

GUPTA

CLASSES

CURRENT AFFAIRS

(February 2022)

English

Part-2



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iii. He also handed over the refitted Maldivian Coast Guard Ship (MCGS) Huravee, a made in India Trinkat class patrol vessel.

2. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Minister of External Affairs (MEA) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar visit to Australia and Philippines?

A) India's EAM co-chaired the 1st India-Australia Foreign Ministers' Cyber Framework Dialogue (FMCFD) 2022 with Marise Payne, Ministry of Finance.

B) EAM participated in the 4th Japan- Australia-India-United States(US) (Quad) Foreign Ministers' Meeting 2022 in Melbourne (Australia).

C) He also visited philippines and held a talks with his counterpart, teodoro l. locsin jr., secretary of foreign affairs of the philippines.

1) All A, B & C

2) Only B & C

3) Only A & B

4) Only A

5) Only B

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

Explanation:

India's EAM co-chaired the 1st India-Australia Foreign Ministers' Cyber Framework Dialogue (FMCFD) 2022 with Marise Payne, Ministry of Finance.

i. He also co-chaired the 12th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue (FMFD) 2022 along Australian Foreign Minister.

ii. EAM participated in the 4th Japan- Australia-India-United States(US) (Quad) Foreign Ministers' Meeting 2022 in Melbourne (Australia)

He also visited philippines and held a talks with his counterpart, teodoro l. locsin jr., secretary of foreign affairs of the philippines.

3. Which of the following points are correct with respect to External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar's Visit to Germany and France in February 2022?

1) India & France promote the blue economy and ocean governance in the framework of the common roadmap 'EU-India Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025' & the EU strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

2) S Jaishankar has attended the EU Ministerial Forum on the Indo-Pacific in Munich, Germany.

3) He met with Ireland Foreign Minister Simon Coveney during the 58th Munich Security Conference (MSC) 2022, which was held in Munich, Germany.

4) Both 2 & 3

5) Both 1 & 3

Answer- **5) Both 1 & 3**

Explanation:

India & France promote the blue economy and ocean governance in the framework of the common roadmap 'EU-India Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025' & the EU strategy for cooperation in the Indo-Pacific.

i. S Jaishankar has attended the EU Ministerial Forum on Indo-Pacific in **Paris, France** in its capacity as **chair** of the council of the **European Union**.

ii. He met with Ireland Foreign Minister Simon Coveney during the 58th Munich Security Conference (MSC) 2022, which was held in Munich, Germany.

BANKING AND FINANCE

1. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the RBI's Sectoral Deployment of Bank Credit – December 2021?

A) The bank's non-food credit growth increased to 7.6% in December 2021 as compared to 5.6 percent in December 2020.

B) Credit to Agriculture and Allied activities growth was increased to 14.5% in December 2021 as compared to 7.7% in December 2020.

C) Credit to large industries recorded a growth of 1.3% in December 2021 against a contraction of 0.5% a year ago.

1) All A, B & C

2) Only A

3) Only B

4) Only A & B

5) Only B & C

Answer- 5) Only B & C

Explanation:

The bank's non-food credit growth increased to 9.3 % in December 2021 as compared to 6.6 percent in December 2020.

i. Credit to Agriculture and Allied activities growth was increased to 14.5% in December 2021 as compared to 7.7% in December 2020.

ii. Credit to Gross Bank (II + III) recorded a growth of 9.2% in December 2021 against a contraction of 6.6% a year ago. & Food Credit -4.2% in December 2021 as compared to 10.8% in December 2022.

2. Vedanta Ltd recently (in Jan'21) tied up Rs 8,000-cr facility with _____ to take over a majority of the syndicated facility.

1) Indian Bank

2) Punjab National Bank

3) Union Bank of India

4) Bank of Maharashtra

5) Bank of India

Answer- 3) Union Bank of India

Explanation:

Vedanta Ltd has tied up a facility of Rs 8,000 crore (replacement facility) with **Union Bank of India** at 7.75% to take over a majority of the syndicated facility after multiple discussions with potential lenders

i. This replacement facility was available on December 28, 2021 to take over the existing Syndicated facility to reduce the overall interest cost of the company and to prepay high-cost debt raised at over 10% two years ago.

ii. Vedanta has pledged 14.8% shares of Hindustan Zinc with Union Bank as security among other things.

3. Which Bank recently (in Jan'22) signed an agreement with Tata Power Solar Systems to finance Solar Projects?

1) IndusInd Bank

2) State Bank of India

- 3) HDFC Bank
- 4) YES Bank
- 5) ICICI Bank

Answer- **2) State Bank of India**

Explanation:

State Bank of India (SBI) signed an agreement with **Tata Power Solar Systems** for financing solar projects.

SBI has also set up a dedicated centralized processing cell – '**Surya Shakti Cell**', at the Ballard Estate in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Objective – To provide a new direction to solar projects financing in India.

About State Bank of India (SBI):

Establishment – 1 July, 1955

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

Managing Director (MD) – C.S. Setty, Ashwani Bhatia, Swaminathan.J, Ashwini Kumar Tewari

Chairman – Dinesh Kumar Khara

4. As per the Statement of SBI, Banks will Transfer ___ NPA Accounts with Rs 50,000 crore to NARCL by ____.

- 1) 15; 1st June 2022
- 2) 12; 1st July 2022
- 3) 10; 31st June 2022
- 4) 15; 31st March 2022
- 5) 12; 1st April 2022

Answer- **4) 15; 31st March 2022**

Explanation:

As per the statement of State Bank of India's (SBI) Chairman Dinesh Kumar Khara, Banks will be transferring 15 stressed assets (i.e. Non-Performing Asset (NPA) accounts) aggregating worth over Rs 50,000 crore by March 31, 2022 (i.e. within FY22) to the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL)/bad bank to clean up their books.

5. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the IRDAI (Surety Insurance Contracts) Guidelines 2022 (As of Feb'22)?

- A) To reduce indirect costs for suppliers & work-contractors the surety bonds are used instead of bank guarantees in government procurement and also for gold imports**
- B) The underwritten premium in a FY for any general insurers should not exceed 10 % of the total gross written premium subject to a maximum of Rs 500 crore.**
- C) As per the guidelines, the Insurance companies could offer 6 types of sureties.**

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

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

Explanation:

To reduce indirect costs for suppliers & work-contractors surety bonds are used instead of bank guarantees in government procurement and also for gold imports.

- i. The underwritten premium in a financial year for any general insurers should not exceed 10 % of the total gross written premium subject to a maximum of Rs 500 crore.
- ii. As per the guidelines the Insurance companies could offer 6 types of sureties namely, advance payment bond, bid bond, contract bond, customs and court bond, performance bond and retention money.

6. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Simpl to to provide BNPL services to its merchants.

- 1) Dukaan
- 2) Nowfloats
- 3) Digiperform
- 4) Rubique
- 5) IndiaMart

Answer- 1) Dukaan

Explanation:

Dukaan, a platform that supports Small and Medium-sized Businesses (SMB) to set up online stores and sell products digitally, has partnered with Simpl, a buy-now-pay-later (BNPL) platform, to provide BNPL services to merchants of Dukaan.

About Simpl:

Establishment – 2015

Headquarters – Bengaluru, Karnataka

Co-founder and CEO – Nityanand Sharma

7. In February 2022, Export Import (Exim) Bank of India signed a USD 500 million Line of Credit (LoC) agreement to which countries?

- 1) UAE
- 2) Indonesia
- 3) Sri Lanka
- 4) South Korea
- 5) Japan

Answer- 3) Sri Lanka

Explanation:

The Export Import (**Exim**) Bank of India signed a USD 500 million Line of Credit (LoC) agreement with the Government of **Sri Lanka** to support the country to overcome its current fuel shortages.

The LoC will last for 1 year at a 'nominal' interest rate, of under 2 percent.

About Export Import (EXIM) Bank of India:

Establishment – 1982

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

Managing Director – Harsha Bangari

8. Which Insurance Company recently (in Feb'22) launched Industry's 1st Artificial Intelligent (AI) Voice Bot for automated Motor Claims?

- 1) Aditya Birla General Insurance
- 2) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- 3) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance
- 4) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance

5) Edelweiss General Insurance

Answer- **5) Edelweiss General Insurance**

Explanation:

Edelweiss General Insurance launched an AI (Artificial Intelligent) powered voice bot for automated registration of motor claims. It is powered by the **Yellow.ai platform**.

- i. The end-to-end AI Voice Bot is the first of its kind services in the General Insurance industry in India.
- ii. The AI voice bot is currently available in Hindi, English and Hinglish, enabling real time registration of claims that work 24/7.

9. In February 2022, SEBI restructured its ____ member high-power advisory committee on settlement orders & compounding which will be chaired by ____.

- 1) 3; Vijay C Daga
- 2) 4; Jai Narayan Patel
- 3) 6; PK Malhotra
- 4) 4; Vijay C Daga
- 5) 3; Jai Narayan Patel

Answer- **2) 4; Jai Narayan Patel**

Explanation:

Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), Capital markets regulator has restructured its **4-member** high-power advisory committee on settlement orders and compounding of offences & **Jai Narayan Patel**, former chief justice of Calcutta High Court will be chairing the Committee.

- i. The panel will work as per SEBI (Settlement Proceedings) Regulations, 2018.
- ii. The committee was earlier headed by Vijay C Daga, retired judge of the High Court of Bombay.

10. Which Bank and Patanjali Ayurved Ltd was recently (in Feb'22) partnered with NPCI to launch 2 Contactless Credit Cards namely RuPay Platinum & RuPay Select?

- 1) Bank of India
- 2) Punjab National Bank
- 3) Bank of Maharashtra
- 4) Indian Bank
- 5) Bank of Baroda

Answer- **2) Punjab National Bank**

Explanation:

Punjab National Bank (**PNB**), and Patanjali Ayurved Limited (**PAL**) have launched two co-branded contactless credit cards in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**) viz. PNB RuPay Platinum and PNB RuPay Select.

Credit Limit:

PNB RuPay Platinum- Rs 25,000 to Rs 5 lakhs

PNB RuPay Select- Rs 50,000 to Rs 10 lakhs

Insurance Cover:

PNB RuPay Platinum- Insurance cover of Rs 2 lakhs for Accidental Death and Personal Total Disability

PNB RuPay Select- Insurance cover of Rs 10 lakhs for Accidental Death and Personal Total Disability

11. RBI recently (in Feb'22) cancelled the licence of _____ due to its inadequacy in earning prospects to Pay the customers.

- 1) Alavi Co-Op Bank Ltd.
- 2) Independence Co-operative Bank Ltd
- 3) Harij Nagrik Sahakari Bank Ltd.
- 4) Bhavani Sahakari Bank Ltd
- 5) Kalol Urban Co-op. Bank Ltd.

Answer- 2) Independence Co-operative Bank Ltd

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has cancelled the licence of **Independence Co-operative Bank Limited** in Nashik, Maharashtra and ceases to carry on banking business, with effect from 3rd February 2022, as the bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects to pay its present depositors in full.

i. On liquidation, every depositor will receive deposit insurance claim amount of his/her deposits up to a monetary ceiling of Rs. 5,00,000 (Rupees Five lakh only) from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC) subject to the provisions of the DICGC Act, 1961.

12. Which company recently (in Feb'22) became the 1st private insurer to partner with Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) to provide Digital Distribution to Life Insurance Products?

- 1) Mobikwik
- 2) Policybazaar
- 3) Razorpay
- 4) LendingKart
- 5) Paytm

Answer- 2) Policybazaar

Explanation:

Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) and **Policybazaar.com** made an alliance to digitally offer a wide range of Life Insurance and investment products to its customers across India.

Objective: To facilitate seamless digital distribution of life insurance products and boost financial inclusion across India.

About Policybazaar.com:

CEO – Sarbvir Singh

Headquarters – Gurugram, Haryana

Founded – 2008

13. Which Company recently (in Feb'22) signed an agreement with CARS24 Financial Services to provide motor insurance services to used cars?

- 1) Future Generali India Insurance
- 2) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
- 3) ICICI Lombard General Insurance
- 4) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance
- 5) Edelweiss General Insurance

Answer- 4) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance

Explanation:

Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited signed an agreement with Cars24 Financial Services Private Limited (**CARS24** Financial Services) to provide motor insurance services to used car buyers.

i. Under the partnership, used car buyers from Cars24 will be directly provided with Kotak General Insurance's comprehensive motor insurance plans.

14. In January 2022, Government of India underwent a conversion switch transaction of its securities with the RBI for an amount of _____.

- 1) Rs. 1,00,000 crore
- 2) Rs. 1,19,701 crore
- 3) Rs. 2,50,458 crore
- 4) Rs. 1,00,234 crore
- 5) Rs. 2,78,681 crore

Answer- **2) Rs. 1,19,701 crore**

Explanation:

The Government of India (**GOI**) has done a conversion switch transaction of its securities with the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) on January 28, 2022 for an amount of **Rs. 1,19,701 crore** (face value).

i. **Objective** – The GOI undertakes switch operations with RBI and also with market participants to smoothen the liability profile as well as for market development.

ii. The transaction involved buying back securities that are being matured in FY 2022-23, FY 2023-24 and FY 2024-25 from the RBI.

15. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the RBI data (as of Feb'22) on Indian Company's External Commercial Borrowing (ECB)?

A) The overseas borrowings of Indian companies stood at USD 34.82 billion in the first 3 quarters of FY22 and jumped over 10% in the first 8MFY22.

B) ECBs for the on-lending or sub-lending in the 1st 9MFY22 stood at USD 6.72 billion which was higher than USD 6.67 billion raised by the non-banking lenders in FY21.

C) The total credit growth of Banks & NBFCs will improve by 9% to 11% in FY23.

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

Answer- **5) Only B & C**

Explanation:

The overseas borrowings of Indian companies stood at **USD 23.28 billion** in the first 3 quarters of **FY22** and jumped over **19%** in the first **9MFY22** (nine months of the current fiscal).

i. **ECBs** for the on-lending or sub-lending in the 1st 9MFY22 stood at USD 6.72 billion which was **higher** than USD 6.67 billion raised by the non-banking lenders in FY21.

ii. The total **credit growth** of **Banks & NBFCs** will improve by **9% to 11%** in **FY23**.

16. Which Organization recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) to strengthen Cyber Security Capabilities?

- 1) TRAI
- 2) NSDL
- 3) IRDA
- 4) SEBI
- 5) SIDBI

Answer- **5) SIDBI**

Explanation:

Small Industries Development Bank of India (**SIDBI**) signed an MoU with the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (**C-DAC**), a premier R&D organization under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**), to boost collaboration in Cyber Security and Allied sectors.

i. Under the agreement both SIDBI and C-DAC will collaborate to explore innovation and use of emerging technologies in the areas of Cyber Security, AI (Artificial Intelligence), block chain, etc. and related training and capacity building aspects in the Banking Sector.

17. In 2021, Asian Development Bank (ADB) provided a record _____ in sovereign lending to India for 17 loans.

- 1) USD 5.5 billion
- 2) USD 4.6 billion
- 3) USD 3.5 billion
- 4) USD 3.9 billion
- 5) USD 5.2 billion

Answer- **2) USD 4.6 billion**

Explanation:

Asian Development Bank (**ADB**) provided a record **USD 4.6 billion** in sovereign lending to India in **2021** for 17 loans.

i. This included **USD 1.8 billion** towards coronavirus disease (**COVID-19**) pandemic response.

ii. Out of 1.8 billion COVID-19-related assistance, USD 1.5 billion was towards vaccine procurement and USD 300 million was to strengthen primary health care (PHC) in urban areas for future preparedness

18. Which Company recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Airtel Payments Bank to offer insurance solutions against cyber crimes?

- 1) Edelweiss General Insurance
- 2) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance
- 3) ICICI Lombard General Insurance
- 4) SBI General Insurance
- 5) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

Answer- **3) ICICI Lombard General Insurance**

Explanation:

ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company has **partnered** with **Airtel Payments Bank** to offer insurance solutions against cyber crimes and financial fraud to its customers.

i. The cyber insurance solution from ICICI Lombard provides financial protection to customers against potential financial fraud, and the insurance policy provides a 90-day discovery period followed by a 7-day reporting period.

ii. Customers of Airtel Payments Bank can purchase this insurance policy using the 'Airtel Thanks' app.

19. As per the Crisil report, _____ offers the highest Return on Equity (RoE) at _____ amongst all its global peers.

- 1) Aviva Insurance; 80%
- 2) Life Insurance Corporation of India; 82%
- 3) Ping An Insurance of China; 76%
- 4) Aviva Insurance; 82%
- 5) Life Insurance Corporation of India; 76%

Answer- **2) Life Insurance Corporation of India; 82%**

Explanation:

In accordance with the report by Crisil, **LIC** (Life Insurance Corporation of India) offers the highest Return on Equity (RoE) at **82%** amongst all its global peers.

i. Its RoE is followed by Ping An Insurance of China, the world's largest insurer at 19.5%, Aviva at 14.8% and China Life Insurance at 11.9%.

20. As per a brand valuation report released by Brand Finance, Life Insurance Corporation has been ranked at _____ in the list of insurance brands globally.

- 1) 8th
- 2) 7th
- 3) 10th
- 4) 5th
- 5) 9th

Answer- **3) 10th**

Explanation:

As per a brand valuation report released by Brand Finance, **Life Insurance Corporation** has been ranked at **10th** in the list of insurance brands globally.

i. LIC is the only Indian insurance company in the top 10 list. LIC has a valuation of USD 8.656 billion (around Rs 64,722 crore).

21. In February 2022 Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the restriction on _____ till May, 2022.

- 1) Cosmos Cooperative Bank
- 2) Millath Co-Operative Bank
- 3) Abhyudaya Cooperative Bank
- 4) NKGSB Cooperative Bank
- 5) Bharat Cooperative Bank

Answer- **2) Millath Co-Operative Bank**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the restrictions on **Millath Co-Operative Bank**, Devangere (Karnataka) by another three months, from February 8 2022 to May 7, 2022.

i. RBI has passed these restrictions, in the exercise of its powers conferred on it by sub-section (1) of Section 35A and Section 56 of the **Banking Regulation Act 1949**.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Governor- Shaktikanta Das

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Founded- 1 April 1935

22. Which Bank recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Creditas Solutions for its 'Neo Collections' platform to automate loan collections?

- 1) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 2) RBL Bank
- 3) IDBI Bank
- 4) CSB Bank
- 5) South Indian Bank

Answer- 2) RBL Bank

Explanation:

RBL Bank has partnered with Creditas Solutions for its SaaS (software as a service)-based 'Neo Collections' platform to automate loan collections.

i. This platform, powered by Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML) technology, is a Do It Yourself (DIY) debt management platform that helps customers to monitor, manage and pay their dues.

23. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) launched 'Cyber Sachet Insurance Policy' to counter customer's digital risk.

- 1) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- 2) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
- 3) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- 4) HDFC ERGO General Insurance
- 5) ICICI Lombard General Insurance

Answer- 4) HDFC ERGO General Insurance

Explanation:

HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company (**HDFC ERGO**) launched '**Cyber Sachet Insurance Policy**' to mitigate cyber-related digital risks for individual customers and keep them internet insured.

i. HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company is a 51:49 Joint Venture (JV) between Housing Development Finance Corporation (HDFC) Limited, and ERGO International AG, the primary insurance entity of Munich Re Group.

24. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Stellapps as its banking partner to promote digitization in the dairy sector across India?

- 1) DBS Bank India
- 2) Federal Bank
- 3) South Indian Bank
- 4) CSB Bank
- 5) RBL Bank

Answer- 1) DBS Bank India

Explanation:

DBS Bank India signed a **partnership** agreement with **Stellapps Digital Network** as its banking partner to promote digitisation of small dairy industries across India.

About DBS Bank India:

In November 2020, Lakshmi Vilas Bank (LVB) was amalgamated with DBS Bank India. **Operating - 1994**

Head Office - Mumbai, Maharashtra (Currently 12 branches in India)

25. In February 2022, State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda & _____ were chosen by Tata Group to finance Air India's old debt.

- 1) Axis Bank
- 2) IndusInd Bank
- 3) HDFC Bank
- 4) YES Bank
- 5) ICICI Bank

Answer- 3) HDFC Bank

Explanation:

The Tata Group has chosen State Bank of India (SBI), Bank of Baroda (BoB) and HDFC Bank as preferred bankers for 'Air India'.

i. Tata Sons availed a Rs 10,000-crore loan from SBI and a Rs 5,000-crore loan from BoB that are unrated, unsecured, and pegged at 4.25% interest rate annually. (The loan acquired from HDFC is unknown yet).

Note-Recently taken over by Tata sons from the Government of India.

26. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) launched the 'JIVA programme' to promote Natural Farming under its existing Watershed & Wadi Programmes in 11 states?

- 1) IFPRI
- 2) NABARD
- 3) NITI Aayog
- 4) ICAR
- 5) FAO India

Answer- 2) NABARD

Explanation:

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) launched the 'JIVA programme' to promote natural farming under its existing watershed and wadi programmes in 11 states.

Objective: To effectively implement the principles of agroecology long-term sustainability and transform the pre-existing social and natural capital towards efficient farming.

About National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD):

Chairman- G R Chintala

Founded- 12th July 1982

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

27. Name the Small Finance Bank (SFB) that recently (in Feb'22) signed a bancassurance agreement with Aditya Birla Health Insurance to distribute health insurance products across India.

- 1) Ujjivan SFB
- 2) Equitas SFB
- 3) Capital SFB
- 4) Utkarsh SFB

5) ESAF SFB

Answer- **4) Utkarsh SFB**

Explanation:

Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited. (**ABHICL**), a subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Ltd., has signed a **bancassurance** agreement with **Utkarsh SFB** for the distribution of health insurance products across India through the Bank's network.

About Aditya Birla Health Insurance Co. Limited. (ABHICL):

Establishment – 2015

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

CEO – Mayank Bathwal

28. Which of the following organizations recently (in Feb'22) gave approval for BSE Ltd to trade electronic gold receipts (EGR) in spot bullion exchange platform?

1) IRDAI

2) SEBI

3) NABARD

4) RBI

5) SIDBI

Answer- **2) SEBI**

Explanation:

Market regulator **SEBI** (Securities and Exchange Board of India) gave final approval to the **BSE Limited** (Formerly Bombay Stock Exchange) for trading in electronic gold receipts (EGR), a form of shares in demat accounts, that paves way for spot bullion exchange.

i. The Finance Ministry has specified EGR as 'securities,' under the Securities Contracts (Regulation) Act 1956.

ii. BSE's rival Multi Commodity Exchange (MCX) plans to launch spot trading in commodities, especially bullion.

29. Which of the following policy rates is 'wrongly matched' with respect to the 6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy of FY 21-22 released by RBI in February 2022?

1) Policy Repo Rate - 4.25%

2) Reverse Repo Rate - 3.35%

3) Bank Rate - 4.25%

4) Cash Reserve Ratio - 4.00%

5) Statutory Liquidity Ratio - 18.00%

Answer- **1) Policy Repo Rate – 4.25%**

Explanation:

| Category | Rates |
|---------------------------------------|--------------|
| Policy Repo Rate | 4.00% |
| Reverse Repo Rate | 3.35% |
| Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate | 4.25% |
| Bank Rate | 4.25% |
| Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR) | 4.00% |
| Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) | 18.00% |

30. What are the points that are correct with respect to the '6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy of FY21-22' released by RBI in February 2022?

A) The projection for India's real GDP growth for FY23 is at 7.8% with 17.2 percent at Q1.

B) The Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation for FY23 is projected at 4.5 percent with 4.9 percent at Q1.

C) The MPC meeting was headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and the other 5 members of the committee.

1) Only C

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A & C

5) All A, B & C

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

Explanation:

The projection for India's real GDP growth for FY23 is at 7.8% with 17.2 percent at Q1.

i. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) inflation for FY 23 is projected at 4.5 percent with 4.9 percent at Q1.

ii. The MPC meeting was headed by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das and the other 5 members of the committee.

31. Which of the following points are 'Not correct' with respect to the 6th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy of FY21-22 released by RBI in February 2022?

1) RBI has proposed to increase the limit on the amount for e-RUPI vouchers issued by Governments from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1,00,000 per voucher.

2) The amount of the NACH mandate is increased to Rs 3 crore from Rs 1 crore through TReDS to enhance the ease of financing to MSME.

3) The investment limit under the VRR for FDIs was increased from Rs. 10,000 crore to Rs 1.50 lakh crore with effect from June, 2022.

4) RBI has proposed to extend the term-liquidity facility of Rs 50,000 crore till June, 2022.

5) RBI Permitted Banks to deal in Foreign Currency Settled Overnight Indexed Swap (FCS-OIS) market with non-residents and other market makers.

Answer- **3) The investment limit under the VRR for FDIs was increased from 10,000 crore to Rs 1.50 lakh crore with effect from June, 2022.**

Explanation:

The investment limit under the Voluntary Retention Route (VRR) for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) was increased from **1.5 lakh crore** to **Rs 2.50 lakh crore** with effect from **April 1, 2022**.

i. RBI has proposed to increase the limit on the amount for e-RUPI vouchers issued by Governments from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1,00,000 per voucher.

ii. The amount of the NACH mandate is increased to Rs 3 crore from Rs 1 crore through TReDS to enhance the ease of financing in MSME.

iii. RBI has proposed to extend the term-liquidity facility of Rs 50,000 crore till June, 2022.

iv. RBI Permitted Banks to deal in Foreign Currency Settled Overnight Indexed Swap (FCS-OIS) market with non-residents and other market makers.

32. In February 2022, SEBI restructured its advisory committee on Investor Protection and Education Fund (IPEF).

Who is the New Chairperson of the IPEF advisory committee?

- 1) Gurumoorthy Mahalingam
- 2) Mrin Agarwal
- 3) Abraham Koshy
- 4) Jayanta Jash
- 5) G. P. Garg

Answer- 1) Gurumoorthy Mahalingam

Explanation:

The SEBI restructured its advisory committee on Investor Protection and Education Fund (IPEF), under the Chairmanship of **Gurumoorthy Mahalingam**.

The advisory committee on IPEF is an eight-member committee which will take Gurumoorthy Mahalingam, former Whole Time Member of SEBI, as its new Chairperson.

Members of Committee:

- i. SEBI inducted new members in the panel including Vijay Kumar Venkataraman, Mrin Agarwal.
- ii. Balasubramanian A and M G Parameswaran will continue as a member of the committee.
- iii. The committee also includes three SEBI Officials – GP Garg, N Hariharan and Jayanta Jash.

Note- Earlier the committee was headed by Abraham Koshy.

33. Name the bank that recently (in Feb'22) partnered with NSE Academy to launch five online courses to promote financial literacy courses through MOOCs platform.

- 1) HDFC Bank
- 2) State Bank of India
- 3) YES Bank
- 4) ICICI Bank
- 5) Axis Bank

Answer- 2) State Bank of India

Explanation:

The State Bank of India (**SBI**) partnered with **NSE Academy** to launch five online courses to promote financial literacy courses through NSE Knowledge Hub platform, an online Massive Open Online Courses (**MOOCs**) platform.

About State Bank of India (SBI):

Chairperson- Dinesh Kumar Khara

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Founded- 1 July 1955

34. Which company has the Highest Penetration of Digital Payments in India as per the Comscore report released in February 2022?

- 1) Amazon Pay
- 2) Paytm
- 3) MobiKwik
- 4) Google Pay
- 5) PhonePe

Answer- 2) Paytm

Explanation:

In accordance with the Comscore report, **Paytm** has the highest digital payments with over 45% penetration in Fintech. Paytm is followed by **Google Pay** (mobile App) at 43% penetration (reach as percentage of total digital population).

i. The Comscore report revealed that financial services was among the top online content categories, accounting for 80 per cent of the total internet audience in India.

35. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Visa to offer Rs 1 lakh insurance cover for Visa's Platinum card holders on Select Bank Cards.

- 1) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- 2) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance
- 3) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- 4) HDFC ERGO General Insurance
- 5) ICICI Lombard General Insurance

Answer- **4) HDFC ERGO General Insurance**

Explanation:

HDFC Ergo General Insurance entered into a first-of-its-kind partnership with **Visa** to offer curated insurance covers for Visa's Platinum card holders for select public sector banks.

i. The policy will offer fraud insurance cover for an amount up to **Rs 1 lakh** to all Visa Platinum Credit & Debit Cards of participating issuers.

About HDFC ERGO General Insurance Co. Ltd:

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

MD & CEO – Ritesh Kumar

36. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Paisabazaar to offer a credit card named 'Paisa on Demand' (PoD)?

- 1) YES Bank
- 2) RBL Bank
- 3) Axis Bank
- 4) ICICI Bank
- 5) HDFC Bank

Answer- **2) RBL Bank**

Explanation:

Paisabazaar.com, a digital platform for consumer credit, has partnered with **RBL Bank** Limited to offer 'Paisa on Demand' (**PoD**), a credit card that will be exclusively available on the Paisabazaar platform.

Aim – To build products that offer integrated services for the large under-served segments across India.

37. In February 2022, the Ministry of statistics and programme implementation (MoSPI) projected India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) deflator at ____ for FY23.

- 1) 4.5 to 5.0%
- 2) 3 to 3.5%
- 3) 4 to 4.5%
- 4) 2.5 to 3.0%
- 5) 3.5 to 4.0%

Answer- **2) 3 to 3.5%**

Explanation:

The Ministry of statistics and programme implementation (**MoSPI**) projected India's gross domestic product (**GDP deflator**) for FY23 at 3 to 3.5 percent.

i. The Government's own projection on real GDP growth for FY23 is at 7.6-8.1 percent and the union budget projected nominal GDP growth rate to be 11.1 percent for FY23.

38. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) launched an Annual Start-up Program named 'Agri Infinity' to co-develop digital financial solutions for the food & agriculture ecosystem by mentoring entrepreneurial ventures?

- 1) IndusInd Bank
- 2) YES Bank
- 3) HDFC Bank
- 4) Axis Bank
- 5) ICICI Bank

Answer- **2) YES Bank**

Explanation:

Yes Bank Limited announced the launch of an annual startup enabler program, **YES BANK Agri Infinity**, which seeks to co-develop digital financial solutions for the food and agriculture ecosystem by mentoring entrepreneurial ventures in the field.

i. The program will last up to 6 months, based on the maturity and readiness of the solution.

39. Name the bank that recently (in Feb'22) partnered with UNANU Technologies for digital freight finance to fund transport contractors.

- 1) RBL Bank
- 2) Karur Vysya Bank
- 3) South Indian Bank
- 4) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 5) DCB Bank

Answer- **2) Karur Vysya Bank**

Explanation:

Karur Vysya Bank (**KVB**) has partnered with Chennai-based **UNANU Technologies** for digital freight finance to fund transport contractors using the end-to-end logistics technology platform.

i. 'U-Turbo – a marketplace', is the module, through which one can onboard logistics companies and shippers to the Freight Financing programme.

Note- KVB is the first bank to introduce digital freight financing through a marketplace in the banking sector.

40. In which digital platform DMI Finance recently (in Feb'22) launched a digital personal loan product to make reliable credit accessible for the pre-qualified users.

- 1) Amazon Pay
- 2) PhonePe
- 3) Paytm
- 4) MobiKwik
- 5) Google Pay

Answer- **5) Google Pay**

Explanation:

DMI Finance Private Limited (**DMI Finance**) launched a digital personal loan product on **Google Pay** to provide reliable credit access to pre-qualified users of Google Pay, the digital wallet platform.

i. Through the partnership, DMI Finance intends to disburse up to Rs 1 lakh per loan, which would be repayable over a maximum of 36 months. The product is being launched across more than 15,000 pin codes.

41. In February 2022, LKP Securities Ltd signed an agreement with which bank to offer a 3-in-1 online account?

- 1) IndusInd Bank
- 2) HDFC Bank
- 3) Axis Bank
- 4) ICICI Bank
- 5) YES Bank

Answer- **2) HDFC Bank**

Explanation:

LKP Securities Ltd signed an agreement with **HDFC Bank Ltd** to offer a special 3-in-1 online account.

i. The 3-in-1 account facilitates swift fund transfer between the bank account and trading account as clients no longer have to go through a lengthy authentication process.

ii. The 3-in-1 online account also provides services for customers to start trading in NSE (National Stock Exchange of India Ltd), BSE(formerly Bombay Stock Exchange) and MCX (Multi Commodity Exchange) shares, using the mobile trading app GETSETGROW@LKP.

42. Which company recently (in Feb'22) integrated with BigCommerce to boost Server Message Block (SMB) Digitalization?

- 1) Citrus Pay
- 2) Razorpay
- 3) PayU
- 4) Cashfree
- 5) Instamojo

Answer- **3) PayU**

Explanation:

PayU announced its integration with **BigCommerce**, an Open Software as a service (SaaS) e-commerce platform for fast-growing and established brands to **boost** Server Message Block (**SMB**) **Digitalization**.

i. PayU can now provide payment infrastructure & solutions to BigCommerce's small-to-medium-sized merchants in India.

43. The RBI recently (in Feb'22) extended the deadline for NBFC's to comply with new Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) classification norms to _____.

- 1) July 2022
- 2) June 2022
- 3) April 2022
- 4) May 2022
- 5) September 2022

Answer- **5) September 2022**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the deadline for non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) to comply with new Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) classification norms (the norms are issued by RBI in November 2021) to **September 2022** from the earlier deadline of March 2022.

44. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) launched the 'interest-only home loan' facility for residential properties?

- 1) HSBC India
- 2) DBS Bank India
- 3) Standard Chartered Bank India
- 4) Doha Bank India
- 5) CITI Bank

Answer- **3) Standard Chartered Bank India**

Explanation:

Standard Chartered Bank India has launched the '**interest-only home loan**' facility for completed **residential properties** where borrowers can pay only the interest without principal deduction during a limited period.

- i. Borrowers can choose to pay only the interest amount without principal through Equated Monthly Instalment (EMI) for an initial period of up to **1-3 years**.
- ii. The facility is available for a loan amount ranging from Rs 35 lakh to Rs 3.5 crore with the maximum tenure of 30 years for salaried individuals and 25 years for self-employed individuals.

45. Name the Company that recently (in Feb'22) launched Mutual Fund (MF) investing mobile app called eInvest to help investors for easy investment.

- 1) IDFC Asset Management
- 2) Edelweiss Asset Management
- 3) Kotak Mahindra Asset Management
- 4) HDFC Asset Management
- 5) Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management

Answer- **2) Edelweiss Asset Management**

Explanation:

Edelweiss Asset Management launched Mutual Fund (MF) investing mobile application (app) eInvest to help investors for easy investment experience.

- i. The eInvest app comes with an Insta Money feature. It is a mutual fund savings account with an instant withdrawal facility to the registered bank account.

About Edelweiss Asset Management Limited:

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

CEO & Managing Director (MD) – Radhika Gupta

46. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Assam Rifles to provide 'Baroda Central Forces Salary Package (BCFSP) to all personnel of Assam Rifles?

- 1) Bank of Baroda
- 2) Punjab National Bank
- 3) Bank of India
- 4) Indian Bank
- 5) Bank of Maharashtra

Answer- 1) Bank of Baroda

Explanation:

Bank of Baroda (BoB) had signed an MoU with Assam Rifles, the oldest paramilitary force, to provide the 'Baroda Central Forces Salary Package (BCFSP)' to all personnel of the Assam Rifles, both serving and retired.

- i. It also offers special benefits like Personal Accident Insurance (PAI) and a co-branded credit card.
- ii. PAI –In case of death, cover to the serving and retired Assam Rifles personnel between the age group of 18-70 years. For on-duty personnel, the cover will be Rs. 43.75 lakh and for off-duty personnel, Rs. 35 lakh.
- iii. Disability – For total Disability, the cover will be Rs 35 lakh and for partial disability, it is Rs 17.5 lakh

47. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) signed two MoU with Bihar Government to promote MSME Sectors?

- 1) RBI
- 2) NABARD
- 3) SEBI
- 4) IRDAI
- 5) SIDBI

Answer- 5) SIDBI

Explanation:

The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has signed 2 MoU with the Industries Department of Government of Bihar, and the Bihar Industrial Area Development Authority (BIADA) to promote the micro, small and medium enterprises (MSME) sector.

About the MoU:

- i. Under the 1st MoU Bihar's Industry Department, will work with Project Management Units (PMUs) of SIDBI.
- ii. According to the 2nd MoU, SIDBI will work in close coordination with BIADA to benefit MSMEs who want to set up an industrial unit on the plot allotted by BIADA to promote industrialisation in Bihar.
- iii. Bihar is the 14th state of India with which SIDBI has partnered to strengthen MSME. SIDBI will place an expert agency with the state industries department of Bihar.

48. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) launched a new insurance plan named 'Flexi Edge', a non-linked participating individual savings life insurance plan.

- 1) Aegon Life Insurance
- 2) Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance
- 3) DHFL Pramerica Life Insurance
- 4) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- 5) PNB MetLife India Insurance

Answer- 2) Canara HSBC OBC Life Insurance

Explanation:

Canara HSBC Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) Life Insurance has launched its new insurance plan 'Flexi Edge', a non-linked participating individual savings life insurance plan that enables the customers with the ability to prioritise their long-term savings.

About Flexi Edge:

- i. Flexi Edge addresses customers' growing needs, from savings to income and unplanned or recurring expenses; along with providing life cover to the policyholder in the unfortunate event of death.
- ii. The plan also offers the customers the flexibility to choose from 3 plan options depending on their individualistic requirements

49. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) was empanelled by the Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) to facilitate digital collection on the e-NAM portal for transactions between farmers and traders?

- 1) YES Bank
- 2) ICICI Bank
- 3) HDFC Bank
- 4) Axis Bank
- 5) IndusInd Bank

Answer- **5) IndusInd Bank**

Explanation:

IndusInd Bank was empanelled by the Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (**SFAC**) to facilitate digital collection and settlement services on the National Agriculture Market (**e-NAM**) portal for the transactions between farmers and traders across India.

i. It will offer various transaction services through digital modes including multi-net banking, debit card NEFT (National Electronic Funds Transfer), RTGS (Real-time gross settlement), IMPS (Immediate Payment Service) and UPI (Unified Payments Interface) to the buyer and seller of the agriculture produce.

About Small Farmers Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC): SFAC is an autonomous society promoted by the Department of Agriculture, cooperation and farmer welfare of Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW). It was registered under Societies Registration Act of 1860.

Established- 8th January 1994

Managing Director- Neelkamal Darbari

50. In February 2022, Fisdom partnered with _____ to offer wealth management products and services to their customers.

- 1) Union Bank of India
- 2) Bank of Maharashtra
- 3) Bank of Baroda
- 4) Bank of India
- 5) Canara Bank

Answer- **2) Bank of Maharashtra**

Explanation:

Fisdom, a wealth-tech company partnered with the Bank of Maharashtra (**BoM**), to offer wealth management products and services to over 29 million customers of the bank.

Aim – To distribute the wealth products and services including the mobile banking app and internet banking.

i. The wealth management offerings will enable customers of BoM to invest in mutual funds (MF) through Maha Mobile, BoM's Mobile Banking App and Internet Banking facility.

51. According to Goldhub, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has emerged as the _____ largest buyer of Gold among the world's Central Banks in 2021, while _____ topped the List.

- 1) 3rd; Central Bank of Brazil
- 2) 4th; Hungarian National Bank
- 3) 2nd; Central Bank of Thailand
- 4) 4th; Central Bank of Brazil
- 5) 3rd; Hungarian National Bank

Answer- 3) 2nd; Central Bank of Thailand

Explanation:

According to **Goldhub**, an official website of the World Gold Council that maintains all the data regarding precious metals, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has emerged as the **2nd largest buyer of Gold** among the world's **Central Banks in 2021**. RBI bought 77.5 metric tonnes in 2021. While the **Central Bank of Thailand** is the **largest buyer in 2021** that bought 90 metric tonnes of gold.

i. As per Goldhub, India's official gold reserves is the 9th largest in the world.

52. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) collaborated with 4 regional associations from Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu to launch the Electronic Gold Receipts (EGR) segment?

- 1) Calcutta Stock Exchange
- 2) National Stock Exchange
- 3) India International Exchange
- 4) Bombay Stock Exchange
- 5) Central Depository Services

Answer- 4) Bombay Stock Exchange

Explanation:

BSE (formerly Bombay Stock Exchange) announced its collaboration with **four regional associations** from **Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu** after receiving in-principle approval from SEBI to launch the Electronic Gold Receipts (**EGR**) segment to promote such products.

i. The BSE signed pacts with four associations, which includes Thirunelveli Gold Silver Diamond Jewellery Traders Association, Nanded Sarafa Association, Saraf Suvarnkar Sangthna Pusad, and Ghadchiroli Zila Sarafa Association.

ii. Together these associations represent over 1,000 members involved in the jewellery and bullion trade.

53. Which of the following insurance company has recently (in Feb'22) signed an insurance broker agreement with LIC to distribute its insurance products?

- 1) Aarvi Insurance Brokers Ltd
- 2) Bharat Re-Insurance Brokers Ltd
- 3) BSE Ebix Insurance Broking Ltd
- 4) Capital Insurance Brokers Ltd
- 5) Futurance India Insurance Brokers Ltd

Answer- 3) BSE Ebix Insurance Broking Ltd

Explanation:

BSE Ebix Insurance Broking Ltd, a joint venture of BSE and Ebix Fincorp Exchange Pte Ltd, announced the signing of an **insurance broker agreement** for the distribution of Life Insurance Corporation's (LIC) products on its platform.

i. Under this agreement, BSE Ebix will offer its clients insurance products offered by LIC such as Life and Health, using its omnichannel digital presence.

54. Which Bank recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Ezetap to offer Integrated PoS Solutions in India?

- 1) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 2) HDFC Bank
- 3) ICICI Bank
- 4) Axis Bank
- 5) YES Bank

Answer- **1) Kotak Mahindra Bank**

Explanation:

Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd has partnered with **Ezetap** to provide **integrated** point of sale (**PoS**) **solutions** across 4,000 locations in India to increase its PoS product base across merchant segments, including retail enterprises and government customers.

i. The partnership will enable the bank's merchants who mostly prefer to pay through cards or digitally through their apps over cash to make payments using Ezetap's integrated solution to avail various value-added services through its PoS product.

55. RBI recently (in Feb'22) cancelled the licence of _____ due to its inadequacy in earning prospects to Pay the customers.

- 1) Alavi Co-Op Bank Ltd.
- 2) Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank
- 3) Harij Nagrik Sahakari Bank Ltd.
- 4) Bhavani Sahakari Bank Ltd
- 5) Kalol Urban Co-op. Bank Ltd.

Answer- **2) Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the licence of **Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank, Maharashtra** and consequently, the bank ceases to carry on banking business, with effect from February 16, 2022 to safeguard the interests of its depositors.

- The apex bank also prohibited the cooperative bank from conducting the business of 'banking' which includes acceptance of deposits and repayment of deposits as defined in Section 5(b) read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation (BR) Act, 1949 with immediate effect.

Reason behind closing of Mantha Urban Cooperative Bank Ltd.

i. The bank does not have adequate capital and earning prospects. It does not comply with the provisions of section 11(1) and section 22 (3) (d) read with section 56 of the BR, 1949.

ii. It also failed to comply with the requirements of sections 22(3) (a), 22 (3) (b), 22(3)(c), 22(3) (d) and 22(3)(e) read with section 56 of the BR Act, 1949.

56. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) launched a software stack named 'OpenPPI' to provide solutions for interoperability of Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) in line with RBI's regulation in March 2021.

- 1) MobiKwik
- 2) Paytm
- 3) Freecharge

- 4) JusPay
- 5) PhonePe

Answer- **4) JusPay**

Explanation:

JusPay, a Softbank-backed digital payments infrastructure provider announced a software stack named '**OpenPPI**' that helps Prepaid Payment Instruments (**PPIs**) such as digital wallets implement and comply with Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) PPI interoperability rules.

i. Implementing PPI Interoperability will increase the adoption of Unified Payment Interface (UPI) and PPIs.

Note – In May 2022 The RBI said that all prepaid cards and wallets that are full-KYC compliant must be fully interoperable and mutually compatible by March 31, 2022.

57. Which organization recently (in Feb'22) launched the 'Waste to Wealth Creation' Programme under Mission Swavalamban?

- 1) SBI
- 2) IRDAI
- 3) SIDBI
- 4) NABARD
- 5) SEBI

Answer- **3) SIDBI**

Explanation:

Sivasubramanian Ramann, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Small Industries Development Bank of India (**SIDBI**) virtually inaugurated the '**Waste to Wealth Creation**' Programme, designed for the **women in Sundarbans** in South 24 Parganas district of **West Bengal**.

i. Under the 'Waste to Wealth Creation' Programme, SIDBI will offer benefits to 50 women indirectly generating revenues from alternate livelihoods.

ii. The programme is a part of the SIDBI's **Mission Swavalamban** which aims to support the artisans to become sustainable.

58. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the "Rejuvenating Watersheds for Agricultural Resilience through Innovative Development" (REWARD) Project that was implemented in February 2022?

- 1) Government of India & Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed loan agreements of USD 115 million to implement the REWARD project in Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu.
- 2) The USD 115 million loan has a maturity period of 15 years, including a grace period of 4.5 years.
- 3) This project is an initiative of the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development & ADB.
- 4) The objective of the project is to improve natural farming.
- 5) All the above

Answer- **2) The USD 115 million loan has a maturity period of 15 years, including a grace period of 4.5 years.**

Explanation:

The **Government of India** and the **International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD)-World Bank** signed loan agreements of **USD 115 million** to implement the REWARD Project in the states of **Karnataka** and **Odisha**.

i. The USD 115 million loan has a maturity period of **15 years**, including a grace period of **4.5 years**.

ii. This project is an initiative of the Department of Land Resources (**DoLR**), Ministry of Rural Development (**MoRD**) & **World Bank**. It is proposed as a **6 years** project, from **2021 to 2026**.

iii. The objective of the REWARD project is to improve land and water conservation and climate resilience in selected watersheds.

iv. The IBRD financing will support Karnataka with \$60 million (INR 453.5 crore), Odisha with \$49 million (INR 370 crore), and the remaining \$6 million (INR 45.5 crore) will be for the central government's Department of Land Resources.

59. Which company recently (in Feb'22) launched a co-branded RuPay Contactless Credit Card along with Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (IRCTC)?

- 1) Bank of Baroda Financial Solutions Ltd
- 2) Citibank India
- 3) American Express Company
- 4) HDFC Cards & Payment Services Ltd
- 5) SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd

Answer- 1) Bank of Baroda Financial Solutions Ltd

Explanation:

Bank of Baroda (BOB) Financial Solutions Limited (**BFSL**), a wholly owned subsidiary of BoB, and the Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (**IRCTC**) have launched a co-branded contactless credit card, '**IRCTC BoB RuPay card**'.

i. The card provides 1% transaction fee waiver for the customers on all train ticket bookings and 1% offer as fuel surcharge waiver across all petrol pumps in India.

ii. Customers will be provided with 1,000 bonus reward points for purchase worth Rs.1,000 or more within 45 days of card issuance.

60. Name the organization that recently (in Feb '22) signed a loan agreement of USD 68 million with IIFL Home Finance Ltd. to improve financial access to affordable green housing for lower-income groups in India.

- 1) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- 2) International Monetary Fund
- 3) United Nations Development Programme
- 4) Asian Development Bank
- 5) World Bank

Answer- 4) Asian Development Bank

Explanation:

IIFL Home Finance Limited (IIFL HFL) signed a loan agreement of USD 68 million (INR 507 crore) with the **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) to provide financial support for affordable green housing for lower-income women borrowers in India.

i. The funding pattern includes up to USD 58 million direct loans by the ADB and USD 10 million concessional loans by the Canadian Climate Fund for the Private Sector (CFPS) in Asia.

ii. Under the ADB's loan, 80% will be lent to women borrowers or co-borrowers and 20% will be allocated to financing mortgages for green-certified homes for low-income households.

61. Which Payments bank recently (in Feb '22) signed as an Acquiring Partner for e-RUPI Service to make it accessible at offline stores across India?

- 1) Fino Payments Bank Ltd
- 2) India Post Payments Bank Ltd
- 3) Paytm Payments Bank Ltd
- 4) Airtel Payments Bank Ltd
- 5) Jio Payments Bank Ltd

Answer- 3) Paytm Payments Bank Ltd

Explanation:

Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) announced that it is an official acquiring partner for 'e-RUPI vouchers', which will be accessible at offline stores across India.

i. The PPBL has also partnered with 'One97 Communications Limited' (OCL) owns Paytm for improving its strong merchant base.

ii. e-RUPI, a Government of India's (GOI) initiative is a cashless and contactless prepaid voucher-based digital payment solution that was developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on its Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform.

62. In February 2022, _____ became the 1st bank to enter the Metaverse to open a lounge named "Onyx" through blockchain technology in Decentraland.

- 1) Capital One Financial Corporation
- 2) Mitsubishi UFJ Financial Group
- 3) Wells Fargo & Co
- 4) JPMorgan Chase & co
- 5) Bank of America Corporation

Answer- 4) JPMorgan Chase & co

Explanation:

JPMorgan Chase & co, the largest financial institution in the United States (US) has become the 1st bank to arrive in the metaverse, a virtual world based on blockchain technology with the opening of a lounge named 'Onyx' in blockchain technology-based virtual world Decentraland.

Onyx refers to JPMorgan's suite of Ethereum-based services and released a report exploring how businesses can find opportunities in the metaverse.

About Metaverse:

i. Metaverse is a virtual reality world where users can do multiple activities like games, shopping, and interaction with others just like they do in the real world.

ii. The metaverse uses Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) for interaction and has become an efficiently used technology to enhance user experience.

63. Which company recently (in Feb '22) extended its flagship campaign 'Team Cashless India' along with SBI Payments to boost Digital Payments Infrastructure in Guwahati, Lucknow & Varanasi?

- 1) Phonepe
- 2) PayPal
- 3) American Express
- 4) Visa Card
- 5) Mastercard

Answer- 5) Mastercard

Explanation:

Mastercard, as an extension of its flagship campaign 'Team Cashless India' along with **SBI Payments** partnered with the Auto Rickshaw Association in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh All Assam's Restaurant Association (AARA) in Guwahati, local shopkeepers, and Boat Union in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh to boost the digital payments infrastructure.

About Team Cashless India Campaign:

Launched – 2019

- i. The Team Cashless India campaign is part of Mastercard's worldwide commitment to bring 1 billion people and 50 million micro-businesses into the digital economy by 2025.
- ii. Through the campaign, Mastercard first encourages people to nominate merchants for digital payments, then works with the Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) and acquirer partners to support the nominated merchants for digital payments acceptance infrastructure.

64. Which Bank recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Indore Clean Energy Private Limited (ICEPL) to fund Asia's Largest Bio-CNG Plant 'Gobar-Dhan', Indore, Madhya Pradesh?

- 1) State Bank of India
- 2) HDFC Bank
- 3) ICICI Bank
- 4) YES Bank
- 5) Axis Bank

Answer- **2) HDFC Bank**

Explanation:

HDFC Bank has collaborated with Indore Clean Energy Private Limited (**ICEPL**) to fund the conversion process of 550 tonnes/day of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) into Compressed Biogas (CBG) at the **Gobar-Dhan plant**, the largest Bio-CNG (Compressed Natural Gas) plant in Asia located in Indore, Madhya Pradesh (MP).

- i. This is the largest waste to energy project funded by HDFC Bank under its ESG (Environmental, Social, and Governance) commitments to mitigate the adverse effects of climate change and make the bank carbon neutral by 2031-2032.
- ii. ICEPL is promoted by Green Growth Equity Fund (GGEF), which is the largest climate impact fund in India with investors like NIIF (National Investment and Infrastructure Fund) & the Government of the UK (United Kingdom).

65. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) partnered with Ashv Finance to provide financial protection for MSME?

- 1) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- 2) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- 3) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance
- 4) Edelweiss General Insurance
- 5) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance

Answer- **4) Edelweiss General Insurance**

Explanation:

Digital Insurer **Edelweiss General Insurance (EGI)** has collaborated with **Ashv Finance**, a tech-led NBFC to provide financial protection to the latter's loan debtors.

i. Ashv will offer timely credit to small businesses and **MSMEs** (Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises) while EGI will provide health insurance cover to all the customers of Ashv Finance in all major cities across the country.

- Under this, EGI will utilize Ashv Finance's reach of small business owners across India and offer them easy and friendly, tech-powered solutions, coupled with superior customer experience.

66. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) partnered with TripMoney to launch a rupee-denominated global credit card?

- 1) RBL Bank
- 2) DCB Bank
- 3) South Indian Bank
- 4) SBM Bank India
- 5) CSB Bank

Answer- **4) SBM Bank India**

Explanation:

TripMoney, the fintech arm of MakeMyTrip (MMT), and **SBM Bank India** have partnered to launch a rupee-denominated secure credit card, '**TripMoney Global Card**' powered by Visa that can be used across over 150 countries.

- i. The card offers multiple value-added benefits, including zero forex mark-up, lifetime free validity, and 100 percent digital in-app card management.
- ii. The customers can load money in Indian Rupee (INR) as security and also track balances in INR.

67. Which bank recently (in Feb'22) introduced two new services to enhance both outward remittances & inward remittances through Net Banking and UPI?

- 1) Bandhan Bank
- 2) ICICI Bank
- 3) J&K Bank
- 4) RBL Bank
- 5) South Indian Bank

Answer- **5) South Indian Bank**

Explanation:

South Indian Bank (SIB) has introduced two new services by enabling **SIBerNet** and **SIB Express** to enhance both 'remittances to' (**outward remittances**) and 'remittances from' (**inward remittances**).

i. Online outward remittances are enabled through Net Banking and inward remittances through National Payments Corporation of India's (NPCI's) Unified Payment Interface (UPI) mode.

About Inward Remittances – 'SIB Express'- The bank introduced another new service feature for inward remittances – 'SIB Express' which will enable Non-Resident Indian's (NRIs) to send money to their relatives or their own Non Resident External (NRE) account / Non Resident Ordinary (NRO) account in India instantly through NPCI's UPI mode.

About Outward Remittances – 'SIBerNet' -Resident Indian customers can initiate Online Foreign Outward Remittances 24×7 online including on holidays in USD currency through internet banking platform 'SIBerNet' in more than 100 currencies across the globe.

68. Name the organization that recently (in Feb'22) approved Rs 1,000 crore to the Mula & Mutha cleaning river project in Pune.

- 1) World Bank
- 2) Asian Development Bank
- 3) United Nations Environment Programme
- 4) Japan International Cooperation Agency
- 5) Stockholm International Water Institute

Answer- 4) Japan International Cooperation Agency

Explanation:

Japan International Cooperation Agency (**JICA**) approved the tender for cleaning up rivers Mula, Mutha and Mula-Mutha (confluence of both rivers) of Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) area. The project will cost around Rs 1,000 Crore for pollution abatement of rivers.

Objective: To improve the water quality by augmenting sewage collection systems, sewage treatment facilities and improving sanitation in Pune Municipal Corporation (PMC) area.

69. Which company recently (in Feb '22) partnered with Toffee Insurance to provide innovative & tailored travel insurance solutions to its customers?

- 1) EaseMyTrip
- 2) Yatra
- 3) Cleartrip
- 4) Tripadvisor
- 5) MakeMyTrip

Answer- 1) EaseMyTrip

Explanation:

EaseMyTrip has partnered with **Toffee Insurance**, one of the fastest-growing InsurTech companies, to offer a first-of-its-kind, free-of-charge, full refund medical policy that provides additional travel flexibility for customers.

i. Through the free of charge policy, the customers will get a complete refund including the money deducted by airlines.

ii. Toffee Insurance will manage all travel insurance products for EaseMyTrip customers canceling flight bookings caused due to medical emergencies.

70. Which of the following points are not correct with respect to the Core Financial Services Solution (CFSS) as of February 2022?

- 1) RBI directed certain NBFCs to mandatorily implement CFSS by 30th September 2025.
- 2) NBFCs Middle Layer & Upper-Layer with 10 & more 'fixed point service delivery units' as of 1st October 2022 to implement CFSS by 30th September 2025.
- 3) NBFC – Upper Layer should implement CFSS at least in 40 percent of 'fixed point service delivery units' on or before 30th March 2023.
- 4) The implementation of CFSS is not mandatory in NBFC – Base Layer and NBFC – Middle and Upper Layers with fewer than 10 fixed point service delivery units.
- 5) CFSS will provide a customer interface in digital offerings and transactions relating to products and services by enabling integration of NBFC functions.

Answer- 3) NBFC – Upper Layer should implement CFSS at least in 40 percent of 'fixed point service delivery units' on or before 30th March 2023.

Explanation:

RBI directed certain NBFCs to mandatorily implement CFSS by 30th September 2025.

- NBFCs – Middle Layer & Upper-Layer with 10 and more ‘fixed point service delivery units’ as of 1st October 2022 to implement CFSS by 30th September 2025.
- NBFC – Upper Layer should implement CFSS at least in **70 percent** of ‘fixed point service delivery units’ on or **before September 30, 2024**.
- The implementation of CFSS is not mandatory in NBFC – Base Layer and NBFC – Middle and Upper Layers with fewer than 10 fixed point service delivery units.
- CFSS is similar to the Core Banking Solution adopted by banks and to provide customer interface in digital offerings and transactions relating to products and services by enabling integration of NBFCs’ functions

Note- In October 2021, RBI introduced the ‘Scale Based Regulation’ (SBR) framework for NBFCs and mandated NBFCs with 10 and more branches to adopt Core Banking Solution with effect from October 01, 2022.

71. In February 2022, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) extended the deadline for Client Level Segregation of Funds and Monitoring of Collateral at Stock Brokers to _____ from February 28, 2022.

- 1) 2nd July, 2022
- 2) 30th June, 2022
- 3) 1st April, 2022
- 4) 2nd May, 2022
- 5) 30th March, 2022

Answer- **4) 2nd May, 2022**

Explanation:

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) extended the deadline for the implementation of Client Level Segregation of Funds and Monitoring of Collateral at Stock Brokers to **May 2, 2022** from **February 28, 2022**.

- i. This is the second time SEBI has extended the deadline for these rules. Earlier, it was supposed to be implemented from December 1, 2021.
- ii. The guidelines on client-level segregation were notified in 2021 by SEBI amid instances of misuse of client collateral by brokers.

72. Which bank recently (in Feb’22) signed an agreement with National Hydropower Generation Company (NHPC) to Monetise RoE of 540 MW Chamera-I Power Plant in Himachal Pradesh for 10 years?

- 1) HDFC Bank
- 2) IndusInd Bank
- 3) YES Bank
- 4) Axis Bank
- 5) ICICI Bank

Answer- **1) HDFC Bank**

Explanation:

National Hydropower Generation Company (**NHPC**) limited signed a facility agreement with **HDFC bank** to secure return on equity (**RoE**) of its **540 MegaWatt** (3 X 180 MegaWatt) **Chamera-I Power Plant** in **Himachal Pradesh** for **10 years**.

i. The facility agreement complies with the Regulation 30 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015

ii. The amount of securitization facility has arrived Rs. 1,016.39 crore at 5.24% per annum and the discounting rate is linked with 3 months Treasury bills (T-Bills).

73. Name the bank that recently (in Feb'22) entered into Bancassurance Partnership with Star Health and Allied Insurance Ltd. to Offer Health Insurance to its customers.

- 1) Axis Bank
- 2) South Indian Bank
- 3) CSB Bank
- 4) ICICI Bank
- 5) YES Bank

Answer- **2) South Indian Bank**

Explanation:

South Indian Bank (SIB) has joined hands with **Star Health and Allied Insurance Company Limited** as a corporate agent to provide innovative **health insurance products** for the SIB's ~6.5 million customers spread over 923 branches across India.

i. The partnership will enable the South Indian Bank customers to financially safeguard themselves from rising healthcare costs.

74. Which company's certificate of registration was recently (in Feb'22) cancelled by RBI due to complaints against usurious rate of Interest and unfair recovery practices by digital lenders?

- 1) PC Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.
- 2) Anik Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.
- 3) South India Finvest Pvt. Ltd.
- 4) G U Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.
- 5) Prayas Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.

Answer- **1) PC Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) announced that it had cancelled the certificate of registration that was issued to **PC Financial Services Private Limited**, Delhi which uses an app called Cashbean to carry out the lending operations.

i. The action was taken under Section 45-IA (6) (iv) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

ii. The regulatory action has been taken due to an increase in complaints against usurious rate of interest and unfair recovery practices being followed by several digital lenders.

iii. The company has also violated Know Your Customer (KYC) norms and was also found to be charging usurious rates of interest and other charges to its borrowers in an illegal manner and it was also using the RBI and the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) logos for recovery from borrowers in violation of the Fair Practices Code.

75. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the MSME Conclave 2022 in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra that was organized by the Ministry of MSME?

A) During the conclave, the ICICI MSME RuPay Credit Card was launched in partnership by ICICI Bank with the NPCI.

B) The Union Minister also announced the establishment of MSME-Technology Centre with an outlay of Rs 200 Crore in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra to enhance their competitiveness among MSME.

C) The KONBAC SFURTI bamboo cluster at Kudal, Sindhudurg was inaugurated to support 300 artisans.

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

Answer- 4) Only B & C

Explanation:

The two-day MSME Conclave 2022 was organized in Sindhudurg, an administrative district of the Konkan division in Maharashtra which was inaugurated by Union Minister Narayan Tatu Rane, Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (**MSME**).

i. During the conclave, Union Minister Narayan Rane launched the Union MSME RuPay Credit Card which is being offered by Union Bank of India in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

ii. The Union Minister also announced the establishment of MSME-Technology Centre with an outlay of Rs 200 Crore in Sindhudurg, Maharashtra to enhance their competitiveness among MSME.

iii. The Union Minister, Narayan Rane inaugurated the KONBAC SFURTI (Konkan Bamboo and Cane Development Centre – Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries) bamboo cluster at Kudal, a town in Sindhudurg to support 300 artisans.

76. Which Bank recently (in Feb'22) became the 1st multilateral agency to open an office in the Gujarat International Finance Tec (GIFT) City, Gujarat?

- 1) Inter-American Development Bank
- 2) New Development Bank
- 3) European Investment Bank
- 4) Asian Development Bank
- 5) African Development Bank

Answer- 2) New Development Bank

Explanation:

New Development Bank (**NDB**) will become the 1st multilateral agency to open an office in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT), Gujarat which will start its operation by the mid of May 2022.

i. NDB also expects to partner with the newly launched National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NBFID) to support crucial infrastructure projects in India.

ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

1. Which IPL Team became India's 1st Unicorn Sports Enterprise with Market cap of Rs 7,600 Crores?

- 1) Sunrisers Hyderabad
- 2) Chennai Super Kings
- 3) Kolkata Knight Riders
- 4) Mumbai Indians
- 5) Delhi Capitals

Answer- 2) Chennai Super Kings

Explanation:

Four-time Indian Premier League (IPL) winners Chennai Super Kings (**CSK**), has become the country's **1st sports Unicorn** with its market cap having touched a high of Rs 7,600 crores and its share in the gray market trading in the Rs 210-225 price band.

i. Currently, CSK has a market cap more than its parent entity, India Cements. On January 29, 2022, India Cements' market cap stood at Rs 6,869 crores.

ii. Reasons behind increase in market cap: Winning of 4th IPL title in Dubai, and addition of two new franchises to the upcoming season at record prices.

2. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the 1st Revised Estimates of National Income, Consumption Expenditure, Saving & Capital Formation for FY 2020-21?

A) 1st revised estimate for FY 2020-21 was released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).

B) The Indian economy contracted by 6.6% in 2020-21 as against the earlier estimate of 7.3% in May 2021.

C) GVA at basic prices declined by 1.6 % during 2020-21 against the growth of 6.9 % during 2019-20.

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

Answer-1) All A, B & C

Explanation:

The 1st revised estimate for FY 2020-21 was released by the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (**MoSPI**).

i. The Indian economy contracted by **6.6 %** in 2020-21 as against the earlier estimate of 7.3% in May 2021.

ii. GVA at basic prices declined by 1.6 % during 2020-21 against the growth of 6.9% during 2019-20.

3. Which Organization recently (in Feb'22) signed a US \$73 million agreement with Hyperion Global Group to supply Internet of Things (IoT) devices for the US market?

- 1) Indian Space Research Organization
- 2) Defence Research and Development Organization
- 3) Bharat Electronics Ltd

4) Bharat Dynamics Ltd

5) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd

Answer- **3) Bharat Electronics Ltd**

Explanation:

Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) signed a partnership agreement with Hyperion Global Group, to manufacture and supply Internet of Things (IoT) devices for the US (United States) market.

i. Through the agreement, BEL will manufacture and supply IoT devices worth US \$73 million to Hyperion during the first year of commencement.

About Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL):

CMD & Director- Anandi Ramalingam

Established- 1954

Headquarters- Bangalore, Karnataka

4. Which country recently (in Feb'22) purchased 40,000 MT petrol & 40,000 MT diesel from the Indian Oil Corporation (India) to overcome its Energy Crisis?

1) Bangladesh

2) Australia

3) Sri Lanka

4) South Korea

5) Indonesia

Answer- **3) Sri Lanka**

Explanation:

Sri Lanka's Ministry of Energy has decided to purchase 40,000 metric tonnes petrol and 40,000 metric tonnes diesel from the Indian Oil Corporation (India) as part of the Sri Lankan government's bid to face the current fuel and energy crisis.

About LIOC:

The Lanka Indian Oil Corporation (LIOC), the Sri Lankan subsidiary of India's oil major Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), has been in operation in Sri Lanka since 2002.

5. In February 2022, CRISIL estimated India's Real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Growth at _____ in FY23.

1) 7.9%

2) 7.5%

3) 7.8%

4) 7.6%

5) 8.2%

Answer- **3) 7.8%**

Explanation:

Domestic rating agency **CRISIL** (formerly Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited) has estimated FY23 real GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth at **7.8%** as compared to 9.2% in FY22, and 8.5% projected in Economic Survey 2021-22.

i. It also projected headline inflation for FY23 to average 5.2%

6. Tata Sky recently (in Jan'22) rebranded itself as ___ to expand its television-cum-OTT (Over-The-Top).

- 1) Tata Digi
- 2) Tata Prime
- 3) Tata Star
- 4) Tata Play
- 5) Tata Pocket

Answer- 4) Tata Play

Explanation:

Tata Sky, one of the largest Direct to Home (DTH) platforms, has rebranded itself as '**Tata Play**' to expand its television-cum-OTT (Over-The-Top) offerings in combined packages.

i. Tata Play Limited is a joint venture between Tata Sons and TFCF Corporation (formerly known as Twenty-First Century Fox, Inc.) and is now a part of the Walt Disney Company.

ii. Tata play was incorporated in 2001 and launched its services in 2006.

7. As per the Counterpoint Technology Market Research report, _____ became the World's Top Semiconductor Company in 2021 by replacing Intel.

- 1) Toshiba
- 2) Samsung
- 3) Micron Technology
- 4) Qualcomm
- 5) SK Hynix

Answer- 2) Samsung

Explanation:

According to the report released by Counterpoint Technology Market Research, South Korean electronics manufacturing giant, Samsung Electronics replaced United States (U.S) chipmaker Intel's first position in World's Top Semiconductor Company in 2021.

Top 3 Enterprises:

- 1.Samsung
- 2.Intel
- 3.SK Hynix

8. Which company recently (in Feb'22) launched a convenience Store under the brand name 'HappyShop'?

- 1) GAIL Ltd
- 2) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Ltd
- 3) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd
- 4) Indian Oil Corporation Ltd
- 5) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd

Answer- 3) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd

Explanation:

The Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited (**HPCL**) has launched convenience stores under the brand name '**HappyShop**'. 'HappyShop' is a non-fuel retail sector of HPCL.

i. The customers of the HPCL will be able to browse and shop the goods through the HP Pay App.

ii. **Paani@Club HP**' the packaged drinking water of HPCL is also marketed across the retail outlets of HPCL.

9. Which company recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Microsoft India to develop Regulated Sector Cloud Offering?

- 1) HCL Technologies
- 2) TCS
- 3) Infosys
- 4) L&T Ltd
- 5) Wipro

Answer- **4) L&T Ltd**

Explanation:

Larsen & Toubro Limited (**L&T**) and **Microsoft India** signed a MoU to develop a regulated sector-focused cloud offering to empower customers with the best-of-breed cloud computing and infrastructure service.

Objective: To modernize traditional data centers to potentially hybrid cloud architecture.

About Larsen & Toubro Limited (L&T):

CEO & MD- S.N. Subrahmanyam

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

10. As per the CMIE, the unemployment rate of India has declined to _____ in January 2022 which is lowest since March 2021.

- 1) 6.24%
- 2) 5.95%
- 3) 6.05%
- 4) 5.84%
- 5) 6.57%

Answer- **5) 6.57%**

Explanation:

According to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy Pvt. Ltd. (**CMIE**), the unemployment rate of India has declined to **6.57%** in January 2022, the lowest since March 2021 (6.50%).

i. In January 2022, the unemployment rate in urban India is at 8.16% and the unemployment rate in rural India is at 5.84%.

ii. Telangana has reported the lowest unemployment rate with 0.7% followed by Gujarat (1.2 per cent), Meghalaya (1.5 per cent) and Odisha (1.8 per cent).

iii. Haryana has reported the highest unemployment rate with 23.4% followed by Rajasthan (18.9%) and Tripura (17.1%).

11. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with the IIM-Sambalpur to promote artisans & weavers of Odisha through the digital platform.

- 1) Quikr
- 2) Meesho
- 3) Jio Mart
- 4) Flipkart
- 5) Amazon

Answer- **4) Flipkart**

Explanation:

Flipkart signed an **MoU** with the Odisha based Indian Institute of Management, Sambalpur (**IIM-S**) to provide market access to artisans and weavers of Odisha to sell their products online.

About Odisha:

Governor- Ganeshi Lal

National Park (NP)- Bhitarkanika NP, Simlipal NP

Wildlife Sanctuary- Satkosia Gorge sanctuary, Nandankanan sanctuary, Lakhari valley sanctuary

12. In February 2022, _____ became India's 1st 100% Plastic Waste Neutral company.

- 1) Hindustan Unilever Ltd
- 2) Dabur India Ltd
- 3) Nestle India Ltd
- 4) ITC Ltd
- 5) Britannia Industries Ltd

Answer- 2) Dabur India Ltd

Explanation:

Dabur India Limited (Dabur), one of India's leading Fast-moving consumer goods (FMCG) companies, announced that the company has become **India's 1st 100% Plastic Waste Neutral company**.

i. Dabur collects, processes and recycles the same amount of plastic waste that is sold in its product packaging in a year, as a result of this the company has become a 'Plastic Waste Neutral company'.

Note- Dabur India Limited is the first FMCG company to achieve this feat & it is the 4th largest FMCG Company in India and the world's largest Ayurvedic and Natural Health Care Company.

13. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) made a 1st of its kind partnership with Greenko Group to store 6-gigawatt hours (GWh) of power in hydro pump storage plants.

- 1) Vikram Solar Ltd
- 2) Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd
- 3) Ayana Renewable Power Pvt Ltd
- 4) Suzlon Energy Limited
- 5) ReNew Power

Answer- 3) Ayana Renewable Power Pvt Ltd

Explanation:

Ayana Renewable Power Private Ltd (Ayana) owned by National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) have signed India's first of its kind partnership with **Greenko Group**, Hyderabad, Telangana to provide standalone storage capacity to develop firm and dispatchable Renewable Energy solutions, including round-the-clock power supply of up to 1GW.

i. Under this partnership, Ayana and Greenko will collaborate to **store 6-gigawatt hour (GWh) of power in hydro pump storage plants**, which is being built by the Greenko group at Pinnapuram, Andhra Pradesh(AP).

14. As per the National Statistical Office data, the retail inflation rate based on CPI has increased at ____% in January 2022, which is the highest in ____ months.

- 1) 4.89%; Seven
- 2) 6.01%; Five
- 3) 5.78%; Four
- 4) 6.01%; Seven
- 5) 5.78%; Five

Answer- 4) 6.01%; Seven

Explanation:

As per the NSO data, the Retail inflation rate based on CPI has increased to a seven-month high of 6.01% in January 2022, crossing the 6% mark.

National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), has released the All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) on Base 2012=100 and corresponding Consumer Food Price Index (CFPI) for Rural (R), Urban (U) and Combined (C) for January 2022.

15. Which company recently (in Feb'22) received an order from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL) to supply compact heat exchanger sets for 83 LCA Tejas aircraft?

- 1) Bharat Electronics Ltd
- 2) Boeing India
- 3) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd
- 4) DRDO
- 5) Bharat Dynamics Ltd

Answer- **3) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd**

Explanation:

Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (**BHEL**) has received an order from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (**HAL**) to manufacture, assemble, test and supply compact heat exchanger sets for its 83 LCA (Light Combat Aircraft) Tejas MK1A aircraft.

i. The BHEL's Heavy Plates and Vessels Plant (HPVP), Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh) is the sole supplier of heat exchangers for LCA Tejas to HAL since 1996. These are augmented to meet International Aero Standards (AS9100).

16. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Foxconn to form a joint venture (JV) for manufacturing semiconductors in India?

- 1) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd
- 2) Vedanta Ltd
- 3) Tata Petrodyne Ltd
- 4) Cairn India
- 5) Essar Global Fund Ltd

Answer- **2) Vedanta Ltd**

Explanation:

Vedanta Limited has signed an MoU with Hon Hai Technology Group, electronics manufacturing services giant (also known as **Foxconn**) to form a joint venture (JV) for manufacturing semiconductors in India.

i. According to the MoU, Vedanta will hold the majority equity in the JV with Vedantu's chairman Anil Agarwal as the chairman of JV, while Foxconn will be the minority shareholder.

Note- Vedanta has become the **first** company to announce investment in semiconductor manufacturing in India after the production-linked incentive (PLI) policy.

17. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) made a joint venture with an Israeli firm Pic-Plast Ltd for a rain protection technique.

- 1) DeHaat
- 2) CropIn Technology
- 3) Ninjacart
- 4) BRIO Hydroponics

5) AgroStar

Answer- **4) BRIO Hydroponics**

Explanation:

BRIO Hydroponics, an Ahmedabad based agritech startup, made a joint venture with an Israeli firm Pic-Plast Limited for a rain protection technique that will help grow plants hydroponically.

i. The JV will set up India's first Rain Technology Nethouse with Solarig Net House kit.

ii. **Objective:** The startup is to boost the production of blueberries hydroponically to sell at an affordable price.

18. As per the SBI's Ecowrap report released (in Feb'22), India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth was reduced to _____ for FY22 from its earlier forecast of 9.3%.

1) 8.0%

2) 8.5%

3) 8.2%

4) 8.8%

5) 8.4%

Answer- **4) 8.8%**

Explanation:

The report by the State Bank of India's (SBI) economic research department (ERD), 'Ecowrap' has reduced India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth projection for FY22 to **8.8%** from its earlier forecast of 9.3%.

i. With the current projection, the real GDP will be around Rs 2.35 lakh crore/1.6% more than the pre-pandemic FY20 real GDP of Rs 145.69 lakh crore.

ii. India's economy expanded by 8.4% in Q2 FY22 but the GDP growth in that period was slower than the 20.1% expansion in Q1 FY22.

iii. The SBI's forecasting model forecasts the country's GDP to grow at 5.8% in Q3 (October-December, 2022) of FY22.

19. Which company recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) to set up biofuel projects?

1) GAIL India Limited

2) Bharat Petroleum

3) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

4) Indian Oil Corporation

5) Hindustan Petroleum

Answer- **4) Indian Oil Corporation**

Explanation:

The National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED) signed an MoU with the **Indian Oil Corporation (IOC)** for setting up biofuel projects.

20. Name the new wholly-owned subsidiary company that was recently (in Feb '22) set up by NHPC Ltd for the development of renewable energy, small hydro & green hydrogen-based businesses.

1) NHPC Green Energy Ltd

2) NHPC Hydrogen Ltd

3) NHPC Renewable Energy Ltd

4) NHPC Energy Ltd

5) NHPC Green Hydrogen Ltd

Answer- **3) NHPC Renewable Energy Ltd**

Explanation:

NHPC Limited (Ltd), has set up a new wholly-owned subsidiary company namely '**NHPC renewable energy limited (NREL)**', for the development of Renewable Energy, Small Hydro and Green Hydrogen based business of NHPC Ltd.

i. As per a **BSE**, the NREL was registered with the **Registrar of Companies**, National Capital Territory (NCT) of **Delhi & Haryana**, on 16th February 2022.

ii. Currently, NHPC's total installed generation capacity stands at 7071 megawatt (MW) which includes 100 MW of Solar or Wind energy-based plants. Another 5999 MW of Hydro plants and 105 MW of Solar plants are under construction.

Note- In December 2021 The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management and National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog approved the formation of the separate renewable energy unit.

21. Which company recently partnered with Microsoft to launch "Microsoft Cloud for Retail" to strengthen its offerings to the retail industry?

1) Tata Consultancy service

2) Infosys Ltd

3) Mphasis Ltd

4) Sonata Software Ltd

5) HCL Technologies

Answer- **4) Sonata Software Ltd**

Explanation:

Microsoft in its partnership with **Sonata Software Ltd** launched '**Microsoft Cloud for Retail**'. Sonata Software provides the best retail Platforms through world-class Internet Protocol (IPs), in-house migration and modernisation tools, engineering services for the retailers.

i. The partnership with Microsoft Cloud for Retail is to enhance capabilities, emphasise leveraging data, elevate the shopping experience, build real-time, sustainable supply chains, and empower store associates.

Note- Sonata software has been a **partner** with Microsoft for over **three decades**.

22. In February 2022, Piyush Goyal Chaired a Meeting on Revamping the Department of Commerce to Achieve a \$2 Trillion Export Target by _____.

1) 2028

2) 2026

3) 2024

4) 2025

5) 2027

Answer- **5) 2027**

Explanation:

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, **Piyush Goyal Chaired** a Meeting on Revamping Department of Commerce To Achieve **\$2 Trillion Export Target** by **2027** and to become a future ready establishment of the Government by utilizing new age capabilities.

i. Along with the Department of Commerce, there will be fortification, and consistent strengthening of trade and investment promotion bodies including the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT)

23. During the India International Jewellery Show Signature (IIJS) 2022, the Gems and jewellery sector is expected to achieve an export target of _____ in 2022.

- 1) 20 Million dollars
- 2) 40 Billion dollars
- 3) 30 Million dollars
- 4) 20 Billion dollars
- 5) 10 Million dollars

Answer- 2) 40 Billion dollars

Explanation:

The Inaugural Ceremony of India International Jewellery Show Signature **(IIJS) 2022** was held, where it was stated that the Gems and Jewellery sector is expected to achieve an export target of **40 Billion dollars in 2022.**

i. The Event was organised by the Gem and Jewellery Export Promotion Council (GJEPC) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

ii. The event was addressed by Union Minister Piyush Goyal, Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The sector is expected to register a growth of 6.5% over the pre-Covid levels (2019).

24. Name the company that recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with RWE Renewables GmbH (RWE) to develop the offshore wind projects in India?

- 1) Adani Green Energy Ltd
- 2) JSW Energy Limited
- 3) ReNew Power
- 4) Suzlon Energy Limited
- 5) Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd

Answer- 5) Tata Power Renewable Energy Ltd

Explanation:

Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited, a 100% subsidiary of Tata Power Company Limited (Tata Power) has signed an **MoU** with **RWE Renewables GmbH (RWE)**, based in Germany, to explore the potential for joint development of **offshore wind projects** in India.

i. The MoU is in line with India's vision of achieving 30 gigawatts (GW) of offshore wind installations by 2030 to meet the increasing power demands of India.

ii. Both Tata Power and RWE stated that India is an unexplored and highly attractive market to develop opportunities for offshore wind due to its large coastline of around 7600 kilometres(Km).

iii. This partnership will boost the sustainable development plans of India and COP26 commitment, which aims to make India carbon-neutral by 2070.

25. Which company recently (in Feb '22) signed an MoU with Ballard Power Systems to commercialize hydrogen fuel cells for mobility in India?

- 1) ReNew Power
- 2) Suzlon Energy Limited
- 3) Adani Group
- 4) Larsen and Toubro Ltd
- 5) Tata Group

Answer- 3) Adani Group

Explanation:

Adani Group, an Indian multinational conglomerate, has signed a non-binding **MoU** with Nasdaq-listed **Ballard Power Systems**, a global leader in fuel cell technology, to evaluate a joint investment case for the commercialisation of hydrogen fuel cells in mobility and industrial applications in India.

- i.** Adani Group partners with Ballard to create a shared fuel cell ecosystem in India.
- ii.** Under this MoU, Adani Group and Ballard will examine the options to cooperate, including potential collaboration for fuel cell manufacturing in India.
- iii.** The efforts taken under this MoU will be coordinated by Adani New Industries Ltd (ANIL), the newly formed subsidiary of Adani Enterprises.

26. As per the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC), under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, India's fuel demand is expected to grow by _____ in FY23.

- 1) 6.4%
- 2) 5.5%
- 3) 4.5%
- 4) 3.5%
- 5) 4.2%

Answer- 2) 5.5%

Explanation:

According to the estimates released by the Petroleum Planning and Analysis Cell (PPAC), under the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural gas, India's fuel demand is likely to grow **5.5 %** in **FY23**.

- i.** According to government estimates India's fuel consumption (especially oil demand) in FY23 could rise to 214.5 million tons (MT) from the revised estimates of 203.3 MT for FY22.
- ii.** In FY23 Local demand for gasoline (mainly used in passenger vehicles) is expected to rise by 7.8 per cent to 33.3 million tons, while gasoil consumption shows a slow growth of 4 per cent to 79.3 million tons.
- iii.** Consumption of aviation fuel would increase by nearly 50 per cent to 7.6 million tons in FY23, compared to the revised estimate of 5.1 million tons in FY22.

27. As per the India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra), India's GDP growth was revised downwards to _____ from the consensus 9.2% earlier for FY22.

- 1) 8.5%
- 2) 8.6%
- 3) 8.9%
- 4) 8.7%
- 5) 8.4%

Answer- 2) 8.6%

Explanation:

India Ratings and Research (**Ind-Ra**) has revised downwards its GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth forecast of the Indian economy for 2021-22 to **8.6%** from the consensus **9.2%** projected earlier.

- i.** IRR estimates Q1 and Q2 of FY22 may decline by 90-110 basis points than estimated earlier and the Q3 and Q4 may come in at 5.6% and 5.1%, respectively, down from 6% and 5.7% estimated earlier.
- ii.** The major reason for this downward revision is the upward revision of FY21 GDP to Rs 135.6 lakh crore in the first revised estimate of national income for FY21, which was released on January 31, 2022.

iii. As per it, the National Statistical Organization (NSO) will likely peg the FY22 real GDP growth at Rs 147.2 lakh crore i.e. 8.6% in its second advance estimate of national income. NSO forecasted 9.2% in the first advance estimate released on January 7, 2022.

28. In February 2022, Moody's Investors Service raised India's GDP growth forecast to ____ from an earlier projection of 7% for FY 22.

- 1) 7.6%
- 2) 7.8%
- 3) 8.0%
- 4) 9.5%
- 5) 8.5%

Answer- **4) 9.5%**

Explanation:

Moody's Investors Service raised India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) growth forecast to 8.4 percent for FY23 and **9.5 percent for 2022** though higher oil prices and supply issues will reflect in growth.

i. It also estimated that the GDP growth forecast for 2023 stands at 5.5 percent and 6.5 percent for FY24 (1st April 2023 – 31st March 2024).

ii. Earlier they had projected the growth for 2022 as 7 percent.

Other projections – Moody's collective estimation of the G-20 economies shows reduced estimates of 4.3 percent in 2022 from 5.9 percent in 2021.

29. Which company recently (in Feb '22) launched a new payment platform named "IATA Pay" along with the International Air Transport Association (IATA) to enable instant airline payment?

- 1) Standard Chartered Bank
- 2) DBS Bank
- 3) Deutsche Bank
- 4) HSBC Bank
- 5) CitiBank

Answer- **1) Standard Chartered Bank**

Explanation:

The International Air Transport Association (**IATA**) joins hands with the Global banking group '**Standard Chartered Bank**' to launch its new payment platform "**IATA Pay**" for the Indian airline industry to enable instant airline payment.

i. IATA Pay in India is based on Standard Chartered's Straight2Bank Pay.

About Standard Chartered Bank :

CEO– Zarin Daruwala

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

30. The Ideal Finance Limited has recently (in Feb'22) rebranded its name as which of the following?

- 1) Bajaj Finance Ideal Finance Ltd
- 2) Cholamandalam Ideal Finance Ltd
- 3) Kotak Mahindra Ideal Finance Ltd
- 4) Mahindra Ideal Finance Ltd
- 5) Muthoot Finance Ideal Finance Ideal Ltd

Answer- **4) Mahindra Ideal Finance Ltd**

Explanation:

Ideal Finance Ltd, a subsidiary of Mahindra and Mahindra Financial Services Ltd, announced to rebrand its company as Mahindra Ideal Finance Ltd (**MIFL**). The purpose of the renaming is to make MIFL into one of the **leading licensed** finance companies (LFC) in **Sri Lanka**.

- i. Mahindra Ideal Finance Ltd (MIFL) is a joint venture of Mahindra Finance and Ideal Group.
- ii. The entity was rebranded to Mahindra Ideal Finance in order to enhance its customer value base and offer a wider suite of products.

MoUs AND AGREEMENTS

1. Which Company recently (in Jan'22) signed an MoU with Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) to set up Rooftop Solar Power Projects?

- 1) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd
- 2) Goa Shipyard Ltd
- 3) Hindustan Shipyard Ltd
- 4) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd
- 5) Cochin Shipyard Ltd

Answer- **2) Goa Shipyard Ltd**

Explanation:

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (**IREDA**) signed a MoU with Goa Shipyard Limited (**GSL**) to provide its techno-financial expertise to set-up a rooftop solar power project.

- i. IREDA will assist GSL to set-up a rooftop solar power project in Vasco da Gama, Goa which is the headquarters of IREDA.

2. Which of the following organizations signed a tripartite MoU with SBI for Development of Atmanirbhar Bharat Centre for Design at Red Fort in Delhi?

- 1) India Foundation for the Arts
- 2) Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts
- 3) National Culture Fund
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

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

Explanation:

A tripartite MoU has been signed between State Bank of India (**SBI**), Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (**IGNCA**) and National Culture Fund (**NCF**) for the development of Atmanirbhar Bharat Centre for Design (ABCD) at L1 Barrack, Red Fort, Delhi.

- i. It will be implemented by IGNCA, an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Culture

3. Which State recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Ather Energy to provide 1000 fast-charging stations for electric 2-wheelers?

- 1) Rajasthan
- 2) Maharashtra
- 3) Telangana
- 4) Tamil Nadu
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- 5) Karnataka

Explanation:

The government of **Karnataka** and the **Ather Energy** and Electric Supply Companies (**ESCOMs**) have signed an MoU to set up 1000 fast-charging stations for electric 2-wheelers.

i. ESCOMs will be the nodal agency to provide the technical support and government agencies will coordinate with the ESCOMs to share their available spaces for the charging stations.

4. Which state recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Social Alpha's Clean Energy International Incubation Centre (CEIIC) to support clean energy technology programmes across the state?

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Kerala
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Andhra Pradesh
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- 2) Kerala

Explanation:

Kerala Government has signed an **MoU** with the **Social Alpha's** Energy Lab – "Clean Energy International Incubation Centre (**CEIIC**)" to support innovative and clean energy technology programmes in Kerala.

i. The Objective of the MoU is to establish a clean energy incubation centre to boost green energy development and energy conservation activities in Kerala.

ii. The Energy Management Centre (**EMC**) and Kerala Development and Innovation Strategy Council (**KDISC**) are part of the project.

5. Which State recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Amazon India to support the growth of Rural women entrepreneurs?

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Karnataka
- 3) Tamil Nadu
- 4) West Bengal
- 5) Andhra Pradesh

Answer- 2) Karnataka

Explanation:

Amazon India signed a **MoU** with Karnataka State Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (**KSRLPS**) to support the growth of women entrepreneurs.

i. Under this MoU, Amazon India will launch '**Sanjeevini-KSRLPS**' in its platform and extend benefits of the '**Saheli**' Programme to train and empower thousands of rural women entrepreneurs and also provide online access to a wider market for their products.

About Karnataka:

Cultural Heritage Site- Hampi, Pattadakal

Governor – Thawar Chand Gehlot

6. Which state recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with UNEP to support 'Majhi Vasundhara' campaign, initiative to Implement Climate Change Actions?

- 1) Karnataka
- 2) Maharashtra

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

Answer- **2) Maharashtra**

Explanation:

The United Nation Environment Programme (**UNEP**) signed a **MoU** with the **Maharashtra government** to support its '**Majhi Vasundhara**' campaign. It is an initiative towards sustainable use of energy and environmental development.

i. The literal meaning is 'My Earth' is an initiative of the Environment and Climate Change Department, Government of Maharashtra.

About Maharashtra: Chief Minister- Uddhav Thackeray

Tiger Reserve (TR)- Tadoba-Andhari TR, Nawegaon – Nagzira TR

7. Which state recently (in Feb'22) launched 'Paray Shikshalaya', an open-air classroom programme?

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

Answer- **4) West Bengal**

Explanation:

The **West Bengal** government launched '**Paray Shikshalaya**' (Neighbourhood Schools) , an open-air classroom programme for students from classes 1 to 7.

Aim – To encourage students to continue their education, who have dropped out of school during the Covid-19 pandemic

8. In February 2022, DMEO-NITI Aayog & _____ signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to strengthen the overall monitoring and evaluation environment in India.

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

Answer- **2) IIM-Kozhikode**

Explanation:

The Indian Institute of Management Kozhikode(**IIM-K**) and the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (**DMEO**), an attached office of NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India) signed the Statement of Intent (SoI) on Institutional Partnership.

i. The SoI was signed by Debashis Chatterjee, Director of IIM-K and SekharBonu, Director General of DMEO.

9. Which state government recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with major companies in Renewable energy sector for investments of Rs 3.05 lakh crore towards its ambitious renewable energy projects?

- 1) Gujarat
- 2) Punjab
- 3) Rajasthan
- 4) Kerala
- 5) Andhra Pradesh

Answer- 3) Rajasthan

Explanation:

The **Rajasthan** government signed an MoU/ Letter of Intent (LoI) with major players in the renewable energy sector, capturing investment of **Rs 3.05 lakh crore** under the '**Invest Rajasthan Campaign**'.

- i.** The investment includes renewable energy projects with 92.1 GigaWatt (GW) or 92,100 Megawatt (MW) capacity and 4GW solar module manufacturing.
- ii.** The companies that signed the MoU include 5 PSUs – NTPC Ltd, NHPC Ltd, SJVN Limited, THDC India Ltd and SECI along with private players such as Reliance, Axis and SAEL.

Note- NTPC signed an LoI for investment of Rs 40,000 crore to generate 10 GW.

10. Name the state that recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with the British Council for 3 years to expand higher education across the globe.

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

Answer- 2) Telangana

Explanation:

The **Government of Telangana** and the **British Council**, an international organization for educational opportunities and cultural exchange, have signed a 3-year **MoU** to renew the partnership in education, English and arts.

Objective: To facilitate research between institutions and assist to expand higher education globally, to offer global opportunities for the youth of Telangana.

11. Which state/UT recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with New Zealand to transform the sheep farming sector?

- 1) Sikkim
- 2) Delhi
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Jammu & Kashmir
- 5) Himachal Pradesh

Answer- 4) Jammu & Kashmir

Explanation:

The Jammu & Kashmir (**J&K**) government signed a pact with **New Zealand** for the transformation of the **sheep farming sector** in the J&K Union Territory (UT).

Objective – To improve farmer's remuneration, transfer of technology in research and development, marketing and value addition of sheep products of J&K.

12. Which country recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with India on tourism cooperation to boost bilateral relations in tourism?

- 1) Japan
- 2) Switzerland
- 3) Indonesia
- 4) Australia
- 5) Israel

Answer- 4) Australia

Explanation:

India and **Australia** signed an **MoU on Tourism cooperation** in the field of Tourism to enhance cooperation and encourage expansion of bilateral relations in tourism.

i. Through the MoU, information and data related to tourism will be exchanged between both nations, and Cooperation between tourism stakeholders, especially hotels and tour operators, and education providers in tourism and hospitality will be improved.

About Australia:

Capital – Canberra

Prime minister – Scott Morrison

Currency – Australian dollar

13. Which Institute research park recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with Saint-Gobain India to develop 100% renewable energy in India?

- 1) IIT- Kanpur
- 2) IIT- Kharagpur
- 3) IIT- Hyderabad
- 4) IIT- Delhi
- 5) IIT- Madras

Answer- 5) IIT- Madras

Explanation:

Saint-Gobain India and the Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (**IIT-M**) Research Park have signed an MoU to help India in achieving 100 per cent renewable energy.

i. As per the MoU, Saint-Gobain India would support IIT-M Research Park with a funding of Rs 1 crore for upcoming 3 years.

ii. The MoU is to fasten the transformation towards a low carbon future.

14. What is the target year for India to achieve zero-diesel use in agriculture and replace fossil fuels with renewable energy by the ministry of Power (as of Feb'22)?

- 1) 2025
- 2) 2024
- 3) 2026
- 4) 2030
- 5) 2023

Answer- 2) 2024

Explanation:

In a virtual meeting held to discuss the role of States and UTs towards achieving India's energy transition goals and meeting climate commitments, Union Power Minister **R K Singh** pointed out that

India will achieve the **target** of zero-diesel use in agriculture and replace fossil fuel with renewable energy by 2024.

Objective – To ensure the state’s participation in fulfilling India’s climate commitments and each State and Union Territories (UT) can be assigned energy saving targets.

15. Which Organization recently (in Feb’22) signed an MoU with India to provide 50,000 MT of wheat to Afghanistan through the land border of Pakistan?

- 1) World Trade Organisation
- 2) International Labour Organisation
- 3) International Fund for Agricultural Development
- 4) World Food Programme
- 5) World Bank

Answer- **4) World Food Programme**

Explanation:

India has signed an MoU with the United Nations (UN)’s World Food Programme (**WFP**) for the distribution of 50,000 MT of wheat to **Afghanistan** as part of humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan through the land border with Pakistan.

i. The agreement between India and WFP was announced by the Indian Embassy in Rome, Italy.

16. Which state government recently (in Feb’22) signed an MoU with QX Global Group Ltd to develop IT and ITeS sector?

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Tamil Nadu
- 3) Karnataka
- 4) Gujarat
- 5) Maharashtra

Answer- **4) Gujarat**

Explanation:

The **Gujarat government** signed an **MoU** with **QX Global Group Limited**, a global business process management company, for the holistic development of the Information Technology (**IT**) and Information Technology Enabled Services (**ITeS**) sector.

About the MoU:

i. The Gujarat government’s Department of Science and Technology had announced a new **IT/ ITeS policy** for the **next 5 years** in order to develop a robust ecosystem for the IT and digital sector. The policy also aims from the current Rs 3,000 crore annually to Rs 25,000 crore over the next five years.

ii. The MoU is the **1st strategic partnership** under the new Gujarat IT/ITeS policy 2022-2027 and will generate 2,000 jobs in the IT sector.

17. Which company recently (in Feb’22) signed an MoU with the Ministry of Tourism to boost tourism across India?

- 1) InterGlobe Aviation Ltd.
- 2) SpiceJet Ltd
- 3) Star Air Ltd
- 4) Alliance Air Aviation Ltd
- 5) FlyBig Ltd

Answer- **4) Alliance Air Aviation Ltd (AAAL)**

Explanation:

The **Ministry of Tourism** signed an MoU with Alliance Air Aviation Limited (**AAAL**) to boost tourism across India.

Objective: To provide an integrated marketing and promotional strategy and a synergised campaign in association with the AAAL.

i. The agreement was signed to achieve the common purpose of joint domestic promotion and to consider the need to synergise the activities of MoT and AAAL in the tourism markets.

About the Ministry of Tourism:

Cabinet Minister- G. Kishan Reddy (Secunderabad, Telangana)

Minister of State- Shripad Yesso Naik (North Goa, Goa), Ajay Bhatt (Nainital-Udhamsingh Nagar, Uttarakhand).

18. Under which portal the Defence Accounts Department (DAD) recently (in Feb '22) signed an MoU with CSC e-Governance Services India Limited-SPV to onboard pension services across India?

- 1) Shreshtha
- 2) Yuktahara
- 3) SPARSH
- 4) e-Shram
- 5) DAKSH

Answer- **3) SPARSH**

Explanation:

Defence Accounts Department (**DAD**) under the Ministry of Defence has signed an MoU with **CSC e-Governance Services India** Limited, a special purpose vehicle (**SPV**) under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to onboard pension services under the System for Pension Administration (**SPARSH**)-(Raksha) –Initiative across more than 4 lakh CSCs across India.

i. Under this MoU, the last mile connectivity to pensioners, particularly for the pensioners who live in remote areas of India and those who do not have the means or technical resources to log on to SPARSH, will be provided.

ii. SPARSH, an online pension disbursing model, is an initiative of the Defence Ministry that aims to provide a comprehensive solution to the administration of pension to the Defence pensioners.

Note- DAD has also signed an MoU with Kotak Mahindra Bank to set up service centres across 14 branches in the region with high ex-servicemen density.

19. Name the organization that recently (in Feb'22) signed an MoU with the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA)-India to jointly design the 'Sustainable Cities India program'.

- 1) International Monetary Fund
- 2) Asian Development Bank
- 3) World Bank
- 4) UNDP
- 5) World Economic Forum

Answer- **5) World Economic Forum**

Explanation:

World Economic Forum (**WEF**) and the National Institute of Urban Affairs (**NIUA**) have signed an **MoU** to collaborate on a jointly designed 'Sustainable Cities India program'.