

Current Affairs Quiz , August 2020

Aug 01

1) National Transit Pass System (NTPS) is an online system for issuing transit permits for timber, bamboo and other forest produce. The pilot project will be functional in

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Telangana
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

- The pilot project will be functional in Madhya Pradesh and Telangana for now.

2) 'Alliance to End Plastic Waste', an NGO based in Singapore, is working on the Project Aviral which aims to reduce plastic waste in

- a) Ganga
- b) Yamuna
- c) Brahmaputra
- d) Indus

Answer: a

- Alliance to End Plastic Waste was founded in 2019 as a nonprofit organization, in Singapore. It helps to solve the serious and complex issue of 8 million tons of plastic waste entering the ocean every year.

3) Gramodyog Vikas Yojana aims to promote and develop the village industries through common facilities, technological modernization, training etc. The scheme is under the

- a) Ministry of Rural Development
- b) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- c) Ministry of Commerce
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Gramodyog Vikas Yojana aims to promote and develop the village industries through common facilities, technological modernization, training etc. The scheme is under the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

4) Muslim Women Rights Day, is celebrated every year on August 1, the day which made Muslim women free from social evil of Triple Talaq. It is organised by

- a) National Commission for Minorities
- b) ActionAid India
- c) International Foundation for Crime Prevention and Victim Care (PCVC)
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- National Commission for Minorities organized a virtual conference on the occasion of Muslim Women Rights Day.

5) Which among the following are the components of Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme?

- a) Computerization of land record
- b) Survey/re-survey
- c) Computerization of Registration.
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- Under the Digital India Land Record Modernisation Programme (DILRMP), computerisation of registration of land, cadastral maps and land records have been completed in more than 90 per cent of the states
- The DILRMP has 3 major components

- o Computerization of land record
- o Survey/re-survey
- o Computerization of Registration.

Aug 03

1) Production Linked Incentive(PLI) scheme is aimed at gives a boost to

- a) Agriculture Sector
- b) Manufacturing
- c) Food processing
- d) All of the above

Answer: b

- It proposes a financial incentive to boost domestic manufacturing and attract large investments in the electronics value chain.
- The Scheme will be implemented through a Nodal Agency which shall act as a Project Management Agency (PMA) and be responsible for providing secretarial, managerial and implementation support and carrying out other responsibilities as assigned by MeitY from time to time.

2) The Indian Army Chief is granted the honorary post of a General in

- a) Nepal Army
- b) Sri Lankan Navy
- c) UK Army
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Indian Army Chief is granted the honorary post of a General in the Nepal Army.
- Recently, Foreign Minister of Nepal said that the 1947 agreement among India, Nepal

and the United Kingdom that deals with the military service of Gorkha soldiers has become redundant.

3) China has recently completed its BeiDou Navigation Satellite System constellation. Galileo is a similar system developed by

- a) US
- b) Russia
- c) EU
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• The GPS is owned by the US government and operated by the US Air Force. Russia has its navigation system called GLONASS. The European Union (EU) has Galileo. India's navigation system is called Navigation with Indian Constellation (NavIC).

4) National Transit Pass System is an online transit pass generation system for

- a) Forest produce
- b) Coal
- c) Petroleum products
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

• It is an online transit pass generation system for timber, bamboo and other forest produce. It was launched recently by the Union Environment Ministry. The pilot project will be functional in Madhya Pradesh and Telangana for now.

5) Dhole (Asiatic wild dog) is an apex social carnivore in the tropical forests of South and South East Asia. IUCN has categorised it as

- a) Vulnerable
- b) Extinct
- c) Endangered
- d) Critically endangered

Answer: c

• Karnataka, Maharashtra and Madhya Pradesh rank high in the conservation of the endangered dhole in India, according to a new study.

Aug 04

1) On the eve Raksha Bandhan, using leaf vines, women and children tied symbolic rakhi to the trees and took an oath to protect

- a) Aravali forests
- b) Sundarbans
- c) Gir forest
- d) Namdapha National Park

Answer: a

- On the eve Raksha Bandhan, using leaf vines, women and children tied symbolic rakhi to the trees and took an oath to protect the Aravali forests that are the lifeline for clean air and water in Gurugram and National Capital Region.

2) Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant, recently heard in news is the first nuclear power plant in

- a) UAE
- b) Bhutan
- c) Bangladesh
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- United Arab Emirates' first nuclear reactor at the Barakah Nuclear Energy Plant has achieved first criticality and successfully started up.

3) Cantonese, a local dialect of Chinese, is spoken in

- a) Hong Kong
- b) Uyghurs
- c) Tibet
- d) Vietnam

Answer: a

- Mandarin is the language of government and education of the Chinese mainland and Taiwan, with the notable exceptions of Hong Kong and Macau where a local dialect of Chinese called Cantonese is more often used.

- The National Education Policy (NEP) has dropped Mandarin or 'Chinese' from its list of examples of foreign languages that can be taught in schools.

4) Agatti Island is a part of group of islands belonging to

- a) Lakshadweep islands
- b) Andaman Nicobar Islands
- c) Mauritius
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

- Agatti Island is a 7.6 km long island, situated on a coral atoll called Agatti atoll in the Union Territory of Lakshadweep, India. Recently, the National Green Tribunal granted an interim stay on felling of coconut trees on Agatti Island for the purpose of forming a Beach Road.

5) The Galapagos Islands, spread over almost 60,000 sq km, and are located in the Pacific Ocean around 1,000 km away from the South American continent is located in

- a) US
- b) Ecuador

- c) Cuba
- d) Costa Rica

Answer: d

• Ecuador was on alert earlier this week as a fleet of Chinese fishing vessels– what some called a “floating city”– was sighted near the Galapagos archipelago. The Galapagos Islands, spread over almost 60,000 sq km, are a part of Ecuador, and are located in the Pacific Ocean around 1,000 km away from the South American continent.

Aug 05

1) Which among the following statements about Nagara Style of Architecture is incorrect?

- a) No boundary walls
- b) Garbhagriha under the tallest tower
- c) No water tank
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- Nagara style doesn't usually have elaborate boundary walls or gateways.
- Garbhagriha is always located directly under the tallest tower.
- The grand temple at Rama Janmabhoomi in Ayodhya will follow the Nagara style of temple architecture.

2) Higher Education Financing Agency (HEFA), recently heard in news, is a

- a) Company
- b) Statutory body
- c) Constitutional body
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- HEFA incorporated on 31st May 2017, is a joint venture of Ministry of HRD, GOI and Canara Bank with an agreed equity participation in the ratio of 90.91% and 09.09% respectively. HEFA is registered under the Companies Act 2013 as a Union Govt company and as Non-deposit taking NBFC with RBI.
- The Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) has received a funding of ₹455.02 crore for the construction of new academic buildings, hostels, and research centres, among others, under the Union ministry of human resources development (MHRD)'s higher education funding agency (HEFA).

3) Presently, which among the following Indian states/UTs have multiple capitals?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Jammu Kashmir
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- 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).Jammu & Kashmir had Srinagar and Jammu (winter) as capitals.
- The Andhra Pradesh high court has stayed the notifications issued by the YSR Congress government on the formation of three capitals for the state till August 14.

4) ParivarPehchan Patra (PPP) is a scheme to enable the citizens to get the benefits of various central and state government schemes at their door-step. It launched by

- a) Haryana
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Gujarat
- d) Kerala

Answer: a

- It is launched by Haryana government.PPP will provide a unique identity to complete family and it would have name of the head of the family on top. The name of family member will be added to the 'ParivarPehchan Patra' right after his birth and after marriage of a girl her name will be transferred to the 'ParivarPehchan Patra' of her in-laws.

5) Beirut, recently heard in news, is the capital and largest city of

- a) Syria
- b) Turkey
- c) Jordan
- d) Lebanon

Answer: d

- It is the capital and largest city of Lebanon. A huge explosion recently devastated the port area of the capital Beirut

Aug 06

1) Ammonium nitrate, recently heard in news, finds application in

- a) Explosives
- b) Fertilizers
- c) Antibiotics
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- The catastrophic explosion at Beirut port on August 4 was caused by over 2,700 tonnes of ammonium nitrate kept in storage for over six years.
- Used to make fertilizers and explosives, and as a nutrient in producing antibiotics and yeast. Ammonium nitrate is the ammonium salt of nitric acid. It has a role as a fertilizer, an explosive and an oxidising agent.

2) Bru community, recently heard in news, belongs to

- a) Tripura
- b) Gujarat
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The Brus, also referred to as the Reangs, are spread across the northeastern states of Tripura, Assam, Manipur, and Mizoram. In Tripura, they are recognised as a Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Group. In Mizoram, they have been targeted by groups that do not consider them indigenous to the state.

3) What is the peculiarity of Pokkali variety of rice, recently heard in news?

- a) Rich in beta-carotene
- b) Salt resistant
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: b

• The pokkali variety of rice is known for its saltwater resistance and flourishes in the rice paddies of coastal Kerala districts.

4) Geographical Indication (GI) tag for basmati rice was allotted to the state of

- a) Haryana
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Punjab
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• Amid Madhya Pradesh government's push for the Geographical Indication (GI) tag for basmati rice, Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi seeking his personal intervention against allowing this in the larger interest of Punjab and other States which are already basmati GI tagged.

5) Which among the following states is the latest entrant into MyGov (mygov.in)?

- a) Goa
- b) Kerala
- c) West Bengal
- d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: a

• Goa joins MyGov Citizen Engagement Platform; 12 states had already launched their MyGov Platforms.

Aug 07

1) Salaries, allowances and pensions of Comptroller and Auditor General of India serving in that office decided by

- a) Parliament
- b) Government of India
- c) Constitution
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Former Jammu and Kashmir Lieutenant Governor GC Murmu was recently appointed as the new Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG).

2) Indian Society of Oriental Art was founded by

- a) Rabindranath Tagore
- b) Abanindranath Tagore
- c) Bakim Chandra Chatterjee
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- He first created the 'Indian Society of Oriental Art' and later went on to establish Bengal school of art.

3) "Blackrain", an event in history, refers to

- a) Nuclear Attack in Japan
- b) Fukushima reactor melt
- c) Chernobyl reactor accident
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- On August 6, 1945, the US dropped an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima, and three days later, on August 9, it dropped another bomb on Nagasaki, killing hundreds of thousands of people and affecting many more who would suffer the effects of the radiation from the blast and the "black rain" that fell in the aftermath of the explosions.

4) Once a constitution bench is constituted in the Supreme Court of India, what is the minimum number of judges to hear the case?

- a) 3
- b) 5
- c) 7
- d) 1

Answer: b

- The Supreme Court has referred to a five-judge Bench the "substantial question of

law" whether grant of 10% reservation to economically weaker sections of the society is unconstitutional and violates the 50% ceiling cap on quota declared by the court itself.

5) Which among the following doesn't come under about Priority Sector Lending (PSL)?

- a) Startup sector
- b) Social Infrastructure
- c) Renewable Energy
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- The Reserve Bank of India has assigned priority sector lending (PSL) status to India's startup sector.

Aug 08

1) Business Confidence Index, tracks the business sentiments of around 600 Indian companies, is released by

- a) FICCI
- b) Assocham India
- c) National Council of Applied Economic Research
- d) SEBI

Answer: c

- National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) has released Business Confidence Index (BCI).

2) Recently RBI set up an expert committee under K V Kamath in order to suggest

- a) Resolution of covid-19 related stressed assets
- b) Public credit registry
- c) Data protection
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Recently RBI set up an expert committee under K V Kamath to suggest financial parameters for resolution of covid-19 related stressed assets.

3) Loya Jirga, or "grand council", is a mass national gathering that brings together representatives from the various ethnic, religious, and tribal communities in

- a) Japan
- b) China
- c) Afghanistan
- d) Iran

Answer: c

- A Loya Jirga, or "grand council", is a mass national gathering that brings together

representatives from the various ethnic, religious, and tribal communities in Afghanistan.

4) Kavkaz 2020, also referred to as Caucasus-2020 is a multilateral strategic command-post exercise, that is about to be held in

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

Answer: a

• Kavkaz 2020, also referred to as Caucasus-2020 is a multilateral strategic command-post exercise, that is about to be held in Russia. The invitation for participation to Kavkaz 2020, has been extended to at least 18 countries including China, Iran, Pakistan and Turkey apart from other Central Asian Republics part of the SCO.

5) Which among the following has been selected as a as one of the 'Top 10 Visionaries' in the world under Food System Vision Prize 2020.

- a) Youngistaan Foundation
- b) Yatna
- c) Naandi
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• Naandi, a Hyderabad-based non-profit has been selected as a as one of the 'Top 10 Visionaries' in the world for the Food Vision 2020 Prize. Naandi was based on work with tribal farmers in Araku valley, Andhra Pradesh, for nearly 20 years.

Aug 10

1) August Kranti Din, celebrated in India on 8th August, is associated with

- a) Quit India Movement
- b) Swadeshi Movement
- c) Civil Disobedience movement
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• 78th anniversary of Quit India movement was observed on August 8th, 2020.

2) Who among the following is popularly known as the 'Grand Old Lady' of the Indian Independence Movement?

- a) Aruna Asaf Ali
- b) Usha Mehta
- c) Sorajini Naidu
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Aruna Asaf Ali popularly known as the 'Grand Old Lady' of the Independence Movement is known for hoisting the Indian flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Mumbai during the Quit India Movement.

3) In a first of its kind in the country, one of the State Legal Services Authority recently organized the e-Lok Adalat to facilitate mediation between the parties. Which state/UT did it?

- a) Kerala
- b) Delhi
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Puducherry

Answer: b

- In a first of its kind in the country, the Delhi State Legal Services Authority (DSLISA) recently organized the e-Lok Adalat to facilitate mediation between the parties, who are willing to get their matters settled amicably, in all the District Courts Complexes of Delhi.

4) Gautama Buddha was born in

- a) Lumbini
- b) Sravasti
- c) Kushinagar
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- According to Buddhist texts, Gautama Buddha was born while his mother Mahamaya was travelling. He was born in a park in Lumbini, which is in Nepal. Lumbini is a UNESCO-declared heritage site and holds immense significance for the followers of Buddhism.

5) Indus Water Treaty (IWT) between India and Pakistan was brokered by

- a) Norway
- b) UN
- c) World Bank
- d) IMF

Answer: c

- It is a Water-Distribution Treaty, signed in Karachi on 1960, between India (Pm Jawaharlal Nehru) and Pakistan (President Ayub Khan), brokered by the World Bank.
- India has refused a request by Pakistan to hold a meeting on issues around the Indus Water Treaty (IWT) at the Attari checkpost near the India-Pakistan border.

Aug 11

1) Most of the geothermal water is dominated by evaporation followed by weathering of

- a) Silicate rocks
- b) Ferrous compounds
- c) Mica
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Most of the geothermal water is dominated by evaporation followed by weathering of silicate rocks
- Scientists of the Wadia Institute of Himalayan Geology (WIHG) recently conducted a study on Geothermal springs in Himalayas.

2) Which among the following institutions doesn't come directly under World Bank group?

- a) IFC
- b) IMF
- c) MIGA
- d) ICSID

Answer: b

- IFC to invest \$10 mn in Endiya Partners Fund II for product start-ups.
- Its five organizations are the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), the International Development Association (IDA), the International Finance Corporation (IFC), the Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA) and the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID). The first two are sometimes collectively referred to as the World Bank.

3) Submarine Cable System was introduced in Andaman and Nicobar Islands. It connects the island to subcontinent via

- a) Kolkata
- b) Chennai
- c) Vishakhapatnam
- d) All of the above

Answer: b

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi recently inaugurated the Chennai-Andaman and Nicobar Island Submarine Cable System, which will provide better connectivity to the archipelago.

4) Surakhsya is a national portal for collection of real time information about

- a) Border movement
- b) Human elephant conflict
- c) Naxal operations
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- It is the National Portal on human elephant conflict.

5) National Infrastructure Pipeline, aims to provide world-class infrastructure across the country and improve the quality of life for all citizens, is being hosted on

- a) National Intelligence Grid
- b) India Investment Grid
- c) National Payments Corporation of India
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• The dashboard is being hosted on the India Investment Grid (IIG). Finance Minister launches an Online Dashboard for the National Infrastructure Pipeline.

Aug 12

1) Assam Accord was signed in the year of

- a) 2010
- b) 2014
- c) 1985
- d) 1965

Answer: c

• Clause 6 of the Assam Accord, which was signed in 1985 after the Assam Agitation of 1979-85, envisages that appropriate "constitutional, legislative and administrative safeguards should be provided to protect, preserve and promote the cultural, social, linguistic identity and heritage of the people of Assam."

2) The volcano in Mount Sinabung has become active once again. Where is it located?

- a) South Korea
- b) Japan
- c) Indonesia
- d) New Zealand

Answer: c

• Indonesia's Mount Sinabung volcano erupted on Monday, sending a column of ash and smoke more than 16,000 feet into the air. The volcano became active in 2010, erupting after nearly 400 years of inactivity.

3) Severe fever with thrombocytopenia syndrome virus, recently heard in news, is spread by

- a) Ticks
- b) Rats
- c) Mosquitoes
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

• A disease called Severe Fever with Thrombocytopenia Syndrome, caused by the tick-

borne virus, has killed seven and infected at least 60, setting off alarm bells among health officials in China.

4) Starship spacecraft project, recently hears in news, is designed by

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

Answer: d

- It is a prototype of SpaceX's uncrewed "Mars ship". It is a stainless steel test.

5) Sputnik V is a new coronavirus vaccine launched by

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

Answer: c

- It is a new coronavirus vaccine launched by Russia. It is touted as the world's first such vaccine, too.

Aug 13

1) PM SVANidhi is a special micro-credit facility plan to provide affordable loan to more than 50 lakh street vendors up to

- a) ₹6,000
- b) ₹10,000
- c) ₹10 lakhs
- d) ₹1 Crore

Answer: b

- It is a special micro-credit facility plan to provide affordable loan of up to ₹10,000 to more than 50 lakh street vendors.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India is the technical partner for implementation of this scheme.

2) Union Minister of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare virtually launched the Krishi Megh. It deals with

- a) Data recovery
- b) Weather forecasting
- c) Farming related information
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Krishi Megh is the data recovery centre of ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research).

3) Papum Reserve Forest is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) located in

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: d

- A study based on satellite data has flagged a high rate of deforestation in this area which is also a major hornbill habitat in Arunachal Pradesh.

4) National Tiger conservation authority (NTCA) is a statutory body headed by

- a) Wildlife Crime Control Bureau
- b) Minister for Environment and Forests
- c) Prime Minister
- d) President

Answer: b

- The National Tiger Conservation Authority is set up under the Chairmanship of the Minister for Environment and Forests.

5) Which among the following is not a part of an organism's DNA make up?

- 1. that make up an organism's DNA.
- 2. genome sequencing machines can substantially detect the possible presence of the virus.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

- a) Adenine
- b) Cytosine
- c) Guanines
- d) Uracil

Answer: d

- It is figuring out the order of DNA nucleotides, or bases, in a genome—the order of Adenine, Cytosine, Guanines, and Thymine that make up an organism's DNA.
- To speed up testing as well as improve the accuracy of testing for coronavirus (COVID-19) positive cases, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) is working on developing "mega labs".

Aug 14

1) Price Monitoring and Resource Units (PMRU), recently heard in news, is funded and set up under

- a) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority
- b) Drug Controller General of India
- c) Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation
- d) Respective state governments

Answer: a

- It will be funded by National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) for its recurring and non-recurring expenses.
- A Price Monitoring and Resource Unit (PMRU) has been set up in Karnataka under the aegis of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA), Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers.

2) Which among the following states comes under Sixth Schedule of the Constitution?

- a) Assam
- b) Arunachal Pradesh
- c) Telangana
- d) Nagaland

Answer: a

- The Sixth Schedule currently includes 10 autonomous district councils in four northeastern States — Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram and Tripura. The revival of the demand for two autonomous councils has made political parties and community-based groups call for bringing the entire Arunachal Pradesh under the ambit of the Sixth Schedule or Article 371 (A) of the Constitution.

3) Strait of Gibraltar connects Mediterranean Sea with

- a) Adriatic Sea
- b) Black Sea
- c) Atlantic Ocean
- d) Pacific Ocean

Answer: c

- The Mediterranean Sea connects to the Atlantic Ocean by the Strait of Gibraltar (known in Homer's writings as the "Pillars of Hercules" in the west. France has temporarily reinforced its military presence in the eastern Mediterranean Sea amid tensions between neighbours Greece and Turkey over recently discovered gas reserves.

4) Sarthak, designed & built indigenously by M/s Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL) and launched recently, is a

- a) Submarine
- b) Aircraft Carrier
- c) Offshore Patrol Vessel
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- An Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) for the Indian Coast Guard was launched today and re-christened as Indian Coast Guard Ship 'Sarthak'. The launching ceremony held at Goa Shipyard Limited was conducted through video conferencing from Coast Guard headquarters at New Delhi.

5) Line of Credit (LOC), often seen in news, is a

- a) Grant
- b) Soft Loan
- c) Currency Swap
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- The Line of Credit is not a grant but a 'soft loan' provided on concessional interest rates to developing countries, which has to be repaid by the borrowing government.
- The LOCs also helps to promote exports of Indian goods and services, as 75% of the value of the contract must be sourced from India.

Aug 17

1) Swasthya Portal, a one-stop solution presenting all information pertaining to tribal health and nutrition-related to Scheduled Tribes, is managed by

- a) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: a

- The online portal will act as a one-stop solution presenting all information pertaining to tribal health and nutrition-related to Scheduled Tribes. The portal will be managed by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs' Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Knowledge Management in Health and Nutrition.

2) Which among the following states in India haven't used the provision of optional use of Hindi in Court proceedings?

- a) Haryana
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Bihar

Answer: a

- The provision of optional use of Hindi in proceedings has already been made in the High Courts of Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar. Chief Justice of India Sharad A. Bobde has said that the government should consider amending the Official Languages Act of 1963 to include more vernacular languages in governance, and not just confine it to Hindi and English.

3) Which among the following states are not part to Abraham Accords, recently heard in news?

- a) US
- b) Saudi Arabia
- c) UAE
- d) Israel

Answer: b

- Trilateral agreement: The agreement was the product of lengthy discussions between Israel, the UAE and the US that accelerated recently. Israel and the United Arab Emirates have announced an agreement that will lead to a full normalisation of diplomatic relations between the two states, a move that reshapes the order of West Asia politics from the Palestinian issue to Iran.

4) Srijan is the portal which acts as a one-stop-shop online portal that provides access to the vendors to take up items that can be taken up for indigenization. It comes under the administration of

- a) Ministry of External Affairs
- b) Ministry of Home Affairs
- c) Ministry of Defence
- d) Ministry of Commerce and Industries

Answer: c

- Srijan is the Ministry of Defence's portal which acts as a one-stop-shop online portal that provides access to the vendors to take up items that can be taken up for indigenization.

5) National Health Authority, apex body responsible for implementing 'Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana', is headed by

- a) President
- b) Prime Minister
- c) Minister of Health
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- It is the apex body responsible for implementing India's flagship public health insurance/assurance scheme 'Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana'. NHA is governed by a Governing Board chaired by the Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare.

Aug 18

1) Rewa Ultra Mega Solar Limited is the first solar project in the country to break the grid parity barrier. It is located in

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

Answer: b

- Recently, a 750 megawatt (MW) solar project has been inaugurated in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh.
- India has an ambitious cross-border power grid plan—'One Sun One World One Grid'—that seeks to transfer solar power generated in one region to feed the electricity demands of others

2) Which among the following are not features of Gothic Architecture?

- a) Pointed arches
- b) Ribbed vaults
- c) Flying buttresses
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- All of them are features of Gothic architecture.

3) Green Corridor, recently heard in news, is a demarcated, cleared out special road route for the purpose of

- a) Safe passage of wild animals
- b) Freight traffic
- c) Organ transplantation
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- A green corridor is a demarcated, cleared out special road route created for an ambulance that enables retrieved organs meant for transplant to reach the destined hospital.

4) In Gharana of Hindustani music of India, its origin is traced to a particular

- a) Region
- b) Ancestry
- c) Instructor
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- Gharana in Hindustani music of India, is a community of performers who share a distinctive musical style that traces to a particular instructor or region or ancestry. Recently Pandit Jasraj, one of the world's most prominent Indian classical vocalists, passed away.

5) Currently, the bio ethanol blending in petrol stands at

- a) 5 %
 - b) 10%
 - c) 15%
 - d) 25%
-

Answer: a

- The Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme was launched in January, 2003 by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoP&NG).
- Currently, the bioethanol blending in petrol stands at 5%.

Aug 19

1) Atal Rankings of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2020 is created to rank

- a) Universities
- b) Companies
- c) Start ups
- d) Schools

Answer: a

- It is an initiative of Ministry of Education, Govt. of India
- It aims to systematically rank all major higher educational institutions and universities in India.
- The Atal Rankings of Institutions on Innovation Achievements (ARIIA) 2020 has been released.

2) All India Institute of Ayurveda under Ministry of AYUSH launched 'AYURAKSHA'. It is aimed at

- a) Doctors
- b) Police
- c) Nurses
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- All India Institute of Ayurveda under Ministry of AYUSH and Delhi Police have jointly launched 'AYURAKSHA' for police personnel.

3) Asiatic cheetah is classified by the IUCN Red List as

- a) critically endangered
- b) endangered
- c) vulnerable
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The Asiatic cheetah is classified as a "critically endangered" species by the IUCN Red List, and is believed to survive only in Iran. Mysuru zoo has received three Cheetahs from Ann Van Dyke Cheetah Centre, South Africa.

4) "Ninja UAVs" (unmanned aerial vehicles), recently heard in news, is a drone-based surveillance started by

- a) Kerala Police
- b) Indian Airforce
- c) Indian Railway
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• Indian Railways has started deploying "Ninja UAVs" (unmanned aerial vehicles) for establishing a drone-based surveillance system in a bid to intensify its security mechanism across its network.

5) Digital Quality of Life Index 2020, ranked India at 57, is prepared by

- a) WEF
- b) World Bank
- c) UNDP
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

• The index is prepared by Surfshark, a virtual private network (VPN) provider based in the British Virgin Islands.

Aug 20

1) Lingaraj Temple, a classic example of Kalinga style of architecture, is built in

- a) Red sandstone
- b) White Marble
- c) Black Granite
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The Odisha government has announced to give a facelift to the 11th century Lingaraj Temple, akin to its pre-350-year structural status.

2) Hamas, often heard in news, is a Islamist political organization based in

- a) Yemen
- b) Pakistan
- c) Palestine
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Hamas is a Palestinian Islamist political organization and militant group that has waged war on Israel since the group's 1987 founding, most notably through suicide bombings and rocket attacks. It seeks to replace Israel with a Palestinian state. It also governs Gaza independently of the Palestinian Authority.

3) Who is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund?

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Minister of Defence
- c) Minister of Home Affairs
- d) Minister of Finance

Answer: a

- Prime Minister is the ex-officio Chairman of the PM CARES Fund and Minister of Defence, Minister of Home Affairs and Minister of Finance, Government of India are ex-officio Trustees of the Fund. Supreme Court has delivered its judgement on PM CARES funds.

4) Who among the following is not a party to Sutlej Yamuna Link (SYL) Canal?

- a) Punjab
- b) Haryana
- c) Rajasthan
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- To enable Haryana to use its share of the waters of the Sutlej and its tributary Beas, a canal linking the Sutlej with the Yamuna, cutting across the state, was planned. A tripartite agreement was also negotiated between Punjab, Haryana, and Rajasthan in this regard.

5) The score in Common Eligibility Test conducted by National Recruitment Agency (NRA) will be valid for

- a) 1 year
- b) 2 years
- c) 3 years
- d) 5 years

Answer: c

- The examinations will be conducted in 12 languages. The Union Cabinet has approved setting up of National Recruitment Agency, an independent body to conduct examination for government jobs. The CET score of a candidate shall be valid for a period of three years from the date of declaration of the result.

Aug 21

1) Swachh Survekshan 2020 report was recently released by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry. The survey is conducted by

- a) Niti Aayog
- b) Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry
- c) Quality Council of India
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• The Quality Council of India (QCI) is in charge of evaluating the performance of the participating cities. It was recently released by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry. New Delhi is the cleanest capital city.

2) National Strategy for Financial Education 2020-2025 (NSFE) is released by

- a) SEBI
- b) RBI
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: b

• The Reserve Bank of India has released a national strategy for financial education to be implemented in the next five years. The multi-stakeholder led approach is aimed at creating a financially aware and empowered India. It is the second NSFE, the first one being released in 2013.

3) Namath Basai is a unique programme for teaching tribal children in their mother tongue. It is an initiative of government of

- a) Kerala
- b) Odisha
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Bengal

Answer: a

• Namath Basai is Kerala government's unique programme of teaching tribal children in their mother tongue and is implemented by the Samagra Siksha Kerala (SSK).

4) Trifood Project, recently seen in news, aims to add value to minor forest produce. It is implemented by

- a) TRIFED
- b) APEDA
- c) Ministry of Food Processing Industries
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It is being implemented by TRIFED, Ministry of Tribal Affairs in association with Ministry of Food Processing (MoFPI).

5) As per Swachh Survekshan 2020 report, which among the following is the cleanest capital city?

- e) Bhopal
- f) Mumbai
- g) Kolkata
- h) None of the above

Answer: d

• The Quality Council of India (QCI) is in charge of evaluating the performance of the participating cities. It was recently released by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry. New Delhi is the cleanest capital city.

Aug 22

1) The Chief Election Commissioner and other election commissioners hold office for

- a) 6 years
- b) 5 years
- c) 4 years
- d) 2 years

Answer: a

• In pursuance of clause (2) of article 324 of the Constitution, the President has appointed Rajiv Kumar, IAS(Retd.) as the Election Commissioner. The Chief Election Commissioner and other election commissioners hold office for 6 years or till they attain the age of 65 years, whichever is earlier. They can resign at any time by addressing their resignation to the president.

2) Prime Minister Employment Generation Program (PMEGP) is a central sector scheme administered by

- a) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- b) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- c) Ministry of Rural Development
- d) Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare

Answer: a

• It is a credit-linked subsidy scheme which promotes self-employment through setting up of micro-enterprises, where subsidy up to 35% is provided by the Government through Ministry of MSME for loans up to ₹25 lakhs in manufacturing and ₹10 lakhs in the service sector.

3) Thumbimahotsavam 2020 is the first-ever State Dragonfly Festival in the state of

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

Answer: a

• It is the first-ever State Dragonfly Festival in Kerala. World Wide Fund for Nature-India (WWF-India) State unit has joined hands with the Society for Odonate Studies (SOS) and Thumbipuranam for the festival.

4) Kariye Museum, recently seen in news, is located in

- a) India
- b) Italy
- c) Turkey
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• Turkish President has issued a decree to open this Orthodox church that was previously a popular Istanbul museum to Muslim worship upon a court order.

5) Atal BimitVyakti Kalyan Yojana, aimed to financially support those who lost their jobs or rendered jobless for whatsoever reasons, is an initiative by

- a) Employee's State Insurance Corporation
- b) Life Insurance Corporation
- c) Reserve Bank of India
- d) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

Answer: a

• It aims to financially support those who lost their jobs or rendered jobless for whatsoever reasons due to changing employment pattern. It is launched by the Employee's State Insurance (ESI) Corporation.

Aug 24

1) Which among the following are part of National Digital Health Mission?

- a) HealthID
- b) DigiDoctor
- c) Health Facility Registry
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• In his address to the nation on Independence Day, the PM has launched the National Digital Health Mission which rolls out a national health ID for every Indian.

2) Jaya Jaitley committee was constituted for the purpose of

- a) Same sex marriage
- b) Minimum marriageable age
- c) Transgender legislation
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- The Union Ministry for Women and Child Development set up a committee in June, headed by Jaya Jaitley, to examine matters pertaining to age of motherhood, imperatives of lowering Maternal Mortality Ratio and the improvement of nutritional levels among women. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced that the Centre will decide on the recommendations of a committee set up to reconsider the minimum age of marriage for women.

3) Teesta river, often seen in news, originates in the state of

- a) Sikkim
- b) Bihar
- c) Meghalaya
- d) West Bengal

Answer: a

- India and Bangladesh have been engaged in a long-standing dispute over water-sharing in the Teesta. Adding to the existing tensions, Bangladesh is now discussing an almost \$1 billion loan from China for a comprehensive management and restoration project on the Teesta river.

4) NuakhaiJuhar, recently celebrated, is the agricultural festival of

- a) Odisha
- b) Meghalaya
- c) Uttarakhand
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- It is one of the most ancient festivals celebrated in Odisha, Chhattisgarh and areas of neighbouring states to welcome the new crop of the season.

5) Flavonoids, recently heard in news, are a group of phytonutrients present in almost all

- a) Vegetables
- b) Meat
- c) Fruits
- d) Both (a) and (c)

Answer: d

- Recently, scientists from Agharkar Research Institute (ARI), found the first synthetic route for producing flavonoids molecules related to the treatment of tuberculosis and chikungunya.

Aug 25

1) Which of the following city has country's longest river ropeway?

- a) Guwahati
- b) Dehradun
- c) Shimla
- d) Srinagar

Answer: a

- The ropeway will cover a distance of 1.8 km, and bring down the travelling time between north Guwahati and the central part of the city to eight minutes.

2) Which city is popularly known as the "City of Pearls"?

- a) Delhi
- b) Hyderabad
- c) Hampi
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Hyderabad is popularly known as the "City of Pearls" and the "City of Nizams", and has been the centre of a vibrant historical legacy, ever since its inception by the QutubShahi dynasty.

3) Which was the first state in India to have the office of Lokayukta?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Kerala
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- The Supreme Court has issued notice on a plea filed by the State of Nagaland for a direction to its Lokayukta to cease exercising his powers and functions and transfer all his work to the Upa-Lokayukta.

4) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a multilateral development bank with a mission to improve social and economic outcomes in Asia and beyond. It is headquartered in

- a) Beijing
- b) Shanghai
- c) Manila
- d) Tokyo

Answer: a

- Government of India, the Government of Maharashtra, Mumbai Railway Vikas Corporation and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) have signed a loan agreement for a \$500 million Mumbai Urban Transport Project-III to improve the network capacity, service quality and safety of the suburban railway system in Mumbai.

5) Which among the following statements about Glanders is incorrect?

- a) Transmitted from animals to humans
- b) Viral disease
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: b

• It is an infectious disease that is caused by the bacterium *Burkholderia mallei*. The Delhi High Court has asked municipal bodies to take steps to prevent spread of glanders disease in animals including horses and issued notice to the Delhi government and others on an application filed by the People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA), India.

Aug 26

1) Which among the following states had the maximum number of cities chosen under National Clean Air Programme (NCAP)?

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

Answer: d

• It was not notified under the Environment Protection Act or any other Act. It is envisaged as a scheme to provide the States and the Centre with a framework to combat air pollution. The National Green Tribunal has slammed the Ministry of Environment and Forests (MoEF) over its report on the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) which proposes 20-30% reduction of air pollution by 2024. Maharashtra had the maximum number of cities chosen for the programme.

2) With a view to promote Indian folk art, National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) has displayed the famous Warli painting on the outer walls of its Corporate Office in Noida. It belongs to the state of

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

Answer: d

• With a view to promote Indian folk art, National Fertilizers Limited (NFL) a PSU under the Department of Fertilizers has displayed Maharashtra's famous Warli painting on the outer walls of its Corporate Office in Noida.

3) Which among the following is the Guinness record holder for being the longest-serving warship of the world?

- a) INS Viraat
- b) INS Vikrant

- c) INS Vikramaditya
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• INS Viraat is the Guinness record holder for being the longest-serving warship of the world. This is the second aircraft carrier to be broken in India in the past six years. In 2014, INS Vikrant, which played a role in the historic 1971 war with Pakistan was broken down in Mumbai.

4) Recently, for the first time, a star-forming galaxy have been observed in an extreme UV environment. Which among the following countries achieved it?

- a) India
- b) China
- c) European Union
- d) Germany

Answer: a

• India's multi-wavelength orbiting telescope, AstroSat, has detected light from a galaxy, called AUDFs01, in the extreme-ultraviolet (UV) light. The discovery was an international collaboration by astronomers from India, Switzerland, France, USA, Japan and the Netherlands. This is the first time that star-forming galaxies have been observed in this extreme UV environment.

5) Honey mission, launched in line with the 'Sweet Revolution' is launched by

- a) Khadi and Village Industries Commission
- b) State Farms Corporation of India
- c) National Cooperative Development Corporation
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• Honey Mission was launched by Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC). It is aimed at creating employment for the Adivasis, farmers, unemployed youth, and women by roping them in beekeeping while also increasing India's honey production.

Aug 27

1) Which among the following are ideal conditions for formation of a Hurricane?

- a) Strong vertical winds
- b) Warm ocean waters
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: b

• Hurricane Laura has made landfall in southwestern Louisiana in US as one of the most powerful storms to hit the state.

- Warm ocean waters provide the energy a storm needs to become a hurricane. Winds that don't change much in speed or direction as they go up in the sky.

2) 'Eat Out to Help Out' scheme, recently heard in news, an economic recovery measure to support hospitality businesses as they reopen after the COVID-19 lockdown is an initiative in

- a) UK
- b) India
- c) USA
- d) China

Answer: a

- The EOHO Scheme is an economic recovery measure by the UK government to support hospitality businesses as they reopen after the COVID-19 lockdown in the country.

3) Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020, the first report to examine export preparedness and performance of Indian states, is released by

- a) Niti Aayog
- b) Institute of Competitiveness
- c) Ministry of Commerce and Industries
- d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: d

- NITI Aayog in partnership with the Institute of Competitiveness has released the Export Preparedness Index (EPI) 2020.

4) Pulikkali is a recreational folk art from the state of

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

Answer: b

- The origin of Pulikkali dates back to over 200 years, when the Maharaja Rama Varma SakthanThampuran, the then Maharaja of Cochin, is said to have introduced the folk art.

5) Which among the following doesn't come under the ambit of Armed Forces Tribunal?

- a) Assam Rifles
- b) Coast Guard
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

- The Delhi-based principal bench of the Armed Forces Tribunal has initiated hearing of matters pertaining to regional benches through video conferencing. Paramilitary forces

including the Assam Rifles and Coast Guard are outside the tribunal's purview.

- Appeals against the decision of the AFT can be taken only in Supreme Court

Aug 28

1) Which among the following is the dialect spoken by Great Andamanese tribe among themselves?

- a) Jeru
- b) Jarawa
- c) Ongan
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

- They speak Jeru dialect among themselves and their number stands at 51. Five members of the Great Andamanese tribe have tested positive for COVID-19.

2) Wolbachia method, seen in news, is used to

- a) Find vaccine for Covid-19
- b) Control Dengue
- c) Bring transparency in governance
- d) Afforestation

Answer: b

- A recent study suggests that the "Wolbachia method" could be used to significantly reduce the incidence of dengue fever, a mosquito-borne disease, in populations where the illness is endemic.

3) Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) giving its greenlight for biosafety research-level-II (BRL-II) field trials for Event 142, a new variety of genetically modified

- a) Brinjal
- b) Cotton
- c) Wheat
- d) Rice

Answer: a

- Experts have slammed a recent move of the Genetic Engineering Appraisal Committee (GEAC) giving its greenlight for biosafety research-level-II (BRL-II) field trials for Event 142, a new variety of genetically modified brinjal (Bt brinjal).

4) Togo has become the first country in Africa to eliminate human African Trypanosomiasis or sleeping sickness, a disease caused by

- a) Virus
- b) Parasite
- c) Bacteria
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Togo has become the first country in Africa to eliminate human African Trypanosomiasis or sleeping sickness, a disease caused by parasites transmitted through infected tsetse flies.

5) Who has the power to include or exclude castes or tribes to or from the list of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes?

- a) Parliament
- b) Prime Minister
- c) State legislature
- d) President

Answer: a

• Under article 341(2), the Parliament of India by law can include or exclude the above-mentioned groups from the list of the Scheduled Castes.

Aug 29

1) Toys (Quality Control) Order has been issued by

- a) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- b) Niti Aayog
- c) Department of Health and Family Welfare
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The toy industry in India has asked the government to suspend a Quality Control Order (QCO) issued recently, for at least a year, failing which the industry would be forced to shut shop.

2) PM remembers Mahatma Ayyankali on his 157th Birth Anniversary. He was a leader fought against caste discrimination from the state of

- a) Kerala
- b) Karnataka
- c) Assam
- d) Maharashtra

Answer: a

• Born on August 28th, 1863 in a small village in the princely state of Travancore, now within the south of the modern-day nation of Kerala,

3) Chunauti, a Next Generation Startup Challenge Contest, is an initiative of

- a) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- b) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- c) Niti Aayog
- d) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Answer: d

- Minister for Electronics and IT Ravi Shankar Prasad on Friday launched next-generation startup contest 'Chunauti' which aims to encourage startups and software products with special focus on Tier-II towns.
- With an outlay of about Rs 95 crore over a three-year period, the programme aims to identify around 300 startups working in identified areas and provide them seed fund of up to Rs 25 lakh and other facilities, an official release said.

4) Which among the following states/UTs had embarked on the Pilot project on Biological Control of Rodents (Rats) by Using Barn Owls?

- a) Puducherry
- b) Delhi
- c) Lakshadweep
- d) Daman and Diu

Answer: c

- The Lakshadweep Administration had embarked on the 'Pilot project on Biological Control of Rodents (Rats) by Using Barn Owls (Tyto alba) in Kavaratti Island' after studies revealed the shocking extent of damage caused by rats to the island's coconut yield and economy.

5) Who among the following is the official patron of Association of Renewable Energy Agencies of States (AREAS)?

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Minister of New and Renewable Energy
- c) Minister of Forest, Environment and Climate Change
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- The Union Minister for MNRE is the Patron of the Association.
- R.K.Singh, Union Minister of Power and New & Renewable Energy and the ex-officio Patron of Association of Renewable Energy Agencies of States (AREAS) graced the ceremony of 6th Foundation Day of AREAS on 27th August 2020 through online platform. He launched AREAS website www.areas.org.in and also Telephone Directory of AREAS.

