP**) programme.

i. Food Corporation of India (FCI) in collaboration with state government-owned agencies will procure wheat from farmers in the key producing states, including Punjab, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh during April-June 2022.

ii. The state-wise procurement target of wheat: Punjab (13.2 MT), Madhya Pradesh (12.9 MT), Haryana (8.5 MT), Uttar Pradesh (6 MT), and Bihar (1 MT).

83. As part of India's Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) in which country India is planning to establish its first IIT outside of India?

- 1) Dubai, UAE
- 2) Melbourne, Australia
- 3) Ottawa, Canada
- 4) Berlin, Germany
- 5) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

Answer- 1) Dubai, UAE

Explanation:

The government of India (**GoI**) is set to establish the **first** Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) in **Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE)** as a part of the India-UAE trade deal, the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (**CEPA**), signed on 18th February 2022.

i. IIT in UAE will be the first IIT and first-ever Institute of National Importance to be established outside India.

IITs in India:

- There are 23 IITs in India that offer a range of degrees and the IITs are governed by the Institutes of Technology Act, of 1961.
- The top IITs in India include IIT Delhi, IIT Bombay, IIT Kharagpur, and IIT Madras.

84. In February 2022, GoI constituted a high-level ministerial task force to analyze the impact on India by the sanction against _____ by the USA, European Union, UK and others.

- 1) Belarus
- 2) Poland
- 3) Ukraine
- 4) Russia
- 5) Germany

Answer- 4) Russia

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) constituted a high-level ministerial task force to analyze the impact on India by the sanctions made against **Russia** by the United States of America (USA), the European Union (EU), United Kingdom (UK), Japan, Canada, Taiwan, and New Zealand.

- i. The sanctions target Russian banks, oil refineries, and military exports.
- ii. Russia is the 26th largest trade partner of India, with exports in 2020-21 valued at \$ 2.6 billion and imports at \$ 5.4 billion.
- iii. The task force awaits the updated sanctions guidelines from the United States (US) Office of Foreign Assets Control (OFAC).

Cause for the Attack: Russia's decision to invade Ukraine was aggravated by Ukraine's decision to sign the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

85. In February 2022, the Ministry of New & Renewable Energy approved the development of a 400 MW solar park by which company in Upper Kinnaur, Himachal Pradesh?

- 1) NHPC Ltd
- 2) Northeast Electric Power Company
- 3) THDC India Ltd
- 4) NTPC-Hydro
- 5) SJVN Ltd

Answer- **5) SJVN Ltd**

Explanation:

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (**MNRE**) approved the development of a **400 MW solar park** by the state-owned, Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (**SJVN**) **Limited** at Upper Kinnaur in **Himachal Pradesh (HP)**.

- i. According to SJVN Limited, in-principle approval has been agreed by the ministry for the development of this project under 'Ultra Mega Renewable Energy Power Parks' of its solar park scheme.

About SJVN Limited:

Incorporated – 24th May 1988

Headquarters – Shimla, Himachal Pradesh

Chairman and Managing Director (MD) – Nand Lal Sharma

86. In which place the BSES Yamuna Power Limited (BYPL) recently (in Feb'22) commission India's 1st 'Smart Managed Electric Vehicle Charging Station'?

- 1) Punjab
- 2) Rajasthan
- 3) Uttar Pradesh
- 4) Chandigarh
- 5) New Delhi

Answer- **5) New Delhi**

Explanation:

BSES Yamuna Power Limited (**BYPL**), a subsidiary of Reliance Infrastructure commissioned **India's first 'Smart Managed EV (Electric Vehicle) Charging Station'** in New Delhi.

- i. The project is supported by Nordic Innovation, an organization promoted by the governments of Nordic countries, and executed by Fortum Charge & Drive.

Key features of Smart EV Charging Stations:

- i. It has the capacity to charge five EVs simultaneously and the charging station can be integrated with BYPL's SCADA system. It is located at BYPL's 11 kV substation building in Mayur Vihar Extension Phase- in New Delhi.
- ii. It is also Demand Response (DR) compatible, which is important demand-side management (DSM) tool for bearing the high load.

87. India released a special logo (in Feb'22) during India's "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav" week of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) to mark 75 years of diplomatic relations with which country?

- 1) Russia
- 2) Belgium
- 3) France
- 4) Ireland
- 5) Japan

Answer- **2) Belgium**

Explanation:

India released a special logo to commemorate the **75 years** of diplomatic relations between **India** and **Belgium** during India's "**Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav**" week of the Ministry of External Affairs (**MEA**), Belgian Ambassador in India Francois Delhaye along with Sandeep Chakravorty, Joint Secretary and Head of Europe West Division, MEA.

- i. The logo features a peacock, India's national bird with national flags of both India and Belgium on either side of the peacock.
- ii. The diplomatic relations between both nations was established in January 1947.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

1. In which Place the World's largest Canal Lock was inaugurated in February 2022?

- 1) Bruges, Belgium
- 2) Frankfurt, Germany
- 3) Ijmuiden, Netherlands
- 4) Alexandria, Egypt
- 5) Kassala, Sudan

Answer- **3) Ijmuiden, Netherlands**

Explanation:

The world's largest canal lock namely '**Zeesluis Ijmuiden**' has been inaugurated at **Ijmuiden**, a small port city in the Port of Amsterdam, The **Netherlands**, by the Dutch King Willem-Alexander.

- i. This 500-meter (1,640-feet) long and 70-meter wide canal lock & Canal is 18 meter deep & canal has replaced the smaller, nearly 100-year-old Noordersluis (northern lock) at Ijmuiden which was built in 1929.
- ii. The outlay of the newly built canal lock went over the initially planned budget by around €300 million (\$338 million).

2. THE JET ZeroEmission announced to launch the World's first hydrogen powered flying boat 'THE JET' by 2023 in which city?

- 1) New York, USA
- 2) Moscow, Russia
- 3) Dubai, UAE
- 4) Tokyo, Japan
- 5) Beijing, China

Answer- 3) Dubai, UAE

Explanation:

THE JET ZeroEmission announced the launch of the World's 1st hydrogen powered flying boat 'THE JET' in **Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE)**.

i. THE JET will have its inaugural flight during the COP28, which is scheduled to be held in Dubai, UAE in 2023.

Note- Fukushima Hydrogen Energy Research Field in Japan, is the world's largest hydrogen-production facility.

3. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) released the 'Global analysis of health care waste in the context of COVID-19' report that highlighted COVID-19 Medical Waste & related environmental threats?

- 1) UNEP
- 2) World Health Organization
- 3) UNDP
- 4) World Economic Forum
- 5) World Bank

Answer- 2) World Health Organization

Explanation:

The **WHO** released the report titled '**Global analysis of health care waste in the context of COVID-19 – Status, impacts and recommendations**' stating that the huge amount of medical waste produced as a result of tackling the COVID-19 pandemic, poses a threat to human health and environment.

i. The report highlighted from 1.5 billion units, approximately 87,000 tonnes of personal protective equipment (PPE) procured between March 2020 and November 2021.

ii. India generated approximately 101 tonnes of COVID-19-related healthcare waste per day during the first wave of the pandemic (58), in addition to the 609 tonnes of waste generated daily from routine health services (a total of 710 tonnes).

4. India secured _____ rank in the 9th annual ranking of top 10 countries outside of the United States for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in 2021, released by US Green Building Council (USGBC), which was topped by _____.

- 1) 3rd; China
- 2) 2nd; Spain
- 3) 4th; Canada
- 4) 2nd; South Korea
- 5) 4th; China

Answer- 1) 3rd; China

Explanation:

The US Green Building Council (USGBC) released the **9th** annual ranking of top 10 countries outside of the United States for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) in 2021 in which **India** ranked **3rd** with 146 projects.

i. It has been **topped** by **China** with 1,077 LEED projects certified in 2021, followed by Canada (2nd), Republic of Korea (4th) & Spain (5th).

Note- In India, LEED is administered by Green Business Certification Inc. (GBCI).

5. In February 2022, which country received a grant from the Indian Government to implement the “Unitary Digital Identity” framework, modelled on the Aadhaar card?

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

Answer- **4) Sri Lanka**

Explanation:

The **Indian Government** has agreed to provide a grant to **Sri Lanka** for implementing its ‘**Unitary Digital Identity framework**’ which is modelled on Aadhaar card. However, no information is provided on the value of the grant.

i. This framework will be implemented by the Sri Lankan government as a national level programme on a priority basis.

6. In February 2022, _____ became the world’s 1st country to permit unmanned aerial vehicles or drones to operate in civilian airspace.

- 1) China
- 2) India
- 3) USA
- 4) Israel
- 5) UK

Answer- **4) Israel**

Explanation:

Israel becomes the **World’s first country** to allow drones to operate in civilian airspace. The Ministry of Transport and Road Safety of Israel announced the certification for Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (**UAVs**) to operate in civilian airspace.

i. **Hermes Starliner** Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS), is the **1st UAV** to receive such a certification.

About Israel:

Capital- Jerusalem

Prime minister- Naftali Bennett

Currency- Israeli Shekel

7. Which organisation recently (in Feb’22) launched a new Digital Strategy 2022-2025 that will accelerate the work towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)?

- 1) UNDP
- 2) Asian Development Bank
- 3) International Monetary Fund

4) UNEP

5) World Bank

Answer- **1) UNDP**

Explanation:

United Nations Development Programme (**UNDP**) launched a **new Digital Strategy 2022-2025** to support countries and communities for using digital technologies to reduce inequality, support inclusivity, tackle climate change, and open-up economic opportunities. This strategy will accelerate the work towards achieving sustainable development goals (**SDGs**).

i. As per the UN, artificial intelligence (AI) and digital technology could bring a 10-20% reduction in global carbon dioxide emissions by 2030.

8. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Global Trade Update (as of Feb'22) published by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development(UNCTAD)?

1) Global trade in goods and services has reached a record high of USD 28.5 trillion in 2021, which has increased by around 25% compared to 2020.

2) In Q4 2021, India's exports on Goods has increased by 25% and imports increased by 32% relative to the 2019 average.

3) In Q3 2021, India's exports on Services increased by 7% and imports increased by 3% relative to the 2019 average.

4) Both 1 & 2

5) All 1, 2 & 3

Answer- **5) All 1, 2 & 3**

Explanation:

Global trade in goods and services has reached a record high of USD **28.5 trillion in 2021**, which has increased by around **25%** compared to 2020.

i. In Q4 2021, India's exports on Goods increased by 25% and imports increased by 32% relative to the 2019 average.

ii. In Q3 2021, India's exports on Services increased by 7% and imports increased by 3% relative to the 2019 average.

Note- The increased growth during the last quarter (Q4) of 2021 is expected to slow in the first quarter (Q1) of 2022 and normalize during 2022.

9. In February 2022, _____ became the 1st foreign country to adopt India's UPI (Unified Payments Interface) system to boost its digital payment platform.

1) Nepal

2) Vietnam

3) Bangladesh

4) Myanmar

5) Bhutan

Answer- **1) Nepal**

Explanation:

Nepal has become the **first foreign country** to adopt India's UPI (Unified Payments Interface) system thus enhancing the digitalization of cash transactions.

i. The services for the same in Nepal will be provided by the NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL), the international arm of NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India), in collaboration with Gateway Payments Service (GPS) and Manam Infotech.

ii. This adoption will boost interoperable real-time person-to-person (P2P) and person-to-merchant (P2M) transactions in Nepal.

10. As per the Global Trade Update (in Feb'22) by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), global trade growth will slow in the ____ of 2022.

- 1) Quarter 1
- 2) Quarter 2
- 3) Quarter 3
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **1) Quarter 1**

Explanation:

The global trade growth will slow in the Quarter 1 of 2022 due to macroeconomic trends like persistent inflation in the US & concerns related to China's real estate sector.

i. Global trade in goods and services has reached a record high of USD 28.5 trillion in 2021, which has increased by around 25% compared to 2020.

11. Which organization recently (in Feb '22) released the 4th edition of the Frontiers 2022: Noise, Blazes, and Mismatches – Emerging Issues of Environmental Concern "report which predicts that wildfires will worsen in the upcoming years?"

- 1) African Wildlife Foundation
- 2) United Nations Environment Programme
- 3) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
- 4) World Wide Fund for Nature
- 5) Global Environment Facility

Answer- **2) United Nations Environment Programme**

Explanation:

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) released the **4th edition of Frontiers report** titled "Frontiers 2022: Noise, Blazes and Mismatches – Emerging Issues Of Environmental Concern" which predicts that wildfires will **worsen** in the upcoming years and decades.

i. The report states that wildfires are becoming more frequent, larger, and more intense due to climate change.

ii. The Frontiers reports of UNEP identify and draw attention to the emerging issues of environmental concern. The Frontiers report was first published in 2016.

12. Who recently (in Feb '22) got elected as the Chairman of International Rubber Study Group (IRSG) for 2 years?

- 1) Amit Jain (UAE)
- 2) Jose Teodoro (Philippines)
- 3) KN Raghavan (India)
- 4) Morten Lundal (Malaysia)
- 5) Jacqueline Curzon (Singapore)

Answer- **3) KN Raghavan (India)**

Explanation:

India has been elected for the Chairmanship of the International Rubber Study Group (**IRSG**), a Singapore based intergovernmental organization of natural rubber (NR) and synthetic rubber (SR) producing and consuming countries.

i. India succeeds Cote'd Ivoire as the chairman of IRSG.

ii. **KN Raghavan**, Executive Director of Indian Rubber Board and the Head of the Indian delegation to IRSG will officiate as the Chairman of IRSG for the **next 2 years**.

13. In February 2022, the Global Innovation Policy Centre (GIPC) of United States Chambers of Commerce released the 10th edition of International Intellectual Property (IIP) Index 2022- 'Compete for Tomorrow'.

As per the IIP Index, India ranked _____ out of 55 countries while _____ tops the Index.

1) 48th; United Kingdom

2) 43rd; China

3) 48th; Germany

4) 43rd; United States

5) 50th; Germany

Answer- **4) 43rd; United States**

Explanation:

The Global Innovation Policy Centre (**GIPC**) of the United States Chambers of Commerce (USCC) released the 10th edition of International Intellectual Property (IIP) Index, 'Compete for Tomorrow' (**IIP Index 2022**). **India** has ranked **43 out of 55** countries on the 2022 IIP Index.

i. The Index is topped by the United States (**US**) with 95.48 percent followed by the United Kingdom (UK) with 94.14 percent and third position is occupied by Germany with 92.46 percent.

ii. India's overall score has increased from 38.40 percent (19.20 out of 50) in the ninth edition to 38.64 percent (19.32 out of 50) in the 10th edition & India ranked 12th in Asia Region while Japan topped in the Asia Region.

GOVT SCHEMES

1. Which state recently (in Feb'22) launched "Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Bhumiheen Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana" to provide financial assistance to landless labourers?

1) Rajasthan

2) Maharashtra

3) Chhattisgarh

4) Odisha

5) Punjab

Answer- **3) Chhattisgarh**

Explanation:

Congress leader Rahul Gandhi launched the "**Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Bhumiheen Krishi Mazdoor Nyay Yojana**", financial assistance scheme of the Chhattisgarh government for landless labourers of rural areas of **Chhattisgarh**.

i. Under the financial assistance scheme, financial assistance of **Rs 6000 per year in 3 installments** will be provided to the registered labourers in rural areas who do not possess agricultural land.

ii. This is the **first-of-its-kind scheme** in India for which the state government had made a provision of Rs 200 crore in the budget for the financial year 2021-22.

iii. He also launched the **“Rajiv Yuva Mitan Club Scheme”** at the function and provided financial assistance of Rs 25000 to its beneficiaries.

2. In February 2022, The Government decided to continue the Scheme of “Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram (RYSK), a flagship scheme under the _____, for a period of _____ with an outlay of Rs. 2,710.65 crore.

- 1) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; 4 years
- 2) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; 2 years
- 3) Ministry of Women and Child Development; 4 years
- 4) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; 5 years
- 5) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare; 6 years

Answer- **4) Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports; 5 years**

Explanation:

The Central Government has decided to continue the Scheme of “Rashtriya Yuva Sashaktikaran Karyakram (RYSK) for another **5 years** from 2021 -22 to 2025-26 with an outlay of Rs.2,710.65 crore.

About RYSK scheme:

i. The RYSK scheme is the flagship Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

ii. Beneficiaries – The youth in the age-group of 15 to 29 years (according to the definition of ‘youth’ in the National Youth Policy, 2014).

3. In February 2022, the Government of India extended the Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (PMKSY) till March 2026 & allocated Rs 4600 crore for the scheme.

PMKSY is the flagship scheme of which Ministry?

- 1) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmer Welfare
- 2) Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- 3) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- 4) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- 5) Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs

Answer- **3) Ministry of Food Processing Industries**

Explanation:

Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana (**PMKSY**), a flagship scheme of the Ministry of Food Processing Industries (**MoFPI**) has been extended for a period of 2021-2022 to **2025-2026** (till March 2026). The government of India (GoI) has allocated Rs 4600 crore for the scheme.

i. The GoI launched the Scheme for Agro-Marine Processing and Development of Agro-Processing Clusters(SAMPADA) in 2017. The scheme was renamed as PMKSY in August 2017.

4. Which of the following points is correct with respect to the Central Sector scheme named “SMILE” that was launched in February 2022?

- 1) SMILE stands for Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood & Enterprise.
- 2) The Scheme was launched by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment with an outlay of Rs 365 Crore for 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- 3) The Objective of the scheme is to provide welfare & rehabilitation to the Transgender community & the people engaged in begging.

4) There are 2 sub schemes under SMILE that will be implemented by National Coordinators along with a suitable Ministry.

5) All the above

Answer- **5) All the above**

Explanation:

i. The **SMILE** -Support for Marginalized Individuals for Livelihood & Enterprise Scheme was launched by the **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment** with an outlay of Rs 365 Crore for 2021-22 to 2025-26

ii. The **Objective** of the scheme is to provide welfare & rehabilitation to the Transgender community & the people engaged in begging.

iii. There are **2 sub schemes** under SMILE that will be implemented by National Coordinators along with a suitable Ministry. The 2 subschemes are 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation for Welfare of Transgender Persons' and 'Central Sector Scheme for Comprehensive Rehabilitation of persons engaged in the act of Begging'

5. Which health schemes were recently (in Feb'22) integrated with the Aarogya Setu app by the National Health Authority to create 14-digit unique Account numbers?

1) Central Government Health Scheme

2) Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna

3) Aam Aadmi Bima Yojana

4) Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana

5) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

Answer- **5) Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission**

Explanation:

The **National Health Authority** announced the integration of its flagship **Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission** with the **Aarogya Setu app**, allowing users to create the **14-digit** unique Ayushman Bharat Health Account numbers from the app.

i. This integration takes the benefits of the Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) number to the Aarogya Setu user base.

6. In February 2022, the Government of India approved the continuation of the Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF) scheme for _____ with a financial outlay of _____.

1) 2 years; Rs 10,123 crores

2) 4 years; Rs 2,765 crores

3) 5 years; Rs 26,275 crores

4) 4 years; Rs 10,123 crores

5) 2 years; Rs 2,765 crores

Answer- **3) 5 years; Rs 26,275 crores**

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) has approved for continuation of the **Modernisation of Police Forces (MPF) scheme** for **5 years** from 2021-22 to 2025-26 with a financial outlay of **Rs 26,275 crores**.

i. This initiative by the **Ministry of Home Affairs** is to modernise and improve the functioning of Police Forces of States and Union Territories by introducing sub-schemes.

About Modernisation of Police Force:

Established – 1969-70

Ministry – Ministry of Home Affairs

7. Which state/UT's Hill Development Council recently (in Feb'22) launched Kunsnyoms scheme to provide devices and technologies for differently-abled persons?

- 1) Mizoram
- 2) Arunachal Pradesh
- 3) Nagaland
- 4) Assam
- 5) Ladakh

Answer- **5) Ladakh**

Explanation:

The Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (**LAHDC**), Leh, a society in transition, has launched the **Kunsnyoms scheme**. This scheme aims to provide assistive devices and technologies for differently abled persons at a 90% subsidised rate.

About Kunsnyoms Scheme:

The LAHDC has provided 28 tri scooters, battery-run wheelchair, walking aids and hearing aids which are required for special needs of the individuals.

About Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC):

Chairman/Chief Executive Councillor – Tashi Gyalsen

Established – 1995, under Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council Act 1995.

8. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment recently (in Feb'22) launched the "Scheme for Economic Empowerment of De-notified Tribes (DNTs), Nomadic Tribes (NTs) & Semi Nomadic Tribes (SNTs)" (SEED).

Which of the following points are correct with respect to the SEED Scheme?

- 1) It will be implemented by the Development Tribal Affairs for DNTs, SNTs & NTs (DWBDNCs) along with the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- 2) The Scheme outlay is ~Rs 200 crore to be spent over five years beginning 2021-22 to 2025-26.
- 3) Under the Scheme, the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment has developed an online portal to ensure seamless registration.
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **5) Both 2 & 3**

Explanation:

The SEED scheme will be implemented by the **Development and Welfare Board** for DNTs, SNTs & NTs (DWBDNCs) along with the Ministry of Rural Development (**MoRD**), National Rural Livelihood Mission (**NRLM**) and National Health Authority (**NHA**).

i. The Scheme outlay is **~Rs 200 crore** to be spent over five years beginning **2021-22** to **2025-26**.

ii. Under the Scheme, the Department of Social Justice & Empowerment has developed an **online portal** to ensure seamless registration.

The four components of the SEED scheme are:

- Educational empowerment- Free coaching to students from these communities for Civil Services, entry to professional courses like medicine, engineering, MBA, etc.
- Health Insurance through PMJAY of National Health Authority.
- Livelihoods to support income generation, and
- Housing (through PMAY/IAY)

9. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the New India Literacy Programme (NILP) approved in February 2022?

A) The Ministry of Education approved the NILP scheme for 5 years to cover all the aspects of adult education to align with National Education Policy (NEP) 2020.

B) The total estimation of NILP is Rs.1037.90 crore, of which the Central government and State government share Rs 700 crore and Rs 337.90 crore respectively.

C) MoE replaced the term “Adult Education” with “Education for All” to cover non-literates of the age of 15 years and above.

1) Only A

2) Only B

3) Only A & B

4) Only B & C

5) All A, B & C

Answer- **5) All A, B & C**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Education (**MoE**) approved a new scheme “**New India Literacy Programme (NILP)** which is also known as Nav Bharat Literacy Program” for the upcoming **5 years** (FY 2022-27) to cover all the aspects of adult education to align with National Education Policy (**NEP**) **2020**.

i. The total estimation of NILP is Rs.1037.90 crore, in which the Central government and State government share Rs 700 crore and Rs 337.90 crore respectively.

ii. MoE replaced the term “Adult Education” with “Education for All” to cover non-literates of the age of 15 years and above with the help of “Online Teaching, Learning and Assessment System (OTLAS)” in collaboration with NCERT and the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS).

10. In February 2022, the Union Cabinet approved the continuation of the Capacity Development(CD) scheme of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) till _____ with an outlay of Rs. 3,179 crore.

1) 31st January 2024

2) 31st March 2026

3) 30th June 2026

4) 31st July 2025

5) 1st April 2026

Answer- **2) 31st March 2026**

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet approved for the continuation of the Capacity Development (**CD**) scheme of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (**MoSPI**) till **31st March 2026** or further review, whichever is **earlier** with an **outlay of Rs. 3,179 crore** approved during 15th Finance Commission.

i. The CD scheme is an Ongoing Central Sector Scheme (CSS) of the Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation (MoSPI) with an overall objective to augment infrastructural, technical and manpower resources for enabling availability of credible and timely official statistics.

ii. The scheme comprises the main scheme, capacity development and two sub-schemes viz. Support for Statistical Strengthening (**SSS**) and Economic Census (**EC**).

11. In February 2022, the Indian government approved the scheme “Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) Phase II” from 2022-23 to 2025-26 with an outlay of Rs. 3,375 crore.

The ICJS scheme was under which ministry?

- 1) Ministry of Home Affairs
- 2) Ministry of External Affairs
- 3) Ministry of Law and Justice
- 4) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- 5) Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs

Answer- 1) Ministry of Home Affairs

Explanation:

The central government has approved the implementation of Phase II of the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project by the **Ministry of Home Affairs** at a total cost of Rs 3,375 crore during the period from 2022-23 to 2025-26.

i. The project will be implemented as a Central Sector Scheme at a total cost of Rs. 3,375 crore.

ii. National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) will implement the project in association with the National Informatics Centre (NIC).

Note- ICJS is a national platform for enabling integration of the IT system which is used to deliver Criminal Justice in the country.

12. Which state recently (in Feb’22) has the maximum number of households electrified through the solar-based standalone system under Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana- ‘Saubhagya’ scheme?

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Assam
- 3) Chhattisgarh
- 4) Rajasthan
- 5) Uttar Pradesh

Answer- 4) Rajasthan

Explanation:

Under the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana- ‘Saubhagya’ scheme, **Rajasthan** has the maximum number of households electrified through the solar-based standalone system. In hill states of **Himachal Pradesh** and Sikkim and the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir had nil beneficiaries under the initiative.

i. Under the Saubhagya scheme, around 1,23,682 households were electrified in Rajasthan, followed by Chhattisgarh (65,373), Uttar Pradesh (53,234), Assam (50,754), Bihar (39,100), Maharashtra (30,538), Odisha (13,735), Madhya Pradesh (12,651).

13. Which State/UT recently announced to launch “Sant Ravidas Swarozgar Yojana” on the birth anniversary of Guru Ravidas (16th Feb’22)?

- 1) Karnataka
- 2) West Bengal
- 3) Arunachal Pradesh
- 4) Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Explanation:

Madhya Pradesh CM Shivraj Singh Chouhan announced welfare schemes for Scheduled Caste (SC) communities on the occasion of the birth anniversary of **Guru Ravidas**, 16th February.

- i.** The govt. will launch '**Sant Ravidas Swarozgar Yojana**', to provide self-employment opportunities and provide loans up to Rs 25 lakh will be made available, for which the government will pay 5 percent interest.
- ii.** The government will expand the reach of the '**Deendayal Antyodaya Raso Yojana**' to eliminate hunger and malnourishment.
- iii.** The govt. is initiating CM's **Scheduled Caste Special Project**, under which a grant of up to Rs 2 crore will be given to SC youths for self-employment, skill up-gradation and innovation.
- iv.** Another scheme '**Dr Bhimrao Ambedkar Economic Welfare**' will be launched under which loans up to Rs 1 lakh will be provided for purchasing low-cost equipment or to cover requirements for a small capital.
- v.** The MP government announced that the **Global Skill Park**, to be built in Bhopal and it would be **named after Guru Ravidas**.

14. The Cabinet Government recently (in Feb'22) approved the continuation of Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) scheme till _____ with an expenditure of Rs. 12,929.16 crore.

- 1) 1st June 2026
- 2) 31st March 2026
- 3) 1st June 2024
- 4) 30th April 2025
- 5) 1st January 2026

Answer- **2) 31st March 2026**

Explanation:

The Government has approved the continuation of the Rashtriya Uchchar Shiksha Abhiyan (**RUSA**) **scheme till 31st March 2026** with an expenditure of **12,929.16 crore rupees**.

- i.** The new phase of the scheme would support around 1,600 projects.
- ii.** The new phase of the scheme has been designed to implement some of the recommendations and aims of the New Education Policy, which will support Gender inclusion, Equity Initiatives, Enhance employability through vocationalisation and skill upgradation.
- iii.** The **Ministry of Education (MoE)**, formerly known as the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MoHRD) is the nodal agency administering RUSA which was launched in 2013.

15. Name the scheme that recently (in Feb'22) entered into the 7th year of implementation and also launched Meri Policy Mere Hath' Doorstep Distribution Drive to deliver crop insurance policies?

- 1) Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)
- 2) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (PMKSY)
- 3) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)
- 4) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Maan Dhan Yojana (PMKMY)
- 5) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN)

Answer- **3) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY)**

Explanation:

The government has successfully entered into the **7th year** of implementing Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (**PMFBY**), since its launch on 18th February 2016 by PM Narendra Modi at Sehore, Madhya Pradesh (MP). PMFBY will launch the '**Meri Policy Mere Hath**' drive.

- i. The PMFBY scheme will be launching a doorstep distribution drive, 'Meri Policy Mere Hath' to deliver crop insurance policies to the farmers in all implementing States in the upcoming Kharif season.
- ii. The Scheme under Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers Welfare (**DAC&FW**), Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (**MoA&FW**).

16. The Ministry of Women and Child Development recently (in Feb'22) extended the period of the PM CARES scheme for Children till _____.

- 1) 31st August 2022
- 2) 31st December 2022
- 3) 1st April 2022
- 4) 28th February 2022
- 5) 31st March 2022

Answer- **4) 28 February 2022**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoW&CD) extended the time PM CARES scheme for Children till **28 February 2022** (earlier, valid till 31 December 2021).

- i. PM CARES – Prime Minister's Citizen Assistance and Relief in Emergency Situations Fund.
- ii. It covers all children who have not completed 18 years of age at the time of death of their parents, surviving parent, legal guardian, adoptive parents or single adoptive parent due to COVID 19 pandemic.

17. The Government of India celebrated the 3rd anniversary of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (PM-KISAN) Scheme on 24th February 2022.

PM-KISAN scheme comes under which ministry?

- 1) Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship
- 2) Ministry of MSME
- 3) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
- 4) Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
- 5) Ministry of Labour & Employment

Answer- **3) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare**

Explanation:

24th February 2022, marks the **3rd** anniversary of the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Nidhi (**PM-KISAN**) Scheme. It was launched on 24th February 2019 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh.

- i. It is 100% Funded by the central government under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (**MoAFW**) to provide income support to all landholding farmer's families irrespective of the land size in order to meet their expenses related to agriculture and domestic needs.
- ii. Under the Scheme, Farmers will receive an amount of **Rs.6000 per year in 3 equal installments of Rs.2000** directly into their bank accounts.

Note- So far, ~1.80 lakh crore rupees have been transferred directly into the bank accounts of the farmer families under the PM -KISAN Scheme.

18. In February 2022, the government of India approved the continuation of the Immigration Visa Foreigners Registration Tracking (IVFRT) Scheme till _____ with an outlay of 1,364.88 crores.

- 1) 30th April, 2025
- 2) 31st March, 2026
- 3) 30th June, 2024
- 4) 31st January, 2026
- 5) 30th, March 2024

Answer- 2) 31st March, 2026

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) has approved for the continuation of the Immigration Visa Foreigners Registration Tracking (IVFRT) Scheme for a period of five years from April 1, 2021 to **March 31, 2026** with an outlay of **₹1,364.88 crores**.

i. In order to Modernize and upgrade the Immigration services, “Immigration, Visa and Foreigners Registration & Tracking (IVFRT)” has been identified and included as one of the MMPs to be **undertaken** by the **Ministry of Home Affairs** under the National e-Governance Plan (NeGP).

Aim And Objective of IVFRT:

- The aim is to provide a secure and integrated service delivery framework that facilitates legitimate travellers by strengthening national security.
- The main objective for the continuation of IVFRT is the modernization and up-gradation of Immigration and Visa services.

VISITS

1. Which of the following points is correct with respect to the visit of Ajay Kumar, Defence Secretary of India, to the Maldives in February 2022?

- A) The Defence Secretary of India handed 2800 Kgs of medical equipment to Maldives National Defence Force’s Senahiya Military Hospital.**
- B) He also inaugurated the Composite Training Center Phase-I in the Maldives, which was built with the support of India’s financial assistance.**
- C) Ajay Kumar co-chaired the 3rd India – Maldives Defence Cooperation Dialogue2022 in the Maldives with Major General Abdulla Shamaal.**

- 1) All A, B & C
- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only A & C
- 4) Only B
- 5) Only A

Answer- 1) All A, B & C

Explanation:

The Defence Secretary of India handed **2800 Kgs** of medical equipment to Maldives National Defence Force’s Senahiya Military Hospital.

i. He also inaugurated the **Composite Training Center Phase-I** in the Maldives, which was built with the support of India’s financial assistance.

ii. Ajay Kumar co-chaired the 3rd India – Maldives Defence Cooperation Dialogue2022 in the Maldives with Major General Abdulla Shamaal.