

## 1 March

1) Which among the following Indian wrestlers recently won the gold medal in the women's 53-kg category at XXIV Outstanding Ukrainian Wrestlers and Coaches Memorial in Kyiv, Ukraine?

- a) Vinesh Phogat
- b) Sakshi Malik
- c) Babita Kumari
- d) Alka Tomar

**Ans: a**

- **Indian wrestler Vinesh Phogat has won the gold medal** in the women's 53-kg category at XXIV Outstanding Ukrainian Wrestlers and Coaches Memorial in Kyiv, Ukraine.

2) "Sugamya Bharat App" has been launched targeted at accessibility for

- a) Women
- b) Disabled
- c) Children
- d) Elderly

**Ans: b**

- Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Thaawarchand Gehlot will virtually launch "Sugamya Bharat App" and a handbook entitled "Access- The Photo Digest" tomorrow. **Sugamya Bharat App is a means for sensitizing and enhancing accessibility for disabled**

3) Which of the following companies has launched the world's first consumer PCs made with 'recycled plastics'?

- a) Acer
- b) Dell
- c) HP
- d) Apple

**Ans: c**

- **HP** has marked the launch of its first PC to be made using ocean-bound plastic by pledging to expand the use of collected plastic waste that is destined to pollute the oceans to more of its product range.

4) Who is the author of Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis?

- a) Mahesh Bhupathi
- b) Sania Mirza
- c) Durjoy Dutta
- d) Anindya Dutta

**Ans: d**

- A banker by profession, **Anindya Dutta's latest book, called Advantage India: The Story of Indian Tennis, is a deep dive on pre-Independence tennis, the early players, the Krishnans, Amritrajs, doubles and women's tennis.**

- 5) In which of the following launch vehicles did ISRO recently take a copy of Gita and PM Modi's photo to space?
- GSLV Mk III
  - RLV-TD
  - Scramjet Engine - TD
  - PSLV-C51

**Ans: d**

- **A copy of Bhagavad Gita in the form of an SD card and a photograph of Prime Minister Narendra Modi** are part of a nanosatellite that Isro's PSLV-C51 carried to space on Sunday along with **Brazilian satellite Amazonia-1 and other satellites.**

## 02 March

- 6) Which of the following is celebrated as Women's History Month?
- March
  - February
  - July
  - December

**Ans: a**

- **March 1 marks the beginning of Women's History Month**, which takes on extra significance in 2021 because many of the centennial celebrations in 2020 to mark women's suffrage were curtailed or cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic

- 7) Which of the following organisations has launched an 'AI Game Changers' program to promote artificial intelligence (AI)-led innovation in India?
- NASSCOM
  - Google
  - TESLA
  - Facebook

**Ans: a**

- **Nasscom** is launching an 'AI Gamechangers' program to promote artificial intelligence (AI)-led innovation in the country, the apex body of the IT industry on Tuesday said. **Microsoft is the innovation partner for the program,**
- As part of the 'AI for India' mission, the program seeks to recognize impactful and scalable AI-based innovation in the country.

- 8) Which of the following became the world's first nation to receive COVAX vaccines?
- India
  - Ghana
  - China
  - France

**Ans: b**

- **Ghana has become the first country in the world to receive vaccines acquired through the United Nations-backed COVAX initiative with a**

**delivery of 600,000 doses of the AstraZeneca vaccine made by the Serum Institute of India.**

- 9) Which of the following countries was described by India as "Priority One" partner in the defence sphere?
- Canada
  - Germany
  - Sri Lanka
  - Djibouti

**Ans: c**

- **India on Sunday described Sri Lanka as "Priority One" partner in the defence sphere** and said the participation of its military aircraft in the 70th anniversary celebration of the Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) is indicative of the growing cooperation, camaraderie and friendship between the two militaries.

- 10) Who among the following has taken over as Principal Director General of Press Information Bureau?
- Shambhu Nath Choudhary
  - KS Dhatwalia
  - Kuldeep Singh Dhatwalia
  - Jaideep Bhatnagar

**Ans: d**

- **Former head of the News Services Division of All India Radio, Jaideep Bhatnagar**, on Monday took over as Principal Director General of the Press Information Bureau.
- He will take over from Kuldeep Singh Dhatwalia, who superannuated on February 28, 2021.

**03 March**

- 11) Who among the following has recently been appointed as the chairperson of the International Boxing Association's (AIBA) champions and veterans' committee?
- Mary Kom
  - Vijendar Singh
  - Pooja Rani
  - Amit Panghal

**Ans: a**

- **Six-time world champion pugilist Mary Kom** has been appointed as the chairperson of the International Boxing Association's (AIBA) champions and veterans' committee.

- 12) India urges the members of this organisation to reach consensus on TRIPS waiver proposal. Which organisation is being talked about here?
- World Bank
  - World Trade Organisation
  - IMD
  - United Nations

**Ans: b**

- **India has urged WTO members to reach consensus on a proposal on waiver of certain provisions in a multilateral agreement on intellectual property** to deal with COVID-19 crisis, stating that one cannot continue to engage in endless discussions when millions of lives are lost to the pandemic.
- The **agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights or TRIPS came into effect in January 1995**. It is a multilateral agreement on intellectual property (IP) rights such as **copyright, industrial designs, patents and protection of undisclosed information or trade secrets**.

13) World Wildlife Day 2021 is celebrated on

- September 25
- April 10
- March 3
- July 30

**Ans: c**

- The world on **March 3** is celebrating World Wildlife Day 2021 in order to raise awareness about the issue surrounding wildlife. This year the theme decided by the United Nations is-- **Forests and Livelihoods: Sustaining People and Planet**.

14) Which of the following states have recently passed a bill that reserves 75 per cent of the private sector jobs for locals?

- Sikkim
- Kerala
- Haryana
- Madhya Pradesh

**Ans: c**

- **Haryana** Governor Satyadev Narayan Arya has approved a bill that would provide 75 per cent reservation in the private sector jobs for the people of the state
- The **Haryana State Employment Of Local Candidates Bill, 2020, which was passed by the state assembly last year**, will provide a quota for local people in private sector jobs that offer a monthly salary of less than ₹50,000

15) Himalayan Serow, recently seen in news, is categorized by IUCN as

- Critically Endangered
- Least Concern
- Threatened
- Vulnerable

**Ans: d**

- A Himalayan serow, which looks somewhere between a goat and an antelope, **has been spotted for the first time in Assam**
- Previously assessed as 'near threatened', the Himalayan Serow is now **been categorised as 'vulnerable' in the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species**.

- It is listed under **Schedule I of The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**, which provides absolute protection.

#### 04 March

- 16) Who among the following has recently published the first world report on hearing on World Hearing Day?
- WHO
  - Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
  - Doctors Without Borders
  - American Speech–Language–Hearing Association

**Ans: a**

- **Nearly 2.5 billion people worldwide – or 1 in 4 people – will be living with some degree of hearing loss by 2050, warns the World Health Organisation’s (WHO) first World Report on Hearing,**
- At least 700 million of these people will require access to ear and hearing care and other rehabilitation services unless action is taken.

- 17) The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has declared the year 2023 as International Year of
- Pulses
  - Millet
  - Dairy
  - Genetically Modified Crops

**Ans: b**

- **The UN General Assembly adopted by consensus a resolution sponsored by India and supported by over 70 nations declaring 2023 as the International Year of Millet**, aimed at raising awareness about the health benefits of the grain and their suitability for cultivation under changing climatic conditions.

- 18) A budget which enhances visibility into how government policies translate into spending and focuses on the quality or effectiveness of services provided is called
- Zero-base Budgeting
  - Outcome-based budgeting
  - Value proposition budgeting
  - Gender budgeting

**Ans: b**

- **The Jharkhand government for the first time presented an outcome-based budget, in which departments have been given specific targets and responsibilities, the results of which will be measured by the end of next financial year.**

- 19) Which of the following organisation recently published the report titled “Freedom in the World 2021”?
- UNESCO
  - World Bank

- c) Freedom House
- d) Center for Democracy & Technology

**Ans: c**

- **India's status as a democracy and free society has been downgraded to "partly free" in the latest annual report on global political rights and liberties by Freedom House**, a US government-funded NGO that studies political freedom around the world.
- The report titled "Freedom in the World 2021 - Democracy under Siege" said India "appears to have abandoned its potential to serve as a global democratic leader".

20) Which of the following is commemorated as National Security Day to praise the work of security forces in India?

- a) January 27
- b) August 18
- c) November 2
- d) March 4

**Ans: d**

- **March 4 is commemorated as National Security Day** to praise the work of security forces, who ensure that the citizens of India sleep can sleep peacefully, without fretting over the security of the country.
- Also known as **Rashtriya Suraksha Diwas**, this day is dedicated to all the security forces such as policemen, commandos, guards, army officers, para-military forces and other persons involved in security, who sacrifice their lives for maintaining the stability of the country

### 05 March

21) Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) is a missile propulsion technology jointly developed by India and

- a) Russia
- b) USA
- c) Israel
- d) France

**Ans: a**

- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully carried out a flight test of the Solid Fuel Ducted Ramjet (SFDR) missile propulsion system** from the Integrated Test Range in Chandipur off Odisha's coast.
- SFDR is a missile propulsion technology jointly developed by **India and Russia**.

22) In which state is Simlipal Tiger Reserve located?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Odisha
- c) Rajasthan
- d) Manipur

**Ans: b**

- Similipal, which derives its name from 'Simul' (silk cotton) tree, is a **national park and a tiger reserve situated in the northern part of Odisha's Mayurbhanj district.**
- A **forest fire which started in Simlipal** in February and has been raging for nearly a week now, was finally brought under control.

23) Who among the following received the CERAWeek Global Energy and Environment Leadership Award?

- a) Narendra Modi
- b) Prakash Javadekar
- c) Dr Vandana Shiva
- d) Dr Purnima Devi Barman

**Ans: a**

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will receive the prestigious CERAWeek Global Energy and Environment Leadership Award.
- It recognises the **commitment of leadership on the future of global energy and environment, and for offering solutions and policies for energy access, affordability and environmental stewardship**

24) Which of the following was ranked the most liveable city in the million plus category in the latest Ease of Living Index 2020?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Ahmedabad
- c) Bangalore
- d) Kochi

**Ans: c**

- **Bengaluru** has been rated the most liveable city in India in the government's "Ease of Living Index". The others, in the order of ranking, are Pune, Ahmedabad, Chennai, Surat, Navi Mumbai, Coimbatore, Vadodra, Indore and Greater Mumbai.
- **Shimla topped the category of cities with a "population less than million".**

25) Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) which aims at sustainably built environment is a division of

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) Ministry of Urban Affairs
- c) Bureau of Energy Efficiency
- d) Confederation of Indian Industry

**Ans: d**

- As per **Confederation of Indian Industry's IGBC ratings, Indian Railways' Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) becomes the first railway station in the state of Maharashtra to be awarded with Gold certification.**

**6 March**

26) Food Waste Index Report 2021 was recently published by

- a) UNEP
- b) World Food Programme
- c) IFPRI
- d) Asian Development Bank

**Ans: a**

- The Food Waste Index Report 2021 released March 4, 2021 has revealed that **17 per cent of all food available at consumer levels was wasted in 2019**. That year, some 690 million people had to go hungry.
- The study by **the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)** revealed that food waste was a global problem and not that of just the developed world.

27) In which state is Bandhavgarh National Park located?

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

**Ans: b**

- Madhya Pradesh, which is known for its robust tourism industry, has now given another push to the sector introducing **night safaris in three of the national parks in Madhya Pradesh: Bandhavgarh National Park, Kanha National Park and Pench National Park**

28) Which of the following has partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to launch 'RuPay SoftPoS'?

- a) Axis Bank
- b) Indian Overseas Bank
- c) SBI Payments
- d) Oriental Bank of Commerce

**Ans: c**

- **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) on Friday has announced a partnership with SBI Payments** to announce the launch of 'RuPay SoftPoS' for millions of Indian merchants.
- This innovative solution has the capability to transform NFC-enabled smart phones into merchant Point of Sale (PoS) terminals for the retailers. Merchants will now be able to accept contactless payments of up to Rs 5000 through a simple tap and pay mechanism on their smart phones.

29) Who among the following was recently appointed as the UN Assistant Secretary-General?

- a) Dr Gita Gopinath
- b) Parag Pathak
- c) Ligia Noronha
- d) Amit Seru



**Ans: c**

- UN chief Antonio Guterres has appointed **leading Indian economist Ligia Noronha as Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**.
- Ms Noronha will succeed fellow Indian and development economist Satya Tripathi

30) Who among the following recently won the Bihari Puraskar, one of the three literary awards instituted by the KK Birla Foundation?

- a) Vishnu Prabhakar
- b) Kamleshwar
- c) Shrilal Shukla
- d) Mohankrishna Bohara

**Ans: d**

- **Mohankrishna Bohara will be awarded the 30th Bihari Puraskar Award for his critical work 'Taslima: Sangharsh aur Sahitya'**
- The award is given every year for an outstanding work published in the last 10 years by a Rajasthani author in Hindi or Rajasthani.

### **08 March**

31) The bridge 'MaitriSetu' has been recently built over the river

- a) Feni
- b) Gomati
- c) Dhalai
- d) Sunai

**Ans: a**

- The bridge 'MaitriSetu' has been built over the Feni river which flows between the Indian boundary in Tripura State and Bangladesh. The 1.9 Km long bridge joins Sabroom in India with Ramgarh in Bangladesh.

32) Which among the following is the first ship in the world maritime history to be sailed by all women officers?

- a) Tarini
- b) Queen Mary 2
- c) Allure of the Seas
- d) Swarna Krishna

**Ans: d**

- The all-women crew of onboard Shipping Corporation of India (SCI) vessel MT Swarna Krishna created history as this is the first time in the world maritime history that a ship is being sailed by all women officers.

33) Which among the following is the first country in Europe to ban burqas and niqabs in public places?

- a) Switzerland
- b) France
- c) Germany

d) Austria

**Ans: b**

- In a recently held referendum, Switzerland has narrowly voted in favour of banning face coverings in public, including the burka or niqab worn by Muslim women. France was the first country in Europe to ban burqas and niqabs in public places in 2011.

34) Eka-sharana-naam-dhrama branch of bakthi philosophy is attributed to

- a) Kabir
- b) Thulsidas
- c) Sankaradeva
- d) Meerabhai

**Ans: c**

- Sankardeva propagated a form of Bhakti called eka-sharana-naam-dhrama, and espoused a society based on equality and fraternity, free from caste differences, orthodox Brahmanical rituals and sacrifices. His teaching focused on prayer and chanting (naam) instead of idol worship. His dharma was based on the four components of deva (god), naam (prayers), bhakats (devotees), and guru (teacher).

35) YIELD, an online tool to enable retail investors buy and sell bonds in the secondary market, is an initiative by

- a) SBICAP Securities
- b) SEBI
- c) Axis Securities
- d) RBI

**Ans: c**

- Axis Securities announced the launch of 'YIELD' - an online platform to buy and sell bonds as well as debentures in the secondary market. With a simple investment process, YIELD is the first-of-its-kind initiative that allows retail investors direct access to the debt instruments.

### **09 March**

36) To celebrate the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women, International Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated on

- a) March 10<sup>th</sup>
- b) March 9<sup>th</sup>
- c) March 8<sup>th</sup>
- d) March 7<sup>th</sup>

**Ans: c**

- International Women's Day (IWD), celebrated each year on March 8, throws the spotlight on women and their rights. Beginning early 1900s, IWD is "a global day celebrating the social, economic, cultural and political achievements of women.

37) Historic port town of Mongla is situated in

- a) Bangladesh
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Iran
- d) Pakistan

**Ans: a**

- INS Sumedha is an indigenously built offshore patrol vessel and Kulish is an indigenously built guided missile corvette. They are visiting Mongla, Bangladesh to commemorate the ongoing 'Swarnim Vijay Varsh' and to reiterate the historic India-Bangladesh friendship.

38) Which one of the following cities set up first-ever 'Transgender Community Desk' of India?

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

**Ans: a**

- The world's first-ever help desk for the transgender community, set up by the Cyberabad police in collaboration with the Society for Cyberabad Security Council and Prajwala Foundation, was inaugurated at Gachibowli Police Station

39) 'Janaushadhi Day' is celebrated in India on

- a) March 10th
- b) March 9th
- c) March 8th
- d) March 7th

**Ans: d**

- In order to create more awareness about Janaushadhi, an entire week from 1st March to 7th March is being celebrated as 'Janaushadhi Week' across the nation, with the theme of "Jan Aushadhi – Sevabhi, Rozgarbhi". The last day of the week i.e. 7th March will be celebrated as 'Janaushadhi Diwas'.

40) India's first Forest Healing centre is inaugurated in the state of

- a) Meghalaya
- b) Uttarakhand
- c) Madhya Pradesh
- d) Kerala

**Ans: b**

- First Forest Healing centre of the country was inaugurated on Sunday at Ranikhet in Kalika Uttarakhand. The forest healing centre has been developed by the Research Wing of Uttarakhand Forest Department after research on healing properties of the forests and its revitalizing impact on overall health and well being.

- 41) Second Edition of Joint Exercise Dustlik, scheduled to be conducted in India, is between Indian Army and Army of
- UAE
  - Uzbekistan
  - Kazakhstan
  - Qatar

**Ans: b**

- The India – Uzbekistan joint military exercise “DUSTLIK II” commenced today in Foreign Training Node Chaubatia, Ranikhet (Uttarakhand). This is the Second Edition of annual bilateral joint exercise of both armies. It will continue till 19<sup>th</sup> March 2021.

- 42) Virus passport, digital certificate shows a user’s vaccination status and virus test results, is an initiative by
- USA
  - China
  - Russia
  - India

**Ans: b**

- China has launched a health certificate programme for Chinese international travellers, leading the world in plans for so-called virus passports. The digital certificate, which shows a user’s vaccination status and virus test results, is available for Chinese citizens via a programme on Chinese social media platform We Chat that was launched on Monday.

- 43) Sun Temple at Konark is a 13<sup>th</sup> century temple built by
- Narasimhadeva I
  - Bhima Deva
  - Bhanu Deva
  - Krishna I

**Ans: a**

- It was built by King Narasimhadeva I of Ganga dynasty. The temple was included in UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984.

- 44) Food Waste Index Report 2021, recently released, is an initiative by
- UNEP
  - FAO
  - UNDP
  - IFPRI

**Ans: a**

- A Food Waste Index 2021 report, released by UNEP, India wasted 931 million tonnes of food in 2019, with 61 percent coming from households, 26 percent from food services, and 13 percent from retail; Indians wasted 50 kg food per capita on an annual basis.

- 45) The Bridge of Compassion constructed by Border Road Organisation is situated in the state of
- Meghalaya
  - Uttarakhand
  - Arunachal Pradesh
  - Assam

**Ans: b**

- The Bailey Bridge in Reini Village, Uttarakhand is a 200 feet structure on Joshimat – Malari road across the Rishiganga River. BRO has named the bridge as “The Bridge of Compassion” to pay tribute to the fallen Karma Yogis of Renie Power Plant & NTPC Power Plant.

### 11 March

- 46) The president of which of the following countries won the “2020 Ibrahim Prize for Achievement in African Leadership”?
- Kenya
  - Somalia
  - Niger
  - Tanzania

**Ans: c**

- To win the 2020 Ibrahim award for African leadership, and the \$5m (£3.6m) prize attached to it, Niger's President Mahamadou Issoufou had to leave office.

- 47) ‘International Scientific Lunar Station (ISLS)’, a lunar space station on moon, is an initiative by
- Russia
  - Japan
  - China
  - Both (a) and (c)

**Ans: d**

- China and Russia have said they will build a lunar research station (International Lunar Research Station (ILRS)), possibly on the moon’s surface, marking the start of a new era in space cooperation between the two countries.

- 48) Which among the following is the latest and the third in the series of six Scorpene-class submarine, which has been commissioned in the Indian Navy at Mumbai?
- INS Kalvari
  - INS Karanj
  - INS Vagsheer
  - INS Khanderi

**Ans: b**

- Scorpene-class submarine INS Karanj was commissioned into the Indian Navy on Wednesday. The ceremony took place at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai, in the presence of Naval Staff Admiral Karambir Singh and Admiral (Retired) VS Shekhawat.

- 49) Economic Freedom Index 2021, recently released, is an initiative by
- The Heritage Foundation
  - Institute for Economics and Peace
  - WEF
  - Both (b) and (c)

**Ans: a**

- The Heritage Foundation, a conservative US think-tank, publishes an annual Index of Economic Freedom ranking countries and territories for how business-friendly their regulations and laws are.
- Hong Kong has been removed from an annual index of the world's freest economies because the think-tank that compiles the league table said the city was now directly controlled by Beijing.
- India has been placed at 121 position among 184 countries in the index

- 50) India's biggest floating solar power plant till date, by generation capacity, is being developed by the NTPC in the reservoir at
- Ramagundam, Telangana
  - Sardar Sarovar Dam, Gujarat
  - Idukki, Kerala
  - Suratgarh, Rajasthan

**Ans: a**

- Hyderabad: Telangana is all set to host India's biggest floating solar power plant with a capacity of 100 MW. The project expected to be opened in May, is being set up at Ramagundam thermal power plant reservoir near Peddapalli district.

## 12 March

- 51) Which among the following is the first bank in India to launch its own range of wearable contactless payment devices dubbed as 'Wear N Pay' directly linked to the customers' bank account?
- Kotak Mahindra
  - Axis
  - SBI
  - Canara

**Ans: b**

- Axis Bank became the first bank in India to launch its own range of wearable contactless payment devices. Dubbed as 'Wear N Pay', these wearable devices are directly linked to the customers' bank account and function like a regular debit card. India's third largest private lender joined hands with with Thales and Tappy Technologies to design these affordable wearable products, exclusively available on the Mastercard platform.

- 52) Who is appointed as the Chief Statistician of India (CSI), recently?
- Rao Inderjith Singh
  - Pravin Srivastava
  - G P Samanta

d) Kshatrapati Shivaji

**Ans: c**

- The government has appointed G P Samanta as the new Chief Statistician of India for a period of two years. Samanta was till now an adviser in the RBI's Department Of Statistics and Information Management.

53) National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development, a proposed ₹1-lakh crore development financial institution (DFI), being set up to fund

- a) National Infrastructure Pipeline
- b) National Investment and Infrastructure Fund
- c) National Investment Fund
- d) All of the above

**Ans: a**

- The infrastructure financier, to be called the National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID), is to anchor the ambitious National Infrastructure Pipeline (NIP). About 7,000 projects have been identified under the NIP with a projected investment of a whopping ₹111 lakh crore during 2020-25.

54) Who has become the first Indian Woman cricketer as well as the second international woman cricketer to score 10,000 international runs across all the formats?

- a) Harmanpreet Kaur
- b) Jhulan Goswami
- c) Deepti Sharma

**d) MithaliRaj**

**Ans: d**

- Mithali Raj on Friday became the first Indian woman to score 10,000 runs in international cricket across all formats. Mithali reached the milestone in the ongoing third One-day International (ODI) against South Africa in Lucknow. The Indian ODI skipper scored 36 runs before being dismissed by Anne Bosch.

55) Central Industrial Security Force celebrates its foundation day on every

- a) March 10<sup>th</sup>
- b) March 11<sup>th</sup>
- c) March 12<sup>th</sup>
- d) March 13<sup>th</sup>

**Ans: a**

- The Central Industrial Security Force is a Central Armed Police Forces in India. It was set up under an Act of the Parliament of India on 10 March 1969 with a strength of 2,800. CISF celebrates its foundation day on March 10 every year.

### **13 March**

56) Lingaraja Temple in Odisha is built in

- a) Limestone
- b) Granite

- c) Black marble
- d) Red sandstone

**Ans: d**

- It is built in red stone and is a classic example of Kalinga style of architecture. Bindusagar Lake is located to the north of the temple.
- The 'MahaShivratri' festival was celebrated at Bhubaneswar's Lingaraj Temple. The 'Mahadeep' was lifted atop Lingaraj Temple on 'MahaShivratri'.

57) Fifth annual democracy report, titled 'Autocratisation goes viral', has been released by

- a) Economist Intelligence Unit
- b) Reporters without borders
- c) Varieties of Democracy (V-Dem) Institute
- d) Institute for Economics & Peace

**Ans: c**

- After Freedom House report said India is only 'partly free' now, V-Dem Institute's Democracy Report has downgraded India from 'world's largest democracy' to 'electoral autocracy'.

58) A space hurricane, thought to be a theoretical phenomenon, was observed for the first time over

- a) North Pole
- b) South Pole
- c) Equator
- d) All of the above

**Ans: a**

- For the first time, scientists have discovered a "space hurricane" that swirled over the North Pole, in Earth's upper atmosphere, for eight hours. These hurricanes, which "rained" electrons, are known to occur in Earth's lower atmosphere. They had never been detected earlier in the upper atmosphere.

59) Festival of 'Herath', local name of Mahashivratri, is celebrated in

- a) Gujarat
- b) Jammu and Kashmir
- c) Karnataka
- d) Bihar

**Ans: b**

- Festival Mahashivratri locally known as Herath in Kashmir is being celebrated across J&K by Kashmiri Pandit Community with religious fervour by offering "Watak Nath Pooja".

60) Who among the following is known as 'India's satellite man'?

- a) Vikram Sarabhai
- b) Satish Dhawan
- c) Udupi Ramachandra Rao
- d) Rakesh Sharma



**Ans: c**

- Google on Wednesday celebrated the 89th birthday of renowned Indian professor and scientist Udupi Ramachandra Rao, remembered by many as "India's Satellite Man." Rao, who was an Indian space scientist and chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), supervised the 1975 launch of India's first satellite — "Aryabhata."

### 15 March

61) Who among the following was the first to install a mirror for worshipping in South India?

- a) ChattambiSwamikal
- b) AyyaVaikundaSwamikal
- c) Sree Narayana Guru
- d) None of the above

**Ans: b**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Friday paid tribute to AyyaVaikundaSwamikal, a great thinker and social reformer of the 19th century. He was **the first to install a mirror for worshipping in South India**. He was the exponent of a new path of spiritual thoughts named '**AyyaVazhi**'.

62) Which among the following is correct about Commission for Air Quality Management?

- a) Statutory authority
- b) Jurisdiction all over India
- c) No penal powers
- d) All of the above

**Ans: a**

- Nearly five months after its setup, the Central Government's "Commission for Air Quality Management" or CAQM in National Capital Region and its Adjoining Areas has been shut down due to lapsing of the ordinance.
- The Commission will be a statutory authority. Commission will have the power to impose a fine of up to Rs 1 crore and imprisonment of up to 5 years. It will have exclusive jurisdiction over the NCR, including areas in Haryana, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan, in matters of air pollution.

63) Index Monitoring Cell, recently heard in news, is set up by the

- a) Reserve Bank of India
- b) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- c) Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- d) Ministry of Finance

**Ans: b**

- Pointing out that the right to dissent should be the central focus of press freedom, independent journalist P. Sainath struck a dissenting note in the report submitted by the Index Monitoring Cell (IMC), **set up by the Information and Broadcasting Ministry** with stakeholders, to improve

India's ranking in the World Press Freedom Index and to evolve an objective yardstick to gauge media freedom.

- 64) According to the recent AICTE notification, which among the following subjects are not a prerequisite to pursue the course of agricultural engineering in India?
- Maths
  - Physics
  - Chemistry
  - All of the above

**Ans: d**

- **All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE)** — the technical education regulator — has made Physics, Chemistry and Mathematics (PCM) optional for students who wish to pursue technical courses like biotechnology, textile or agriculture engineering at the undergraduate level. However, **PCM remains mandatory for most engineering subjects like computer science.**

- 65) Cabinet has recently approved to increase the FDI limit in insurance sector to
- 24%
  - 49%
  - 74%
  - 100%

**Ans: c**

- The Union Cabinet on Wednesday gave its nod for amendments in the Insurance Act, paving way for 74% foreign direct investment in the sector. Currently, the permissible FDI limit in life and general insurance stands at 49% with ownership and management control with Indian.

### **16 March**

- 66) Project RE-HAB, recently heard in news, is an initiative of
- Social Defense Bureau
  - Khadi and Village Industries Commission
  - TRIFED
  - None of the above

**Ans: b**

- It is an initiative of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) intending to create "bee fences" to thwart elephant attacks in human habitations using honeybees.

- 67) For the first time ever, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has started work on reopening the crucial Baralacha Pass. It is located in
- Himachal Pradesh
  - Sikkim
  - Arunachal Pradesh
  - Ladakh

**Ans: a**

- For the first time ever, the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has started work on reopening the crucial **Baralacha Pass in Himachal Pradesh** much before schedule to restore connectivity to Leh in Ladakh, an Army statement said. It is a high mountain pass in Zaskar range.

68) As per the recently released SIPRI report on arms imports and exports, which among the following countries is the largest arms importer in the world?

- a) India
- b) South Korea
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) Israel

**Ans: c**

- **India's arms** imports fell by 33% between 2011-2015 and 2016-2020, but it **continues** in the strategically-vulnerable position of being the world's **second-largest arms importer** just behind **Saudi Arabia**.

69) World Consumer Rights Day is observed every year on

- a) March 17
- b) March 14
- c) March 16
- d) March 15

**Ans: d**

- With the aim to raise global awareness about consumer rights and needs, **World Consumer Rights Day is observed every year on March 15**, since 1983. The day was inspired by President John F Kennedy's special message to the US Congress on March 15, 1962.

70) India has recently become the country with fourth largest foreign-exchange reserves in the world by surpassing

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

**Ans: b**

- **India's foreign currency holdings** fell by \$4.3 billion to **\$580.3 billion as of March 5**, the **Reserve Bank of India** said on Friday, edging out **Russia's \$580.1 billion** pile. China has the **largest reserves**, followed by Japan and Switzerland on the **International Monetary Fund** table.

### **17 March**

71) INS Jalashwa delivered 1000mt of rice under Mission Sagar – 4 to

- a) Myanmar
- b) Maldives
- c) Comoros
- d) Sri Lanka

**Ans: c**

- As part of **Mission Sagar-IV**, Indian Naval Ship **Jalashwa** arrived at Port Anjouan, Comoros on 14 March 2021 to **deliver 1,000** Metric Tonnes of **rice**. An official ceremony for handing over the food aid from the Government of India to Government of Comoros was held on 15 March 2021.

- 72) Which among the following airport started India's 1<sup>st</sup> dedicated express cargo terminal exclusively for international couriers?
- a) Kempegowda International Airport
  - b) Cochin International Airport
  - c) Rajiv Gandhi International Airport
  - d) Sardar Vallabai Patel International Airport

**Ans: a**

- On Friday, the Kempegowda **International** Airport in the city of Bengaluru launched the country's **first** ever **dedicated Express Cargo Terminal**. The **terminal** has been launched **exclusively** for export and import of **international couriers**.

- 73) Kalanamak is one of the finest varieties of aromatic rice from the state of
- a) Rajasthan
  - b) Bihar
  - c) West Bengal
  - d) Uttar Pradesh

**Ans: d**

- After the grand success of the Strawberry Festival in Jhansi and the Jaggery Festival in Lucknow, the Uttar Pradesh state government is organising a three-day 'Kalanamak Rice Festival' in Siddharthnagar district from March 13.

- 74) Which among the following is the fastest supercomputer of India?
- a) Param Shivay
  - b) Param Siddhi-AI
  - c) Param Brahma
  - d) Mihir

**Ans: b**

- India's newest and fastest supercomputer, PARAM-Siddhi AI, has been ranked 63rd in the Top500 list of most powerful supercomputers in the world. The supercomputer was established earlier this year, under the National Supercomputer Mission (NSM) and is going to be installed in the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing's (C-DAC) unit. The Top500 project tracks the most powerful supercomputers in the world, and is published twice a year.

- 75) Which among the following is the theme of World Consumer Rights Day, 2021?
- a) The Sustainable Consumer
  - b) Tackling Plastic Pollution
  - c) Trusted Smart Products
  - d) Making Digital Marketplaces Fairer

**Ans: b**

- Consumers International has announced that the theme for World Consumer Rights Day 2021 is '**Tackling Plastic Pollution.**' The campaign will raise awareness and engage consumers globally to adopt and promote more sustainable practices.

### 18 March

76) Which among the following cities has been selected as the most polluted capital city in the world, according to the recently released 2020 IQAir World Air Quality Report?

- a) Beijing
- b) Tokyo
- c) New Delhi
- d) Perth

**Ans: c**

- Delhi has been ranked as the **most polluted capital city** globally, according to a new report released on Tuesday. The '**World Air Quality Report, 2020**', shows that Bangladesh, China, India, and Pakistan account for 49 of the 50 **most polluted cities worldwide.**

77) Which among the following cities has been selected as the most polluted city in the world, according to the recently released 2020 IQAir World Air Quality Report?

- a) Xinjiang
- b) Mumbai
- c) New York
- d) Beijing

**Ans: a**

- As per the report, the top most polluted city in Xinjiang in China followed by nine Indian cities. Ghaziabad is the second most polluted city in the world followed by Bulandshahar, Birsakh Jalalpur, Noida, Greater Noida, Kanpur, Lucknow, and Bhiwani.

78) Which among the following artillery gun systems were recently decommissioned from service by Indian Army?

- a) M-46 Catapult Guns
- b) ATAGS
- c) Tampella Mortars
- d) Both (a) and (c)

**Ans: d**

- To strengthen the **Indian Army's artillery** and for making way for newer equipment with **latest technologies, two of the longest-serving artillery weapon systems** — the 130mm self-propelled **M-46 Catapult Guns** and the 160mm **Tampella Mortars** — were **decommissioned** at Mahajan **Field** Firing Range on Wednesday.

- 79) Government has formed an experts advisory committee headed by H K Mittal from the Department of Science and Technology for the monitoring of
- 5G communication systems
  - Startup India Seed Fund Scheme
  - Gaganyaan Project
  - None of the above

**Ans: b**

- The government has constituted an experts advisory committee which will be responsible for the overall execution and monitoring of the Startup India Seed Fund Scheme. The committee, it said, would be chaired by H K Mittal from the Department of Science and Technology. The other representatives would include members from DPIIT, department of biotechnology, science and technology, electronics and IT, Niti Aayog, and expert members from startup ecosystem.

- 80) Who among the following invented the audio cassette tape?
- Guglielmo Marconi
  - Lou Ottens
  - Nicolas Tesla
  - None of the above

**Ans: b**

- Lou Ottens, the Dutch inventor who pioneered the compact disc and invented the cassette tape — the medium of choice for millions of homemade mix tapes — has died at a care facility in the Netherlands. Ottens died March 6 at 94, the Dutch electronic conglomerate Philips announced.

### 19 March

- 81) Global Recycling day is observed every year on
- 15<sup>th</sup> March
  - 16<sup>th</sup> March
  - 17<sup>th</sup> March
  - 18<sup>th</sup> March

**Ans: d**

- Global Recycling Day is observed every year on March 18** to create awareness among the masses about the rapid pace at which our natural **resources** are being used. The **day** promotes the concept and practice of **recycling. Every year**, events are organised by environmentalist and activists to promote the cause.

- 82) Ordnance Factories' Day celebrated in India on every
- 15th March
  - 16th March
  - 17th March
  - 18th March

**Ans: d**

- **Ordnance Factories Day** was **celebrated** at the **Ordnance Factory** Medak, Yeddumailaram in Sangareddy district on Thursday. On this **day**, more than 200 years ago the British East India Company established a Gun Carriage **Factory** in Kolkata in 1801.

- 83) Who is recently appointed as the new Director General of Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)?
- a) Kuldiep Singh
  - b) M A Ganapathy
  - c) Abhay Raghunath Karve
  - d) Ravi Datt Mehta

**Ans: a**

- The Modi government on Tuesday named senior IPS officer Kuldiep Singh as the new Director General (DG) of **Central Reserve Police Force** (CRPF).

- 84) Who is recently appointed as the new Director General of National Security Guard (NSG)?
- a) Kuldiep Singh
  - b) M A Ganapathy
  - c) Abhay Raghunath Karve
  - d) Ravi Datt Mehta

**Ans: b**

- Senior IPS officers MA Ganapathy and Kuldiep Singh were on Tuesday appointed Director General of National Security Guard and the Central Reserve Police Force, respectively, according to a Personnel Ministry order. Ganapathy, a 1986 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Uttarakhand cadre, is currently Director General, Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).

- 85) Panda bonds, recently seen in news, is denominated in
- a) Yen
  - b) Renminbi
  - c) US Dollar
  - d) Ringgits

**Ans: b**

- The **Asian Development Bank made a rare outing in China's interbank market this week**. The Renminbi 2bn (\$307m) **bond**, priced significantly below the onshore benchmark, ended the multilateral **development bank's** absence from the domestic **Chinese market** for over a decade.

## 20 March

- 86) Which among the following state has emerged as the model state for Van Dhan Vikas Yojana?
- a) Meghalaya
  - b) Manipur
  - c) Uttarakhand
  - d) Kerala

**Ans: b**

- Since the time that the Van Dhan programme was launched in Manipur in October 2019, 100 Van Dhan Vikas Kendras have been established. Manipur has emerged as the champion state where the Van Dhan programme has emerged as a major source of employment for the local tribals.

87) The European commission has unveiled a "digital green certificate" aimed at

- Letting vaccinated EU citizens to travel freely
- Afforestation of the countryside
- Faster adoption of electric vehicles
- None of the above

**Ans: a**

- The European commission has unveiled a "digital green certificate" that could allow EU citizens who have been vaccinated, tested negative or recovered from Covid-19 to travel more freely within the bloc this summer.

88) World Frog Day is observed every year on

- 21<sup>st</sup> March
- 20<sup>th</sup> March
- 19<sup>th</sup> February
- 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Ans: b**

- The World Frog Day is observed annually on March 20 to raise awareness about the tailless amphibian frogs.

89) Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a contract with Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) for supply of \_\_\_\_\_ for the Indian Army

- MILAN-2T Anti-Tank Guided Missiles
- Akash Weapon System
- Heavy Weight Torpedo
- None of the above

**Ans: a**

- Giving more firepower to the Indian Army, the Ministry of Defence will soon provide 4,960 MILAN-2T Anti-Tank Guided Missiles (ATGMs) to the forces. The development comes after a deal was signed between Acquisition Wing of Ministry of Defence (MoD) Ministry of Defence and Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL).

90) Which among the following countries is developing the world's largest floating solar farm to fight climate change?

- Germany
- France
- Indonesia
- Singapore



**Ans: d**

- **Singapore** is **building** one of the **world's largest floating solar farms** off the coast to support the **effort** against **climate change**.

## 22 March

91) World Happiness Report 2021 is recently released by

- a) UNSDSN
- b) UNDP
- c) WEF
- d) Oxfam International

**Ans: a**

- The World Happiness Report 2021, issued by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network, focuses on the effects of Covid-19 and how people all over the world have fared. It ranks the world's 149 countries on "how happy their citizens perceive themselves to be".

92) In the recently released World Happiness Report 2021, India was ranked

- a) 191
- b) 139
- c) 152
- d) 121

**Ans: b**

- India has been ranked 139 out of 149 countries in the list of UN World Happiness Report 2021, which was released on Friday. Finland topped the list.

93) World Forestry Day is observed every year on

- a) 21<sup>st</sup> March
- b) 20<sup>th</sup> March
- c) 19<sup>th</sup> February
- d) 23<sup>rd</sup> April

**Ans: a**

- The United Nations observes March 21 as the International Day of Forests, commemorating the green cover around the world and reiterating its importance. The theme of the International Day of Forests for 2021 is "Forest restoration: a path to recovery and well-being".

94) Divyansh Singh Panwar has recently won \_\_\_\_\_ medal for India in men's 10m Air Rifle event at the ISSF World Cup 2021 in New Delhi.

- a) Gold
- b) Silver
- c) Bronze
- d) None of the above

**Ans: c**

- Ace India shooter Divyansh Panwar clinched a bronze medal in the men's 10m air rifle event at the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup

on Saturday, Diyanish opened the account of India in the mega tournament with a score of 228.1 in the final.

- 95) The Jharkhand government has launched the SAAMAR campaign with the objective of tackling the menace of
- Extremism
  - Malnutrition in children
  - Anaemia women
  - Both (b) and (c)

**Ans: d**

- The Jharkhand government Wednesday announced the launch of SAAMAR (Strategic Action for Alleviation of Malnutrition and Anemia Reduction) campaign to tackle malnutrition in the state. The campaign aims to identify anemic women and malnourished children and converge various departments to effectively deal with the problem in a state where malnutrition has been a major problem.

### 23 March

- 96) World Summit on Information Society Forum 2021 represents one of the world's largest annual gatherings of the 'ICT for development' community. It is organized by
- ITU
  - UNDP
  - UNCTAD
  - All of the above

**Ans: d**

- The World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) Forum 2021 represents one of the world's largest annual gathering of the 'ICT for development' community, is co-organized by International Telecommunications Union (ITU), UNESCO, UNDP and UNCTAD.

- 97) Who among the following will be awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize for 2020?
- Barak Obama
  - Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
  - Addo Akufo-Addo
  - Qaboos bin Said Al Said

**Ans: b**

- The father of the nation of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the former Sultan of Oman, the late Qaboos bin Said Al Said, will be awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize for 2020 and 2019, respectively.

- 98) Bacteria discovered onboard the International Space Station (ISS) has been named after
- Sayed Ajmal Khan
  - Satyendra Nath Bose
  - A.P.J. Abdul Kalam

d) Both (a) and (c)

**Ans: d**

- Four species of bacteria have been discovered onboard the International Space Station (ISS), one of which has been named after Indian biodiversity scientist Seyed Ajmal Khan. Researchers from the University of Hyderabad, working with NASA, have described the discovery and isolation of four strains of bacteria belonging to the family Methylobacteriaceae from different locations aboard the ISS. *Solibacillus kalamii* is a Gram-positive, rod-shaped, endospore-forming and aerobic bacterium from the genus of *Solibacillus* which has been isolated from a high-efficiency particulate arrestance filter system from the International Space Station. It is named after A.P.J. Abdul Kalam.

99) Under the new excise policy, the Delhi government has taken a decision to reduce the minimum age for liquor consumption in the city to

- a) 18
- b) 21
- c) 24
- d) 25

**Ans: b**

- Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Monday said the Delhi government has taken a decision to reduce the minimum age for liquor consumption in the city to 21 from 25. Mr. Sisodia also said they have taken a decision to end government-run liquor stores in the city.

100) Gandhi Peace Prize awardees are selected by a jury chaired by

- a) Prime Minister
- b) Chief Justice of India
- c) Lok Sabha Speaker
- d) None of the above

**Ans: a**

- The Jury for Gandhi Peace Prize is chaired by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi and comprises of two ex-officio members, namely the chief justice of India and Leader of the single largest Opposition Party in Lok Sabha. Two eminent members are also part of the Jury, namely Om Birla, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, and Bindeshwar Pathak, Founder of Sulabh International

## 24 March

101) World Tuberculosis Day is observed every year on

- a) March 23
- b) March 26
- c) March 25
- d) March 24

**Ans: d**

- World Tuberculosis (TB) Day is observed on 24 March to mark the discovery of the cause behind the deadly disease. The day is meant to spread awareness

about tuberculosis and its devastating health, social and economic consequences.

102) Who among the following state in India is the first to roll out an independent ethanol policy?

- a) Punjab
- b) Bihar
- c) Odisha
- d) Tamil Nadu

**Ans: b**

- The state cabinet approved it on Tuesday, making Bihar the first state in the country to have an ethanol promotion policy under the National Policy of Biofuels, 2018. The state ethanol policy allows the extraction of ethanol, which was restricted to sugarcane, from surplus quantities of maize as well.

103) Which among the following countries has the strongest military force in the world, as per "ultimate military strength index"?

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

**Ans: a**

- **China** has the strongest **military** in the world, scoring 82 out of 100 points in the **index**, it noted. **China** wins in a sea war with 406 ships vs Russia with 278 and the USA or India with 202

104) Sarvodaya Day is observed in India in the memory of

- a) Sardar Patel
- b) Bhagat Singh
- c) Subash Bose
- d) None of the above

**Ans: b**

- On 23 March 1931, freedom fighters Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru and Sukhdev Thapar were hanged to death by the British government for their revolutionary activities. This day is observed as Shaheedidiwas or Martyrs' Day in India. The day is also known as 'Sarvodaya Day'.

105) Indus Water Treaty is a water-distribution treaty, signed in Karachi on 1960, between India and Pakistan, brokered by

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

**Ans: b**

- After a gap of more than two and half years Indian and Pakistani delegations on Monday began the 116th Meeting of the Permanent Indus Commission here.

The meeting which coincided with the National Day of Pakistan is being viewed as part of the broader process of normalisation of bilateral ties between the two neighbours.

- It is a Water-Distribution Treaty, signed in Karachi on 1960, between India (Pm Jawaharlal Nehru) and Pakistan (President Ayub Khan), brokered by the World Bank. Under the treaty, India has control over water flowing in the eastern rivers– Beas, Ravi and Sutlej. Pakistan has control over the western rivers– Indus, Chenab and Jhelum.

## 25 March

106) Vyas Samman for the year 2020 is awarded for which among the following novel?

- a) Patliputru Ki Samragi
- b) Kagazki Nav
- c) Jitne Log Utne Prem
- d) DukkhamSukkham

**Ans: a**

- Well known Hindi writer Prof. Sharad Pagare will be conferred with the prestigious Vyas Samman - 2020 for his novel 'Patliputru Ki Samragi.' The Vyas Samman, started in 1991, is given by K K Birla Foundation for an outstanding literary work in Hindi authored by an Indian citizen published during the last 10 years. It carries an award of four lakh rupees along with a citation and plaque.

107) Who among the following country will hold Pabbi-Antiterror-2021 in which India will participate?

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

**Ans: d**

- Pakistan will hold Pabbi-Antiterror-2021, under the aegis of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation later this year. India's participation would come amid fresh peace process between both nations.

108) India's first government-run ambulance network for animals is an initiative by the state government of

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

**Ans: d**

- To further boost the animal husbandry and veterinary sector in Andhra Pradesh, The Government, under the leadership of Chief Minister Y.S Jagan Mohan Reddy, has now decided to set up mobile ambulance services for animals. The Chief Minister has made one of its main missions to help reach out to the distressed animals and provide them with proper animal healthcare.

109) Sri Lanka has signed a USD 1.5 billion worth currency swap deal with

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

**Ans: b**

- **Sri Lanka has signed a 10 billion yuan (about USD 1,5 billion) currency swap deal with China** for a three year period to be used for **promoting bilateral trade and direct investment between the two countries**, the **Central Bank of Sri Lanka has** announced.

110) World's first exclusive Ship Tunnel is being constructed in

- a) Norway
- b) Finland
- c) Sweden
- d) Russia

**Ans: a**

- Norway has got the go-ahead to construct what's being billed as the world's first ship tunnel, designed to help vessels navigate the treacherous Stadhavet Sea.
- First announced a few years ago by the Norwegian Coastal Administration, this mile-long, 118-foot-wide tunnel will burrow through the mountainous Stadhavet peninsula in north western Norway.

## **26 March**

111) Central Scrutiny Centre (CSC), recently constituted with the objective of to ensuring that the data quality is uncompromised and free from flaws, is an initiative by ministry of

- a) Corporate Affairs
- b) Finance
- c) Home Affairs
- d) PMO

**Ans: a**

- Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman here today virtually launched Central Scrutiny Centre (CSC) and Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority's (IEPFA) Mobile App — two tech-enabled initiatives by Ministry of Corporate Affairs. These initiatives leverage to strengthen the Prime Minister's vision of 'Digitally empowered India'. Shri Rajesh Verma, Secretary, MCA, and other senior officials attended the virtual launch event. It is an initiative of the Corporate Affairs Ministry to scrutinise the filings by users under straight through processes.

112) Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway running north to south across the Isthmus of Suez in Egypt connecting

- a) Caribbean Sea and Pacific Ocean
- b) Red Sea and Sea of Azov

- c) Black Sea and Mediterranean Sea
- d) Mediterranean Sea and Red Sea

**Ans: d**

- The Suez Canal is an artificial sea-level waterway running north to south across the Isthmus of Suez in Egypt, to connect the Mediterranean Sea and the Red Sea. The canal separates the African continent from Asia. It provides the shortest maritime route between Europe and the lands lying around the Indian and western Pacific oceans. A large cargo ship named 'Ever Given' got stuck near the southern end of the Suez Canal due to a mishap caused by bad weather. This is causing a huge jam of vessels at either end of the vital international trade artery.

113) Which among the following is incorrect about RT-PCR Test?

- a) It can detect past coronavirus infection
- b) Sample is taken via nasal or throat swabs
- c) It can detect present coronavirus infection
- d) Reverse transcription used for detecting viruses

**Ans: a**

- It cannot be used to diagnose past infections. For that, serological test must be conducted. As per the latest order of the Karnataka Government, passengers arriving from any State to Bengaluru must possess a RT-PCR negative report.

114) International Intellectual Property (IP) Index 2021, recently released by US Chamber of Commerce ranks India at

- a) 23
- b) 40
- c) 69
- d) 134

**Ans: b**

- India ranked 40 among 53 global economies on the latest annual edition of the International Intellectual Property (IP) Index released. India's overall score has increased from 36.04 per cent (16.22 out of 45) in the seventh edition to 38.46 per cent (19.23 out of 50) in the eighth edition.

115) Who is appointed as the latest CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India?

- a) J. Satyanarayana
- b) Pankaj Kumar
- c) Saurbah Garg
- d) Ajay Bhushan Pandey

**Ans: c**

- Senior bureaucrat Saurbah Garg has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of **Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** as part of a bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre on Thursday. Garg is at present serving in his cadre state Odisha. He is a 1991 batch IAS officer.

- 116) World's first mobile water from air kiosk and water knowledge centre has been set up in
- Visakhapatnam
  - Hyderabad
  - Ahmedabad
  - Gandhinagar

**Ans: a**

- Hyderabad-based startup, Maithri Aquatech has set up the world's first mobile water-from-air kiosk and 'Water Knowledge Centre' in the smart city of Visakhapatnam.

- 117) Every year, the Earth Hour is celebrated worldwide on the last Saturday of the month of
- January
  - March
  - April
  - July

**Ans: b**

- Every year, at 8:30 pm on the last Saturday in March, millions across the world come together to raise awareness for the need to protect the Earth better, by switching off lights for an hour – Earth Hour. This year, Earth Hour will be observed on Saturday, 27 March, from 8:30 pm to 9:30 pm.

- 118) Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2020, the highest honor of state government, is awarded to
- Babasaheb Purandare
  - Anil Kakodkar
  - Asha Bhosle
  - Mangesh Padgaonkar

**Ans: c**

- The Maharashtra government on Thursday said singer Asha Bhosle has been selected for the Maharashtra Bhushan award, the State government's highest honour.

- 119) World Theatre Day is observed every year globally on
- March 23
  - March 25
  - March 27
  - March 29

**Ans: c**

- World Theatre was created by the ITI and was celebrated for the first time on 27 March 1962, the date of the opening of the "Theatre of Nations" season in Paris. Ever since, each year on that date, World Theatre Day is celebrated on a global scale. To promote the art form across the world.



120) Trishna is a joint satellite mission launched by India and which among the following countries?

- a) USA
- b) France
- c) Japan
- d) UAE

**Ans: b**

- ISRO and French space agency Centre National d'Études Spatiales (CNES) have undertaken two joint missions 'Megha-Tropiques', which was launched in 2011, and 'SARAL-Altika' in 2013. The earth observation satellite mission with thermal infrared imager, TRISHNA (Thermal infrared Imaging Satellite for High-resolution Natural resource Assessment) is the third and the initiative.

### 29 March

121) Rathbones Folio prize for the year 2021 is awarded to

- a) Rachel Long
- b) Carmen Maria Machado
- c) Doireann Ní Ghríofa
- d) Monique Roffey

**Ans: b**

- The Rathbones Folio Prize, previously known as the Folio Prize and The Literature Prize, is a literary award that was sponsored by the London-based publisher The Folio Society for its first two years, 2014–2015. Starting in 2017 the sponsor is Rathbone Investment Management. American author **Carmen Maria Machado** has won the Rathbones Folio prize for the year 2021.

122) Global Wind Report 2021 is released by

- a) World Wind Energy Association
- b) Global Wind Energy Council
- c) International Renewable Energy Agency
- d) None of the above

**Ans: b**

- According to the report titled '**Global Wind Report 2021**' by the **Global Wind Energy Council (GWEC)**, at present there is 743 GW of wind power capacity worldwide, helping to avoid over 1.1 billion tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> globally – equivalent to the annual carbon emissions of South America.

123) 2022 ICC Women's World Cup will be hosted by

- a) New Zealand
- b) Pakistan
- c) South Africa
- d) India

**Ans: a**

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) on Tuesday announced the full schedule for the 2022 Women's World Cup which will be played in **New Zealand** between March 4 and April 3.

- 124) The PakalDul Hydro Electric Project (1,000 MW) is proposed on the Marusudar river which is a tributary of
- Chenab
  - Beas
  - Sutlej
  - Yamuna

**Ans: a**

- The PakalDul Hydro Electric Project (1,000 MW) is proposed on the Marusudar river, a tributary of the Chenab river, in Kishtwar district in Jammu and Kashmir.

- 125) Manish Narwal recently won his second gold with new world record in which of the following sports?
- Cycling
  - Powerlifting
  - Shooting Para sport
  - Badminton

**Ans: c**

- Manish Narwal shoots second gold in Para-Shooting WC with new world record. This was India's second gold medal in the event after Singhraj claimed the yellow metal in P1 men's 10m air pistol SH1 event.

### 30 March

- 126) Recently concluded 2-day passage exercise PASSEX is between India and
- Japan
  - Australia
  - USA
  - None of the above

**Ans: c**

- India and the US kicked off a two-day naval exercise in the Bay of Bengal, reflecting the growing congruence in their defence and military partnership. Indian Navy deployed its warship Shivalik and long-range maritime patrol aircraft P8I in the 'PASSEX' exercise while the US Navy was represented by the USS Theodore Roosevelt carrier strike group.

- 127) The first-ever Indo-Korean Friendship Park has been inaugurated at
- Delhi
  - Chennai
  - Ahmedabad
  - Kolkata

**Ans: a**

- India's First Indo-Korean Friendship Park was jointly inaugurated by Mr Suh Wook, Hon'ble Minister of National Defence, Republic of Korea and Shri Rajnath Singh, Hon'ble Raksha Mantri, at Delhi. Located in Delhi Cantonment, the park's significance is not only because of it being a symbol of strong India-South Korea friendly relations, but also as a monument to India's contributions as part

of 21 countries which participated in Korean war 1950-53, under the aegis of the United Nations.

128) Which among the following banks were given the tag of 'India's Best Bank for SMEs' at the Asiamoney Best Bank Awards 2021?

- a) SBI
- b) Axis
- c) HDFC
- d) Kotak Mahindra

**Ans: c**

- HDFC Bank was adjudged the 'India's Best Bank for SMEs' at the Asiamoney Best Bank Awards 2021. In its evaluation the magazine said on its website – "HDFC Bank's transformation of its micro, small and medium-sized enterprise (MSME) business over the past few years makes it a worthy winner of this award."

129) 'Tribal TB Initiative' was launched in pursuit of TB Mukht Bharat which aims to end TB in India by

- a) 2025
- b) 2030
- c) 2035
- d) 2040

**Ans: a**

- Tribal TB Initiative was launched to achieve TB Mukht Bharat by 2025.

130) 'Fiyavathi Renovation Project', a project supported by India for vulnerable children, was towards helping

- a) Maldives
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Nepal
- d) Mauritius

**Ans: a**

- Maldives 'Fiyavathi Renovation Project' — a project for young Maldivians — backed by India was inaugurated at a virtual ceremony organised by the Maldives Ministry of Gender, Family and Social Services. The project is funded as part of India's total grant assistance of MVR 200 million to the Maldives for supporting socially impactful projects strewn across the Atolls.

### **31 March**

131) "TinkaTinka" foundation has launched a 'Jail Radio' project in collaboration with which among the following state governments?

- a) Punjab
- b) Karnataka
- c) Haryana
- d) Maharashtra

**Ans: c**

- “TinkaTinka” has launched this 'Jail Radio' project in Haryana jails in collaboration with the State government. “This is what we want,” emphasised Dr. Nanda, referring to the conversation with the elderly convict.

132) Greater Tipraland issue, often heard in news, is associated with

- a) Tripura
- b) Nagaland
- c) Jammu and Kashmir
- d) Bihar

**Ans: a**

- 'Greater Tipraland' has been a political demand on the lines of 'Greater Nagalim', and seeks to – in a democratic manner – cater to the aspirations of Tripuris in Mamit of Mizoram, Kachar and Hailakandi in Assam, and even in Khagrachari, Bandarban, and Chittagong of Bangladesh.

133) “Realisation Curriculum”, recently heard in news, is an initiative by the schools in

- a) Kerala
- b) New Delhi
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Mizoram

**Ans: c**

- The Yogi Adityanath government in Uttar Pradesh is mulling over a proposal to introduce a 'happiness curriculum' as a pilot project from this academic session. The happiness curriculum would be named 'realisation curriculum'. The 'happiness curriculum' is an educational programme for children in grades one to eight in schools run by the Delhi government since July 2018. The objective of the programme is to improve the mental well-being of the students, and it teaches mindfulness, social-emotional learning, critical thinking, problem solving and relationship building.

134) International Transgender Day of Visibility (TDOV) is observed every year on

- a) March 30
- b) March 31
- c) April 1
- d) April 2

**Ans: b**

- International Transgender Day of Visibility, held on March 31 every year since 2009, celebrates transgender individuals' contributions to society. The transgender community is an important part of cultures, but awareness of trans issues is inadequate.

135) The best film award at the 66th Filmfare Awards for the year 2021 was awarded to

- a) Ludo
- b) Manikarnika
- c) Thappad
- d) Panga

**Ans: c**

- While Anubhav Sinha's 'Thappad' won the 'Best film' award, the film's lead actor TaapseePannu took home the trophy for the 'Best Actor in Leading Role (Female)'.

