

Current Affairs Quiz , June 2020

June 01

1) Which states in India have used the provision of optional use of Hindi in proceedings of concerned High Courts?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Uttar Pradesh
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- 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.

2) Who among the following is not a member who can administer PM CARES fund?

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

Answer: b

- 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.

- Stating that PM CARES FUNDS is not a 'public authority' under Section 2(h) of the Right to Information Act, 2005, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) has refused to divulge information sought in an application filed under the RTI Act.

3) National Career Service (NCS) project has now started offering free online Career Skills Training for its registered job-seekers. It comes under the ministry of

- a) Labour and Employment
- b) Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- c) Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
- d) Human Resource Development

Answer: a

- Ministry of Labour and Employment under its National Career Service (NCS) project has now started offering free online Career Skills Training for its registered job-seekers.

4) Mahesh Navmi is an auspicious Hindu festival that is celebrated by the devotees of Lord Shiva– also known as Lord 'Mahesh'. It is celebrated in the state of

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Maharashtra

- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Gujarat

Answer: a

- The festival is mainly celebrated by the people of Rajasthan.

5) Under Minimum Support Price (MSP) for MFP Scheme, MSP is determined by

- a) Ministry of Finance
- b) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
- c) TRIFED
- d) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices

Answer: b

- The Ministry of Tribal Affairs will be the nodal Ministry for implementation and monitoring of the scheme. The Minimum Support Price would be determined by the Ministry with technical help of TRIFED.

June 02

1) PM Svanidhi is a special micro-credit facility plan to provide affordable loan of up to an amount of

- a) ₹10,000
- b) ₹1,00,000
- c) ₹50,000
- d) ₹5,00,000

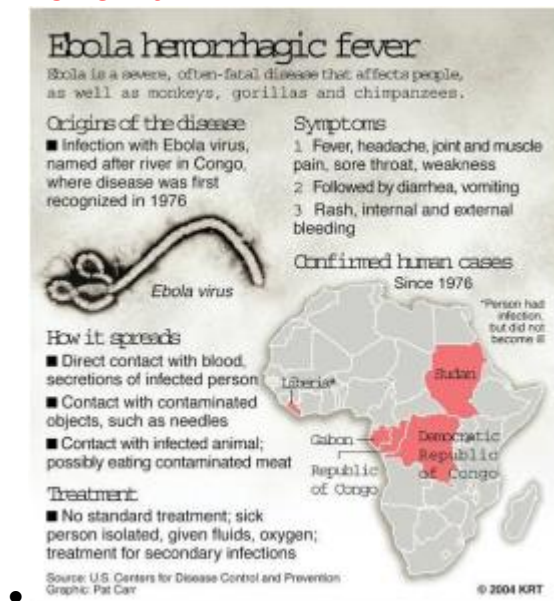
Answer: a

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has launched PM Svanidhi, or Pradhan Mantri Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi scheme.
- It is a special micro-credit facility plan to provide affordable loan of up to ₹10,000 to more than 50 lakh street vendors, who had their businesses operational on or before 24 March.
- Small Industries Development Bank of India is the technical partner for implementation of this scheme.

2) Ebola was named after a river in a country where it was first recognised in 1976. Which is that country?

- a) Congo
- b) Sudan
- c) Liberia
- d) Brazil

Answer: a



3) THAAD, recently seen in news, has been deployed in

- a) UAE
- b) Israel
- c) Romania
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

• In addition to South Korea, THAAD has been deployed in UAE, Guam, Israel and Romania.

4) Who among the following is not a member of G-7 nations?

- a) Australia
- b) Italy
- c) Canada
- d) Japan

Answer: a

• The G7 summit gathers leaders from the European Union (EU) and the following countries: Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, the United Kingdom and the United States.

• Calling the existing Group of Seven (G-7) club a “very outdated group of countries”, US President Donald Trump has said that he wanted to include India, Russia, South Korea, and Australia in the group.

5) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an initiative of

- a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- b) Indian Banks’ Association (IBA)
- c) National Securities Depository Limited
- d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: d

- It is an initiative of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA) under the provisions of the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007, for creating a robust Payment and Settlement Infrastructure in India.

June 03

1) Recent cyclonic storm, Nisarga formed over East central Arabian Sea has been named by

- a) India
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Myanmar
- d) Bangladesh

Answer: d

- Cyclonic Storm formed over East central Arabian Sea has been named Nisarga. The name in the new list was suggested by Bangladesh.
- Cyclone is the formation of very low-pressure system with very high-speed winds revolving around it.

2) Scientists have recently discovered tiny flashes of radio light emanating from all over the Sun with the help of the Murchison Widefield Array (MWA) radio telescope. Where is it located?

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

Answer: a

- The Murchison Widefield Array (MWA) is a low-frequency radio telescope, located at the Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory (MRO) in Western Australia. The MWA has been developed by an international collaboration, including partners from Australia, New Zealand, Japan, China, India, Canada and the United States.

3) National Productivity Council (NPC) is national level organization to promote productivity culture in India. It is established by the

- a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- b) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- c) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- NPC is national level organization to promote productivity culture in India. established by the Ministry of Industry, Government of India in 1958.

4) Global Economic Prospects is released by

- a) WHO
- b) WTO
- c) World Bank
- d) IMF

Answer: c

- It is the World Bank's semi-annual flagship publication on the state of the world economy.

5) Under One Nation-One Ration Card scheme, the ration cards are supposed to have

- a) 5 digits
- b) 15 digits
- c) 10 digits
- d) 8 digits

Answer: c

- The states have also been told to have a 10-digit standard ration card number, wherein first two digits will be state code and the next two digits will be running ration card numbers.
- For national portability, the state governments have been asked to issue the ration card in bi-lingual format, wherein besides the local language, the other language could be Hindi or English.

June 04

1) Who was the chairman of the panel set up by SEBI to suggest possible structure for Social Stock Exchanges (SSE)?

- a) Biplab Kumar Sarma
- b) Bibek Debroy
- c) Ishaat Hussain
- d) Kirit Parikh

Answer: c

- Ishaat Hussain panel set up by SEBI were to suggest possible structures and regulations for creating SSE to facilitate listing and fund-raising by social enterprises.
- As per the proposal, SSE can be housed within the existing stock exchange such as the BSE and/or National Stock Exchange (NSE).

2) As per the Constitution of India, territory of India includes

- a) States
- b) Union territories
- c) Any territory that may be acquired
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- As per Article 1 in the Constitution, the territory of India shall consist of: The territories of the states, The Union territories and Any territory that may be acquired.

3) National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR) predicts that there would be a 24% increase in the expansion of Ameri Ice Shelf (AIS) boundaries by 2021. It is located in

- a) Canada
- b) Green Land
- c) Australia
- d) Antarctica

Answer: d

- The AIS is one of the largest glacier drainage basins in the world, located on the east coast of Antarctica, at about 70°S Latitude, 70°E Longitude.

4) Under Ministry of AYUSH, Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) is a

- a) Subordinate Office
- b) Autonomous body
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Cabinet approves establishment of Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) as Subordinate Office under Ministry of AYUSH.
- Presently, Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy (PCIM&H) is an autonomous body under the aegis of Ministry of AYUSH established since 2010.

5) Which of the following technology is used in 5th generations of mobile networks?

- a) Digital voice
- b) Mobile data
- c) Mobile broadband
- d) Frequency division multiplexing

Answer: d

- UK administration has approached the US with the prospect of creating a 5G club of 10 democracies, including India, amid growing security concerns related to Chinese telecom giant Huawei.
- 1G: Analog voice (1980)
- 2G: Digital voice (1990s)
- 3G: Mobile data (2000s)
- 4G: Mobile broadband (2010s)
- 5G: OFDM (Orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing), (2020s)

1) Which among the following organisation is not a member of GAVI, the international vaccine alliance?

- a) World Health Organization
- b) UNICEF
- c) World Bank
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- India Pledges USD 15 Million for Global Vaccine Alliance GAVI.
- It contributes to achieving the United Nations' Millennium Development Goals by focusing on performance, outcomes and results.
- Its members include World Health Organization, UNICEF and World Bank

2) Consumer Confidence Index, recently seen in news, is released by

- a) RBI
- b) Ministry of Consumer Affairs
- c) WTO
- d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Answer: a

- Consumer confidence collapsed in May 2020, with the current situation index (CSI) touching a historic low and the one year ahead future expectations index (FEI) also recording a sharp fall, entering the zone of pessimism, according to Reserve Bank of India's latest Consumer Confidence Survey (CCS).

3) World Environment Day 2020, celebrated on June 5th, is hosted by

- a) Colombia
- b) Germany
- c) Australia
- d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: d

- Host: Colombia in partnership with Germany.
- Theme: Biodiversity—a concern that is both urgent and existential

4) Haftar, a self-style militia was pushed from its last positions in Tripoli by UN backed forces. Tripoli is the capital of

- a) South Sudan
- b) Sudan
- c) Algeria
- d) Libya

Answer: d

- Libya's UN-backed gov't announces taking over Tripoli from the militias of Haftar.

5) SaalBhar60 Campaign launched in Haridwar demands to

- a) Clean Ganga
- b) MSP for horticulture products
- c) Reduce PM 2.5 levels to $60\mu\text{g}/\text{m}^3$
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- It demands that the government put in place measures to ensure that the PM 2.5 levels in cities is 60 micrograms per cubic metre, which is the safe limit for 24 hours as prescribed by the Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB).

June 06

1) '#iCommit' initiative, launched on the occasion of World Environment Day is driven by

- a) Ministry of Power
- b) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- c) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- d) Both (b) and (c)

Answer: a

- The initiative is driven by Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL), under the administration of Ministry of Power.

2) Which among the following is not one of the disadvantages of LiDAR?

- a) Can't perform well in rain
- b) Can't perform well in dusty weather
- c) Struggles to detect a glass wall
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- Struggles to detect a glass wall or door, which is why smartphone manufacturers and self-driving cars makers use LiDAR along with secondary cameras and sensors. Can't perform well in fog, rain, snow and dusty weather.

3) Ambarnaya river, recently seen in news, is located in

- a) India
- b) Germany
- c) Australia
- d) Russia

Answer: d

- Russia has declared a state of emergency after a power plant fuel leak in its Arctic region caused 20,000 tonnes of diesel oil to escape into a local river Ambarnaya, turning its surface crimson red.

4) Petrapole-Benapole border checkpoint between India and

- a) Myanmar
- b) Bangladesh
- c) China
- d) Nepal

Answer: b

- It is the Indian side of Petrapole-Benapole border checkpoint between India and Benapole of Bangladesh, on the Bangladesh-India border, near Bongaon in North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal.

5) Payments Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF), launched to encourage acquirers to deploy point of sale infrastructure in north eastern states, is an initiative of

- a) Ministry of Finance
- b) RBI
- c) BBB
- d) National Payments Corporation of India

Answer: b

- In an effort to give a push to digital payments across the country, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is setting up a Payment Infrastructure Development Fund (PIDF) of Rs 500 crore.
- The fund will be governed through an advisory council but it will be managed and administered by the RBI.

June 09

1) Non-permanent members of the United Nations Security Council for a period of

- a) 10 years
- b) 5 years
- c) 2 years
- d) 1 year

Answer: c

- General Assembly elects 5 non-permanent members out of a total of 10, every year, for a two-year term.

2) India's forex reserves are rising despite the slowdown in the economy. What may be the reasons for that?

- a) Rise in investment by foreign portfolio investors
- b) Fall in crude oil prices
- c) Fall in overseas remittances
- d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: d

- Amid pandemic, India's foreign exchange reserves are rising and are slated to hit the \$500 billion mark soon. In the month of May, forex reserves jumped by \$12.4 billion to an all-time high of \$493.48 billion (around Rs 37.30 lakh crore) for the week ended May 29.

3) What is the recently announced summer capital of Uttarakhand?

- a) Uttarkashi
- b) Nainital
- c) Gairsain
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Gairsain in Chamoli district was formally declared as the summer capital of Uttarakhand.

4) Which among the following state has launched India's first online waste exchange platform?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Delhi
- c) Kerala
- d) Maharashtra

Answer: a

- It will help the authorities monitor the movement of hazardous waste real-time using the tools incorporated in the platform. The platform will be handled by the AP Environment Management Corporation (APEMC).

5) Sansad Adarsh Gram Yojana was launched on the birth anniversary of

1. No new funds are allocated to this Yojana.

Choose the correct answer using the codes given below

- a) Sardar Patel
- b) Jayaprakash Narayan
- c) Jawaharlal Nehru
- d) Madan Mohan Malaviya

Answer: b

- The programme was launched on the birth anniversary of Jayaprakash Narayan, on 11 October 2014.

June 10

1) State of India's Environment 2020 is released by

- a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- b) Central Pollution Control Board
- c) National Green Tribunal
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- State of India's Environment report, 2020 was released by Centre for Science and Environment (CSE), Down to Earth a research and advocacy organization.

2) Rises from Trimbakeshwar near Nasik in Maharashtra and flows for a length of about 1465 km before outfalling into the Bay of Bengal. Which is the river being discussed above?

- a) Godavari
- b) Mahanadi
- c) Narmada
- d) Cauvery

Answer: a

- The Godavari basin extends over states of Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Odisha in addition to smaller parts in Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka and Union territory of Puducherry.

3) Which among the following is not one of the indicator used for QS World University rankings?

- a) Academic reputation.
- b) Faculty/student ratio.
- c) Citations per faculty.
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- To rank institutions, QS uses six indicators:

- o Academic reputation.
- o Employer reputation.
- o Faculty/student ratio.
- o Citations per faculty.
- o International faculty ratio.
- o International student ratio.

4) Which among the following is not one of the applications of LiDAR (Light Detection and Ranging)?

- a) Agriculture
- b) Hydrology
- c) Geology
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- LiDAR is used for agriculture, hydrology and water management systems, geology-related applications.

5) Coral Triangle Day, a massive celebration of the Coral Triangle, is celebrated every year on

- a) June 5th
- b) June 8th
- c) June 9th
- d) June 10th

Answer: d

- Held every year on June 9. The first Coral Triangle Day was celebrated on June 9, 2012 in conjunction with World Oceans Day which is celebrated every year on June 8.

June 11

1) Which among the following statements criteria were used by 15th Finance Commission to determine the share of states?

- a) population in 2011
- b) demographic performance
- c) tax effort.
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- The 15th Finance Commission used the following criteria while determining the share of states:

- o 45% for the income distance.
- o 15% for the population in 2011
- o 15% for the area
- o 10% for forest and ecology
- o 5% for demographic performance, and
- o 5% for tax effort.

2) Daulat Beg Oldie (DBO) has the world's highest airstrip, It is located in

- a) Jammu and Kashmir
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Ladakh
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: c

- DBO is the northernmost corner of Indian territory in Ladakh, in the area better known in Army parlance as Sub-Sector North.
- The construction of the 255-km long Darbuk-Shyokh-Daulat Beg Oldie (DSDBO) all-

weather road is said to be the immediate reason behind the standoff between Indian Army and a Chinese Army along LAC.

3) Central Pollution Control Board will classify railway stations under the red, orange and green categories. The categories are based on

- a) Cleanliness of tracks in the station
- b) ODF status of railway station
- c) Quantity of waste water generated
- d) None of the above

Answer: c

- Central Pollution Control Board will classify railway stations under the red, orange and green categories based on the quantity of waste water generated.

4) Operation Desert Chase, recently seen in news, is a

- a) Military Exercise
- b) Anti-espionage operation
- c) Exercise to combat desertification
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- It was the name of the Anti-espionage operation started by Military Intelligence (MI) in early 2019. It successfully culminated in June 2020 with the arrest of two men. Both were arrested under relevant sections of Official Secrets Act, 1923.

5) Which among the following genetically modified seeds are legally allowed in India?

- a) mustard
- b) Ht cotton
- c) Bt cotton
- d) Both (b) and (c)

Answer: c

- In the current kharif season, farmers would undertake mass sowing of GM seeds for maize, soyabean, mustard brinjal and herbicide tolerant (Ht) cotton, although these are not approved.

June 12

1) Who among the following has the power to set up a Foreigners tribunal?

- a) District magistrates
- b) High Court of the state
- c) Ministry of Home Affairs
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

- District magistrates in all States and Union Territories has the power to set up foreigners' tribunals.
- The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has amended the Foreigners (Tribunals) Order, 1964, and has empowered district magistrates in all States and Union Territories to set up tribunals (quasi-judicial bodies) to decide whether a person staying illegally in India is a foreigner or not. The amended order (Foreigners (Tribunal) Order, 2019) also empowers individuals to approach the Tribunals. Earlier, only the State administration could move the Tribunal against a suspect.

2) The first population estimation exercise of Indian gaur carried out in the Nilgiris forest division. As per IUCN Red List, the species is

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

Answer: a

- It is native to South and Southeast Asia and has been listed as Vulnerable on the IUCN Red List since 1986.

3) Moment magnitude scale (M_w), recently heard in news, is used to measuring the strength of

- a) Virus load
- b) Earth Quake
- c) Deep sea pressure
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Richter magnitude scale (ML) is used for measuring the strength (amount of energy released) of earthquakes in 1930s. Because of the various shortcomings of the ML scale, seismologists now use moment magnitude scale (M_w).

4) Recently, 'India Rankings 2020' of Institutions of Higher Education was released. Which among the following is not a criterion used for the ranking?

- a) Graduation Outcomes.
- b) Outreach and Inclusivity.
- c) Peer Perception.
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- Parameters include
 - o Teaching, Learning and Resources.
 - o Research and Professional Practices.
 - o Graduation Outcomes.

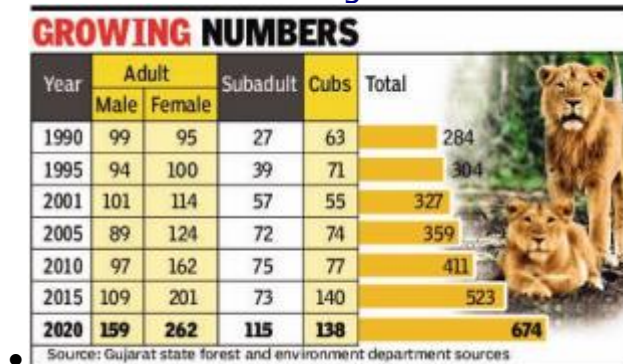
- o Outreach and Inclusivity.
- o Peer Perception.

5) Poonam Avlokan, recently heard in news, is a method used in the census of

- a) Lions
- b) Tigers
- c) Elephants
- d) Indian Gaur

Answer: a

- Poonam Avlokan (developed in 2014) is a monthly in-house exercise carried out every full moon for counting lions in the Gir region.



June 13

1) Which is the first Indian city to get an Integrated Flood Warning System to control urban flooding?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Delhi
- c) Kolkata
- d) Chennai

Answer: a

- Mumbai is only the second city in the country after Chennai to get this system. Similar systems are being developed for Bengaluru and Kolkata.

2) World Day against Child Labour is observed every year on June 12th under the aegis of

- a) UNDP
- b) UNICEF
- c) ILO
- d) WEF

Answer: c

- First launched in 2002 to raise awareness and prevent child labour by the International Labour Organisation.
- Theme: COVID-19 – Protect children from child labour now, more than ever”.

3) It is an ancient circular lake created by a meteorite strike in Maharashtra. It lies within the only known extra-terrestrial impact crater found within the great Deccan Traps, a huge basaltic formation in India. It is relatively young geologically, at just 50,000 years old. Which of the following is being mentioned in the passage?

- a) Venna
- b) Lonar
- c) Powai
- d) Vihar

Answer: b

- Team of scientists to examine why Maharashtra's Lonar lake has turned pink.

4) Sahakar Mitra scheme launched to provide an opportunity to professionals from academic institutions to develop leadership and entrepreneurial roles through cooperatives. It is an initiative of

- a) National Cooperative Development Corporation
- b) National Commission for Scheduled Castes
- c) Tata Consultancy Services
- d) Directorate General of Employment

Answer: a

- It is an initiative by National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC)
- Under the programme, each intern will get financial support over a 4 months internship period.

5) Towards Per Drop More Crop Scheme, under NABARD, government has created a micro irrigation fund corpus of

- a) Rs. 50,000 crore
- b) Rs. 5,000 crore
- c) Rs. 500 crore
- d) Rs. 50 crore

Answer: b

- Department of Agriculture Cooperation and Farmers' Welfare is the implementing agency for the scheme.
- Micro Irrigation Fund corpus of Rs. 5000 crore has been created with NABARD for the purpose of the scheme.

June 15

1) Which among the following countries are not a part of Indian Ocean Commission?

- a) India
- b) Seychelles
- c) Mauritius
- d) Madagascar

Answer: a

- Founded in 1982, the IOC is an intergovernmental organisation comprising five small-island states in the Western Indian Ocean: the Comoros, Madagascar, Mauritius, Réunion (a French department), and Seychelles.

2) Raja Parba festival is a three-day-long festival dedicated to Mother Earth (Bhuma Devi) and womanhood at large. It is celebrated in the state of

- a) West Bengal
- b) Assam
- c) Odisha
- d) Gujarat

Answer: c

- The festival is being celebrated in Odisha.

3) Which among the following panel was constituted by RBI to review guidelines of ownership of private sector banks?

- a) PK Mohanty
- b) Bimal Jalan
- c) Nachiket Mor
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) on Friday said it has constituted an internal working group to review the existing guidelines on ownership and corporate structure of private sector banks. The group will be headed by RBI executive director P.K. Mohanty

4) The Nature Index is a database of author affiliation information collated from research articles published in an independently selected group of 82 high-quality science journals. India was ranked at

- a) 103
- b) 63
- c) 90
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- The overall ranking of India is 12th in the index and top 3 Ranking of Institutions from India are as follows:

- o Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
- o Indian Institute of Sciences (IISc)
- o Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR)

5) Which among the following are the features of the art form Talamaddale, performed in South India?

- a) Dance
- b) Costumes
- c) Stageconventions
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- It is an art form minus dance, costumes and stage conventions. Unlike the Yakshagana performance, in the conventional 'talamaddale,' the artists sit across in a place without any costumes and engage in testing their oratory skills based on the episode chosen.

June 16

1) ADIP Scheme, which aims to assist abled persons in procuring modern, standard aids, is implemented by

- a) ALIMCO
- b) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

- It is being implemented by the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment and ALIMCO.
- It aims to assist the disabled persons in procuring modern, standard aids that can promote their rehabilitation.

2) Indian Gas Exchange (IGX) is the first nationwide online delivery-based gas trading platform. It deals with the trade of

- a) Natural Gas
- b) Coal
- c) Liquefied petroleum gas
- d) Both (a) and (c)

Answer: a

- The IGX is a digital trading platform that will allow buyers and sellers of natural gas to trade both in the spot market and in the forward market for imported natural gas across three hubs —Dahej and Hazira in Gujarat, and Kakinada in Andhra Pradesh.

3) Scientists have observed the fifth state of matter in space for the first time. It is obtained at a temperature of

- a) – 273.15 oCelsius
- b) 273.15 oCelsius
- c) 2700oCelsius
- d) 685oCelsius

Answer: a

- Bose-Einstein condensates (BECs) -- the existence of which was predicted by Albert Einstein and Indian mathematician Satyendra Nath Bose almost a century ago -- are

formed when atoms of certain elements are cooled to near absolute zero (0 Kelvin, minus 273.15 Celsius).

4) SIPRI report, released recently, deals with

- a) Disarmament
- b) Income Inequality
- c) International trade
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- A new yearbook released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI). The yearbook "assesses the current state of armaments, disarmament and international security".

5) Which among the following countries is not a founding members of Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)?

- a) India
- b) Norway
- c) South Korea
- d) Singapore

Answer: b

- It is an international and multi-stakeholder initiative to guide the responsible development and use of AI.
- Founding members: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and the European Union.

June 17

1) Representative Concentration Pathway (RCP) is a greenhouse gas concentration trajectory adopted by

- a) UNEP
- b) MoEFCC
- c) IPCC
- d) Both (a) and (c)

Answer: c

- It is a greenhouse gas concentration trajectory adopted by the IPCC. RCP8.5, generally taken as the basis for worst-case climate change scenarios, was based on projected coal outputs.

2) Zoonoses, like Nipah COVID-19 will not be caused by

- a) Bacterial
- b) Viral

- c) Parasitic
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- Zoonoses may be bacterial, viral, or parasitic.

3) New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System (NORMS), recently seen in news, is an Indian objective to be tried out in

- a) WTO
- b) WHO
- c) WEF
- d) UNSC

Answer: d

- India's eighth term in the UNSC which will begin from January 2021. India's objective will be the achievement of N.O.R.M.S: a New Orientation for a Reformed Multilateral System.

4) New START, a strategic arms reduction treaty, is between

- a) US and Russia
- b) US and North Korea
- c) India and Pakistan
- d) India and China

Answer: a

- New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) is a nuclear arms reduction treaty between the United States and the Russian Federation with the formal name of Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms.

5) Mobile Payments Market Report, 2020 is released by

- a) SEBI
- b) NPCI
- c) RBI
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- It is an initiative of S&P Global Market Intelligence.
- According to the report, mobile payments and card transactions exceeded cash withdrawals from ATMs for the first time in 2019.

June 18

1) Which among the following can be considered as a non-banking financial company (NBFC) in India?

- a) Leasing companies
- b) Investment companies
- c) House finance companies
- d) Venture capital companies

Answer: c

- A housing finance company is considered a non-banking financial company (NBFC) under the RBI's regulations.
- A company is treated as an NBFC if its financial assets are more than 50% of its total assets.

2) Which is the smallest and shallowest of the world's five major oceans?

- a) Atlantic Ocean
- b) Indian Ocean
- c) Southern Ocean
- d) Arctic Ocean

Answer: d

- The Arctic Ocean is the smallest and shallowest of the world's five major oceans and it is also known as the coldest of all the oceans.

3) National Centre of Polar and Ocean Research, established as an autonomous R&D Institution of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, is located in

- a) Goa
- b) Ladakh
- c) Antarctica
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research, formerly known as the National Centre for Antarctic and Ocean Research is an Indian research and development institution, situated in Vasco da Gama, Goa.

4) Crocodile species found in India includes

- a) Marsh Crocodile
- b) Saltwater Crocodile
- c) Gharial
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- Crocodile species found in India includes

- o Mugger or Marsh Crocodile
- o Estuarine or Saltwater Crocodile
- o Gharial or River water Crocodile

5) World Crocodile Day is celebrated on

- a) June 17th
- b) June 18th
- c) July 17th
- d) August 21st

Answer: a

• The day is a global awareness campaign to highlight the plight of endangered crocodiles and alligators around the world. World Crocodile Day is celebrated on 17th June.

June 19

1) Civil Services Board, a Supreme Court of India mandated body, is headed by

- a) Chief secretary
- b) Principal secretary
- c) UPSC
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

• The Punjab government, last week, constituted a three-member civil services board to decide on IAS transfers and postings in the state. The civil services board is headed by chief secretary of a state.

2) Unicorn companies, recently heard in news, refers to

- a) Greenfield company
- b) Brownfield company
- c) Limited Liability Partnership
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

• Over a period of five years ending March 2020, 18 of India's 30 unicorns are now Chinese-funded. Unicorn is the term used in the venture capital industry to describe a startup company with a value of over \$1 billion. The term was first coined by venture capitalist Aileen Lee.

3) Uighurs, a Muslim minority community, are concentrated in

- a) Pakistan
- b) China
- c) UK
- d) Myanmar

Answer: b

• Uighurs are a Muslim minority community concentrated in the country's northwestern Xinjiang province. They claim closer ethnic ties to Turkey and other central Asian

countries than to China, by brute — and brutal — force. U.S. President Donald Trump has signed legislation calling for sanctions over the repression of China's Uighur Muslims.

4) The Kodumanal excavation of 10 pots and bowls, instead of the usual three or four pots, placed outside three-chambered burial cists and inside the cairn-circle, threw light on burial rituals and the concept of afterlife in megalithic culture. It is excavated from the state of

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

Answer: a

- Kodumanal is a village located in the Erode district in Tamil Nadu. It is located on the northern banks of Noyyal River, a tributary of the Cauvery.

5) Popularly known as the 'Festival of Chariots', the festival in honour of Lord Jagannath is celebrated in the state of

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

Answer: a

- Supreme Court of India has stayed annual Rath Yatra at Puri's Jagannath Temple in Odisha which was scheduled from June 23. The apex court said that 'Lord Jagannath won't forgive us if we allow this year's Rath Yatra'.

June 20

1) Keeladi excavations prove that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in the Sangam era. It is found on the banks of the river

- a) Vaigai
- b) Cauvery
- c) Thamarabharani
- d) Palar

Answer: a

- Excavations in Keeladi prove that an urban civilisation existed in Tamil Nadu in the Sangam era on the banks of the river Vaigai.
- Skeletal remains of a child excavated as part of Keeladi's 6th phase excavation. The skeleton was found buried between two terracotta urns.

2) PM Street Vendor's Atma Nirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi), a scheme to provide affordable loan of up to ₹10,000 to more than 50 lakh street vendors, is implemented by

- a) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- b) Reserve Bank of India
- c) NABARD
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs has signed MoU with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) in order to engage SIDBI as the Implementation Agency for PM Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) – a Special Micro-Credit Facility for Street Vendors.

3) GAFA tax, recently heard in news, is directed at

- a) High net worth individuals
- b) Digital giant companies
- c) Waste management companies
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- GAFA tax—named after Google, Apple, Facebook, Amazon—is a proposed digital tax to be levied on large technology and internet companies. France has decided to introduce the tax (3% tax on revenues from digital activities).

4) Satyabhama Portal allows online submission of project proposals along with monitoring of the projects and utilization of funds / grants. It is launched by Ministry of

- a) Mines
- b) Commerce and Industry
- c) Coal
- d) Petroleum and Natural Gas

Answer: a

- It is launched by Ministry of Mines; Designed, developed and implemented by National Informatics Centre (NIC), Mines Informatics Division. SATYABHAMA stands for Science and Technology Yojana for Aatmanirbhar Bharat in Mining Advancement.

5) Recently released Rule of Law Index-2020 ranks India at

- a) 21
- b) 102
- c) 143
- d) 69

Answer: d

- On March 11, the World Justice Project announced the Rule of Law Index and ranked India in the 69th position.
- It measures countries' rule of law performance across eight factors: (1) Constraints on Government Powers, (2) Absence of Corruption, (3) Open Government, (4) Fundamental

Rights, (5) Order and Security, (6) Regulatory Enforcement, (7) Civil Justice, and (8) Criminal Justice.

June 22

1) Recently launched Garib Kalyan Rojgar Abhiyaan is aimed at

- a) returned migrant workers
- b) unemployed urban workers
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: a

- The villages will join this programme through the common service centres and Krishi Vigyan Kendras.
- The focus districts are chosen to provide maximum benefit to returned migrant workers.

2) Which among the following can be attributed as advantages of intercropping?

- a) lower pest densities
- b) Improved soil fertility
- c) Reduced soil erosion.
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- Advantages of intercropping:
 - o More efficient use of , water and other nutrient resources compared to single crops.
 - o It allows for effective management of cover crops because crop mixtures have lower pest densities.
 - o Potential increased crop yields per unit area.
 - o Improved soil fertility by leguminous intercrops e.g. nitrogen fixing.
 - o Reduced soil erosion.
 - o Lowered soil surface evaporation.

3) Madhesi, a minority community, are concentrated in

- a) Pakistan
- b) China
- c) Nepal
- d) Myanmar

Answer: c

- Nepali opposition party leaders have opposed the planned changes in the existing citizenship rules that will most notably affect the families in Nepal's plains also known as the Madhes region where cross-border kinship with India is common.

4) Golden Langurs, one of the Schedule I species in the Wildlife Protection Act (1972), is found in

- a) Kerala
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Assam
- d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: c

- Found in Small regions of western Assam and in the neighbouring foothills of the black mountains of Bhutan.

5) Theme for International Yoga Day 2020 is "Yoga for Health – Yoga at Home". It is celebrated every year on

- a) June 21
- b) June 20
- c) June 19
- d) July 21

Answer: a

- UN proclaimed June 21 as International Day of Yoga by passing a resolution in 2014.

June 23

1) Which of the following statements is incorrect about Arms Trade Treaty?

- a) It regulates international sale of weapons
- b) It regulates domestic sale of weapons
- c) China hasn't signed the treaty.
- d) Both (b) and (c)

Answer: d

- It calls for the international sale of weapons to be linked to the human rights records of buyers.
- It does not regulate the domestic sale or use of weapons in any country.
- National People's Congress, China's top legislative body, has voted to join the global treaty to regulate conventional arms sales at a time when the country has been cornered over its handling of pandemic and curbing of Hong Kong's autonomy.

2) Which among the following is correct about Annular Solar Eclipse?

- a) Bright ring of sunlight shines around the Moon
- b) A small sliver of the Sun may be seen
- c) Moon completely blocks the solar disk
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- When the Moon is farther away in its orbit than usual, it appears too small to

completely cover the Sun's disk. During such an event, a bright ring of sunlight shines around the Moon. This type of eclipse is called an "annular" eclipse.

3) The city of Delhi is located in seismic zone IV, the second-highest earthquake hazard zone in the country. Who releases seismic hazard map of India?

- a) Bureau of Indian Standards
- b) IIT Roorkee
- c) National Physical Laboratory
- d) IISc

Answer: a

- Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) which is the official agency for publishing seismic hazard maps and codes in India prepared several seismic hazard maps consisting of six zones (1962), seven zones (1966) and five zones (1970).

4) Senkaku Islands, often seen in news, a disputed island, is located in

- a) East China Sea
- b) South China Sea
- c) Pacific Ocean
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Senkaku Islands are located in the East China Sea between Japan, the People's Republic of China, and the Republic of China (Taiwan). The archipelago contains five uninhabited islands and three barren rocks, ranging in size from 800 m² to 4.32 km².

5) Which among the following statements about Pangong Tso is correct?

- a) Salt water lake.
- b) Conclave lake
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

- Pangong Tso literally translates into a "conclave lake". Pangong means conclave in Ladakhi and Tso means a lake in Tibetan language. It is a salt water lake.

June 24

1) International Comparison Program, recently released by World Bank, compares

- a) Purchase Power Parity
- b) Poverty Line
- c) Happiness index
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The World Bank has released new Purchasing Power Parities (PPPs) for reference year 2017, under International Comparison Program (ICP), that adjust for differences in the cost of living across economies of the World.

2) Ahom Kingdom from India's past history is located in present day

- a) Assam
- b) West Bengal
- c) Odisha
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The founders of the Ahom kingdom had their own language and followed their own religion. Over the centuries, the Ahoms accepted the Hindu religion and the Assamese language.
- Assam Chief Minister has ordered the arrest of a Kolkata-based political commentator, Garga Chatterjee, who had described Chaolung Sukapha as a "Chinese invader".

3) Gaia hypothesis, recently seen in news, is closely associated with

- a) Ecological equilibrium
- b) Democratic decentralisation
- c) Judicial overreach
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Gaia hypothesis put forth by James Lovelock is an ecological theory proposing that living creatures and the physical world are in a complex interacting system that maintains equilibrium.

4) Blazars are a type of galaxy powered by a

- a) Supermassive stars
- b) Blackholes
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: b

- Blazars, a type of galaxy powered by a ginormous black hole and among the brightest, most energetic objects in the sky, are not unfamiliar to science.

5) Government e-Market place aims to enhance transparency, efficiency and speed in public procurement. It comes under the ministry of

- a) Commerce and Industries
- b) Finance
- c) External affairs
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- It is a national public procurement platform of Ministry of Commerce and Industries. Government e-Marketplace (GeM) has brought in certain changes to promote 'Make in India' and 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat'.

June 25

1) Recently launched Credit Guarantee Scheme for Sub-ordinate Debt (CGSSD) aims at

- a) Telecommunication Sector
- b) MSME Sector
- c) Banking Sector
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- The scheme would provide much-required support to around 2 lakh MSMEs and will help in reviving the economic activity in and through this sector. It will also help in protecting the livelihoods and jobs of millions of people who depend on them.
- It is a scheme for the distressed MSME sector.

2) Which among the following is a committee constituted for the purpose of sub-categorisation of OBCs?

- a) Mandal Commission
- b) Justice Rohini Commission
- c) Balvanthrai Commission
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- In October 2017, President Ram Nath Kovind, in exercise of the powers conferred by Article 340 of the Constitution, appointed a commission to examine the issue of sub-categorisation of OBCs, chaired by retired Justice G. Rohini, to ensure social justice in an efficient manner by prioritising the Extremely Backward Classes (EBCs).

3) The country is achieving near-complete on-line notification of TB patients through an information management system. What is it called?

- a) National Tuberculosis Elimination Program (NTEP)
- b) NIKSHAY
- c) National Health Mission
- d) All of the above

Answer: b

- The country is achieving near-complete on-line notification of TB patients through the NIKSHAY system. The Annual TB Report is prepared and published by the Central TB Division, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, GOI.

4) Section 8 Companies, often seen in news, refers to

- a) Not-for-profit companies
- b) Private Ltd companies
- c) Public Ltd companies
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs), MSMEs, Section 8 Companies, Private Companies and individual entrepreneur with only 10% margin money contribution by them are eligible for Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF).

5) The secretariat of Financial Action Task Force (FATF) is located at

- a) Paris
- b) New York
- c) Vienna
- d) London

Answer: a

- It is an inter- governmental body established in 1989 on the initiative of the G7. Its secretariat is located at the OECD headquarters in Paris.

June 26

1) Which among the following is correctly matched in the context of protest against partition of Bengal?

- a) Lala Lajpat Rai - Bengal
- b) Bal Gangadhar Tilak - Punjab
- c) Bipin Chandra Pal - Bombay
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- Tilak opposed the moderate views of Gopal Krishna Gokhale, and was supported by fellow Indian nationalists Bipin Chandra Pal in Bengal and Lala Lajpat Rai in Punjab. They were referred to as the "Lal-Bal-Pal triumvirate".

- In a bid to revive the Independence-era spirit of the 'Lal-Bal-Pal', named after nationalists Lala Lajpat Rai, 'Lokmanya' Bal Gangadhar Tilak and Bipin Chandra Pal, and to mark the death centenary of Tilak, Pune-based non-governmental organisation (NGO) 'Sarhad' will launch a series of literary and cultural programmes to strengthen connections between Maharashtra and West Bengal.

2) Which among the following is/are commercial arm of ISRO dealing with private sector?

- a) IN-SPACE
- b) New Space India Ltd
- c) Antrix corporation
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- IN-SPACe is the second space organisation created by the government in the last two years. In the 2019 Budget, the government had announced the setting up of a New Space India Limited (NSIL), a public sector company that would serve as a marketing arm of ISRO. Its main purpose is to market the technologies developed by ISRO and bring it more clients that need space-based services. That role, incidentally, was already being performed by Antrix Corporation, another PSU working under the Department of Space, and which still exists.

3) Ashadhi Bij/Beej is the 2nd day of Shukla paksha of Ashadha month of the Hindu calendar (June – July). It is the new year celebrated by the people of

- a) Kutch, Gujarat
- b) Malabar, Kerala
- c) Jammu & Kashmir
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Kutchi people of Gujarat celebrate their Kutchi New Year on this day.

4) Which among the following places did Gautam Buddha attained Mahaparinirvan from?

- a) Sravasti
- b) Kapilvastu
- c) Lumbini
- d) Kushinagar

Answer: d

- Kushinagar is an important Buddhist pilgrimage site, where Gautam Buddha attained Mahaparinirvan. Kushinagar airport declared as international airport: It is in Uttar Pradesh.

5) Kala Azar is transmitted through

- a) Sand flies
- b) Female anopheles' mosquitoes
- c) Aedes Aegyptimosquitoes
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- It is caused by a parasite called Leishmania, which is transmitted through the bite of sand flies.

June 27

1) Order of the Nine Angles, recently heard in news, is an anarchist group founded in

- a) UK
- b) Canada

- c) Afghanistan
- d) Syria

Answer: a

- O9A is considered to be a satanic, anarchist group founded in the UK in the 1970s that now operates around the world, including in the US.

2) CCEA has approved additional investment of US\$ 121.27 million by ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) towards further development of Shwe oil & gas project in

- a) Iran
- b) Myanmar
- c) Vietnam
- d) Maldives

Answer: b

- CCEA has approved additional investment of US\$ 121.27 million by ONGC Videsh Ltd (OVL) towards further development of Shwe oil & gas project in Myanmar.

3) Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report is released by

- a) UNICEF
- b) UNESCO
- c) UNDP
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- 2020 Global Education Monitoring (GEM) Report released by UNESCO. In line with its mandate, the 2020 GEM Report assesses progress towards Sustainable Development Goal 4 (SDG 4) on education and its ten targets, as well as other related education targets in the SDG agenda.

4) Recently launched Money Laundering and the Illegal Wildlife Trade is released by

- a) OECD
- b) CITES
- c) FATF
- d) All of the above

Answer: c

- First global report on the illegal wildlife trade was recently released by FATF. It is called the "Money Laundering and the Illegal Wildlife Trade" report. Financial Action Task Force (FATF) has described illegal wildlife trade as a "global threat", which also has links with other organised crimes like modern slavery, drug trafficking and arms trade.

5) Decarbonising Transport in Emerging Economies launched in India is an initiative of

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) OECD

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

Answer: c

- NITI Aayog and OECD jointly launched the 'Decarbonizing Transport in Emerging Economies' (DTEE) project in India
- India, Argentina, Azerbaijan, and Morocco are its current participants.

Jun 29

1) Which among the following is the state where maximum number of deaths are reported due to lightning?

- a) Uttar Pradesh
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Maharashtra
- d) Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: a

- Bihar is second after Uttar Pradesh with the maximum number of deaths due to lightning.

2) The Supreme Court has refused to review its 2018 judgment which stroke down section 497. The section deals with

- a) Domestic violence
- b) Adultery
- c) Homosexuality
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Section 497 perpetuates subordinate status of women, denies dignity, sexual autonomy, and is based on gender stereotypes. Section 497 based on women as chattel, seeks to control sexuality of woman, hits the autonomy and dignity of woman. It also violates rights guaranteed under Articles 14 and 21.

3) Bhitarkanika National Park, famous for salt water crocodile in India, is located in

- a) Odisha
- b) West Bengal
- c) Assam
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Odisha Government has started a two-year conservation project for Fishing Cats in Bhitarkanika National Park.

4) Anthropause or the "Great Pause" is a term coined by the researchers in the UK recently. It refers to

- a) Impact of lockdown on other species
- b) Impact of lockdown on society
- c) Extreme apocalyptic events
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

- It refers to the coronavirus-induced lockdown period and its impact on other species.

5) International MSME Day was observed under the theme "COVID-19: The Great Lockdown and its impact on Small Business" on

- a) 27 June
- b) 2 June
- c) 30 June
- d) 30 July

Answer: a

- International MSME Day was observed on 27 June under the theme "COVID-19: The Great Lockdown and its impact on Small Business."

June 30

1) With regard to the evolution of continents, which among the following present day continents were the part of ancient Gondwana Landmass?

- a) Antarctica
- b) South America
- c) Australia
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- Laurasia in the north became Europe, Asia, and North America.
- Gondwana in the south dispersed to form modern-day Africa, Antarctica, South America, and Australia.
- Researchers from GNS Science in New Zealand have announced that they mapped the shape and size of the Zealandia continent in unprecedented detail.

2) Which of the following water bodies surrounds the conflicted site of West Bank?

- a) Dead Sea
- b) Red Sea
- c) Mediterranean Sea
- d) All of the above

Answer: a

- It is a landlocked territory near the Mediterranean coast of Western Asia, bordered by Jordan to the east and by the Green Line separating it and Israel on the south, west and north. The West Bank also contains a significant section of the western Dead Sea shore.

3) The government has launched the scheme- Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Enterprises (PM FME). Which among the following statements are correct about the scheme?

- a) Focus on Perishables
- b) Chaired by Prime minister
- c) Central Sector Scheme
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Centrally Sponsored Expenditure to be shared by Government of India and States at 60:40. The Scheme would be monitored at Centre by an Inter-Ministerial Empowered Committee (IMEC) under the Chairmanship of Minister, FPI.

4) Who under Article 371A has "special responsibility with respect to law and order" in the case of the state of Nagaland?

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Chief Minister
- c) Governor
- d) President

Answer: c

- It applies exclusively to Nagaland and bestows upon the governor "special responsibility with respect to law and order".

5) Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States Program (STARS), which aims to improve the quality and governance of school education in six Indian states is an initiative of

- a) World Bank
- b) UNESCO
- c) UNICEF
- d) WEF

Answer: a

- It is an initiative by World Bank. Six states are- Himachal Pradesh, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, and Rajasthan.

