

Current Affairs Quiz January 2021

Jan 01

1. India's first indigenous vaccine against pneumonia 'Pneumosil' is developed by

- a) Serum Institute of India
- b) Zydus Cadila
- c) Indian Immunologicals
- d) Panacea Biotech Ltd

Answer: a

- Pune-based Serum Institute of India (SII) unveiled India's first indigenously developed pneumococcal vaccine on Monday. The world's largest vaccine manufacturer by doses, SII is also the maker of Covishield, the Indian version of the AstraZeneca-Oxford coronavirus vaccine.

2. India's first indigenously designed and developed Air Dropped Container, SAHAYAK, was test trailed recently by

- a) Indian Airforce
- b) Indian Army
- c) Indian Navy
- d) All of the above

Answer: c

- The Indian Navy has successfully tested containers that can be air-dropped to enhance its operational logistics capability at sea. Having a test payload of 50 kg, these containers, equipped to carry spares for ships up to 2,000 km away from the coast, were air-dropped into the Arabian Sea

3. India's first pollinator park has been developed at

- a) Kaziranga
- b) Nainital
- c) Bhopal
- d) Kochi

Answer: b

- The country's first pollinator park with over 40 species of butterflies, honeybees, birds and insects has been developed over four acres at Nainital's Haldwani.

4. Tansen Samaroh is celebrated every year in the month of December for four days in

- a) Aligarh
- b) Agra
- c) Varanasi
- d) Gwalior

Answer: d

- Tansen Music Festival will begin from December 26 and continue till December 30 in the city of Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh. It would be kickstarted with recitations of 'Harikatha' and 'Milad'
 - Renowned Indian Santoor player, Pandit Satish Vyas would be conferred with the National Tansen Samman for 2020 by the State Government during the inaugural ceremony of the music extravaganza.
5. Which among the following organisation has recently signed an MoU with Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation, Pune to co-create India's first Social Impact Bond (SIB)?
- a) UNDP
 - b) Observer Research Foundation
 - c) World Inequality Lab
 - d) Oxfam India

Answer: a

- Pimpri Chinchwad Municipal Corporation (PCMC) recently signed an MoU with UNDP India to co-create India's first Social Impact Bond (SIB).

Jan 02

1. International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) is headquartered at
- a) Gandhinagar
 - b) New Delhi
 - c) Mumbai
 - d) Kochi

Answer: a

- International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) on Friday said that it has become an associate member of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO).
 - The first International Financial Services Centre (IFSC) in the country has been set up at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT) in Gandhinagar. To regulate such institutions, the government established IFSCA on April 27 last year with its head office in Gandhinagar.
2. Cabinet has approved for construction of Multi Modal Logistics Hub (MMLH) and Multi Modal Transport Hub (MMTH) at
- a) Agra
 - b) Dadri
 - c) Lucknow
 - d) Raipur

Answer: b

- In two different projects worth an estimated Rs 7,725 crore, the Cabinet approved proposals of the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) for construction of various trunk infrastructure components for Krishnapatnam Industrial Area in Andhra Pradesh (Rs 2,139.44 crore), Tumakuru Industrial Area in Karnataka (Rs 1,701.81 crore) and a Multi Modal Logistics Hub (MMLH) and Multi Modal

Transport Hub (MMTH) at Dadri in Greater Noida in Uttar Pradesh (Rs 3,883.80 crore).

3. NCMC, under the umbrella of the 'One Nation One Card' initiative, was an idea floated by
- Bimal Jalan Committee
 - Nandan Nilekani Committee
 - Uday Kotak Committee
 - Kumarmangalam Birla Committee

Answer: b

- The idea of NCMC was floated by the Nandan Nilekani committee set up by the Reserve Bank of India. NCMC will allow passengers with RuPay debit card, issued in the last 18 months by 23 banks, including SBI, UCO Bank, Canara Bank, Punjab National Bank etc, to be swiped for Metro travel.
4. Union Environment Minister virtually hoisted the international blue flags in eight beaches across the country. Which among the following states/UTs has not even one blue flag certified beaches?
- Kerala
 - Gujarat
 - Andaman & Nicobar Islands
 - Lakshadweep

Answer: d

- These beaches are Kappad (Kerala), Shivrajpur (Gujarat), Ghoghla (Diu), Kasarkod and Padubidri (Karnataka), Rushikonda (Andhra Pradesh), Golden (Odisha) and Radhanagar (Andaman & Nicobar Islands). The Flags were also simultaneously hoisted on these beaches physically by state ministers and senior officials of the respective state and Union territories.
5. Which among the following committee was appointed by Ministry of Education to suggest measures for implementing reservation in student admissions and faculty recruitment in IITs?
- Ramgopal Rao Committee
 - R P Tiwari Committee
 - Justice Rohini Committee
 - Kasturirangan Committee

Answer: a

- A panel appointed by the Centre has recommended that IITs should be exempted from reservations in faculty appointment. Ironically, the panel's mandate was to suggest measures for 'effective implementation' of reservation in admissions and recruitment.

1. Digital Payments Index (DPI) to capture the extent of digitization of digital/electronic payments in India is an initiative of
- National Payment Corporation of India
 - National Informatics Centre
 - Reserve Bank of India
 - Ministry of Finance

Answer: c

- DPI will be published on the central bank's website on a semi-annual basis from March 2021 onwards. The RBI on Friday said it has constructed a composite Digital Payments Index (DPI) with March 2018 as the base period to capture the extent of digitisation of payments across the country.
2. Which among the following company had signed a contract with Indian Navy for supply 20 Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation Dazzlers (Laser Dazzlers)?
- Defence Research and Development Organisation
 - Bharat Electronics Limited
 - Indian Ordnance Factory
 - Indian Space Research Organisation

Answer: b

- Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) has signed a contract with Indian Navy for initially supply 20 Light Amplification by Stimulated Emission of Radiation Dazzlers (Laser Dazzlers) in New Delhi today. The BEL had earlier this month won the contract beating global Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) in buy global category. These would be manufactured by BEL, Pune plant.
3. The Maitri Setu bridge connects Bangladesh with which among the following states of India?
- Assam
 - Tripura
 - Meghalaya
 - Mizoram

Answer: b

- Maître Setu – the bridge over River Feni connecting South Tripura with Ramgarh of Bangladesh getting access to Chittagong seaport is all set to be opened in a couple of months after confirmation of schedule from Prime Minister of India and Bangladesh.
4. Which among the following countries is the last one to co-chair the IUCN-supported Asia Protected Areas Partnership (APAP)?
- India
 - Thailand

- c) Russia
- d) Malaysia

Answer: a

- After successfully increasing population of wild animals such as tigers, lions and leopards through protecting their habitats, India will be the co-chair of the IUCN-supported Asia Protected Areas Partnership (APAP) for three years and it would, in this capacity, assist other Asian countries in managing their protected areas.
5. The Indian army has signed a contract with which among the following for 12 Fast Patrol Boats for surveillance and patrolling of large water bodies?
- a) Cochin Shipyard Limited
 - b) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
 - c) Goa Shipyard Limited
 - d) None of the above

Answer: c

- The Indian army has signed a contract with Goa Shipyard Limited for 12 Fast Patrol Boats for surveillance and patrolling of large water bodies.

Jan 05

1. World Braille Day is observed every year on

- a) January 1
- b) January 4
- c) January 3
- d) January 2

Answer: b

- World Braille Day is observed every year on 4 January to celebrate the importance of braille, a form of communication and written language for people who are blind and visually challenged. The day commemorates the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, the man who invented braille in the year 1809.

2. Mathikettan Shola National Park, recently heard in news, is located in the state of

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

Answer: a

- The Central government has issued draft notification declaring a 17.5 square kilometre area around the Mathikettan Shola National Park as Eco Sensitive Zone (ESZ). According to the notification, areas that come under Poopara village in Udumban Chola taluk in Idukki district will become SEZ.

3. United States had passed a scholarship act for the Pakistani-diaspora females in the name of

- a) Hajra Khan
- b) Yara Shahidi
- c) Malala Yousafzai
- d) Kamala Harris

Answer: c

- The U.S. Congress has passed the 'Malala Yousafzai Scholarship Act' which will expand the number of scholarships available to Pakistani women to receive higher education under a merit and needs-based programme.

4. Which among the following countries is not a part of Five Eyes Alliance?

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

Answer: c

- In an August 2020 interview, former Defense Minister Kono Taro stated Japan's interest in joining "Five Eyes," an intelligence-sharing relationship between Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United States, and the United Kingdom. Though Japan enjoys high levels of cooperation with Five Eyes countries, the argument for Japan to formally become the "sixth eye" has strengthened in the face of China's growing military and cyber capabilities.

5. Union Minister of Science and Technology released the Action Agenda for Atma Nirbhar Bharat (AAAN) to revive the Indian economy. It is prepared by

- a) Niti Aayog
- b) Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC)
- c) Department of Science and Technology
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- Union Minister of Science and Technology released the Action Agenda for Atma Nirbhar Bharat (AAAN) that defines overarching policy recommendations with reference to technological inputs, focusing towards local to global thereby reviving Indian economy.
- The document prepared by Technology Information, Forecasting and Assessment Council (TIFAC).

Jan 06

1. The Journalist Day is observed by Maharashtra state government on 6th January every year in the memory of

- a) Vinayak Damodar Savarkar

- b) Balshastrri Jambhekar
- c) Babasaheb Ambedkar
- d) Mahatma Jyotiba Phule

Answer: b

- Marathi Journalism day is being celebrated across Maharashtra today. On 6th January 1832, Balshastrri Jambhekar, known as the father of Marathi journalism started the first newspaper 'Darpan' and since then this day is being celebrated as the Marathi Journalism day in the State.

2. Which country is planning to launch the first wood-based satellite by 2023 to reduce space debris?

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

Answer: d

- Japan to launch the first wood-based satellite by 2023 to reduce space debris. Japan's Sumitomo Forestry company and Kyoto University aims to launch the world's first wood-based space satellite to combat the problem of space junk, reported The Weather Channel.

3. West Bengal Inland Water Transport, Logistics and Spatial Development Project is collaborated with

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

Answer: a

- The Government of India, the Government of West Bengal and the World Bank on Tuesday signed a \$105 million project to improve the inland water transport infrastructure in Kolkata, West Bengal, according to the Ministry of Finance.

4. 'Launch Pad Scheme' launched for the boys and girls coming out of child care institutions, is an initiative by the government of

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Assam
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Kerala

Answer: c

- In Madhya Pradesh, 'Launch Pad Scheme' is being started for boys and girls coming out of child care institutions and having completed 18 years of age. The objective of this scheme of the Women and Child Development Department is to provide such a

platform to these youth, through which they will be able to become self-reliant by continuing their education and training.

5. 40th Indian Scientific Expedition to Antarctica was flagged off from the port of
- Cochin
 - Mormugao
 - Mumbai
 - Chennai

Answer: b

- 40th Indian Scientific Expedition set to depart for Antarctica from Mormugao Port, Goa. The 40th expedition journey will be flagged off from Goa on January 5, 2021, with 43 members onboard. After about 22 years, the Antarctica expedition is procuring fuel from Indian Oil.

Jan 07

1. Which among the following is the first urban co-operative bank of India to receive licence from RBI to transition to Small Finance Bank (SFB)?
- Shamrao Vithal Co-operative Bank
 - Saraswat Bank
 - Bombay Mercantile Co-operative Bank Limited
 - Shivalik Mercantile Cooperative Bank

Answer: d

- SMCB becomes India's first urban co-operative bank to transition to SFB. Shivalik Small Finance Bank (SSFB) will start its banking operations from April 2021. It has received the commercial banking license from banking regulator Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
2. Medium-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (MRSAM) defence system, recently tested by India, has been developed by DRDO in partnership with
- Russia
 - Israel
 - US
 - Japan

Answer: b

- India, Israel test medium-range surface-to-air missile defence system. India and Israel have successfully tested a Medium-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (MRSAM) defence system jointly developed by the two countries in a boost to their combat capabilities aimed at providing ultimate protection from enemy aircraft.
3. Kisan Kalyan Mission is a special program to double the income of farmers launched by the state of
- Uttar Pradesh
 - Maharashtra

- c) Punjab
- d) Bihar

Answer: a

- Uttar Pradesh government will launch a special program to double the income of farmers. The program named as Kisan Kalyan Mission will cover all assembly constituencies of the state. Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath will today address a large farmers gathering in Bareilly to clear the misconception about the recent farm laws.
4. Asian Waterbird Census-2020, commenced in Andhra Pradesh, is annually coordinated by
- a) Bombay Natural history Society
 - b) Wetlands International
 - c) Both (a) and (b)
 - d) None of the above

Answer: c

- The two-day Asian Waterbird Census-2020 commenced in Andhra Pradesh under the aegis of experts from the Bombay Natural History Society (BNHS) and Wetland International covering at least two dozen sites, including Coringa Wildlife Sanctuary, Kolleru Lake and Krishna Sanctuary.
5. TRIFOOD Parks, a joint initiative of the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and the Ministry of Food Processing, is to be set up in
- a) Assam
 - b) Madhya Pradesh
 - c) Arunachal Pradesh
 - d) Odisha

Answer: b

- The TRIFED signed an MoU with Akhil Bhartiya Vanvasi Kalyan Kendra to set up TRIFOOD Parks in 5 districts in Madhya Pradesh.

Jan 08

1. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on 9th January to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian community and return of _____ to India
- a) Jawaharlal Nehru
 - b) BR Ambedkar
 - c) Mahatma Gandhi
 - d) Shyamji Krishnavarma

Answer: c

- January 9 was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion since it was on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, returned to India from South Africa, led India's freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.

2. Punjab National Bank has partnered with Foundation for Innovation & Research in Science & Technology (FIRST) to set up a 'Fintech Innovation Centre (FIC)' in
- a) IIT Kanpur
 - b) IIT Gandhinagar
 - c) IIT Kharakhpur
 - d) IIT Delhi

Answer: a

- The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Kanpur will set-up a fintech innovation centre at its campus in partnership with the Punjab National Bank (PNB).
3. Who has been appointed as the first-ever female Chief Justice of the High Court of Telangana?
- a) Hima Kohli
 - b) Anna Chandy
 - c) Kanta Kumari Bhatnagar
 - d) Fathima Beevi

Answer: a

- Hima Kohli is an Indian judge. She is the current Chief Justice of the Telangana High Court, and the first woman judge to hold that office.
4. India's first government-sponsored Infrastructure Investment Trust is going to be operationalised by
- a) SEBI
 - b) World Bank
 - c) National Highways Authority of India
 - d) None of the above

Answer: c

- India's first government-sponsored Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT) to be floated by the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) could be operationalised by March this year, a senior official said.
5. World's first Double Stack Long Haul Container Train was flagged off in India from
- a) New Delhi
 - b) New Ateli
 - c) Mumbai
 - d) Nasik

Answer: b

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has flagged off world's first double-stack long haul container train by virtually inaugurating the Rewari-Madar section of the Western Dedicated Freight Corridor. It is the first double-stack long haul 1.5 km long container train to run on electric traction. The corridor will be used for the exclusive

operation of freight trains, which will run at a maximum speed of 100 km/hour. The first train has been flagged off from New Ateli in Haryana to New Kishangarh in Rajasthan.

Jan 09

1. India has been appointed as the head of which among the following committees at the UN Security Council?

- a) Taliban Sanctions Committee
- b) Counter-Terrorism Committee
- c) Libyan Sanctions Committee
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- India on Friday announced that it would be chairing three important committees of the United Nations Security Council during 2021 to 2022. TS Tirumurti, India's envoy to the UN, said the country had been asked to chair three important subsidiary bodies of the Security Council. The committees include - Taliban sanctions committee or the 1988 sanctions committee, the counter-terrorism committee and the Libya sanctions committee.

2. Fatah-1, a Guided Multi Launch Rocket System, is indigenously designed and developed by

- a) Indonesia
- b) Israel
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- Pakistan on Thursday successfully conducted the test-flight of an indigenously developed Guided Multi Launch Rocket System, capable of precisely delivering conventional warheads deep into "enemy territory."

3. Flipkart in partnership with Logistics Skill Sector Council is about to start its first Centre for Excellence in the state of

- a) Karnataka
- b) Kerala
- c) Delhi
- d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: a

- Flipkart has announced an MoU with the Logistics Skill Sector Council (LSC), an organisation set up by the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) through National Skill Development Corporation of India (NSDC) and Karnataka Skill Development Centre (KSDC). As part of this MoU, Flipkart has

launched an industry-first Centre of Excellence (CoE) to build a skilled and trained workforce for the fast-growing e-commerce industry in India.

4. World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 every year, marking the anniversary of first World Hindi Conference which was held by then Prime Minister
- Indira Gandhi
 - Morarji Desai
 - Charan Singh
 - Lal Bahadur Shastri

Answer: a

- World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 every year, marking the anniversary of first World Hindi Conference which was held in 1975. The first World Hindi Conference was inaugurated by the then prime minister Indira Gandhi.
5. IREDA has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which among the following to create and acquire Renewable Energy projects?
- Indian Wind Energy Association
 - NHPC
 - Solar Energy Corporation of India
 - None of the above

Answer: b

- Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA), under the administrative control of Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE), today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NHPC Ltd., the PSU under the Ministry of Power, for providing its technical expertise in developing renewable energy projects.

Jan 11

1. Recently, the palaeo-proterozoic carbonaceous phyllite rocks in the Depo and Tamang areas of Papum Pare district of Arunachal Pradesh is found to have promising concentrations of the element
- Uranium
 - Vanadium
 - Titanium
 - Lithium

Answer: b

- Promising concentrations of vanadium is found in the palaeo-proterozoic carbonaceous phyllite rocks in the Depo and Tamang areas of Papum Pare district in Arunachal Pradesh. This was the first report of a primary deposit of vanadium in India.
2. Shaurya Salary Account is an initiative launched by Bandhan Bank for the personnel in the field of

- a) Animal welfare
- b) Defence
- c) Health
- d) Education

Answer: b

- Bandhan Bank, one of India's youngest banks, has signed an MoU with the Indian Army for the Bandhan Bank Shaurya Salary Account, which comes with banking privileges meant for the brave hearts of the Indian Army.

3. Which nation's President is invited as the Chief Guest at India's Republic Day Parade of 2021?

- a) UK
- b) Suriname
- c) Singapore
- d) Sri Lanka

Answer: b

- Chandrikapersad Santokhi, Indian-origin President of Suriname, will be the chief guest at India's Republic Day Parade on January 26, 2021.

4. Faustin-Archange Touadera has been re-elected as the President of

- a) Sudan
- b) Chad
- c) Congo
- d) Central African Republic

Answer: d

- Central African Republic President Faustin-Archange Touadera has won a second term in office, according to provisional results announced by the electoral commission.

5. Which among the following country is the focus at the 51st International Film Festival of India (IFFI) starting at Goa?

- a) Nepal
- b) Bangladesh
- c) Bhutan
- d) Sri Lanka

Answer: b

- Bangladesh will be the country of focus at the 51st International Film Festival of India (IFFI) starting at Goa on January 16. According to a press release issued on Monday, four films from Bangladesh have been included in this section to recognise the cinematic excellence and contribution of the country.

1. National Youth Day is celebrated in India every year on 12 January to commemorate the birth anniversary of

- a) Bhagat Singh
- b) Swami Vivekananda
- c) S Radhakrishnan
- d) BR Ambedkar

Answer: b

- In 1984 the Government of India declared this day as National Youth Day and since 1985, the event is celebrated in India every year. It was a decision of the Government of India taken in 1984 to celebrate the birthday of great Swami Vivekananda, i.e. 12 January, as National Youth Day every year

2. Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana, is a scheme introduced to augment the source of income of many small and marginal farmers, along the lines of PM KISAN, by the state of

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Odisha
- c) Kerala
- d) Telangana

Answer: a

- In a first of its kind scheme in the country, the Madhya Pradesh government launched and implemented on a pilot basis a price differential scheme, popularly known Bhavantar Bhugtan Yojana (BBY), for eight kharif crops—soybean, groundnut, sesame, ramtil (all oilseeds), maize (cereal), moong, urad and tur (pulses)—in 2017.

3. ISRO aims to launch its maiden Human Space Mission, Gaganyaan before the 75th anniversary of India's independence in 2022 and the astronauts are getting trained in

- a) UK
- b) US
- c) Russia
- d) Japan

Answer: c

- Two flight surgeons will soon fly to Russia where they will get hands-on experience in space medicine from their Russian counterparts for the Gaganyaan mission, an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). They will get hands-on training with flight surgeons in Russia.

4. The Dzüko Valley, recently heard in news, is a valley located at the borders of the states of

- a) Nagaland
- b) Manipur

- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Meghalaya

Answer: c

- The wildfire at Dzukou Valley straddling the Manipur-Nagaland border has been doused after it raged for two weeks, officials said on Monday.

5. India was promised an Official Development Assistance loan of Rs 2,113 crore to support COVID-19 relief efforts by

- a) Russia
- b) US
- c) UAE
- d) Japan

Answer: d

- Japan has committed Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan of an amount of JPY 30 billion (about ₹2,113 crore) to support India's efforts at providing social assistance to the poor and vulnerable households severely impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic.

Jan 13

1. India is ranked _____ in the Henley Passport Index 2021?

- a) 20th
- b) 23rd
- c) 54th
- d) 85th

Answer: d

- Unfortunately, India doesn't fare very well, ranking 85th with a visa-free score of 58.

2. France is hosting the 'One Planet Summit' 2021 in collaboration with

- a) United Nations
- b) World Bank
- c) European Central Bank
- d) Both (a) and (b)

Answer: d

- Organised by France, in cooperation with the UN and the World Bank, the 'One Planet Summit' for biodiversity on January 11 aims to advance the protection of nature, organisers said on Saturday.

3. With an aim of digital transformation of MSMEs, National Small Industries Corporation signed an MoU with

- a) Bharati Airtel

- b) Microsoft
- c) Facebook
- d) Reliance

Answer: a

- Telecom company Bharti Airtel and National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) have teamed up to drive the digital transformation of Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in India. In a statement, Airtel said it has partnered with NSIC "to make it easier for millions of small and medium businesses get access to Airtel's Connectivity, Conferencing, Cloud, Security, and Go-to-Market solutions".
4. Which among the following states bagged the national energy conservation award in the State Designated Agencies category for implementing and promoting various energy conservation programmes?
- a) Maharashtra
 - b) Gujarat
 - c) Telangana
 - d) Rajasthan

Answer: c

- Telangana State Renewable Energy Development Corporation (TSREDCO) has bagged the national energy conservation award in the State Designated Agencies category for implementing and promoting various energy conservation programmes.
5. Khadi Prakritik paint, India's first cow dung paint, is developed by
- a) Eason Paints
 - b) Khadi and Village Industries Commission
 - c) Indian Council of Agricultural Research
 - d) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

Answer: b

- Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways & MSME, Nitin Gadkari, on Tuesday launched India's first cow dung-based paint, which has been developed by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. The eco-friendly, non-toxic paint called 'Khadi Prakritik Paint' has anti-fungal and anti-bacterial properties.

Jan 14

1. Chief Guest for the Republic Day of India parade for 2021 will be
- a) Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
 - b) Chandrikapersad Santokhi
 - c) Lotay Tshering
 - d) Joe Biden

Answer: b

- President of the Republic of Suriname, Chandrikapersad Santokhi, will be the chief guest at India's Republic Day parade on January 26, sources in the central

government told News18 on Sunday, days after UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson cancelled his visit to India.

2. Reserve Bank of India has formed a working group under Jayant Kumar Dash to suggest ways to

- a) regulate digital lending space
- b) regulate cryptocurrencies
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: a

- Reserve Bank of India has formed a working group to suggest ways to efficiently regulate the booming digital lending space. The 6-member working group has been formed to study digital lending in regulated as well as unregulated financial sector to devise a regulatory framework for the same.

3. India's first 'Fire Park' has been inaugurated in

- a) Darjeeling
- b) Rourkela
- c) Bhubaneswar
- d) Chennai

Answer: c

- India's first "Fire Park" opened in Odisha's Bhubaneswar. The Fire Park aims to spread awareness on fire safety measures. It will be opened for public on every Saturday. The park is equipped with all fire safety gears.

4. The Armed Forces Veterans Day in India is observed each year on 14 January since 2017, in respect to

- a) Captain Modekurti Narayan Murthy
- b) Field Marshal KM Cariappa
- c) Lt Col Sumeet Baxi
- d) Lt General Konsam Himalay Singh

Answer: b

- The Indian armed forces celebrated 'Veterans' Day' on January 14. The wreath laying ceremony was held at 'Gaurav Stambh' - a monument to commemorate Victory at Sea. Indian armed officers paid tribute to all deployed personnel of the Western Naval Command. The 'Veteran's Day' marks recognition of services provided by first Commander-in-Chief of Indian Army, Field Marshal KM Cariappa. On this day in 1953, Field Marshal KM Cariappa got retired.

5. Who is the present brand ambassador of West Bengal?

- a) Shah Rukh Khan
- b) Saif Ali Khan

- c) Amir Khan
- d) Amitabh Bachchan

Answer: a

- Amidst the ongoing pandemic, the 26th Kolkata International Film Festival (KIFF) was inaugurated virtually by chief minister Mamata Banerjee at the West Bengal secretariat auditorium. Bollywood actor and brand ambassador of West Bengal Shah Rukh Khan took part in the inaugural programme through a video call.

Jan 15

1. Tesla Inc. has registered its first fully-owned subsidiary in India in

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

Answer: a

- Elon Musk-owned electric vehicle (EV) company Tesla has registered a fully-owned subsidiary in Bengaluru, and looks to set up an R&D unit in the city soon.
2. To procure high-altitude variant of SWITCH unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), Indian Army signed a contract with

- a) IdeaForge
- b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- c) DRDO
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- Indian Army signs \$20 mn contract with ideaForge to procure SWITCH drones. ... "ideaForge has been awarded this contract after it emerged as the only vendor that qualified the operational requirements in an evaluation done in real-world conditions, for a fast-track procurement," it mentioned.

3. India's first ever indigenously developed 9mm Machine Pistol is named

- a) Asmi
- b) Amri
- c) Hashmi
- d) Rashmi

Answer: a

- The Pune-based facility of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Army's Mhow-based Infantry School have jointly developed India's first indigenous 9mm machine pistol named 'Asmi'. The pistol is likely to have a production cost lower than Rs 50,000 each and has export potential as well.

4. India's first indigenously designed Driverless Metro Car was developed for

- a) Mumbai
- b) Delhi
- c) Hyderabad
- d) Guwahati

Answer: a

- Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Friday unveiled the country's first indigenously designed and developed Driverless Metro Car at the BEML manufacturing facility in Bengaluru.
 - BEML bagged a total order of 576 cars for Mumbai Metropolitan Region Development Authority (MMRDA)'s MRS1 project and the supply is scheduled progressively up to January 2024.
5. For the cooperation in the field of Information and Communications Technologies (ICT), India has partnered with
- a) Russia
 - b) US
 - c) UAE
 - d) Japan

Answer: d

- India and Japan on Friday signed a pact to enhance cooperation in the field of information and communications technology (ICT) with focus on aspects like 5G, telecom security and submarine optical fibre cable.

Jan 18

1. Adaptation Gap Report, 2020 is released by

- a) UN
- b) WEF
- c) IPCC
- d) WWF

Answer: a

- The annual cost of adaptation to the effects of climate change for developing countries is estimated to at least quadruple by 2050, according to the United Nations Adaptation Gap Report, 2020.

2. Which among the following countries has largest diaspora population in the world?

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

Answer: a

- India has the largest diaspora population in the world with 18 million people from the country living outside their homeland in 2020, according to a report by the United Nations, which says the UAE, the US and Saudi Arabia host the largest number of migrants from India.

3. Statue of Unity is located in

- a) Surat
- b) Vadodara
- c) Kevadia
- d) Vapi

Answer: c

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Sunday flagged off eight trains connecting Kevadiya in Gujarat, where the Statue of Unity is located, to different regions of the country.

4. Which among the following countries are invited to the G7 meeting, 2021 despite not being a member country?

- a) India
- b) Australia
- c) South Korea
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- The United Kingdom has invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to attend the G7 summit that is scheduled to be held in June. Apart from India, Australia and South Korea are also invited to participate in the proceedings of the summit as "guest countries".

5. Which among the following countries has announced that it is leaving the Open Skies Treaty (OST)?

- a) Russia
- b) India
- c) US
- d) Both (a) and(c)

Answer: d

- In November, the United States left the OST first after accusing Russia of violating the pact– allegations that Russia denied. Moscow has now blamed Washington for its own decision of leaving the treaty.

Jan 19

1. Khelo India 1st Zaskar Winter Sports Festival 2021 kicked off in the city of

- a) Ladakh
- b) Guwahati
- c) Gangtok

d) Tawang

Answer: a

- In Ladakh, Khelo India 1st Zaskar Winter Sports Festival began today. Engaging the Youth and opening new vistas of tourism in Zaskar are the main aims of the festival.

2. Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) in Specified Skilled Worker (SSW) to promote the movement of skilled workers from India is signed with

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

Answer: c

- India and Japan signed an agreement to boost the mobility of skilled Indian workers in 14 fields, including nursing, industrial machinery, shipbuilding, aviation, agriculture and the food services industry. Foreign secretary Harsh Shringla and Japan's ambassador Satoshi Suzuki signed the memorandum of cooperation (MoC) on a framework for partnership for specified skilled workers (SSWs), whereby Indian workers in 14 categories who meet skill requirements and pass Japanese language tests will be eligible for employment on a contractual basis.

3. One School One IAS' program to provide free UPSC Civil Services Exams coaching for economically poor meritorious students is an initiative by the state of

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

Answer: c

- Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan has launched Vedhik Erudite Foundation's ambitious scheme to provide free coaching for civil services and other competitive examinations to 10,000 meritorious but financially weak students across the State.

4. Bharat Dynamics Ltd and Thales have signed a Teaming Agreement to work in partnership on the STARStreak Air Defence system, with the support of the Governments of India

- a) Australia
- b) South Korea
- c) US
- d) UK

Answer: d

- Defence PSU Bharat Dynamics Ltd and Thales have signed a Teaming Agreement to work in partnership on the STARStreak Air Defence system, with the support of the Governments of India and the UK.

5. 'Kalrav' is the first state-level bird festival of

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

Answer: c

- Bihar's first state-level bird festival 'Kalrav' will be held at the world famous Nagi-Nakti bird sanctuaries in the Jamui district from January 15. The three -day event is expected to draw experts and bird lovers from all over the country.

Jan 20

1. Gorewada International Zoo renamed after Balasaheb Thackeray by the Maharashtra Government is located in

- a) Nagpur
- b) Mumbai
- c) Pune
- d) Kolhapur

Answer: a

- The Maharashtra government renamed Nagpur's Gorewada International Zoo as Balasaheb Thackeray Zoological Park on Monday. The zoological park, spread over 1,900 hectares, will be inaugurated on January 26 by Chief Minister Uddhav Thackeray.

2. Government of India has decided to celebrate January 23 as 'Parakram Diwas' which happens to be the birthday of

- a) Bhagat Singh
- b) Deen Dayal Upadhyay
- c) Subash Chandra Bose
- d) VD Savarkar

Answer: c

- The Ministry of Culture on Tuesday said that the government has decided to celebrate the birthday of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose that falls on January 23 as 'Parakram Diwas' from now on every year. "To honour and remember Netaji's indomitable spirit and selfless service to the nation.

3. India's first Labour Movement Museum, showcasing the history of world labour movement, would be launched in the state of

- a) Gujarat

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

Answer: c

- The country's first Labour Movement Museum, showcasing the history of world labour movement, would be launched in Kerala's houseboat tourism hub, Alappuzha.

4. Semeru volcano, erupted recently, is located in

- a) Australia
- b) South Korea
- c) Indonesia
- d) Philippines

Answer: c

- Volcanoes in Java continue to show worrying signs, with authorities closely monitoring seismic activity as they spew lava and ash many kilometres into the atmosphere.
- At 3,676 metres (12,060 feet), Mount Semeru in East Java is one of the highest volcanoes in Indonesia. Mount Merapi in central Java is a 2,929-metre (9,610-foot) active volcano with a hiking trail to its summit and a surrounding national park. Both continue to trouble authorities.

5. Yamuna River from Yamunotri glacier originated from the range of

- a) Mussoorie
- b) Karakoram
- c) Mahabharat
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- The Supreme Court has sought a status report from the National Green Tribunal-appointed River Yamuna Monitoring Committee about its recommendations to improve the quality of water and the extent to which the States have implemented their suggestions.
- Yamuna originates from the Yamunotri glacier near Bandarpoonch peaks in the Mussoorie range of the lower Himalayas in Uttarkashi district of Uttarakhand.

Jan 21

1. In Major States category, which among the following states has won India Innovation Index 2021 released by NITI Aayog?

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

Answer: b

- Karnataka retained its leadership position in the major States category in the second edition of India Innovation Index released by NITI Aayog. It was followed by Maharashtra, which moved past Tamil Nadu to occupy the second place.

2. Who among the following is first woman fighter pilot to take part in Republic Day parade?

- a) Bhawana Kanth
- b) Avani Chaturvedi
- c) Mohana Singh
- d) Gunjan Saxena

Answer: a

- Lt. Bhawana Kanth to be first woman fighter pilot to participate in R-Day parade. Republic Day 2021: Flight Lieutenant Bhawana Kanth will create a history by becoming, first woman fighter pilot to be part of Indian Air Force tableau.

3. RAKSHITA, a bike-based casualty transport emergency vehicle, launched by DRDO is for

- a) CRPF
- b) BSF
- c) Assam Rifles
- d) Indian Army

Answer: a

- The Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Allied Sciences (INMAS), Delhi-based DRDO laboratory, handed over Rakshita, a bike-based casualty transport emergency vehicle, to the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

4. In North-Eastern/Hill States category, which among the following states has won India Innovation Index 2021 released by NITI Aayog?

- a) Arunachal Pradesh
- b) Sikkim
- c) Himachal Pradesh
- d) Assam

Answer: c

- According to the index, the North-Eastern and Hill states achieved an average innovation score of 17.89, with Himachal Pradesh as the best performer with a score of 25, followed by Manipur (22.77) and Sikkim (22.28), respectively.

5. The Gujarat government has decided to rename which among the following fruit as 'Kamalam'?

- a) Strawberry
- b) Durian
- c) Kiwi

d) Dragon fruit

Answer: d

- The Gujarat government's move to rename dragon fruit as 'Kamalam', since according to Chief Minister Vijay Rupani the fruit's outer shape resembles a lotus, has split internet and social media platforms with twitteratis and others posting comments ridiculing it or taking a sarcastic dig.

Jan 22

1. The proposed 850 megawatt (MW) Ratle hydropower project will be on the river

- a) Ganga
- b) Indus
- c) Ravi
- d) Chenab

Answer: d

- The Union Cabinet on Wednesday approved a ₹5281.94 crore investment for 850 megawatt (MW) Ratle hydropower project on Chenab river in Jammu and Kashmir.

2. Ex-Desert Knight 21 is an exercise between Indian Air Force and navies of

- a) France
- b) US
- c) Japan
- d) Singapore

Answer: a

- French A-400M tactical aircraft arrived at Jodhpur on Tuesday to participate in the Indo-French bilateral exercise Desert Knight 21.

3. Who among the following is the first women to be sworn in as the Vice-President of US?

- a) Hillary Clinton
- b) Tulsi Gabbard
- c) Kamala Harris
- d) Elizabeth Warren

Answer: c

- Kamala Harris has sworn in as the first woman Vice President of the United States

4. Who among the following is the 46th president of USA?

- a) Donald Trump
- b) Joe Biden
- c) Bernie Sanders
- d) Barrack Obama

Answer: b

- The United States of America witnessed the swearing-in of President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris on Wednesday, 20th January 2021.
5. Which among the following trains is renamed as "Netaji Express" as a tribute to freedom fighter Subhas Chandra Bose?
- a) Chemmozhi Express
 - b) Bandra Terminus Bhuj Express
 - c) Howrah-Kalka Mail
 - d) Mahanagari Express

Answer: c

- Days before Prime Minister Narendra Modi celebrates the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose, the Indian Railways on Tuesday renamed one of its oldest trains, the Howrah-Kalka Mail, as the 'Netaji Express'.

Jan 23

1. The longest road arch bridge in India, the Wahrew Bridge, is located at
 - a) Assam
 - b) Arunachal Pradesh
 - c) Jammu Kashmir
 - d) Meghalaya

Answer: d

- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad K. Sangma on Friday formally inaugurated the longest road arch bridge in India - the Wahrew Bridge at Sohbar in East Khasi Hills district.
2. Avolokana software launched to access data on sanctions and expenditures incurred by the state departments on various programmes is an initiative of
 - a) Karnataka
 - b) Punjab
 - c) Meghalaya
 - d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: a

- In Karnataka, Chief Minister B. S. Yediyurappa launched Avolokana software today that will enable the government to access data on sanctions and expenditures incurred by 39 departments on 1,800 programmes implemented by them.
3. National Migration Support Portal, Shram Shakti, launched to formulate state and national level programs for migrant workers is launched by the ministry of
 - a) Tribal Affairs
 - b) Finance

- c) Agriculture
- d) Labour

Answer: a

- The Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Shri Arjun Munda virtually through Video Conference launched "ShramShakti", a National Migration Support Portal at a programme held at Panjim, Goa today. It would effectively help in the smooth formulation of state and national level programs for migrant workers.
- He also launched a tribal migration cell, a tribal museum at Goa and "ShramSaathi", a training manual for migrant workers. The Chief Minister of Goa Pramod Sawant also launched dedicated Migration cell in Goa to facilitate and support migrants who come from different States to Goa.

4. Global Risks Report 2021, released recently, is an initiative of

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

Answer: b

- The 16th edition of the World Economic Forum's *Global Risks Report* analyses the risks from societal fractures—manifested through persistent and emerging risks to human health, rising unemployment, widening digital divides, youth disillusionment, and geopolitical fragmentation.

5. Which among the following banks is/are categorised as as domestic systemically important banks (D-SIBs)?

- a) ICICI Bank
- b) SBI
- c) HDFC Bank
- d) All of the above

Answer: d

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has retained State Bank of India, ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank as domestic systemically important banks (D-SIBs) or banks that are considered as "too big to fail".

Jan 25

1. India was ranked 7th in the Global Climate Risk Index 2021 released by

- a) UNEP
- b) IPCC
- c) WWF
- d) Germanwatch

Answer: d

- India is among the top 10 most affected countries in the Global Climate Risk Index 2021 published by the Bonn-based environmental think tank Germanwatch.

2. A large-scale tri-service joint amphibious exercise AMPHEX – 21 was conducted recently in

- a) Andaman & Nicobar Islands
- b) Ladakh
- c) Jaisalmer
- d) Rann of Kutch

Answer: a

- A large-scale tri-service joint amphibious exercise AMPHEX – 21 was conducted in Andaman & Nicobar group of islands from January 21 – 25.

3. International Day of Education is marked every year on

- a) January 26th
- b) January 25th
- c) January 24th
- d) January 23th

Answer: c

- January 24 is marked as 'Education Day' globally to celebrate the role of education for peace and development. As per UNESCO data, around 258 million children are out of school, 617 million children and adolescents cannot read and do basic math

4. Which among the following organisation recently launched record breaking 143 satellites into space in a single mission?

- a) ISRO
- b) SpaceX
- c) Blue Origin
- d) Canadian Arrow

Answer: b

- Elon Musk's SpaceX on Sunday, breaking a world space record by deploying 143 spacecraft into orbit aboard its Falcon 9 rocket. The company launched the spacecraft as part of a SmallSat 'Rideshare' program called Transporter-1.

5. First ever state in India to have two expressway airstrips is

- a) Kerala
- b) Telangana
- c) Arunachal Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: d

- With the completion of the construction of the 3,300-metre-long airstrip near Kurebhar on Purvanchal Expressway, Uttar Pradesh has become the first state in the

country with two airstrips on expressways to facilitate emergency landing and take-off of fighter planes.

Jan 27

1. World Economic Outlook pegged the Indian economy to contract by 8 percent in the current financial year 2020-21. The report is released by

- a) World Bank
- b) IMF
- c) WWF
- d) WEF

Answer: b

- The International Monetary Fund, in its latest World Economic Outlook report, raised the global growth forecast for this year to 5.5 percent from 5.2 percent seen in October. World economic growth is projected at 4.2 percent in 2022.

2. International Holocaust Remembrance Day observed globally on 27 January every year to commemorate the anniversary of the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during

- a) World War 1
- b) World War 2
- c) Syrian Civil War
- d) Gulf War

Answer: b

- Every year January 27 is observed as the International Holocaust Remembrance Day to pay tribute to the victims of the Jewish holocaust at the hands of Hitler's Nazis in Europe during the Second World War.

3. Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for the 2021 is awarded to

- a) Dr. Rajendra Kumar Bhandari
- b) Sustainable Environment & Ecological Development Society (SEEDS)
- c) Both (a) and (b)
- d) Neither (a) nor (b)

Answer: c

- Sustainable Environment and Ecological Development Society and Dr. Rajendra Kumar Bhandari have been selected for the Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar for their excellent work in Disaster Management.

4. Which among the following countries is the country of focus at International Film Festival of India (IFFI)?

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Bhutan

- c) Somalia
- d) Sudan

Answer: a

- It was a befitting tribute to have Bangladesh as the country of focus on its 50th anniversary of liberation during the ongoing International Film Festival of India (IFFI) in Goa.

5. 11th National Voters' Day (NVD) with theme 'Making Our Voters Empowered, Vigilant, Safe and Informed' is celebrated on

- a) 23rd January
- b) 24th January
- c) 26th January
- d) 25th January

Answer: d

- The National Voters' Day has been celebrated on January 25 every year since 2011, all across the country to mark the foundation day of Election Commission of India, i.e. 25th January 1950. The main purpose of the NVD celebration is to encourage, facilitate and maximize enrolment, especially for the new voters.

Jan 28

1. Minimum Support Price is decided on the basis on recommendations from

- a) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
- b) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices
- c) Food Corporation of India
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, has approved the Minimum Support Price (MSP) of copra at 10,335 rupees per quintal which is an increase of 375 rupees over 2020 rates for 2021 season, based on recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACPC).

2. India signs Strategic Partnership Agreement with International Energy Agency (IEA). In order to become a member in IEA, a country has to be a member in

- a) UN
- b) OECD
- c) G20
- d) G7

Answer: b

- Only the OECD member states can become members of the IEA.

3. Which among the following is the India's longest Steel Arch Bridge?

- a) Chenab Bridge
- b) Godavari Arch Bridge
- c) Wahrew Arch Bridge
- d) Rajahmundry Bridge

Answer: c

- Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma on Friday inaugurated the steel arch bridge, one of the longest in India, on the Wahrew river.

4. For the first time, the Republic Day Parade witnessed the participation of Tri-Service Contingent of

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Bhutan
- c) Nepal
- d) Sri Lanka

Answer: a

- For the first time, a marching contingent and band of Bangladesh tri-services participated in the Republic Day Parade to commemorate 50 years of its historic liberation.

5. Who among the following is the only foreigner to receive Padma Vibhushan Award in 2021?

- a) Vladimir Putin
- b) Joe Biden
- c) Alexander Lukashenko
- d) Shinzo Abe

Answer: d

- Former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and late legendary singer S P Balasubramaniam are among the list of 119 personalities who will be conferred the Padma Awards by President Ram Nath Kovind this year. As many as seven persons, including Abe and Balasubramaniam, have been honoured with Padma Vibhushan, the country's second highest civilian award for exceptional and distinguished service.

Jan 29

1. India's rank has slipped to 86th in corruption perception index (CPI) in 2020 released by

- a) Reporters without borders
- b) Transparency International
- c) World Inequality Lab
- d) None of the above

Answer: b

- India's rank has slipped six places to 86th among 180 countries in corruption perception index (CPI) in 2020. For 2020, Transparency International (TI)'s Corruption Perception Index (CPI) was released on Thursday.

2. India has been ranked at 86th in the new Coronavirus Performance Index released by

- a) UN
- b) Lancet
- c) WHO
- d) None of the above

Answer: d

- India has ranked 86th in a coronavirus performance index out of 98 countries, while New Zealand, Vietnam and Taiwan have been ranked the top three spots, respectively.
- The index was conducted by the Australia-based Lowy Institute and was published Thursday. The institute is an independent international policy think tank, located in Sydney.

3. Kala Utsav is an initiative to promote arts in education by the ministry of

- a) Education
- b) Tourism
- c) Culture
- d) None of the above

Answer: a

- An initiative of the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD) under Rashtriya Madhyamik Shiksha Abhiyan and NCERT, Kala Utsav began in 2015 to promote arts in education by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students across the country.

4. Which among the following countries is not a part of Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action?

- a) Russia
- b) China
- c) USA
- d) Afghanistan

Answer: d

- U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken recently confirmed that if Iran were to become compliant with the terms of the now defunct Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA, or the "Iran deal"), the U.S. would re-enter it too. Iran agreed to rein in its nuclear programme in a 2015 deal struck with the US, UK, Russia, China, France and Germany.

5. Rajasthan has become the 5th state in the country to successfully undertake Urban Local Bodies (ULB) reforms, recently. Which among the following states is not one of the 4 states which had undertaken Urban Local Bodies (ULB) reforms?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Kerala
- d) Manipur

Answer: c

- Rajasthan has joined four other States namely, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Manipur and Telangana, who have completed ULB reforms.

Jan 30

1. 'Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme' (SISFS) which aims to provide financial assistance to start-ups for the product trials, market-entry, proof of concept, etc. has a total corpus of

- a) 3125 Cr
- b) 2245 Cr
- c) 945 Cr
- d) 500 Cr

Answer: c

- The government has approved the Rs 945-crore Startup India Seed Fund Scheme (SISFS) for the period 2021-25 to offer early-stage funding to startups for "proof of concept, prototype development, product trials, market entry and commercialization," implementing body Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) said in its notification.

2. Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change has launched _____ as Indo-French Year of the Environment.

- a) 2020
- b) 2021
- c) 2022
- d) 2023

Answer: b

- The Indo-French Year of the Environment was launched on 28th January 2021 by Prakash Javadekar, Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change and Barbara Pompili, the French Minister for Ecological Transition at Indira Paryavaran Bhawan, New Delhi.

3. Taj Mahal inspired India Development Center (IDC) facility, an engineering hub in National Capital Region, is an initiative of

- a) Microsoft

- b) Wipro
- c) TCS
- d) Infosys

Answer: a

- Microsoft announced the launch of its new India Development Center (IDC) facility at NCR that will serve as a premier hub for driving cutting-edge engineering and innovation. The IDC NCR workspace architecture is inspired by the Taj Mahal, one of the seven wonders of the world.

4. World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (World NTD Day) is being observed on January 30, 2021. First World NTD Day is observed in the year

- a) 2021
- b) 2020
- c) 2019
- d) 2018

Answer: b

- “World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day” (World NTD Day) was launched on January 30, 2020 to increase an awareness for neglected tropical diseases (NTDs). January 30 is the anniversary of the 2012 London Declaration on NTDs, the largest international public-private sector partnership to date to eliminate NTDs.

5. A drive titled ‘Top 25’ aimed at keeping under check history-sheeters and those they believe could foment trouble, is an initiative by

- a) Mumbai police
- b) Delhi police
- c) Gandhinagar police
- d) Tamil Nadu police

Answer: a

- The Mumbai police have started a drive titled ‘Top 25’ aimed at keeping under check history-sheeters and those they believe could foment trouble. A look at what the drive is and how far it has been implemented.