

GUPTA

CLASSES

Current Affairs

March-2022

English

Part-3



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Explanation:

CRISIL Ratings Limited, a domestic rating agency and a subsidiary of CRISIL Limited has **reiterated** its december 2021 forecast of **India's** Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) at **7.8%** for **FY23** despite the Russia-Ukraine war.

- i. CRISIL also highlighted that the average CPI based inflation will be at 5.4% in FY23 if the price of crude oil averages USD 85-90per barrel.
- ii. The higher price of crude oil will widen India's Current Account Deficit (CAD) to 2.2 % in FY23 (i.e.) \$10 increase in prices of crude oil increases the CAD to GDP ratio by about 40 basis points.

9. As per Bloomberg's data on Market capitalization (M-Cap) in March 2022, India ranked _____ with an overall M-Cap of USD 3.21 trillion while _____ tops the ranking with M-Cap of USD 47.32 trillion.

- 1) 3rd; US
- 2) 4th; China
- 3) 5th; US
- 4) 4th; UK
- 5) 5th; China

Answer- **3) 5th; US**

Explanation:

As per Bloomberg's recent data on Market capitalization, for the 1st time, India's equities market has entered the world's top 5 in terms of market capitalization. **India is ranked 5th** with an overall market capitalization of **USD 3.21 trillion**. India has climbed two positions, despite a 7.4% drop in its market cap.

- i. The **US tops** the ranking with an overall market cap of **USD 47.32 trillion**, followed by China (USD 11.52 trillion), Japan (USD 6 trillion) and Hong Kong (USD 5.55 trillion). The total world market cap stands at USD 109.22 trillion.
- ii. India's market cap has surpassed the United Kingdom (UK) ranked 6th with an M-Cap of USD 3.19 trillion.

10. In March 2022, Moody's Investors Service's Global Macro Outlook 2022-23 report decreased India's GDP growth forecast to _____ from an earlier projection of 9.5% for FY 22.

- 1) 9.2%
- 2) 8.9%
- 3) 9.1%
- 4) 8.8%
- 5) 9.0%

Answer- **3) 9.1%**

Explanation:

As per the **Global Macro Outlook 2022-23** report of **Moody's Investors Service**, it has lowered **India's GDP** (Gross Domestic Product) growth forecast for 2022 by 0.4 percent to **9.1%** from its earlier projection of 9.5%.

The growth forecast for 2023 was also lowered to 5.4% from the prior estimation of 5.5%.

11. In March 2022, Fitch declined its projection of India's GDP in the "Global Economic Outlook-March 2022" to _____ from 10.3% for FY23.

- 1) 8.5%
- 2) 7.9%
- 3) 9.6%
- 4) 8.9%
- 5) 9.9%

Answer- **1) 8.5%**

Explanation:

Rating agency Fitch in its 'Global economic Outlook-March 2022' declined India's growth forecast for FY23 (2022-2023) by 1.8 percentage points (pp) to **8.5%** from **10.3%** due to high energy prices amid Russia-Ukraine war.

On the other hand, for FY22, the agency has increased the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth by 0.6 pp to 8.7% from 8.1%. For 2023-24, it is estimated at 7 per cent.

12. Which company recently (in March'22) signed an agreement with SpaceX to resume the launch of satellites, which were struck due to Russia-Ukraine conflicts?

- 1) OneWeb
- 2) Telesat
- 3) Blue Origin
- 4) Viasat
- 5) Eutelsat

Answer- **1) OneWeb**

Explanation:

OneWeb, the low Earth orbit (LEO) satellite communications company of Bharti Enterprises and Other investors signed an **agreement** with **SpaceX** to resume the launch of satellites.

i. The first launch with SpaceX is expected in 2022 and will add to OneWeb's total in-orbit constellation that is currently at 428 satellites, or 66% of the fleet.

ii. The deal with SpaceX will allow OneWeb to complete its remaining satellite launches from Texas, United States (US), which were struck due to Russia-Ukraine conflicts.

13. In March'22, India's merchandise exports sector of India touched New Peak of _____ in FY22.

- 1) \$300 billion
- 2) \$100 billion
- 3) \$400 billion
- 4) \$200 billion
- 5) \$500 billion

Answer- **3) \$400 billion**

Explanation:

The merchandise exports sector of India successfully met the **\$400 billion** target which was set for 2021-22 (**FY22**), nine days ahead of schedule, which translated into a 37% increase over exports worth \$292 billion in FY21.

- i. The highest merchandise export of \$330 billion was achieved in FY19. It witnessed the fluctuations between \$250 billion and \$330 billion a year since FY11.
- ii. The services exports are also estimated to exceed the target of \$250 billion and the target for Services exports was to achieve \$206 billion in FY21 and \$225 billion for FY22.

14. As per the OECD's 'Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia, China and India (as of March 2022) retained India's real GDP at _____ in FY24.

- 1) 9.2%
- 2) 7.2%
- 3) 8.1%
- 4) 5.5%
- 5) 6.9%

Answer- **4) 5.5%**

Explanation:

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (**OECD**) in its 'Economic Outlook for Southeast Asia, China and India (Volume 2022 Issue I)' retained India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at **5.5%** in FY24, lower than 8.1% in 2022-23.

About Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD):

Secretary General- Mathias Cormann

Headquarters- Paris, France

15. Name the company that recently (in March'22) signed a cooperation agreement with Omnispace to provide 5G non-terrestrial network (NTN) satellite services.

- 1) Aeron Systems Private Ltd
- 2) Delta Communications Ltd
- 3) Gemini Communication Ltd
- 4) Nelco Ltd
- 5) Sagar Technology Private Ltd

Answer- **4) Nelco Ltd**

Explanation:

Omnispace, a pioneer in global communications services (based in United States) and **Nelco Limited**, a TATA Group company & a leading satellite communication (Satcom) service provider in India have signed a strategic cooperation agreement to enable and distribute **5G non-terrestrial network (NTN)**, direct-to-device satellite services.

i. Through this agreement, Omnispace emerged as the fifth Satcom operator actively waiting for the Indian market to provide satellite-based broadband connectivity.

ii. The four operators who already have an interest in the Indian market are: Elon Musk's Star Link, Canadian Telesat, Bharti-backed OneWeb, and Jio's partnership with SES.

16. As per the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)'s' Tapering in a Time of Conflict Report, India's GDP growth projected downward to _____ from 6.7% in 2022.

- 1) 6.2%
- 2) 5.5%

3) 4.6%

4) 5.2%

5) 3.7%

Answer- **3) 4.6%**

Explanation:

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (**UNCTAD**) in an update to its Trade and Development report published March 24, 2022 titled '**Tapering in a time of conflict**' has downgraded India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth for 2022 by -2.1% to **4.6%** from **6.7%** amid ongoing Ukraine-Russia War.

On the global front, it also declined the economic growth projection for 2022 by -1% to 2.6% from 3.6% .

17. As per the latest (in March'22) public debt management report by the Ministry of Finance, the Central Government's total liabilities increased to _____ in Q3FY22 from Rs 125.71 lakh crore in Q2FY22.

1) Rs 128.41 lakh crore

2) Rs. 126.98 lakh crore

3) Rs. 129.12 lakh crore

4) Rs. 130.32 lakh crore

5) Rs. 127.58 lakh crore

Answer- **1) Rs 128.41 lakh crore**

Explanation:

In accordance with the latest public debt management report by the Ministry of Finance, the Central Government's total liabilities **rose to Rs 128.41 lakh crore** in December quarter (**Q3FY22**) from Rs 125.71 lakh crore in Q2FY22.

i. This increase reflects a quarter-on-quarter increase of 2.15%.

ii. In absolute terms, the total liabilities, including liabilities under the 'Public Account' of the government, jumped to Rs 1,28,41,996 crore in Q3FY22 as compared to Rs 1,25,71,747 crore in Q2FY22.

18. In March 2022, ICRA decreased the forecast of India's GDP growth for FY23 to _____ from 8%.

1) 7.2%

2) 7.8%

3) 6.9%

4) 7.5%

5) 7.0%

Answer- **1) 7.2%**

Explanation:

The rating agency ICRA (formerly Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency of India Limited) **reduced** its forecast of the year-on-year (YoY) growth of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP at constant 2011-12 prices) by 0.8% in **FY23** to **7.2%** from **8%**. The K-shaped recovery is likely to continue.

i. The GDP expansion in FY22 is projected at 8.5% which is lower than the National Statistical Office's (NSO's) second advance estimate of 8.9%.

MoUs AND AGREEMENTS

1. Which state government recently (in Feb'22) signed a 2 MoU to establish a Dung-based Power Plants & Food Irradiation Facility?

- 1) Rajasthan
- 2) Chhattisgarh
- 3) Jharkhand
- 4) Madhya Pradesh
- 5) Maharashtra

Answer- **2) Chhattisgarh**

Explanation:

The government of **Chhattisgarh** signed two MoUs to boost the agricultural & rural economy.

i. The first agreement was signed between the Chhattisgarh Biofuel Development Authority (CBDA) and Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC), Trombay, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- To set up dung-based power plants in 'gauthans' where technical guidance will be provided by BARC.

ii. The second MoU was signed between Chhattisgarh Seed Corporation and the Board of Radiation and Isotope Technology (BRIT), Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) To set up the Food Irradiation Center in Chhattisgarh.

2. Which organization recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with Skyshade Daylights Pvt. Ltd to promote Start-up in Daylight Harvesting Technology?

- 1) Science and Engineering Research Board
- 2) Technology Development Board
- 3) Department of Energy
- 4) Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- 5) Department of Industry and Science

Answer- **2) Technology Development Board**

Explanation:

Technology Development Board (**TDB**), a statutory body under the Department of Science & Technology (DoS&T) in presence of Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology Dr Jitendra Singh signed an MoU with Skyshade Daylights Pvt. Ltd, Hyderabad, the only Start-up company in India for Daylight Harvesting Technologies.

i. The MoU was signed to promote possibly India's first Start-up in indigenously built latest Daylight Harvesting Technology to reduce carbon footprint and improve the building energy efficiency.

ii. Daylighting is basically bringing natural sunlight inside the rooms and also the solar energy spectrum has 45% energy as visible light that can be used to harvest building illumination for about 9-11 hours a day.

3. Which country recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with India on cooperation in the fields of science, technology and innovation?

- 1) Singapore
- 2) Indonesia
- 3) Sri Lanka
- 4) Japan
- 5) Bhutan

Answer- **1) Singapore**

Explanation:

An **MoU** on cooperation in the fields of Science, Technology and Innovation was signed between the Department of Science & Technology, Government of **India** and Ministry of Trade & Industry, Government of **Singapore**.

i. The MoU was signed during the inaugural event of **India – Singapore Technology Summit 2022**.

ii. This MoU will also encourage, develop and facilitate cooperation between India and Singapore in other fields like Agriculture, Food Science & Technology, Advanced Manufacturing & Engineering etc.

iii. This Memorandum will remain in effect for a period of **5 years** and will be automatically extended for a successive period of 5 years.

4. Which of the following organizations recently (in March'22) signed a tripartite MoU with the Ministry of Ayush to promote research and development?

- 1) Council of Scientific & Industrial Research
- 2) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
- 3) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 1 & 3

Answer- **4) Both 1 & 2**

Explanation:

Ministry of Ayush has signed a **tripartite MoU** with the Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (**CSIR**) and Indian Council of Agricultural Research (**ICAR**) for Inter-Ministerial co-operation for the promotion, and facilitation of research and development and to draw synergies to the medicinal plants and traditional agricultural practices of India.

i. The organizations will work in the different areas of agriculture including horti-floriculture, utilizing traditional food knowledge etc. and focus will be on ensuring food security and enhancing the livelihoods of the farmers.

ii. A Joint Working Group (JWG) will be formed involving officers from the Ministry of Ayush, ICAR, and CSIR for effective implementation of the MoU.

5. In which place India's first 100% women-owned 'FLO (FICCI Ladies Organisation) Industrial Park (FIP)' Inaugurated in March 2022?

- 1) Bangalore, Karnataka
- 2) Kolkata, West Bengal
- 3) Hyderabad, Telangana

4) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

5) Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Answer- **3) Hyderabad, Telangana**

Explanation:

India's **first 100 %** women-owned '**FLO** (FICCI Ladies Organization) Industrial Park (**FIP**)' in **Hyderabad, Telangana** is around 50 acres and was established by Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (**FICCI**) Ladies Organization (**FLO**) in **association** with **Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC)** with an investment of **Rs.250 crore**.

i. It was inaugurated with the commencement of operations by 25 women-owned and operated units representing 16 diverse Green Category Industries at the Park.

ii. It is the flagship project at a national level with participation open to Chapter Members, and the national members of FLO.

6. Which country recently signed an MoU with India and Nepal to implement BBIN Motor Vehicles Agreement to boost regional trade and people connectivity?

1) Brazil

2) Bangladesh

3) Belgium

4) Bahamas

5) Bhutan

Answer- **2) Bangladesh**

Explanation:

The nations of India, Bangladesh and Nepal finalized an enabling MoU for implementing the Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicles Agreement (MVA) during a meeting held in New Delhi

i. Bhutan was an observer and this MVA aims to boost regional trade and people-to-people connectivity by fostering greater sub-regional cooperation.

ii. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) provided technical and knowledge support to the meeting.

7. Which organisation recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with SASMOS to work together in the aerospace domain?

1) Bharat Dynamics Ltd

2) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd

3) Bharat Electronics Ltd

4) Indian Space Research Organisation

5) Defence Research and Development Organisation

Answer- **2) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd**

Explanation:

The Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**) has signed an **MoU** with **SASMOS**, Bengaluru-based company to work together in the field of advanced electronics, electrical and fibre optics interconnections in the aerospace domain. Naini Aerospace Limited (NAeL), a subsidiary of HAL was also a signatory to the MoU.

i. The MoU is aimed at exploring business cooperation, particularly in northern India, through utilization of capacity and capabilities of NAeL.

About Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL):

Chairman & MD – R. Madhavan

Establishment – 23 December 1940

Headquarters – Bengaluru, Karnataka

8. Name the country that recently (in March '22) signed an MoU with Adani Group of India to build two large power projects.

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

Answer- **3) Sri Lanka**

Explanation:

Adani Group of India signed an **MoU** with **Sri Lanka** for two large power projects in the Northern Province. In 2021, the group bagged a strategic port terminal project in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

i. The renewable power projects will be executed in two locations of Sri Lanka- Mannar, north-western coast, and Pooneryn, south of Jaffna Peninsula.

ii. Project aims to generate a combined capacity of 500 MW, at a cost of \$ 500 million.

iii. NTPC (Formerly National Thermal Power Corporation) of India and the Ceylon Electricity Board (CEB) of Sri Lanka also agreed to set up a 100 MW solar power project in Sampur, Sri Lanka.

iv. CEB also signed a Memorandum of Understanding with India's Adani Green Energy Ltd to develop a 500MW wind power project in Mannar but it was not announced yet.

9. Which company recently (in March '22) signed an MoU with the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) to construct 27 double-lane class 70 modular bridges in border areas?

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

Answer- **2) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd**

Explanation:

an **MoU** was inked between Border Roads Organisation (**BRO**) and Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (**GRSE**) worth around Rs 60 crore for fabrication, supply, erection and launching of **27** carriageway **double lane** galvanised modular bridges of 7.5 meters with Indian Road Congress (**IRC**) Load Class **70** in border areas.

i. These bridges could be launched within 45 days of handing over the site by the units.

ii. The IRC Load Class 70 classification enables these bridges to enhance the operational preparedness of the security forces in the forward areas.

10. Which organisation recently (in March'22) signed an agreement with the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) to strengthen decent work in the aviation industry?

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

Answer- 5) International Labour Organization

Explanation:

The International Labour Organization (**ILO**) and the International Civil Aviation Organization (**ICAO**) have signed a new agreement to boost decent work and reinforce a humanistic-based revival from the COVID-19 pandemic in the aviation industry. It has a five-year duration and is renewable.

i. This agreement will renew the 1953 MoU concerning the possible establishment of a joint aviation commission and acts as a follow-up to the request made by ILO constituents during the 2013 Global Dialogue Forum on the Effects of the Global Economic Crisis on the Civil Aviation Industry to refurbish cooperation between the two agencies.

11. Which company recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with Punjab Renewable Energy Systems Private Limited(PRESPL) to use agricultural waste as biomass in cement manufacturing operations?

- 1) Ambuja Cements
- 2) JSW Cement
- 3) Star Cement
- 4) JK Cement
- 5) Ramco Cement

Answer- 2) JSW Cement

Explanation:

JSW Cement signed an **MoU** with Punjab Renewable Energy Systems Private Limited (**PRESPL**) for the sustainable usage of agricultural waste as biomass energy in its cement manufacturing operations.

i. PRESPL is India's largest biomass aggregation and densification company.

ii. The PRESPL will facilitate the services of building a supply chain of agricultural waste that would be utilized as biomass energy in the clinkerization and grinding process of JSW Cement.

12. Name the company that recently (in March'22) signed a tripartite agreement with Eker Group of Norway and Vaan Moto of Kerala to produce speed boats.

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

Answer- 3) Hindustan Shipyard Ltd

Explanation:

Hindustan Shipyard Limited (**HSL**) has **signed** a tripartite **agreement** to produce speed boats with **Eker Group of Norway** and **Vaan Moto of Kerala** in order to explore new opportunities in the field of high-speed boat production and accelerate business growth.

i. The trio has entered into this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to build speed boats in India as part of India's AtmaNirbhar Bharat initiative, which aims to make the country self-sufficient.

ii. Under this MoU, high-end boats are to be built with smart, flexible solutions with superior maneuverability that can be operated from the shore up to a maximum speed of 75 knots with four crew and four passengers and is equipped with navigation and communication gadgets.

13. Which institute recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) for Drone-Based Mineral Exploration?

- 1) IIT Madras
- 2) IIT Kharagpur
- 3) IIT Hyderabad
- 4) IIT Indore
- 5) IIT Roorkee

Answer- **2) IIT Kharagpur**

Explanation:

India's largest iron ore manufacturer National Mineral Development Corporation (**NMDC**) Limited has inked an **MoU** for **Drone-Based Mineral Exploration** with Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) Kharagpur.

i. This partnership will produce spectral products, methodologies, and algorithms for mining exploration employing drones (UAVs), which will lead to the development of software spectral tools for mineral excavation and mining technology capacity-building programmes.

ii. With this collaboration, NMDC will become India's first Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) to perform Drone-based Geophysical Surveys and Hyperspectral Studies for Mineral Exploration, setting a new standard in the field of mineral exploration.

14. Which country recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with the Indian Potash limited (IPL) for Fertilizers Supply for 5 years?

- 1) Israel
- 2) UAE
- 3) Germany
- 4) Oman
- 5) Singapore

Answer- **1) Israel**

Explanation:

An MoU was inked between the Indian Potash limited (IPL), under Department of Fertilizers, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers; and **Israel** Chemicals Limited (ICL).

i. Under this, there will be supply of Muriate of Potash (MOP) from Israel to India for **5 years**, 2022 to 2027, with a yearly quantity of 6 to 6.5 LMT (Lakh Metric Tonnes).

ii. It should be noted that ICL is working with IPL in operating a project titled 'Potash for Life focused on achieving higher fertilizer use efficiency' to increase the income of farmers.

15. Which organisation recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with One Health, global alliance to Advance Humans, Ecosystem and Animals Health?

- 1) UNESCO
- 2) World Health Organization
- 3) world bank
- 4) UN-HABITAT
- 5) United Nations Environment Programme

Answer- **5) United Nations Environment Programme**

Explanation:

United Nations Environment Programme (**UNEP**) under the Executive Directorship of Inger Andersen, has signed the **MoU** with the tripartite partnership for One Health, bringing together the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), the World Health Organisation (WHO) and the World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE), formally the Quadripartite partnership at its annual executive meeting held on 18 March 2022 at Nairobi, Kenya.

i. The UNEP will offer the expertise required to tackle the ecological dimension of human and animal health.

16. Which Organisation recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with the Tata Steel & also signed an LoI with BASF Chemicals India for Scientific Cooperation & Partnerships?

- 1) Indo-German Science and Technology Centre
- 2) International Science and Technology Center
- 3) Council Of Scientific And Industrial Research
- 4) Industrial Research Institute
- 5) Central Agricultural Research Institute

Answer- **1) Indo-German Science and Technology Centre**

Explanation:

Indo-German Science and Technology Centre (**IGSTC**) signed an **MoU** and Letter of Intent (**LoI**) with **Tata Steel Ltd** and Mumbai (Maharashtra)-based BASF Chemicals India Pvt Ltd (BASF), respectively.

i. IGSTC has been established by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Govt of India, and the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF).

IGSTC's MoU with Tata Steel Ltd:

Under this MoU, there will be a joint collaborative Research & Innovation (R&I) framework to facilitate new technologies development, conduct thought leadership workshops, and support human capital development.

IGSTC's LoI with BASF:

This partnership will foster Science and Technology led innovations through Indo-German R&D networking, and research in PPP (Public Private Partnership) mode.

17. Which of the following companies are recently (in March'22) signed a tripartite agreement with the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD) to Promote Yak Dairy Enterprise in Nepal?

- 1) Surketham Dairy Cooperative Ltd
- 2) Gujarat Dairy Development Corporation Ltd
- 3) Nepal Dairy Private Ltd
- 4) Only 1 & 2
- 5) Only 1 & 3

Answer- 5) Only 1 & 3

Explanation:

A tripartite agreement was signed between the International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (**ICIMOD**), Surketham Dairy Cooperative Limited (**SDCL**), and Nepal Dairy Pvt. Ltd (**NDPL**). It will promote yak dairy enterprise to sustain the age-old yak herding culture in the highlands of Eastern Nepal.

i. They will collaborate in processing, product diversification, and market linkages for yak products.

18. Which state government recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER) as Knowledge Partner for Medical Devices Park?

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

Answer- 3) Himachal Pradesh

Explanation:

Government of **Himachal Pradesh** (HP) signed an MoU with National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research (NIPER), Mohali as Knowledge Partner for upcoming Medical Devices Park, Nalagarh in Solan, HP.

i. The approval for MoU was given by the Board of Members from the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

ii. The HP State Planning Department sanctioned Rs. 74.95 crore to the HPSIDC for development of the Medical Park.

19. The Ministry of Ayush recently (in March'22) signed an agreement with the World Health Organization (WHO) to set up the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (WHO-GCTM) in _____, Gujarat.

- 1) Rajkot
- 2) Vadodara
- 3) Gandhinagar
- 4) Ahmedabad
- 5) Jamnagar

Answer- 5) Jamnagar

Explanation:

The Ministry of Ayush (**MoA**), Government of India signed an agreement with the World Health Organization (**WHO**) to set up the Global Centre for Traditional Medicine (**WHO-GCTM**) in **Jamnagar**, Gujarat.

- i. The onsite launch of the new WHO -GCTM will take place on April 21, 2022.
- ii. The Government of India invested USD 250 million in the GCTM.

About World Health Organization (WHO):

Director-General- Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland

Founded- 1948

20. Which company recently (in March'22) signed an agreement with Sri Lanka's Navy to build a floating dock?

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

Answer- 2) Goa shipyard Ltd

Explanation:

In a significant development of India-Sri Lanka bilateral ties, the Goa shipyard Limited inks an agreement with the Government of Sri Lanka to build a Floating Dock with the valuation of \$ 20 Million.

- i. The Floating dock will be established at the Trincomalee Naval DockYard, Sri Lanka within a span of 30 months as a grant from India.
- ii. At present the Sri Lankan Navy's dry docks can only facilitate the underwater repairs and services of vessels and boats that weigh less than 350 tonnes.

About Goa Shipyard Limited:

Headquarters – Vasco da Gama, Goa

Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) – Cmde Bharat Bhushan Nagpal

21. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and UAE in March 2022?

- A) India-UAE CEPA is the first full free trade Agreement to be signed by India with any country in the past decade.**
 - B) It was signed with a view to boost bilateral trade to USD 100 billion over a 5-year period and creation of lakhs of jobs.**
 - C) The Leaders also agreed to set up an India – UAE Cultural Council to facilitate and promote cross- cultural exchanges, cultural projects and exhibitions.**
- 1) All A, B & C
 - 2) Only A & B
 - 3) Only B & C
 - 4) Only A
 - 5) Only B

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

Explanation:

India-UAE CEPA is the **first full free trade** Agreement to be signed by India with any country in the past decade.

- i.** It was signed with a view to boost bilateral trade to **USD 100 billion** over a **5-year period** and creation of lakhs of jobs.
- ii.** The Leaders also agreed to set up an India – UAE Cultural Council to facilitate and promote cross- cultural exchanges, cultural projects and exhibitions.
- iii.** The minister visited UAE to participate in ‘Investopia Summit’ on March 28, 2022 and ‘World Government Summit’ on March 29, 2022, both venues at Dubai.

22. Which of the following companies that recently (in March’22) signed an MoU to conduct a joint study on Sustainable Aviation Fuels (SAF) in India along with Groupe ADP and GMR Airports?

- 1) Airbus
- 2) Axens
- 3) Safran
- 4) Only 1 & 2
- 5) Only 1, 2 & 3

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

Explanation:

Airport operators Groupe ADP and GMR Airports together with Airbus, Axens and Safran have signed an MoU to conduct a joint study on Sustainable Aviation Fuels (**SAF**) and their potential in India.

- i.** The objective of the study is to understand and evaluate the demand, the challenges and opportunities of supply, infrastructure, and fueling, as well as to prepare a business case for SAF production and use in India for all kinds of aviation purposes.
- ii.** SAF is a biofuel produced from sustainable resources such as waste oils from a biological origin, agriculture residues, municipal solid wastes or algae, rather than being refined from petroleum.

23. Name the company that recently (in March’22) signed a contract with the Ministry of Defence to purchase two Multi-Purpose Vessels (MPVs) for the Indian Navy with an outlay of Rs.887 crore.

- 1) Mishra Dhatu Nigam Ltd
- 2) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd
- 3) Larsen and Toubro Ltd
- 4) Hindustan Shipyard Ltd
- 5) Cochin Shipyard Ltd

Answer- **3) Larsen and Toubro Ltd**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Defence (**MoD**) has signed a contract with **Larsen and Toubro (L & T) Limited** to purchase two Multi-Purpose Vessels (**MPVs**) for the Indian Navy at a total cost of Rs.887 Crore under the “Buy-Indian” Category.

i. The MPVs will be the first of their kind, constructed to provide a cost-effective solution to meet a variety of requirements of the Indian Navy.

ii. The vessels will be built at L & T shipyard in Kattupally (Chennai), with deliveries starting in May 2025 and these MPVs will be capable of towing ships and providing Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) support.

About Larsen and Toubro (L & T) Limited:

MD & CEO – S. N. Subrahmanyam

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

24. Which country recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with India to jointly explore Lithium and Cobalt mineral resources?

- 1) Australia
- 2) New Zealand
- 3) Germany
- 4) Indonesia
- 5) Singapore

Answer- **1) Australia**

Explanation:

The Government of **India** and **Australia** has committed to invest USD 6 million jointly to explore Lithium and Cobalt mines in Australia in the next six months.

The MoU includes building an Australia-India partnership in the critical mineral ecosystem; development of a robust and commercially-viable critical mineral supply chain to support sustainable production; and ensuring reliable supplies of the materials needed to fuel sectors such as transport, energy, telecommunications, medicine, aviation and defence.

25. Which state government recently (in March'22) signed an MoU with the LuLu group to implement Rs. 3,500 crores projects?

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

Answer- **1) Tamil Nadu**

Explanation:

The **Tamil Nadu** government has inked an **MoU** with the **LuLu Group** of the United Arab Emirates (**UAE**) in Abu Dhabi to implement three major projects worth Rs. 3,500 crores in Tamil Nadu.

i. The investment is to set up shopping malls, hypermarkets and a food-logistic park in Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu signed various MoUs with investors to attract ₹6,100 crore investment during the five-day visit to the UAE.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1. In February 2022, _____ became the 1st Woman to be appointed as the chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for the period of 3years.

- 1) Sharmistha Dubey
- 2) Sonia Syngal
- 3) Madhabi Puri Buch
- 4) Rekha Sharma
- 5) V. Mohini Giri

Answer- 3) Madhabi Puri Buch

Explanation:

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of **Madhabi Puri Buch** as the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) **chairman** for an initial period of three years from 1st March 2022.

- i. She will be the 1st woman to head the SEBI, securities market regulator and she is also the 1st person from the private sector to head SEBI and also 1st non-IAS to be appointed as the SEBI chairman.
- ii. She will be the 10th chair of the board. She succeeds Ajay Tyagi, who served as a chairman for 5 years. His tenure ends on 28th February 2022.

2. Who recently (in Feb'22) got appointed as the Vice President of the operation side of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA)?

- 1) Faisal Chaudhary
- 2) Pradip Shah
- 3) Junaid Kamal Ahmad
- 4) Fakhruddin Ahmed
- 5) Khorshed Alam

Answer- 3) Junaid Kamal Ahmad

Explanation:

The World Bank's India head and a Bangladeshi economist, **Junaid Kamal Ahmad** was appointed as a **Vice President** of the **operation side** of the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (**MIGA**), which offers political risk insurance, credit enhancement guarantees to help developing countries.

- i. He would assume the new charge from April 16, 2022.
- ii. He is the current World Bank country director for India.

3. Who recently (in Feb'22) got appointed as the new CEO & President of the National e-Governance Division (NeGD)?

- 1) Abhishek Singh
- 2) Anjali Khanna
- 3) Vinay Singh
- 4) Debabrata Nayak
- 5) Vandana Srivastava

Answer- **1) Abhishek Singh**

Explanation:

Digital India Corporation Chief Executive Officer (CEO), **Abhishek Singh** appointed as new **CEO & President** of National e-Governance Division (**NeGD**), Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY).

i. Abhishek Singh will continue to hold the post of Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer, Digital India Corporation.

About National e-Governance Division (NeGD):

Established- 2009

Headquarters- New Delhi

4. In February 2022, Ashneer Grover resigned as the MD and director of the board of which of the following Company?

- 1) PhonePe
- 2) Cashfree
- 3) Razorpay
- 4) BharatPe
- 5) Paytm

Answer- **4) BharatPe**

Explanation:

Ashneer Grover, co-founder and Managing Director (MD) of BharatPe, a leading Indian fintech company, has **resigned** as the **MD and director of the board** of **BharatPe**.

i. Ashneer Grover, who owns a 9.5% stake worth Rs 1915 crore in BharatPe, will continue as the single largest individual shareholder of the company.

Note- BharatPe became the 19th Indian startup to become a unicorn in 2021.

5. Who recently (in Feb'22) got appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Maharashtra by succeeding Debashish Chakrabarty?

- 1) Jairaj Pathak
- 2) Bhushan Gagrani
- 3) Manu Kumar Srivastava
- 4) Sitaram Kunte
- 5) Abha Shukla

Answer- **3) Manu Kumar Srivastava**

Explanation:

Manu Kumar Srivastava was appointed as the new **Chief Secretary** of **Maharashtra**. The appointment was approved by Uddhav Thackeray, Chief Minister (CM) of Maharashtra.

i. He succeeded Debashish Chakrabarty who retired on 28 February 2022.

ii. Prior to this appointment, He was serving as the Additional Chief Secretary (Home) of Maharashtra.

6. Who recently (in March'22) got appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of LIC Mutual Fund Asset Management?

- 1) Amit Pandit

- 2) Ashok Paranjpe
- 3) Dinesh Pangtey
- 4) Thomas Panamthanath
- 5) TS Ramakrishnan

Answer- **5) TS Ramakrishnan**

Explanation:

LIC (Life Insurance Corporation) Mutual Fund Asset Management Limited appointed **TS Ramakrishnan** as its Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer.

i. He will succeed Dinesh Pangtey, its former Whole time Director and CEO.

About LIC (Life Insurance Corporation) Mutual Fund Asset Management Limited : Nominee Director- Bishnu Charan Patnaik

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

7. Name the education company that recently (in March'22) appointed Amitabh Bachchan as its Brand Ambassador.

- 1) UpGrad
- 2) Dexler Education
- 3) IGNOU
- 4) BYJU's
- 5) Simplilearn

Answer- **1) UpGrad**

Explanation:

India's online higher education company, **UpGrad**, ropes in legendary actor **Amitabh Bachchan** as its **Brand Ambassador**.

i. He will support upGrad's brand value through endorsements and promotions of services to emphasize the importance of LifeLongLearning for progressive career growth.

About UpGrad:

CEO(India) – Arjun Mohan

Headquarter – Mumbai, Maharashtra

Established – 2015

8. Who recently (in March'22) got appointed as the “brand ambassador” of Bharti AXA Life Insurance?

- 1) Vidya Balan
- 2) Katrina Kaif
- 3) Deepika Padukone
- 4) Alia Bhatt
- 5) Kareena Kapoor

Answer- **1) Vidya Balan**

Explanation:

Bharti AXA Life Insurance, appointed National Award winning actress **Vidya Balan** as its **Brand Ambassador**.

i. Bharti AXA Life Insurance is a joint venture of Bharti, India's leading business groups and AXA, one of the world's leading organizations in financial protection and wealth management.

About Bharti AXA Life Insurance:

MD & CEO- Parag Raja

Commenced operation- 2006

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

9. Who recently (in March'22) got appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Jet Airways by the Jalan-Kalrock Consortium (JKC)?

- 1) Vinay Dube
- 2) Naresh Goyal
- 3) Amit Agarwal
- 4) Sanjiv Kapoor
- 5) Rahul Taneja

Answer- 4) Sanjiv Kapoor

Explanation:

The new holders of **Jet Airways** (India) Limited, the Jalan-Kalrock Consortium (**JKC**), appointed **Sanjiv Kapoor** as the Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of the airline, effective from **April 4, 2022**.

i. He is currently serving as the President of Oberoi Hotels & Resorts since June 1, 2021.

ii. New Promoters of Jet Airways: Jalan-Kalrock Consortium (JKC) led by Murari Lal Jalan, lead member of the consortium, proposed promoter and Non-Executive Chairman of Jet Airways & Kalrock Capital.

About Jet Airways:

Founder: Naresh Goyal

Establishment: 1992

Headquarters: New Delhi

10. Who recently (in March'22) got appointed as the "Chairperson of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT)" for the period of 4years?

- 1) Ravi Shankar Jha
- 2) Raghvendra Singh Chauhan
- 3) Sanjay Karol
- 4) Ravi Ranjan
- 5) Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel

Answer- 5) Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel

Explanation:

The Central Govt. has appointed Justice **Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel**, Chief Justice of Delhi High Court, as the Chairperson of Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (**TDSAT**) for the period of **4years**.

i. The Ministry of Law and Justice issued a notification regarding the approval of his appointment by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**).

About Telecom Disputes Settlement and Appellate Tribunal (TDSAT):

Created in accordance with the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India Act (TRAI), 1997 (Amended in 2000) authorized by TRAI.

Establishment: 2000

Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi (NCT)

11. Who recently (in March'22) got appointed as the Deputy Managing Director (DMD) of digital banking of SBI for 3years?

- 1) Sanjay Agarwal
- 2) Govind Singh
- 3) Ittira Davis
- 4) Nitin Chugh
- 5) Prabodh Parikh

Answer- **4) Nitin Chugh**

Explanation:

State Bank of India (SBI) has appointed **Nitin Chugh** as its Group Head of Digital Banking at the level of Deputy Managing Director (DMD) for a period of **3 years initially**.

i. He was formerly the Group Head of Digital Banking at HDFC (2001-2019) and MD & CEO of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (2019-2021) from where he resigned citing personal reasons in September 2021.

About SBI:

Chairperson: Dinesh Kumar Khara

Tagline: "Pure Banking, Nothing Else"

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra

Establishment: July 1, 1955 as SBI

12. Who was recently (in March'22) appointed as the Brand Ambassador for its Women's Cardiovascular Health Awareness Initiative - 'Shakti Campaign' by Lupin Limited?

- 1) Mirabai Chanu
- 2) Lovlina Borgohain
- 3) Mary Kom
- 4) Saina Nehwal
- 5) PV Sindhu

Answer- **3) Mary Kom**

Explanation:

Mary Kom, the six-time World Boxing Champion signed with **Lupin Ltd.**, as the **Brand Ambassador** for its Women's Cardiovascular Health Awareness Initiative - '**Shakti Campaign**'.

Objective:

To increase awareness on heart diseases among women as coronary heart diseases are the leading cause of death for women in India and yet awareness levels on the issue remain inadequately low.

13. Who recently (in March'22) became the new president of South Korea?

- 1) Yoon Suk-yeol
- 2) Lee Jae-myung
- 3) Moon Jae-in
- 4) Kim Jae-yeon
- 5) Oh Jun-ho

Answer- **1) Yoon Suk-yeol**

Explanation:

The leader of People Power Party (conservative party), **Yoon Suk-yeol** won the presidential election 2022 of South Korea. He succeeded Moon Jae-in, previous President of South Korea. He is scheduled to assume office as president on May 10, 2022.

i. Yoon Suk-yeol is a South Korean politician, former public prosecutor and lawyer. He served as Prosecutor General of South Korea in 2019- 2021 under the tenure of President Moon Jae-in.

14. Name the Indian Cricketer who was recently (in March'22) appointed as the “brand ambassador” of D2H.

- 1) Shreyas Iyer
- 2) Rohit Sharma
- 3) KL Rahul
- 4) Rishabh Pant
- 5) Ravichandran Ashwin

Answer- **4) Rishabh Pant**

Explanation:

D2H, a Direct-to-Home (DTH) brand of Dish TV India Limited has signed Indian cricketer **Rishabh Pant** as its new brand ambassador. As the brand ambassador, he will feature in the 360-degree brand communication for the next 2 years.

i. Dish TV India Limited is a DTH company with brands like Dish TV, Zing and D2H under its ownership.

ii. Shah Rukh Khan is the brand ambassador of the parent company Dish TV India Limited.

15. Who recently (in March'22) got appointed as the Chairperson of the National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) for a period of three years?

- 1) Jai Krishan Singh
- 2) Amit Kumar Jain
- 3) Ashok Kumar Gupta
- 4) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- 5) Rakesh Bhanot

Answer- **4) Ajay Bhushan Pandey**

Explanation:

The Government of India has appointed **Ajay Bhushan Pandey**, former Finance & Revenue secretary of India, Ministry of Finance, as new **Chairperson** of the National Financial Reporting Authority (**NFRA**) for a period of **three years** from the date of assumption of charge or till he attains the age of 65 years.

The ACC has **also** appointed **2 full-time** members for **NFRA**,

- **Praveen Kumar Tiwari**, former Deputy Comptroller and Auditor General, a retired Indian Audit and Accounts Service official.
- **Smita Jhingran**, Principal Director General at Central Board of Direct Taxes, an Indian Revenue Service officer.

16. Who recently (in March'22) got appointed as the Acting Chief Justice of Delhi High Court (HC)?

- 1) Rajesh Bindal
- 2) Munishwar Nath Bhandari
- 3) Vipin Sanghi
- 4) Aravind Kumar
- 5) Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel

Answer- **3) Vipin Sanghi**

Explanation:

The President of India has appointed **Justice Vipin Sanghi**, the senior-most Judge of the Delhi High Court (**HC**) as its **Acting Chief Justice** according to **Article 223** of the Constitution of India. The Department of Justice, Ministry of Law and Justice (MoL&J) issued a notification about his appointment on March 11, 2022.

i. The incumbent Chief Justice of Delhi HC, Justice **Dhirubhai Naranbhai Patel** retires on his 62nd birthday i.e March 12, 2022.

ii. Justice Vipin Sanghi will perform the duties of the office of the Chief Justice of Delhi High Court with effect from March 13, 2022.

17. Who recently (in March '22) was appointed as the chairperson of the High-Powered Committee of the Chardham Project?

- 1) Ravi Chopra
- 2) AK Sikri
- 3) Ashok Bhushan
- 4) Shiva Kirti Singh
- 5) Madan Lokur

Answer- **2) AK Sikri**

Explanation:

Justice **AK Sikri**, former judge of the Supreme Court (SC) was appointed as the Chairman of the **high-powered committee** which constituted to consider the cumulative and independent impact of the CharDham Mahamarg Vikas Pariyojana (**Char Dham Highway Development Project**). He succeeded Professor Ravi Chopra who resigned recently from this post.

i. Prior to this appointment, Justice Sikri served as the head of the "Oversight Committee" to oversee the implementation of the Char Dham project.

ii. The project included construction of 900 km roads to provide all weather connectivity to four holy towns located in Uttarakhand-Yamunotri, Gangotri, Kedarnath and Badrinath.

18. Who was recently (in March'22) appointed as the Chairman of Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for 3years?

- 1) Debasish Panda
- 2) Siddharth Singh
- 3) Subhash Chandra Khuntia
- 4) V S Narendra Chandra
- 5) Bhaskar Roy

Answer- **1) Debasish Panda**

Explanation:

The government appointed **Debasish Panda** as the **Chairman** of Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**). He will serve for the tenure for three years (2022-2025). Debasish Panda will succeed Subhash Chandra Khuntia, who completed his term in May 2021.

i. The appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**).

About Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI):

It is a statutory organization established by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999.

Founded- 1999

Headquarters- Hyderabad

19. Who became the first Singaporean to be appointed as the President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) for 2 years?

- 1) N. Ravi Rajan
- 2) Nandan Nilekani
- 3) T. Raja Kumar
- 4) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- 5) James Sassoon

Answer- **3) T. Raja Kumar**

Explanation:

The Financial Action Task Force (**FATF**) appointed **T. Raja Kumar** of Singapore as the President. He was appointed for the term of 2 years, which starts from 1 July 2022 to 2024. He succeeded Dr Marcus Pleyer of Germany. This is the **first time Singapore** is taking charge of the FATF presidency.

i. The decision regarding his appointment was taken during the FATF Plenary meeting that was held from March 1 to 4, 2022.

ii. T. Raja Kumar is a Singaporean administrator who serves as a senior advisor (international) at the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

20. Tapan Singhel gets a _____ year extension as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance with effect from 1st April 2022.

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

Answer- **4) 5 years**

Explanation:

Tapan Singhel, the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Limited gets a 5-year extension in his term with effect from 1st April 2022.

i. Tapan Singhel is the 1st MD and CEO to receive 2 consecutive extensions at the Bajaj Allianz General Insurance.

ii. He has been serving as the MD & CEO of Bajaj Allianz General Insurance for 10 years since 2012.

21. Which of the following cricketers was recently (in March'22) appointed as the brand ambassadors for My11Circle by Games24x7?

- 1) Shubman Gill
- 2) Ruturaj Gaikwad
- 3) Devdutt Padikkal
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **4) Both 1 & 2**

Explanation:

Games24x7(Games24x7 Private Limited), India's leading digital skill games company, has appointed Indian cricketers **Shubman Gill** and **Ruturaj Gaikwad** as its new **brand ambassadors** for its **My11 Circle** fantasy gaming platform.

My11Circle:

- i. My11Circle is a platform that offers access to people around the country to deeply engage with their favourite sport.
- ii. My11Circle is also the official title sponsor of the new Indian Premier League (IPL) team Lucknow Super Giants.

22. Who was recently (in March '22) appointed as the Chairman of Air India?

- 1) Cyrus Mistry
- 2) T. V. Narendran
- 3) Rajesh Gopinathan
- 4) N Chandrasekaran
- 5) Ilker Ayci

Answer- **4) N Chandrasekaran**

Explanation:

The board of Air India has appointed Natarajan Chandrasekaran (**N Chandrasekaran**), Chairman of the Board of Tata Sons Private Limited (Tata Sons), as the **Chairman of Air India**.

i. At present, 3 executive directors who were appointed by the government when Air India was under the control of the Government of India are still serving on the board of Air India.

Air India CEO & MD:

- Tata Sons is yet to appoint the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) for Air India.
- In February 2022, Air India appointed Ilker Ayci, former Chairman of Turkish Airlines as the CEO & MD of Air India. He was set to assume his responsibilities on or before 1 st April 2022.
- On 1st March 2022, Ilker Ayci declined Tata Sons' offer to be CEO & MD of Air India.

23. Ashwani Bhatia was recently (in March '22) appointed as a whole-time member of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for 3 years.

Ashwani Bhatia is the Managing Director (MD) of _____ Bank.

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

Answer- 1) State Bank of India

Explanation:

The Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) has approved the **appointment of Ashwani Bhatia**, Managing Director (MD) (Corporate Banking & Global Markets) of State Bank of India (SBI), as the whole-time member (WTM) of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for a period of 3 years from the date of assumption of charge of the post, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

i. The other two whole time members on the board of SEBI are SK Mohanty and Ananta Barua.

24. In March 2022, Who took oath as the Chief Minister of Punjab?

- 1) Beant Singh
- 2) Parkash Singh Badal
- 3) Bhagwant Singh Mann
- 4) Amarinder Singh
- 5) Charanjit Singh Channi

Answer- 3) Bhagwant Singh Mann

Explanation:

The Leader of Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), **Bhagwant Singh Mann**, was sworn in as the Punjab Chief Minister (CM) & the oath of office and secrecy was administered by Punjab Governor Banwarilal Purohit to Bhagwant Mann.

i. The AAP in Punjab won 92 seats out of 117 seats in the Punjab Assembly elections 2022.

ii. Bhagwant Singh Mann is a former Member of Parliament (MP) in Lok Sabha and represented Sangrur constituency, Punjab.

25. Who became the 1st ever female President of Hungary?

- 1) Magdalena Andersson
- 2) Sandra Mason
- 3) Xiomara Castro
- 4) Najla Bouden
- 5) Katalin Novak

Answer- 5) Katalin Novak

Explanation:

The Hungarian National Assembly (Hungarian parliament) has elected the ruling Fidesz Party lawmaker, **Katalin Novak**, as Republic of Hungary's **first-ever female President**. By winning the election, she has become Hungary's youngest ever head of state, at the age of 44.

- i. She received 137 votes (a 2/3rd majority) against her opposition rival, Peter Rona, an economist, who received 52 votes.
- ii. Novak will hold the Presidency for a tenure of five years, during which she has the power to temporarily block laws and call referendums.
- iii. Earlier, she served as the Vice President of Prime Minister Viktor Orbán's Fidesz party and also as a Minister for Family Affairs.
- She will replace her predecessor, Janos Ader, who's term of office ends on May 10. Janos Ader has been holding the presidency since 2012 and was also a co-founder of the Fidesz Party.

26. Who was recently (in March'22) selected as the next Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Oil India Limited (OIL)?

- 1) Amar Nath
- 2) Ranjit Rath
- 3) S Manoharan
- 4) Harish Madhav
- 5) Rohit Mathur

Answer- **2) Ranjit Rath**

Explanation:

Public Enterprises Selection Board (**PESB**) has selected Geoscientist **Ranjit Rath** as the next Chairman and Managing Director (**CMD**) of **Oil India Limited (OIL)**. He is currently serving as the CMD of Mineral Exploration Corporation Ltd (MECL).

- i. Sushil Chandra Mishra, the current CMD of OIL will superannuate on 30th June 2022.

27. Match the following MD & CEO of certain Public sector undertakings Banks that was recommended by Banks Board Bureau (BBB) in March 2022.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------|
| i. Union Bank of India | a. Swaroop Kumar Saha |
| ii. Indian Overseas Bank | b. Alok Kumar Choudhary |
| iii. Punjab and Sind Bank | c. A Manimekhalai |
| iv. State Bank of India (MD only) | d. Ajay Kumar Srivastava |

- 1) i-c, ii-d, iii-a, iv-b
- 2) i-b, ii-d, iii-a, iv-c
- 3) i-a, ii-b, iii-c, iv-d
- 4) i-b, ii-d, iii-c, iv-a
- 5) i-a, ii-d, iii-c, iv-b

Answer- **1) i-c, ii-d, iii-a, iv-b**

Explanation:

i. A Manimekhalai, Executive Director of the Canara Bank, has been recommended for the post of MD & CEO of **UBI**.

ii. Ajay Kumar Srivastava, Executive Director of IOB has been recommended for the post of MD & CEO of **IOB**.

iii. Swaroop Kumar Saha, Executive Director of Punjab National Bank(PNB) has been recommended for the position of MD & CEO of the Punjab and Sind Bank (**PSB**).

iv. Alok Kumar Choudhary, the Deputy Managing Director(Finance) of SBI has been recommended for the position of **Managing Director at SBI**.

28. Who recently (in March '22) was appointed as the Chairperson of the CII Southern Region for 2022-23?

- 1) B Santhanam
- 2) Geemon Korah
- 3) C.K. Ranganathan
- 4) Suchitra K Ella
- 5) Kamal Bali

Answer- **4) Suchitra K Ella**

Explanation:

The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)-southern region appointed **Suchitra K Ella** as the **Chairperson** for the year 2022-23.

i. CII also appointed **Kamal Bali** as the **Deputy Chairman**.

About Suchitra K Ella:

- i. She is a co-founder and joint Managing Director of Bharat Biotech International Ltd.
- ii. She was also the founding chairperson of the CII Indian Women Network (southern region) in 2015-18.

About Kamal Bali:

- i. He is the President and Managing Director of Volvo Group India.

29. In March 2022, RBI approved the extension of Rajeev Ahuja, interim MD and CEO of RBL Bank, for _____.

- 1) 3 Months
- 2) 1 Year
- 3) 6 Months
- 4) 8 Months
- 5) 2 Years

Answer- **1) 3 Months**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has approved the extension of **Rajeev Ahuja's term** as interim Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of **RBL Bank** for another **three months** w.e.f from 25 March, 2022 or till the appointment of a regular MD & CEO, whichever is earlier.

About RBL Bank:

Headquarters-Mumbai, Maharashtra

Founded- 1943

Tagline - "Apno Ka Bank"

30. In March 2022, The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) extended the tenure of Jay Shah as the President of ACC until _____.

- 1) 2027
- 2) 2025
- 3) 2024
- 4) 2026
- 5) 2023

Answer- **3) 2024**

Explanation:

The Asian Cricket Council (**ACC**) extended the **tenure** of **Jay Shah** as **ACC President**, its Executive Board and Committees until **2024**. The decision was taken by ACC AGM in Colombo, Sri Lanka.

i. He was unanimously elected as the President of the ACC on 30 January 2021. He succeeded Najmul Hasan Papon, Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB) chief.

ii. The ACC also appointed Pankaj Khimji, as the Vice President and Mahinda Vallipuram as Chairman of the Development Committee.

31. Who was recently (in March) named as a member of the UN's Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism?

- 1) Deepak Nayyar
- 2) Jayati Ghosh
- 3) Arvind Panagariya
- 4) Kalpana Kochhar
- 5) Kaushik Basu

Answer- **2) Jayati Ghosh**

Explanation:

United Nations (**UN**) Secretary General Antonio Guterres has appointed **Jayati Ghosh**, an Indian development economist, to a new **12-member high-level Advisory Board** on Effective Multilateralism in the UN.

i. The Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism will be co-chaired by Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, former Liberian President and Nobel laureate, and Stefan Lofven, former Swedish Prime Minister.

ii. The new advisory board will be tasked with building on the ideas in 'Our Common Agenda

32. Who was appointed as the Chief Minister (CM) of Manipur for the 2nd consecutive term?

- 1) Rishang Keishing
- 2) N Biren Singh
- 3) Radhabinod Koijam
- 4) Okram Ibobi Singh
- 5) R Jaichandra Singh

Answer- **2) N Biren Singh**

Explanation:

Nongthombam (N) Biren Singh, sworn in as the Chief Minister (**CM**) of **Manipur** for the **second** consecutive term. The oath of office was administered by Manipur Governor La Ganesan at the Raj Bhawan in Imphal, Manipur. He is the 12th CM of Manipur (Excluding Repetition).

i. N Biren Singh was elected from the Heingang seat for the record fifth time, in the recently concluded 12th Manipur assembly elections. BJP won 32 seats in the 60-member house.

ii. In 2017, Biren Singh won the elections and became the first BJP chief minister of Manipur.

33. Who recently (in March'22) became the new President of Turkmenistan?

- 1) Serdar Berdimuhamedow
- 2) Saparmurat Niyazov

- 3) Han Ahmedow
- 4) Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow
- 5) Chary Karriyev

Answer- **1) Serdar Berdimuhamedow**

Explanation:

Serdar Berdimuhamedow was sworn in as the **new President** of **Turkmenistan** by securing nearly 72.97% of the votes and taking the oath of office at a ceremony at Rukhiyet Palace in the capital, Ashgabat.

- i. He took over from his father, Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedow, the outgoing President, who was re-elected with almost 97% of the votes in 2017. He will continue to lead the country's upper house of Parliament.
- ii. Previously, he served as Minister of Industry and Construction Operations, deputy Governor of the Central Ahal Region, and Deputy Foreign Minister.

About Turkmenistan:

Capital – Ashgabat

Currency – Manat

34. Who was recently (in March'22) reappointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) for 5 years?

- 1) Aarthi Subramanian
- 2) Pradeep Kumar Khosla
- 3) Rajesh Gopinathan
- 4) Cyrus Mistry
- 5) Ganapathy Subramaniam

Answer- **3) Rajesh Gopinathan**

Explanation:

Rajesh Gopinathan has been reappointed as the Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of Tata Consultancy Services (**TCS**), a global leader in information technology (IT) services and a subsidiary of the Tata Group, for **5 years**, from 21st February 2022 to 20th February 2027.

35. Who recently (in March'22) became the 11th Chief Minister of Uttarakhand?

- 1) Pushkar Singh Dhama
- 2) Harish Rawat
- 3) Tirath Singh Rawat
- 4) Vijay Bahuguna
- 5) N. D. Tiwari

Answer- **1) Pushkar Singh Dhama**

Explanation:

Pushkar Singh Dhama, Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) leader and son of an ex-serviceman took oath as 11th Chief Minister of Uttarakhand for his second consecutive term in Dehradun's Parade Ground administered by the Governor Lt Gen (retd) Gurmit Singh. Along with him, eight cabinet ministers were also administered the oath.

- i. Pushkar Singh Dhama became the 11th chief minister of the hill state at the young age of 46 years belonging to Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).
- ii. He has to get re-elected from any of the constituencies of Uttarakhand within a period of six months post which he ceases to be a Minister (Article 164(4) of Indian Constitution).

About Uttarakhand

Governor - Lt Gen (retd) Gurmit Singh

Chief Minister - Pushkar Singh Dhama

Legislative Assembly strength - 70 members

36. Who was recently (in March'22) appointed as the interim Managing Director (MD) and CEO of CSB Bank for 3 months?

- 1) B K Divakara
- 2) Bhama Krishnamurthy
- 3) Sumit Maheshwari
- 4) Pralay Mondal
- 5) Madhavan Menon

Answer- **4) Pralay Mondal**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has approved the appointment of **Pralay Mondal** as interim Managing Director (**MD**) and **CEO** of **CSB Bank** for a period of **3 months**.

- i. The appointment is for a three month period which is effective from April 1, 2022 or till the appointment of a regular MD & CEO is made.
- ii. He is currently serving as the Deputy Managing Director of CSB Bank since his appointment in June 2021.

About CSB Bank Limited:

MD & CEO – Rajendran Chinna Veerappan

Establishment – 1920 (celebrated its centenary year in 2020)

Headquarters – Thrissur, Kerala

37. Who recently (in March'22) became the Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh for a second consecutive term?

- 1) Akhilesh Yadav
- 2) Yogi Adityanath
- 3) Mulayam Singh Yadav
- 4) Ram Prakash Gupta
- 5) Kalyan Singh

Answer- **2) Yogi Adityanath**

Explanation:

Yogi Adityanath took oath as the Chief Minister (**CM**) of Uttar Pradesh (**UP**) for the second term in office. Governor of UP, Anandiben Patel administered the oath of office and secrecy to Yogi Adityanath along with 52 ministers in the ceremony organized at Atal Bihari Vajpayee Ekana Stadium in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.

- i. The party secured more than 250 seats out of 403 in the state assembly elections in 2022.
- ii. He has become the first such BJP leader to become the CM for the second consecutive term.

38. Who was recently (in March'22) elected as the "11th Director-General of the International Labour Organization"?

- 1) Francis Blanchard (France)
- 2) Michel Hansenne (Belgium)
- 3) Gilbert F. HOUNGBO (Togo)
- 4) Juan Somavia (Chile)
- 5) Guy Ryde (UK)

Answer- **3) Gilbert F. HOUNGBO (Togo)**

Explanation:

The International Labour Organization (**ILO**) elected **Gilbert Fossoun HOUNGBO** from **Togo** as its next Director-General (**DG**) by succeeding Guy Ryder from the United Kingdom (UK), who has held the office since 2012.

i. He will take office on 1st October 2022 for five years.

ii. Gilbert F. HOUNGBO will become the 11th DG of ILO and he is the **First African** to hold the post of DG. He was the former Prime Minister of Togo who served from 2008 to 2012.

About International Labour Organization (ILO):

Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland

Director-General- Guy Ryder (March 2022)

Founded- 1919

Member Countries- 187

39. Who recently (in March'22) took the oath as the "CM of Goa" for the 2nd consecutive term?

- 1) Manohar Parrikar
- 2) Laxmikant Parsekar
- 3) Digambar Kamat
- 4) Pratapsingh Rane
- 5) Pramod Sawant

Answer- **5) Pramod Sawant**

Explanation:

Pramod Sawant took oath as the Chief Minister (**CM**) of **Goa**, for a **second consecutive** term (2022-2027) at the Dr Shyama Prasad Mukherjee stadium in Taleigao, Goa.

i. The Governor of Goa, P S Sreedharan Pillai administered the oath of office and secrecy to Pramod Sawant.

ii. The other eight Members of Legislative Assembly (MLAs) also took oath as Cabinet Ministers in the swearing in ceremony.

40. Which company recently (in March'22) appointed "Hisashi Takeuchi" as the new MD and CEO for a period of 3 years?

- 1) Maruti Suzuki India
- 2) Hyundai Motor India
- 3) Toyota India
- 4) Mahindra & Mahindra
- 5) Tata Motors

Answer- **1) Maruti Suzuki India**

Explanation:

Maruti Suzuki India Limited (**MSIL**), a subsidiary of Suzuki Motor Corporation(SMC), Japan, has appointed **Hisashi Takeuchi** as the new Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) for a period of **3 years** with effect from 1st April 2022 till 31st March 2025.

i. Hisashi Takeuchi, who has been serving as the Joint Managing Director (Commercial) of MSIL since April 2021, will succeed Kenichi Ayukawa as the MD & CEO of MSIL.

41. North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) recently (in March'22) extended the term of its Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg till _____.

- 1) November, 2023
- 2) July, 2023
- 3) August, 2023
- 4) June, 2023
- 5) September, 2023

Answer- **5) September, 2023**

Explanation:

The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**) extended the term of its Secretary-General Jens Stoltenberg by one year until 30 **September, 2023**.

i. Jens Stoltenberg, a former Prime Minister of Norway, took the office of Secretary General in October 2014. In September 2021, his term was set to end.

About North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO):

Members- 30 states (as of 2022)

Founded- 4 April 1949

Headquarters- Brussels, Belgium

42. Who recently (in March'22) re-elected as the Chairman of Payments Council of India (PCI) for the 2nd time?

- 1) Vishwas Patel
- 2) Ajay Kumar Kapoor
- 3) Umesh Bellur
- 4) Biswamohan Mahapatra
- 5) Loney Antony

Answer- **1) Vishwas Patel**

Explanation:

Vishwas Patel has been re-elected as the Chairman of Payments Council of India (PCI) for the second time, previously he was elected as a Chairman of PCI in the year 2018.

i. In 2013, he served as Co-Chairman of PCI. PCI is a payments ecosystem industry body, and is a part of the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI).

43. In March 2022, Himanta Biswa Sarma was re-elected as the President of the Badminton Association of India (BAI) for a period of 4 years.

Himanta Biswa Sarma is the Chief Minister of which state?

- 1) Manipur
- 2) Assam
- 3) Jharkhand
- 4) Tripura
- 5) Mizoram

Answer- 2) Assam

Explanation:

Himanta Biswa Sarma, Chief Minister (**CM**) of **Assam** was re-elected as the President of the Badminton Association of India (BAI) for a period of 4 years from 2022 to 2026 during the General Body Meeting held Guwahati, Assam.

i. He has been serving as the President of BAI since 2017 and he is also the Vice President of Badminton Asia and a member of the Executive Council of Badminton World Federation(BWF).

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. In February 2022, _____ became the first Indian to be named for the Boltzmann Medal in 2022 for contributions in the field of statistical physics.

- 1) Ashoke Sen
- 2) Piara Singh Gill
- 3) Rajeev Bhalerao
- 4) Meghnad Saha
- 5) Deepak Dhar

Answer- 5) Deepak Dhar

Explanation:

The renowned Indian physicist and Emeritus Professor at the Department of Physics, Indian Institute of Science Education and Research (**IISER**), **Pune**, Prof **Deepak Dhar** will be conferred the prestigious **Boltzmann Medal 2022** for contribution in the field of statistical physics.

i. He became the first Indian to be awarded the Boltzmann Medal. He will share the medal with John J Hopfield of Princeton University.

ii. The medal presentation ceremony will be held during the StatPhys28 conference in August 2022 in Tokyo, Japan.

2. In February 2022, Minister of State(MoS) for Education, Annapurna Devi, presented the National ICT Award 2020 & 2021 to the 49 teachers from across India.

In the 2021 ICT Award which of the following categories was introduced?

- 1) Teacher Educators
- 2) Best practicing States/UTs
- 3) Educational Institute
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 1 & 3

Answer- **4) Both 1 & 2**

Explanation:

Annappurna Devi, Minister of State (MoS) for Education presented the National ICT (Information and Communication Technology) Award 2020 & 2021 to the 49 teachers from across India.

i. ICT Award 2020 is given for school teachers and 2021 is for School teachers, Teacher Educators and Best Practicing States/Union Territories(UTs)-(From **2021** onwards two **new categories** of awards are introduced (i) for **Teacher educators** and (ii) **for best practicing States/UTs**).

ii. The 'National ICT Award for School Teachers' Award ceremony was organized by the Central Institute of Educational Technology (CIET), NCERT in collaboration with the Ministry of Education.

3. Which organization recently (in March'22) received the 'Special Jury Award' for its contribution in Ganga Rejuvenation at the 7th India Industry Water Conclave & the 9th FICCI Water Awards?

- 1) NITI Aayog
- 2) National Mission for Clean Ganga
- 3) Central Ground Water Authority
- 4) National Ganga Council
- 5) Ministry of Jal Shakti

Answer- **2) National Mission for Clean Ganga**

Explanation:

The National Mission for Clean Ganga (**NMCG**) received the '**Special Jury Award**' for its considerable contribution in **Ganga Rejuvenation** at the **7th India Industry Water Conclave** and the **9th** edition of **FICCI Water Awards**, held virtually, from 2nd to 3rd March, 2022.

About National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG):

Establishment of NMCG: August 12, 2011

Director General of NMCG:G. Asok Kumar

Minister of Jal Shakti: Gajendra Singh Shekhawat (Jodhpur constituency, Rajasthan)

4. Name the company that recently (in March'22) received Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (ASSOCHAM) Award for Sustainability Excellence in Energy Management.

- 1) Cognizant
- 2) SAP
- 3) Tata Consultancy Services
- 4) Larsen & Toubro
- 5) CtrlS

Answer- **5) CtrlS**

Explanation:

The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry (**ASSOCHAM**) awarded its Award for Sustainability Excellence in Energy Management to **CtrlS**, a DataCenter Company in Hyderabad, Telangana.

About CtrlS Datacenter (DC):

i. Asia's largest and India's only Rated 4 Hyperscale Datacenter(DC) which is at the forefront of innovation and sustainability.CtrlS became world's 1st DC to Win Golden Peacock Eco-Innovation Award.

Founder and CEO: Sridhar Pinnapureddy, The Green Man of Indian Data Centers. **Founded:** 2008

5. In March 2022, _____ won the 1st prize in Ispat Rajbhasha Award for 2018-19 and 2020-21 & the Ispat Rajbhasha Prerna Award for 2019-20.

- 1) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
- 2) National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd
- 3) National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd
- 4) National Aluminium Company Ltd
- 5) Steel Authority of India

Answer- 3) National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd

Explanation:

National Mineral Development Corporation Ltd. (NMDC), India's largest Iron Ore producer, under the Ministry of Steel, has won the **1st prize in Ispat Rajbhasha Award for 2018-19 and 2020-21** and the **Ispat Rajbhasha Prerna Award for 2019-20.**

i. MOIL Limited received **Ispat Rajbhasha Samman 2018-19 & 2019-20**

ii. The award was presented during the Meeting of the Hindi Advisory (Salahakar) Committee of the Ministry of Steel under the Chairmanship of Ram Chandra Prasad Singh, Union Minister of Steel held in Madurai, Tamil Nadu, on 3rd March 2022.

6. Which Ministry recently (in March'22) presented the Vishwakarma Rashtriya Puraskar Award, National Safety Awards- 2018 & National Safety Awards (Mines) for the years from 2017 to 2020?

- 1) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- 2) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- 3) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- 4) Ministry of Power
- 5) Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change

Answer- 3) Ministry of Labour and Employment

Explanation:

The Union Minister of Labour and Employment Bhupender Yadav,presented Vishwakarma Rashtriya Puraskar (VRP), National Safety Awards (NSA) for the performance year 2018 and National Safety Awards (Mines) [NSA (Mines)] for the contest years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

i. A total 96 VRP were presented for the performance year 2018, A total 141 NSA were given (80 winners & 61 runners-up) and 144 candidates got the NSA (Mines).

ii. The Ministry of Labour & Employment, has been operating the "Vishwakarma Rashtriya Puraskar (VRP)" and "National Safety Awards (NSA)" since 1965 and National Safety Awards (Mines) [NSA (Mines)] since 1983.

7. Name the bank that was recently (in March '22) honoured with the “national award for outstanding performance for FY 2020–21” for its best performance in Self Help Group Bank Linkage.

- 1) ICICI Bank
- 2) HDFC Bank
- 3) Jammu and Kashmir Bank
- 4) South Indian Bank
- 5) Karnataka Bank

Answer- 3) Jammu and Kashmir Bank

Explanation:

Giriraj Singh, Union Minister of Rural Development, honoured the Jammu and Kashmir Bank (**J&K Bank**) with the “**National Award for Outstanding Performance for FY 2020-21**” in recognition of its best performance in Self-Help Group Bank Linkage.

i. Kirti Sharma, Zonal Head, Delhi, J & K Bank, accepted the award on the bank’s behalf from Union Minister Giriraj Singh.

ii. The award was presented during the event organized as a part of International Women’s Day (8th March 2022) at Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi, Delhi.

About Jammu and Kashmir Bank (J&K Bank):

MD&CEO- Baldev Prakash

Headquarters- Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir(J&K)

Tagline- Serving to Empower

8. Which of the following airports has “not received” the Airport Service Quality (ASQ) Awards 2021 in the category of Best Airports by Size and Region by Airports Council International (ACI) World?

- 1) Chandigarh Airport (Chandigarh)
- 2) Kempegowda International Airport (Bangalore, Karnataka)
- 3) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (Ahmedabad, Gujarat)
- 4) Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi)
- 5) Cochin International Airport (Kerala)

Answer- 2) Kempegowda International Airport (Bangalore, Karnataka)

Explanation:

Airports Council International (**ACI**) **World** has honoured **Six** Indian Airports with the Airport Service Quality (**ASQ**) **Awards 2021** under the **Asia Pacific Category**.

i. The 6 airports were adjudged as the **Best Airports by Size and Region** based on data from ASQ’s Departures and Arrivals Surveys.

The **6 airports** are:

- Chandigarh Airport
- Cochin International Airport (Kerala)
- Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport (Ahmedabad, Gujarat)
- Rajiv Gandhi International Airport (Hyderabad, Telangana)
- Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (Mumbai, Maharashtra)
- Indira Gandhi International Airport (Delhi).

ii. The Chandigarh Airport (Chandigarh) has been adjudged as the Best Hygiene Measures by Region under the Asia Pacific Category.

9. Which organisation was recently (in March '22) ranked 124th in Fortune India's The Next 500 2022 of top midsize companies operating in India?

- 1) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited
- 2) RailTel Corporation of India
- 3) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- 4) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation
- 5) Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited

Answer- 2) RailTel Corporation of India

Explanation:

RailTel Corporation of India Limited (**RailTel**), owned by the Indian Railways, Ministry of Railways, has ranked 124th in the Fortune India The Next 500 (2022 edition) of top midsize companies operating in India. It is the only Telecom Public Sector Undertakings (PSU) of the Government of India(GoI) on the list.

i. This Fortune India The Next 500 is published annually by Fortune India English Monthly magazine.

ii. Apart from RailTel, Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation(IRCTC) (ranked 309) is the only Railway PSU featured on the list.

iii. A total of 10 GoI companies (including RailTel) are featured on the list.

10. Name the Ministry that recently (in March'22) presented the Swachhta Pakhwada Awards and launched 'Indian Petroleum & Natural Gas Statistics 2020-21'.

- 1) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- 2) Ministry of Home Affairs
- 3) Ministry of Finance
- 4) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- 5) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Answer- 5) Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas

Explanation:

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (**MoPNG**) presented the MoPNG **Swachhta Pakhwada Awards** to the winners and launched '**Indian Petroleum & Natural Gas Statistics 2020-21**'.

i. 'Indian Petroleum & Natural Gas Statistics' is the annual publication of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas which gives an overall picture of India's petroleum & Gas sector. The publication includes data on production, refining, transport and marketing, imports, and exports of crude oil and petroleum products.

ii. "Swachhta Pakhwada Awards" have been initiated for outstanding performance in the celebration. Based on their performance, IOCL was ranked first, ONGC second and HPCL placed third.

11. Name the bank that recently (in March '22) won the Asian Bank of the Year 2021 & India Bond House at the IFR Asia Awards 2021.

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

Answer- **4) Axis Bank**

Explanation:

Axis Bank, India's third-largest private sector bank, was adjudged as the Asian Bank of The Year 2021 and India Bond House at the IFR Asia Awards 2021. The awards are organised by IFR Asia, a Hong Kong-based provider of capital markets intelligence.

i. Axis Bank has been honoured with the Asian Bank of The Year 2021 for its breadth of coverage and depth of expertise in the Asian investment banking space.

ii. Other Awardees: Morgan Stanley has been honoured with the Bank of the year award at the IFR Asia Award 2021 and the JSW Group has been awarded with the Issuer of the year award.

12. In the 75th edition of the BAFTA's 2022 EE British Academy Film Awards (BAFA), _____ won the award under the Leading Actor category for his role in King Richard & _____ won Leading Actress award for the film After Love.

- 1) Aleem Khan & Jane Campion
- 2) Will Smith & Ariana Debose
- 3) Troy Kotsur & Joanna Scanlan
- 4) Reinaldo Marcus Green & Jane Campion
- 5) Will Smith & Joanna Scanlan

Answer- **5) Will Smith & Joanna Scanlan**

Explanation:

American Actor "**Will Smith**" won the BAFTA under the Leading Actor category for his role in King Richard, an American biographical sports drama film.

i. British actress **Joanna Scanlan** won the BAFTA's Leading Actress award for the film After Love.

ii. The Power Of The Dog written & directed by Jane Campion has won 2 awards Best Film and Best Director.

13. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the 2022 M3M Hurun Global Rich List released in March 2022?

- 1) Mukesh Ambani has emerged as the richest Indian & Asian title and secured 9th rank globally in The Index.
- 2) Elon Musk, co-founder and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Tesla has topped the Billionaires list as the World's richest person for the 2nd consecutive year.
- 3) Mukesh Ambani is the only Indian to feature in the world's top 10 billionaires list and has also earned the title of "Richest Telecom Entrepreneur."
- 4) Only 1 & 2
- 5) Only 1, 2 & 3

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

Explanation:

Mukesh Ambani has emerged as the richest Indian & Asian title and secured 9th rank globally in The Index.

i. Elon Musk, co-founder and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Tesla has topped the Billionaires list as the World's richest person for the 2nd consecutive year.

ii. Mukesh Ambani is the only Indian to feature in the world's top 10 billionaires list and has also earned the title of "Richest Telecom Entrepreneur."

iii. Mumbai became the billionaire capital of India with 72 billionaires followed by New Delhi with 51.

14. Who was recently (in March'22) selected for the 31st Ghanshyam Das (GD) Birla Award for Scientific Research 2022 for his outstanding contribution in the field of material sciences?

1) Rajan Sankaranarayanan

2) Umesh Waghmare

3) Suman Chakraborty

4) Rajeev Kumar Varshney

5) Narayan Pradhan

Answer- **5) Narayan Pradhan**

Explanation:

Professor **Narayan Pradhan** was selected for the **31st GD (Ghanshyam Das) Birla Award for Scientific Research 2022** for his outstanding contribution in the field of **material sciences**. It was given by the KK Birla foundation.

i. Narayan Pradhan provided his expertise in crystal modulations to help design new shapes of tiny lighting materials.

About the award:

Founded: 1991, the award recognises eminent Indian scientists below the age of 50 for their original and outstanding contributions to any branch of science or technology. It carries a cash prize of ₹5 lakh.

i. The recipient is chosen by a selection board, whose present head is professor Chandrima Shaha, the president of the Indian National Science Academy (INSA).

15. Who recently (in March'22) won the 70th edition of Miss World 2021 pageant held in San Juan, Puerto Rico?

1) Karolina Bielawska (Poland)

2) Carla Yules (Indonesia)

3) Emmy Pena (Dominican Republic)

4) Toni-Ann Singh (Jamaica)

5) Shree Saini (USA)

Answer- **1) Karolina Bielawska (Poland)**

Explanation:

Karolina Bielawska from **Poland** has won the **70th** edition of the **Miss World (Miss World 2021)** pageant that was held in Coca-Cola Music Hall, San Juan, Puerto Rico.

i. She is the 2nd woman from Poland to win the Miss World Title.

ii. Indian-American **Shree Saini** who represented the United States of America(USA) in the pageant, is the **1st runner up** at the Miss World 2021 followed by **Olivia Yace** of Côte d'Ivoire, **2nd runner up**.

16. In March 2022, _____ became the first African to win the 51st Pritzker Architecture Prize-2022.

- 1) Frei Otto
- 2) Arata Isozaki
- 3) Diebedo Francis Kere
- 4) Alejandro Aravena
- 5) Jean-Philippe Vassal

Answer- **3) Diebedo Francis Kere**

Explanation:

Diebedo Francis Kere, An architect from Burkina Faso, West Africa has won the Pritzker Architecture Prize 2022. He is the 51st Laureate of the Pritzker Architecture Prize. It's a most prestigious honour in the field of architecture. He is the first African to win the Pritzker Architecture Prize.

About Pritzker Architecture Prize:

It is granted annually and is often referred to as "architecture's Nobel". First awarded- 1979 Sponsored by- Hyatt Foundation.

Note- The First Indian Laureate of Pritzker Prize is Balkrishna Doshi (2018 Laureate).

17. Name the bank that recently (in March'22) won the ASSOCHAM Award for Best MSME Bank of the Year in the Private Sector Banks Category at the 8th MSMEs Excellence Awards Ceremony and Summit.

- 1) RBL Bank
- 2) Karnataka Bank
- 3) South Indian Bank
- 4) Karur Vysya Bank
- 5) ICICI Bank

Answer- **2) Karnataka Bank**

Explanation:

Karnataka Bank has been honoured with **ASSOCHAM Award Best MSME Bank of the Year (Private Category)** award among the Private Sector Banks at the **8th MSMEs Excellence Awards Ceremony and Summit**, instituted by The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) – the apex trade body, at New Delhi, Delhi.

Other Major Award winners:

Category	Winners
Best MSME Bank of the Year (PSU Category)	Punjab National Bank
Best Technology Enabler of the Year	Karur Vysya Bank Ltd
Excellent Services of the Year	Satya MicroCapital Ltd

18. Name the organization/Ministry that recently (in March'22) presented the Women Transforming India (WTI) Awards to 75 women achievers through its Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP).

- 1) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- 2) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- 3) National Commission for Women
- 4) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- 5) NITI Aayog

Answer- **5) NITI Aayog**

Explanation:

The National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog has presented the Women Transforming India (WTI) Awards to 75 women achievers through its Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP), fifth edition, on March 21, 2022.

- i. As the year 2022 marks the 75th year of India's independence, and India is also celebrating it through the "Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav", the WTI was conferred on 75 women achievers to celebrate their contribution towards a 'Sashakt Aur Samarth Bharat' (literal meaning Strong and Capable India).
- ii. The Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) is a Government of India (GoI) initiative by NITI Aayog to promote and support prospective as well as established women entrepreneurs in India.

19. Who was recently (in March'22) awarded with 'Sports Icon' award at the Maldives Sports Awards 2022 by the Government of Maldives?

- 1) Hardik Pandya
- 2) Suresh Raina
- 3) Ravindra Jadeja
- 4) MS Dhoni
- 5) Virat Kohli

Answer- **2) Suresh Raina**

Explanation:

Former Indian International cricket player **Suresh Raina** was awarded with 'Sports Icon' award at the Maldives Sports Awards 2022 by Government of Maldives. He was nominated alongside 16 international sportspersons.

The President of Maldives Ibrahim Mohamed Solih chaired the event along with Sports Ministers, world-renowned athletes and Maldivian athletes.

Career record- Suresh Raina is the first Indian player to score 6000 as well as 8000 runs in a T20 career and the first-ever cricketer to reach 5,000 runs in IPL. He also holds the record for scoring the most fifties in Champions League T20 history.

20. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the 2022 Sportstar Aces Awards held in Mumbai, Maharashtra?

- A) Indian Olympian Neeraj Chopra was awarded the Sportstar of the Year (Male) award & Mirabai Chanu was honoured with the Sportstar of the Year (Female) award at the event.
- B) Lovlina Borgohain, who won the bronze medal(Boxing) at the Tokyo 2020, has been awarded Sportswoman Of The Year (Individual Sports).

C) Indian Men's Hockey won the Team National Team Of The Year and Ravichandran Ashwin won the Sportsman Of The Year (Cricket) award.

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

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

Explanation:

Indian Olympian Neeraj Chopra was awarded the Sportstar of the Year (Male) award & Mirabai Chanu was honoured with the Sportstar of the Year (Female) award at the event.

i. Mirabai Chanu along with Lovlina Borgohain, who won the bronze medal(Boxing) at the Tokyo 2020, has been awarded Sportswoman Of The Year (Individual Sports).

ii. Indian Men's Hockey won the Team National Team Of The Year and Ravichandran Ashwin won the Sportsman Of The Year (Cricket) award.

21. Who received the "Abel prize 2022" for his contribution to topology from the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters in March 2022?

- 1) Avi Wigderson
- 2) Grigory Margulis
- 3) Dennis Parnell Sullivan
- 4) Robert Langlands
- 5) Hillel Furstenberg

Answer- **3) Dennis Parnell Sullivan**

Explanation:

The Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters awarded the **Abel prize for 2022** to American Mathematician **Dennis Parnell Sullivan** for his groundbreaking contributions to **topology** in its broadest sense, and in particular its algebraic, geometric and dynamical aspects."

About Abel Prize:

The Abel Prize is also known as the International Prize of Mathematics and the prize is named after Norway's greatest mathematician, Niels Henrik Abel.

It is the highest honor given in the field of Mathematics being similar to the Nobel prize for the sciences in being awarded for major contribution to a field of math.

22. Name the Indian Naval Ship (INS) that was recently (in March'22) awarded the President's Colour by the President of India, Ram Nath Kovind.

- 1) INS Vikrant
- 2) INS Vikramaditya
- 3) INS Chilka
- 4) INS Shivaji
- 5) INS Valsura

Answer- **5) INS Valsura**

Explanation:

The President of India, Ram Nath Kovind, bestowed the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Valsura with the prestigious President's Colour at the ceremony held at Jamnagar in Gujarat.

The President's Colour is awarded to a military unit in honour of outstanding service to the country in both peace and war.

About INS Valsura:

- i.** It was started as a torpedo school under the British and was commissioned by Maharani Gulab Kunverba Sahiba of Nawanager (erstwhile Jamnagar) on December 15, 1942.
- ii.** During the peak of the Second World War, His Majesty's Indian Ship (HMIS) Valsura was created for the Royal Indian Navy.
- iii.** The name "Valsura" was derived from the combination of two Tamil words, 'Vaal' (meaning sword) and 'Sorrah' (shark).

23. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the 94th Academy Awards (Oscars 2022) ceremony held at California, USA in March 2022?

- A) Troy Kotsur has won the Best Actor In A Leading Role for his performance in "CODA".**
B) Ariana Debose has won the Best Actress In A Leading Role for her role in "The Eyes Of Tammy Faye".
C) Film, Dune directed by Denis Villeneuve won 6 awards and CODA has won the Oscars 2022 under 3 categories.

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

Answer- **3) Only C**

Explanation:

Will Smith has won the Best Actor In A Leading Role for his performance in "King Richard".

i. Jessica Chastain has won the Best Actress In A Leading Role for her role in "The Eyes Of Tammy Faye".

ii. Film, Dune directed by Denis Villeneuve won 6 awards and **CODA** has won the Oscars 2022 under 3 categories.

24. Name the Olympic medalist who was recently (in March'22) honoured with the 3rd edition of BBC Indian Sportswoman Of The Year(ISWOTY) 2021.

- 1) Lovlina Borgohain
- 2) Mirabai Chanu
- 3) Sakshi Malik
- 4) Mary Kom
- 5) Saina Nehwal

Answer- **2) Mirabai Chanu**

Explanation:

Indian Weightlifter, Padma Shri Saikhom **Mirabai Chanu**, who became the first Indian weightlifter to win a silver medal at the Tokyo Olympics, has won the 3rd edition of the (British Broadcasting Corporation) BBC Indian Sportswoman Of The Year (ISWOTY) 2021.

- i. BBC Lifetime Achievement Award 2021: Karnam Malleswari, former Indian weightlifter.
- ii. BBC Emerging Indian Sportswoman of the Year 2021: Shafali Verma, the youngest female cricketer who played for India in the Women's T20 International match in 2019.
- iii. BBC ISWOTY is the sports award by BBC Hindi in India that celebrates and honours India's finest sportswomen and it highlights the extraordinary achievements of sportswomen in India.

25. As per Duff & Phelps (Now Kroll)'s "Digital Acceleration 2.0" report, Who is India's most valued celebrity 2021 for the 5th consecutive time with the brand value of USD 185.7 million?

- 1) Alia Bhatt
- 2) MS Dhoni
- 3) Akshay Kumar
- 4) Virat Kohli
- 5) Ranveer Singh

Answer- **4) Virat Kohli**

Explanation:

According to the Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2021 (7th Edition) titled "Digital Acceleration 2.0." released by Duff & Phelps (Now Kroll), Indian Cricketer **Virat Kohli** was ranked as India's most valued celebrity for the **5th** consecutive time in 2021 with the brand value of USD 185.7 million in 2021.

Rank	Name	Brand Value (In Millions)
1	Virat Kohli	USD 185.7
2	Ranveer Singh	USD 158.3
3	Akshay Kumar	USD 139.6

26. Who recently (in March'22) won Governor of the year Award 2022 at the 9th Central Banking Awards 2022?

- 1) Mario Marcel (Chile)
- 2) Ernest Addison (Ghana)
- 3) Margarita Delgado (Spain)
- 4) Mark Carney (England)
- 5) Victoria Rodriguez (México)

Answer- **1) Mario Marcel (Chile)**

Explanation:

Mario Marcel Cullell (**Mario Marcel**), the **Governor** of Banco Central de **Chile** (BCCh – Central Bank of Chile) has won the **Governor of the year Award 2022** at the 9th edition of the Central Banking Awards 2022. The award recognises all-around achievements in the job.

- The annual Central Banking Awards 2022 is made up of 17 central bank categories and 14 partner and service provider categories and the inaugural Central Banking Awards were presented in 2014.

About Mario Marcel:

- i. Mario Marcel served as the Governor of the BCCh from 2016 to January 2022.
- ii. He resigned his post as governor in January 2022, and became finance minister under the new administration of Gabriel Boric, President of Chile.

27. Which of the following battalions of the Dogra Regiments was recently (in March '22) honoured with the "President's Colours"/Nishaan by General Manoj Mukund Naravane?

- 1) 20 DOGRA
- 2) 17 DOGRA
- 3) 21 DOGRA
- 4) Only 1 & 2
- 5) Only 1 & 3

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

Explanation:

General Manoj Mukund Naravane, Chief of the Army staff presented the prestigious 'President's Colours' also known as 'Nishaan' to two battalions of the Dogra Regiments namely **20 DOGRA** and **21 DOGRA** during a colour presentation parade held at the Dogra Regiment Centre, Faizabad Uttar Pradesh.

About President's Colours:

- i. The President's Colour Award is the highest honour that can be bestowed upon any military unit of India.
- ii. It is also known as 'Nishaan' which is an emblem that will be worn by all unit officers on the left-hand sleeve of their uniform.

SUMMITS, CONFERENCES

1. Which Ministry recently (in March'22) organised the 2022 International Summit on Plastics Recycling & Waste Management along with the All-India Plastics Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA) in New Delhi?

- 1) Ministry of MSME
- 2) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- 3) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- 4) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- 5) Ministry of Jal Shakti

Answer- **1) Ministry of MSME**

Explanation:

Union Minister of State for Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Bhanu Pratap Singh Verma inaugurated 2-day 2022 International Summit on Plastics Recycling & Waste Management, organised by **Ministry of MSME** in association with the All-India Plastics Manufacturers' Association (AIPMA) from 4th to 5th March, 2022 at New Delhi, Delhi, India.

i. The Ministry of MSME also launched two special initiatives, 'Sambhav' and 'Svavlamban' to promote entrepreneurship amongst youth, especially in aspirational Districts all across India.

2. In March 2022, the _____ edition of the India-Indonesia Security Dialogue (IISD) was held in Jakarta, Indonesia.

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

Answer- **3) 2nd**

Explanation:

The **second** India-Indonesia Security Dialogue (**IISD**) was held in **Jakarta, Indonesia**. The 2nd IISD was **co-chaired** by **Ajit Doval**, National Security Adviser (NSA) of India and **Mohammad Mahfud**, Coordinating Minister for Political, Legal and Security Affairs of Indonesia.

i. Both the countries have signed an MoU for Security Dialogue between the Coordinating Ministry for Political, Legal, and Security Affairs of Indonesia and the National Security Council Secretariat of India.

3. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the 14th India-Japan annual summit 2022 held in March 2022 at New Delhi, Delhi?

A) As per Article 13 of the India-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), India and Japan signed an Amendment to Article 7 (Exchange of Information) of the Implementing Agreement.

B) India and Japan set an investment target of "five trillion yen" in the next 5 years.

C) PM Narendra Modi gifted Japan PM Fumio Kishida a 'Krishna Pankhi', a sandalwood artifact by master artisans in Churu in Rajasthan.

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

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

Explanation:

As per Article 13 of the India-Japan Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), India and Japan signed an Amendment to Article 7 (Exchange of Information) of the Implementing Agreement.

i. India and Japan set an investment target of "five trillion yen" in the next 5 years.

ii. PM Narendra Modi gifted Japan PM Fumio Kishida a 'Krishna Pankhi', a sandalwood artifact by master artisans in Churu in Rajasthan.

iii. Several MoUs/Agreements were signed during 14th India-Japan Annual Summit 2022.

4. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Wings India 2022, Asia's Largest Event on Civil Aviation held at Hyderabad, Telangana in March 2022?

A) HANSA-NG Aircraft designed and developed by CSIR-NAL are displayed in a showcase of civil aircraft initiatives at Wings India 2022.

B) The Airports Authority of India (AAI) has signed an agreement with Bharat Electronics Ltd to develop indigenous Air Traffic Management Systems (ATMS).

C) In Wings India Awards 2022, Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru has won 'Best Airport' and 'Aviation Innovation' Award.

1) Only A

2) Only C

3) Only A & B

4) Only B & C

5) All A, B & C

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

Explanation:

HANSA-NG Aircraft designed and developed by **CSIR-NAL** are displayed in a showcase of civil aircraft initiatives at Wings India 2022.

i. The Airports Authority of India (**AAI**) has signed an agreement with **Bharat Electronics Ltd** to develop indigenous Air Traffic Management Systems (**ATMS**).

ii. In Wings India Awards 2022, **Kempegowda** International Airport, **Bengaluru** has won 'Best Airport' and 'Aviation Innovation' Award.

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1. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the 9th edition of Down To Earth's annual 'State of India's Environment Report 2022' released by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change?

A) India has slipped three spots to 120 from 117 in 2021 on the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted as a part of the 2030 agenda in 2015.

B) Kerala ranked 1st followed by Tamil Nadu & Himachal Pradesh in the 2nd position under State/UT-wise preparedness category to meet SDGs by 2030.

C) As per report, India is now behind all south Asian nations except Pakistan, which stands at 129.

1) Only A

2) Only A & C

3) Only A & B

4) Only B & C

5) All A, B & C

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

Explanation:

India has slipped **three** spots to **120** from **117** in 2021 on the **17** Sustainable Development Goals (**SDGs**) adopted as a part of the 2030 agenda in 2015.

i. Kerala ranked 1st followed by **Tamil Nadu & Himachal Pradesh (HP)** in the 2nd position under State/UT-wise preparedness category to meet SDGs by 2030.

- Jharkhand and Bihar are the least prepared to meet the SDGs by the target year 2030. Among the Union Territories (UTs), Chandigarh was ranked 1st, followed by Delhi, Lakshadweep and Puducherry in the 2nd place and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands on the 3rd.

ii. As per report, India is now behind all south Asian nations except Pakistan, which stands at 129. The south Asian countries ahead of India are Bhutan ranked 75, Sri Lanka (87), Nepal (96) and Bangladesh (109).

2. Which of the following points are Incorrect with respect to the Knight Frank's 16th Edition of The Wealth Report 2022 released in March 2022?

- 1) The number of ultra-high-net-worth-individuals (UHNWIs) globally increased by 9.3 percent in 2021 to 6,10,569, from 5,58,828 in 2020.
- 2) India ranked 4th in billionaire population globally while China Tops with most billionaires.
- 3) Amongst the Indian cities, Bengaluru witnessed the highest growth in the number of UHNWIs followed by Delhi.
- 4) The declining countries in UHNWI population are Malaysia, Vietnam.
- 5) In India, the UHNWI population is expected to grow by 39 percent between 2021 and 2026.

Answer- 2) India ranked 4th in billionaire population globally while China Tops with most billionaires.

Explanation:

India ranked 3rd in billionaire population globally while United States (US) Tops with most billionaires.

- i.** The number of ultra-high-net-worth-individuals (UHNWIs) globally increased by 9.3 percent in 2021 to 6,10,569, from 5,58,828 in 2020.
- ii.** Amongst the Indian cities, Bengaluru witnessed the highest growth in the number of UHNWIs followed by Delhi.
- iii.** The declining countries in UHNWI population are Malaysia, Vietnam.
- iv.** In India, the UHNWI population is expected to grow by 39 percent between 2021 and 2026.

3. Which of the following points are "Incorrect" with respect to the Innovation in India's Rural Economy Report released in March 2022?

- 1) The report was prepared jointly by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Bain & Company.
- 2) The agriculture sector has grown by a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 8% during 2017 & 2020.
- 3) Agriculture is the largest contributor to the rural economy, accounting for approximately 37% of the total rural GDP in 2019-20.
- 4) Agricredit has increased at around 10% CAGR in the last five years, reaching Rs 14 lakh crore in 2019-2020.
- 5) Among two-thirds of India's population in 2019-20, about 60% concentrated in 6 states, Uttar Pradesh has the highest rural population, followed by Bihar.

Answer- 2) The agriculture sector has grown by a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 8% during 2017 & 2020.

Explanation:

The report was prepared jointly by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Bain & Company.

The agriculture sector has grown by a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of 11% during 2015 & 2020.

Agriculture is the largest contributor to the rural economy, accounting for approximately 37% of the total rural GDP in 2019-20.

Agri credit has increased at around 10% CAGR in the last five years, reaching Rs 14 lakh crore in 2019-2020.

Among two-thirds of India's population in 2019-20, about 60% concentrated in 6 states, Uttar Pradesh has the highest rural population, followed by Bihar.

4. As per the Mercom India Rooftop Solar Market Report Q4 & Annual 2021 report, India set a record for the installation of ____ of rooftop solar capacity in 2021 and ____ became the leading state for cumulative rooftop solar installations.

- 1) 1,700 MW; Gujarat
- 2) 1,200 MW; Rajasthan
- 3) 1,400 MW; Maharashtra
- 4) 1,700 MW; Rajasthan
- 5) 1,200 MW; Gujarat

Answer- 1) 1,700 MW; Gujarat

Explanation:

According to a Mercom India Research report title " **Mercom India Rooftop Solar Market Report Q4 and Annual 2021**", India set a new record of installing **1,700 megawatt (MW)** of rooftop solar capacity in **2021**, registering a 138 % rise annual basis compared to 719 MW of rooftop solar capacity in 2020.

i. The record 1.7 GW of rooftop solar capacity in 2021 is the highest ever in a year.

ii. Gujarat with 27% share, was the leading state for cumulative rooftop solar installations followed by Maharashtra (14%) and Rajasthan (10%).

5. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Democracy Report 2022 by V-Dem (Varieties of Democracy) Institute?

- 1) India secured 89th rank in the Liberal Democracy Index (LDI) out of 200 countries while New Zealand Tops the Index.
- 2) India is one of the top ten 'autocratisers' in the world, which indicates that India is autocratic rather than a democracy.
- 3) In South Asia, India is ranked below Sri Lanka , Nepal , and Bhutan but India is ranked above Pakistan in the LDI.
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- 5) Both 2 & 3

Explanation:

India secured **93rd rank** in the Liberal Democracy Index (**LDI**) out of **179** countries while **Sweden** Tops the Index.

- i.** India is one of the top ten 'autocratisers' in the world, which indicates that India is autocratic rather than a democracy.
- ii.** In South Asia, India is ranked below Sri Lanka , Nepal , and Bhutan but India ranked above Pakistan in the LDI.

6. As per the London & Partners analysis of Dealroom.co investment data, India secured _____ rank global venture capital investment hub for digital shopping in 2021 while _____ tops the Index.

- 1) 4th; USA
- 2) 3rd; China
- 3) 2nd; USA
- 4) 3rd; UK
- 5) 2nd; China

Answer- 3) 2nd; USA

Explanation:

According to the London & Partners (the Mayor of London's international trade and investment agency) analysis of Dealroom.co investment data, **India** secured the **2nd** largest global venture capital investment hub for digital shopping companies, growing up to 175 percent from USD 8 billion in 2020 to USD 22 billion in 2021. While the **USA** tops the Index.

- i.** Within India, **Bengaluru, Karnataka** topped with USD 14 billion worth of Venture Capital (VC) investments in digital shopping in 2021.
- ii.** Bengaluru almost tripled its investments from USD 5 billion in 2020 to attain the top position, ahead of other leading cities in the world – New York City (2nd), San Francisco (3rd), London (4th) and Berlin (5th).

7. Which organization recently (in March'22) released "Care at work: Investing in care leave and services for a more gender equal world of work" report that highlights Investment in care services can generate 234 million jobs for women by 2035?

- 1) World Economic Forum
- 2) International Monetary Fund
- 3) International Labour Organization
- 4) World Bank
- 5) United Nations Development Programme

Answer- 3) International Labour Organization

Explanation:

The International Labour Organization (**ILO**) report "Care at Work: Investing in Care Leave and Services for a More Gender Equal World of Work" was released on March 7, 2022, ahead of International Women's Day, and was based on an ILO legal survey of 185 countries

- i.** By investing in universal childcare and long-term care services, about 299 million jobs can be generated by 2035. Women will receive 234 million (78%) of these funds.
- ii.** An annual investment of \$5.4 trillion will be required for this job creation potential by 2035.

About International Labour Organization (ILO):

Establishment – Since 1919

HeadQuarters – Geneva, Switzerland.

8. Which of the following points is “Incorrect” with respect to the Trends In International Arms Transfers, 2021 that was released in March 2022?

- 1) The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) released the report which highlights that India remained the largest importer globally in 2017-2021.
- 2) India has accounted for 11% of global arms imports in 2017-2021.
- 3) The 5 largest arms imports in 2017-2021 are India, USA, UK, France and Brazil.
- 4) The 5 largest arms exporters in 2017–21 are the USA, Russia, France, China and Germany.
- 5) The Main suppliers of India in 2017-2021 are Russia, France, and USA.

Answer- 3) The 5 largest arms imports in 2017-2021 are India, USA, UK, France and Brazil.

Explanation:

The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) released the report which highlights that India remained the largest importer globally in 2017-2021.

- i.** India has accounted for 11% of global arms imports in 2017-2021.
- ii.** The 5 largest arms imports in 2017-2021 are India, Saudi Arabia, Egypt, Australia and China.
- iii.** The 5 largest arms exporters in 2017–21 are the USA, Russia, France, China and Germany.
- iv.** The Main suppliers of India in 2017-2021 are Russia, France, and USA.

9. As per Deloitte’s “Global Powers of Retailing 2022: Resilience Despite Challenges” report, Reliance Retail Ltd (RRL) from India has ranked _____ on the list of Top 250 global retailers, while ____ tops the index.

- 1) 60th; Amazon Inc
- 2) 56th; Walmart Inc
- 3) 42nd; Schwarz Group
- 4) 60th; Walmart Inc
- 5) 58th; Amazon Inc

Answer- 2) 56th; Walmart Inc

Explanation:

According to the global consulting firm Deloitte.’s report titled “Global Powers of Retailing 2022: Resilience Despite Challenges”, Reliance Retail Limited(RRL), a subsidiary of Reliance Industries Limited(**RIL**) has ranked **56th** on the list of Top 250 global retailers.

i. Walmart Inc., an American multinational retail corporation, tops the list, followed by Amazon, Inc., Costco Wholesale Corporation, Schwarz Group, and The Home Depot, Inc.

10. In March 2022, _____ became the first state in India to implement the Crop Diversification Index.

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

Answer- **1) Telangana**

Explanation:

Telangana turned out to be the **first state in India** to **adopt** the Crop Diversification Index (**CDI**) by way of recording their crop diversification pattern in the form of an index.

i. According to the CDI, Telangana grows 77 varieties of crops, out of which only 10 crops (mostly grains) are chosen for crop diversification.

ii. The districts of Nirmal, Vikarabad, and Sangareddy emerge as the most diverse, ranking in the top 3 in the state.

About Crop Diversification Index (CDI):

All the areas under the 77 different crops, which include food, non-food, and cash crops, as well as the areas under floriculture practices, have been considered to calculate the index.

11. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Mercom India Research's released (in March'22) report titled "Mercom India Solar Open Access Market Report Q4 & Annual 2021"?

1) As per the report, India has added 1.2 GigaWatts (GW) of new solar open access capacity in the calendar year (CY) 2021 and added 298 MW of solar operations capacity in Q4 2021.

2) Gujarat had the maximum installations with 113 MW followed by Kerala and Madhya Pradesh.

3) Karnataka tops the list, accounting for about 38% of India's cumulative open access solar installations.

4) Only 1 & 2

5) Only 1 & 3

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

Explanation:

As per the report, India has added **1.2 GigaWatts (GW)** of new solar open access capacity in the calendar year (CY) 2021 and added **298 MW** of solar operations capacity in **Q4 2021** and installations were 75% when compared to 2020.

i. Uttar Pradesh had the **maximum installations** with 113 MW followed by Tamil Nadu and Maharashtra.

ii. Karnataka tops the list, accounting for about 38% of India's cumulative open access solar installations.

12. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR) of India for 2017–2019 released by the Registrar General of India in March 2022?

A) India's maternal mortality ratio (MMR) has improved to 103 for the period 2017-19 when compared to the previous data of 113 in 2016–2018.

B) Kerala had recorded the lowest MMR of 30/lakh live births and also achieved the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target for MMR of 70/lakh live births by 2030.

C) 9 states in India have achieved the National Health Policy (NHP) target for MMR of 100/lakh live births by 2020.

1) All A, B & C

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A

5) Only B

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

Explanation:

India's maternal mortality ratio (MMR) has improved to **103** for the period 2017-19 when compared to the previous data of 113 in 2016-2018.

i. Kerala had recorded the lowest MMR of 30/lakh live births and also achieved the UN Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) target for MMR of 70/lakh live births by 2030.

ii. 9 states in India have achieved the National Health Policy (NHP) target for MMR of 100/lakh live births by 2020.

13. Which company recently (in March'22) establish a new facility of "Helicopter Engines MRO Pvt. Limited (HE-MRO)" in Goa along with Safran Helicopter Engines?

- 1) Bharat Dynamics Ltd
- 2) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd
- 3) Bharat Electronics Ltd
- 4) Indian Space Research Organisation
- 5) Defence Research and Development Organisation

Answer- **2) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd**

Explanation:

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**) and Safran Helicopter Engines(**Safran**) are set to establish a new facility of Helicopter Engines MRO Pvt Limited (**HE-MRO**), a Joint Venture of HAL and Safran at Sattari, North Goa, Goa.

i. HE-MRO will be operational by the end of 2023 with a capacity to repair 50 engines a year and the full-capacity goal of 150 engines in upcoming years.

ii. HAL and Safran have also signed an MoU to extend their cooperation and explore opportunities for new helicopter engines in civil and military markets.

14. As per the 10th United Nations' World Happiness Report 2022, India secured the _____ rank, while _____ tops the index as the happiest country in the world for the 5th consecutive year.

- 1) 124; Denmark
- 2) 136; Finland
- 3) 124; Iceland
- 4) 139; Denmark
- 5) 136; Iceland

Answer- **2) 136; Finland**

Explanation:

As per the **10th** United Nations' **World Happiness Report 2022**, **India's** rank has been improved by 3 spots to **136** out of 146 countries from 139 in 2021 with a score of 3.777.

For the **5th** year in a row, **Finland** continues to occupy the top spot being the happiest country in the world. The **top 5** rankings were occupied by Finland, Denmark, Iceland, Switzerland and the Netherlands.

i. Afghanistan was ranked as the **unhappiest nation**, followed by Lebanon, Zimbabwe, Rwanda and Botswana.

ii. Bhutan was **not** included in the world happiness report 2022.

15. Which of the following is correct with respect to the 2021 World Air Quality Report?

- 1) The World Air Quality Report 2021 was released by the Swiss organization IQAir.
- 2) National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, India, is the most polluted capital in the world for the fourth consecutive year in 2021 followed by Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh.
- 3) India was placed 3rd in the Most Polluted countries in the world whereas Afghanistan was placed in 1st in the list.
- 4) Only 1 & 2
- 5) Only 2 & 3

Answer- **4) Only 1 & 2**

Explanation:

The World Air Quality Report 2021 was released by the Swiss organization IQAir.

i. National Capital Territory (NCT) of Delhi, India, is the most polluted capital in the world for the fourth consecutive year in 2021 followed by Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh.

ii. India was placed 5th in the Most Polluted countries in the world whereas Bangladesh was placed in 1st followed by Chad and Pakistan.

16. Which of the following is "Incorrect" with respect to the 2nd edition of the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2021 that was released in March 2022?

- 1) National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness released the 2nd edition of the EPI 2021.
- 2) Maharashtra has retained the top position in the overall ranking with its total share in exports accounting for 18.9% as of 2020-2021.
- 3) Gujarat has emerged as the top-performing state in the 'Coastal States' category, followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka.
- 4) In the category of Landlocked States, Haryana was the best-performing state, followed by Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh.
- 5) Among the Himalayan States and UT, Uttarakhand and Delhi are the top-performing states respectively.

Answer- **2) Maharashtra has retained the top position in the overall ranking with its total share in exports accounting for 18.9% as of 2020-2021.**

Explanation:

National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog), in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness, released the 2nd edition of the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2021.

i. Gujarat has retained the top position in the overall ranking with its total share in exports accounting for 20.83% as of 2020-2021.

ii. Among the Himalayan States and UT, Uttarakhand and Delhi are the top-performing states respectively.

iii. Gujarat has emerged as the top-performing state in the 'Coastal States' category, followed by Maharashtra and Karnataka. Most of the coastal states are among the best performers.

iv. In the category of Landlocked States, Haryana was the best-performing state, followed by Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Telangana.

17. As per UNEP's recent (in March'22) Annual Frontier Report 2022, titled 'Noise, Blazes and Mismatches', _____ records the most noise polluted city while Moradabad, Uttar Pradesh (India) secured _____ rank in the list.

- 1) Islamabad, Pakistan; 4th
- 2) Dhaka, Bangladesh; 2nd
- 3) Belgrade, Serbia; 3rd
- 4) Islamabad, Pakistan; 2nd
- 5) Dhaka, Bangladesh; 3rd

Answer- 2) Dhaka, Bangladesh; 2nd

Explanation:

According to the recent Annual Frontier Report 2022, titled 'Noise, Blazes and Mismatches' published by the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP), **Moradabad in Uttar Pradesh** is the **second** most noise polluted city with a maximum recorded noise pollution level of 114 decibels (dB).

i. As per the report, the Most polluted city is **Dhaka, Bangladesh's capital** records the noise pollution level of 119 decibels, Pakistan's capital city Islamabad ranked Third.

ii. 3 Indian cities are among the top 15 most noise polluted cities in the world. They are Moradabad (Uttar Pradesh), Kolkata (West Bengal), and Asansol (West Bengal).

iii. World's Quietest Cities: The UNEP report found that Irbid (Jordan) at 60 dB is the world's quietest city, followed by Lyon (France), Madrid (Spain), Stockholm (Sweden), and Belgrade (Serbia).

18. As per the National TB Prevalence Survey in India 2019-2021' Report, _____ topped the TB prevalence in India among the population aged above 15 years and among all age groups.

- 1) Chhattisgarh
- 2) Gujarat
- 3) Delhi
- 4) Kerala
- 5) Rajasthan

Answer- 3) Delhi

Explanation:

According to the 'India TB Report 2022 - Coming Together to End TB Altogether', India has recorded a 19% increase in Tuberculosis (TB) cases in 2021 over 2020.

i. As per '**National TB Prevalence Survey in India 2019-2021**' Report, **Delhi** has topped the TB Prevalence in India (among the population aged above 15 years and among all age groups) with 534 cases per 1 lakh population and 747 per 1 Lakh population (highest in India) respectively.

ii. The report was released by Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya during the "STEP Up to End TB 2022" Summit organised on the occasion of World TB Day 2022.

ACQUISITION AND MERGERS

1. CCI recently (in March'22) gave approval to Amazon Asia-Pacific Resources Pvt. Ltd (AAPRPL) for acquiring which online marketplaces?

- 1) eBay Inc
- 2) Alibaba Group Holding Ltd
- 3) Prione Business Services Pvt Ltd
- 4) Udaan Pvt Ltd
- 5) IndiaMART InterMESH Ltd

Answer- 3) Prione Business Services Pvt Ltd

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposal of Amazon Asia-Pacific Resources Private Limited(AAPRPL), an indirect wholly-owned subsidiary of Amazon.com, Inc., to acquire Prione Business Services Private Limited (PBSPL or Prione), which runs Cloudbtail, one of the largest online marketplaces in India.

- Target is: Prione Business Services Private Limited
- Acquirer is: Amazon Asia-Pacific Resources Private Limited

The Proposed Combination comprises the acquisition of 76% of the equity shares of Prione by AAPRPL.

2. In March 2022, CCI approved the acquisition of _____ share capital of L&T Investment Management Limited (L&T AMC) by HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited (HSBC AMC).

- 1) 90%
- 2) 50%
- 3) 80%
- 4) 100%
- 5) 75%

Answer- 4) 100%

Explanation:

CCI has approved the acquisition of 100% share capital of (Larsen & Toubro) L&T Investment Management Limited (L&T AMC) by HSBC Asset Management (India) Private Limited (HSBC AMC).

i. The proposed transaction relates to the acquisition of 100% share capital of L&T AMC by HSBC AMC from L&T Finance Holdings Limited.

ii. The Proposed Transaction is in the nature of an acquisition of shares under Section 5(a)(i)(A) of the Competition Act, 2002.

3. In March 2022, _____ became one of the stakeholders of India Debt Resolution Company Limited (IDRCL) by acquiring _____ of stake.

- 1) UCO Bank; 3%
- 2) Union Bank of India; 6%
- 3) Bank of India; 5%

4) Union Bank of India; 4%

5) Bank of India; 3%

Answer- **1) UCO Bank; 3%**

Explanation:

The **UCO Bank** became one of the stakeholders of India Debt Resolution Company Limited (**IDRCL**) by acquiring **3% of stake**.

i. According to the bank, its holding of 3% in IDRCL amounts to Rs.1.50 crores, requires no approval and the agreement is in accordance with Regulation 30 of the SEBI (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.

About UCO Bank:

MD & CEO – Shri Soma Sankara Prasad

Founded in – 1943

Headquarters – Kolkata, West Bengal

4. In March 2022, _____ acquired a _____ stake in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL) for a total cash consideration of Rs 137.5 crore in tranches.

1) Indian Bank; 5%

2) ICICI Bank; 6%

3) IDBI Bank; 4%

4) ICICI Bank; 5%

5) IDBI Bank; 3%

Answer- **4) ICICI Bank; 5%**

Explanation:

ICICI Bank is set to acquire a **5% stake** in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (**NARCL**) for a total cash consideration of up to Rs **137.5 crore** in tranches.

i. The equity investment will be in tranches with the 1st tranche of equity investment of Rs 70.45 crore. This is expected to be completed by 31st March 2022.

About ICICI Bank:

MD & CEO– Sandeep Bakhshi

Headquarters– Mumbai, Maharashtra

Tagline– Khayaal Aapka

5. CCI recently (in March'22) approved the acquisition of equity stake in _____ by Generali Participations Netherlands N.V. (GPN).

1) Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company Ltd

2) Aegon Life Insurance Company Ltd

3) Future Generali India Insurance Company Ltd

4) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance Company Ltd

5) Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance Company Ltd

Answer- **3) Future Generali India Insurance Company Ltd**

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (**CCI**) approves acquisition of equity stake in Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited (**FGIIC**) by Generali Participations Netherlands N.V. (**GPN**).

i. GPN proposes to acquire approx. 25% of the equity share capital of FGIIC held by Future Enterprises Limited, pursuant to which GPN's aggregate (direct and indirect) shareholding in FGIIC will be increased from 49% to approx. 74%.

Acquirer- Generali Participations Netherlands N.V. (GPN); **Target** –Future Generali India Insurance Company Limited (FGIIC).

6. In March 2022, CCI approved the acquisition of Micro Life Sciences Private Limited by which company?

- 1) Phoenix ARC Private Limited
- 2) South Elm Investments (SEI) B.V.
- 3) IGE (India) Private Limited
- 4) Avendus Capital Private Limited
- 5) PNB MetLife India Insurance

Answer- **2) South Elm Investments (SEI) B.V.**

Explanation:

CCI also approves acquisition of Micro Life Sciences Private Limited by South Elm Investments (SEI) B.V.

Target- Micro Life Sciences Private Limited (Micro Life); **Acquirer-**South Elm Investments B.V. (SEI).

i. SEI is an investment holding company incorporated under the laws of the Netherlands.

7. In March 2022, Torrent Power Signed a Share Purchase & Holders Agreement to Acquire _____ Stake in Power Distribution Utility of Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Daman & Diu.

- 1) 80%
- 2) 51%
- 3) 75%
- 4) 25%
- 5) 10%

Answer- **2) 51%**

Explanation:

Torrent Power Limited signed a Share Purchase Agreement (**SPA**) and Shareholders Agreement (**SHA**) with Administrator of the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu (Holding Entity) and Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd (the SPV) to acquire **51 % equity** of Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu Power Distribution Corporation Ltd.

About Torrent Power Limited:

Headquarters- Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Founded- 1996

Chairman- Samir Mehta

8. In March 2022, Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. increased its stake in Carnot Technologies Private Ltd to _____% from 15.60% with an investment of around Rs 14 crore.

- 1) 25.87%
- 2) 40.76%

3) 35.94%

4) 52.69%

5) 50.27%

Answer- **4) 52.69%**

Explanation:

Mahindra & Mahindra Limited (**M&M**) is set to **increase** its stake in Carnot Technologies Private Limited to **52.69%** with an investment of around Rs 14 crore.

i. At present M&M **holds 15.60%** of the equity share capital of Carnot, which provides products and services related to internet-connected devices for monitoring the performance of vehicles.

ii. M&M will make a primary infusion of ~ Rs 2.5 crore for the subscription of 1,613 Series C CCCPS (cumulative compulsorily convertible preference shares) of Carnot of Rs 100 each at a premium of Rs 15,391.65 per CCCPS.

9. In March 2022, _____ acquired a 5% stake and Punjab & Sind Bank acquired a _____ stake in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL).

1) Axis Bank; 6%

2) HDFC Bank; 2%

3) ICICI Bank; 4%

4) HDFC Bank; 6%

5) ICICI Bank; 2%

Answer- **5) ICICI Bank; 2%**

Explanation:

ICICI Bank and Punjab & Sind Bank have signed agreements to pick up stakes in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL).

i. ICICI Bank will be investing Rs 137.5 crore to acquire a **5% stake**, and **Punjab & Sind Bank** will put in Rs 55 crore for a **2% stake**.

ii. The equity investment will be done in tranches, and the 1st investment of Rs 28.18 crore is expected to be completed by 31st March 2022

10. Which digital payment company recently (in March'22) announced its acquisition of a 100% stake in GigIndia?

1) Freecharge

2) BharatPe

3) PhonePe

4) MobiKwik

5) Paytm

Answer- **3) PhonePe**

Explanation:

PhonePe, a digital payment company backed by Flipkart announced the acquisition of **100 %** stake in **GigIndia**, which is a network for freelance micro-entrepreneurs. Objective-To strengthen its offerings to corporate and enterprise partners.

i. Under the acquisition, PhonePe will get the leverage of GigIndia's network of 1.5 million freelance micro-entrepreneurs to help corporates and promote development.

ii. GigIndia's customer base includes companies like Amazon, Paytm, Tata Group, Reliance Industries, Swiggy, PayU, among others.

11. In March 2022, State Bank of India, Kotak Mahindra Bank and Axis Bank acquired a _____ stake each in Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).

- 1) 9.65%
- 2) 5.60%
- 3) 7.84%
- 4) 8.00%
- 5) 6.59%

Answer- 3) 7.84%

Explanation:

State Bank of India (SBI), Kotak Mahindra Bank and Axis Bank have invested Rs 10 crore each and acquired **7.84% stake** each in Open Network for Digital Commerce (**ONDC**), an open-source e-commerce platform engaged in creating an open public digital infrastructure.

About ONDC:

i. ONDC, incorporated on 30th December 2021, is an initiative of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI).

ii. It is a globally first-of-its-kind initiative that aims to democratise Digital Commerce, moving it from a platform-centric model to an open network

iii. As UPI is to the digital payment domain, ONDC is to e-commerce in India.

12. In March 2022, Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves Acquisition of Shareholding of _____ by BXG Xenon HoldCo Ltd.

- 1) BusyBees Logistics Solutions Pvt Ltd
- 2) Allcargo Logistics Ltd
- 3) Blue Dart Express Ltd
- 4) Aegis Logistics Ltd
- 5) Mahindra Logistics Ltd

Answer- 1) **BusyBees Logistics Solutions Pvt Ltd**

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (**CCI**) has proposed combination envisages the acquisition of certain equity shareholding on a fully diluted basis in BusyBees Logistics Solutions Private Limited (**Target**), which operates in India under the brand name 'Xpressbees' by BXG Xenon HoldCo Ltd (**Acquirer**).

About BXG Xenon HoldCo Ltd:

BXG Xenon HoldCo Ltd, controlled by funds advised and /or managed by affiliates of Blackstone Inc is a newly incorporated entity and at present does not have any business operations, in India or worldwide.

13. In March 2022, CCI approved the acquisition of _____ % in Xpressbees by TPG SF.

- 1) 3%
- 2) 6%
- 3) 4%

4) 7%

5) 5%

Answer- **4) 7%**

Explanation:

CCI has also approved the acquisition proposed by TPG Growth V SF Markets Pte Ltd (**TPG SF**) to acquire around **7%** shareholding (on a fully diluted basis) of Busybees Logistics Solutions Private Limited, which operates in India under the brand name '**Xpressbees**'

i. TPG SF is majority-owned and controlled by certain affiliates of TPG, Inc. the ultimate holding company of the TPG group, a global, diversified investment firm.

ii. The proposed transaction is notifiable under Section 5(a)(i)(A) of the Competition Act, 2002.

14. In March 2022, RBI Gives Approval to SBI Group of Entities to Pick Up 9.99% stake in which Bank for 1 Year?

1) IndusInd Bank

2) ICICI Bank

3) Axis Bank

4) HDFC Bank

5) Yes Bank

Answer- **2) ICICI Bank**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) approved **SBIFML** (State Bank of India Mutual Fund Limited)/SBI Mutual Fund, along with other SBI group companies, to acquire up to **9.99%** equity capital in the **ICICI Bank**. The approval to SBI Mutual Fund is valid for a period of one year that is up to 22 March, 2023.

i. RBI instructed SBIFML to ensure that the SBI groups shareholding remains below 10% at all times. The approval is subject to compliance with the provisions of Banking Regulation Act 1949.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI):

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Founded- 1 April 1935

Governor- Shaktikanta Das

15. Bank of India (BoI) has recently (in March'22) invested _____ in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL).

1) Rs 467.43 crore

2) Rs 523.21 crore

3) Rs 307.67 crore

4) Rs 208.21 crore

5) Rs 108.81 crore

Answer- **5) Rs 108.81 crore**

Explanation:

The Bank of India (**BoI**) has **invested** around **Rs 108.81 crore** in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (**NARCL**), under the preferential share issue.

i. Following this, BoI's shareholding in NARCL is set to become 9% as of 21st March 2022.

16. In March 2022, ICICI Bank & HDFC Bank signed an investment agreement for a _____ stake in India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL).

- 1) 30%
- 2) 25%
- 3) 15%
- 4) 10%
- 5) 20%

Answer- **3) 15%**

Explanation:

The **ICICI Bank & HDFC Bank** signed an investment agreement for a **15%** stake in India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (**IDRCL**). The IDRCL was established to manage stressed assets in India.

i. The approval for the deal was given by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance.

ii. IDRCL works in tandem with the National Asset Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL) to clean up bad loans.

iii. HDFC Bank will also acquire a 15% equity stake in IDRCL for Rs. 7.50 crore. The first tranche of equity investment for Rs 3 crore is expected to be complete by 31 March 2022.

17. At what percentage the central government recently (in March'22) sold its stake in Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) through an Offer for Sale (OFS) to raise Rs 3,000 crore?

- 1) 1.0%
- 2) 4.2%
- 3) 2.0%
- 4) 1.5%
- 5) 3.2%

Answer- **4) 1.5%**

Explanation:

The **Central Government** is selling its **1.5% stake** in Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (**ONGC**) through an Offer for Sale (**OFS**) to raise worth ~Rs 3,000 crore. It is being sold at a 7% discounted floor price of Rs 159/share. The 1.5% equity stake sale also includes a 0.75% greenshoe option.

i. The OFS is open on March 30-31, 2022. The Central Government owns a 60.41% stake in ONGC.

ii. The Central Government as a promoter is selling up to 94,352,094 equity shares of ONGC with a face value of Rs 5 each on March 30, 2022 (to non-retail investors) and on March 31, 2022 (to retail investors) with an option to additionally sell (greenshoe option) 94,352,094 equity shares in case of oversubscription

18. In March 2022, IDBI Bank sold its _____ stake in Ageas Federal Life Insurance Company (AFLI) to Ageas Insurance International NV.

- 1) 30%
- 2) 25%
- 3) 10%
- 4) 35%
- 5) 40%

Answer- 2) 25%

Explanation:

Industrial Development Bank of India (**IDBI Bank**) announced to offload its **25% stake** in Ageas Federal Life Insurance Company (**AFLI**) to Ageas Insurance International NV.

i. The board of directors of the IDBI Bank approved to sell its 200 million equity shares in AFLI to Ageas pursuant to exercise of Call Option by Ageas.

ii. In December 2020, IDBI Bank also sold a 23% stake in an insurance joint venture (JV) to Ageas Insurance International for Rs 507.10 crore, following this the insurer's name was changed from IDBI Federal Life Insurance to Ageas Federal Life Insurance company limited by this raised Ageas stake to 49% in the insurance company.

About Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI):

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

CEO & MD- Rakesh Sharma

Tagline- Bank Aisa Dost Jaisa

DEFENCE

1. Which country recently (in Feb'22) conducted the 3rd edition of 'EX DHARMA GUARDIAN-2022' military exercise along with India in Belagavi, Karnataka?

- 1) Bangladesh
- 2) Sri Lanka
- 3) Japan
- 4) France
- 5) US

Answer- 3) Japan

Explanation:

The **3rd** Edition of '**EX DHARMA GUARDIAN-2022**' military exercise, between India and Japan is being conducted at Foreign Training Node, **Belagavi** (Belgaum, **Karnataka**) from February 27, 2022 to March 10, 2022.

i. This 12-day long exercise covers platoon level joint training on operations in the jungle and semi urban/urban terrain.

ii. The joint field training exercises, joint combat discussions and joint demonstrations will culminate with a two-day validation exercise scheduled on March 8-9, 2022.

iii. The exercise is being conducted in India since 2018 to enhance defence cooperation between the Indian Army and JGSDF, and to further foster the bilateral relations between the two nations.

2. Which country participated with India in the 9th edition of Maritime Bilateral Exercise 'SLINEX-21' that was held in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh?

- 1) France
- 2) Sri Lanka
- 3) Singapore
- 4) Seychelles
- 5) Bangladesh

Answer- 2) Sri Lanka

Explanation:

The **9th edition** of **Sri Lanka-India** Naval Exercise, '**SLINEX-21**', a Bilateral Maritime Exercise is being held at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (AP) from March 7-10, 2022 between the Indian Navy (IN) and Sri Lanka Navy (SLN).

i. SLINEX is conducting in two phases, the Harbour Phase at Visakhapatnam on March 7-8, and Sea Phase on March 9-10 in the Bay of Bengal.

ii. Representors: IN- INS (Indian Naval Ship) Kirch, a guided missile corvette, other participants from IN include **INS Jyoti**, a Fleet support tanker, Advanced Light Helicopter (ALH), Seaking and Chetak Helicopters and Dornier Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

SLN- SLNS Sayurala, an advanced offshore patrol vessel.

iii. The 8th edition of SLINEX-20 was conducted off Trincomalee, a port city of Srilanka in October 2020.

3. Indian Air Force (IAF) decided to postpone the exercise _____ which was scheduled to be held in Pokhran ranges in Rajasthan on 7th March 2022.

- 1) Vijay Prahar
- 2) Vayu Shakti
- 3) Paschim Lehar
- 4) Gandiv Vijay
- 5) Yudh Abhyas

Answer- 2) Vayu Shakti

Explanation:

The **Indian Air Force (IAF)** has decided to **postpone** its firepower demonstration, Exercise **Vayu Shakti**, which was scheduled to be held in Pokhran ranges in Rajasthan on 7th March 2022. The reason for deferring the exercise was not disclosed.

i. IAF's 148 aircraft were scheduled to demonstrate their capabilities at Exercise Vayu Shakti.

ii. The last edition of Vayu Shakti was held in February 2019.

4. In March 2022, the ____ edition of DefExpo-2022 was postponed due to Logistics Problems.

- 1) 10th
- 2) 14th
- 3) 15th
- 4) 12th
- 5) 16th

Answer- 4) 12th

Explanation:

The **12th** edition of **DefExpo-2022**, Naval & Homeland Security Systems Exhibition, India's flagship defence exhibition, which was proposed to be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 10th to 14th March 2022, has been postponed.

i. The reason for the postpone is the logistics problems experienced by participants, and the new dates will be announced later. The Defence Exhibition Organization (DEO), under the Ministry of Defence, is the organizer of the exhibition.

ii. The theme of DefExpo 2022 is "India-The Emerging Defence Manufacturing Hub".

5. Which company recently (in March'22) signed an agreement with Dredging Corporation of India (DCI) to build "India's 1st Make in India Dredger" in collaboration with IHC Holland?

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

Answer- **4) Cochin Shipyard Ltd**

Explanation:

Cochin Shipyard Limited (**CSL**) signed an agreement with Dredging Corporation of India Limited (**DCIL**) to build **India's first Make in India dredger** in collaboration with the Industriële Handels Combinatie (**IHC**) **Holland**. The construction of the dredger costs around Rs 920 crore and will be delivered in 34 months.

i. The **objective** of the dredger is to **fulfill** the Maritime **India Vision 2030**, with well-equipped dredgers for operation of ports to bring down the logistic cost of the cargo.

ii. A dredger is a **boat** which is fitted with a special machine that is used to increase the size of harbours, rivers, and canals and its **127-metre-long**, 28-metre-wide vessel (dredger) is based on the 'Beagle' platform of IHC.

6. Rajnath Singh, Union Defence minister recently (in March'22) inaugurated a new Flight Control System (FCS) integration complex in Bengaluru Karnataka.

FCS Integration building was constructed by which of the following companies?

- 1) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- 2) Larsen & Toubro
- 3) HAL
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **4) Both 1 & 2**

Explanation:

The Union Defence minister, Rajnath Singh inaugurated a new Flight Control System (**FCS**) **integration complex** at the Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE), **Bengaluru Karnataka**.

i. The seven-storey FCS Integration building was constructed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) with the help of Larsen & Toubro (**L&T**) in an area of 1.3 lakh square feet with a record of 45 days in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

7. Which state's police recently (in March'22) conducted a joint exercise "Suraksha Kavach 2" with the Indian Army?

- 1) Jharkhand
- 2) Andhra Pradesh
- 3) Odisha

- 4) Maharashtra
- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **4) Maharashtra**

Explanation:

Indian Army's "Agnibaaz Division" organised a joint exercise "**Suraksha Kavach 2**" with **Maharashtra Police** at Lullanagar, Pune. The exercise aimed to counter any terrorist actions in Pune.

- i. The exercise involved participation of Counter Terrorism Task Force (CTTF) of Indian Army, Anti-Terrorism Squad of Maharashtra Police along with Quick Reaction Teams (QRTs), Dog Squads and Bomb Disposal Teams of both agencies.
- ii. The simulated exercise took place at the scenario of terrorists in a populated area and was performed at the under construction site at Lullanagar.

8. The 3rd Edition of Exercise Dustlik, a joint training exercise between the armies of India and which country?

- 1) France
- 2) Kyrgyzstan
- 3) Russia
- 4) Germany
- 5) Uzbekistan

Answer- **5) Uzbekistan**

Explanation:

The **3rd Edition of Exercise Dustlik** (Ex-Dustlik), a joint training exercise between the armies of **India** and **Uzbekistan** is being conducted at Yangiariq, Uzbekistan from 22 to 31 March 2022.

- i. Ex-Dustlik focus on Counter-Terrorism operations in semi-urban terrain under a United Nations(UN) Mandate.

About Ex-Dustlik: To enhance understanding, cooperation and interoperability between two armies (India and Uzbekistan).

9. Name the security exercise that was conducted by Western Naval Command in western Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Mumbai.

- 1) Ekatah
- 2) Maiden
- 3) Prasthan
- 4) La Perouse
- 5) Paschim Lehar

Answer- **3) Prasthan**

Explanation:

The Western Naval Command on 23 March 2022, conducts offshore security exercise 'Prasthan' in B-193 platform of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC) in Offshore Development Area (ODA) off Mumbai (located about 38 nm west of Mumbai).

- i. The bi-annual exercise aims to assess the readiness of the stakeholders involved in offshore defence to respond to contingencies in the Western Offshore Development Area (ODA) in a coordinated manner.

About Western Naval Command:

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief – Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh, AVSM, VSM

Branch – Indian Navy

10. Which company recently (in March'22) signed a Rs 473 crore contract with the Ministry of Defence to construct 8 Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV) for the Indian Coast Guard?

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

Answer- 2) Goa shipyard Ltd

Explanation:

The Ministry of Defence (**MoD**) signed a contract worth **Rs 473 crore** with Goa Shipyard Limited (**GSL**) for the construction of **eight Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV)** for the Indian Coast Guard while meeting the objectives of 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

i. The contract was signed by Joint Secretary (Maritime & Systems), Shri Dinesh Kumar and the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Goa Shipyard Limited, Commodore Bharat Bhushan Nagpal (Retd) in New Delhi.

ii. The eight Fast Patrol Vessels (FPV) will be indigenously designed and manufactured by Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) under Buy Category.

11. Name the company that recently (in March'22) signed a Rs 3,102 Crore contract with the Ministry of Defence to supply an Advanced Electronic Warfare (EW) suite for Fighter aircraft & Instrumented Electronic Warfare Range (IEWR) for the IAF.

- 1) Bharat Dynamics Ltd
- 2) DRDO
- 3) Bharat Electronics Ltd
- 4) ISRO
- 5) Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd

Answer- 3) Bharat Electronics Ltd

Explanation:

Ministry of Defence (**MoD**) Signed a Contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (**BEL**) Bengaluru, Karnataka and BEL Hyderabad, Telangana for supply of Advanced Electronic Warfare (EW) suite for Fighter aircraft & for Instrumented Electronic Warfare Range (IEWR) for the Indian Air Force (IAF) respectively with a total outlay of Rs.3,102 Crore.

i. MoD and BEL, Bengaluru, Karnataka signed a Contract worth Rs.1993 Crore for supply of Advanced EW suite for Fighter aircraft of IAF and the EW suite was designed & developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation

ii. A contract has been signed between the MoD and BEL, Hyderabad, Telangana for the development of an IEWR for the IAF at a cost of ~Rs 1,109 crore.

12. Name the second P-8I aircraft squadron that was recently (in March'22) commissioned by the Indian Navy at the INS Hansa, Goa.

- 1) INAS 316
- 2) INAS 552
- 3) INAS 308
- 4) INAS 342
- 5) INAS 561

Answer- **1) INAS 316**

Explanation:

The Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) Admiral Radhakrishnan Hari Kumar commissioned a second P-8I aircraft squadron of four aircraft named 'Indian Naval Air Squadron **(INAS) 316'** at the INS (Indian Naval Ship) Hansa Naval air base in Goa.

i. INAS 316 has been christened '**The Condors**', one of the world's largest flying birds with a large wingspan.

ii. Boeing has developed a 10-year 'Communication, Navigation and Surveillance/Air Traffic Management (CNS/ATM) modernisation roadmap' for the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to modernize its air traffic management.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. In February 2022, China claimed a domestic record for launching 22 satellites into space by using which of the following rocket?

- 1) Long March-8 rocket
- 2) Long March 4A rocket
- 3) Jielong 1 rocket
- 4) Long March 3C rocket
- 5) Long March 2E rocket

Answer- **1) Long March-8 rocket**

Explanation:

China claimed a domestic record for the most spacecraft launched by a single rocket by launching a '**Long March-8 rocket**' to place **22 satellites** in space from the 'Wenchang Spacecraft Launch Site' in south China's Hainan Province with the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC).

About China:

Capital – Beijing

Currency – Renminbi

President – Xi Jinping

2. Which country's researchers recently (in Feb '22) discovered the 130 Elektra, the 3rd moon in the main-belt asteroid Elektra along with France?

- 1) USA
- 2) Thailand
- 3) Indonesia

4) Germany

5) Russia

Answer- **2) Thailand**

Explanation:

A Team of researchers from Thailand and France led by Anthony Berdeu of the National Astronomical Research Institute, Thailand have discovered a **third moon (130 Elektra)** orbiting the main-belt asteroid Elektra, which already has two moons in its orbit.

i. The discovery of the new moonlet has made Elektra as the 1st known quadruple asteroid system in our solar system.

About Elektra:

i. The Elektra with an effective diameter of 199 km is located in the main asteroid belt of the solar system between Mars and Jupiter.

ii. The moonlets of Elektra are named S/2003 (130) 1, S/2014 (130) 1 and the newly discovered S/2014 (130) 2

3. Which Institute recently (in Feb'22) developed a Novel nanoparticle-based bio-degradable-carbonoid-metabolite (BioDCM) to protect crops from Diseases?

1) IIT-Delhi

2) IIT-Madras

3) IIT-Guwahati

4) IIT-Roorkee

5) IIT-Kanpur

Answer- **5) IIT-Kanpur**

Explanation:

A team of researchers of the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, **(IIT-K)** has developed a Novel **nanoparticle**-based bio-degradable-carbonoid-metabolite **(BioDCM)** that can protect crops from fungal and bacterial infections.

About the researchers:

The research team was led by Santosh K Misra and Piyush Kumar from the department of biological sciences and bioengineering along with researchers C Kannan and Divya Mishra from Indian Council of Agricultural Research(ICAR)-Indian Institute of Rice Research, and R Balamurugan and Mou Mandal from the School of Chemistry, University of Hyderabad.

About Indian Institute of Technology – Kanpur (IIT-K):

Establishment – 1959

Director – Professor Abhay Karandikar

Location – Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh

4. Which organisation recently (in March'22) launched the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's new Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite named "GOES-T" through the Atlas V 541 rocket?

1) ISRO

2) NASA

3) European Space Agency

4) JAXA

5) SpaceX

Answer- **2) NASA**

Explanation:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) has successfully launched the **third** in a **series** of 'Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellites (**GOES**)-R' weather satellites namely **GOES-T** through United Launch Alliance **Atlas V 541 rocket** from Space Launch Complex 41 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in **Florida, United States (US)**.

i. It was **launched for** the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (**NOAA**).

ii. The first two of the GOES-R series were launched in 2016 and 2018 viz. GOES-16 and GOES-17 respectively.

iii. **Once GOES-T** is **positioned** in a geostationary orbit 22,300 miles above Earth, it will be renamed **GOES-18**.

5. In March 2022, India's 1st Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (FSRU) named "Höegh Giant" arrived at H-Energy's _____ from Keppel Shipyard.

1) Cochin Terminal, Kerala

2) Chennai Terminal, Tamil Nadu

3) Visakhapatnam Terminal, Andhra Pradesh

4) Jaigarh Terminal, Maharashtra

5) Paradip Terminal, Odisha

Answer- **4) Jaigarh Terminal, Maharashtra**

Explanation:

India's **first** Floating Storage and Regasification Unit (**FSRU**), **Höegh Giant** which sailed **from Keppel Shipyard, Singapore** has arrived at H-Energy's **Jaigarh Terminal** in **Maharashtra (MH)** that has chartered the FSRU for a 10 years.

i. This will be the 1st year-round Liquefied Natural Gas (**LNG**) terminal which is located at JSW Jaigarh Port in the Ratnagiri district, MH.

ii. Höegh Giant was built in 2017 with storage capacity of 170,000 cubic metres and installed regasification capacity of 750 million cubic feet per day (that equals to about 6 million tonnes a year).

6. Which organisation developed Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuits (MMICs) that will be used in radar imaging satellite modules of EOS 04?

1) DRDO

2) ISRO

3) HAL

4) Bharat Dynamics Ltd

5) Bharat Electronics Ltd

Answer- **1) DRDO**

Explanation:

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) developed Monolithic Microwave Integrated Circuits (**MMICs**), which will be used in radar imaging satellite modules of **EOS 04** (Earth Observation Satellite - 04).

i. EOS 04 was launched by ISRO (Indian Space Research Organization) on 14th Feb 2022.

ii. MMIC is a type of integrated circuit, it operates at microwave frequencies. Their function is to perform microwave mixing, power amplification, low-noise amplification, and high-frequency switching.

About Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO):

Headquarters- New Delhi

Founded- 1958

Chairman- Dr G Satheesh Reddy

7. Indian Navy recently (in March'22) tested-fire Brahmos supersonic cruise missile from which of the following Indian Navy Ship (INS)?

- 1) INS Surat
- 2) INS Kochi
- 3) INS Kolkata
- 4) INS Chennai
- 5) INS Mumbai

Answer- **4) INS Chennai**

Explanation:

The **Indian Navy** successfully tested the accuracy of an extended range of Brahmos supersonic cruise missile from the stealth destroyer Indian Navy Ship (**INS) Chennai**.

i. In 2020, India successfully test fired the anti-radiation Rudram-1 missile. It was the first indigenously developed anti-radiation missile of India.

ii. Both Brahmos missile and INS Chennai are indigenously built and highlight the cutting-edge of Indian missile and ship-building prowess.

iii. INS Chennai is a stealth guided missile destroyer of the Indian Navy constructed by the Mazagon Dock Limited at Mumbai.

8. In March 2022, India's 1st indigenous flying trainer named 'HANSA-NG (New Generation)' completed the sea-level trials at Puducherry.

Which organization developed the 'HANSA-NG'?

- 1) Bharat Electronics Limited
- 2) CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories
- 3) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- 4) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 5) Indian Space Research Organisation

Answer- **2) CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories**

Explanation:

India's first indigenous flying trainer '**HANSA-NG (New Generation)**' designed and **developed** by Bengaluru (Karnataka) based **CSIR-National Aerospace Laboratories (NAL)**, has successfully completed the sea-level trials at Puducherry from February 19 to March 5, 2022.

i. The aircraft was flown to Puducherry covering 140 nautical miles in one-and-half-hours at a speed of 155 km per hour.

ii. NAL operates under the aegis of Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR).

iii. HANSA-NG is an ideal aircraft for Commercial Pilot Licensing (CPL) due to its low cost and low fuel consumption.

9. Which of the following points are correct with respect to the Europa Clipper Spacecraft?

- 1) In March 2022, NASA has started the assembly of 'Europa Clipper Spacecraft' a new spacecraft that will carry out the Europa clipper mission.
- 2) The spacecraft has been designed & constructed by Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center & Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).
- 3) The Spacecraft is targeted to be launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida in October 2024.
- 4) Only 1 & 2
- 5) Only 1, 2 & 3

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

Explanation:

In March 2022, NASA has started the assembly of 'Europa Clipper Spacecraft' a new spacecraft that will carry out the Europa clipper mission. Europa Clipper Mission is meant to scan Europa, one of the Galilean moons of Jupiter

i. The spacecraft has been designed & constructed by Johns Hopkins Applied Physics Laboratory (APL), NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center & Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL).

ii. The Spacecraft is targeted to be launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida in October 2024.

Features:

- The main body of the spacecraft which comprises a propulsion system measures 10 feet tall (3 meters).
- The fully assembled spacecraft will be as large as an SUV (Sport Utility Vehicle) and it will be equipped with solar arrays long enough to span a basketball court.

10. Which company recently (in March'22) launched NASA's Watts on the Moon Phase 2 Challenge prize competition?

- 1) Idea Bounty
- 2) Innocentive
- 3) OpenIdeo
- 4) CrowdSpring
- 5) HeroX

Answer- **5) HeroX**

Explanation:

HeroX, the leading platform and open marketplace for crowdsourced solutions, launched NASA's Watts on the Moon Phase 2 Challenge prize competition (only for US citizens or permanent residents) on behalf of NASA. This supports NASA's return to the Moon under Mission Artemis.

i. The Watts on the Moon Challenge is USD 5 million, the two-phase competition focused on addressing critical gaps in lunar surface power systems, specifically related to power transmission and energy storage.

11. In which institute was the petascale supercomputer "PARAM Ganga" with a capacity of 1.66 petaflops established under the National Supercomputing Mission (NSM)?

- 1) IIT- Kanpur
- 2) IIT- Guwahati
- 3) IIT- Madras
- 4) IIT- Delhi