

CURRENT AFFAIRS MAY QUESTIONS 2018

1. On 1st May 2018, Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Raman Singh and union minister of state for railways Ranjan Gohain flagged off _____, which began its service from Raipur, Chhattisgarh on its first day?

- (a) Ayodhya Express (b) Antyodaya Express
(c) Amaravati Express (d) Bhatinda Express
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Antyodaya Express Explanation: Antyodaya Express began its service from Raipur, Chhattisgarh on its first day. It is a fully unreserved, well-equipped weekly train between Durg and Firozpur Cantt. The train features modern coaches, RO drinking water, mobile charging facilities, bio-toilets, LED lights etc.

2. Who is the Indian Information Services (IIS) officer who took over as the Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB), on May 1, 2018?

- (a) Subash Chandra Garg (b) Sitanshu Ranjan Kar
(c) Rajeev Kumar (d) Bijoy Mathew
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Sitanshu Ranjan Kar Explanation: Sitanshu Ranjan Kar is a 1983-batch IIS officer, who has served at key positions in various media units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting viz. All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan. He joined PIB in 2003. He succeeds Frank Noronha (superannuated on April 30, 2018) as the Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB). In 1988, Sitanshu Ranjan Kar became the first Indian to win the prestigious Visnews Fellowship of London, under which, he travelled throughout Europe and North America to experience cutting-edge technologies being used in television news production by leading broadcasters.

3. Name the Indian who won a silver medal in the 10m air pistol event of the ISSF World Cup Stage 2?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh (b) Shahzar Rizvi
(c) Jitu Rai (d) Ananth Kumar
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Shahzar Rizvi Explanation: Shahzar Rizvi won India's first medal at the ISSF World Cup Stage 2. He won a silver medal in the 10m air pistol event. He scored 239.8. Russia's Artem Chernousov won the gold medal with a final score of 240. Bronze medal was won by Bulgaria's Samuil Donkov whose total score was 217.1.

4. Name the former Finance minister of West Bengal _____ who passed away after suffering from respiratory problems, at a hospital in Kolkata?

- (a) Ashok Mitra (b) Ashok Mittal
(c) Ravinder Singh (d) Ajay Kumar
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Ashok Mitra Explanation: Ashok Mitra was 90 years old. He has written a few books. He is an eminent economist. He had written columns in newspapers on social and economic issues. He was the Finance minister of West Bengal from 1977 to 1987. He was the Chief Economic Adviser to the Central Government from 1970 to 1972.

5. Which state became the first state of India to provide digitally-signed land record receipts (also known as 7/12 receipts) on 2nd May 2018?

- (a) Tamil Nadu (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Maharashtra (d) Gujarat
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Maharashtra Explanation: 7/12 receipt is the most important document which establishes the ownership of the land. Farmers are required to provide it while applying for loans. Besides, it is also used by the government during crop surveys and to extend various facilities. With digital authentication, the farmers will no longer have to visit revenue offices or the Maha e-seva centres. They would simply be required to quote the gat (group) number or survey number to bank or a government department, through which respective agency can ensure the 7/12 receipt online. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis claimed that this initiative will enhance 'ease of doing business', would check irregularities and bring in transparency.

6. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY) beyond 12th Five Year Plan for a period 2017-18 to _____ with a cost of Rs. 14,832 crores?

- (a) 2020-21 (b) 2019-20
(c) 2022-23 (d) 2018-19
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) 2019-20 Explanation: Union Health Minister J P Nadda, said that PMSSY aims to correct regional imbalances in the availability of affordable tertiary healthcare services and to expand facilities for quality medical education in India. He said that, the same number of posts will be created for a 960 bedded hospital for the new AIIMS that are set up through PMSSY. He added that each new AIIMS will add 100 UG (MBBS) and 60 B.Sc (Nursing) seats, 15-20 Super Specialty Departments and 750 hospital beds.

7. Which rank does India occupy in the world level list of military spending as per a report released by Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) on 2nd May 2018?

- (a) 5 (b) 4 (c) 2 (d) 1
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) 5 Explanation: As per the SIPRI report, New Delhi's defence spending increased by 5.5 percent to \$63.9 billion in 2017. Now it has surpassed France. Worldwide military spending increased to \$ 1.73 trillion in 2017, which is nearly 2.2 percent of global gross domestic product. The list of the world's biggest military spenders is dominated by the US and China, which spent \$610 billion and \$228 billion respectively.

8. Who has been appointed as Chairman of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)?

- (a) T S Vijayan
(b) Subhash Chandra Khuntia
(c) Amritanshu Agrawal
(d) Vijay Bhaskar
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Subhash Chandra Khuntia Explanation: Subhash Chandra Khuntia is 1981-batch Karnataka-cadre Indian Administrative Services (IAS) officer. He has held positions in Hindustan Petroleum Corporation (HPCL) and Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) and has also served as Special Secretary and Financial Advisor in the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. The post of Chairman of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) was vacant for more than two months after TS Vijayan's tenure came to an end on February 21, 2018.

9. On May 2, 2018, Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved doubling the investment limit under the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandan Yojana (PMVVY) to ___?

- (a) Rs 12 lakhs (b) Rs 15 lakhs
(c) Rs 18 lakhs (d) Rs 20 lakhs
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Rs 15 lakhs Explanation: Union Cabinet has given its approval for doubling the investment limit under the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandan Yojana (PMVVY) from Rs 7.5 lakhs to Rs 15 lakhs. Subscription period for this scheme has also been extended from 4th May 2018 to 31st March, 2020. Enhancement of investment limit will now enable Senior Citizens to get up to Rs.10000 Pension per month.

10. On May 2, 2018, Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved the proposal for renaming and restructuring of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) as ___?

- (a) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)
(b) Pradhan Mantri Jal Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)
(c) Pradhan Mantri Kisan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)
(d) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)
(e) None of these

- (d) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK)
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK) Explanation: CCEA has approved the proposal for renaming and restructuring of Multi-sectoral Development Programme (MsDP) as Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK). PMJVK, which has more flexibility as compared to MsDP would provide better socio economic infrastructure facilities to the minority communities particularly in the field of education, health & skill development as compared to the present situation. Under PMJVK, criteria for identification of Minority Concentration Towns and Clusters of Villages have been rationalized. In addition to restructuring and renaming MsDP, CCEA has also approved its continuation during the remaining period of 14th Finance Commission at the cost of Rs. 3972 crore.

11. On May 2, 2018, a task force constituted by the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) presented its report on "Establishing a Coalition on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)" to the Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh. Who is the head of the task force?

- (a) Ms. Preeti Saran (b) Ms. Pinky Reddy
(c) Mr. Saran Kumar (d) Mr. Asutosh Sharma
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Ms. Preeti Saran Explanation: This task force was constituted on August 18, 2017 and is headed by Ms. Preeti Saran, Secretary (East), Ministry of External Affairs. A step-by-step implementation plan and analysis in order to build and operationalise a Coalition has been provided in the report. The study of task force covers Business case for the coalition, Analysis of best practices of international partnerships in disaster risk and other thematic areas, Preliminary design of the coalition and a Roll - out plan.

12. Which IT firm has acquired Hedera Consulting, a Belgium-based business advisory and data analytics services company?

- (a) Tata Consultancy Services Ltd (TCS)
(b) Cognizant
(c) Accenture
(d) Microsoft
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Cognizant Explanation: The value of the deal was not disclosed. Hedera Consulting will be part of Cognizant Consulting business unit after acquisition. Hedera Consulting was founded in 2009. It is specialised in growth strategy, digitisation, innovation and commercial excellence for clients in various industries.

13. Name the Indian pugilist who has been awarded the WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award?

- (a) Neeraj Goyat (b) Viddanth Sharma
(c) Siddharth Ranjan (d) Amit Bargav
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Neeraj Goyat Explanation: Neeraj Goyat is the current WBC Asia champion in welter weight category. Neerav Tomar was awarded the 'WBC Asia honorary Promoter of the year 2017 Award' by the Asian Boxing Council. The awards were presented at WBC Asia and WBC Muaythai annual awards presentation ceremony in Bangkok on 30th April 2018. Neerav Tomar is the promoter of IOS Boxing Promotions which manages Neeraj and Vijender Singh.

14. What was the theme of World Press Freedom Day 2018 celebrate on 3rd May?

- (a) Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law
- (b) Freedom of press and Rights of Journalists
- (c) Keeping Freedom in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law
- (d) Pillars of Democracy: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law Explanation: In 1993, the UN General Assembly declared May 3 as World Press Freedom Day. 3rd May is the anniversary of the Declaration of Windhoek for media pluralism and independence. World Press Freedom Day is celebrated to highlight the fundamental principles of press freedom and to offer tribute to journalists who have sacrificed their lives while on duty. The theme for World Press Freedom Day 2018 is: Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law.

15. On May 3, 2018, Minister of State for Civil Aviation Jayant Sinha stated that ____, which is scheduled to be commissioned in June 2018, will be the 100th operational airport in India?

- (a) Pakyong airport, Sikkim
- (b) Jewar Airport, Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Navi Mumbai International Airport, Maharashtra
- (d) Sabarimala Airport, Kerala
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Pakyong airport, Sikkim Explanation: Currently, Sikkim is the only state in India that does not have an airport. Post commissioning, low-cost airline SpiceJet will be operating flights to Pakyong in Sikkim from Kolkata under Civil Aviation Ministry's regional connectivity scheme, UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Naagrik). Under UDAN, 25 airports have been added to the aviation network, 13 airports are being upgraded and 23 airports and helipads have been awarded to handle helicopter operations.

16. Which entity has launched 'Free Intraday Trading', a facility that allows financial market traders to do intra-day trading without paying any brokerage per trade?

- (a) Kotak Securities Limited
- (b) National Stock Exchange
- (c) Securities Exchange Board of India
- (d) Bombay Stock Exchange
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Kotak Securities Limited Explanation: In financial parlance, intraday trading refers to the activity of buying and selling a security (equity, currency, commodity) on the same day. Under Kotak Securities' 'Free Intraday Trading' facility, traders can do intra-day trades across cash, future and options segments at an annual subscription of Rs.999. As a value added service, individuals availing 'Free Intraday Trading' facility will get free access to Kotak Securities research and technology platform for the execution of their transactions.

17. On May 5, 2018 Union Minister Nitin Gadkari laid foundation stone of four national highway projects costing Rs 1,523 crore in which state?

- (a) Telangana
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Haryana
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Telangana Explanation: On May 5, 2018 Union Minister Nitin Gadkari will lay foundation stone of four national highway projects costing Rs 1,523 crore in Telangana. The ceremony to be held in Hyderabad and it will be attended by Chief Minister K Chandrashekhar Rao. It includes six laning of Aramgarh-Shamsabad section of NH 44 between Hyderabad and Bangalore, rehabilitation and upgradation of NH 765D from Hyderabad outer ring road to Medak, construction of 4-lane flyover at Amberpet-X Roads, and construction of 6-lane elevated corridor from Uppal to Narapally on the Hyderabad-Bhopalpatnam section of NH 163.

18. To develop an innovative biopharmaceutical and medical devices industry in India, Government of India has signed an agreement with which bank?

- (a) Asian Development Bank
- (b) World Bank
- (c) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- (d) African Development Bank
- (e) None of these

Answer - (b) World Bank Explanation: The agreement has signed at a cost of USD 250 million for five years with 50 per cent funding through the World Bank Loan. The agreement for the Project was signed by Sameer Kumar Khare, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of the Government of India; Mohd. Aslam, Managing Director, Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC); and Hisham Abdo, Acting Country Director, World Bank India, on behalf of the World Bank. It will also encourage to develop promote industry-academia interface and enable start-ups and small and medium enterprises to build innovation research capacities for developing affordable healthcare products.

19. Asian Development Bank(ADB) has projected India's growth as ____ in Fiscal Year 2018 & ____ in the next Fiscal?

- (a) 7.3 %, 7.6 %
- (b) 7.2 %, 7.8 %
- (c) 7.6 %, 7.8 %
- (d) 7.5 %, 7.8 %
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) 7.3 %, 7.6 % Explanation: ADB's Chief Economist Yasuyuki Sawada said that the India's Growth

in 2017 is low because the Introduction of Demonetisation. And he further continues that the growth projection of India is high from the previous year is because of the implementation of GST, Foreign Direct Investment also helps in India's growth & the most important factor which boosts the growth is the Government's initiative of Ease of Doing Business.

20. On 4th May 2018, Dakota DC-3 VP 905 aircraft joined the Indian Air Force again, in an induction ceremony at Hindan air force station, Uttar Pradesh. It has been renamed as ____?

- (a) Parashuram (b) Karuna
(c) Chakravarti (d) Chakra
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Parashuram Explanation: The Dakota DC-3 VP 905 was formally inducted into the IAF. At the ceremony a key was received by the Chief of Air Staff Air Marshal B S Dhanoa from Air Commodore (retd) M K Chandrasekhar. M K Chandrasekhar's son and Rajya Sabha MP Rajeev Chandrasekhar bought the aircraft from scrap and restored it in the UK. Dakota was accepted by the Chief of Air Staff from the Rajya Sabha MP Rajeev Chandrasekhar on 13 February 2018. The restored Dakota has been renamed as 'Parashuram'. It will join the 'Vintage Fly' of one each of Tiger Moth and Howard developed at Hindan air force station. The aircraft started from the UK on 17th April 2018 to India with the crew of IAF and Reflight Airworks.

21. Name the spacecraft launched by NASA aboard an Atlas V rocket to study "Marsquakes", from Vandenberg Air Force Base in California, United States, on 5th May 2018?

- (a) InTouch (b) Marsee
(c) InSight (d) InOrbit
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) InSight Explanation: InSight has been designed to stay on the surface of Mars and listen to "Marsquakes". The project costs \$993 million. The US spent \$813.8 million on the spacecraft and rocket launch. France and Germany spent \$180 million on the instruments. A pair of mini-spacecraft named Mars Cube One, or MarCO are also launching on the rocket. It cost NASA \$18.5 million. The MarCO are briefcase-sized satellites. They will fly on their own path to Mars behind InSight. They will test tiny new deep space communications equipment. InSight aims to explore interior conditions on Mars, inform efforts to send human explorers to Mars, find out how rocky planets like Earth formed, etc. InSight is expected to settle on Mars on 26th November 2018. InSight is the short form for Interior Exploration using Seismic Investigations, Geodesy and Heat Transport.

22. Justice C.K Prasad, Press Council of India Chairman mentioned RWB's annual report has "lack of clarity". As per the Press Freedom Index released by Reporters Without Borders' (RWB) on April 25, India secured ____ rank in 2018?

- (a) 133 (b) 135 (c) 148 (d) 138
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) 138 Explanation: The parameters include the level of pluralism, media independence, environment and self-censorship, legal framework, transparency, and the quality of the infrastructure that supports the production of news and information. Mr. Prasad said the PCI had written to the RWB a number of times since 2015 to understand how the index was prepared, but hadn't received any reply. "If the ranking is on the basis of statistical data, the council requests you to share it with us, so as to enable us to take remedial measures as it deems proper.

23. When did Department of Science & Technology (DST) celebrate its foundation day?

- (a) May 2 (b) May 3 (c) May 4 (d) May 5
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) May 3 Explanation: DST is one of the three departments of Ministry of Science & Technology. It was set up on 3rd May 1971. Its objective is to explore and develop new areas of science and technology, to strengthen national Science & Technology capacity, cutting across institutions and disciplines. Union Minister for Science & Technology and Earth Sciences Dr. Harsh Vardhan, laid the foundation stone of New State of Art Building of DST on 3rd May 2018 in New Delhi. Dr Harsh Vardhan said that, construction of the new building is expected to be completed by 3rd May 2021. DST had entered into a MoU with IRCON Infrastructure & Services LTD for the new building. As a part of Swachh Bharat Mission, Swacchta Pakhwada is also observed in the Department of Science & Technology from 1st May 2018 to 15th May 2018.

24. On 4th May 2018, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that, it will buy ____ of government bonds through open market operation (OMO)?

- (a) Rs 10,000 crore (b) Rs 20,000 crore
(c) Rs 30,000 crore (d) Rs 40,000 crore
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Rs 10,000 crore Explanation: RBI made this decision after failing to sell all the debt it had offered to bidders. It was the third consecutive week when the RBI couldn't sell everything on offer which led to a spike in bond yields. RBI said that, the decision is based on an assessment of prevailing liquidity conditions and also of the durable liquidity needs going forward. This will infuse more liquidity into the system against the backdrop of persistently high bond yields. The 10-year government bond yield increased to 7.75 percent from 7.74 percent before the auction result was announced. It had ended at 7.73 percent on 3rd May 2018.

25. On 7th May 2018, Government of India signed a loan deal worth \$ 200 million with ____ for the National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan)?

- (a) Asian Development Bank
(b) State Bank of India
(c) World Bank
(d) European Investment Bank

(e) None of these

Answer - (c) World Bank Explanation: This loan will help India to reach its goal of reducing stunting in children of the age 0-6 years from 38.4% to 25% by 2022. The POSHAN (PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment) Abhiyaan was launched by Prime Minister on 8th March 2018 at Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan. POSHAN Abhiyaan's main objective is gradual increase of the interventions supported by the World Bank assisted Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) Systems Strengthening and Nutrition Improvement Project (ISSNIP) to all districts in India for a 3-year period. This loan will support the first phase scale up to 315 districts and union territories (UTs) in India. The coverage and quality of ICDS nutrition services for pregnant and lactating women and children under 3 years of age will be improved.

26. On 6th May 2018, India finished on top with how many gold medals, at the 3rd South Asian Junior Athletics Championships (SAJAC) at Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo, Sri Lanka?

- (a) 15 (b) 20 (c) 10 (d) 17
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) 20 Explanation: On 6th May 2018, India finished on top with 20 gold, 22 silver and 8 bronze medals, at the 3rd South Asian Junior Athletics Championships (SAJAC) at Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Host Sri Lanka won 12 gold medals 10 silver and 19 bronze medals and occupied 2nd place. Pakistan won 1 silver and 1 bronze medal and secured the third place. The Indian junior athletes also created five new meet records (NMR) on the final day of the championships. In girls triple jump, Priyadarshini Suresh won the gold medal with new meet records (NMR) of 12.90m.

27. On May 8, 2018, which State Government launched India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC) for all seven smart cities of the state?

- (a) Maharashtra (b) Karnataka
(c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Andhra Pradesh
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Madhya Pradesh Explanation: The centre was inaugurated by Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan and Minister of State for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri. The ICCC will enable State authorities to monitor the status of various smart civic amenities in real-time through the sensors connected to it. ICCC is a cloud-based Universal Internet of Things (UIoT) platform. It has been developed by Hewlett Packard Enterprise (HPE). Cities of Madhya Pradesh that have been selected under Smart Cities Mission are Bhopal, Indore, Ujjain, Gwalior, Jabalpur, Satna, and Sagar.

28. On 8th May 2018, Hardeep Puri, Minister of State (I/C) for Housing & Urban Affairs inaugurated the 'First Apex Conference for the CEOs of Smart Cities' in ___?

- (a) Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
(b) Bengaluru, Karnataka
(c) Hyderabad, Telangana

(d) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh Explanation: The conference is held for 2 days till 9th May 2018. It is organized for offering a platform for cross learning and knowledge sharing among the Smart City CEOs. The conference will let the CEOs learn from the experiences of all city leaders. The plenary sessions will have panel discussions and presentations by Smart City CEOs. It will focus on high impact projects. The way forward for the city level project implementation will also be discussed. An exhibition displaying various projects undertaken by Cities under Smart Cities Mission is held. This Conference also offers an opportunity for the Smart City CEOs to visit and appreciate smart city projects implemented by Bhopal Smart City Limited.

29. What is the position of India globally in the business optimism index for the first quarter of 2018, as per Grant Thornton's quarterly global business survey released on May 8, 2018?

- (a) 5 (b) 4 (c) 1 (d) 6
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) 6 Explanation: The survey findings also revealed that Indian businesses consider red tape, availability of skilled workforce, lack of information communication and technology (ICT) infrastructure and shortage of finance as biggest constraints to growth. Biz Optimism Index – Top 5: 1 Austria 2 Finland 3 Indonesia 4 Netherlands 5 US

30. Where will the 2018 World Robot Conference be held from 15th to 19th August 2018?

- (a) Beijing (b) Tokyo
(c) New Delhi (d) Dublin
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Beijing Explanation: More than 12,000 teams and 50,000 participants from over 10 countries and regions will participate in the conference. A robot competition will be conducted during the conference. Participants will compete in five categories in this competition. This conference will enhance passion and innovation in the robot industry and help to improve research and development.

31. Name Google's IoT platform that was launched recently?

- (a) Android Technicals (b) Android Things
(c) Google Components (d) Google Jigsaw
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Android Things Explanation: Android Things is for developers who want to build connected devices. Android Things offers hardware and software developers all the necessary SDKs (software development kit) to build all types of IoT devices. Google has partnered with various hardware manufacturers to provide developer kits. It also offers a developer console that enables managing devices and pushing over-the-air updates to both prototype and production devices.

32. On 10th May 2018, NITI Aayog will announce the top 30 innovations of ___ in Delhi?

- (a) Atal Tinkering Marathon
- (b) Atal Technical Marathon
- (c) Atal Trade Marathon
- (d) Atal Science Marathon
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Atal Tinkering Marathon Explanation: Atal Tinkering Labs of the Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of NITI Aayog, organized an Atal Tinkering Marathon, a six month long national level challenge. It was conducted in six thematic areas: clean energy, water resources, waste management, healthcare, smart mobility and agri-tech. From more than 650 innovations received, top 30 innovations have been selected from various States and Union territories of India. These Top 30 innovations and their prizes will be announced by Rajiv Kumar, Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog.

33. On May 9, 2018, where did Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu inaugurate the 6th US-India Aviation Summit?

- (a) Mumbai
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Cochin
- (d) Hyderabad
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Mumbai Explanation: This three-day Summit is being jointly organised by Union Ministry of Civil Aviation and US Trade and Development Agency (USTDA). The Summit will serve as a platform for Indian civil aviation agencies and aviation industry representatives, including private sector airlines and airport operators, to identify advanced US technologies and practices, that can support their expansion and modernization efforts. Various sessions focusing on India's projected aviation growth in next five years, aviation and runway safety, aviation security, technologies for worldwide airspace management and regional connectivity will be held during the course of this summit. India's civil aviation sector is slated to be third largest market globally by 2020 and, potentially, the largest by 2030.

34. Union Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has stated that India's installed clean energy capacity has already touched how many GW as per data compiled on March 31, 2018?

- (a) 70 GW
- (b) 35 GW
- (c) 45 GW
- (d) 710 GW
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) 70 GW Explanation: MNRE stated that that renewable energy capacity of 11788 MW was added during last fiscal, which is the highest ever in a single year. The ministry also added that 100 billion units of electricity was generated through renewables during last fiscal, which also is the highest ever so far. As per data compiled till March 31, 2018, 38 GW clean energy capacity is under implementation. On account of fast progress in the areas of renewable energy, Power and New & Renewable Energy Minister R K Singh has reaffirmed government's commitment to meet target of having 175 GW by 2022.

35. On 9th May 2018, the SCO Tourism Ministers' conference was held in ____?

- (a) Beijing, China
- (b) New Delhi, India
- (c) Shanghai, China
- (d) Wuhan, China

- (e) None of these

Answer - (d) Wuhan, China Explanation: This is the first tourism ministerial meeting between member countries of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Tourism and Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology, India, K. J. Alphons represented India at the conference. Tourism ministers of member states of SCO deliberated on travel product development, tourist security and research on high-tech tourism management to develop a smart tourism system. An action plan for tourism cooperation between SCO member states from 2019 to 2020 was approved at the conference.

36. Vice President of India and the Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, Venkaiah Naidu has constituted a 2-member committee to review rules of procedure and conduct of business in Rajya Sabha. Who is the head of the committee?

- (a) V.K. Agnihotri
- (b) Anil Lamba
- (c) Sunil Mehta
- (d) Prakash Chabra
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) V.K. Agnihotri Explanation: The two-member committee will be headed by V.K. Agnihotri - Former Rajya Sabha Secretary General, while the other member will be S.R. Dhaleta - Former Joint Secretary in the Union Ministry of Law and Justice. Although the committee will review the rules of procedure for conduct of business as a whole, it will focus on provisions, which seem inadequate vis-a-vis rules in Lok Sabha. It is to be noted that this committee has been formed in wake of repetitive disruptions witnessed in both the houses during the recent budget session. The committee has been asked to submit its report to Chairman of Rajya Sabha in three months.

37. India's longest road and railway bridge "Bogibeel bridge" is expected to be inaugurated in 2018 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. It links Dibrugarh in Assam to Pasighat in which state?

- (a) Bihar
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Arunachal Pradesh
- (d) Meghalaya
- (e) None of these

Answer - (c) Arunachal Pradesh Explanation: Civil work related to the Bogibeel bridge will be finished by July 2018. Two more months will be taken to complete electrical and signalling work. The bridge is 4.94 km long. This is said to be the second longest bridge of this kind in Asia. It has three lane roads on top and double line rail below. The bridge is 32 metres above the water level of the Brahmaputra River. This bridge will solve logistical issues for armed forces stationed at the China border to receive supplies from Tezpur.

38. Name Australia's oldest scientist who ended his own life at a clinic in Switzerland, on 10th May 2018?

- (a) Andrew Hillman
- (b) David Goodall
- (c) Sigmund Dyre
- (d) Antony Gill
- (e) None of these

Answer - (b) David Goodall Explanation: David Goodall was 104 years old. He was assisted to end his life by Exit International, a right-to-die organization. David Goodall was not terminally ill but his health had deteriorated in the recent past and he chose to end his life because he felt that his quality of life had deteriorated in the past 5 to 10 years. He was a botanist and ecologist. As Euthanasia and assisted dying are banned in Australia, he chose Switzerland to end his life.

39. On May 11, 2018, Supreme Court of India approved "Compensation Scheme for Women Victims/Survivors of Sexual Assault/other crimes". A compensation fund will be set up and it would be managed by ___?

- (a) State Legal Services Authority (SLSA)
- (b) State governments
- (c) Central governments
- (d) High Courts
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) State Legal Services Authority (SLSA) Explanation: Under the scheme, a compensation fund will be set up and it would be managed by State Legal Services Authority(SLSA). Compensation for gangrape victim will be in the range of Rs 5 lakh to Rs. 10 lakh, minimum compensation of Rs. 4 lakh is to be paid in case of rape or unnatural sexual assault while for acid attack victims minimum compensation will be Rs 7 lakh for total disfigurement and Rs 5 lakh in case of 50% burns. Most important feature of the scheme is that, grant of monetary relief is not linked with the trial in such cases and the victim can approach the State or District Legal Services Authority for compensation immediately after the incident.

40. As per Credit rating agency Fitch, Indian economy is projected to grow at ___ percent in current fiscal i.e. 2018-19 and ___ percent in next fiscal?

- (a) 7.3, 7.6
- (b) 7.3, 7.5
- (c) 7.4, 7.8
- (d) 7.5, 7.7
- (e) None of these

Answer - (b) 7.3, 7.5 Explanation: The above projection has been made in Fitch's second-quarter Sovereign Credit Overview for Asia Pacific region. Fitch has outlined that India's economic growth is likely to accelerate as money supply has recovered to its pre-demonetisation level (pre-November 2016) and disruptions related to the rollout of the Goods and Services Tax (GST), in July 2017 have diminished. Besides, implementation and continued broadening of the government's structural-reform agenda will lead to a gradual improvement in country's business environment.

41. On 11th May 2018, Gen Bipin Rawat, Chief of Army Staff, released the book 'Across the Bench - Insight into the Indian Military Judicial System'. Name the author of this book?

- (a) Lt Gen Gyan Bhushan
- (b) Harinder Singh
- (c) Sumit Rawat
- (d) Lt Gen Aman Mittal
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Lt Gen Gyan Bhushan Explanation: ' Across the Bench - Insight into the Indian Military Judicial System' has been written by Lt Gen Gyan Bhushan. Lt Gen Gyan Bhushan is a former Army Commander and Member 'A', Armed Forces Tribunal, Lucknow Bench. The book speaks on military judicial system, command and management issues in the military establishments and issues related to veterans, their families and dependents.

42. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nepal Prime Minister K P Oli jointly inaugurated a direct bus service between Janakpur (in Dhanusa District of Nepal) and ___ in Uttar Pradesh?

- (a) Lucknow
- (b) Agra
- (c) Ayodhya
- (d) Meerut
- (e) None of these

Answer - (c) Ayodhya Explanation: Both, Janakpur and Ayodhya are two sacred cities for Hindus. The bus was flagged-off by PM Modi after visiting and offering special prayers at the famed 20th century Janaki temple, dedicated to the Hindu goddess Sita. Janakpur is known as the birth place of Sita (the wife of Hindu Lord Rama). Janaki temple was built in memory of Sita in 1910. The bus service is a part of Nepal-India Ramayana Circuit launched by both the PMs to further strengthen the close religious and cultural ties between the two countries and peoples.

43. As per the report RemitSCOPE - Remittance markets and opportunities- Asia and the Pacific, India was the largest remittance-receiving country in the world, with migrant workers from India sending home ___ in 2017?

- (a) USD 230 billion
- (b) USD 69 billion
- (c) USD 23 billion
- (d) USD 88 billion
- (e) None of these

Answer - (b) USD 69 billion Explanation: It states that remittances to the Asia-Pacific region amounted to US 256 billion in 2017. The report was released by the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD). Pakistan (USD 20 billion), and Vietnam (USD 14 billion) have also featured in the top 10. Nearly 70 % of remittances sent to Asia and the Pacific are from outside the region especially from the Gulf States (32 %), North America (26 %) and Europe (12 %). Nearly USD 6 trillion in remittances are expected to be sent to developing countries by 2030. More than half of these remittances will be sent to the Asia Pacific regions, mainly to small towns and villages. These remittances represent 53 % of flows worldwide, with a growth of 4.87 per cent since 2008.

44. Where was the First workshop on Ayushman Bharat Program held on May 14, 2018?

- (a) Shimla, Himachal Pradesh
- (b) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- (c) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- (d) Nagpur, Maharashtra
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Shimla, Himachal Pradesh Explanation: The workshop was addressed by Union Health Minister J P

Nadda. A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was signed between Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Jammu and Kashmir and Chandigarh during the course of this workshop. Ayushman Bharat Scheme was approved by the Union Cabinet on March 21, 2018 with budgetary support of Rs 10500 crore. Under this scheme, Government has set a target to set up 1.5 lakh wellness centres by 2022 to deliver comprehensive primary healthcare. Other component of this scheme is to provide insurance cover to most deprived Indian population.

45. ICBC, a state-run Chinese bank has launched ICBC Credit Suisse India Market Fund, China's first India-dedicated publicly offered investment fund. Expand ICBC?

- (a) Industrial and Commercial Bank of China
- (b) Innovation and Commerce Bank of China
- (c) Information and Civic Bank of China
- (d) Investment and Commerce Bank of China
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Industrial and Commercial Bank of China
Explanation: The fund will invest in exchange-traded funds listed on more than 20 exchanges in Europe and the US that are based on the Indian market. ICBC is pitching this fund to investors stating that Indian market offers the best opportunity for Chinese investors due to the prospects of double-digit growth. Interestingly, this fund has been launched within a fortnight after the first ever informal summit between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping at Wuhan.

46. Which country will host the upcoming 2018 BIMSTEC Summit (Bay of Bengal Initiative of Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation Summit)?

- (a) India
- (b) China
- (c) Nepal
- (d) Bangladesh
- (e) None of these

Answer - (c) Nepal
Explanation: On 12th May, Nepal's Prime Minister KP Sharma Oli announced that Nepal will be the host for the upcoming 2018 BIMSTEC Summit. This was announced during the bilateral talks between the Prime Minister of Nepal and India on commitment towards building the Bangladesh-Bhutan-India-Nepal initiative.

47. On 12th May, renowned wildlife photographer _____ unveiled her book 'Hidden India' in New Delhi?

- (a) Pritika Singh
- (b) Latika Nath
- (c) Namrata Karath
- (d) Malvika Sitlani
- (e) None of these

Answer - (b) Latika Nath
Explanation: On 12th May, renowned wildlife photographer Latika Nath unveiled her book 'Hidden India' in New Delhi. 'Hidden India' is a coffee table book that comprises of all the photographs of some of her "closest wildlife encounters" as per a statement. The proceeds from this book will go to the Wildlife SOS Elephant Conservation and Care Centre which would promote protection of Indian Elephants.

48. On May 13, 2018, President Ram Nath Kovind launched Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Antyodaya Swarojgar Yojana, Sundar Singh Bhandari EBC (economically backward class) Swarojgar Yojana and Rin Maufi Yojna of which State Government?

- (a) Punjab
- (b) Assam
- (c) Haryana
- (d) Rajasthan
- (e) None of these

Answer - (d) Rajasthan
Explanation: On May 13, 2018, President Ram Nath Kovind launched Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Antyodaya Swarojgar Yojana, Sundar Singh Bhandari EBC (economically backward class) Swarojgar Yojana and Rin Maufi Yojna of Rajasthan State Government. Bhairon Singh Shekhawat Antyodaya Swarojgar Yojana: loans of up to Rs 50000 on 4% cent interest will be given to Scheduled Castes (SC), Scheduled Tribes (ST) and Other Backward Class (OBC) families for self-employment. Sundar Singh Bhandari EBC (economically backward class) Swarojgar Yojana: a loan of Rs 50000 on 4% interest will be given to economically backward families of the general category. Rin Maufi Yojna: loan waiver scheme of up to Rs 50000 to SC, ST, OBC, sweepers and 'divyang'

49. Name the British journalist and former BBC India correspondent who has been selected for this year's RedInk award for lifetime achievement in journalism?

- (a) Sir William Mark Tully
- (b) Arthur Henry
- (c) Agatha Christine
- (d) Sherlly Pearls
- (e) None of these

Answer - (a) Sir William Mark Tully
Explanation: The RedInk awards for excellence in journalism are instituted by the Mumbai Press Club. Maharashtra Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis and Union Commerce Minister Suresh Prabhu will present the award to Sir William Mark Tully on 18th May 2018 in Mumbai. The award is presented to Sir William Mark Tully in recognition of his contribution to Indian journalism. Sir William Mark Tully worked with the BBC for 30 years. He was also the Chief of Bureau, BBC, Delhi. Faye D'Souze, executive editor of Mirror Now channel, has been chosen for the RedInk award for 'journalist of the year'. Apart from these two awards, Redink awards for excellence in journalism are awarded in 13 categories to 32 journalists.

50. On 16th May 2018, the Union Cabinet Chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) at which city of Madhya Pradesh?

- (a) Indore
- (b) Bhopal
- (c) Jabalpur
- (d) Gwallior
- (e) None of these

Answer - (b) Bhopal
Explanation: The Union Cabinet Chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has

approved the establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) at Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. It will be a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The cost of the project is Rs. 179.54 cr for the first 3 years which includes non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 128.54 crore and recurring expenditure of Rs. 51 crore. NIMHR will be the first of its kind in the country in the area of mental health rehabilitation. The main objectives of the NIMHR are to provide rehabilitation services to the persons with mental illness, capacity development in the area of mental health rehabilitation, policy framing and advanced research in mental health rehabilitation. The Institute will have nine Departments/Centres and will conduct 12 courses to offer diploma, certificate, graduate, post graduate, M.Phil degrees in the area of mental health rehabilitation. Within a span of 5 years, the student intake of the institute in various courses is expected to be over 400.

51. Where will the first ever International Rail Coach Expo (IRCE) focusing on Rail Coaches and train sets will be held from 17th to 19th May, 2018?

- (a) Chennai (b) Hyderabad
(c) Kochi (d) Raipur
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Chennai Explanation: Objective of the expo is to bring reputed rail car, equipment builders and suppliers under one roof and create synergy for "Make in India". The Expo will be hosted by Integral Coach Factory, in coordination with CII (Confederation of Indian Industries) and RITES Ltd. 100+ exhibitors from 10+ countries will participate in this expo. Conferences/seminars on specialized subjects on Rail Coach and Train sets will also be conducted during the course of this expo.

52. Where is India's first railway station run by solar power located?

- (a) Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
(b) Guwahati, Assam
(c) Ahmedabad, Gujarat
(d) Hyderabad, Telangana
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Guwahati, Assam Explanation: The project of installing solar panels was commissioned in April 2017. Nearly 2352 solar modules with a capacity of 700 kw has been set up over the roof of the Guwahati railway station. The solar-powered station aims to reduce carbon-footprint and also to reduce power costs. Nearly, 6.3 lakh kg carbon dioxide emissions have been reduced from 12th April 2017 to 10th May 2018. The estimated project cost is Rs 6.7 crore. The solar power plant will save Rs 67 lakh worth of electricity.

53. Which bank will sell 8.26 % stake in Universal Somo General Insurance to Dabur Investment Corporation and Somo Japan?

- (a) Canara Bank (b) Corporation Bank
(c) Karnataka Bank (d) Andhra Pradesh
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Karnataka Bank Explanation: This transaction is waiting for approval from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). After this transaction, Karnataka Bank's stake in the general insurance company will reduce to 6 percent from the current 14.26 percent. Somo Japan's stake will increase to 34.61 percent from 28.42 percent and Dabur Investment Corporation's stake will increase to 1.281 percent from 10.74 percent.

54. On 17th May, the Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Suresh Prabhu launched an Intellectual Property Mascot named _____ at a conference of National Intellectual Property Rights Policy held in New Delhi?

- (a) IP NINI (b) IP NANI
(c) IP IDL (d) IP RAM
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) IP NANI Explanation: On 17th May, the Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Suresh Prabhu launched an Intellectual Property Mascot named IP NANI at a conference of National Intellectual Property Rights Policy held in New Delhi. Mascot IP Nani is a tech-savvy grandmother who helps in combating IP crimes with the help of her grandson "Chhotu" aka Aditya. The IP mascot will spread awareness about the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) among people, especially children, in an interesting manner.

55. Where was 15th meeting of the Shanghai Corporation Organization (SCO) held on 17th May, 2018?

- (a) Wuhan, China (b) Sanya, China
(c) Manila, Philippines (d) New Delhi, India
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Sanya, China Explanation: The meeting will focus on showcasing India's willingness to participate and strengthen cultural cooperation with all the other participants including the SCO member countries. India became full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on 9th June, 2017 during the SCO Heads of State Summit in Astana, Kazakhstan. India has opened a SCO Division in MEA and has appointed a National Coordinator and Permanent Representative to SCO (Shri Bandaru Wilsonbabu).

56. Smaller towns are driving growth for SBI Cards (a subsidiary of State Bank of India) which has been increasing its card numbers at a CAGR of 40%. What does "C" represent in CAGR?

- (a) Commercial (b) Complex
(c) Compounded (d) Capital
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Compounded Explanation: In terms of spending, Cardholders in centres outside the top 10 cities account for 45% of spending. Primary reason behind this surge is the penetration of mobile-phone internet which accounts for 20% of spending from smaller towns. SBI cards, the second-largest credit card issuer after HDFC Bank currently holds 16% market share (in terms of

number of cards) and is the only stand-alone credit card company in India.

57. With an objective to conserve water, the Bhusawal Division of Indian Railways has fitted specially designed aerators in basin-taps of which train?

- (a) Shatabdi Express (b) Rajdhani Express
(c) Duronto Express (d) Tejas Express
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) Tejas Express Explanation: The aerators have minute pores that break the stream of incoming water into fine water sub-streams. This phenomenon discharges an optimal amount of water to be utilised for cleanliness and thus reduces excess water flow. Tejas Express is a high speed (200 kmph) air-conditioned train equipped with several ultra modern facilities onboard.

58. Union Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu has given his approval for creation of DGTR in Department of Commerce. What is the full form of DGTR?

- (a) Directorate General of Trade Relations
(b) Directorate General of Trade Remedies
(c) Directorate General of Trade Reassurance
(d) Directorate General of Trade Records
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Directorate General of Trade Remedies Explanation: DGTR will be the top National Authority for dealing in all trade remedial measures including anti-dumping, countervailing duties and safeguard measures. Directorate General of Anti-dumping and Allied duties (DGAD), Directorate General of Safeguards (DGS) and Safeguards functions of Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) will be merged into a single national entity and will be placed under DGTR. This merger will save 49 posts to the Government. DGTR will also provide trade defence support to Indian exporters in dealing with increasing instances of trade remedy investigations instituted against them by other countries.

59. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released final guidelines prescribing 100 percent NSFR for banks aimed at maintaining adequate liquidity for more resilience. Expand NSFR?

- (a) Net Sustained Funding Ratio
(b) Net Stable Finance Ratio
(c) National Statutory Funding Ratio
(d) Net Stable Funding Ratio
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) Net Stable Funding Ratio Explanation: NSFR is a long-term liquidity measurement included in the Basel III liquidity standards. It is defined as the amount of available stable funding (ASF) relative to the amount of required stable funding (RSF). A portion of capital and liabilities which has been assessed to be reliable over a year is referred to as ASF, while RSF is bank's liquidity position required to honour maturities of the various assets and other off-balance sheet exposures. RBI's 100 per cent

NSFR guideline requires banks to fund their activities with more stable sources of funding on an ongoing basis.

60. On 17th May 2018, Vice President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu released two books namely 'A Treatise on Cleanliness' and 'Waste Management, an Introduction', written by ____, in New Delhi?

- (a) Aman Singh (b) Vasuki Soni
(c) Rajat Bhargava (d) Nandhini Bhalla
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Rajat Bhargava Explanation: M. Venkaiah Naidu said that it is apt that the author has selected these subjects at a time when India is going through a phase of growth and development. He said that 'Swachh Bharat Abhiyaan' is contributing a lot to make India a clean country.

61. On 19th May, which country unveiled the world's first floating nuclear power station named Akademik Lomonosov?

- (a) Japan (b) China
(c) Russia (d) Germany
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Russia Explanation: This is called Akademik Lomonosov was built by Rosatom in Saint Petersburg. It is a 144 by 30 metre (472 by 98 foot) ship holds two reactors with two 35 megawatt nuclear reactors. It is a 21,000-tonne barge that will produce enough electricity to power a town of 200,000 residents, far more than the 5,000 live in Pevek, Russia. The floating reactors can save 50,000 tonnes of carbon dioxide emissions per year.

62. Name the person who was appointed secretary to the information and broadcasting ministry, on 18th May 2018?

- (a) Vinay Kumar (b) Amit Khare
(c) Sanjay Gupta (d) PK Agarwal
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Amit Khare Explanation: Amit Khare is a 1985-batch IAS officer. Currently, he is serving in Jharkhand, his cadre state. He will take charge as secretary to the information and broadcasting ministry from incumbent N K Sinha, who will superannuate on 31st May 2018.

63. Where will "Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA)", India's Next Generation Defence Aircraft be built?

- (a) Chennai, Tamil Nadu (b) Suler, Tamil Nadu
(c) Nagpur, Maharashtra
(d) Indore, Madhya Pradesh
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Suler, Tamil Nadu Explanation: The next gen aircraft is called Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA) is for the first time being built by inviting private players. This is also the first time that any defence project is being built outside Bangalore. It will be built in Suler, Coimbatore district, Tamil Nadu. The private players will be required to manufacture, assemble and equip two

fighter aircraft, develop design, manufacture and transport them to the Flight Test Facility.

64. On 19th May 2018, Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat launched the first phase of a massive tree plantation initiative along which river by initiating pit-digging work for the campaign?

- (a) Rihand River (b) Rispana River
(c) Tapti River (d) Musi River
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Rispana River Explanation: Trivendra Singh Rawat said that, Mission Rispana to Rishiparna is not a government programme, it is a social initiative. Each individual has to contribute to it. Under the Rishiparna rejuvenation mission, a goal of digging nearly 2.5 lakh pits from Landhaur Shikhar Fall to Motharwala-Daudwala area by the end of June 2018 has been fixed. Over 40 government and non-government organisations, and more than 8,000 volunteers, school students and people participated in the pit-digging event.

65. On 20th May, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) announced that an LPG bottling plant is being set up in Balkhani, Balangir district in ___?

- (a) Kerala (b) Uttarakhand
(c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Odisha
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) Odisha Explanation: This is the second time BPCL has launched bottling plant in Odisha after the Khurda plant. This project will cost Rs. 103 crore. The foundation stone will be laid by Petroleum Minister Shri. Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Justice Minister Mr. Thaawarchanad Gehlot on May 21. The LPG will be built across 23 acres of land of Barkhani village, 12 kms from the Balagir railway station.

66. Who won the Palm d'OR award in the 71st annual Cannes Film Festival that was held from 8th to 19th May 2018 in Cannes, France?

- (a) Hirokazu Kore-eda (b) Spike Lee
(c) Pawel Pawlikowski (d) Alice Rohrwacher
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Hirokazu Kore-eda Explanation:

67. On 17th May 2018, the India Meteorological Department issued an advisory on cyclonic storm ___ to Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and the Lakshadweep archipelago?

- (a) Manas (b) Pawar
(c) Sagar (d) Surya
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Sagar Explanation: "Sagar" is centered over the Gulf of Aden, nearly 390 km east-northeast of Yemen's Aden city and 560 km west-northwest of Socotra Islands. It is expected to get intense in the next 12 hours and to move west-southwestwards later. Fishermen have been advised not to enter Gulf of Aden and nearby areas of west central and southwest Arabian Sea in the next 48 hours.

68. Name the Chinese archaeologist who worked in discoveries of ancient Terracotta Warriors and died on 16th May 2018?

- (a) Zhao Kangmin (b) Rio Chao Ann
(c) Xi Miaunn (d) Si Chao Min
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Zhao Kangmin Explanation: Zhao Kangmin was 82 years old. He was the first archaeologist to identify fragments of terracotta in 1974 as remains dating back to the Qin dynasty. He was also the first to excavate the site. China's State Council recognised Zhao Kangmin as the discoverer of the terracotta soldiers, archers, and charioteers.

69. Where was the 26th BASIC Ministerial meeting of Environment Ministers held on 20th May 2018?

- (a) Johannesburg, South Africa
(b) Durban, South Africa
(c) New Delhi, India
(d) Wuhan, China
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Durban, South Africa Explanation: Brazil, South Africa, India and China are termed as the BASIC countries. Union Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Dr Harsh Vardhan participated in the meeting on behalf of India. The meeting was chaired by South Africa's Minister of Environmental Affairs Edna Molewa. The meeting was attended by environment ministers of BASIC countries and Michal Kurtyka of Poland, who will be the next president of Conference of Parties (COP-24).

70. On May 21, 2018, Bank Note Paper Mill India (BNPM) received environment clearance (EC) from Environment Ministry to increase production of bank note paper from 12,000 tonnes per annum (TPA) to ___ at its Mysuru unit in Karnataka?

- (a) 19,000 TPA (b) 17,000 TPA
(c) 15,000 TPA (d) 16,000 TPA
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) 16,000 TPA Explanation: This environment clearance (EC) is subject to compliance of certain conditions like developing greenbelt in 33 % of the project area. BNPM is a joint venture between Bharatiya Reserve Bank Note Mudran (BRBNMPL) and Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India (SPMCIL).

71. Name the satellite launched by China to explore dark side of Moon, on 21st May 2018?

- (a) Queqiao (b) Quantico
(c) Archeagle (d) Mission XV
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Queqiao Explanation: The relay satellite Queqiao has been designed to set a communication link between earth and a planned lunar probe that will explore the dark side of the moon. Queqiao was launched on a Long March-4C rocket from Xichang launch center, China. Queqiao is also known as Magpie Bridge. It will settle in an

orbit nearly 455,000 km (282,555 miles) from earth. It will be the world's first communication satellite operating there.

72. On May 22, 2018, India received the 1st cargo of Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) crude oil for its ___ Strategic Petroleum Reserve?

- (a) Kohlapur (b) Ahmedabad
(c) Mangalore (d) Surat
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Mangalore Explanation: In February 2018, during the visit of Prime Minister Narendra Modi to UAE, ISPR and ADNOC signed an Agreement for storing 5.68 million barrels of crude oil. This is to be stored in the Mangaluru facility of India SPR for emergency and distribution purposes. Apart from this the minister of oil Dharmendra Pradhan flagged off 2 million barrels of oil for India. The centre has built crude oil storage facilities with total capacity of 5.33 Million Tonnes (MT) at three locations under phase I of the 'SPR programme' including 1.33MT at Vishakhapatnam, 1.5 MW at Mangalore and 2.5 MT at Padur.

73. On May 22, 2018, which software company announced its acquisition of Magento for USD 1.68 billion?

- (a) Microsoft (b) Google
(c) Adobe (d) Yahoo
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Adobe Explanation: Magentowas founded in 2008 and had been earlier acquired by eBay in 2011 first and then went private in 2015. it works in B2B and B2C context and will help Adobe to compete with salesforce and provide functionality in e-commerce space. The acquisition will help Adobe to work on consumers in the company's Experience Cloud. The deal is also seen as a way of Microsoft and Adobe coming closer as they will be able to collaborate better against Salesforce.

74. On May 23, 2018, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi gave its ex-post facto approval to the MoU between India and Denmark regarding cooperation in which area?

- (a) Food processing (b) Food safety
(c) Digital Electronics (d) Communication
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Food safety Explanation: Help deepen bilateral ties, mutual understanding and trust. Eventually strengthening capacity building efforts towards food safety. Understanding of the best practices in the areas of food safety in both countries and in faster resolution of issues related to food safety. Facilitation of food trade of important commodities.

75. On May 23, 2018, according to a Lancet study called "The Global Burden of Disease" what was the rank of India among 195 countries in terms of health care access?

- (a) 145 (b) 150 (c) 105 (d) 45
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) 145 Explanation: On May 23, 2018, According to a Lancet study called "The Global Burden of Disease" India ranked 145 among 195 countries in terms of health care access. India performed poorly in tackling cases of tuberculosis, rheumatic heart diseases, Ischaemic heart diseases, stroke, testicular cancer, colon cancer and chronic kidney disease among others. Subnational inequalities were particularly pronounced in China and India, although high-income countries, including England and the US, also saw considerable local gaps in performance.

76. On 22nd May 2018, name the Polish author who won the Man Booker International Prize for her novel "Flights", at an event in Victoria and Albert Museum in London?

- (a) Olga Tokarczuk (b) Elsa Shreik
(c) Hanna Mathew (d) Olga Hederick
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Olga Tokarczuk Explanation: Olga Tokarczuk is 56 years old. She is a bestselling author from Poland. The novel Flight talks about travels in the 21st century and human anatomy. The prize amount is 50,000 British Pounds. This award is given to the best work of translated fiction from all over the world. The prize money is equally divided between the writer and the translator. Flights was translated by Jennifer Croft. It was published by Fitzcarraldo Editions.

77. On May 23, 2018, The Union Cabinet approved the ordinance of setting India's first National Sports University in ___?

- (a) Guwahati, Assam (b) Imphal, Manipur
(c) Shillong, Meghalaya (d) Patna, Bihar
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Imphal, Manipur Explanation: The ordinance for this proposal in on the lines of the bill introduced in Lok Sabha in August 2017. The proposed institute will focus on various areas like sports science, sports technology, high performance training. Manipur government has already granted land for the institute. Rs. 100 crore has been allocated for the institute .

78. ___ has been appointed as the chairperson of Central Bank of India?

- (a) Ravi Kumar Indran (b) Indrani Sharma
(c) Pavithra Reddy (d) Tapan Ray
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) Tapan Ray Explanation: These appointments have been done on recommendations for the Banks Board Bureau (BBB). Tapan Ray has served as Secretary in the Ministry of Corporate Affairs.

79. On May 25, 2018, the Prime Minister of Netherlands ___ launched 'Clean Air India' initiative in New Delhi?

- (a) Mark Rutte (b) Vincent Darron
(c) Philip Elias (d) Thomas Boyle
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Mark Rutte Explanation: It is a joint collaboration of India's 'Startup India' and Netherlands 'Get In the Ring' platforms and INDUS forum an online

matchmaking platform of Indian and Dutch businesses. For monitoring and combating air pollution the Dutch firms would sale equipment such as sensors and data and solutions . The main focus is minimizing air pollution in Delhi as per the 'INDUS impact' project which aims to stop hazardous burning of paddy which cause air pollution.

80. On May 25,2018 , the Union Minister for Electronics & IT and Law & Justice Ravi Shankar Prasad inaugurated cloud enabled Data Centre at _____?

- (a) Bhubaneswar, Odisha (b) Bengaluru, Karnataka
(c) Cuttack, Odisha (d) Hyderabad, Telangana
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Bhubaneswar, Odisha Explanation: It is a centralized cloud environment that would work with simple operations and would provide flexible and quick responses to requirements to future technological enhancements. The Data centre and cloud services are being offered by National Informatics Centre (NIC). This would provide on-demand access to Information and Communication Technology (ICT)Infrastructure . Platform to deliver ICT system and Data services across different platforms.

81. On 25th May 2018, Union Minister of Food Processing Industries Harsimrat Kaur Badal inaugurated an Incubation centre and Food Testing Laboratory at NIFTEM in ____ ?

- (a) Sonipat, Haryana (b) Faridabad, Haryana
(c) Jalandar, Punjab (d) Patiala, Punjab
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Sonipat, Haryana Explanation: The facilities that were inaugurated at NIFTEM are as follows:

1. Pilot Plant for Ready-to-Eat and Traditional Food
2. Pilot Plant for Milk and Dairy Product
3. Pilot Plant for Fruits and Vegetable processing
4. Pilot Plant for Meat and Poultry Processing
5. NIFTEM Centre for Food Research and Analysis

82. On 25th May 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for the 2400MW first phase of NTPC's Patratu Super Thermal Power Project in which state?

- (a) Bihar (b) Assam
(c) Chhattisgarh (d) Jharkhand
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) Jharkhand Explanation: This project is a 74:26 Joint Venture between Government of Jharkhand and Patratu Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Ltd (PVUN). PVUN is a subsidiary company of NTPC making a total capacity expansion of 4,000MW. PVUNL will implement the project in two phases:

- 2,400 MW (3x800MW) in Phase-I
- 1,600 MW (2x800 MW) in Phase-II (will be developed later)

This project will offer 85 % of the power to Jharkhand. Under the Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (Saubhagya) scheme, this project will offer 24x7 power availability to the houses.

83. Name the country that has become the first Latin American nation to join NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)?

- (a) Peru (b) Venezuela
(c) Chile (d) Columbia
(e) None of these

Answer - (d) Columbia Explanation: The formalization will take place in Brussels and that Columbia will be a global partner of NATO. Columbia is the only country of Latin America to be a part of NATO. Apart from Columbia Afghanistan, Pakistan, South Korea, New Zealand, Iraq, Mongolia and Japan are in the same ranks. Columbia also announced to be a partner of Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

84. On May 26,2018, Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)'s central board of trustees headed by ministry of Labour has approved _____ % interest on PF for 2017-18?

- (a) 8.55 (b) 9.5 (c) 7.4 (d) 8.9
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) 8.55 Explanation: It has provided 8.5% in 2016-17, 8.8% in 2015-16 and 8.75% in 2013-14 & 2014-15. This is the lowest rate since 2012-13 . This move will be applied to all the 120 offices of EPFO and to all the 5 crore subscribers. It was 8.50 in 2012-13 thus it is a 5 year low from that period. The Labour Ministry has forwarded the recommendations to the Finance Ministry for their approval.

85. From May 28- 31st , the 15th Finance Commission will be visiting Kerala. Name the Chairman of 15th Finance Commission?

- (a) Hasmukh Adhia (b) N.K. Singh
(c) P.P. Malhotra (d) Ranjith Kumar
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) N.K. Singh Explanation: The commission was led by Chairman N.K. Singh. Kerala is the 10th largest state that contributes to (d) 2% of GDP of the nation. It has the highest per capita income. The state has a booming service sector. Emigration and Immigration remittances is huge in Kerala. In terms of development indicators like per capita income, poverty ratio, health and education Kerala has better points than national average.

86. On May 27, 2018, the Uber cup (badminton) held at Bangkok was won by which country women?

- (a) South Africa (b) Brazil
(c) Japan (d) Russia
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Japan Explanation: Japan won over Thailand by a score of 3-0. This was the second time Japan won the Uber cup after 1981. Japans' Akane Yamaguchi (world no 2) defeated Thailand's Ratchanok Intanon (world no 4) by 21-15 and 21-19. Doubles pair Yuki Fukushima and Sayaka Hirota won with 21-18,21-12.

87. Name the 4th man to walk on the Moon who died at the age of 86, on May 27,2018?

- (a) Philip Eldred (b) Jean Hoffman
(c) Alan Bean (d) Rich Hoffman

(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Alan Bean Explanation: He was the former test pilot of US Navy. He was sent as an astronaut in 193 mission and flew to space twice and was the fourth person to walk on the Moon on Nov 19 1969. He was in the Apollo 12 mission with Neil Armstrong, Buzz Aldrin and Charles 'Pete' Conrad.

88. Where does the Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Digital Art Gallery of National Highway Authority of India(NHAI)?

- (a) Jhajjar,Haryana. (b) Jambhale,Maharashtra.
(c) Induri,Maharashtra. (d) Jakhauli,Haryana.
(e) Kalamb,Maharashtra.

Answer - (d) Jakhauli,Haryana. Explanation: Prime Minister Narendra Modi today inaugurated the Digital Art Gallery of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) at the toll plaza in Jakhauli village in Haryana.

89. Who has been named the first chief financial officer (CFO) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) effective from 15th May 2018?

- (a) Sudha Balakrishnan (b) Vasanth Raj
(c) Saran Kumar (d) Narendra Prabhu
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Sudha Balakrishnan Explanation: Sudha Balakrishnan was the vice-president of National Securities Depository Ltd (NSDL). She is a chartered accountant. She will be the 12th executive director of the RBI. Her appointment will be for a period of 3 years initially. This can be extended, subject to an annual review.

90. On 29th May 2018, an agreement for IBRD Credit of _____ from World Bank for the Strengthening of Public Financial Management in Rajasthan Project was signed in New Delhi?

- (a) USD 21.7 Million (b) USD 54.12 Million
(c) USD 25.7 Million (d) USD 45.7 Million
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) USD 21.7 Million Explanation: The agreement was signed by Sameer Kumar Khare, Joint Secretary (FB and ADB), Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance on behalf of Indian Government and Mr. Hisham Abdo, Acting Country Director, World Bank (India) on behalf of the World Bank. The Implementing Entity Agreement was signed by the Secretary, Finance (Budget) on behalf of Rajasthan Government, and the Acting Country Director (India) on behalf of the World Bank. Project size: is nearly USD 31 million. Out of this USD 21.7 million will be funded by the World Bank. Rest of the amount will be funded-out of the State Budget.

91. Name the only Indian who has featured in the top 30 global CEOs list released by Barron's?

- (a) Aditya Puri (b) Chanda Kochar
(c) Azim Premji (d) Mukesh Ambani
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Aditya Puri Explanation: Aditya Puri has featured in the top 30 global CEOs list by Barron's for the fourth consecutive year. He is the only Indian to feature in the list. Other names that have appeared in the list are:

- Jeff Bezos of Amazon
- Warren Buffett of Berkshire Hathaway
- Jamie Dimon of JPMorgan Chase
- Larry Page of Alphabet
- Reed Hastings of Netflix
- Satya Nadella of Microsoft
- Mark Zuckerberg of Facebook

92. On May 30,2018, after 4 years of bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana, the state of Andhra Pradesh gets its own symbol. What has been declared as its state flower?

- (a) Rose (b) Lily
(c) Jasmine (d) Mariegold
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Jasmine Explanation: On May 30,2018, after 4 years of bifurcation of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana, the state of Andhra Pradesh gets its own symbol. This was announced by the Principle Secretary of Environment Forests G . Anantha Ramu. Neem and Black Buck have been declared as the state tree and the state animal respectively. Rose-ringedParakeet will be the State Bird. Jasmine will be the state flower .

93. On May 31,2018, Asian Development Bank approved \$375 million loan for a project to improve irrigation in which state and help increase farmer's income?

- (a) Maharashtra (b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Rajasthan (d) Kerala
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Madhya Pradesh Explanation: The project will expand irrigation networks and system efficiency. The total cost of the project is \$535.1 millionand \$160.71 million will be given by the government. The estimated time of completion of the project is September 2025. In the first stage , the Kundalia irrigation project will develop 125000 hectare of new , efficient, Climate resilient irrigation networks.

94. On 30th May 2018, which American rapper was presented the Pulitzer Prize in music for his 2017 album DAMN, at an event held in Columbia University, New York City, in United States?

- (a) Andrew Jenner (b) Kendrick Lamar
(c) Justin Stewart (d) Fabian Cruise
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Kendrick Lamar Explanation: The Pulitzer Prize is awarded for achievements in newspaper, magazine and online journalism, literature, and musical composition in the United States. Kendrick Lamar is the first non-classical or jazz musician to win the Pulitzer Prize. Music was included in the awards 75 years ago. Kendrick Lamar is 30 years old. DAMN was released in April 2017. He has received 11 Grammy Awards.

95. Jagargunda village of which state has received electricity after 13 years?

- (a) Jharkhand (b) Chhattisgarh
(c) Bihar (d) Meghalaya
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Chhattisgarh Explanation: After living in the dark for 13 years, the electricity facility has reached Jagargunda village in Chhattisgarh. The Jagargunda village where electricity facility has been restored falls under the naxal-affected district of Dantewada. The village has a total population of approximately 898 people and there are about 199 houses in the village.

96. Scientists at the Central Sheep and Wool Research Institute (CSWRI) of ____, have come up with a new laparoscope-assisted insemination technique for sheep?

- (a) Gujarat (b) Jammu and Kashmir
(c) Rajasthan (d) Bihar
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Rajasthan Explanation: This new technique has resolved the difficulties involved in freezing of semen and inability to transit the complex reproductive tract of the ruminant mammals. The technique involves passing a rigid fibre-optic laparoscope into the abdomen through a small incision. The reproductive tract is located through camera and the frozen semen is deposited into the uterus. Scientists at CSWRI have claimed that new technique would help achieve up to 60% survival in the birth of lambs and would enable to inseminate as many as 40 females from a single ejaculate.

97. On 10th May 2018, Airports Authority of India (AAI) signed a Rs 945-crore deal with ____ of the US for development of its futuristic telecommunications infrastructure (FTI) programme?

- (a) SpaceX (b) Harris Corporation
(c) LockHead Martin (d) Aviation Tech
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Harris Corporation Explanation: The contract is for 15 years. It was signed at the sixth edition of the US-India aviation summit that started on 10th May 2018 in Mumbai. The implementation of FTI network will offer improved air traffic safety, airspace capacity and environment friendly flight levels. Under this, all telecommunication links and each network equipment in the AAI airports will be monitored centrally 24/7 for immediate response to fix any outages. According to the deal, Harris Corporation will be the prime contractor and systems integrator for the programme. The programme will be executed in two years.

98. On 10th May 2018, a parliamentary panel headed by which BJP leader decided to study the recovery of black money and performance of public sector banks etc?

- (a) Venkiah Naidu (b) Arun Jaitley
(c) Murali Manohar Joshi
(d) Sushma Swaraj
(e) None of these

Answer - (c) Murali Manohar Joshi Explanation: The Estimates Committee consists of 30 members. It has planned to study various subjects related to several ministries in 2018-19. As per the memorandum of the committee, the panel will overview the import of uranium for nuclear plants, mining activities and environment, upgrading of India Post offices and the drought situation in India etc. The panel on estimates is also called the continuous economy committee. It recommends changes in policy or administrative framework to achieve efficiency in expenditure. It has planned to overview the functioning of Enforcement Directorate and recovery of black money, performance of public sector banks, debt recovery tribunals, rural housing fund and review the imports, exports and balance of payments.

99. On May 12, 2018, Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Radha Mohan Singh laid foundation stone of the frozen semen station in Maranga, Purnea, of which state?

- (a) Maharashtra (b) Bihar
(c) Assam (d) Telangana
(e) None of these

Answer - (b) Bihar Explanation: Frozen semen station in Maranga, Purnea is being set up at a cost of Rs 64 crore (100% contribution from the Central Government) under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission. Launched in 2014, Rashtriya Gokul Mission is geared towards conserving and developing indigenous breeds to increase milk productivity. Frozen semen station in Purnea will be the first state-of-the-art semen production centre in India. The station will have a highly modern bull shade, semen processing lab, feed and godown, agricultural equipment, and other facilities.

100. On 14th May 2018, Tom Wolfe who passed away after he was hospitalized with an infection, in Manhattan, United States, was a ___?

- (a) Journalist and novelist (b) Actor and director
(c) Politician (d) Football player
(e) None of these

Answer - (a) Journalist and novelist Explanation: Tom Wolfe was 88 years old. He joined The New York Herald Tribune as a reporter in 1962. He published his important novel "The Right Stuff," in 1979. It spoke about the first American astronauts and the Mercury space program.