Current Affairs Questions (January 2020)

Jan 01

- 1) Last session of Indian History Congress was held in
- a) Kerala
- b) New Delhi
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Gujarat

Answer: a

- Recently, the 80th session of the Indian History Congress (IHC) was held at Kannur, Kerala.
- 2) Identify the wrongly matched combinations of schemes and the states that launched them.
- a) Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana Madhya Pradesh
- b) Rythu Bandhu Telangana
- c) Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income augmentation (KALIA) Odisha
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana in Madhya Pradesh was sought to provide relief to farmers by providing the differential between MSPs and market prices.
- The Rythu Bandhu scheme of the Telangana provides ₹4,000 per acre for every season to all the farmers of the state. Similar initiatives have also been framed in Jharkhand and Odisha.
- Krushak Assistance for Livelihood and Income augmentation (KALIA) of Odisha is more complicated in design and implementation. It commits to give Rs 5,000 per SMF, twice a year, that is Rs 10,000 a year.
- 3) Swachh Survekshan League 2020 selected Indore as the cleanest city in the country for the
- a) 1st time
- b) 2nd time
- c) 3rd time
- d) 4th time

Answer: d

- Indore was selected for the fourth time in a row as the cleanest city in the country
- Among cantonment boards, Tamil Nadu's St.Thomas Mount Cantt was ranked 1st in quarter 1 whereas Delhi Cantt ranked first in the 2nd quarter. Secunderabad Cantonment Board in Hyderabad is the worst performer among other cantonment boards.
- 4) Merchant Discount Rate is a fee charged from a merchant by a bank for accepting payments from customers through
- a) credit cards
- b) debit cards
- c) UPI payments
- d) (a) and (b)

Answer: d

• It is a fee charged from a merchant by a bank for accepting payments from customers through credit and debit cards in their establishments.

- 5) Finance Minister has unveiled a ₹102 lakh crore national infrastructure pipeline, in accordance with vision to make India a \$5 trillion economy by 2024-25. It includes
- a) Irrigation and rural infrastructure projects
- b) Road and Port projects
- c) National gas grid
- d) All of the above

- Irrigation and rural infrastructure projects would account for ₹7.7 lakh crore each. ₹3.07 lakh crore would be spent on industrial infrastructure. Agriculture and social infrastructure would account for the rest.
- Road projects will account for ₹19.63 lakh crore while another ₹13.68 lakh crore would be for railway projects.
- Port projects would see spending of ₹1 lakh crore and airports another ₹1.43 lakh crore. ₹16.29 lakh crore would be spent on urban infrastructure and ₹3.2 lakh crore in telecom projects.
- According to the sector-wise break-up of projects made available by the Finance Ministry, ₹24.54 lakh crore investment will flow in the energy sector, and of that ₹11.7 lakh crore would be in just the power sector.
- ₹42 lakh crore NIP projects which are in the implementation stage now include expressways, national gas grid and PMAY-G.

Jan 02

- 1) Which Sikh guru founded the principles of Khalsa or the Five 'K's?
- a) Guru Nanak
- b) Guru Gobind Singh
- c) Guru Arjun Singh
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- The birth anniversary of Guru Gobind Singh was celebrated on January 2nd this year. He also founded the principles of Khalsa or the Five 'K's.
- 2) As per the Agreement on Prohibition of Attacks against Nuclear Installations, which of the following countries have exchanged their list of nuclear installations?
- a) US and Russia
- b) US and North Korea
- c) India and Pakistan
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Both India and Pakistan have exchanged their list of nuclear installations. The exchange was in accordance with the Agreement on Prohibition of Attacks against Nuclear Installations and Facilities between Pakistan and India.
- 3) Saansad Adarsh Gram Yojana was launched on the occasion of birth anniversary of
- a) Mahatma Gandhi
- b) Jai Prakash Narayan
- c) Vinoba Bhave
- d) BR Ambedkar

Answer: b

- The Project was launched on the occasion of birth anniversary of Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan.
- 4) Which among the following launched a mobile app called MANI for visually challenged to identify currency notes?
- a) Ministry of Finance
- b) Reserve Bank of India
- c) National Payment Corporation of India
- d) IIT Kanpur

Answer: b

- RBI launches mobile app MANI for visually challenged to identify currency notes.
- 5) Senna Spectabilis is
- a) categorised as 'Least Concern' under IUCN Red List
- b) invasive species to India
- c) widely seen in Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR)
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• The Kerala Government is planning to arrest the rampant growth of Senna spectabilis, in the forest areas of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve (NBR), including the Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary.

Jan 03

- 1) Yakshagana is a rare and unique traditional theatre of
- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Odisha
- d) Karnataka

Answer: d

- Yakshagana is a rare and unique traditional theatre of Karnataka state in India.
- 2) Lai Haraoba, a ritualistic festival observed in Manipuri is celebrated by the community of
- a) Meitei
- b) Zeliangrong
- c) Kom
- d) None of the above

- Lai Haraoba, a ritualistic festival observed by Manipuri meitei communities since ancient times.
- Lai Haraoba is celebrated through oral literature, music, dance and rituals., to please the Umang Lai, the traditional deities of Sanamahism.
- 3) Which among the following is often referred to as 'mother of Indian feminism?'
- a) Savitribai Phule
- b) Indira Gandhi

- c) Sarojini Naidu
- d) Rani Lakshmibai
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

- She became the first female teacher in India in 1848 and opened a school for girls along with her husband, social reformer Jyotirao Phule. She also set up "Balhatya Pratibandhak Griha".
- Savitribai Phule, was a social reformer, an educationist and a poetess, and regarded as 'mother of Indian feminism'.
- 4) The Agriculture Research Institute in Pusa (Bihar Bengal Presidency) was established during the period of
- a) Lord Mayo
- b) Lord Dalhousie
- c) Lord Curzon
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Bengal Governor Tweets About "Iconic" Lord Curzon Table, Gets Trolled. The table was apparently used by Lord Curzon to sign papers pertaining to the Partition of Bengal in 1905.
- 5) The India Meteorological Department (IMD) recognises October to December as the time for the northeast monsoon. Rainfall from NE monsoon can be observed in
- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• During this period, rainfall is experienced over Tamil Nadu, Kerala, and Andhra Pradesh, along with some parts of Telangana and Karnataka.

Jan 04

- 1) Which among the following is the latest city to enter as world UNESCO World heritage site from India?
- a) Jaipur
- b) Udaipur
- c) Jodhpur
- d) None of the above

- India gets its 38th world UNESCO World heritage site As Pink City Jaipur.
- 2) Restoration work of architectural genius, Markandeshwar was initiated by Archaeological Survey of India. It is situated in

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Kerala
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) None of the above

- Restoration work of architectural genius, Markandeshwar temple in Maharashtra was initiated by Archaeological Survey of India.
- 3) Zonal Councils are headed by
- a) Union Home Minister
- b) State Home Ministers in rotation
- c) State Chief Ministers in rotation
- d) Prime ministers

Answer: a

- They are statutory bodies established under the States Reorganisation Act 1956 and not constitutional bodies. They are only deliberative and advisory bodies.
- The Union Home Minister is the Chairman of each of these Councils.
- The 25th meeting of the western zonal council will be held in January 2020. Maharashtra will be the lead coordinator this time.
- 4) Kalapani is a 372-sq km area in an Indian border area. It is disputed between India and
- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Nepal
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Located within Uttarakhand, Kalapani is a 372-sq km area bordering far-west Nepal and Tibet.
- As per the administrative records, dating back to 1830s the Kalapani area had been administered as part of the Pithoragarh district (then Almora district).
- According to Nepal's claim, it lies in Darchula district, Sudurpashchim Pradesh.
- 5) The red brittle star which lives in the coral reefs of the Caribbean Sea, becomes only the second creature, after a sea urchin species, known to have ability of Extraocular Vision. It is the ability
- a) To have 3600 vision
- b) To see without colors
- c) To see even without eyes
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Recently researchers have shown that a species of brittle stars, which are relatives of starfish, can see even though it does not have eyes.
- The researchers suggest that a brittle star sees with the help of light-sensing cells that cover its entire body.

Jan 06

1) Which country topped the Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI) 2019?

- a) Spain
- b) France
- c) Japan
- d) China

- Spain topped the Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI) 2019.
- India has ranked 34th in the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI) of the World Economic Forum for the year 2019.
- 2) The longest natural cave in the Indian subcontinent is located in
- a) Maharashtra
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Karnataka

Answer: b

- The longest natural cave in the Indian subcontinent is Krem Liat Prah caves in Meghalaya.
- Belum Caves, also known as Belum Guhalu in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh is the second-longest cave in the Indian subcontinent open to the public.
- 3) Patola is the trademark Saree of which among the following state in India?
- a) Rajasthan
- b) Gujarat
- c) Telangana
- d) Odisha

Answer: b

- Patola is the trademark Saree of Gujarat. It is one of the most eminent symbols of Indian Craftsmanship. It is priced very high and is out of reach of common women. The raw material is purchased from Karnataka or West Bengal, where the silk processing units are situated.
- 4) The fifth edition of the Asia Pacific Drosophila Research Conference (APDRC5) is being held at Pune. What is Drosophila?
- a) Gene editing technology
- b) Psychological disease
- c) Fruit flies
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- It is a genus of flies, belonging to the family Drosophilidae, whose members are often called "small fruit flies" or (less frequently) pomace flies, vinegar flies, or wine flies, a reference to the characteristic of many species to linger around overripe or rotting fruit.
- 5) One of the world's largest species of freshwater species, Chinese paddlefish is declared extinct. It is native to Asia's longest river which is
- a) Ganga
- b) Yangtze

- c) Yellow
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- It is native to the Yangtze, Asia's longest river. It is one of the world's largest species of freshwater species.
- It has been declared extinct by Chinese scientists.

Jan 07

- 1) Which among the following is not one of the languages mentioned in 8th schedule of Indian constitution?
- a) Tulu
- b) Sindhi
- c) Dogri
- d) Maithili

Answer: a

- Sindhi language was added in 1967. Thereafter three more languages viz., Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali were included in 1992. Subsequently Bodo, Dogri, Maithili and Santhali were added in 2004. At present, there are demands for inclusion of 38 more languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.
- 2) UNESCO World Heritage Sites such as Golestan Palace, Meidan Emam and Masjed-e-Jame are located in
- a) Malaysia
- b) Iran
- c) Syria
- d) Egypt

Answer: b

- Iran is home to one of the world's oldest civilizations dating back to 10,000 BC. Its rich heritage and culture is an amalgam of Arab, Persian, Turkish and South Asian cultures..
- 3) Great Indian Bustards (GIB) are Identified as one of the species for the recovery programme under the Integrated Development of Wildlife Habitats of the Ministry of Environment and Forests. They are found in
- a) Gujarat
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Karnataka
- d) All of the above

Answer: c

- Found in Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.
- Protected areas: Desert National Park Sanctuary Rajasthan, Rollapadu Wildlife Sanctuary Andhra Pradesh and Karera Wildlife Sanctuary Madhya Pradesh.
- 4) 'Sapta bhasha Samgama Bhumi (the confluence of seven languages)' is a name given to the district of
- a) Kasaragod, Kerala
- b) Puducherry
- c) Goa
- d) None of the above

- Tulu is a Dravidian language whose speakers are concentrated in two coastal districts of Karnataka and in Kasaragod district of Kerala. Kasaragod district is called 'Sapta bhasha Samgama Bhumi (the confluence of seven languages)', and Tulu is among the seven.
- 5) 'Zo Kutpui' festival, recently seen in news, is celebrated in
- a) Manipur
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Assam
- d) Mizoram

Answer: d

• Mizoram govt to organise 'Zo Kutpui' globally to unify Mizo tribes...

Jan 08

- 1) Who is not eligible under Pradhan Mantri Laghu Vyapari Maan-dhan Yojana?
- a) Under Rs 1.5 Cr in GST tax bracket
- b) Applicants shouldn't be covered under NPS
- c) Age bracket of 18 to 60 years
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- All small shopkeepers, self-employed persons and retail traders aged between 18-40 years and with Goods and Service Tax (GST) turnover below Rs.1.5 crore can enrol for pension scheme.
- The National Pension Scheme for Traders and Self-Employed Persons has failed to gain traction as only about 25,000 persons have opted for the scheme as against the government's target to enrol 50 lakh by March-end.
- 2) The instrument of Protecting Powers is provided for under the 1961 and 1963 Vienna Conventions on Diplomatic Relations. What is it?
- a) a country that represents another sovereign state in a country where it lacks its own diplomatic representation
- b) diplomatic immunity needs to be provided by the host country
- c) a country which voluntarily protects the refugees seeking protection against protection
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Following the killing of Iranian military and intelligence commander Major General Qassem Soleimani in Baghdad in a drone attack carried out by the United States, the Iranian government registered its protest with the Swiss Embassy in Tehran.
- Switzerland represents the interests of the US in Iran. This is because the US itself does not have an embassy there.
- Iran's interests in the United States, on the other hand, are represented by the Pakistan Embassy in Washington.
- 3) Which among the following doesn't come under the mandate of Small Finance Banks (SFBs)?
- a) Half of the loans should be up to 25 lakhs
- b) Lend to big corporates and groups

- c) Cannot be a business correspondent of any bank
- d) Both (b) and (c)

- What they can do?
- o Take small deposits and disburse loans.
- o Distribute mutual funds, insurance products and other simple third-party financial products.
- o Lend 75% of their total adjusted net bank credit to priority sector.
- o Maximum loan size would be 10% of capital funds to single borrower, 15% to a group.
- o Minimum 50% of loans should be up to 25 lakhs.
- What they cannot do?
- o Lend to big corporates and groups.
- o Cannot open branches with prior RBI approval for first five years.
- o Other financial activities of the promoter must not mingle with the bank.
- o It cannot set up subsidiaries to undertake non-banking financial services activities.
- o Cannot be a business correspondent of any bank.
- 4) Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA) is a joint venture of MHRD Government of India and Canara Bank. It is a
- a) Society
- b) Statutory body
- c) Executive body
- d) NBFC

Answer: d

- HEFA is registered under Section 8, Not-for-profit under the Companies Act 2013 as a Union Govt company and as Non–deposit taking NBFC (NBFC-ND-Type II) with RBI.
- 5) National Education Alliance of Technologies (NEAT) is a PPP Model between MHRD and EdTech companies. It uses application of
- a) Artificial Intelligence
- b) Big Data Analytics
- c) Machine Learning
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It aims to offer Adaptive and personalized learning through Artificial Intelligence (AI) to the students with specific emphasis on students from economically and socially backward regions.

Jan 09

- 1) What is the theme of the exercise MILAN 2020?
- a) Synergy Across the Seas
- b) Friendship Across the Seas
- c) Enhancing Regional Cooperation for Combating Unlawful Activities at Sea
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The exercise with the theme "Synergy Across the Seas" would provide an excellent opportunity for Operational Commanders of friendly foreign navies to interact with one another in areas of mutual

interest.

- Visakhapatnam, the City of Destiny is to host MILAN 2020.
- 2) Researchers have managed to create a super-capacity prototype by re-engineering a Lithium Sulphur (Li-
- S) battery. Where is it being developed?
- a) India
- b) China
- c) US
- d) Australia

Answer: d

- Researchers at the University of Monash in Australia have managed to create a super-capacity prototype by re-engineering a Lithium Sulphur (Li-S) battery.
- 3) Which among the following is called the City of Destiny?
- a) Cochin
- b) Goa
- c) Vishakhapatnam
- d) Srinagar

Answer: c

- It was the iconic former Vice Chancellor of Andhra University, Dr CR Reddy who is credited with coining the phrase 'City of Destiny' in the 1930s. He was instrumental in relocating the Andhra University, which was located in Bejawada to the port city of Vishakhapatnam which was then a little-known fisherman's village Waltair. Old towns like Ananthapur, Bejawada, Guntur, Machilipatnam, and Rajamundry, had greater credentials at that time since they were much more accomplished educational, cultural and business centers...
- 4) Which among the following statements about Black Box in an aeroplane is not true?
- a) It is yellow in colour.
- b) It helps investigators to know what happened before a crash.
- c) It is fitted with an Underwater Locator Beacon (ULB)
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- A Black Box is not actually black at all, but bright orange.
- On January 8th, a passenger plane bound for Ukraine exploded as it slammed into a field in Iran, just minutes after takeoff killing at least 176 people on board. Questions remain about the cause, and there have been some contradictory statements from officials in both Iran and Ukraine.
- 5) Epiphany festival, recently seen in news is celebrated in parts of
- a) Goa
- b) Kerala
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

• On 6th January, the Epiphany festival was celebrated in parts of India, such as Goa and Kerala.

• In Goa, the celebration is known by its Portuguese name 'Festa dos Reis', and in parts of Kerala by its Syriac name 'Denha'.

Jan 10

- 1) Last judicial resort available for redressal of grievances in court is
- a) Curative Petition
- b) Review Petition
- c) Judicial Review
- d) Presidential Pardon

Answer: a

- Curative Petition is the last judicial resort available for redressal of grievances in court which is normally decided by judges in-chamber. It is only in rare cases that such petitions are given an open-court hearing.
- Presidential Pardon is not a judicial remedy
- 2) Recently, The New York Times reported that the "near-extinct" language Seke has just 700 speakers around the world. Where is it spoken?
- a) India
- b) China
- c) Nepal
- d) Australia

Answer: c

- Recently, The New York Times reported that the "near-extinct" Nepalese language Seke has just 700 speakers around the world.
- 3) Where is the highest number of identified wetlands located?
- a) 1 only
- b) 2 only
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) Neither 1 nor 2

Answer: c

- The highest number of such identified wetlands are Uttar Pradesh with 16, Madhya Pradesh with 13, Jammu & Kashmir with 12, Gujarat with 8, Karnataka with 7 and West Bengal with 6.
- 4) The "four wheels" of ZBNF are 'Jiwamrita', 'Bijamrita', 'Mulching' and 'Waaphasa'. Which among the following definitions are correctly matched?
- a) Jiwamrita fermented mixture of cow dung and urine, jaggery, pulses flour, water and soil from the farm bund.
- b) Bijamrita providing water to maintain the required moisture-air balance
- c) Mulching mix of desi cow dung and urine, water, bund soil and lime
- d) Waaphasa covering the plants with a layer of dried straw or fallen leaves



- The father of ZBNF and Padma Shri Awardee, Sh. Subash Palekar has provided four important non-negotiable guidelines: Bijamrita (Seed Treatment using local cowdung and cow urine), Jiwamrita (applying inoculation made of local cowdung and cow urine without any fertilizers and pesticides), Mulching (activities to ensure favorable microclimate in the soil), and Waaphasa (soil aeration).
- 5) Sea Guardians 2020 is a joint naval drill between
- a) Pakistan and Russia
- b) Russia and China
- c) China and Pakistan
- d) Pakistan, Russia and China

Answer: c

• Sea Guardians 2020 is a joint naval drill between Pakistan and China. The latest edition is being held in Karachi.

Jan 11

- 1) Recently released State Energy Efficiency Index is developed by the ______ in association with the Alliance for an Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE)
- a) Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- b) Central Power Research Institute (CPRI)
- c) Power Grid
- d) None of the above

- Karnataka, HP, Haryana and Puducherry were the best performers.
- 2) Which among the following doesn't come under fundamental rights as per Supreme Court of India?
- a) Right to internet
- b) Right to sleep
- c) Right to privacy
- d) None of the above

- Right to internet is a fundamental right (subject to reasonable restrictions) included in the freedom of expression under Article 19 of the Indian Constitution.
- 3) Which among the following states is hosting the National Youth Festival (NYF) 2020?
- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Kerala
- c) Gujarat
- d) New Delhi

Answer: a

- Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports and State Government of Uttar Pradesh are jointly organizing 23rd National Youth Festival (NYF) 2020 at Indira Pratishthan, Lucknow from 12th to 16th January, 2020. Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh Yogi Adityanath and Minister of State (I/C) for Youth Affairs & Sports, Shri Kiren Rijiju will inaugurate the NYF 2020 on 12th January on the occasion of birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, the great Youth icon. The inauguration will be followed by cultural/musical performance by local and renowned artists.
- 4) Eurasia Group has released its report titled "Top Risks 2020". It assesses
- A) Geopolitical Risk
- B) Epidemic Risk
- C) Risk Of Climate Change
- D) None Of The Above

Answer: a

- The Eurasia Group is one of US' most influential risk assessment companies.
- India is one of the world's top geopolitical risks for 2020. It is the 5th highest geopolitical risk.
- 5) Which among the following countries shares maximum length of border with India?
- a) Pakistan
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Nepal
- d) Bhutan

Answer: b

- India shares 4,096.7 km border with Bangladesh and 3,323 km with Pakistan.
- India is planning to erect non-cut steel fence in the sensitive areas of Pakistan and Bangladesh borders.

Jan 14

- 1) Commissionerate system of policing is being implemented by the state of
- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Telangana
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Gujarat

Answer: a

• The Uttar Pradesh has approved the Commissionerate system of policing for state capital Lucknow, and

Noida.

- It is supposed to allow for faster decision-making to solve complex urban-centric issues.
- 2) Which of the following cities were ranked first in the survey by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU) to rank world's fastest-growing urban areas?
- a) Malappuram
- b) Noida
- c) Lucknow
- d) Kollam

Answer: a

- Malappuram, Kozhikode and Kollam were the only three cities to make it to the top 10 of the world's fastest-growing cities.
- Malappuram was ranked No. 1 in the world rankings with a 44.1 per cent change between 2015 and 2020.
- 3) Which of the following is not a part of 'Eight Wonders of the SCO?'
- a) Statue of Unity
- b) Taj Mahal
- c) Great Mughals' heritage at Lahore
- d) Lake Issyk-Kul

Answer: b

- The Eight Wonders of the SCO are:
- o India the Statue of Unity.
- o Kazakhstan the Archaeological Landscape of Tamgaly.
- o China The Daming imperial palace complex.
- o Kyrgyzstan Lake Issyk-Kul.
- o Pakistan The Great Mughals' heritage at Lahore.
- o Russia The Golden Ring cities.
- o Tajikistan The Palace of Nowruz.
- o Uzbekistan the Poi Kalon complex.
- 4) Hormuz Peace Initiative aims to stabilise the Strait of Hormuz, the gateway for a significant amount of global oil supplies. Strait of Hormuz separates
- a) Iran and Oman
- b) Iran and Somalia
- c) Iran and Yemen
- d) None of the above

- It is the waterway separates Iran and Oman, linking the Gulf to the Gulf of Oman and the Arabian Sea.
- 5) Which among the following is not an Indian harvest festival?
- a) Magha Bihu
- b) Saaji
- c) Kicheri
- d) Shakrain

- Various festivals being celebrated across the Nations:
- o Makar Sankranti: Karnataka
- o Pongal: Tamil Nadu o Magha Bihu: Assam o Uttarayan: Gujarat o Maghi: Punjab
- o Saaji: Himachal Pradesh o Kicheri: Uttar Pradesh
- Outside India:
- o Shakrain: Bangladesh o Maghe Sankranti:Nepal

Jan 15

- 1) Which among the following is not yet given the Classical language status?
- a) Odia
- b) Malayalam
- c) Sanskrit
- d) Marathi

Answer: d

- Currently, six languages enjoy the 'Classical' status: Tamil (declared in 2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014).
- 2) Orphan disease, recently seen in news, refers to
- a) Genetic disease
- b) Disease affecting a small population
- c) Lifestyle disease
- d) All of the above

Answer: b

- A rare disease, also referred to as an orphan disease, is any disease that affects a small percentage of the population.
- 3) Bharati Script is an alternative script for the languages of India. It is developed by
- a) IIT Madras
- b) IIT Kanpur
- c) IIT Gandhinagar
- d) None of the above

- It developed by Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) in Madras.
- 4) The Blue Flag Programme for beaches and marinas is run by the
- a) Foundation for Environmental Education
- b) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- c) Ocean Conservancy
- d) None of the above

- The Blue Flag Programme for beaches and marinas is run by the international, non-governmental, non-profit organisation FEE (the Foundation for Environmental Education).
- 5) Recently erupted, Taal volcano on the island of Luzon is in
- a) Indonesia
- b) Malaysia
- c) Philippines
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• It is a volcano on the island of Luzon in Philippines.

Jan 17

- 1) What was the rank of India in the Henley Passport Index 2020?
- a) 78
- b) 84
- c) 44
- d) 21

Answer: b

- India ranked 84th in the index. Japan has the world's strongest passport. The index was based on the data collected from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
- 2) Which of the following is incorrect about recently discovered Yada Yada virus?
- a) It belonged to a group that includes chikungunya virus
- b) It poses no threat to human beings
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: d

- A novel virus detected in Australian mosquitoes has been provisionally named the Yada Yada virus (YYV), after the catchphrase made famous by the American sitcom Seinfeld. The Cambridge dictionary defines the phrase as an informal exclamation used to describe boring speech.
- 3) GSAT-30, recently launched by ISRO, is a
- a) Telecommunication satellite
- b) Defence satellite
- c) Drone satellite
- d) None of the above

- The launch took place from the Spaceport in French Guiana. The launch vehicle is named Ariane 5 VA-251.
- 4) Bru-Reang refugee agreement, recently seen in news, is associated with

- a) Hongkong
- b) China
- c) Myanmar
- d) None of the above

- The Mizoram Bru Displaced People's Forum (MBDPF) on Thursday welcomed the quadripartite agreement signed among the Centre, state governments of Tripura and Mizoram, and representatives of Bru to facilitate permanent settlement of Bru refugees in Tripura.
- 5) Which among the following are features of Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP)?
- a) Revenue Sharing Contract,
- b) Single Licence for exploration and production
- c) Single Licence for conventional and unconventional Hydrocarbon resources
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• The main features of HELP are Revenue Sharing Contract, single Licence for exploration and production of conventional as well as unconventional Hydrocarbon resources, marketing & pricing freedom, etc.

Jan 18

- 1) National Information Centre sets up Centre of Block Chain Technology in
- a) Chennai
- b) New Delhi
- c) Bangalore
- d) Pune

Answer: c

- National Information Centre sets up Centre of Block Chain Technology in Bengaluru.
- 2) Z Morh tunnel, recently seen in news, is located in
- a) Nagaland
- b) Jammu and Kashmir
- c) Meghalaya
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: b

- The 6.5-kilometre long Z-Morh tunnel is located in Jammu and Kashmir.
- 3) Merck Young Scientist Award for the year 2019 was awarded to
- a) S. G. Gaikwad
- b) M. Fernandes
- c) Sakya Singha Sen
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• Sakya Singha Sen from National Chemical Laboratory awarded as Merck Young Scientist Award 2019 for performing remarkable research in chemical science.

4) Sahyog-Kaijin is a joint coast guard exercise between India and a) Indonesia b) China c) Myanmar d) Japan Answer: d • It is a joint coast guard exercise between India and Japan. 5) Winged Raider is biggest airborne exercise conducted recently in the north-eastern theatre. It is conducted by a) Indian Air Force b) Indian Navy c) Indian Army d) National Security Gaurd Answer: c • It is Indian Army's biggest airborne exercise conducted recently in the north-eastern theatre. Jan 20 1) India's last reported polio case was from Howrah, West Bengal in the year a) 2019 b) 2015 c) 2011 d) 1990 Answer: c • The last case of polio in the country was reported from Howrah district in West Bengal on January 13, 2011. In the national Capital, the last case was reported in June 2009. In 2009, India had half the number of polio cases in the world, and in less than two years, the country brought polio infections down to zero. 2) K- 4 Ballistic Missile, developed by DRDO is a) Nuclear capable b) Underwater missile c) Both (a) and (b) d) Neither (a) nor (b) Answer: c • The missile, developed by the DRDO, with its range of 3,500 km can bring almost all parts of Pakistan and several areas of China within its reach, officials said. • The missile is set to be integrated with India's Arihant class nuclear submarine.

3) The kyat is the currency of

a) Myanmarb) Nepalc) Bangladeshd) Thailand

- The kyat is the currency of Myanmar. It is often abbreviated as "K" or "Ks", which is placed before or after the numerical value, depending on author preference.
- 4) Steppe eagle, recently sighted near Vijayawada, appears on the flags of
- a) US
- b) China
- c) Canada
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- The Steppe Eagle appears on the flag of Kazakhstan. It is also the National bird (animal) of Egypt and appears on its flag.
- 5) Project 39-A, recemtly seen in news, is a unique initiative of
- a) National Law University, Delhi
- b) Delhi High Court
- c) Supreme Court of India
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

• Project 39-A is unique initiative of National Law University, Delhi inspired by Article 39-A of the Indian Constitution, a provision that furthers the intertwined values of equal justice and equal opportunity by removing economic and social barriers.

Jan 21

- 1) India launched the Pulse Polio Programme in the year
- a) 1989
- b) 1990
- c) 1995
- d) 2000

Answer: c

- The WHO on February 24, 2012, removed India from the list of countries with active endemic wild polio virus transmission.
- India launched the Pulse Polio immunisation programme in 1995, after a resolution for a global initiative of polio eradication was adopted by the World Health Assembly (WHA) in 1988.
- January 18 marked the beginning of this year's Pulse Polio Programme. The Union health ministry has launched the campaign to check the disease that affects children at a young age.
- 2) UAE has been declared 'reciprocating territory' by India. Reciprocating territory implies
- a) Orders passed by courts in reciprocating territory can be implemented in India
- b) Making reciprocating laws for the convenience of each other's diaspora.
- c) Defending each other's territory in case of a foreign attack
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• Last week, the Ministry of Law and Justice issued an Extraordinary Gazette Notification, declaring the

United Arab Emirates to be a "reciprocating territory" under Section 44A of the Civil Procedure Code, 1908.

- "Reciprocating territory" means any country or territory outside India which the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, declare to be a reciprocating territory; and "superior Courts", with reference to any such territory, means such Courts as may be specified in the said notification."
- 3) Global Social Mobility Report released for the first time by World Economic Forum (WEF) ranks India in the position of
- a) 76
- b) 120
- c) 119
- d) 101

Answer: a

- World Economic Forum has come out with its first-ever Global Social Mobility Report.
- The report has ranked India a lowly 76 out of the 82 countries profiled.
- 4) Xenobots, recently seen in news, are
- a) Robots that can mimic humans
- b) Humans whose organs are replaced with machines
- c) robots built from the cells of the African clawed frog
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Named xenobots after the African clawed frog (Xenopus laevis) from which they take their stem cells, the machines are less than a millimeter (0.04 inches) wide -- small enough to travel inside human bodies. They can walk and swim, survive for weeks without food, and work together in groups.
- 5) Youth Co:Lab, recently seen in news, is a unique initiative of
- a) NITI Aayog
- b) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) NITI Aayog and United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) hosts it.

Jan 22

- 1) Which country topped the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative list?
- a) India
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) USA
- d) China

Answer: b

- Sri Lanka topped on breastfeeding rate according to a new survey conducted by the World Breastfeeding Trends Initiative (WBTi).
- 2) Which among the following states in India has more than one capital?

- a) Jammu and Kashmir
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Maharashtra has two capitals— Mumbai and Nagpur (which holds the winter session of the state assembly).
- Himachal Pradesh has capitals at Shimla and Dharamshala (winter).
- The former state of Jammu & Kashmir had Srinagar and Jammu (winter) as capitals.
- 3) Carbon Disclosure Project (CDP) India annual report examines carbon reduction activities of companies. Which country was ranked top?
- a) Japan
- b) United Kingdom
- c) France
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- United States of America secured the top spot followed by Japan, United Kingdom and France.
- India is now among the top five countries globally when it comes to adopting science-based target initiatives (SBT)
- 4) Global Investment Trend Monitor report, recently seen in news, is released by
- a) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- b) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
- c) Economist Intelligence Unit
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- The Global Investment Trend Monitor report, compiled by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), has been released.
- India was among the top 10 recipients of Foreign Direct Investment in 2019, attracting \$49 billion in inflows, a 16 per cent increase from the previous year.
- 5) Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), recently seen in news, is an initiative of
- a) Canada
- b) China
- c) India
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- India, a partner in the construction of one of the largest telescopes in the world, TMT, has said it wants the project to be moved out of the proposed site at Mauna Kea, a dormant volcano in Hawaii.
- The Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT) is an astronomical observatory with an extremely large telescope (ELT).
- It is an international project being funded by scientific organisations of Canada, China, India, Japan and USA..

- 1) Democracy Index 2019, released annually by The Economist Intelligence Unit, categorised India as a
- a) full democracy
- b) flawed democracy
- c) hybrid regime
- d) authoritarian regime

Answer: b

- In 2019, India slipped 10 places to 51st position. It is placed in the "flawed democracy" category, which also includes Bangladesh (5.88).
- Based on their scores on 60 indicators within these categories, each country is then itself classified as one of four types of regime: full democracy; flawed democracy; hybrid regime; and authoritarian regime.
- 2) Justice G. Rohini Commission, recently seen in news, is constituted for
- a) Sub-categorisation of OBC
- b) Data Protection
- c) Pendency of cases
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Cabinet approves Extension of term of the commission constituted under Article 340 of the constitution to examine the issue of Sub-categorization within other Backward Classes in the Central List.
- In October 2017, President Ram Nath Kovind, in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 340 of the Constitution, appointed a commission to examine the issue of sub-categorisation of OBCs, chaired by retired Justice G. Rohini, to ensure social justice in an efficient manner by prioritising the Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs).
- 3) East Asian Observatory (EAO) is formed for the purpose of pursuing joint projects in astronomy within the East Asian region. Which among the following is not a member of EAO?
- a) India
- b) Taiwan
- c) Japan
- d) Korea

Answer: a

- It consists of China, Japan, Taiwan, Korea as full members and Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia and Indonesia as 'observers'.
- Having India join the group could mean the establishment of new kinds of telescopes one proposed being in Tibet that could aid the observation of new black holes and throw light on cosmic phenomena.
- 4) Vyom Mitra, recently seen in news, is a
- a) Robot astronaut
- b) Air Purifier
- c) Intercontinental ballistic missile
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It will be used for an unmanned flight of ISRO's GSLV III rocket in December 2020, which, along with a second unmanned flight in July 2021.

- Vyommitra, equipped with a head, two arms and a torso, is built to mimic crew activity inside the crew module of Gaganyaan.
- 5) Which among the words where not the part of Preamble of Indian constitution when it was put into effect in 1950?
- a) Secular
- b) Socialist
- c) Integrity
- d) All of the above

• In 1976, the Preamble was amended (only once till date) by the 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act. Three new terms, Socialist, Secular, and Integrity were added to the Preamble. The Supreme Court held this amendment valid.

Jan 24

- 1) National Girl Child Day celebrated on:
- a) 24th January
- b) 25th January
- c) 26th January
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- National Girl Child Day is celebrated on 24 January. The day aims to create awareness about the rights of the girl child in India. It aims to improve the condition of girls in society.
- 2) With a score of 41, India is at the 80th spot in Corruption Perception Index 2019. It is released by
- a) World Economic Forum
- b) United Nations Development Programme
- c) Transparency International
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- It is prepared by Transparency International. The index is also based on expert opinions of public sector corruption and takes note of range of factors like whether governmental leaders are held to account or go unpunished for corruption, the perceived prevalence of bribery, and whether public institutions respond to citizens' needs.
- 3) Which among the following is a viral disease?
- a) Measles
- b) Rubella
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

• India has stepped in to help the Maldives tackle a recent outbreak of measles. The Indian Embassy in Male recently handed over 30,000 doses of measles and rubella (MR) vaccine to the Maldivian Health Ministry.

- Measles is a highly contagious viral disease. It remains an important cause of death among young children globally, despite the availability of a safe and effective vaccine.
- Rubella, also called German Measles, is a contagious, generally mild viral infection that occurs most often in children and young adults.
- 4) Vyom Mitra, recently seen in news, is a
- a) Robot astronaut
- b) Air Purifier
- c) Intercontinental ballistic missile
- d) None of the above

- It will be used for an unmanned flight of ISRO's GSLV III rocket in December 2020, which, along with a second unmanned flight in July 2021.
- Vyommitra, equipped with a head, two arms and a torso, is built to mimic crew activity inside the crew module of Gaganyaan.
- 5) India's first e-waste clinic opens in
- a) Bhopal
- b) Kochi
- c) Delhi
- d) Ahmedabad

Answer: a

- Country's first e-waste clinic is being opened in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh today. It would enable segregation, processing and disposal of waste from both household and commercial units.
- The e-waste clinic is jointly setting up by the Central Pollution Control Board-CPCB and Bhopal Municipal Corporation-BMC.

Jan 25

- 1) The agreement to upgrade Ashuganj-Akhaura road into a 4-lane highway is signed between India and
- a) Pakistan
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Afghanistan
- d) Bhutan

Answer: b

- India and Bangladesh signed an agreement to upgrade Ashuganj-Akhaura road into a 4-lane highway on 24 January. The agreement aim is to upgrade the 50.58-kilometre long road between Ashuganj river port and the Akhaura land port in Bangladesh into a 4-lane highway.
- 2) Sagarmatha Sambaad, recently seen in news, is a diplomatic initiative by
- a) Nepal
- b) Butan
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Bangladesh

- Sagarmatha Sambaad is the first ever multi-stakeholder diplomatic initiative of Nepal.
- The event will be focusing on the threat of climate change to the modern world.
- 3) Yarrabubba crater is the oldest known impact structure on Earth. It is located in
- a) Australia
- b) New Zealand
- c) Japan
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Yarrabubba crater is an asteroid impact structure, the eroded remnant of a former impact crater, situated in the Mid West Western Australia.
- It as an precise age of 2.229 billion years, it is the oldest known impact structure on Earth.
- 4) World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2020 (WESO), recently seen in news, is released by
- a) International Labour Organization (ILO)
- b) World Economic Forum (WEF)
- c) World Trade Organisation (WTO)
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- UN International Labour Organization (ILO) releases WESO report annually.
- The report analyses key labour market issues, including unemployment, labour underutilization, working poverty, income inequality, labour Income share and factors that exclude people from decent work
- 5) Arrange the following in the geological time scale in the increasing order:
- 1. Eon
- 2. Epoch
- 3. Era

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

- a) 1 > 2 > 3
- b) 2 > 3 > 1
- c) 2 > 1 > 3
- d) 3 > 1 > 2

Answer: b

Few classifications of geological time scale are as follows

- Age is millions of years long
- Epoch contains more than one age
- Period contains more than one epoch
- Era contains more than one period
- Eon contains more than one era and is the longest division.

Jan 28

1) Which among the following states doesn't have a Legislative Council?

- a) Bihar
- b) Karnataka
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh Cabinet has approved a statutory resolution seeking the abolition of the Legislative Council.
- Under Article 169 of the constitution, Parliament may by law create or abolish the second chamber in a state if the Legislative Assembly of that state passes a resolution to that effect by a special majority.
- 2) Indian Home Rule League of America in New York City was founded in 1917 by
- a) Lala Lajpat Rai
- b) Sohan Singh Bhakna
- c) Rabindranath Tagore
- d) Pandurang Khankoje

Answer: a

- Lala Lajpat Rai founded the Indian Home Rule League of America in New York City in 1917.
- 3) India's first Government-owned Waste-to-Energy Plant was recently commissioned in
- a) Odisha
- b) Kerala
- c) Gujarat
- d) Maharashtra

Answer: a

- The country's first Government-owned Waste-to-Energy Plant was recently commissioned at the Mancheswar Carriage Repair Workshop in Odisha.
- The plant, a patented technology called Polycrack, is first-of-its-kind in the Indian Railways and fourth in the country. It converts multiple feed stocks into hydrocarbon liquid fuels, gas, carbon and water.
- 4) India's first underwater metro project is being constructed in the river
- a) Hoogly
- b) Ganges
- c) Narmada
- d) Son

- The first underwater metro project is being constructed in Kolkata, a part of which will pass under the iconic Hoogly river on which the famous Howrah bridge is constructed.
- 5) Which among the following country is selected to head the G-77 grouping for 2020?
- a) Guyana
- b) Ghana
- c) India
- d) Argentina

• Recently Guyana, a South American nation is selected to head the G-77 grouping.

Jan 29

- 1) Which among the following is the cheapest edible oil available naturally?
- a) Palm oil
- b) Coconut oil
- c) Sunflower oil
- d) Mustard oil

Answer: a

- India has cut import duty on crude palm oil (CPO) and refined, bleached and deodorised (RBD) palm oil, and also moved RBD oil from the "free" to the "restricted" list of imports.
- Palm oil is the cheapest edible oil available naturally. It is the main ingredient in hydrogenated vegetable oil.
- 2) Spitzer space telescope is going to shut down permanently after about 16 years of exploring the cosmos in infrared light. It was an initiative of
- a) ISRO
- b) NASA
- c) CNES
- d) ESA

Answer: b

- On Jan. 30 the Spitzer Space Telescope received its final command. After more than 16 years of exploring the cosmos in infrared light, it was switched off permanently, ending its career as one of NASA's Great Observatories. The spacecraft operated for more than 11 years beyond its prime mission.
- 3) Indian navy performed HADR operations under 'Operation Vanilla' in
- a) Seychelles
- b) Madagascar
- c) Mauritius
- d) Male

Answer: b

- Indian navy will perform HADR operations in Madagascar under 'Operation Vanilla'.
- It has been launched to provide assistance to the affected population of Madagascar post devastation caused by Cyclone Diane.
- 4) Which among the following is not one of the wetlands found in Punjab?
- a) Kanjli Lake
- b) Keshopur-Miani,
- c) Beas Conservation Reserve,
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

• Harike Lake; Kanjli Lake; Ropar Lake; Keshopur-Miani; Beas Conservation Reserve, Nangal are some of the wetlands found in Punjab.

- 5) African cheetahs are to be introduced in India. What is their IUCN status?
- a) Endangered
- b) Least concern
- c) Vulnerable
- d) Critically endangered

Answer: c

• It is IUCN Red Listed as Vulnerable, as it suffered a substantial decline in its historic range in the 20th century due to habitat loss, poaching for the illegal pet trade, and conflict with humans.

Jan 30

- 1) Which among the following districts were ranked first in Aspirational Districts Programme ranking?
- a) Chandauli, Uttar Pradesh
- b) Bolangir, Odisha
- c) YSR, Andhra Pradesh
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Chandauli district of UP topped the list followed by Bolangir of Odisha, YSR (AP) in second and third positions respectively.
- 2) West Asia peace plan, recently unveiled by U.S, is to solve the issues in
- a) Israel
- b) Yemen
- c) Iraq
- d) Syria

Answer: a

- It plans to revive the stalled two-state talks between the Israelis and the Palestinians.
- It seeks to give the Israelis an expansive state with Jerusalem as its "undivided capital" and tight security control over a future Palestinian state.
- 3) Nagoba Jatara, also known as Keslapur jatara, is a tribal festival held in
- a) Telangana
- b) Mizoram
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Uttar Pradesh

- It is a huge religious and cultural event of the Boigutta branch of Mesram clan of the aboriginal Raj Gond and Pardhan tribes.
- It is a tribal festival held in Telangana.
- 4) Bhuvan Panchayat is a Web portal developed for the benefit of Gram Panchayat members and other stakeholders. It is developed by
- a) National Informatics Centre
- b) ISRO

- c) Niti Aayig
- d) None of the above

- Bhuvan Panchayat is a Web portal developed by ISRO. The Web Geo portal is developed for the benefit of Gram Panchayat members and other stakeholders
- The targeted audience for this portal are Public, PRIs and different stakeholders belonging to the gram panchayats.
- 5) World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (World NTD Day) is observed on
- a) January 26
- b) January 31
- c) January 30
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• January 30, 2020 is the first-ever World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (World NTD Day), a day when we celebrate the achievements made towards control of the world's NTDs, yet recognize the daunting challenges we face in the control and elimination of these conditions.

Jan 31

- 1) SAMPRITI-IX is a joint military training exercise between India and
- a) Nepal
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Myanmar

Answer: c

- SAMPRITI-IX is a joint military training exercise between India and Bangladesh.
- It will be conducted at Umroi, Meghalaya from 3rd-16th February, 2020.
- 2) As per Indian political system, which among the following is correct about star campaigners?
- a) A recognised political party can have 40 star campaigners
- b) Expenditure incurred on campaigning by such campaigners need not be added to the election expenditure of a candidate.
- c) The list of star campaigners has to be communicated to Election Commission within a week from the date of notification of an election.
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- All the statements given are correct.
- 3) World Sustainable Development Summit is organised by
- a) The Energy and Resources Institute
- b) UNDP
- c) UNESCO
- d) None of the above

- The theme of the 2020 edition of the Summit is 'Towards 2030 Goals: Making the Decade Count'. It is the annual flagship event of The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI). It is the sole Summit on global issues taking place in the developing world.
- 4) Which among the following is recognised as a Public Health Emergency of International Concern (PHEIC) by WHO?
- a) novel coronavirus
- b) Ebola
- c) Zika
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- Since 2009, there have been six PHEIC declarations:
- 2009: H1N1 (or swine flu) pandemic,
- 2014: polio declaration,
- 2014: outbreak of Ebola in Western Africa,
- 2015–16: Zika virus epidemic, Kivu Ebola epidemic,
- 2020: novel coronavirus outbreak.
- 5) Which of the following departments of Finance Ministry prepares Economic Survey?
- a) Department of Expenditure
- b) Department of Revenue
- c) Department of Financial Services
- d) Department of Economic Affairs

Answer: d

• The document is prepared by the Economic Division of the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under the guidance of the Chief Economic Adviser (CEA). Once prepared, it is approved by the Finance Minister.