Current Affairs July 2020

July 01

1) UnderPradhan Mantri Gareeb Kalyan Anna Yojana, food items will be provided for

- a) Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY)
- b) Priorityhousehold (PHH) ration cardholders
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) and (b)

Answer: c

Food will be provided to all the beneficiaries under public distribution system (TPDS) for Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) and priority household (PHH) ration cardholders.
It was announced as part of the first relief package during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- 2) SATAT Initiative, recently heard in news. deals with
- a) Adding a greater number of aircraft carriers
- b) Waste-to-energy conversion
- c) Bringing Indians back from Corona affected countries
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Indian Oil, NTPC and SDMC have signed an MoU to develop a waste-to-energy facility at Delhi's Okhla landfill site using gasification technology.

3) International Asteroid Day, celebrated on 30thJune, marked the Earth's largest asteroid impact in recorded history. Where was the impact?

- a) Russia
- b) USA
- c) China
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It is observed each year to mark the anniversary of the Tunguska impact over Siberia, Russian Federation, on 30 June 1908, and to raise public awareness about the asteroid impact hazard.

4) Researchers have "rediscovered" 'dancing ladies' or 'swan flowers', a plant species from the Sikkim Himalayas near the Teesta river valley region after a gap of nearly 136 years. What is its IUCN categorisation?

- a) Critically endangered
- b) Endangered
- c) Vulnerable
- d) Least Concern

Answer: a

• It is a rare and critically endangered plant species.

5) RT-PCR testing, often heard in news is used for the testing of

- a) SARS-CoV-2 RNA
- b) SARS
- c) Ebola
- d) Swine Flue

Answer: a

- The test is for the identification of SARS-CoV-2 RNA.
- It is prone to both false negative and false positive results.

Jul 02

1) Same Language Subtitling (SLS) project, which aims to help people to read and write through the subtitling of mainstream TV content is implemented by

- a) Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA)
- b) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- c) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It aims to help people to read and write through the subtitling of mainstream TV content.

• It was implemented by the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad (IIMA).

2) Ribeiro committee, recently heard in news. deals with

- a) Reforms in policing
- b) Reforms in election
- c) Reforms in higher education
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• Centralgovernment set up the Ribeiro Committee on Police Reforms in 1998 on the directions of the Supreme Court.

3) RBI announces special liquidity scheme through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to avoid any potential systemic risks to the financial sector. It is aimed at

- a) NBFCs, including Microfinance Institutions
- b) Core Investment Companies
- c) Housing Finance Companies
- d) Both (a) and (c)

Answer: d

• RBI announces special liquidity scheme for NBFCs and HFCs through a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) to avoid any potential systemic risks to the financial sector

4) World's first ever online B.Sc. degree in Programming and Data Science is launched by

- a) IIT Bombay
- b) IIT Madras
- c) Indian Statistical Institute, Kolkata
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• The programme has been prepared and offered by the Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras).

5) The G4 virus is a newly discovered strain of the H1N1 flu virus. It is a new form of

- a) SARS Virus
- b) Swine Flue
- c) Avian Influenza
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• It is a new form of swine flu that can infect humans.

July 03

1) Office of Attorney General enjoys all the privileges and immunities that are available to

- a) Speaker
- b) Member of Parliament
- c) President
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• He enjoys all the privileges and immunities that are available to a Member of Parliament.

• Union government has extended the term of K.K. Venugopal as Attorney General (AG) for one year, who was appointed as the 15th AG of India in 2017.

2) The International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) in partnership with Ministry of Culture, will celebrate the upcoming Asadha Poornima on July 4, 2020 as Dharma Chakra Day. The day marks

a) First sermon

b) Enlightenment

c) Nirvanad) None of the above

Answer: a

• The day marks Buddha's first teaching after attaining Enlightenment to the first five ascetic disciples (pañcavargika).

3) Hul Divas is celebrated to commemorate the tribal brothers and sisters of Jharkhand who revolted against the injustice of foreign rule. It is associated with tribal uprising of

- a) Bhils
- b) Konds
- c) Santhals
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• The Santhal rebellion was taken place in present-day Jharkhand, against both the British colonial authority and zamindari system by the Santhali people.

4) Which among the following is not about India's Pinaka Ammunition?

- a) all-weather
- b) indirect fire
- c) free flight
- d) none of the above

Answer: d

• The Pinaka weapon system is an all-weather, indirect fire, free flight artillery rocket system.

5) Accelerate Vigyan scheme which aims to strengthen scientific research mechanisms in the country is launched by

- a) Department of Space
- b) Indian Space Research Organisation
- c) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
- d) Science and Engineering Research Board

Answer: d

• Recently, the Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), has launched a scheme called Accelerate Vigyan (AV) to strengthen scientific research mechanisms in the country.

July 04

1) Purchasing Managers' Index does not measure the changes in

a) Manufacturing sectors

b) Service sectors

c) Agricultural sector

d) None of the above

Answer: c

• It has observed the contraction of services sector activity for the fourth consecutive month in June 2020.

• PMI is an index of the prevailing direction of economic trends in the manufacturing and service sectors.

• It consists of a diffusion index that summarizes whether market conditions, as viewed by purchasing managers, are expanding, staying the same, or contracting.

2) Hagia Sophia Mosque, recently heard in news, of historical importance is located in

- a) India
- b) Syria
- c) Iraq
- d) Turkey

Answer: d

• Hagia Sophia is the former Greek Orthodox Christian patriarchal cathedral, later an Ottoman imperial mosque.

• It is now a museum located in Istanbul, Turkey.

3) Rajiv Gandhi National Park to use Time Stamped Card System to ensure better compliance of forest laws by motorists. It is located in the state of

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

Answer: c

• Recently, the Karnataka Forest Department has decided to put in place a traffic monitoring mechanism along the roads adjacent to Nagarahole National Park.Nagarhole National ParkIt is also known as 'Rajiv Gandhi National Park.

4) Narcondam Hornbill is endemic to the Narcondam Island in Andamans. As per IUCN, it is listed as

- a) Endangered
- b) Critically endangered
- c) Vulnerable
- d) none of the above

Answer: a

An Endangered species ,the bird is endemic to the Narcondam Island in Andamans

5) Astra Missiles, developed by DRDO, is a

- a) air-to-air missile
- b) surface to air missile
- c) anti-tank missile
- d) man-portable missile

Answer: a

• Astra missiles are Beyond Visual Range (BVR) air-to-air missile.

• It is designed to be mounted on a fighter aircraft and is also designed to engage and destroy highly manoeuvring supersonic aircraft.

July 06

1) India's first plasma bank was established at

a) AIIMS, Delhi

- b) Guru Teg Bahadur Hospital, Delhi
- c) Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), Delhi
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• India's first plasma bank was established at the Institute of Liver and Biliary Sciences (ILBS), Delhi.

• In plasma donation, only plasma is extracted and the other components of blood are returned to the body.

2) Phobos and Deimos are natural satellites of

- a) Mars
- b) Jupiter
- c) Saturn
- d) Neptune

Answer: a

• Phobos is the innermost and larger of the two natural satellites of Mars, the other being Deimos. The Indian Space Reasearch Organisation (ISRO) captured an image of Phobos, an elusive moon of Mars, from a distance of 4,200km, on July 1.

- 3) Right to vote is a
- a) Fundamental right
- b) Legal right
- c) Constitutional right
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has made it possible for senior citizens above the age of 65 to vote by postal ballot, given that they are at greater risk from exposure to the novel coronavirus.

• There is no fundamental right to vote in the Constitution though we have a

parliamentary form of democracy. Article 326 of the Constitution only speaks of adult suffrage for those above 18.

4) Sakteng Wildlife sanctuary, recently heard in news, is located in

- a) Bhutan
- b) Nepal
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Noneof the above

Answer: a

• Bhutan's foreign ministry has issued a demarche to the Chinese embassy in New Delhi for the claims made by Beijing over Sakteng Wildlife sanctuary, situated in eastern Bhutan.

5) Global Environment Facility is an international partnership of countries, international institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector that addresses global environmental issues. Which among the following serves as the GEF Trustee, administering the GEF Trust Fund?

a) WEF

- b) World Bank
- c) IMF
- d) UNEP

Answer: b

• It is an international partnership of countries, international institutions, civil society organizations and the private sector that addresses global environmental issues. The World Bank serves as the GEF Trustee, administering the GEF Trust Fund.

July 07

1) National Atlas and Thematic Mapping Organisation (NATMO) which compiles the National Atlas of India is headquartered in

a) Kolkata

- b) New Delhi
- c) Madras
- d) Mumbai

Answer: a

• NATMO publishes 4th updated version of its COVID-19 Dashboard.It is headquartered in Kolkata.

• Its functions include compilation of the National Atlas of India.

2) MSME Emergency Response Programme is an initiative by Indian government and

a) World Bank

b) UNDP

c) AIIB d) ADB

Answer: a

• World Bank and the Government of India signed an agreement for the MSME Emergency Response Programme.

• It involves \$750 million loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).

3) World Drug Report is an annual publication that analyses market trends, compiling detailed statistics on drug markets. It is released by

- a) Financial Action Task Force (FATF)
- b) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
- c) World Federation Against Drugs (WFAD)
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• The fourth highest seizure of opium in 2018 was reported from India, after Iran, Afghanistan and Pakistan, according to the latest World Drug Report of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC).

4) Which among the factors are used by Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) to roll out SDG Index?

- a) Clean energy and industry
- b) Sustainable land use
- c) Digital technologies
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• SDG Index is prepared by teams of independent experts at the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN).

• The SDG index frames the implementation of 17 SDG goals among UN member states in terms of six broad transformations:

- o Education and skills,
- o Health and wellbeing,
- o Clean energy and industry,
- o Sustainable land use,
- o Sustainable cities,
- o Digital technologies.

 \bullet Among 193 countries for which the SDG index was prepared, India stands at the 117th position with an overall score of 61.92

5) Lucknow Zardozi was given Geographical Indication (GI) registration in 2013. It came to India from

- a) Iran b) Turkey
- c) Syria
- d) China

Answer: a

• Zari work or Zardozi, an art which is considered quite popular amongst embroiders and designers, survives in the narrow alleys of the Old Town of Bhopal.It came to India from Persia.

July 08

1) 'Black Death' was responsible for the deaths of millions of people in Europe. It refers to

- a) Plague
- b) COVID 19
- c) SARS
- d) Spanish flu

Answer: a

• Bayannur, a city in northern China, is on high alert after a suspected case of Bubonic plague was reported Recently. It can be transmitted to humans through infected animals and fleas.

2) Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA) is a US federal law that imposed sanctions on

- a) Iran
- b) North Korea
- c) Russia
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• Enacted in 2017, it is a US federal law that imposed sanctions on Iran, North Korea and Russia. The US has urged all its allies and partners to forgo transactions with Russia that risk triggering sanctions under the Countering America's Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).

3) Delhi Urban Art Commission, a statutory body under the act of Parliament, plays the role of

- a) A thinktank
- b) An advisor to GoI
- c) A regulator
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• DUAC plays a threefold role – a policy advisor to the Government of India, a regulatory body and a think tank.

4) Idlib, a place often seen in news, is located in

a) Iran

- b) Iraq
- c) Syria
- d) Israel

Answer: c

• Syrian and Russian planes have carried out deadly aerial strikes on schools, hospitals and markets in Idlib province. UN investigators have termed these attacks as war crimes.Idlib is a city in northwestern Syria, 59 kilometers southwest of Aleppo, which is the capital of the Idlib Governorate. It has an elevation of nearly 500 meters above sea level.

5) Namami Gange, that seeks to rejuvenate the Ganga river, is headed by

- a) Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation
- b) Cabinet Secretary
- c) Prime Minister
- d) Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Answer: c

- It is headed by the Prime Minister.
- The World Bank and the Government of India have signed a loan agreement to enhance support for the Namami Gange programme that seeks to rejuvenate the Ganga river.

July 09

1) Adichanallur Excavations, whose samples are dated between 1000 BC and 600 BC, is excavated from the state of

- a) Tamil Nadu
- b) Kerala
- c) Karnataka
- d) Bihar

Answer: a

• Carbon dating of samples excavated this site revealed that they belonged to the period between 1000 BC and 600 BC.

• Adichanallur is an archaeological site in the state of Tamil Nadu.

2) Which among the following statements about Rewa Solar Project is correct?

- a) Asia's largest solar power project
- b) 1strenewable energy project to supply an institutional customer outside the state
- c) received the World Bank Group President's Award for innovation and excellence.

d) All of the above

Answer: d

• Recently, 750 MW (Mega Watt) solar project set up in Rewa, Madhya Pradesh has been inaugurated.

• It is Asia's largest solar power project, with total area 1500 hectare. It is the first renewable energy project to supply an institutional customer outside the state, i.e. Delhi Metro.

• It has also received the World Bank Group President's Award for innovation and excellence

3) Which among the following is not the part of Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD)?

- a) US
- b) Japan
- c) Australia
- d) New Zealand

Answer: d

• The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD, also known as the Quad) is an informal strategic forum between the USA, Japan, India and Australia.

4) Presently, the participants of Malabar exercise don't include

- a) US
- b) Japan
- c) Australia
- d) India

Answer: c

• India to shortly take a call on Australia's inclusion in Malabar.

5) National Mission for Manuscripts, under the Ministry of Culture aims to document, conserve and disseminate the knowledge preserved in the manuscripts. It was established in

- a) 1980
- b) 1993
- c) 2003
- d) 2013

Answer: c

• The National Mission for Manuscripts (NMM) was launched in 2003, under the Ministry of Culture.

July 11

1) National Fish Farmers Day Observed on 10th July every year in honour of scientists

a) K. H. Alikunhib) H.L. Chaudhuryc) Both (a) and (b)d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

• It is observed on 10th July every year in honour of scientists Dr. K. H. Alikunhi and Dr. H.L. Chaudhury.These two scientists had successfully demonstrated the technology of induced breeding (Hypophysation) in Indian Major Carps.

2) Bhashan Char island, often seen in news, is located in

a) India

b) Bangladesh

c) Myanmar

d) Malaysia

Answer: b

• Hundreds of Rohingya refugees on a flood-prone island in the Bay of Bengal will not be allowed to leave unless they agree to return home, Bangladesh authorities said Thursday.

• The 306 Muslim Rohingya from Myanmar were put on Bhashan Char island in April after being taken off two boats trying to traffic them to Malaysia.

3) Hagia Sophia, recently converted from a museum to a mosque, is located in

a) Turkey

b) Iraq

c) Iran

d) Saudi Arabia

Answer: a

• Turkey's president Recep Tayyip Erdogan has declared Istanbul's Hagia Sophia open to Muslim worship after a top court ruled that the building's conversion to a museum by modern Turkey's founding statesman was illegal.

4) India Cycles4 Change Challenge is an initiative to inspire and support Indian cities to quickly implement cycling-friendly initiatives in response to COVID-19. It comes under

- a) Smart Cities Mission
- b) Swachh Bharat Mission
- c) Namami Gange
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It is an initiative of the Smart Cities Mission, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs to

inspire and support Indian cities to quickly implement cycling-friendly initiatives in response to COVID-19.

5) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) should have a minimum of ______ number of women members

a) 1

b) 4

c) 3

d) 2

Answer: d

• It works under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.

• It has a chairperson and six members of which at least two should be women.

July 13

1) Which among the following organisation is not covered under National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID)?

- a) National Investigation Agency (NIA)
- b) Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU)
- c) Directorate General of GST Intelligence

d) None of the above

Answer: c

• It seeks to become the one-stop destination for intelligence agencies to access database related to immigration entry and exit.

• The combined data will be made available to 11 central agencies, which are: Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), National Investigation Agency (NIA), Intelligence Bureau (IB), Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI), Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU), Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT), Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), Enforcement Directorate (ED), Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and Directorate General of GST Intelligence

2) Itolizumab, often seen in news, refers to a

- a) UNESCO World Heritage Site
- b) Monoclonal antibody
- c) Virus strain
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Itolizumab (rDNA origin), a monoclonal antibody which was already approved for severe chronic plaque psoriasis, has now been granted Restricted Emergency Use authorisation for COVID 19 patients by the Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI) based on clinical trials data.

3) Water resistant Swarna Sub1, recently introduced in Assam isa variety of

a) Rice

b) Wheat

c) Corn

d) All of the above

Answer: a

• Farmers in flood-prone areas of Assam have been harvesting the water-resistant Swarna Sub1 rice variety, developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Manila-based International Rice Research Institute, since 2009.

4) Ophiocordyceps sinensis, also known as Himalayan Viagra, is the world's costliest fungus. Recently it entered IUCN Red List of Threatened Species in the category of

a) Extinct

b) Endangered

c) Vulnerable

d) Critically endangered

Answer: c

• IUCN has placed the fungus, known for its aphrodisiac and rejuvenation properties, in the 'vulnerable' category.

5) As per the All India Tiger Estimation 2018, what is the total number of tiger population in India?

- a) 2967
- b) 964
- c) 560
- d) 5071

Answer: a

• The country now has an estimated 2967 tigers as per the latest census.

July 14

1) Afghanistan–Pakistan Transit Trade Agreement (APTTA) allows transaction between India and Afghanistan through

- a) Gwadar Port
- b) Chabahar Port
- c) Wagah border
- d) Wakhan corridor

Answer: c

• Pakistan will allow Afghanistan to send goods to India using the Wagah border from July 15. The decision is part of Islamabad's commitment under Pakistan-Afghanistan

Transit Trade Agreement. However, Islamabad is silent about allowing the same facility to India for exports to Afghanistan.

2) Chabahar Port, often seen in news, is geographically closer to

- a) Gulf of Oman
- b) Persian Gulf
- c) Gulf of Aden
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- It is located on the Gulf of Oman and the only oceanic port of Iran.
- 3) Which among the following is located to the northern most?
- a) Tso Morari
- b) Pangong Tso
- c) Chushul valley
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• India and China are scheduled to hold the fourth round of Corps Commanders talks at Chushul.



4) 13th July 2020 marks the 206th Birth Anniversary of Bhanubhakta Acharya. He translated the Great Epic of Ancient India- Ramayana from Sanskrit to

- a) Hindi
- b) Telugu
- c) Nepali
- d) Sinhalese

Answer: c

• Bhanubhakta Acharya was the first writer to translate the Great Epic of Ancient India-Ramayana from Sanskrit to Nepali. He was born in Nepal.

5) Voluntary National Review Report 2020 is a report submitted by countries before

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

Answer: a

• VNR is a process through which countries assess and present progress made in achieving the global goals.

• The reviews are purely voluntary and state-led.

• NITI Aayog presents India's second Voluntary National Review at UN's High-Level Political Forum.

July 15

1) World Youth Skills Day is celebrated on

a) October 4

- b) July 14
- c) June 15
- d) July 15

Answer: d

• 15th July is marked as World Youth Skills Day.It was designated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in 2014.Theme for 2020 is "Skills for a Resilient Youth".

2) Pragyata guidelines, often seen in news, deals with

- a) Sexual discrimination
- b) Digital divide
- c) Digital education
- d) Caste discrimination

Answer: c

• Union HRD Ministry on Tuesday released the guidelines for Digital Education. The ministry has recommended a cap on the screen time for students. As per the guidelines, online classes for pre-primary students should not be for more than 30 minutes. It further mentions that two online sessions of up to 30-45 minutes each should be conducted for classes 1 to 8 and four sessions for classes 9 to 12.

3) Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA), often seen in news, is a trade deal discussion going on between India and

- a) ASEAN
- b) European Union
- c) United States
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• At the upcoming Virtual "EU- India Summit", Leaders expected to give a kickstart to negotiations on the Bilateral Trade and Investment Agreement (BTIA) as the EU-India FTA is known, which have failed to be resumed despite several commitments by the leaders, including at the last E.U.-India summit in 2017.

4) Artsakh, recently seen in news, is a disputed site in

- a) Azerbaijan
- b) Mongolia
- c) Russia
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• Nagorno-Karabakh, also known as Artsakh, is a landlocked region in the South Caucasus, within the mountainous range of Karabakh. It is internationally recognized as part of Azerbaijan.

5) Which among the following is not correct about Kaziranga National Park?

- a) UNESCO World Heritage Site
- b) Important Bird Area
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (b) nor (b)

Answer: d

• Animals die as flood waters submerge Assam's Kaziranga national park. It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985. It is also recognized as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.

July 16

1) Which among the following is known as "White mountain" and "Roof of Europe"?

- a) Mont Blanc mountain range
- b) Alps mountain range
- c) Mount Elbrus
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

• A melting glacier at Europe's Mont Blanc mountain range recently disentombed Indian newspapers buried there for 54 years -- some of them carrying headlines such as "India's First Woman Prime Minister", referring to Indira Gandhi's election win in 1966.

2) For a generation to exactly replace itself, the replacement-level total fertility rate (TFR) is taken to be

a) 1.5

b) 1

c) 2.1

d) 2

Answer: c

• Global total fertility rate (TFR) is predicted to steadily decline from 2.37 in 2017 to 1.66 in 2100. It is projected to fall below 2.1 in 183 countries. For a generation to exactly replace itself, the replacement-level total fertility rate (TFR) is taken to be 2.1.

3) The Drug Controller General of India (DCGI) has approved the first fully indigenously developed conjugate vaccine for pneumonia- Pneumococcal Polysaccharide Conjugate Vaccine. It is developed by

a) Serum Institute of India

- b) Bharat BioTech
- c) National Institute of Virology
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It has been developed by the Serum Institute of India Pvt. Ltd,

• This vaccine is used for active immunisation against invasive disease and pneumonia caused by "streptococcus pneumonia" in infants.

4) The Hope mission is a Mars orbiter spacecraft, which will study the thin atmosphere of Mars. It is the first mission to Mars by

- a) UAE
- b) Vietnam
- c) Israel

d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The launch of the United Arab Emirates' (UAE) first mission to Mars is scheduled for July 16 launch. It will take off from its launch site, Tanegashima Space Center, in Japan.

5) Which among the following animal is popularly known as 'Susu' in India?

- a) Gangetic dolphin
- b) Narkondam Hornbill
- c) Bengal Tiger
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• Madhya Pradesh forest department has released the latest Dolphin census report.Gangetic dolphin is India's national aquatic animal and is popularly known as

`Susu'.

• Dolphins' number in Chambal river has been reduced in past four years.

July 17

1) Chattogram Port, often seen in news, is located in

a) Sri Lanka

- b) India
- c) Bangladesh
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• Union minister of state for shipping (I/C) Mansukh Mandaviya on Thursday flagged off the first trial container ship from Kolkata to Agartala. ... The ship has been launched under the Agreement on the use of Chattogram and Mongla Ports for the movement of India's transit cargo through Bangladesh

2) NISHTHA programme, recently heard in news, deals with

- a) Teacher Training
- b) Skill Training
- c) Online classes for students
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• Union HRD Minister launched the first on-line NISHTHA programme for 1,200 Key Resources Persons of Andhra Pradesh.

3) Which among the following is not one of the Principal organs of the United Nations?

- a) Economic and Social Council
- b) UNESCO
- c) International Court of Justice
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

The main organs of the UN are the General Assembly, the Security Council, the Economic and Social Council, the Trusteeship Council, the International Court of Justice, and the UN Secretariat. All were established in 1945 when the UN was founded.
Prime Minister to address High-Level Segment of ECOSOC.

4) Which state in India recently decided to give preference to plasma donors in government jobs?

- a) Assam
- b) Kerala
- c) Tamil Nadu
- d) Maharashtra

Answer: a

• The Assam government has decided to go full throttle in pushing blood plasma donation by introducing moves like "state-guest facility" to encourage donors from other states and "letter of recommendation" to encourage donors within the state to battle coronavirus.

5) National Biopharma Mission (NBM) is implemented by

- a) Bharat Immunological & Biological Corporation
- b) Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC)
- c) Indian Vaccine Corporation Ltd (IVCOL)
- d) Institute of Bio-resources and Sustainable Development

Answer: b

• It is being implemented by the Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).

• BIRAC has announced that ZyCoV-D, the plasmid DNA vaccine designed and developed by Zydus and partially funded by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT) has initiated Phase I/Phase II clinical trials in healthy subjects, making it the first indigenously developed vaccine for COVID-19 to be administered in humans in India.

July 18

1) PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) is implemented by

- a) NAFED
- b) SIDBI
- c) NABARD
- d) RBI

Answer: c

• Last month, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs signed MoU with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in order to engage SIDBI as the Implementation Agency for the scheme.

2) Trinity Test, recently heard in news, deals with

- a) Atomic Bomb
- b) Skill Training
- c) COVID-19 Diagnosis
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• On 16th July, exactly 75 years ago, scientists tested Gadget — the world's first atomic bomb — in what was dubbed as the 'Trinity Test'.

3) Mobile App of PM SVANidhi launched to bring Microcredit facility for

- a) MSME
- b) Street Vendors
- c) Daily wage workers
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Mobile App of PM SVANidhi launched to bring Microcredit facility for street vendors at their door steps. This App aims to provide user friendly digital interface for Lending Institutions (LIs) and their field functionaries for sourcing and processing loan applications of street vendors under the Scheme.

4) Researchers have flagged Eosinophil counttest for early recognition of Covid-19 in patients. It is a blood test that measures the number of a type of

a) RBC

- b) WBC
- c) Platelets
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• It is a blood test that measures the number of one type of white blood cells called eosinophils. Eosinophils become active when you have certain allergic diseases, infections, and other medical conditions.

5) PM's Awards for Excellence in Public Administration are given under the category of

a) Aspirational Districts Program

- b) Namami Gange Program
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

• Both the statements are correct. Nominations have been called in four major categories – District Performance Indicators Programme, Innovation General Category, Aspirational Districts Program and Namami Gange Program.

July 20

1) Malabar naval exercise, recently heard in news, doesn't include

- a) Japan
- b) Australia
- c) US
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• In April 2007, the Malabar exercise was held in the Western Pacific Ocean along with Japan for the first time. In 2015, realizing its security benefits, Japan officially joined the bilateral exercise grouping, turning it into a formal tripartite naval exercise despite

Chinese reactions.

• India's Ministry of Defence recently discussed the issue of adding Australia to the trilateral Malabar naval exercise with Japan and the United States in the Bay of Bengal later this year.

2) Closestpictures ever taken of the Sun captured by the Solar Orbiter that was launched in February this year was released. It was launched by

a) NASA b) ESA c) Both (a) and (b) d) ISRO

Answer: c

• The European Space Agency has released the closest pictures ever taken of the Sun captured by the Solar Orbiter that was launched in February this year.

3) Godhan Nyay Yojana, aimed at helping the poor, is launched by

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Odisha

Answer: c

• Govt to procure cow dung at Rs 2/- per kg from livestock owners.Repurposing procured cow dung into Vermicompost and other eco-friendly items.Selling vermicompost at Rs 8/- per kg to the farmers to promote organic farming.

4) Vertically transmitted infection, recently heard in news, refers to transfer of disease

- a) From mother to foetus
- b) From animals to humans
- c) From insects to animals
- d) Both (b) and (c)

Answer: a

• A vertically transmitted infection is an infection caused by pathogens (such as bacteria and viruses) that use mother-to-child transmission, that is, transmission directly from the mother to an embryo, fetus, or baby during pregnancy or childbirth.

5) International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, in honor of the Convention Against Torture is observed on

- a) 26th June
- b) 22nd June
- c) 26th July
- d) 22nd July

Answer: a

• 26 June is now recognized as the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture, in honor of the Convention. The alleged torture of a father-son duo in Sattankulam town in Tamil Nadu has once again given rise to the demand for a separate law against torture.

July 21

1) National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA)was constituted under the Companies Act in

- a) 2013
- b) 2014
- c) 2018
- d) 2019

Answer: c

• National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA) was constituted on 1st October, 2018 under section 132 (1) of the Companies Act, 2013. The audit regulator, National Financial Reporting Authority (NFRA), has constituted a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) under the Chairmanship of R Narayanaswamy, Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru.

2) RAISE initiative, recently heard in news, deals with

- a) Higher Education
- b) Health Sector
- c) Air Quality
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• "Retrofit of Air-conditioning to improve Indoor Air Quality for Safety and Efficiency" (RAISE) national programme has been launched. It is a joint initiative of Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) and the S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) MAITREE Program.

3) Manodarpan initiative, launched under AtmaNirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, aimed at providing psycho-social support to

- a) Students
- b) Teachers
- c) Parents
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• This initiative will provide psycho-social support to students, teachers and parents and address their issues related to mental health and emotional well being.

4) Globally, DDT is manufactured only in

a) US b) South Africa c) China d) India

Answer: d

• HIL (India) Limited, a PSU under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers has supplied 20.60 Metric tonne of DDT 75 % WP to South Africa for their Malaria control program.HIL (India) is the sole manufacturer of DDT globally.

5) Recently launched Zoram Mega food park was the first of its kind in the state of

- a) Assam
- b) Mizoram
- c) Kerala
- d) Gujarat

Answer: b

Zoram Mega food park launched in Mizoram, to benefit 25,000 farmers and create 5,000 jobs. This is the first Mega Food Park operationalized in the state of Mizoram.
The Scheme has a cluster based approach based on a hub and spokes model. It includes creation of infrastructure for primary processing and storage near the farm in the form of Primary Processing Centres (PPCs) and Collection Centres (CCs) and common facilities and enabling infrastructure at Central Processing Centre (CPC).

July 22

1) ANASIS-II, the country's first-ever military communications satellite is a launch by

- a) Israel
- b) UAE
- c) North Korea
- d) South Korea

Answer: d

• South Korea's launched its first-ever military communications satellite "ANASIS-II" by private operator SpaceX on 21 July 2020.

2) KAPP-3, India's first 700 MWe unit, and the biggest indigenously developed variant of the Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor, attained criticality. What is criticality?

- a) Controlled sustained fission reaction
- b) Uncontrolled fission reaction
- c) Shutting down of the reactor
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The third unit of the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP-3) in Gujarat achieved its

'first criticality' — a term that signifies the initiation of a controlled but sustained nuclear fission reaction — at 9.36 am on Wednesday.

3) Generation Unlimited India (YuWaah) which aims to facilitate youth to gain relevant skills for productive lives and the future of work is an initiative of

- a) UNICEF
- b) Niti Aayog
- c) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

- UNICEF had launched Generation Unlimited India (YuWaah) in 2019.
- It is a multi-stakeholder alliance which aims to facilitate youth to gain relevant skills for productive lives and the future of work.
- The target age group includes adolescent girls and boys.
- 4) Vriksharopan Abhiyan, organized by the Ministry of Coal, deals with
- a) Increase coal production
- b) Environmental conservation
- c) Rehabilitation of tribals
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Under this initiative, large scale plantation will be carried out in colonies, offices, and mines and in other suitable areas of coal and Ignite PSUs.Seedlings will also be distributed under the campaign in the nearby areas for promoting plantation by society.

5) Sherpa Track for the G20 Leaders Summit 2020 is being hosted by

- a) India
- b) Saudi Arabia
- c) Nepal
- d) Bhutan

Answer: b

• Saudi Arabia is to host the Sherpa Track for the G20 Leaders Summit 2020.

July23

1) Madhubani paintings, often seen in news, has developed in

- a) Bihar
- b) Assam
- c) Gujarat
- d) Kashmir

Answer: c

• Madhubani-based artist, Raman Kumar Mishra, was flooded with orders for his handmade masks painted with Mithila artwork after word spread about his work on a microblogging site last week. It is also known as Mithila, for its origin, is said to be the Mithila region in Bihar.

2) Third unit at Kakrapar Atomic Power Plant in Gujarat achieves criticality. Where is it located?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Gujarat
- d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: c

• The third unit of the Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP-3) in Gujarat achieved its 'first criticality' — a term that signifies the initiation of a controlled but sustained nuclear fission reaction — at 9.36 am on Wednesday.

3) Maharashtra's Lonar Lake had turned Pink in June this year.Lonar lake's origin can be traced to

- a) meteorite strike
- b) glaciation
- c) tectonic depressions
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It is an ancient circular lake created by a meteorite strike in Maharashtra.Lonar crater became a geo-heritage site in 1979.

4) Researchers have recently studied the formation of structures called "Coronae" on Venus. It is analogous to

- a) Solar corona
- b) Volcanism
- c) Tectonic movement
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Researchers have recently studied the formation of Venus' ring-shaped volcanic structures called "Coronae". This process is similar to how Earth's volcanos function.

5) Which among the following idea is used in Indo-Israel Rapid Test Partnership for detecting COVID-19?

a) Visible spectrum of lightb) Taste buds on tongue

c) Sonic wavesd) None of the above

Answer: c

• It is a part of system developed for detecting the virus using Terra-Hertz (THZ) waves. It to develop rapid testing for COVID-19 in under 30 seconds.

July 24

1) Open Credit Enablement Network (OCEN) is a protocol infrastructure for the democratization of credit. It is developed by

a) Reserve Bank of India

- b) Niti Aayog
- c) National Payment Corporation Ltd
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

• It is developed by a think tank, Indian Software Products Industry Round Table (iSPIRT).

2) China National Space Administration (CNSA) has recently launched a probe named Tianwen 1. It aims to study

a) Sun

- b) Moon
- c) Mars
- d) Earth

Answer: c

• China National Space Administration (CNSA) has recently launched its first Mars probe named Tianwen 1 or Quest for Heavenly Truth 1

.3) Indian Scholastic Assessment (Ind-SAT) Test 2020 was conducted for the first time. It aims to give scholarships to

- a) Indian students to study in foreign universities
- b) Foreign students to study in Indian universities
- c) Deserving candidates below poverty line
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Ind-SAT is an exam for grant of scholarships and admissions to foreign students for studying in select Indian universities.

4) "His famous declaration "Swaraj is my birthright, and I shall have it" served as an inspiration for future revolutionaries during India's struggle for freedom. The British Government termed him as the "Father of Indian Unrest"." Who is being referred to in the passage?

- a) Subash Chandra Bose
- b) Bala Gangadhar Tilak
- c) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi, union ministers, leaders across party lines and others today paid their tribute to the two great freedom fighters of India - Chandra Shekhar Azad and Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak - on their birth anniversaries.

5) Chandra Shekhar Azad was a part of

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

Answer: a

• He took part in non-cooperation movement led by Mahatma Gandhi.Azad was involved in the 1925 Kakori Conspiracy.

• Prime Minister Narendra Modi, union ministers, leaders across party lines and others today paid their tribute to the two great freedom fighters of India - Chandra Shekhar Azad and Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak - on their birth anniversaries.

July 25

1) Same person can be appointed as Governor of two or more states. This provision is added to the constitution with

- a) 42nd Constitution Amendment Act
- b) 44th Constitution Amendment Act
- c) 7thConstitution Amendment Act
- d) 92nd Constitution Amendment Act

Answer: c

• According to 7th Constitutional Amendment Act 1956, the same person can be the Governor of two or more states.

• President of India has appointed Anandiben Patel, Governor of Uttar Pradesh to discharge the functions of the Governor of Madhya Pradesh, in addition to her own duties.

- 2) About African Swine Fever (ASF) is a
- a) Zoonotic disease
- b) Animal disease
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: b

• ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.

3) India has Currency Swap Arrangement (CSA) with

a) Japan

- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• The Reserve Bank of India has agreed to a \$400 million currency swap facility for Sri Lanka till November 2022.

4) UAE's HOPE mission and China's Tianwen-1, primarily aims to gain knowledge about

- a) Mars
- b) Sun
- c) Venus
- d) Moon

Answer: a

• On July 22, China launched its Mars mission. Known as Tianwen-1, the mission name is loosely translated to "questions to Heaven."

5) Who acts as the de-facto President of the Indian Red Cross Society (IRCS)?

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

Answer: a

• It was established in 1920 under the Indian Red Cross Society Act and incorporated under Parliament Act XV of 1920. President of India is the President and Union Health Minister is the Chairman of the Society.

July 27

1) In India, which among the following doesn't have the power to punish against the contempt?

- a) Judiciary
- b) Legislative
- c) Executive
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

• Article 129 and 215 of the Constitution of India empowers the Supreme Court and High Court respectively to punish people for their respective contempt.

• Both the Houses of Indian Parliament as well as the State Legislatures have the power to punish for breach of privilege and contempt of the House.

2) Recently, Poland has decided to withdraw from Istanbul Convention. What does the convention deal with?

- a) Domestic violence
- b) Homosexuality
- c) Animal Cruelty
- d) Freedom of religion

Answer: a

• ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.

3) SWAMIHfund was set up as a Category-II AIF (Alternate Investment Fund) debt fund registered with SEBI. It aims to help with

- a) Affordable Housing
- b) Forward caste reservation
- c) Transport infrastructure
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• 81 projects have been approved so far under the Special Window for Affordable and Mid Income Housing (SWAMIH) fund.

4) India is not a member in

- a) MTCR
- b) NSG
- c) Australia Group
- d) Wassenaar Arrangement

Answer: b

• The US administration has relaxed export restrictions on specific types of unmanned aerial systems, commonly known as drones, enabling U.S. defense contractors to sell more of their wares abroad.So far, the U.S. government's interpretation of the export controls under the Missile Technology Control Regime, or MTCR had led to a blanket denial of most countries' requests to buy "category-1" systems capable of carrying 500-kilogram payloads for more than 300 kilometers.

5) As per recently released Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA), India have recorded the average annual net gains in forest area during 2010-2020. It was released by

- a) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- b) United Nations Environment Programme
- c) International Union for Conservation of Nature
- d) World Wide Fund for Nature

Answer: a

• Global Forest Resources Assessment (FRA) 2020 was recently released by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations.

July 28

1) Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA) is a flagship program of

- a) Ministry for Human Resource Development
- b) Ministry of Finance
- c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• TRIFED has entered into a partnership with IIT Delhi for the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan (UBA).

• It is a flagship program of the Ministry for Human Resource Development (MHRD). It aims to link the Higher Education Institutions with a set of at least (5) villages, so that these institutions can contribute to the economic and social betterment of these village communities using their knowledge base.

2) Recently, State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World 2020 (SOFI 2020) was released. It was prepared by

- a) Food and Agriculture Organization.
- b) International Fund for Agricultural Development.
- c) World Health Organization.
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World is an annual flagship report jointly prepared by:

o Food and Agriculture Organization.

- o International Fund for Agricultural Development.
- o United Nations Children's Fund.
- o World Food Programme.
- o World Health Organization.

3) Blue poppy, also known as Queen of Himalayan Flowers, are depleting at lower altitudes and rocky moraines. Where is it found?

a) Kashmir

- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Himachal Pradesh

d) All of the above

Answer: d

• It is found from Kumaon to Kashmir at elevations of 3,000 to 5,000 meters.

4) 'Dare to Dream 2.0' contestis an open challenge to promote the innovators and startups of the country. It is launched by

a) DRDO

b) ISRO

c) IIT Delhi

d) IISc Banglore

Answer: a

• It is launched by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on the 5th death anniversary of former President and noted scientist Dr APJ Abdul Kalam.

5) Bulk Drug Parks was launched to reduce manufacturing cost of bulk drugs in the country and dependency on other countries for bulk drugs by

a) Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers

b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

c) Both (a) and (b)

d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: a

• Both the statements are correct. Launched by the Union Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers in line with the vision and clarion call for making India AtmaNirbhar in the pharma sector.

July 29

1) Which among the following river is also known as 'DakshinaBhageerathi' and 'River Baris'?

- a) Narmada
- b) Kaveri
- c) Godavari
- d) Pampa

Answer: d

• Pampa is the third longest river in Kerala after Periyar and Bharathappuzha.

2) Tuting-Tidding Suture Zone (TTSZ), recently found to ne cause of earthquakes in Himalayan region is located in

- a) Ladakh
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Nepal
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: d

• TTSZ is a major part of the Eastern Himalaya, where the Himalaya takes a sharp southward bend and connects with the Indo-Burma Range.According to a recent study, TTSZ is generating moderate earthquakes at two different depths in Arunachal Pradesh.

3) The Union government launched the Green-Ag Project to reduce emissions from agriculture and ensure sustainable agricultural practices. It was launched in

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Maharashtra
- c) Punjab
- d) Mizoram

Answer: d

• The Union government on July 28, 2020, launched the Green-Ag Project in Mizoram, to reduce emissions from agriculture and ensure sustainable agricultural practices.Mizoram is one of the five states where the project will be implemented. Other states include Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Uttarakhand.

4) Nagarjunasagar Srisailam Tiger Reserve (NSTR) is the largest Tiger Reserve in India. Which among the following rivers passes through the reserve?

- a) Krishna
- b) Mahanadi
- c) Godavari
- d) Kaveri

Answer: a

• The Krishna river cuts its basin almost 200 m (660 ft) deep over a distance of 130 km (81 mi) through the reserve.

5) Which among the following statements about Rafale fighter jets is correct?

- a) Single engine
- b) 5th generation fighter aircraft
- c) Vertical take off
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

• It is a twin-engine fighter jet manufactured by Dassault Aviation of France.While Rafale is a 4.5 generation aircraft. Five Rafale jets arrived in India. These are part of the 36 twin-engine aircraft purchased from Dassault Rafale at approximately Rs 59,000 crore in 2016.

July 30

1) Recently released New Education Policy, 2020 aims to improve expenditure on education as a percentage of GDP to

a) 3%

- b) 6%
- c) 10%
- d) 8%

Answer: b

• First new education policy in 34 years has been brought out. The union Cabinet gave its nod to the new policy recently.Public spending on education by states and Centre to be raised to 6% of the GDP.

2) Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new Supreme Court built in Port Louis with Indian grant assistance. Where is it located?

- a) Afghanistan
- b) Mauritius
- c) Bhutan
- d) Maldives

Answer: b

• It is the capital city of Mauritius, in the Indian Ocean. It's known for its French colonial architecture.

3) Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskaar is an annual award instituted in 2018 by Union government to recognize the excellent work done by individuals and institutions in the country in the field

- a) Disaster Management
- b) Defence Innovation
- c) Cleanliness
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• It is an annual award instituted in 2018 by Union government to recognize the excellent work done by individuals and institutions in the country in the field of disaster management. These awards are announced on the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose on 23rd January every year.

4) International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) is world's largest experimental fusion facility in France.It is an international cooperation among

a) Russia, US, Japanb) China, India, South Korea.c) Australia, France, Germanyd) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: d

• This nuclear fusion facility is an international cooperation among the European Union, Russia, the US, Japan, China, India and South Korea.

5) International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), the world's largest magnetic confinement plasma physics experiment, is being built in

a) US

b) France

c) Germany

d) India

Answer: b

• International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) is world's largest experimental fusion facility in France.