

1) Inner Line Permit system is in force today only in

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Nagaland
- c) Mizoram
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d**

- Inner Line Permit is a document that allows an Indian citizen to visit or stay in a state that is protected under the ILP system.
- The system is in force today in Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland and Mizoram.

2) Operation Clean Art, recently in news, is associated with

- a) Modern Art
- b) Wildlife Crime
- c) Cleanliness Drive
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- It was the first pan India operation to crackdown on the smuggling of mongoose hair in the country.

3) Jnanpith Award for the year 2019 was awarded to author of which of the following language?

- a) Malayalam
- b) Tamil
- c) Kannada
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Eminent Malayalam poet Akkitham has been chosen for 55th Jnanpith Award for the year 2019.

4) Which of the following can be reason/s for development of antibiotic resistance?

- a) Over prescribing of antibiotics
- b) Patients not finishing their treatments
- c) Overuse of antibiotics in livestock
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d**



5) At present, the Indian Space Research organisation (ISRO) has launch pads only in

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Telangana

- c) Karnataka
- d) Kerala

**Answer: a**

- At present, the Indian Space Research organisation (ISRO) has two launch pads at SatishDhawan Space Centre (SDCC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- Union Government is planning to set up a new rocket launch pad near Kulasekarapattinam in Tamil Nadu

### **Dec 03**

1) Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) doesn't take into account of

- a) Primary Sector
- b) Secondary Sector
- c) Tertiary Sector
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- It is an indicator of the economic health and investor sentiments about the manufacturing sector (Manufacturing PMI) and services sector (Services PMI).
- For India, the PMI Data is published by Japanese firm Nikkei but compiled and constructed by Markit Economics.

2) Hand-in-Hand Exercise, recently in news, between India and China for the year 2019 is to be held in

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Bihar
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The 8th edition of the exercise is scheduled at Umroi, Meghalaya.

3) Similipal-Satkosia tiger corridor, identified recently passes through

- a) Odisha
- b) Rajasthan
- c) Karnataka
- d) West Bengal

**Answer: a**

- Similipal-Satkosia - Odisha.

4) Power of Siberia, recently in news, is associated with

- a) Climate change
- b) Wildlife conservation
- c) Gas pipeline
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- The power of Siberia gas pipeline is the first cross-border gas pipeline between Russia and China.

5) Operation Clean Art which aims to close down the mongoose hairbrush trade across the country is conceived by

- a) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau
- b) World Wide Fund
- c) Wildlife Institute of India
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Operation Clean Art was conceived by WCCB with the singular aim of ensuring that the mongoose hair brush trade should be closed down across the country.

**Dec 04**

- 1) World Malaria Report 2019 is released by
- a) World Bank
  - b) United Nations Development Programme
  - c) World Health Organization (WHO)
  - d) UNICEF

**Answer: c**

- World Malaria Report 2019 is released by the World Health Organization (WHO).

- 2) Makran Subduction Zone (MSZ), recently seen in news, is located off the coasts of

- a) India
- b) Iran
- c) Oman
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- The Indian Ocean is likely to be affected by tsunamis generated by earthquakes at two potential source regions, the Andaman-Nicobar-Sumatra Island subduction zone and the Makran Subduction Zone (MSZ), according to Indian National Centre for Oceanic Information Services (INCOIS). The MSZ off the coasts of Iran and Pakistan.

- 3) Rotavac 5D Vaccine is the oral rotavirus vaccine to tackle viral diarrhoea. It is developed by

- a) Bharat Bio-Tech
- b) Biocon
- c) Serum Institute of India
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Hyderabad based Bharat Bio-Tech, an international biotechnology company, has recently unveiled advanced version of rotavirus vaccine Rotavac 5D.

- 4) Surya Kiran is a bilateral annual military exercise between India and

- a) Nepal
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Malaysia
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- It is a bilateral annual military exercise between India and Nepal Army.

- 5) The last country to join NATO collective is

- a) North Macedonia
- b) Namibia
- c) Serbia
- d) Turkey

**Answer: a**

- Nato states have signed an agreement with Macedonia, clearing the way for the Balkan nation to become the military alliance's 30th member.

**Dec 05**

- 1) World Soil Day is celebrated every year on

- a) 5th December
- b) 6th November
- c) 7th January
- d) 4th December

**Answer: a**

- World Soil Day is celebrated every year on 5th of December by Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nations.

- 2) Bougainville, an island in the Pacific, is holding a referendum to gain independence from
- a) Papua New Guinea
  - b) Indonesia
  - c) Vietnam
  - d) China

**Answer: a**

- It is holding a referendum to decide if it wants to remain a part of Papua New Guinea or become an independent country.

- 3) Eat Right Movement, launched by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) aims to cut down salt/sugar and oil consumption by
- a) 30%
  - b) 25%
  - c) 20%
  - d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The movement aims to cut down salt/sugar and oil consumption by 30% in three years.

- 4) Which among the following is wrong about Extra Neutral Alcohol?
- a) by-product of the sugar industry
  - b) primary raw material for alcoholic beverages
  - c) colourless food-grade alcohol
  - d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

- All the statements are correct.

- 5) Global Climate Risk Index is released by
- a) IPCC
  - b) UNFCCC
  - c) UNEP
  - d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

The index is released by Environment think tank, Germanwatch for the for 2018 and from 1999 to 2018.

## **Dec 06**

- 1) India's Forex Reserves provides country's import cover for
- a) 11 months
  - b) 6 months
  - c) 2 months
  - d) 2 years

**Answer: a**

- It provides country's import cover for 11 months.
- India's forex reserves cross \$450 billion for the first time.

2) INDRA is a joint Tri-services exercise between India and

- a) Russia
- b) US
- c) France
- d) China

**Answer: a**

- It is a joint Tri-services exercise between India and Russia.
- INDRA 2019 will be conducted simultaneously at Babina (near Jhansi), Pune, and Goa.

3) Government owns what percentage of NIIF Master Fund?

- a) 74%
- b) 51%
- c) 49%
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- Government owns 49% of NIIF.
- The NIIF is a trust that raises debt to invest in the equity of infrastructure finance companies.

4) European Space Agency (ESA) has approved the budget of Hera Mission. It intends to

- a) slam a spacecraft into an asteroid
- b) land man on Mars
- c) check extra-terrestrial life beyond solar system
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The European Space Agency (ESA) has approved the budget of Hera, the European component of the mission to slam a spacecraft into an asteroid.

5) British took possession of Koh-i-noor diamond during the rule of

- a) Maharaja Ranjit Singh
- b) Maharaja Duleep Singh
- c) Bahadur Shah II
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- In 1849, after the British defeated the Sikhs in the war, Singh was forced to sign a legal document that amended the Treaty of Lahore, requiring him to not only give up claims of sovereignty over the region, but also the Koh-i-noor diamond.

## **Dec 07**

1) 2019 Word of the Year by Oxford Dictionaries is

- a) climate action
- b) climate denial
- c) eco-anxiety
- d) climate emergency

**Answer: d**

- Oxford Dictionaries has named climate emergency as the 2019 Word of the Year.

2) Head on Generation (HOG) technology, recently seen in news, is related to

- a) Fifth Generation Fighter craft
- b) Ballistic missiles
- c) Train's 'hotel load'
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- Between April 2018 and November 2019 around 436 trains have been converted into HOG compliant.

3) India-based Neutrino Observatory (INO) Project is a mega-science project jointly funded by

- Department of Atomic Energy (DAE)
- Department of Science and Technology (DST)
- Both (a) and (b)
- Neither (a) nor (b)

**Answer: c**

- It is a mega-science project jointly funded by the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST).

4) Adaptation fund established under the Kyoto Protocol of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change

- finances projects help vulnerable communities in developing countries adapt to climate change
- World Bank serves as trustee
- Initiatives are based on country needs, views and priorities.
- None of the above

**Answer: d**

- Adaptation Fund has directed \$532 million to 80 concrete adaptation projects in the most vulnerable communities of developing countries, serving 5.8 million direct beneficiaries.

5) The GOAL is a program aimed at guiding and encouraging tribal girls from across India to become village-level digital young leaders for their communities. It is an initiative of

- Google
- Facebook
- Microsoft
- None of the above

**Answer: b**

- The GOAL is a Facebook program aimed at guiding and encouraging tribal girls from across India to become village-level digital young leaders for their communities

## **Dec 09**

1) India is a member of Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants

- Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants
- Convention on Biological Diversity
- Both (a) and (b)
- Neither (a) nor (b)

**Answer: c**

- Convention for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants is in contradiction with the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), in which India is also a member.

2) Taj Trapezium Zone is spread across the states of

- Uttar Pradesh
- Rajasthan
- Both (a) and (b)
- Neither (a) and (b)

**Answer: c**

- It is spread across the districts of Agra, Firozabad, Mathura, Hathras and Etah in Uttar Pradesh and Bharatpur district of Rajasthan.

3) Which among the statements about Tyre Pyrolysis is correct?

- a) absence of oxygen
- b) safer than open burning
- c) temperature between 250° C and 500° C
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d**

- It refers to a technique of breaking down used tyres at temperatures between 250° C and 500° C, in the absence of oxygen.
- It is considered a safer technique than burning tyres in open spaces.

- 4) 'Because the Ocean' Declaration was signed in 2015 UNFCCC that focuses on objectives of
- a) Climate Change
  - b) Oceans
  - c) Sustainable Development.
  - d) All of the above

**Answer: d**

- 'Because the Ocean' Declaration was signed in 2015 UNFCCC COP held in Paris that focuses on objectives to advance action on climate change, oceans and sustainable development

- 5) The rebellion is a valiant uprising of Paikas in 1817 against the British Rule which is often termed as the First War of Independence. Paikas were landed militia in
- a) Odisha
  - b) Bengal
  - c) Gujarat
  - d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The Paikas were the traditional landed militia of Khurda, Odisha.

### **Dec 10**

- 1) Which of the following countries are ranked below India in Human Development Index?
- a) Sri Lanka
  - b) China
  - c) Both (a) and (b)
  - d) Neither (a) nor (b)

**Answer: c**

- Among India's neighbours, Sri Lanka and China are higher up the rank scale.

- 2) White Island Volcano, recently seen in news, is located in
- a) US
  - b) New Zealand
  - c) UK
  - d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- The White Island Volcano, also called Whakaari, in New Zealand has recently erupted.

- 3) JalJeevan Mission aims to provide functional household tap connections to every households by
- a) 2024
  - b) 2022
  - c) 2020
  - d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- It aims to provide functional household tap connections to every households by 2024.

4) Skills Build is a digital platform developed by Ministry of Skill Development with the help of

- a) IBM
- b) Microsoft
- c) Facebook
- d) All of the above

**Answer: a**

• Skills Build is a digital platform developed by IBM and Ministry of Skill Development. India is the 4th country where this Skills Build platform has been launched after in UK, Germany and France.

5) Which among the following is not a member of Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC)?

- a) Saudi Arabia
- b) Iran
- c) Qatar
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

• It is a regional political and economic alliance of six Gulf States i.e Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates.

### **Dec 11**

1) Climate Change Performance Index, released recently ranks India at

- a) 10
- b) 100
- c) 102
- d) 9

**Answer: d**

• India, for the first time, ranks at 9 among the top 10 in the index

2) 3rd battle of Panipat is fought between

- a) Babur and Ibrahim Lodhi
- b) Hemu 'Vikramaditya' and Akbar
- c) Maharaja Surajmal and Ahmed Shah Abdali
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

• It was fought between Maratha forces and invading armies of Afghan general Ahmed Shah Abdali of Durrani Empire in 1761.

3) The International Mountain Day is observed on

- a) 11 Dec
- b) 12 Dec
- c) 31 Dec
- d) 1 Jan

**Answer: a**

• International Mountain Day is observed on 11 December. The day aims to raise awareness about conserving the mountains.

4) Under Article 244, 6th schedule deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four north-eastern states. Which among the following is not one of them?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Manipur
- c) Nagaland
- d) All of the above



**Answer: d**

• Under Article 244, it deals with the administration of the tribal areas in the four north-eastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura and Mizoram.

5) Hong Kong was conditionally transferred to China from the administration of

- a) France
- b) US
- c) UK
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

• Semi-autonomous Hong Kong has been battered by increasingly violent demonstrations in the starkest challenge the city has presented to Beijing since its 1997 handover from Britain.

**Dec 12**

1) Subramanian Bharati, who became the first poet whose works were nationalised by the state government was from

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Karnataka
- d) Andhra Pradesh

**Answer: a**

• In 1949, he became the first poet whose works were nationalised by the state government.  
• He was a poet, freedom fighter and social reformer from Tamil Nadu.

2) Infrastructure Investment Trust(s) (InvIT) will set up by

- a) National Highways Authority of India
- b) Steel Authority of India
- c) Airports Authority of India
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

• National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) will set up the Infrastructure Investment Trust(s) (InvIT) as per InvIT Guidelines issued by SEBI.

3) Which among the following are incorrectly matched?

- a) India : NavIC
- b) Japan : QZSS
- c) European Union : Galileo
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

• US Congress has consented to designate India's Navigation in Indian Constellation (NavIC) as its "allied" navigational satellite system along with the Galileo of the European Union and QZSS of Japan.  
• It is a regional system and so its constellation will consist of 7 satellites.

4) Recently launched RISAT-2BR1 is a

- a) earth observation satellite
- b) communication satellite
- c) drone satellite
- d) All of the above

**Answer: a**

• PSLV in its 50th flight (PSLV-C48), successfully launched RISAT-2BR1 along with 9 commercial satellites.  
• It is a radar imaging earth observation satellite & will provide services in the field of Agriculture, Forestry and Disaster Management. The mission life of RISAT-2BR1 is 5 years

5) Which among the statements about Rare Earth Metals are true?

- a) All Rare Earth Metals are radioactive.
- b) US dominates the production of these elements.
- c) Applications include consumer electronics, clean energy and healthcare.
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- One of the Rare Earths, promethium, is radioactive. It includes 15 lanthanides plus scandium and yttrium.
- Cerium is used in Space shuttle components, jet engine turbines and drones. Scandium is used in Televisions and fluorescent lamps. Yttrium is used in drugs to treat rheumatoid arthritis and cancer
- China dominates the production of these elements.

### **Dec 13**

1) AtalBhujalYojana Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Jal Shakti being implemented with the help of

- a) World Bank
- b) New Development Bank
- c) Asian Development Bank
- d) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank

**Answer: a**

- It is a Rs.6000 crore World Bank approved Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Jal Shakti. The funding pattern is 50:50 between Government of India and World Bank.

2) Delhi Dialogue is a premier annual track 1.5 event between India and

- a) China
- b) ASEAN
- c) SCO
- d) SAARC

**Answer: b**

- Delhi Dialogue is a premier annual track 1.5 event between India and ASEAN.

3) First Indian Ocean Dialogue was held in

- a) Kerala
- b) New Delhi
- c) Melbourne
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

- The Indian Ocean Dialogue (IOD) is a flagship initiative of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA).
- The first IOD was held in Kerala, India in 2014. The 6th Indian Ocean Dialogue will be held in New Delhi on 13th and 14th December 2019.

4) Trakea is a unique barcoding software aimed at ensuring security and a tamperproof tracking system for forensic reports. It is launched by the state police of

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Gujarat
- d) Haryana

**Answer: d**

- Trakea is a unique barcoding software, adopted by Haryana police department, aimed at ensuring security and a tamperproof tracking system for forensic reports.

5) The Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) is an international organisation consisting of 22 coastal states bordering the Indian Ocean. It is headquartered in

- a) Mauritius
- b) India
- c) Australia
- d) Sri Lanka

**Answer: a**

- The Coordinating Secretariat of IORA is located at Ebene, Mauritius.

#### **Dec 14**

1) SAANS Initiative, an initiative under National Health Mission, aims to accelerate action to reduce deaths due to:

- a) childhood pneumonia
- b) diarrhoea
- c) malaria
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Social Awareness and Actions to Neutralize Pneumonia Successfully (SAANS) is an initiative under National Health Mission.
- It is to accelerate action to reduce deaths due to Childhood Pneumonia.
- Under this, the government is targeting a reduction in pneumonia-caused deaths by 2025 to less than 3 deaths out of 1000 live births.

2) Which among the following are not recognised as a part of its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity?

- a) Nuad Thai massage
- b) Kalbelia
- c) Sankirtana
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

- Kalbelia folk songs and dances of Rajasthan. Chhau dance. Buddhist chanting of Ladakh: recitation of sacred Buddhist texts in the trans-Himalayan Ladakh region, Jammu and Kashmir. Sankirtana, ritual singing, drumming and dancing of Manipur.
- UNESCO has recognised the “Nuad” Thai massage as part of its Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.

3) Virtual Police Station has been set up in the educational institutions to educate public about the functioning of police stations. It is an initiative by the state government

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Haryana

**Answer: c**

- The Virtual Police Station is an initiative by the Andhra Pradesh government.
- It is to demystify the police station and acquaint the public with the functioning of a police station electronically without visiting it physically.

4) Scientists have redefined a kilogram, or any other weight, in terms of the amount of electricity needed to counteract the weight. The prototype of one kilogram (NPK-57) is now available in India and placed at the

- a) Physical Research Laboratory, Ahmedabad
- b) National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi
- c) Bureau of Indian Standards, New Delhi
- d) Indian Space Research Organisation, Bangalore

**Answer: b**

- The prototype of one kilogram (NPK-57) is now available in India and placed at the National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi.

5) Voice over Wi-Fi (VoWiFi) has been introduced for the first time India. It is launched by

- Facebook
- Reliance Jio
- BhartiAirtel
- None of the above

**Answer: c**

- Wi-Fi Calling is aimed especially for areas where cellular networks are not strong. BhartiAirtel has introduced Voice over Wi-Fi (VoWiFi), a first for India

**Dec 16**

1) Government Instant Messaging System (GIMS) is the Indian equivalent of popular messaging platforms such as Whatsapp and Telegram. It is being developed by

- Indian Space Research Organisation
- Defence Research and Development Organisation
- National Informatics Centre
- None of the above

**Answer: c**

- It is seen as a secure Indian alternative without the security concerns associated with apps hosted abroad or owned by foreign entities.
- Government Instant Messaging System (GIMS) is the platform in the testing stage developed by National Informatics Centre.

2) StrandHogg, recently seen in news, is a

- Software Bug
- Endangered deer species
- Malware
- None of the above

**Answer: a**

- StrandHogg is a bug that allows real-time malware applications to pose as genuine applications and access user data of all kind.

3) Crystal award recognises as well as celebrates the achievements of leading artists and cultural figures whose leadership inspires inclusive and sustainable change. It is awarded by

- World Economic Forum (WEF)
- United Nations Environment Programme
- United Nations Development Programme
- None of the above

**Answer: a**

- It is awarded by the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- Hosted by World Economic Forum's World Arts Forum..

4) 'Vatsalya – MaatriAmritKosh', a National Human Milk Bank and Lactation Counselling Centre at the Lady Hardinge Medical College (LHMC) is established in collaboration with the government of

- Norway
- US
- UK
- Australia

**Answer: a**

- Vatsalya – MaatriAmritKosh: Established in collaboration with the Norwegian government.

5) National Ganga Council (NGC) was replaced the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA) in 2016. It is headed by

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Home Minister
- c) Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- d) Minister of Jal Shakti

**Answer: a**

- NGC would have on board the chief ministers of five Ganga basin states—Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh (UP), Bihar, Jharkhand and West Bengal—besides several Union ministers and it was supposed to meet once every year.
- Headed by the Prime Minister, it replaced the National Ganga River Basin Authority (NGRBA).

### **Dec 17**

1) Nirvik Scheme is a new Export Credit Insurance Scheme (ECIS) introduced by Ministry of Commerce and Industry. Under the scheme, Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC) will provide credit insurance cover of

- a) 5%
- b) 30%
- c) 90%
- d) 100%

**Answer: c**

- It is a new Export Credit Insurance Scheme (ECIS) introduced by Ministry of Commerce and Industry through Export Credit Guarantee Corporation (ECGC).
- Under the scheme, ECGC will provide 90% credit insurance cover and any additional outgo would be supported by the government.
- The scheme is valid for 5 years.

2) How is Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEV) different from an electric vehicle (EV)?

- a) FCEV does not store energy
- b) FCEV relies on a constant supply of oxygen
- c) FCEV is energy efficient than EVs.
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

- Unlike a battery-electricity vehicle, it does not store energy and, instead, relies on a constant supply of fuel and oxygen — in the same way that an internal combustion engine relies on a constant supply of petrol or diesel, and oxygen.

3) Compensation Cess was introduced as relief for States for the loss of revenues arising from the implementation of GST. It is deposited finally in

- a) Public Account of India
- b) Consolidated Fund of India
- c) Contingency Fund of India
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The collected compensation cess flows into the Consolidated Fund of India.
- It is then transferred to the Public Account of India, where a GST compensation cess account has been created.

- 4) Dolphins in India are listed in
- Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES)
  - Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS)
  - 'Endangered' on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List.
  - All of the above

**Answer: d**

- Dolphins have been included in Schedule I of the Indian Wild Life (Protection) Act 1972, in Appendix I of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), in Appendix II of the Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) and categorised as 'Endangered' on the International Union for the Conservation of Nature's (IUCN) Red List.

5) Which among the following is the first interstellar comet to enter the solar system?

- Oumuamua
- Borisov
- Bennu
- None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Borisov is only the second interstellar object ever seen entering the solar system. The first was Oumuamua in 2017.

### **Dec 18**

1) Which among the following countries are ahead of India in Global Gender Gap Index 2020 ranking?

- Bangladesh
- Nepal
- Sri Lanka
- All of the above

**Answer: d**

- The Global Gender Gap Index 2020 was released by World Economic Forum.
- India has ranked 112th among 153 countries, slipped four places from the previous year ranking.
- Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka and China are ranked at 50, 101, 102 and 106 respectively. Pakistan is ranked at 151.

2) Recently launched GeMSamvaad is a national outreach programme aimed at

- Negotiation of Compensation cess in GST scheme
- Promoting genetically modified crops
- Procurement needs of government departments.
- None of the above

**Answer: c**

- Government e-Marketplace (GeM) is the national public procurement portal launched by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in 2016.
- It makes procurement contactless, paperless and cashless.
- GeMSamvaad will take place with stakeholders across the country and with local sellers in order to facilitate on-boarding of local sellers on the marketplace while catering to specific requirements and procurement needs of buyers.

3) Hong Kong Convention, recently seen in news, deals with

- Ship Recycling
- Freedom of Expression
- Human rights
- None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Ships to be recycled in India shall be required to obtain a Ready for Recycling Certificate in accordance with the Hong Kong Convention for Ship Recycling.
- Recycling of Ships Act, recently comes into force, provide for the regulation of recycling of ships by setting certain international standards.

4) The first Global Refugee Forum (GRF) was held in

- a) Switzerland
- b) Norway
- c) India
- d) France

**Answer: a**

- The first Global Refugee Forum (GRF) was held in Geneva, Switzerland.
- It has been organised around 6 areas of focus – Burden and responsibility-sharing, Education, Jobs and livelihoods, Energy and infrastructure, Solutions, and Protection capacity

5) Which among the following statements about National Broadband Mission is wrong?

- a) It aims to provide broadband access in all villages in the country by 2022
- b) It aims to decrease tower density
- c) Funding also comes from Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- It aims to increase tower density from 0.42 to 1 tower per thousand of population by 2024.

**Dec 19**

1) Himalayan Gold is a fungal parasite of larvae that belongs to the ghost moth. It is endemic to.

- a) Tibetan Plateau
- b) Zaskar Range
- c) Ladakh
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- It is a fungal parasite of larvae that belongs to the ghost moth. It is endemic to the Tibetan Plateau.

2) TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, is a strategic alliance of

- a) IUCN and Conservation International
- b) WWF and Conservation International
- c) Wildlife Conservation Society and Conservation International
- d) IUCN and WWF

**Answer: d**

- It is a strategic alliance of IUCN and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).
- Its mission is to ensure that trade in wild plants and animals is not a threat to the conservation of nature.

3) CHEOPS – CHaracterisingExOPlanet Satellite, aimed at the study of exoplanets, is a new telescope going to be launched by

- a) ISRO
- b) NASA
- c) CNES
- d) ESA

**Answer: d**

- CHEOPS – CHaracterisingExOPlanet Satellite is a new telescope going to be launched by European Space Agency.

4) TansenSamaroh is a five-day festival celebrated every year in the memory of one of the most eminent singers of Indian history, 'MianTansen'. It is celebrated in the state of

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer: b**

- It is a popular classical music festival in Madhya Pradesh.

5) 'Silver Line' project, recently seen in news, is a

- a) Railway corridor
- b) Industrial corridor
- c) LPG Pipeline
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- It involves laying of semi high-speed trains between the two corners of the state of Kerala. It is 532- km long. The corridor will be built away from the existing line between Thiruvananthapuram and Thrissur.

## **Dec 20**

1) Vaccination on Wheels Clinic was launched in the city of

- a) Pune
- b) Kolkata
- c) Bangalore
- d) Hyderabad

**Answer: c**

- Jignesh Patel, a former Business Executive who joined the CfHE in 2018, is a winner of 'Grand Challenges Explorations' Grant and will take up his project titled 'VaccineOnWheels.com' under the firm Jivika Healthcare Private Limited. Thanks to the funding, he is working on increasing the demand for vaccination through convenience and will implement his unique and low-cost but high-on-convenience model in Pune as a pilot project.

2) Indian peacekeepers have received the United Nations Medal for their dedication and sacrifice serving so far away from home to protect civilians and build durable peace in

- a) Syria
- b) Afghanistan
- c) South Sudan
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- Indian peacekeepers have received the United Nations Medal for their dedication and sacrifice serving so far away from home to protect civilians and build durable peace in South Sudan.

3) First edition of the Gandhi Citizenship Education Prize was awarded to

- a) social welfare
- b) animal welfare
- c) international peace
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- The first edition of the education prize will be dedicated to animal welfare since Gandhi used to say that the way animals were treated in a nation was indicative of its greatness

4) National Committee for the Commemoration Mahatma Gandhi's 150th Birth Anniversary was recently met for the second time. The only foreign Prime Minister to be a part of the committee is from



- a) France
- b) Portugal
- c) UK
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- The committee is chaired by President Ram Nath Kovind.
- The committee includes Vice-President, PM, the Union Cabinet, Chief Ministers, Gandhians etc.
- The only foreign Prime Minister to be a part of the committee is Portugal Prime Minister Antonio Costa.

5) RBI have recently decided to launch India's version of Operation Twist, which was the idea of US Federal Reserve. Which among the following is incorrect about Operation Twist?

- a) It involves the purchase and sale of bonds
- b) It is aimed at managing the bond yields
- c) It will sell the longer-term bonds and purchase short term bonds.
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- RBI will purchase the longer-term government bonds maturing in 2029 at 6.45% and simultaneously sell short term bonds maturing in 2020.

### **Dec 21**

1) Preliminary Gas Transit Deal is signed between

- a) North Korea and South Korea
- b) Japan and China
- c) US and Mexico
- d) Russia and Ukraine

**Answer: d**

- Moscow and Kiev have signed a preliminary deal on the transit of Russian gas to Europe via Ukraine, after months of difficult talks but ahead of the looming New Year deadline.

2) Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) is an officially recognized book of standards as per the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940. First foreign nation to recognise it is

- a) US
- b) Afghanistan
- c) UK
- d) China

**Answer: b**

- IP has been recognised formally by the Public Health Ministry of Afghanistan. Afghanistan is the first country to recognise IP.

3) South Asian Literature award for 2019 is won by

- a) Amitabha Bagchi
- b) Raj Kamal Jha
- c) Madhuri Vijay
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Amitabha Bagchi's novel Half The Night Is Gone won the South Asian Literature 2019 award.

4) NAFTA 2.0, recently seen in news, is an agreement involving which of the following countries?

- a) US
- b) Canada
- c) Mexico
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d**

- The House of Representatives has passed the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement — the replacement for NAFTA, or the 1994 North American Free Trade Agreement. The new deal includes stronger labor and environmental provisions. American labor groups have backed the new trade deal.

5) Which among the following is not one of the carbon neutral countries in the world?

- a) Bhutan
- b) Suriname
- c) Germany
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- Bhutan and Suriname are the only carbon neutral countries in the world.
- In the background of the failure of the global community to reach any agreement in the recently concluded COP 25, the European Union (EU) has come up with a climate action plan known as the European Green Deal.

### **Dec 23**

1) Which among the following was formalised as an institution under the Treaty of Lisbon?

- a) European Council
- b) European Union
- c) World Economic Forum
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- European Council was formalised as an institution under the Treaty of Lisbon.

2) HunarHaat is an exhibition cum sale of art and craft products of our country organized by

- a) Ministry of Minority Affairs
- b) Ministry of Tourism
- c) Ministry of Culture
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- HunarHaat is an exhibition cum sale of art and craft products of our country. It is an annually organized by Ministry of Minority Affairs under USTTAD (Upgrading the Skills & Training in Traditional Arts/Crafts for Development) scheme at multiple locations..

3) National Farmers Day is observed on

- a) December 23
- b) November 23
- c) December 21
- d) October 1

**Answer: a**

- Farmer's Day is celebrated every year on 23 December, on the birthday of the 5th Prime Minister of India, Choudhary Charan Singh, also a farmer's leader, who introduced many policies to improve the lives of the Indian farmers.

4) Spandana Initiative, recently seen in news, is to make police stations more approachable for the public, especially women. It is being implemented by

- a) Karnataka
- b) Telangana
- c) Kerala
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

- It is an initiative of Andhra Pradesh Government to make police stations more approachable for the public, especially women.

5) Which among the following are declarations adopted for good governance?

- a) Shillong Declaration
- b) Jammu Resolution
- c) Nagpur Resolution
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d**

- Nagpur resolution aims to empower the citizens by policy interventions for better service delivery through timely updating of citizens charters, implementation of enactments and benchmarking standards for continuous improvement.
- Shillong Declaration and Jammu Resolution are other two resolutions, which was adopted for good governance.

#### **Dec 24**

1) Zero-day Vulnerability, recently seen in news, is associated with

- a) Cyber attack
- b) Groundwater depletion
- c) Climate Change
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- A zero-day exploit is a cyber-attack that occurs on the same day a weakness is discovered in software.
- At that point, it is exploited before a fix becomes available from its creator.

2) Which among the following are not one of the members of Eurasian Economic Union?

- a) Kazakhstan,
- b) Kyrgyzstan
- c) Russia
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

- Russia is looking forward to India concluding a new Free Trade Agreement with the EAEU.

3) Recently formed Cabinet Committee on Investment & Growth is chaired by

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Finance Minister
- c) Commerce Minister
- d) Railway Minister

**Answer: a**

- Cabinet Committee on Investment & Growth is the newly formed cabinet committee with Prime Minister as the chairman.
- The panel has 4 members - Home Minister, Highways and MSME Minister, Finance Minister and Commerce & Railways Minister.

4) DRDO has successfully test-fired indigenously developed Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air missiles (QRSAM). It is developed to replace

- a) Aakash
- b) Nag
- c) Trishul
- d) Prithvi

**Answer: a**

- It has been developed to replace the 'Akash' missile defence system, and has 360-degree coverage.

5) Which among the following countries are blacklisted as per Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?

- Iran
- Syria
- Pakistan
- All of the above

**Answer: a**

- If Pakistan is actually moved out of the Grey List, it will be placed on the Black List with Iran and North Korea.

**Dec 26**

1) Which among the following is the best governed Union Territory as per recently released Good Governance Index?

1. The rankings were launched by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, and the Centre for Good Governance.

2. Lakshadweep is the best governed Union Territory.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

- Lakshadweep
- Puducherry
- Chandigarh
- Delhi

**Answer: b**

- Puducherry is the best governed Union Territory followed by Chandigarh and Delhi. Lakshadweep is the worst performing UT.

- The rankings were launched by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances, and the Centre for Good Governance

2) Who was the editor of a Hindi magazine, 'Hindusthan'?

- Madan Mohan Malaviya
- Sardar Patel
- Rabindranath Tagore
- None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Madan Mohan Malaviya was a freedom fighter and social reformer. He had served as the President of the INC on four occasions. He was awarded the Bharat Ratna posthumously in 2014. He was the editor of a Hindi magazine, 'Hindusthan'.

3) Which among the following is the world's longest highway tunnel at an altitude of above 10,000 feet?

- Rohtang Tunnel
- ChenaniNashri Tunnel
- PirPanjal Tunnel
- None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The Rohtang tunnel connect Manali in Himachal Pradesh with Leh, Ladakh, and Jammu Kashmir, will be known as Atal Tunnel.

- It is the 8.8 km-long tunnel and it will be the world's longest highway tunnel at an altitude of above 10,000 feet (3,000 metres).

4) AtalBhujalYojana (ATAL JAL) is a Central Sector Scheme under the Ministry of Jal Shakti. Which among the following loans amount into the project?

- a) World Bank
- b) ADB
- c) NDB
- d) AIIB

**Answer: a**

- The total outlay of Rs 6,000 crore, 50% shall be in the form of World Bank loan and will be repaid by the Central Government.

5) Which among the following factors are considered while preparing Good Governance Index?

- a) Citizen-Centric Governance
- b) Economic Governance
- c) Judicial & Public Security
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d**

- The GGI takes into consideration ten sectors: 1). Agriculture and Allied Sectors, 2). Commerce & Industries, 3). Human Resource Development, 4). Public Health, 5). Public Infrastructure & Utilities, 6). Economic Governance, 7). Social Welfare & Development, 8). Judicial & Public Security, 9). Environment and 10). Citizen-Centric Governance.

### **Dec 27**

1) The National Tribal Dance Festival is an annual festival celebrated by the aborigines and tribal of India. It will be organised in 2019 at

- a) Ranchi
- b) Raipur
- c) Shillong
- d) New Delhi

**Answer: a**

- The National Tribal Dance Festival is being organized in Chhattisgarh for the first time. More than 1300 participants from 25 states & UTs of the country and six countries are participating in this three-day dance fest. These folk-dance teams will present their respective folk-art cultures. During these three days, 29 tribal troupes will present more than 43 styles of four different dance forms.
- National Tribal Dance Festival has begun in Raipur, the capital of Chhattisgarh.

2) The fraction of the Sun's diameter which is covered by the Moon is called

- a) Eclipse magnitude
- b) Eclipse obscuration
- c) Eclipse diameter
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- Eclipse magnitude is the fraction of the Sun's diameter which is covered by the Moon.
- Eclipse obscuration is a measure of the Sun's surface area covered by the Moon.

3) Eat Right Mela, aimed at ushering in a 'new food culture' by nudging businesses and consumers to adopt safe, healthy and sustainable food practices is launched by

- a) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- b) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- c) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- It is launched by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI).

4) The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has discovered the earliest Sanskrit inscription called as Saptamatrika Inscription. They were issued during the era of

- Satavahanas
- Kushanas
- Mauryas
- Guptas

**Answer: a**

- The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has discovered the earliest Sanskrit inscription issued by Satavahana King Vijaya in 207 A.D. in South India.

5) Tibetan Gazelles, also known as Goa, according to IUCN is categorised as

- Near Threatened
- Endangered
- Critically Endangered
- None of the above

**Answer: a**

- A species of antelope that inhabits the Tibetan plateau. IUCN Status- Near Threatened

### **Dec 28**

1) Which of the following goals is not the part of NITI SDG Index?

- Responsible Consumption and Production
- Climate Action
- Life Below Water
- All of the above

**Answer: d**

- NITI Aayog has constructed the SDG India Index spanning across 13 out of 17 SDGs (leaving out Goals 12, 13, 14 and 17).

2) Snow EX, recently seen in news, is a

- Military exercise
- Geographical experiment
- Satellite
- None of the above

**Answer: b**

- For a better understanding of how much water is contained in each winter's snowfall and how much will be available when it melts in the spring, NASA has launched a seasonal campaign as part of a five-year programme called SnowEx, initiated in 2016-17.

3) Nari Shakti Puraskar can be awarded to

- individual women
- public and private institutions
- public departments
- All of the above

**Answer: d**

- The Nari Shakti Puraskar is conferred on individual women, public and private institutions and public departments for their activism and/ or their contributions to the cause of women's empowerment.

4) Recently, a protein that repairs a damaged DNA in humans and helps prevent diseases like cancer was discovered in India. It was discovered by

- a) IISc, Bangalore
- b) Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research
- c) IIT Hyderabad
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- IIT Hyderabad discovers a protein that repairs a damaged DNA in humans and helps prevent diseases like cancer.

- 5) 'Jana GanaMana' was adopted as the country's National Anthem by
- a) First Lok Sabha
  - b) Constituent Assembly
  - c) Pre-independent parliament
  - d) Indian National Congress

**Answer: b**

- 'Jana GanaMana' was adopted as the country's National Anthem by the Constituent Assembly of India on January 24, 1950, the last day of its last session.

### **Dec 30**

1) Preamble of Indian Constitution is based on the Objective Resolution. It was moved by

- a) Motilal Nehru
- b) Jawaharlal Nehru
- c) BR Ambedkar
- d) Sardar Patel

**Answer: b**

- The Preamble is based on the Objective Resolution moved by Jawaharlal Nehru in the Constituent Assembly on December 13, 1946.

2) Drake Passage, recently seen in news, is located between

- a) Cape Horn and Antarctica
- b) Russia and Alaska
- c) China and Taiwan
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The Passage is located between Cape Horn at the tip of South America and the Antarctic Peninsula.

3) Who is named as country's first Chief of Defence Staff?

- a) Manoj Mukund Naravane
- b) Bipin Rawat
- c) Karambir Singh
- d) Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhadauria

**Answer: b**

- Indian Army chief General Bipin Rawat has been named India's first Chief of Defence Staff. General Rawat was named the Chief of Defence Staff just a day before he was to retire from service after completing a full three-year term as the Chief of Army Staff.

4) Hypersonic intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM), Avangard was tested by

- a) US
- b) North Korea
- c) Russia
- d) Turkey

**Answer: c**

- Russia's military deployed a new intercontinental weapon, the Avangard hypersonic missile system.

- It can fly 27 times the speed of sound and will be the Russian military's first hypersonic intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).

5) Constitution of India doesn't specifically mentions about

- a) National Flag
- b) National Anthem
- c) National Song
- d) None of the above

**Answer: c**

- According to Article 51A (a) of the Constitution: "It shall be the duty of every citizen of India to abide by the Constitution and respect its ideals and institutions, the National Flag and the National Anthem".

### **Dec 31**

1) Which social media introduced helpline number for safety of women?

- a) Whatsapp
- b) Facebook
- c) Telegram
- d) None of the above

**Answer: a**

- The Uttar Pradesh State Road Transport Corporation (UPSRTC) has launched a dedicated women helpline, 'Damini'

- The unique number "81142-77777" has been subscribed for the helpline, which is an extension of the 'NirbhayaYojana'.

2) National Children's Science Congress is a nationwide Science Communication programme started in the year 1993. It was held in

- a) New Delhi
- b) Trivandrum
- c) Chennai
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

- The latest edition of National Children's Science Congress was held in Thiruvananthapuram.

3) Top positions in 2019 SDG India Index were retained by

- a) Kerala
- b) Chandigarh
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

**Answer: c**

- Kerala retained the top rank among the states and Chandigarh maintained its top spot among the UTs.

4) Which among the following statements are incorrect about Chief of Defence Staff?

- a) He will be the single-point military adviser to the government
- b) upper age limit for the CDS has been fixed at 65 years
- c) tenure of CDS has been fixed for 5 years
- d) He will be a Four-star General.

**Answer: c**

- As per the notification by the government, the upper age limit for the CDS has been fixed at 65 years. However, the tenure of CDS has not been fixed.

5) Central Equipment Identity Register, recently launched in Delhi, is about

- a) Registering drones in India
- b) Census data of electronic items
- c) Tracing of stolen/lost mobile phones
- d) None of the above



**Answer: c**

- The government has launched a web portal, 'Central Equipment Identity Register (CEIR)', to facilitate blocking and tracing of stolen/lost mobile phones in Delhi.