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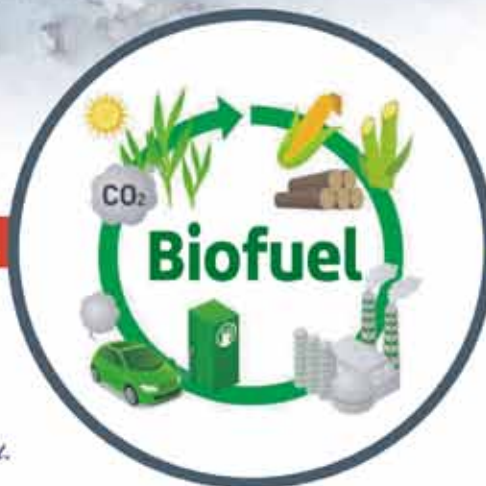
20 Years of Pokharan II

MODEL PAPERS

 CGL PRE 2018 |  SBI PO MAINS 2018



**IRAN
NUCLEAR DEAL**



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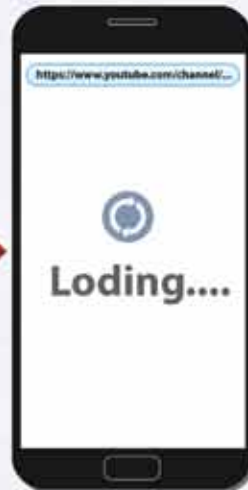
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Editor

N.K. Jain

Advisors

Neeraj Chabra

K.C.Gupta

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NATIONAL BAMBOO MISSION (NBM)



NATIONAL POLICY ON BIOFUELS - 2018



20 YEARS OF POKHRAN



IRAN NUCLEAR DEAL



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Mahendra Publication Pvt. Ltd.

Editorial



**"To Achieve Success One Day, Do Something
Everyday"**

Dear Aspirants,

We feel great pleasure in bringing the 'July 2018' edition of our very own 'Masters in Current Affairs', a platform where you get all the exam related information at a single place. It is designed especially for the forthcoming examinations. Its regular sections such as News Maker, News Diary, One liners etc. cover each and every news in details which is important for examinations. Rest of the news are covered in 'Chalte - Chalte' i.e. one liner news, which you can find at the bottom of each page.

Some important issues of this month were discussed in featured articles. One among them is '20 years of Pokharan'. A milestone was achieved in 1998, which made India to adjust its place in the list of self-reliant and nuclear capable nations. The test was carried out in secrecy and was revealed after its success. Pokhran which means "Place of 5 Mirages" is the place where the nuclear tests were carried out. These tests raised a worldwide uproar and registered India's name in the list of nuclear nations.

US President Donald Trump has recently announced his decision to withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action Agreement (JCPOA) signed in 2015 between the United States, United Kingdom, the Russian Federation, France, China, Germany and the European Union on one side, and the Islamic Republic of Iran on the other. The details of this agreement is discussed in article 'Iran Nuclear Deal'.

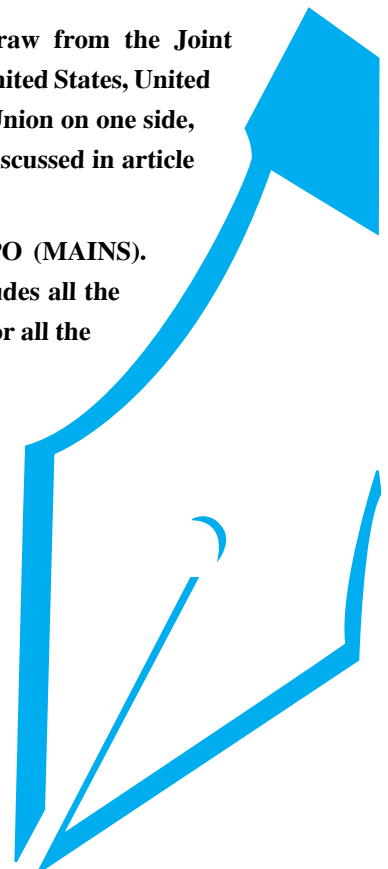
In this edition we are providing Model Paper of SSC CGL (PRE) and SBI PO (MAINS). There is a separate section named Que-TM for your self-evaluation, which includes all the possible MCQ's from this month's current affairs. This will be highly beneficial for all the upcoming examinations.

Your advice or suggestions will be much appreciated and welcomed.

With Best Wishes

Mahendra Publication Pvt. Ltd.

"Your Success is Our Success"



PERSONAL DETAILS

Vaishali

Father's Name : Sunder Lal

Mother's Name : Meera Lal

Hobbies : Listening Music

Prior Selection : None

Name of the Exam : RRB Probationary Officer/ Office Assistant

Roll No. of Qualified Exam : 3691015273(P.O.)/ 3050123148 (O.A.)

Roll No. of Mahendra Institute : PDHO271043277



MICA : How did you prepare for the examination?

Vaishali :

English Language

I Read Newspapers & Learn Vocabulary on regular basis. I have also learned from Mahendra Guru YouTube Channel.

Reasoning Ability & Computers

By practicing puzzles, Quizzes from books provided by Mahendra's.

Data Interpretation

I used to practice through Speed Tests and Learn from Classes & YouTube Channel.

General Awareness

By reading newspaper and through Current Affairs show on Mahendra Guru's YouTube Channel.

MICA : How about "Master in Current Affairs" Magazine and Mahendra Guru Website?

Vaishali : Both the website and Magazine are very good and helps us a lot.

MICA : What is the best thing about our coaching institute, according to you?

Vaishali : The best thing about this institution is it's Faculties.

They are very supportive & Friendly.

MICA : What is the role of "Time Management" in one's success?

Vaishali : Time management plays the key role in our success.

MICA : How did you prepare for the Interview?

Vaishali : I have attended Mahendra's interview classes for the preparations.

MICA : Tell us about the Interview Board and the questions asked?

Vaishali : The interview board was very supportive and friendly.

The questions asked were:

(I) What do you know about Sukanya Samridhi Yojna?

(II) What is Know Your Customer (KYC)?

(III) What is Money Laundering and Black Money?

(IV) Questions about my family?

MICA : By whom did you get information of your selection and what was your reaction?

Vaishali : I have checked the result by myself.

MICA : What message do you want to convey to other aspirants?

Vaishali : Study hard & regularly.

MICA : Congratulations once again on your success. Your success is our success.

Vaishali : Thank You Mahendra for guiding me to Success.

MICA : Mahendra's family expresses its heartiest congratulations on your success.

Vaishali : Thank You so much.

MICA : To whom do you want to give the credit of your selection?

Vaishali : My family and the faculty of Mahendra's.

MICA : After how many attempts did you succeed in examination?

Vaishali : After my second attempt.

MICA : What is the role of Mahendra's institute in your selection?

Vaishali : Mahendra's helped me a lot in each and every way.

ONE Liner

PERSONS IN NEWS

- ✂ Julius Maada Bio has been elected as the President of _____.
◆ **Sierra Leone**
- ✂ Who has been appointed by the United Nations World Tourism Organization as an ambassador to promote “Responsible Tourism”?
◆ **Lionel Messi**
- ✂ Who has taken charge as the Member of Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)?
◆ **M. Sathiyavathy**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Republic of Serbia?
◆ **Subrata Bhattacharjee**
- ✂ Azad Hind Fauj Veteran Fauzi Sheikh Ramzan Qureshi has passed away recently. He was from which state?
◆ **Odisha**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea?
◆ **Atul M. Gotsurve**
- ✂ Who has been given the additional charge of Governor of Odisha?
◆ **Satya Pal Malik**
- ✂ Who has been re-elected as the vice president of Nepal?
◆ **Nanda Kishor Pun**
- ✂ Who will be the new National Security Adviser to President Donald Trump?
◆ **John R Bolton**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer of Tata Power?
◆ **Praveer Sinha**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of merged Idea-Vodafone entity?
◆ **Balesh Sharma**
- ✂ Who has sworn in as the new president of Peru?
◆ **Martin Vizcarra**
- ✂ Who has been nominated by Government of India as India’s representative to the Executive Board (EXB) of UNESCO?
◆ **J S Rajput**
- ✂ Former _____ Chief Minister R K Dorendra Singh has passed away recently.
◆ **Manipur**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the Protem Chairman of the Lalit Kala Akademi?
◆ **M.L. Srivastava**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the head of Anti-Corruption Unit (ACU) of BCCI?
◆ **Ajit Singh**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the Director General of National Testing Agency?
◆ **Vineet Joshi**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as Deputy Election Commissioner?
◆ **Chandra Bhushan Kumar**
- ✂ C.V. Rajendran has passed away recently. He was _____.
◆ **Director**
- ✂ Who has taken charge as the President of Nasscom?
◆ **Debjani Ghosh**
- ✂ Who has been appointed as the Managing Director and CEO of SBI Life Insurance?
◆ **Sanjeev Nautiyal**
- ✂ Bhai Vaidya has passed away recently. He was _____.
◆ **Politician**
- ✂ Who is the President of Federation of Indian chambers of commerce and industry (FICCI)?
◆ **Rashesh Shah**
- ✂ Raj Kishore has passed away recently. He was _____.
◆ **Actor**

AWARDS

- ✂ Jnanpith awardee and Eminent Hindi poet Kedarnath Singh has passed away recently. He was from which State?
◆ **Uttar Pradesh**
- ✂ What is the Name of the Canadian mathematician who has won the Abel Prize for 2018?
◆ **Robert Langlands**
- ✂ Who has been awarded with the 'Glenfiddichs Emerging Artist of the Year 2018' award?
◆ **Biplab Sarkar**
- ✂ Who has been awarded with the G.K. Reddy Memorial National Award for journalism by the former Prime Minister Manmohan Singh?
◆ **Karan Thapar**

- ✂ Who has been honoured with the Frederick Pincott Award for 2017? ♦ **SACF**
- ✂ Who has been honoured with the Condecoracion, the highest honour accorded to a non-citizen by the government of Equatorial Guinea? ♦ **Ram Nath Kovind**

SCHEMES AND LAUNCHES

- ✂ Who has launched the first Indian Sign Language (ISL) Dictionary of three thousand words in New Delhi? ♦ **Thawar chand Gehlot**
- ✂ Who has launched UTTAM App for Coal Quality Monitoring? ♦ **Piyush Goyal**
- ✂ Who has launched digital initiatives by Export Inspection Council (EIC) for ease of export at New Delhi? ♦ **Suresh Prabhu**
- ✂ Who has inaugurated Uttarakhand's second mega food park at Udham Singh Nagar? ♦ **Harsimrat Kaur Badal**
- ✂ Which State Government has launched the Ganga Hariteema Yojana? ♦ **Uttar Pradesh**
- ✂ Cabinet has approved Ayushman Bharat – National Health Protection Mission. The scheme has the benefit cover of Rs. _____ per family per year. ♦ **5 lakh**
- ✂ Which application has been launched by Kerala Government to offer government services through a unified interface? ♦ **mKeralam app**
- ✂ In which City Union Tribal Affairs Minister Jual Oram will launch the “E-Tribes India”? ♦ **New Delhi**
- ✂ In which District, Ministry of Tribal Affairs has launched first ever “Van Dhan Vikas Kendra” for value addition of Forest Produce? ♦ **Bijapur, Chhattisgarh**
- ✂ Which State Government has launched "Amma" Free Wi-Fi zones in five cities? ♦ **Tamil Nadu**
- ✂ Which State government has launched the bi-lingual ‘Uzhavan’ (farmer) application? ♦ **Tamilnadu**

NATIONAL & STATE

- ✂ In which city Third edition of National Conclave on Mines and Minerals was held? ♦ **New Delhi**

- ✂ Centre has approved to set up a plastic park in _____ district of Jharkhand. ♦ **Deoghar**
- ✂ In which city India hosted the 16th International Energy Forum (IEF) Ministerial Meeting? ♦ **New Delhi**
- ✂ Mukurthi National Park is located in which state? ♦ **Tamilnadu**
- ✂ Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has given its approval for Central Sector Scheme "Integrated Scheme for Development of Silk Industry" for the next three years from 2017-18 to 2019-20. Total allocation is Rs. _____. ♦ **2161.68 Crore**
- ✂ In which city Minister of State for Home Affairs, Hansraj Gangaram Ahir has inaugurated the first National Conference on Drug Law Enforcement? ♦ **New Delhi**
- ✂ The HRD Ministry has set up a "high-powered committee" to examine the process by which the CBSE conducts examinations. It will be Headed by _____. ♦ **V S Oberoi**
- ✂ In which city 7th India-Egypt Joint Commission Meeting was held? ♦ **New Delhi**
- ✂ Which State government has signed a MOU with the British Council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation? ♦ **Odisha**
- ✂ In which City, India and China Economic Group meeting was held? ♦ **New Delhi**
- ✂ Which State Government has announced to raise the retirement age for government employees to 62 years? ♦ **Madhya Pradesh**
- ✂ Who has inaugurated the Asia's largest start-up conclave ‘Huddle Kerala’? ♦ **Pinarayi Vijayan**
- ✂ Which State has launched 'RUPASHREE' Scheme for unmarried girls? ♦ **West Bengal**
- ✂ In which District of Uttar Pradesh, NTPC has commissioned the first unit of 1,320 MW super-critical Meja thermal project? ♦ **Allahabad**
- ✂ In which city Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, in collaboration with the UNICEF, has organised the National Media Dialogue on Satyagraha se Swachhagraha? ♦ **New Delhi**
- ✂ With Which Bank Government of India has signed a US\$ 420 million project to help Small and Marginal farmers in Maharashtra? ♦ **World Bank**
- ✂ In which city First Meeting of the “NITI Forum for North East” will be held? ♦ **Agartala, Tripura**

CURRENT AFFAIRS

One Liner

INTERNATIONAL

- ✂ India and the European Union (EU) have signed an agreement that will enable them to share earth observation data from each other's satellites. Where is the Headquarters of European Union (EU)?
 - ◆ **Brussels, Belgium**
- ✂ India and _____ have signed three MOU in the fields of AYUSH and traditional medicine; medicinal plants; and an action plan for Information and Communication Technology.
 - ◆ **Equatorial Guinea**
- ✂ India and _____ have signed two agreements in the field of Health and Medicine and Visa department.
 - ◆ **Swaziland**
- ✂ India-_____ joint anti-piracy, search and rescue exercise 'SAHYOG- HYEOLYEOG 2018' was conducted off the Chennai coast.
 - ◆ **South Korea**
- ✂ India and _____ joint naval exercise, "Varuna-18", has been started in the Arabian Sea off the Goa coast.
 - ◆ **France**
- ✂ Union Cabinet has given its approval for revision of the Agreement between India and _____ for the avoidance of double taxation and for the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.
 - ◆ **Qatar**
- ✂ India and _____ signed an MOU on cooperation in the fields of Electronics and Information Technology.
 - ◆ **Angola**
- ✂ Which Indian Company has signed a Technology Collaboration Agreement (TCA) with HLB Power, Republic of Korea?
 - ◆ **BHEL**
- ✂ Cabinet has approved the MOU between India and _____ on the establishment of an expert group on trade remedy measures.
 - ◆ **Iran**
- ✂ Cabinet has approved Cooperation Arrangement between India and _____ for cooperation in the field of food safety and related areas.
 - ◆ **Afghanistan**
- ✂ Indian Air Force has started the biggest combat exercise along the borders of Pakistan and China. The Name of Exercise is _____.
 - ◆ **"Gaganshakti 2018"**
- ✂ India signed an MOU with the _____ on Mutual Recognition of Certificates of Competency of Seafarers.
 - ◆ **South Korea**

FINANCIAL AWARENESS

- ✂ With which Bank India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation (IMGC) have signed an agreement to offer mortgage guarantee scheme for prospective non-salaried and self-employed home loan customers?
 - ◆ **SBI**
- ✂ SBI has announced the launch of its UK subsidiary, SBI (UK) Limited. Who is chairman of SBI?
 - ◆ **Rajnish Kumar**
- ✂ Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected India's GDP growth rate at _____ for the Financial Year 2018-19.
 - ◆ **7.3%**
- ✂ Asian Development Bank (ADB) has projected India's GDP growth rate at _____ for the Financial Year 2019-20.
 - ◆ **7.6%**
- ✂ With which Bank, Euronet India has partnered to modernise the bank's core payment infrastructure?
 - ◆ **Yes Bank**
- ✂ In its first bi-monthly monetary policy review of 2018-19, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept unchanged the Repo rate at _____ and cash reserve ratio at _____.
 - ◆ **6.00%, 4%**
- ✂ Which Bank has launched "Social Pay" social media-based remittance service for NRIs?
 - ◆ **ICICI Bank**
- ✂ To which Indian Bank, Central Bank of the UAE has allowed to close its Dubai representative office?
 - ◆ **Bank of India**
- ✂ According to HSBC's Ranking, Which Country is the most vulnerable country to climate change?
 - ◆ **India**
- ✂ Which Bank signed an agreement with the Government e-Marketplace (GeM)?
 - ◆ **HDFC**
- ✂ A Memorandum of Undertaking (MOU) was signed between the Indian Army and _____ Bank on the Defence Salary Package.
 - ◆ **HDFC Bank**
- ✂ With Which Country India has signed a Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) to curb evasion and promote flow of investment?
 - ◆ **Hong Kong**
- ✂ Which Small Finance Bank has tied up with CSK to launch 'Yellow Army Savings Account'?
 - ◆ **Equitas**
- ✂ Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) has signed an agreement with the Government of India to provide a loan assistance of Rs _____ crore for installation of intelligent transport systems in the Chennai.
 - ◆ **500 Crore**

✂ According to Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), Atal Pension Yojana subscriber base has been stood at _____ lakh by the end 20th May 2018.

◆ **1 Crore**

SPORTS

✂ Rashid Khan has become the fastest Bowler to take 100 One-Day International (ODI) wickets. He is from which country?

◆ **Afghanistan**

✂ Asian Cricket Council has handed over the 50-over Asia Cup Tournament hosting from India to _____.

◆ **United Arab Emirates**

✂ Who has won the India's first gold medal of the 2018 Commonwealth Games?

◆ **Mirabai Chanu**

✂ Who has been elected as president of Badminton Association of India (BAI)?

◆ **Himanta Biswa Sarma**

✂ Ferrari's driver Sebastian Vettel has won the Bahrain Grand Prix. He is from which country?

◆ **Germany**

✂ Who has become the youngest Indian weightlifter to win a Medal in Commonwealth Games?

◆ **Deepak Lather**

✂ Who has won the Asian Billiards Championships title?

◆ **Pankaj Advani**

✂ By Defeating _____ India Under-16 team have won the Jockey Cup International Youth Invitational Football Tournament title.

◆ **Hong Kong**

✂ Who has won the Australian Grand Prix title?

◆ **Sebastian Vettel**

✂ Who has been elected as the president of Himachal Hockey?

◆ **Anurag Thakur**

✂ Who has been adjudged as the 'Sportsperson of the Year' at the Telangana Sports Journalists Association annual awards for 2017?

◆ **Mithali Raj**

✂ Who has won the Women's Singles title at Miami Open Tennis Tournament?

◆ **Sloane Stephens**

✂ Which Team has won the Santosh Trophy Football title for the sixth time?

◆ **Kerala**

✂ Who has won the Men's Singles title at Miami Open Tennis Tournament?

◆ **John Isner**

✂ Who has become the first player to play the most ODI match in women's cricket?

◆ **Mithali Raj**

✂ 21st edition of the Commonwealth Games was held in _____.

◆ **Gold Coast, Australia**

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

✂ In which city 106th edition of the Indian Science Congress will be held?

◆ **Bhopal**

✂ From which Test range India successfully flight tested the supersonic cruise missile, 'BrahMos'?

◆ **Pokhran, Rajasthan**

✂ Who has inaugurated Scientific Convention on World Homoeopathy Day in New Delhi?

◆ **M. Venkaiah Naidu**

✂ Which Day is observed as the World Homoeopathy Day?

◆ **10 April**

✂ Which Indian Navy warship has been decommissioned in Mumbai recently?

◆ **INS Ganga**

✂ In which City 'National Conference on Down Syndrome' was held?

◆ **New Delhi**

MISCELLANEOUS

✂ General Bipin Rawat, Chief of the Army Staff has released a book on Paramveer Chakra Awardees - 'Paramveer Parwane'. It is written by _____.

◆ **Dr Prabhakaran Jain**

✂ Which Airlines has been named as the best airline in the world in the 2018 Travellers' Choice Awards by TripAdvisor?

◆ **Singapore**

✂ According to Airports Council International, New Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport has been ranked the _____ in world's busiest airport Ranking.

◆ **16th**

✂ According to Mercer's global Quality of Living survey 2018, Hyderabad and Pune have been rated as India's most liveable cities and they have been jointly ranked _____ in the survey.

◆ **142nd**

✂ Which Airport has been named as the world's best airport for the sixth consecutive year by consultancy firm Skytrax?

◆ **Changi Airport**

✂ Mukesh Ambani has been ranked _____ on Bloomberg Billionaires Top 100 Index.

◆ **19th**

✂ Which City has been ranked 22nd in the world and eighth in Asia in the Trip Advisors' "top 25 Travellers choice of destinations" list?

◆ **New Delhi**

✂ According to Indian Cellular Association (ICA), by replacing _____, India has become the world's second largest mobile phone producer.

◆ **Vietnam**

SPOTLIGHT | ALL THAT MATTERS

ABBREVIATIONS

- NCLT : National Company Law Tribunal
- MSR : Maritime Silk Road
- CPEC : China-Pakistan Economic Corridor
- CBM : Confidence Building Measures
- WMD : Weapons of Mass Destruction
- HRW : Human Rights Watch

IMPORTANT DAYS AND DATES

July 01:	National Doctor's Day
July 06:	World Zoonoses Day
July 11:	World Population Day
July 12:	World Malala Day
July 18:	Nelson Mandela International Day
July 28:	World Nature Conservation Day

ECONOMIC GLOSSARY

Labour Hoarding

Labour Hoarding is the practice of retaining rather than laying off the employees by a business during recession or downturn. In this the company chooses to retain its workers on its payroll even at lower profits. Labour hoarding has been attributed to various reasons, including the fact that a business may find it difficult to hire workers again when economic conditions change for the better. Legal complications and emotional hardship involved in firing employees may also explain the prevalence of labour hoarding in the modern economy.

The decision is made to keep these workers so that firms can quickly regain profitability when the economy recovers. The firm sacrifices profit during the period in which the economy is in recession, so that they can recoup the lost profits when recalling the workers. This is because the workers are already experienced in the environment of working in the company so they can move back into the company seamlessly. Therefore, the firm avoids the costly training process of hiring new recruits. This is a strategy that is predominantly used with firms that provide jobs that require a lot of training for the workers.

BOOKS & AUTHORS

01 | FACTFULNESS



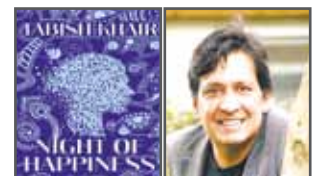
:- Hans Rosling



:- Ashis Ray

LAID TO REST | 02

03 | NIGHT OF HAPPINESS



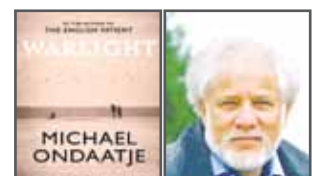
:- Tabish Khair



:- Sonia Shah

THE FEVER | 04

05 | WARLIGHT



:- Michael Ondaatje



Kavinder Gupta

Kavinder Gupta will be the new Deputy Chief Minister of Jammu and Kashmir. He will replace Nirmal Singh, who submitted his resignation recently. Jammu and Kashmir Assembly Speaker Kavinder Gupta and seven others were sworn in as Ministers in the State's PDP-BJP government led by Mehbooba Mufti.

Kavinder Gupta was Speaker of the Jammu and Kashmir Legislative Assembly from 18 March 2015 to 29 April 2018. He is



a former mayor of Jammu. He won 2014 assembly election from Gandhinagar constituency in Jammu.

Tit Bits

Chief minister: Mehbooba Mufti

Capitals: Jammu (Winter), Srinagar (Summer)

- ✂ Governor Narinder Nath Vohra
- ✂ Legislature Bicameral (87+36 seats)
- ✂ Parliamentary constituency
 - Rajya Sabha 4
 - Lok Sabha 6
- ✂ High Court : J&K High Court

Mario Abdo Benitez

The son of a former dictator's top advisor, Mario Abdo Benítez won the presidential election in Paraguay. Mario Abdo Benítez, whose father was the influential private secretary of military dictator Alfredo Stroessner, won with 46.5 per cent of the vote, beating the centrist opposition candidate Efraín Alegre on 42.7 per cent.



Facts about Paraguay

Paraguay is a landlocked country in South America between Argentina, Brazil and Bolivia.

Capital: Asunción **Currency:** Paraguayan guaraní

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International SME convention was held in New Delhi.



S Jaishankar

Tata Sons appointed former Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar as Tata Group's President, Global Corporate Affairs. He will be responsible for the Tata group's global corporate affairs and international strategy development.

Jaishankar, who was Indian foreign secretary from January 2015 to January 2018, will work with Tata companies to help them strengthen their business presence and positioning in their respective geographies globally.

Jaishankar joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1977 and held key roles during his career, including stints as High Commissioner to Singapore, Ambassador to China and the US. He also played a key role in negotiating the Indo-US civilian nuclear agreement. A graduate of St Stephen's College, Jaishankar is an MA in Political Science and an MPhil and PhD in International Relations from Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU).



Indu Malhotra

Senior advocate Indu Malhotra was sworn in as a Supreme Court judge, by Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra. This makes her the first woman lawyer to be directly elevated to the position of an apex court judge.

In 2007, she became the second woman to be designated a senior advocate by the Supreme Court, after the legendary Justice Leila Seth, who was given the honour in 1977. She is a prominent senior advocate and has dealt with several matters of constitutional importance. She was one of the members of the Vishaka Committee on sexual harassment at workplaces.

She has represented various statutory corporations like the Securities Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the Delhi Development Authority (DDA), the Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and the Indian Council for Agricultural Research (ICAR) before the Supreme Court, as well as bodies like the National Commission for Women.



THE PEOPLE | APPOINTMENTS



S.C. Khuntia

Former IAS officer Subhash Chandra Khuntia was appointed as the Chairman of Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for three years. His appointment was approved by Appointments Committee of the Cabinet. Mr. Khuntia will succeed T S Vijayan, who completed his five-year term in February. Khuntia was a 1981-batch Karnataka Cadre Officer.

About IRDAI

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is an autonomous, statutory body tasked with regulating and promoting the insurance and re-insurance industries in India. It was constituted by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999, an Act of Parliament passed by the Government of India. The agency's headquarters are situated in Hyderabad. IRDAI is a 10-member body including the chairman, five full-time and four part-time members appointed by the government of India.



Sitanshu Kar

Sitanshu Ranjan Kar, a 1983 batch Officer of Indian Information Service, took over as the 27th Principal Spokesperson of the Government of India and Director General of Press Information Bureau in New Delhi. He succeeded Frank Noronha, who superannuated recently. In a career spanning nearly 35 years, Sitanshu Kar has worked in key positions in various Media Units of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.

In the beginning of his career, Kar had joined the News Services Division of All India Radio for a short stint before moving to Doordarshan News. He spent nearly 17 years in this medium. In 1988, he became the first Indian to win the prestigious Visnews Fellowship of London in a world-wide competition. Mr. Kar joined the Press Information Bureau in 2003. He has the distinction of being the longest serving spokesperson of the Ministry of Defence for over a decade at a stretch. In December 2015, he was appointed as the Director General of the News Services Division of All India Radio.



Deepa Ambekar

Indian-American Deepa Ambekar has been appointed as the interim judge to a US civil court of New York City. She has become the second Indian-American woman judge in the city after Chennai-born Raja Rajeswari.

41-year-old Ambekar is appointed to the Civil Court though she will be serving in the Criminal Court. Judge Ambekar served with the New York City Council for three years as Senior Legislative Attorney and Counsel to the Committee on Public Safety.

Prior to that, she was a Staff Attorney at the Legal Aid Society, Criminal Defense Division, and a litigation associate at a private firm. She received her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan and her law degree from Rutgers Law School.

In 2015, Rajeswari was sworn in as a criminal court judge, becoming the first India-born woman to be appointed a judge in the city.



Uttam Pacharne

Uttam Pacharne is appointed as regular Chairman of Lalit Kala Akademi. Pacharne is an eminent artist and sculptor. He is a widely respected person in the field of art and has held various important positions. Currently, he is Member of Advisory Committee, Kala Academy, Goa and Member of Advisory Committee, P.L. Deshpande State Lalit Kala Academy and Director, Janseva Sahakari Bank Borivali.

He is the recipient of National Lalit Kala Award 1985, Maharashtra Gaurav Puraska 1985 from Government of Maharashtra, Junior National Award 1986 and Jeevan Gaurav Puraskar 2017 from Prafulla Dahanukar Foundation. Shri Pacharne will hold office for a term of three years from the date on which he assumes the charge of his office.



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UNESCO awarded World Press Freedom prize Abu Zeid

The United Nations' cultural agency awarded the World Press Freedom Prize to an imprisoned Egyptian photographer.

An independent jury panel for the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization gave the honor to Mahmoud Abu Zeid, a photojournalist known as Shawkan.

He has been jailed since August 2013, when he was arrested in Cairo in while covering a demonstration at Rabaa Al-Adawiya Square.



World Press Freedom Prize

It is also known as Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize, was created in 1997. It honors a person, organization or institution that has made an outstanding contribution to the defence and, or promotion of press freedom anywhere in the world, and especially when this has been achieved in the face of danger. The award is conferred on the occasion of World Press Freedom Day, on 3 May.

Saraswati Samman

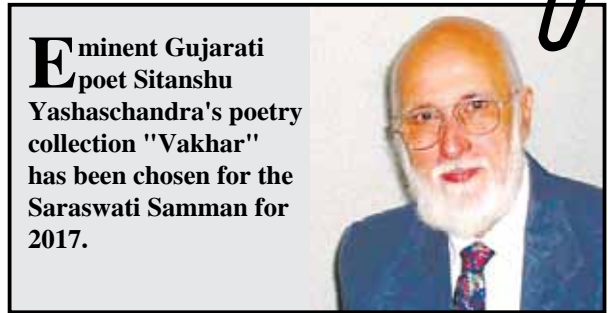
About the award:

Instituted in 1991, the prestigious award recognises an "outstanding" literary work every year written in any Indian language and published during the last 10 years. Last year Saraswati Samman was given to Konkani novelist Mahabaleshwar Sail. The recipients of the award are given a cash prize of Rs 15 lakhs, a citation and a plaque.

About Yashaschandra:



Born in 1941 in Bhuj, Yashaschandra is one of the most eminent representatives of contemporary Gujarati literature. A poet, playwright, translator and academic, he has authored three books of poetry, "Vakhar" being one of them. The collection engages with larger and more immediate human conditions and hence with "the political". His other poetry works include 'Odysseusnu Halesu-n' and 'Jatayu'. He has also authored 10 books of plays and three books of criticism. Yashaschandra has also been the recipient of Sahitya Akademi Award, Kabir Samman and Padma Shri among others.



ONV Literary Prize for M.T. Vasudevan Nair

Noted Malayalam writer M.T. Vasudevan Nair has been selected for the ONV Literary Prize. The prize, carrying a purse of ₹3 lakh and citation, will be presented to the writer by Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan at a function here on May 27, poet ONV Kurup's birth anniversary. Mr. Nair was selected for the award by a jury chaired by critic M.M. Basheer, which had former Malayalam University Vice-Chancellor K. Jayakumar and poet Prabha Varma as its members.



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The Reserve Bank of India has estimated the country's growth rate to be 7.4% in the next financial year.

THE PEOPLE AWARDS

Lata Mangeshkar was honoured with Swara Mauli title

Lata Mangeshkar was honoured with the Swara Mauli title by Shankarcharya Vidyanarsimha Bharati Swami.

The veteran singer has several awards to her credit in her over seven-decade-long career, including three National Awards. Mangeshkar was awarded the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian award in the country, in 2001 - the second vocalist, after MS Subbulakshmi to receive the honour.



Sridevi was honoured with the TITAN Reginald F Lewis Film Icon Award

Veteran Bollywood actor Sridevi was honoured with the TITAN Reginald F Lewis Film Icon Award at the ongoing Cannes Film Festival.

The award traditionally celebrates women of the film industry all over the world and also salute the multi-cultural impact on the world of cinema.

Veteran filmmaker Subhash Ghai and producer Namrata Goyal received the award on behalf of Sridevi's family.

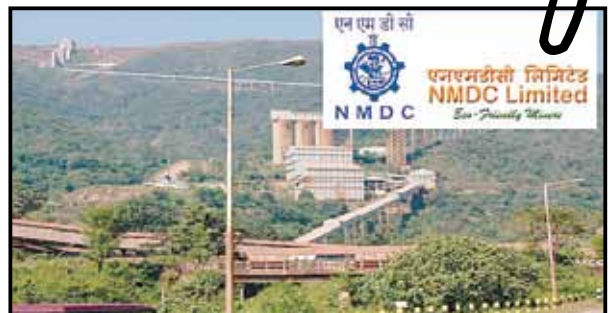


Recently, the late actor was also posthumously honoured with the Best Actress award for her performance in 'Mom' at the 65th National Film Awards.

NMDC bags S&P PLATTS Global Metals Award 2018 under CSR category

NMDC Limited has bagged the prestigious S&P Global PLATTS Global Metals Award 2018 in corporate social responsibility (CSR) category at London. The shortlisted 12 nominations were of renowned companies across the world. This is the first time since inception of this award that an Indian Company bagged an award in this category.

S&P Global Platts is the leading independent provider of information, benchmark prices and analytics for the energy and commodities markets. It has been in existence for over 100 years.



NMDC is the largest iron ore mining company in India. With iron ore production of around 35 million tonnes per annum, it has a domestic market share of about 25% (non-captive category). It also extracts diamonds through its mine in Panna, which is the only mechanized diamond mine in Asia.

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THE PEOPLE | OBITUARY



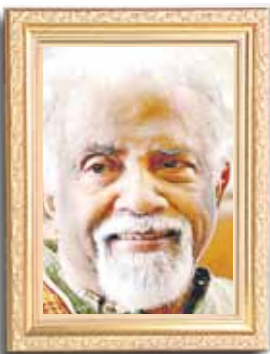
Ashok Mitra

Eminent Marxist economist and politician, and former finance minister of West Bengal, Ashok Mitra, died at age 89.

Mitra taught at the UN Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East in Bangkok, Thailand before returning to Delhi in 1961.

He was a faculty member at the Economic Development Institute in Washington, DC, during the early 1960s, and also worked for the World Bank before accepting the Professorship in Economics at Indian Institute of Management Calcutta (IIM-C). He was the Chief Economic Adviser to the Government of India, and then Chairman of the Agricultural Prices Commission of the Government of India.

Mitra, who was finance minister of West Bengal between 1977–87, quit following disagreements with the then Chief Minister, Jyoti Basu. In the mid-1990s he became a Member of Rajya Sabha and was Chairman, Parliament's Standing Committee on Industry and Commerce.



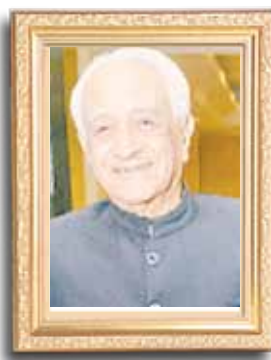
Ennackal Chandy George Sudarshan

Ennackal Chandy George Sudarshan, popularly known as E.C.G. Sudarshan, who made path-breaking discoveries in quantum optics has passed away in Texas. He was 86.

Professor Sudarshan was a faculty at the University of Texas for the past 40 years.

He was born in Kottayam in 1931. Professor Sudarshan graduated from the Madras Christian College in 1951 and did his postgraduation from the University of Madras. He later moved to Tata Institute of Fundamental Research (TIFR), Mumbai, where he worked for a brief period with Homi Bhabha, father of Indian nuclear programme before moving to University of Rochester in New York to work under American physicist Robert Marshak.

He was honored with Padma Bhushan in 1976 and Padma Vibhushan in 2007.



Idris Hassan Latif

Former Chief of the Indian Air Force, Air Chief Marshal Idris Hassan Latif, died recently. He was 94. He was Chief of the IAF from September 1978 to August 1981.

Idris Hassan Latif was born in June 1923 in Hyderabad. He joined the Royal Indian Air Force in 1941 at the age of 18 and after his retirement in 1981, he held the gubernatorial posts of Governor of Maharashtra and Indian Ambassador to France.



BN Vijayakumar

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) MLA from Jayanagar assembly seat in Karnataka, BN Vijayakumar, has passed away. He was 59.

Vijayakumar was a two-time MLA from Jayanagar seat. He was also the BJP's candidate from here for the upcoming assembly election.

Jayanagar is a residential and commercial neighbourhood in Bengaluru city and falls in the Bengaluru South Lok Sabha constituency.



Balkavi Bairagi

Famous Hindi film songwriter, Nandram Das Bairagi, who is also known as Balkavi Bairagi, has passed away. He was 87.

- Bairagi was a member of the Lok Sabha and former Rajya Sabha MP Between 1984 and 1989.
- Bairagi has written more than 25 songs for Hindi films. He has written several Hindi poems, of which 'Jhar gaye paat bisar gayi tehni' is quite famous.

- He was given the name Balkavi because he wrote some excellent poems in his childhood.



Kottayam Pushpanath

Noted detective novelist Kottayam Pushpanath, who expanded the world of horror fiction in Malayalam literature, died in Kottayam. He was 80.

Pushpanath wrote over 100 detective and horror novels in Malayalam, some of them were adopted for films. Many of

his works were translated into various languages including Tamil, Telugu and Kannada.



K.H. Hanume Gowda

Former Minister K.H. Hanume Gowda has died recently. He was 87.

Gowda, a four-time MLA from Hassan, was Minister for Command Area Development Authority for a brief period in the Veerappa Moily government.

- ✎ He was elected to the State Assembly in 1972 on National Congress (Organisation) ticket. He was re-elected in 1978 as an Indian National Congress leader. He won from Hassan again in 1989 from the Congress. Later, he joined the BJP in 1996 and won an Assembly seat in 1999.
- ✎ Later in life, he severed ties with the BJP as well. He contested from Hassan in 2008 on Bahujan Samaj Party ticket, but lost.

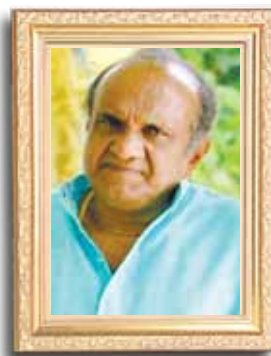


Balantrapu Rajanikantha

Noted Telugu poet-composer, musicologist and artist Balantrapu Rajanikantha Rao died in Vijayawada. He was 98.

Rao, who worked for decades in All India Radio (AIR) and headed its Vijayawada division as director, is credited

with composing the signature tune of 'Akashvani.' He wrote and composed the first Telugu song ever broadcast in independent India on the midnight of 15 August, 1947.



Kalasala Babu

Noted Malayalam film-theatre actor Kalasala Babu has passed away recently. He was 68.

A multi-faceted actor, Babu had tried his hand in all three major formats of acting-theatre, movies and television serials, in his career spanning over three decades.

- ✎ He begins his acting career as a theatre artist. His first movie was 'Inaye Thedi' in 1977.
- ✎ Babu was known by the name of his drama troupe 'Kalasala' and the roles played by him in cinema and serials were remarkable.
- ✎ He had donned major and minor roles in over 100 films.



Mansoor Ahmed

Pakistan's World Cup-winning hockey goalkeeper Mansoor Ahmed has passed away in Karachi. He was 49.

- ✎ The hockey legend, who was known as the 1994 World Cup hero for Pakistan, had been suffering from heart ailment for the past three years and was under treatment at the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases.
- ✎ Mansoor, who became a household name in 1994 after heroic saves in penalty shootouts against Germany and Holland in the Champions Trophy and World Cup finals, had also appealed to the Indian government to issue him the necessary visa to travel to Chennai.
- ✎ He represented Pakistan in some 338 internationals.

Burning Topics of the Month

India signs loan agreement with World Bank for US\$ 125 million for “Innovate in India for Inclusiveness Project”

Human Resource Development Ministry has launched Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0.

NITI Aayog and Google sign SoI to help grow AI ecosystem in India.

& Many More...

23 April '18

CCEA approves restructured Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Scheme

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the restructured centrally sponsored scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA). The scheme will be implemented during the period from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2022 at the total cost of Rs 7255.50 crore. Of the total cost, the Central share will be Rs 4500 crore and the State share will be Rs 2755.50 crore. The Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan scheme will be now extended to all the states, union territories (UTs) and in all the institutions of rural local government in non-Part IX areas, where Panchayats do not exist.

Key Highlights

- ✦ The Central Component will be fully funded by the Union Government. However, for all states, centre and states will together provide the funds in the ratio of 60:40, except the North East and Hill States where Centre:State funding pattern will be 90:10. For all Union Territories (UTs), the Central share will be 100 percent.
- ✦ The scheme will be implemented with the main aim of achieving the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with main thrust on Panchayats identified under Mission Antyodaya and 115 Aspirational districts as identified by NITI Aayog.
- ✦ The scheme will help more than 2.55 lakh Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to develop e-governance capabilities for achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through inclusive local governance.
- ✦ The key taglines of SDGs are- leaving no one behind, reaching the farthest first and universal coverage and gender equality to be instilled in all capacity building interventions including trainings, training modules and materials.
- ✦ The scheme seeks for programmatic union of the Mission Antyodaya's identified Gram Panchayats and 115 Aspirational districts identified by NITI Aayog.
- ✦ The scheme will encourage Gram Sabhas to work as effective institutions with social inclusion of citizens particularly the vulnerable groups. It will establish the institutional structure for capacity building of PRIs at the national, state and district level with adequate human resources and infrastructure.



Background

The Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley announced the launch of new restructured scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) in his budget speech 2016-17 to strengthen the Panchayati Raj system across the nation. Subsequently, a committee under the Chairmanship of the Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog was constituted to restructure the Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA) Scheme as Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan Scheme.

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PM launched Rashtriya Gramin Swaraj Abhiyan, on Panchayati Raj Day

24 April '18

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Rashtriya Gramin Swaraj Abhiyan, Mandla in Madhya Pradesh.

Highlights:

- ✦ The Prime Minister a Road Map for overall development of tribals during the next five years.
- ✦ He unveiled a plaque to mark the laying of foundation stone of an LPG bottling plant of Indian Oil Corporation at Maneri, Mandla District.
- ✦ He also launched a Local Government Directory.
- ✦ In keeping up with the Government's commitment towards clean, healthy, and electrified India, the Prime Minister felicitated the Sarpanches of the villages which have achieved 100 percent smokeless kitchens, 100 percent vaccination under Mission Indradhanush, and 100 percent electrification under Saubhagya Scheme.



National Panchayati Raj Day

April 24th is celebrated as National Panchayati Raj Diwas every year in India. This day marks the passing of the 73rd Amendment Act, 1992 that came into force with effect from 24 April 1993. The first National Panchayati Raj Day was celebrated in 2010.

73rd Constitutional amendment

- ✦ 73rd amendment permits states to take steps to organize village panchayats and provide them with necessary powers and authority necessary to facilitate them to function as units of self-government.
- ✦ The 73rd Amendment 1992 added a new Part IX to the constitution titled "The Panchayats" covering provisions from Article 243 to 243(O); and a new Eleventh Schedule covering 29 subjects within the functions of the Panchayats.



India signs loan agreement with World Bank for US\$ 125 million for "Innovate in India for Inclusiveness Project"

25 April '18



A Loan Agreement for IBRD credit of US\$ 125 (equivalent) for the "Innovate in India for Inclusiveness Project" was signed with the World Bank.

The Objectives of the project is to nurture indigenous innovation, foster local product development and accelerate commercialization process by bridging critical skill and infrastructure gaps to promote affordable and innovative healthcare products generation for inclusive development and increasing competitiveness in India. The project would support consortia of public, private, and the academic institutions to overcome the key market failures currently holding back the development of an innovative biopharmaceutical and medical devices industry in India.

The project consists of the following parts:

- (i) Strengthening of pilot-to market innovation ecosystem
- (ii) Acceleration of the pilot –to-market process for specific products and
- (iii) Project Management and monitoring & Evaluation.



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World Earth Day was celebrated on April 22. This year the theme of World Earth Day 2018 was 'End of Plastic Pollution'.

NEWS BITES | NATIONAL

Human Resource Development Ministry Launches Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0

26 April '18



Human Resource Development Ministry has launched Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0 in New Delhi. Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0 is in line with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to transform India, in which students from colleges and universities will go to nearby villages to get acquainted with the life of the village people and the problems faced by them in day to day life.

About Unnat Bharat Abhiyan

Unnat Bharat Abhiyan is a flagship programme of the Ministry of Human Resources Development, with the intention to enrich Rural India. The knowledge base and resources of the Premier Institutions of the country are to be leveraged to bring in transformational change in rural developmental process. It also aims to create a vibrant relationship between the society and the higher educational institutes, with the latter providing the knowledge and technology support to improve the livelihoods in rural areas and to upgrade the capabilities of both the public and private organisations in the society.

Key points

- Under the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan 2.0, the institutions have been selected on a Challenge Mode and the scheme has been extended to 750 reputed Higher Educational Institutes (both public and private) of the country.
- IIT Delhi has been designated to function as the National Coordinating Institute for this programme and the Ministry intends to extend the coverage to all the reputed Higher Educational Institutes, in a phased manner. Each selected institute would adopt a cluster of villages / panchayats and gradually expand the outreach over a period of time.



9th India-Japan Energy Dialogue held in New Delhi

02 May '18



The 9th India Japan Energy Dialogue was held in New Delhi. Both Japan and India, as the third and the seventh largest economies respectively, recognized that having access to reliable, clean and economical energy is critical for their economic growth and in achieving this, both Ministers agreed on further strengthening of bilateral energy cooperation for energy development of both countries, while also contributing to worldwide energy security, energy access and climate change issues.

- Both India and Japan with a view to implement Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the aegis of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) recognized the importance of development and deployment of next generation technologies including hydrogen to realize de-carbonization.
- Both India and Japan appreciated the relevance of the grid stability given the high penetration of variable renewable energy. Both countries agreed to initiate the discussion towards development of Electric Vehicles (EVs) by collaborating with "Policy dialogue on next generation/Zero emission vehicles".
- Both India and Japan reiterated the continued importance of coal-based electricity generation in the energy mix in both the countries and also agreed to promote the cooperation on environmental measures for coal-fired power plants.
- Both India and Japan further confirmed their commitment to work together in promoting well-functioning energy markets and affirmed to promote transparent and diversified Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) market through the relaxation of destination clause.



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NDMA conducted workshop on Disaster Risk Reduction database

02 May '18



The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) conducted National Workshop on Data Requirements for Disaster Risk Reduction Database. The workshop was held in collaboration with United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR). India often refers to global databases and snapshots of disaster events for reporting disaster losses. However, these databases work under various limitations and are not able to produce accurate analysis.

In this background, it is important to create a uniform and credible national-level disaster database. Locally obtained and validated data will aid scientific analyses and suitable policy interventions to reduce disaster risks. The workshop aims to develop consensus on disasters, thresholds and develop standardised templates for data collection, updation and validation to ensure accuracy and quality. Issues such as interoperability and security of the data will also be discussed. This database is crucial for assessing and tracking our risks and progress towards resilience without which India will not be able to meet its developmental goals. It will also be a step forwards towards implementing the Prime Minister's 10-point agenda to address disaster risks, outlined during the Asian Ministerial Conference on DRR (AMCDRR) in November, 2016.



Two technical sessions - Disaster information and data management system on damage and loss and good practices, and Discussion to record an event as a disaster in DRR database - will be held on the first day of the workshop. Three technical sessions - Group Presentations and Discussions, Panel discussion on setting up baseline data for damage and loss estimation using 2005-2015 dataset and Discussion on Formation of a "Steering Group for DMIS" and Way forward - will be held on the second day of the workshop.

India is one of the most disaster-prone countries in the world. These disasters result in loss of lives and livelihoods, besides causing significant damage to infrastructure and disruption of critical services. These socioeconomic losses undo years of growth and development, especially affecting the most vulnerable and marginalised populations.

Agreement between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India and the South African Institute of Chartered Accountants

02 May '18

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the Mutual Recognition Agreement between the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) and The South African Institute of Chartered Accountants (SAICA).

Details:

Approval of the Cabinet has been granted in respect of Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA) between ICAI and SAICA to establish a mutual co-operation framework for the advancement of accounting knowledge, professional and intellectual development, advancing the interests of their respective members and positively contributing to the development of the accounting profession in South Africa and India.

The Agreement will:

- i. facilitate recognition of Indian Accountancy Professionals with local Accountancy qualification in addition to existing ICAI qualification, which will increase their professional avenues in South African markets.
- ii. foster strong working relations between the two accounting institutes.
- iii. increase mobility of professionals at either end and would herald a new dimension for small and medium businesses in both countries.

Benefits:

Strategically it is very important for the ICAI to maintain a close relationship with SAICA and it will significantly help the Institute to further the interests of its

members and strengthen the ICAI brand in the region. The relationship developed over the past few years is strategic in nature and of Mutual benefit. The MRA is likely to lead to greater employment opportunities for the Indian Chartered Accountants in the region and also lead to greater remittances from them to India.

Background:

ICAI is a statutory body established by an Act of Parliament of India, The Chartered Accountants Act, 1949', to regulate the profession of Chartered Accountancy in India. SAICA is the foremost accountancy body in South Africa and one of the leading Institutes in the world.



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The Union Cabinet has given its approval for extending the investment limit from Rs 7.5 lakhs to Rs 15 lakhs as well as extension of time limits for subscription from 4th May 2018 to 31st March, 2020 under the Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY) as part of Government's commitment for financial inclusion and social security.

Further, as a boost to the Social Security initiatives for senior citizens, the investment limit of Rs 7.5 lakh per family in the existing scheme is enhanced to Rs 15 lakh per senior citizen in the modified PMVVY, thereby providing a larger social security cover to the Senior citizens. It will enable upto Rs.10000 Pension per month for Senior Citizens.

As of March, 2018, a total number of 2.23 lakh senior citizens are being benefited under PMVVY. In the previous scheme of Varishtha Pension Bima Yojana-2014, a total number of 3.11 lakh senior citizens are being benefited.



Narendra Modi
Prime Minister

03 May '18

**Cabinet approves
Doubling of Investment
Limit for Pradhan Mantri
Vaya Vandana Yojana
(PMVVY)**



Background:

The PMVVY is being implemented through Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) to provide social security during old age and protect elderly persons aged 60 years and above against a future fall in their interest income due to uncertain market conditions. The scheme provides an assured pension based on a guaranteed rate of return of 8% per annum for ten years, with an option to opt for pension on a monthly / quarterly / half yearly and annual basis. The differential return, i.e. the difference between the return generated by LIC and the assured return of 8% per annum would be borne by Government of India as subsidy on an annual basis.



NITI Aayog to Collaborate with IBM to develop Precision Agriculture using Artificial Intelligence

05 May '18

NITI Aayog and IBM signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to develop a crop yield prediction model using Artificial Intelligence (AI) to provide real time advisory to farmers in Aspirational Districts. The partnership aims to work together towards use of technology to provide insights to farmers to improve crop productivity, soil yield, control agricultural inputs with the overarching goal of improving farmers' incomes.

First phase of the project will focus on developing the model for 10 Aspirational Districts across the States of Assam, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh.

The scope of this project is to introduce and make available climate-aware cognitive farming techniques and identifying systems of crop monitoring, early warning on pest/disease outbreak based on advanced AI innovations.

It also includes deployment of weather advisory, rich satellite and enhanced weather forecast information along with IT & mobile applications with a focus on improving the crop yield and cost savings through better farm management.

IBM will be using Artificial Intelligence to provide all the relevant data and platform for developing technological models for improving agricultural output and productivity for various crops and soil types, for the identified districts. NITI Aayog, on its part, will facilitate the inclusion of more stakeholders on the ground for effective last mile utilisation and extension, using the insights generated through these models.



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The Govt. of India signed a loan deal with the World Bank for the National Nutrition Mission 08 May '18

The Govt. of India signed a loan deal worth \$ 200 million with the World Bank for the National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan).

The loan would help the Government of India in achieving its goal of reducing STUNTING in children 0-6 years of age from 38.4% to 25% by the year 2022. The POSHAN (PM's Overarching Scheme for Holistic Nourishment) Abhiyaan was launched by the Prime Minister on 8th March 2018 at Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.



National Nutrition Mission

- ✦ Prime Minister, Narendra Modi launched the National Nutrition Mission at Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan.
- ✦ The National Nutrition Mission (NNM) has been set up with a three year budget of Rs.9046.17 crore commencing from 2017-18.
- ✦ NNM targets to reduce stunting, under-nutrition, anemia (among young children, women and adolescent girls) and reduce low birth weight by 2%, 2%, 3% and 2% per annum respectively.
- ✦ Although the target to reduce Stunting is at least 2% p.a., Mission would strive to achieve reduction in Stunting from 38.4% (NFHS-4) to 25% by 2022 (Mission 25 by 2022).
- ✦ All the States and districts will be covered in a phased manner i.e. 315 districts in 2017-18, 235 districts in 2018-19 and remaining districts in 2019-20.



The annual target set under POSHAN Abhiyaan beginning 2017-18 are as under:

S. No.	Objective	Target
1.	Prevent and reduce stunting in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
2.	Prevent and reduce under-nutrition (underweight prevalence) in children (0-6 years)	By 6% @ 2% p.a.
3.	Reduce the prevalence of anemia among young Children (6-59 months)	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
4.	Reduce the prevalence of anemia among Women and Adolescent Girls in the age group of 15-49 years.	By 9% @ 3% p.a.
5.	Reduce Low Birth Weight (LBW).	By 6% @ 2% p.a.

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NITI Aayog and Google sign SoI to help grow AI ecosystem in India

Aiming to foster growth for India's nascent artificial intelligence (AI) and machine learning (ML) ecosystem, NITI Aayog and Google have come



together to work on a range of initiatives to help build the AI ecosystem across the country. A Statement of Intent (SoI) was signed to this effect. The NITI Aayog has been entrusted to setup a national programme to conduct research and development in frontier technologies such as AI. In furtherance of this mandate, NITI Aayog has been developing India's national strategy on AI along with the National Data and Analytics Portal to enable the wide deployment and use of AI.

Key Points

- ✦ Google will train and incubate Indian AI startups in an accelerator program. To help bolster the research ecosystem, one of the initiatives includes funding Indian researchers, scholars and university faculty for conducting AI-based research.
- ✦ Google will also bring its online training courses on AI to students, graduates and engineers to numerous cities across India, in the form of study groups and developer-run courses.
- ✦ NITI Aayog and Google will organize a AI/ML hackathon that will be focused on solving key challenges within agriculture, education, healthcare, financial inclusion, transportation/mobility and more.

Importance of this partnership

"Artificial Intelligence is going to disrupt the way business is done and India, in particular, is uniquely poised in utilising AI to innovate for social and inclusive good. India is embracing future technologies such as machine learning and AI to augment its capacity in healthcare, improve outcomes in education, develop innovative governance systems for our citizens and improve overall economic productivity of the nation. NITI's partnership with Google will unlock massive training initiatives, support startups and encourage AI research through PhD scholarships, all of which contributes to the larger idea of a technologically-empowered New India."

Tits-bits

NITI AAYOG

National Institution for Transforming India

Formed: 1 January 2015

Chairman : Narendra Modi

Vice Chairman : Rajiv Kumar

CEO : Amitabh Kant

Headquarters : New Delhi



NEWS BITES | NATIONAL

Indian Customs and Department of India Posts held a First ever Joint Conference at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi to deliberate on streamlining of imports and exports by post. Commissioners of Customs from all the States having Foreign Post Offices (FPOs) were present along with their counterpart Post Master Generals.

Imports and exports by post are the 6th highest cited citizen grievances under CPGRAMs. Customs and Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) have worked together since a year to liberalise, reform and align laws relating to imports by Post. Since 2016, e-Commerce exports had been allowed through FPOs under MEIS incentives from

the post offices at Chennai, Mumbai & Delhi. Now, Customs may be leading the reform race by permitting e-commerce exports through all FPOs, though without MEIS benefits for now. One of the major bottlenecks in the Postal System is the absence of Professional Logistics Companies which can facilitate SMEs going global through online presence and leaving postal logistics to third parties. In order to cater to the SMEs and what may come as a major boost to the Make in India program, Customs are proposing new simplified procedures for exports through India Post. In a progressive move, Amazon and DHL had been invited for making presentations on global best practices and identifying bottlenecks faced by exporters in India. From a private sector perspective, it was great to see customs and posts coming together to find solutions for Indian e-commerce. Chief Commissioner of Customs, Sunil Sawhney, said that improvement in infrastructure at Foreign Post Offices and leveraging strengths of postal department's pan-India outreach can unlock massive export potential.

Customs is planning some of these initiatives on the back of introducing non-intrusive technologies like x-ray scanning at Foreign Post offices to expedite release of goods. These measures are also likely to control smuggling of narcotics, as evidenced from the recent seizure of 300,000 tablets of psychotropic substances. In order to strengthen law enforcement, Customs will scan mail bags at the airports itself for identifying suspect consignments and contraband items.



Customs and Postal Department hold First ever Joint Conference



Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore assigned independent charge as Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting in place of Smriti Irani who retains textiles Ministry. The portfolios of Minister of Finance and Minister of Corporate Affairs have been temporarily assigned to Piyush Goyal, in addition to his existing portfolios i.e. Minister of Railways & Coal.

S.S. Ahluwalia, Minister of State has been relieved of the charge of Ministry of Drinking Water & Sanitation and assigned the portfolio of Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

Alphons Joseph Kannanthanam, has been relieved of the charge of Minister of State in the Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology.

Cabinet reshuffle

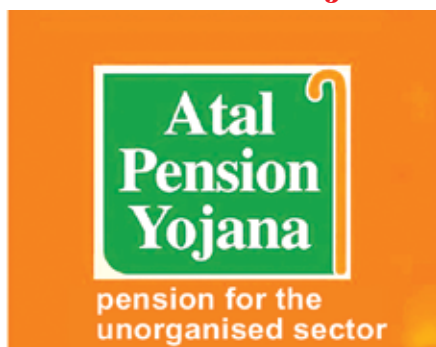
15 May '18



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16 May '18

Atal Pension Yojana



Atal Pension Yojana subscribers base crosses 1 crore mark on completion of 3 years of launch of the Scheme.

- ✦ Atal Pension Yojana (APY) Scheme's subscriber base crossed 1 Crore on completion of 3 years of the Scheme launch.
- ✦ APY was launched by the Prime Minister of India, Narendra Modi at a function in Kolkata on 9th May, 2015 and the current number of subscribers stands at 1.10 Crore.
- ✦ Under the APY, the guaranteed minimum pension of Rs. 1,000/- or 2,000/- or 3,000/- or 4,000/- or 5,000/- per month will be given at the age of 60 years depending on the contributions by the subscribers.



Top States in APY Mobilization

Sr. No.	State Name	No. of APY Subscribers
1	Uttar Pradesh	1,401,631
2	Bihar	1,061,660
3	Tamil Nadu	814,917
4	Maharashtra	758,695
5	Karnataka	686,504

New AIIMS in Deoghar, Jharkhand 16 May '18

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved setting up of a new All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Deoghar, Jharkhand. A provision of funds worth Rs. 1103 crore has been approved for the project and the said AIIMS will be set up under the Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY).



Details:

The AIIMS at Deoghar will consist of:

- ✦ A hospital with a capacity of 750 beds, trauma center facilities
- ✦ A medical college with an in-take of 100 MBBS students per year
- ✦ A nursing college with an int-ake of 60 B.Sc.(Nursing) students per year, residential complexes and allied facilities / services, broadly on the pattern of AIIMS, New Delhi.
- ✦ 20 Speciality/Super Speciality Departments including 15 Operation Theatres.
- ✦ An Ayush Department with 30 beds for providing treatment facilities in the traditional system of medicine.

Impact:

The setting up of new AIIMS at Deoghar will serve the dual purpose of providing super speciality health care to the population while also helping to create a large pool of doctors and other health workers in this region to be available for primary and secondary-level institutions/facilities being created under the National Health Mission (NHM).

Background:

Under the PMSSY, AIIMS have been established in Bhubaneswar, Bhopal, Raipur, Jodhpur, Rishikesh and Patna. Work of AIIMS Rae Bareli (U.P.), Nagpur (Maharashtra), Kalyani (West Bengal) and Mangalagiri in Guntur (A.P.) is in progress. Construction work has also been awarded for AIIMS, Gorakhpur (U.P.).

Further, following AIIMS have also been sanctioned:

- ✦ Bathinda, Punjab in July 2016
- ✦ Guwahati (Assam), May 2017
- ✦ Bilaspur (Himachal Pradesh) in January 2018



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According to the World Bank, India has become the highest remittance receiving country.

NEWS BITES | NATIONAL

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
Government of India

17 May '18

SWACHH SURVEKSHAN 2018



Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Puri released the results of the Swachh Surveskshan 2018. Indore has emerged as the cleanest city again in India for second year in a row. Indore and Bhopal have managed to retain their positions as the top 2 cleanest cities, as that of previous year.

How the data was collected?

The data for ranking the cities under the Swachh Survekshan was collected from 3 sources:

- ✘ **Service Level Progress:** This component was chosen with an aim to verify whether Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) are implementing the Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) in the most efficient way.
- ✘ **Direct Observation:** Assessors made random field visits in different parts of the city and public conveniences to verify general cleanliness in the cities.
- ✘ **Citizens Feedback:** Feedback was directly collected from citizens and performance of Swachhata App was monitored.

List of national level awardees

Category

- India's Cleanest City - No. 1
- India's Cleanest City - No.2
- India's Cleanest City - No.3
- India's Cleanest big City
- India's Fastest Mover big City
- India's Cleanest Medium City

Place

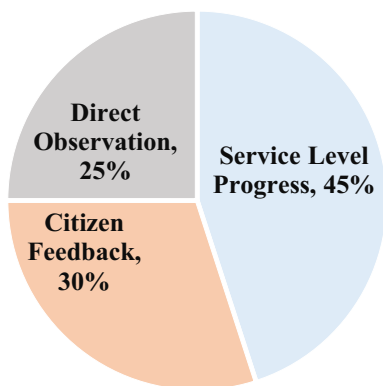
- Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- Chandigarh
- Vijaywada, Andhra Pradesh
- Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh
- Mysuru, Karnataka

Key highlights

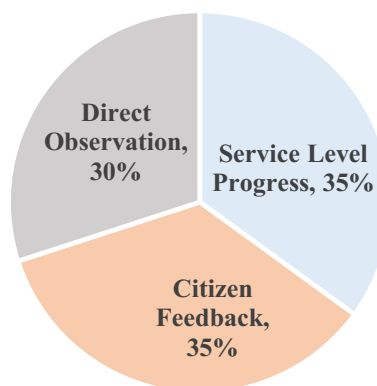
- ✘ Chandigarh was ranked as the third cleanest city, moving up from Rank 11 in 2017.
- ✘ Uttar Pradesh's Ghaziabad was named as the fastest moving big city of the Swachh Survekshan 2018, moving up to Rank 36 from the previous 351 in 2017.
- ✘ Jharkhand was declared as the best performing state, followed by Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh.
- ✘ In terms of sanitation coverage, around 2133 cities and urban local bodies have been certified as ODF and 2679 cities have self-declared themselves as ODF and await certification.



Swachh Survekshan 2017



Swachh Survekshan 2018



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Establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation at Bhopal

18 May '18

The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) at Bhopal as a Society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 under the aegis of the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities. The estimated cumulative cost of the project is Rs. 179.54 crore in first three years. This includes non-recurring expenditure of Rs. 128.54 crore and recurring expenditure of Rs. 51 crore.

The Union Cabinet has also approved the proposal to create three Joint Secretary level posts, which include one post of Director of the Institute and two posts of Professors.

The main objectives of the NIMHR are to provide rehabilitation services to the persons with mental illness, capacity development in the area of mental health rehabilitation, policy framing and advanced research in mental health rehabilitation.

The Institute will have nine Departments/Centres and will conduct 12 courses to offer diploma, certificate, graduate, post graduate, M.Phil degrees in the area of mental health rehabilitation. Within a span of 5 years, the student intake of the institute in various courses is expected to be over 400.

NIMHR will be the first of its kind in the country in the area of mental health rehabilitation. It will serve as an institution of excellence to develop capacity building in the area of mental health rehabilitation and also help the Government to develop models for effective rehabilitation of persons with mental illness.



International Rail Coach Expo (IRCE) was held in Chennai

19 May '18

For the first time an International Rail Coach Expo (IRCE) to focus on Rail Coaches and train sets, was held in Chennai. Many reputed rail car and equipment builders showcased their technology and products. It was a unique platform to bring different suppliers under one roof and create synergy for “Make in India”.

The expo was hosted by Integral Coach Factory, popularly known as ICF, under the Ministry of Railways, in coordination with CII (Confederation of Indian Industries) and RITES Ltd. a PSU under Ministry of Railways



Features:-

- ✘ Exclusive Rail Coach and train sets for display for the first time in India
- ✘ 100+ exhibitors from 10+ countries
- ✘ Conferences/seminars on specialized subjects on Rail Coach and Train sets
- ✘ Exclusive platform to meet and interact with the decision makers and senior officials of ICF and other Indian Railway production units
- ✘ Display of Rolling Stock designs viz. train sets for 160 kmph
- ✘ Display of Rolling stock designs including interiors, passenger amenities and other comfort features
- ✘ Development of Rolling Stock including emerging technologies in manufacture of train coaches with Stainless Steel, Aluminium Car body and others
- ✘ The development of High Speed Trains and the options available for Indian Railways



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Rafael Nadal has won the Men Singles title of Monte-Carlo Tennis Masters.

JULY 2018 | MICA

27

Corpus for Micro Irrigation Fund with NABARD under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana

18 May '18

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved an initial Corpus of Rs.5,000 crore for setting up of a dedicated “Micro Irrigation Fund” (MIF) with NABARD under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY).

Details:

- ✎ The allocation of Rs. 2,000 crore and Rs. 3,000 crore will be utilised during 2018-19 and 2019-20 respectively. NABARD will extend the loan to State Governments during this period. Borrowings from NABARD shall be paid back in 7 years including the grace period of two years.
- ✎ The lending rate under MIF has been proposed at 3% lower than the cost of raising the fund by NABARD.

Benefits:

- ✎ The dedicated Micro Irrigation Fund would supplement the efforts of Per Drop More Crop Component (PDMC) of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana in an effective and timely manner.
- ✎ With the additional investment for micro irrigation accessing MIF, innovative composite/ commodity/ community/ cluster based micro irrigation projects/ proposals may bring about 10 lakh ha.

- ✎ The Fund will facilitate States to mobilise resources for their initiatives, including additional (top up subsidy) in implementation of PMKSY-PDMC to achieve the annual target of about 2 Million ha/year during the remaining period of 14th Finance Commission under Per Drop More Crop Component of PMKSY as recommended by the Group of Secretaries.

Rationale:

The Task Force on Micro Irrigation had estimated a potential of 69.5 m ha under micro irrigation, whereas the area covered so far is only about 10 m. ha (14%). Further, the Group of Secretaries, 2017, emphasized on target of 10 million ha under micro irrigation over the next 5 years, which would require an additional annual coverage of about 1 million ha compared to the present pace of implementation. This can be accomplished by effective utilization of the resources of both PMKSY-PDMC and MIF in any or both of the following manner:

- ✎ To facilitate the States in mobilising the resources for expanding coverage of Micro Irrigation by taking up special and innovative projects.
- ✎ To incentivise micro irrigation beyond the provisions available under PMKSY-PDMC to encourage farmers to install micro irrigation systems.



Suresh Prabhu launches Intellectual Property mascot – IP Nani

20 May '18

The Minister of Commerce and Industry Suresh Prabhu launched the Intellectual Property (IP) mascot – IP Nani – at the conference on National Intellectual Property Rights Policy in New Delhi.

Mascot IP Nani is a tech-savvy grandmother who helps the government and enforcement agencies in combating IP crimes with the help of her grandson “Chhotu” aka Aditya. The IP mascot will spread awareness about the importance of Intellectual Property Rights (IPRs) among people, especially children, in an interesting manner.



This character is also in line with the World Intellectual Property Organization’s (WIPO) campaign for the World IP Day which celebrates the brilliance, ingenuity, curiosity and courage of the women who are driving change in our world and shaping our common future. It also highlighted that how a strong IP system can support innovative and creative women and indeed everyone in their quest to bring their amazing ideas to the market.



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Burning Topics of the Month

Maharashtra signed a MoU with the British Council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation.

The Kerala state has approved an amnesty-cum-rehabilitation scheme for Maoists.

Chief Minister of Telangana K Chandrasekhara Rao launched the Rythu Bandhu scheme.

& Many More...

Government of India and World Bank Signs Agreement to Improve Rural Road Network in Madhya Pradesh

24 April '18

The Government of India, the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the World Bank signed a \$210 million loan agreement for the Madhya Pradesh Rural Connectivity Project. The Project is expected to improve the durability, resilience and safety of the gravel surfaced rural roads and enhance the capacity of the state to manage its rural roads network.



Key Points:

- ✦ The Project will cover 10,510 km stretch of rural roads in Madhya Pradesh that fall under the Chief Minister’s Gram Sadak Yojana (CMGSY) program. Of this 10,000 km will be upgraded from existing gravel to bituminous surface roads, while 510 km of new roads will be built to the same bituminous surface standard.
- ✦ This project, on a pilot basis, will engage women self-help groups (SHG) in the post construction maintenance activity. This will involve routine maintenance of off-carriage way parts of the road, while the main carriageway maintenance will remain part of the original contractor’s contract.
- ✦ The project will focus on improving road accident data collection and analysis at central and state levels through implementation of the Road Accident Database Management System (RADMS); strengthen road safety capacity at the central level; and focus on training.



Significance

- *“The Project will benefit the rural people residing in very small villages in Madhya Pradesh.*
- *The construction of sealed roads under the project will help reduce transport costs, improve road safety and minimize post-harvest losses for farmers by ensuring transport services in all seasons.*

Tit-Bits

WORLD BANK
FORMATION : JULY 1945
HQ : WASHINGTON, D.C., USA
MEMBER COUNTRY : 189

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Tata Sons appointed former Foreign Secretary S Jaishankar as Tata Group’s President, Global Corporate Affairs.



25 April '18

Jammu and Kashmir become the first state to approve the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission

The Jammu and Kashmir government approved implementation of the recommendations of the 7th Pay Commission, becoming the first state in the country to do so. The decision will lead to 20 percent average hike in the salary of employees and it will benefit five lakh employees and pensioners.



Key points

- ✦ The financial implications for the implementations of the 7th pay commission recommendations would be Rs 4,201 crore annually while financial implications on account of one-time arrears would be Rs 7,477 crore.
- ✦ The state government employees can now draw the salary for the month of April 2018 as per the revised scales.
- ✦ According to the decision, for the purpose of implementation of the 7th Pay Commission Recommendations, basic pay as on December 31, 2015 of employees shall be multiplied by uniform factor of 2.57 and then adjusted in the matrix recommended by the Pay Committee.

Maharashtra signed a MoU with the British Council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation

27 April '18

The government of Maharashtra signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the British Council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation between the two nations. The announcement comes at a time when the UK's international culture and educational arm completes seventy years of its existence in India and on the heels of PM Narendra Modi's visit to London.

- ✦ Potential areas of collaboration between the council and the state include developing further initiatives to improve English teaching and enhance employability skills in schools and training institutes.

Background

- ✦ Under this new agreement, British Council would be training 30,000 teachers in the English language in the state.
- ✦ The training will be funded by Tata Trusts, the Tata group's philanthropic organisation.

- ✦ Over the last year, there have been 12 partnerships between higher education institutions in Maharashtra with the UK under the bilateral UK India Education and Research Initiative.

- ✦ Also, in the recent past, the agency has made its biggest ever investment in its Indian arm by awarding scholarships worth Rs 18 crore to 110 women



across India that also included 14 women from Maharashtra. The scholarships will help the women with their education at British universities.



Sikkim Chief Minister becomes India's longest-serving CM

30 April '18



Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling became the longest-serving Chief Minister in India, surpassing the record of Jyoti Basu, who served as West Bengal CM from 1977 to 2000. Chamling became the Chief Minister in December 1994 and belongs to the Sikkim Democratic Front.

Tit-Bits

Chief minister: Pawan Kumar Chamling

Capital: Gangtok

- ✦ It is surrounded by Nepal, Tibet, Bhutan and West Bengal.
- ✦ It is India's first organic state
- ✦ Kanchenjunga (8598 meters), the third highest peak in the world is located in this state.



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Amnesty scheme for Maoists in Kerala

The Kerala state has approved an amnesty-cum-rehabilitation scheme for Maoists in the State aimed at bringing people who have been swayed by the Left extreme ideology back to the mainstream society.

Key Points of the Scheme

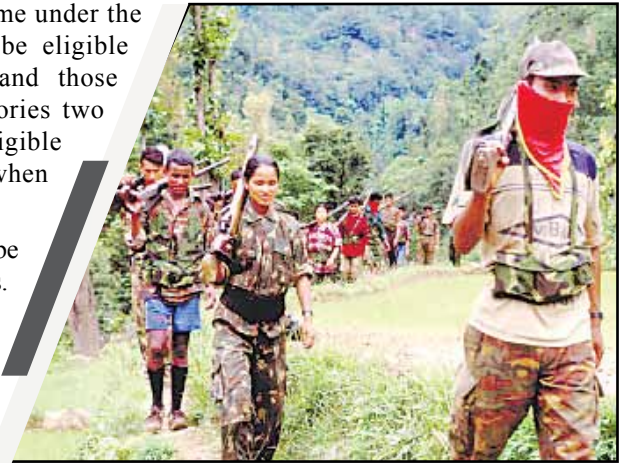
The scheme has been designed in such a manner that it will weed out those who surrender merely for securing monetary benefits.



The activists would be categorised into three groups, depending on their activity and their positions in their organisations.

Top leaders, who come under the first category, will be eligible for ₹5 lakh each and those coming under categories two and three will be eligible for ₹3 lakh each when they surrender.

The funds will be given in instalments. Good amount will be given for pursuing education, marriage, and skill training — a sum of ₹15,000 will be given to those who want to pursue education, ₹25,000 for marriage, and ₹10,000 for skill training up to three months.



Those who surrender weapons will be eligible for a special rate. Those surrendering AK-47 will get ₹25,000.

Rythu Bandhu scheme in Telangana

10 May '18

Chief Minister of Telangana K Chandrasekhara Rao launched the Rythu Bandhu scheme at Karimnagar district. Pattadar Passbooks was also launched. About 58 lakh farmers in Telangana will get a financial assistance of ₹4,000 each for every acre of land they own.



Under the scheme, the farmers will get ₹4,000 each an acre in the kharif and rabi seasons to take care of the credit needs ahead of the farm seasons.

This programme will cover the area of 1.30 lakh acres.

Features of Pattadar Passbook

The passbooks, which have been printed after a State-wide verification of land records, will come with several security features.

These include anti-copying feature, a unique QR code that



helps in ascertaining the profile and transactions held and a barcode with a unique transaction id.

12 May '18

Kerala and NTPC sign MoU for increasing solar power generation

The Kerala State Electricity Board has signed a memorandum of understanding with the National Thermal Power Corporation for increasing solar power generation in the state. The MoU, signed, also includes an agreement to set up a 15 MW solar power unit at the NTPC complex in Kayamkulam.

Besides this, the possibility of setting up solar plants at reservoirs, open space and top of buildings also would be explored.

The power generated would be given to KSEB at a rate fixed by the State Electricity Regulatory Commission.



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Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu, chaired the first meeting of the think tank on the Framework for National Policy on E-commerce.

19 May '18

Guwahati is now has India's first railway station run by solar power

The solar-powered station is aimed at reducing carbon-footprint as well as cut down power costs drastically. Around 6.3 lakh kg carbon dioxide emissions have been cut off between April 12 last year to May 10 this year.

- ✦ The project cost is estimated to be Rs 6.7 crore, as per Indian Railways.
- ✦ The solar power plant will save Rs 67 lakh worth of electricity.
- ✦ With an average power generation capacity per day is 2048 KWh, the solar panels till date have generated a total of 7,96,669 KWH of electricity.



20 May '18

Free treatment scheme for the road accident victims in Gujarat

The state government of Gujarat has launched free treatment scheme for the road accident victims.

Key Provisions

- ✦ Under the scheme, the state government will bear medical expenses of up to 50,000 rupees for each victim of a road accident in the state for the first 48 hours.
- ✦ The government would reimburse the amount to the hospital concerned upon submission of bills.
- ✦ The free treatment facility will include dressing of wounds, X-ray, blood transfusion, treatment in ICU and MRI and all other treatment available in a hospital.
- ✦ In an instance where a hospital refers the patient to another hospital within 48 hours, both the hospitals will be eligible for the reimbursement of their combined bill of Rs 50,000.
- ✦ The move is aimed at providing timely and better treatment and thus, minimising the loss of life due to road accidents.



Zojila tunnel project in Jammu and Kashmir

20 May '18

In Jammu and Kashmir, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for Asia's largest tunnel. PM laid the foundation stone of the Jozila tunnel that provides connectivity between Srinagar-Kargil and Leh in all seasons. These tunnels will be built at a cost of about Rs 6,800 crore, which will be the longest two-way traffic tunnel in Asia.

Strategically for the two-lane Jozila tunnel project, this tunnel is considered to be very important. The construction of this tunnel, which will be 14.2 km, will cost around 6,800 crore. The target of seven years has been fixed to complete the project. With the construction of this tunnel, the contact between Srinagar, Kargil and Leh will remain in all weather and the time required for going through Jozila will be reduced from 3.5 hours to just 15 minutes. Generally, the connectivity between Srinagar and Leh-Ladakh is interrupted for most of the time due to snowfall and avalanches in the winter season.



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Burning Topics of the Month

India-Nepal Inter-Governmental Committee (IGC) was held in Kathmandu.

The 12th informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers was held in Manila

India and Myanmar signed seven agreements including one on land border crossing.

& Many More...

Cabinet approves MoU between India and Sao Tome and Principe on cooperation in the field of Medicinal Plants

25 April '18

The Union Cabinet Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its ex-post facto approval for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Sao Tome and Principe on cooperation in the field of Medicinal Plants.

Background:

India is one of the richest countries in the world in terms of biodiversity, having 15 agro-climatic zones. Out of the 17000-18000 species of flowering plants, more than 7000 are estimated to have medicinal usage in folk and documented systems of medicine like Ayurveda, Unani, Siddha & Homoeopathy (AYUSH System of Medicine). About 1178 species of medicinal plants are estimated to be in trade of which 242 species have annual consumption levels in excess of 100 metric tonnes/year. Medicinal plants are not only a major resource base for the traditional medicine & herbal industry but also provide livelihood and health security to a large segment of Indian population. There is global resurgence in traditional and alternative health care systems resulting in world herbal trade which stands at US\$ 120 billion and is expected to reach US\$ 7 trillion by 2050. Moreover, there are a large number of medicinal plants, particularly those found in tropical region, which are common to the two countries given similar geo-climatic factors.

Keeping in view the need for promotion and propagation of AYUSH systems, of medicine and Medicinal Plants Sector in Sao Tome and Principe, our standard draft MoU for country to country cooperation in field of Medicinal Plants was shared with the concerned authorities of the Democratic Republic of Sao Tome and Principe.



27 April '18

Christine Schraner Burgener is UN's new special envoy on Myanmar



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed Christine Schraner Burgener of Switzerland as his new special envoy on Myanmar. Until her appointment, Burgener was the Ambassador

of Switzerland to the Germany since 2015. Burgener has over 25 years of experience in diplomacy having served in various high-level government positions in the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs.

From 2009 to 2015, she served as Ambassador to Thailand and led efforts to mediate between the two sides in the violence that erupted in Thailand in 2010. Burgener has also served as Deputy Director of the Directorate of International Law, with rank of Ambassador, and Head of the International Law, Human Rights, and International Humanitarian Law Division in the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs from 2004 to 2009. Previously, veteran Indian diplomat Vijay Nambiar had served as the special adviser to the secretary-general on Myanmar, under Ban Ki-moon's tenure.



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Government of India and World Bank Signs Agreement to Improve Rural Road Network in Madhya Pradesh.

NEWS BITES | INTERNATIONAL

26 April '18

Exercise HARIMAU SHAKTI 2018

As part of ongoing Indo-Malaysian defence cooperation, a joint training exercise HARIMAU SHAKTI will be conducted in the dense forests of Sengai Perdik, Hulu Langat, Malaysia from 30 April 18 to 13 May 18. The exercise is aimed at bolstering cooperation & coordination between armed forces of both the nations and to share the expertise of both the contingents in conduct of counter insurgency operations in jungle terrain.



Indian contingent is being represented by one of the oldest infantry battalions, 4 GRENADIERS having rich operational experience in conventional as well as counter insurgency warfare. The Malaysian contingent is being represented by soldiers from 1 Royal Ranjer Regiment and the Royal Malay Regiment, known for their experience in Jungle Warfare. This is the first instance wherein a joint training exercise of this magnitude involving Indian and Malaysian soldiers is being organized on Malaysian soil.

The exercise will involve a cross training phase followed by a field training phase of seven days in the jungles of Hulu Langat wherein both armies will jointly train, plan and execute a series of training activities. The focus will remain on tactical operations in jungle warfare. Overall, the exercise will not only provide an excellent opportunity to both the armies to hone their operational skills but will also contribute to enhance the strategic partnership between India and Malaysia.



India-Nepal Inter-Governmental Committee (IGC) was held in Kathmandu

28 April '18



India-Nepal Inter-Governmental Committee (IGC) meeting on trade, transit and cooperation to Control Unauthorised Trade was held in Kathmandu. The main focus of this 2-day meeting is further strengthening of trade and investment ties between both the countries.

It is a platform to discuss and resolve issues relating to bilateral trade, transit facilities provided by India to Nepal to facilitate trade with third country, investment promotion and improvement of infrastructure at land customs stations. IGC also deliberate upon day-to-day problems in regulation of Nepalese traffic-in-transit and issues related to Indian investment in Nepal and resolves them.



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30 April '18

International Buddhist Conference was held in Lumbini

International Buddhist Conference was held in Lumbini, Nepal to commemorate 2562nd Buddha Jayanti. The theme of the conference was 'Lumbini Nepal: The birthplace of Lord Buddha and the fountain of Buddhism and world peace'.

Lumbini is birth place of Gautama Buddha, founder of Buddhist religion. Lord Buddha was born in sacred garden of Lumbini during 6th century BC and had attained enlightenment in Bodh Gaya, (now in Bihar, India) and gave his first sermon in Sarnath and died in Kushinagar.

Key Facts

- ✎ The basic objective of conference was to disseminate teachings of Buddha and spread messages of nonviolence, brotherhood, co-existence, love and peace to international community.
- ✎ It also aimed to propagate and enhance the importance and glory of Lumbini in the international arena.
- ✎ Representatives from 16 countries including US, Japan, India, China, Indonesia and Sri Lanka attended the conference. Buddhist scholars from various countries also presented their papers for discussions during the conference.



12th informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers held in Manila 05 May '18

The 12th informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers was held in Manila, the capital of Philippines, on the sidelines of the 51st Annual Meeting of Asian Development Bank (ADB). The meeting was attended by the Finance Ministers/ Heads of Delegations

from the SAARC member states. Finance Minister of Nepal Yuba Raj Khatiwada chaired the meeting.

SAARC

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was established on 8 December 1985.

SAARC comprises of eight Member States: Afghanistan, Bangladesh,



Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, Pakistan and Sri Lanka. The Secretariat of the Association was set up in Kathmandu.



Agreement between India and Guatemala

An agreement has been signed between India and Guatemala for strengthening diplomatic cooperation through Respective Foreign Service Institutes in the educational field. The agreement was inked after a meeting between visiting Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and his Guatemala counterpart, Jafeth Cabrera Franco in Guatemala city. Naidu also held meeting with the Guatemala President and exchanged views on various bilateral and international issues.

Key points

- ✎ Various issues were discussed at the high-level meet including trade, cultural diversity and economic growth.

The main focus was on core sectors such as pharmaceutical, cooperation in education, technology, conservation of wildlife, yoga, tourism and automobiles.

Vice President urged Guatemala to be a part of International Solar Alliance and assured all kinds support for solar energy and renewable energy.

Indian side has also agreed to the Guatemala's request for supplying solar panels to its



- ✎ Both the countries, India and Guatemala agreed to support each other's candidature for Non-Permanent Membership in the United Nations Security Council. Guatemala will support India's candidature for UNSC membership for 2021-22 while New Delhi will do so for 2031-32 for Guatemala.

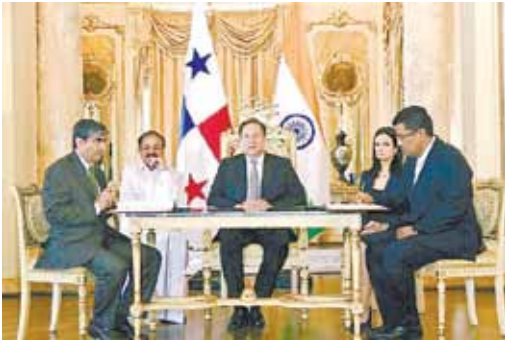
08 May '18

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NEWS BITES | INTERNATIONAL

Agreement between India and Panama

10 May '18



India and Panama have signed two agreements on exemption of Visas for holders of Diplomatic and Official Passports and in the field of Agriculture.

These ties are based on our common values and a shared commitment to democracy, pluralism, multi-culturalism, and the rule of law.

Key Points of the agreement

- Both the countries have agreed to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.
- Two centres for Biodiversity and Innovation will be setup by India in Panama worth US \$10 mn. and US \$15 mn. each.
- In order to boost cooperation in key areas both the countries have agreed to strengthen cooperation in tax information, economic cooperation, air services, traditional medicines, culture and space.

Tits-Bits

Panama

Panama, is a country in Central America. It is bordered by Costa Rica to the west, Colombia (in South America) to the southeast, the Caribbean Sea to the north and the Pacific Ocean to the south.

Capital : Panama city

Currencies: Dollar, Balboa

Panama Canal

The Panama Canal is an artificial 77 km (48 mi) waterway in Panama that connects the Atlantic Ocean with the Pacific Ocean. The canal cuts across the Isthmus of Panama and is a conduit for maritime trade.



12 May '18

Agreements between India and Myanmar

India and Myanmar signed seven agreements including one on land border crossing. The agreements were signed during External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj's Two day visit to Myanmar.



Seven agreements/MoUs were signed during the visit.

1. Agreement on land border crossing.

The agreement on land border crossing is a landmark in bilateral relations as it will enable people from both countries to cross the land border with passport and visa, including for accessing health and education services, pilgrimage and tourism.

2. An MoU on restoration and preservation of earthquake damaged pagodas in Bagan.

It underlines the enduring cultural and historical links between the two countries.

3. An MoU on assistance to the joint ceasefire monitoring committee.

4. An MoU on training of Myanmar foreign service officers.

5. An MoU on setting up Industrial Training Centre (ITC) at Monywa.

6. An MoU on ITC at Thaton and Exchange of Letters on extending a maintenance contract for ITC Myingyan were also signed.

MoUs on technical assistance and capacity building reflect India's continuing support to Myanmar in accordance with this country's own development plans and priorities.



Agreement between India and Peru

12 May '18

India and Peru signed an agreement in the field of Renewable Energy at Lima. The pact was signed during the Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu's visit to Peru.



This visit has enhanced and strengthen the bilateral relations and will increase trade, investments and cooperation among these countries.

Tit-bits

Peru

Capital: Lima

Currency: Sol

President : Martín Vizcarra



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15th Meeting of SCO Cultural Ministers at Sanya, China

17 May '18



Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Cultural Ministers Meeting was held at Sanya in China. It was the first time that India attended the SCO Culture Ministers' Meeting. The meeting showcased India's initiatives to actively pursue cultural cooperation with other countries including SCO countries. It will also help to promote cultural relations and people to people contacts with the individual members of this organization through cultural exchange programmes.

✎ Minister of State for Culture (I/c) and Minister of state for Environment, Forests and Climate Change, Dr. Mahesh Sharma has attended Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Cultural Ministers Meeting.

India became full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on 9th June, 2017 during the SCO Heads of State Summit in Astana, Kazakhstan. It was further activated with the establishment of the SCO Division in MEA and appointment of National Coordinator and Permanent Representative to SCO. It is pertinent to mention that after the expansion of membership from 5 states to 8 states, SCO represents approximately 42% of the world's population, 20% of its GDP and 22% of the landmass.



Agreement between India and Brunei Darussalam for the Exchange of Information and Assistance in Collection with respect to Taxes

17 May '18

The Union Cabinet Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved the signing and ratification of Agreement between India and Brunei Darussalam for the Exchange of Information and Assistance in Collection with respect to Taxes.

Details:

- i. The Agreement enables the competent authorities of India and Brunei Darussalam to provide assistance through exchange of information that is foreseeably relevant to the administration and enforcement of the domestic laws of the two countries concerning taxes covered by this Agreement.
- ii. The information received under the Agreement shall be treated as confidential and may be disclosed only to persons or authorities (including courts or administrative bodies) concerned with assessment, collection, enforcement, prosecution or determination of appeals in relation to taxes covered under the Agreement. Information may be disclosed to any other person or entity or authority or jurisdiction with the prior written consent of the information sending country.

The Agreement will stimulate the flow of exchange of information between India and Brunei for tax purposes which will help curb tax evasion and tax avoidance. It will also enable assistance in collection of tax revenue claims between both countries.

As such, the Agreement does not have any financial implications. Only in the event of extraordinary costs exceeding USD 500 as per Article 9 of the Agreement, the same will be borne by the Government of India. India has similar provisions in other such tax information exchange agreements.

Background:

The Central Government is authorized under section 90 of the Income Tax Act, 1961 to enter into an Agreement with a foreign country or specified territory for exchange of information for the prevention of evasion or avoidance of income tax chargeable under the Income Tax Act, 1961. Negotiations for entering into an Agreement for the Exchange of Information with respect to Taxes were conducted at Brunei from 10th to 11th January, 2017. Pursuant to the same, the Governments of India and Brunei Darussalam have agreed on the text of the Agreement.



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Cabinet has approved an MoU on cooperation in the field of regulation of medical products for human use amongst the medicine regulatory agencies of the BRICS countries.

NEWS BITES | INTERNATIONAL

MoU between India and Suriname for cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration

18 May '18



The Union Cabinet has approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Suriname on cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration including exchange of knowledge and experience in the field of organizational and technical development of electoral process; support in exchanging information, institutional strengthening and capacity building, training of personnel, holding regular consultations etc.



The MoU will promote bilateral cooperation, aimed at building technical assistance / capacity support for Suriname envisaging cooperation in the field of electoral management and administration.

MoU between India and France on Technical Cooperation in the field of railways

19 May '18

The Union Cabinet has been apprised of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Indian Railways and SNCF Mobilites (a company owned by the French State) on Technical Cooperation in the field of Railways. The MoU was signed on 10th March, 2018.



The MoUs provide a platform for Indian Railways to interact and share the latest developments and knowledge in the railway sector. The MoUs facilitate exchange of technical experts, reports and technical documents, training and seminars/workshops focusing on specific technology areas and other interactions for knowledge sharing.

The MoU will provide a framework of cooperation for focused approach in following key areas :-

1. High speed and semi-high speed rail;
2. Station renovation and operations;
3. Modernisation of current operations and infrastructure;
4. Suburban trains.



Background:

Ministry of Railways have signed MoUs for technical cooperation in the Rail sector with various foreign Governments and National Railways. The identified areas of cooperation among others, include high speed corridors, speed raising of existing routes, development of world class stations, heavy haul operations and modernization of rail infrastructure, etc. The cooperation is achieved through exchange of information on developments in areas of railways technology & operations, knowledge sharing, technical visits, training & seminars and workshops in areas of mutual interest.

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MoU between the India and Swaziland on cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine

19 May '18

The Union Cabinet Chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi has given its ex-post-facto approval for the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the India and Swaziland on cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine. The MoU was signed on 9th April 2018.



The MoU covers the following areas of cooperation:-

- i) Drugs & Pharmaceutical products;
- ii) Medical Consumable products;
- iii) Medical Research;
- iv) Medical Equipment;
- v) Public Health;
- vi) Communicable Disease Control & Surveillance;
- vii) Health Tourism; and
- viii) Any other area of mutual interest.



MoU between India and Equatorial Guinea for Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine

20 May '18

The Union Cabinet has given its ex-post facto approval to the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and Equatorial Guinea for Cooperation in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine.

The MoU will enhance bilateral cooperation between the two countries in the areas of Traditional Systems of Medicine.

The financial resources necessary to conduct research, training courses, conferences/ meetings and deputations of experts will be met from the existing allocated budget and existing plan schemes of Ministry of AYUSH.



Background:

The Traditional Systems of Medicine in India are well organized, codified and well documented comprised of Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa and Homoeopathy. These systems hold tremendous potential in the global health scenario. The Ministry of AYUSH having the mandate to promote, propagate and globalize these Traditional Systems has taken effective steps by entering into MoU with Malaysia, Trinidad & Tobago, Hungary, Bangladesh, Nepal, Mauritius, Mongolia, Iran and Sao Tome & Principe for cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicine.



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Former MLA of Nellore, Anam Vivekananda Reddy has passed away recently. He was 67.

JULY 2018 | MICA 39

Burning Topics of the Month

India ranked 11th in FDI Confidence Index 2018.

Chinese state-run bank launches India-dedicated investment fund.

Reserve Bank has initiated prompt corrective action against Dena Bank.

& Many More...

23 April '18

Total deposits in JanDhan accounts were at Rs 80,545.70 crore

Total deposits in Jan Dhan accounts crossed Rs 80,000 crore mark with more people joining the flagship financial inclusion programme.

According to the finance ministry data Total deposits in Jan Dhan accounts were at Rs 80,545.70 crore on April 11, 2018. Pradhan Mantri Jan-Dhan Yojana (PMJDY) accounts had come into focus during the demonetisation period when the deposits witnessed a meteoric rise.



Key points

- ✘ The deposits increased in the later part of November 2016 to over Rs 74,000 crore from about Rs 45,300 in the beginning of the month as people rushed to deposit the scrapped currency notes of Rs 500 and Rs 1,000, as per the government data. Thereafter, deposits in the accounts dipped before picking up again in a steady manner from March 2017. It increased to Rs 73,878.73 crore in December 2017, to Rs 75,572 crore in February 2018 and further to Rs 78,494 crore last month. The number of people joining the financial inclusion programme too is on rise.
- ✘ The number of account holders increased to 31.45 crore on April 11, 2018 from 26.5 crore at the beginning of 2017.
- ✘ As per the data, the number of such account holders was 25.51 crore on November 9, 2016, the day demonetisation came into effect.
- ✘ The Central Government launched the Jan Dhan Yojana on August 28, 2014, which aims at connecting all the families of the country with banking services.



India's TCS touches \$100 billion in market capitalisation

23 April '18

Tata Consultancy Services Ltd, India's biggest software services exporter, breached the Rs 3,500 (\$52.87) per share mark for the first time, reaching \$100 billion in market capitalisation.

Shares of the Mumbai-based company rose as much as 4.4 per cent to a record high of Rs 3,553. TCS is the only 64th company in the world with market value of \$100 billion or above.

TCS has come in the category of companies like Apple, Microsoft, Google, Facebook and Amazon, along with \$ 100 billion market capitalization. The world's largest company, Apple's market cap is approximately \$ 845 billion, which means that Apple is about eight and a half times bigger than TCS. America's second largest company is Alphabet, and the company's market cap is approximately \$ 700 billion, and the world's third largest company is Microsoft with US \$ 692 billion.



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24 April '18

India received the highest remittances : World Bank

As per World Bank’s Migration and Development Brief, India received the highest remittances of USD 69 billion from its diaspora in 2017.

Indian remittances rose sharply by 9.9 percent in 2017. India had received remittances of USD 68.91 billion in 2015, which fell to USD 62.74 billion in 2016.

The top remittance recipients were India with USD 69 billion, followed by China at second (USD 64 billion), the Philippines at 3rd (USD 33 billion), Mexico at 4th (USD 31 billion), Nigeria at 5th (USD 22 billion) and Egypt at 6th (USD 20 billion).

Highlights of the World Bank’s Migration and Development Brief

- ✦ Global remittances, which include flows to high-income countries, grew by 7 percent to USD 613 billion in 2017 from USD 573 billion in 2016.
- ✦ As per the report, the global remittances are expected to grow by 4.6 percent to USD 642 billion in 2018.
- ✦ Remittances to low and middle-income countries jumped back to a record level in 2017, following the two consecutive years of decline.
- ✦ The officially recorded remittances to low and middle-income countries reached USD 466 billion in 2017 from USD 429 billion in 2016, an increase of 8.5 percent.
- ✦ Remittances in Europe and Central Asia grew by 21 percent to USD 48 billion in 2017, after three consecutive years of decline.
- ✦ Remittances to Sub-Saharan Africa increased by 11.4 percent to USD 38 billion in 2017, supported by improving economic growth in advanced economies.
- ✦ The global average cost of sending USD 200 was 7.1 percent in the first quarter of 2018.



India ranked 11th in FDI Confidence Index 2018

03 May '18

In global consultants AT Kearney’s Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) Confidence Index 2018, India’s ranking fell three places to 11th spot. Last year, India was ranked eighth. Its position was pushed out of the top 10 for the first time since 2015. Switzerland and Italy entered the top 10 for the first time in more than a decade, edging out India and Singapore. China also fell two positions below, to fifth rank.



This is an annual survey which tracks the impact of likely political, economic and regulatory changes on the FDI preferences of chief executive officers and chief financial officers.

- ✦ As per the report one factor for the fall could be the coming elections in India, as investors are likely to be monitoring political risks.
- ✦ However, the report says the sheer size of the Chinese and Indian markets will continue to attract investors and they remain the highest-ranking among emerging markets on the index.
- ✦ According to the report positive reforms, which made it for a favourable destination for foreign investment, include the abolition of the Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB) last year.
- ✦ Japan, the US, the UK, and Singapore consistently serve as a large sources of FDI for India. The country’s service sector is a target of particular interest for investors, with the government’s Economic Survey 2017–2018 noting FDI to the service sector will grow by 15 per cent from 2017 to 2018.



1		United States	●	7		France	●
2		Canada	▲3	8		Australia	▲1
3		Germany	▼1	9		Switzerland	▲3
4		United Kingdom	●	10		Italy	▲3
5		China	▼2	11		India	▼3
6		Japan	●	12		Singapore	▼2

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World Malaria Day is observed on April 25 every year. The theme for this year’s Malaria Day was ‘Ready to beat Malaria’.

India was the largest remittance-receiving country in the world

14 May '18

According to the report 'RemitSCOPE - Remittance markets and opportunities - Asia and the Pacific' released by International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), India was the largest remittance-receiving country in the world, with migrant workers from the country sending home \$69 billion in 2017, according to a report which said remittances to the Asia-Pacific region amounted to \$256 billion last year.

Key Points

- India with 69 billion Dollars, China with 64 billion Dollars and the Philippines with 33 billion Dollars are the three largest remittance-receiving countries in the world in 2017.
- Worldwide, an estimated 40 percent of the total value of remittances goes to rural areas. However, in the Asia-Pacific region, remittances go disproportionately to countries with a majority of rural populations such as Nepal 81 per cent, India 67 per cent, Vietnam 66 per cent, Bangladesh 65 per cent, Pakistan 61 per cent and the Philippines 56 per cent.
- According to the report, cash-to-cash transactions remain by far the most common form of transfer. It is only recently that technology is beginning to move markets towards account-to-account transfers through digital operations. There are now more than one million payment locations through the region, reflecting a greater digitalisation of transactions.



Chinese state-run bank launches India-dedicated investment fund 16 May '18

A state-run Chinese bank has launched the country's first India-dedicated publicly offered investment fund, saying the Indian market offers the best opportunity for Chinese investors due to the prospects of double-digit growth. The fund, named the Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC) Credit Suisse India Market Fund, will "invest in exchange-traded funds listed on more than 20 exchanges in Europe and the US that are based on the Indian market".

The bank listed sectors for investments specifically, in terms of the major industries weighted distribution of the index. The financial industry will account for the highest proportion, followed by information technology, alternative consumption, energy, essential consumption, raw materials, medicine, healthcare and other industries.



Industrial and Commercial Bank of China (ICBC)

Establishment : 1 January 1984 **Headquarters :** Beijing, China

Growth Rate Predictions

18 May '18

Organization	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
World Bank	6.7%	7.3%	7.5% (20-21)
IMF	6.7%	7.4%	7.8%
Nomura	-	7.8%(1 st Half)	-
Deutsche Bank	6.7%	7.5%	-
BMI Research	6.6%	7.3%	-
ADB	6.6%	7.3%	7.6%
Harvard University	-	7.9%	-
UN (ESCAP)	6.6%	7.2%	7.4%

7.6% in fiscal years 2017-18 and 2018-19 respectively. This is a substantial recovery from the 6.7% growth India registered in fiscal year 2017.

- According to a BMI Research, a Fitch group company, a Fitch group company, the negative shock from demonetisation and GST implementation has "largely subsided". It projected, India's economic growth to strengthen to 7.3 per cent in financial year 2018-19 (April-March) from 6.6 per cent in fiscal 2017-18.
- According to Harvard University's Report India tops the list as the fastest growing country for the coming decade, at 7.9 per cent annually, in the economic complexity growth projections. India has made inroads in diversifying its export base to include more complex sectors, such as chemicals, vehicles, and certain electronics.



Key Features

- The UN World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) as of mid-2018, launched at United Nations, said GDP growth in India is expected to climb to 7.5 and

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RBI puts Dena Bank under PCA

Reserve Bank has initiated prompt corrective action against public sector lender Dena Bank in view of high non-performing loans, restricting the bank from giving fresh credit and new hiring. The public sector lender reported widening of its net loss to Rs 1,225.42 crore in the March quarter on mounting bad loans and higher provisioning to cover them.

The net loss stood at Rs 575.26 crore in the January-March quarter of 2016-17.

Sequentially, the loss widened from Rs 380.07 crore in December quarter of 2017-18.

Earlier in January this year, Allahabad Bank had informed about being placed under RBI's PCA mechanism.

The RBI has initiated similar action against other public sector banks, including IDBI Bank, Indian Overseas Bank and UCO Bank before this.

The RBI in April 2017 had issued a new set of enabling provisions under the revised PCA framework with a clause that if the bank does not show improvement then it could be either be merged or taken over by other bank.



BSE becomes the first Indian stock exchange to get US SEC's DOSM recognition

20 May '18

BSE Ltd (earlier known as Bombay Stock Exchange) became first Indian exchange to be designated as Designated Offshore Securities Market (DOSM) by United States Securities and Exchange Commission (US-SEC).

Key Facts

DOSM status will allow sale of securities to US investors through trading venue of BSE without registration of such securities with US SEC. This will ease trades by US investors in India and also enhance attractiveness of Indian Depository Receipts (IDRs) amongst US investors.

The new status is also expected to primarily benefit securities issued in the US private placements to institutional investors. Moreover, it will provide liquid resale market which will exempt offerings by BSE-listed companies, making them more attractive to US investors.

DOSM status will also provide additional benefits to companies whose securities are traded both in the US and on BSE. It will allow certain directors and officers of dual-listed companies

to resell their securities on BSE, regardless of any restrictions or holding periods that may apply under US securities laws.

Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE)

BSE is Indian stock exchange located at Dalal Street, Mumbai (Maharashtra). It was established in 1875 (founded by Premchand Roychand as Native Share & Stock Brokers' Association), making it Asia's first stock exchange. It was first Indian stock exchange to be recognized by Government under the Securities Contracts Regulation Act in 1957. It has established India's first international exchange India INX in December 2016 in GIFT city, Gujarat.

BSE's popular equity index -S&P BSE SENSEX is India's most widely tracked stock market benchmark index. BSE also provides host of services to capital market participants including risk management, clearing, settlement, market data services and education.

BSE is the world's 12th largest stock exchange with overall market



capitalization of more than \$ 2 trillion as of July, 2017. It also claims to be world's fastest stock exchange, with median trade speed of 6 microseconds. It is also a Partner Exchange of United Nations Sustainable Stock Exchange initiative, joining in September 2012.

BSE is first exchange in India and second in world to obtain an ISO 9001:2000 certification. It is also first Exchange in India and second in world to receive Information Security Management System Standard BS 7799-2-2002 certification for its On-Line trading System (BOLT).



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According to the Nomura, India's GDP growth rate is expected to be 7.8 per cent in the first half of 2018.

Burning Topics of the Month

Indian women and men won team events in 8th South Asian Judo Championship.

India won 3 Gold medal in Belgrade International Boxing.

Shahzar Rizvi has bagged first place in ISSF world rankings.

& Many More...

Rafael Nadal won Monte Carlo Masters final

23 April '18

Rafael Nadal won a record 31st Masters title after beating Kei Nishikori in the Monte Carlo Masters final. It was Nadal's 11th singles title at Monte-Carlo and his 31st ATP Masters title, a new record in each case. By winning the title, Nadal also retained the ATP no. 1 singles ranking.



Monte-Carlo Masters

The Monte-Carlo Masters is an annual tennis tournament for male professional players held in Roquebrune-Cap-Martin, France. The event is part of the ATP World Tour Masters 1000 on the Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Tour. The tournament is held every year in the April–May period. The Monte Carlo tennis championship was first held in 1897. It became an "Open" event in 1969.

Rafael Nadal won the title eight consecutive times between 2005 and 2012, making him the only player to win eight consecutive titles at the same tournament.

India has won 8th South Asian Judo Championship

24 April '18

Indian women and men won team events in 8th South Asian Judo Championship held in Lalitpur, Nepal. Indian women won the championship by beating host Nepal by 5-0 in the final of team events. Indian men also won the team championship. They defeated Pakistan by 3-2 in the final.

Indian women grabbed all 7 gold medals in the individual category while men bagged 3 gold and 3 bronze medals.

India topped the medal tally winning 10 Gold and 3 Bronze medals in the individual category. Host Nepal remained second and Pakistan got third place.



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2019 Asian Senior (Men & Women) Weightlifting Championships will be held in India.

25 April '18

India will host the prestigious Asian Championship next year, which will also double up as a qualifying event for the 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo. The Championship was awarded to India at the Executive Board Meeting and Congress of the Asian Weightlifting Federation held at Urgench, Uzbekistan.

It is one of 2020 Olympic Qualification Events where more than 300 weightlifters will showcase their prowess and most of Olympic and Asian Games champions will participate in this prestigious event. It's for the first time in history of weightlifting that Asian Senior (Men & Women) Weightlifting Championships is being hosted by India.



Rafael Nadal wins 11th Barcelona title

30 April '18



World number one Rafael Nadal defeated Stefanos Tsitsipas to win Barcelona Open for a record-extending 11th time. With the win, the 31-year-old Spaniard also extended his winning streak on clay to 46 straight sets. Nadal is the only male tennis player in the Open Era to win two titles 11 times each in his career.



India won 3 Gold medal in Belgrade International Boxing

30 April '18

India has won 3 gold, 5 silver and 5 bronze medals in the 56th Belgrade International Boxing Tournament which was held from April 24-29 in Serbia. In the men's boxing, Sumit Sangwan (91kg), Nikhat Zarin (51kg) and Himanshu Sharma (49kg) bagged gold while Jamuna Rao (54kg) and Ralet Lalfakmavi (81+ kg) won silver in women.



Shahzar Rizvi has bagged first place in ISSF world rankings

01 May '18

Indian shooter Shahzar Rizvi grabbed the number one spot in ISSF world rankings, riding on his silver medal-winning performance in the just-concluded World Cup in Changwon, Korea.

With 1654 rating points, Rizvi shot to the numero uno spot ahead of Russia's Artem Chernousov (1046) and Japan's Tomoyuki Matsuda (803).

The other Indians in the top-10 are Jitu Rai, who is placed sixth on the chart, and Om Prakash Mitharval, at the 12th spot.

Besides the silver in Changwon, Rizvi had previously won a gold medal with a world record score at the World Cup in Guadalajara, Mexico in March.

Among the women, Manu Bhaker, who won a historic gold medal at the Commonwealth Games, was the only Indian in the top-10 of the women's 10m air pistol rankings at the fourth spot.

In the men's 10m air rifle rankings, shooters Ravi Kumar is placed fourth, while Deepak Kumar is at the ninth spot.

Akhil Sheoran (fourth) and Sanjeev Rajput (eighth) were the two Indians to find themselves in the top-10 of the men's 50m rifle 3 positions list.

Commonwealth Games silver-medallist Mehuli Ghosh (seventh), Apurvi



Chandela (11th) and Anjum Moudgil (12th) were the three Indians in the top-15 of the 10m women's air rifle rankings.

Anjum was also ranked eighth in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions.



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Indian junior athletes clinched overall title in the 3rd South Asian Junior Athletics Championships (SAJAC) which concluded at Sugathadasa Stadium in Colombo. At the end of the two-day meet, they bagged 20 gold, 22 silver and eight bronze medals to put India on top of the medals table.

Hosts Sri Lanka (12-10-19) and Pakistan (0-1-1) took second and third positions.

Indians also created new records in the men's long jump, triple jump, women's triple jump, 100m hurdles, javelin throw and 1500m events.



Kamalraj Kanagraj set new meet record in boys triple jump with a leap of 16.05m. The old record was 15.96m while Ashutosh Chouhan (15.37m) made it 1-2 for India. In girls event, Priyadarshini Suresh set a new meet record in triple jump with a distance of 12.90m while in javelin throw Sanjana Choudhary (48.08) also set a meet record.

Ajay Kumar Bind (boy's 5000m gold, 15:08.40s); Poonam Dinkar Sonune (girls 3000m gold, 9:50.21) were some of the other gold medal winners.

Arshdeep Singh provided India the first gold medal on the first day in the junior boy's javelin throw event with an effort of 71.47m, a new meet record. Sri Lankan duo of Prasanna Ranawaka (61.71m) and Anjana Fonseka (60.47m) won silver and bronze respectively.

A new meet record was also registered in the junior women's shot put event by India's Kiran Baliyan who won the gold with a 14.77m throw. India also grabbed the silver medal in this event through Anamika Das's 14.54m effort while Sri Lanka's Sarisha Gunasekara (11.51m) won the bronze.

Kerala athletes Mohammed Fias and Abigail Arokianathan brought home silver medals in boys 110m hurdles and girls 400m hurdles, respectively.

Lokesh Sathyanathan (7.74m) won the gold for India in the long jump final while in 100m hurdles Sapna Kumari bagged the gold with a timing of 14.19s. Durga Deore clocked 4:31.38 in 1500m to add one more gold to India's tally.



India won four-nation U-16 Football tournament in Serbia

14 May '18

India has won the four-nation Under-16 Football Tournament held in Serbia. Indian team has defeated Tajikistan by 4-2 in the finals.

In this tournament, the Indian team faced hosts Serbia, Jordan and Tajikistan. The Indian team had earlier scored a goalless draw against Serbia before winning on Tajikistan, while Jordan was beaten 2-1.



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The Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES) is tying up with US and Finland to develop new pollution-forecast system.

Shashank Manohar re-elected as Independent Chairman of ICC

Shashank Manohar was re-elected as the Independent Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for his second term. He was the sole nominee for the post and was nominated by the ICC Board itself.

Shashank Manohar's tenure as the first Independent Chairman of ICC

- ✦ Manohar became the first Independent Chairman of ICC in 2016.
- ✦ During his tenure of two years, he led significant reforms in cricket, reversing the resolutions of 2014.
- ✦ He was the one who introduced a revised governance structure, including the appointment of the ICC's first independent female director. Following which, Indra Nooyi was appointed as the first independent female Director of ICC.



Election process

- ✦ According to the election process of the International Cricket Council, each ICC director was allowed to nominate one candidate, who had to be either a present or a past ICC director.
- ✦ Nominees with the support of two or more directors would have been eligible to contest an election.
- ✦ However, given that Manohar was the sole nominee for the position, the election process was declared complete and Manohar was elected without any hassle.
- ✦ The complete election process was overseen by Edward Quinlan, Chairman of the Independent Audit Committee.

About Shashank Manohar

- ✦ He is a prominent Indian lawyer who has served twice as the President of BCCI, first from 2008 to 2011 and then from November 2015 to May 2016.
- ✦ During his tenure as the President of BCCI, India won the 2011 ICC Cricket World Cup defeating Sri Lanka by 6 wickets in the final.
- ✦ In June 2010, he took the much-praised decision of suspending Lalit Modi, the then Chairman of Indian Premier League and Vice-President of BCCI.



Mercedes' British Driver Lewis Hamilton has won the Spanish Grand Prix title

20 May '18

Lewis Hamilton has won the Spanish Grand Prix. The defending, four-time World champion dominated from start to finish, save for a spell during the mid-race pit-stops, and clocked a series of record laps as he registered his second successive win.

It was the 64th victory of his career — only Michael Schumacher on 91 has more — and came from his 74th pole.

He joined seven-time champion Schumacher and two-time champion Finn Mika Hakkinen as a three-time winner in Spain.

Finn Valtteri Bottas came home second ahead of Dutchman Max Verstappen of Red Bull who resisted late pressure from four-time champion Sebastian Vettel, who led Hamilton by 17 points after the opening three races this year.



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Burning Topics of the Month

China launched a new communication satellite "APSTAR-6C".

WHO has launched an initiative called REPLACE to eliminate Trans fats.

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change launched Green Skill Development Programme.

& Many More...

02 May '18

14 of Indian cities figure in World's 20 most polluted cities list: WHO

According to Global Urban Air Pollution database released by World Health Organisation (WHO), 14 Indian cities have figured in list of world's 20 most polluted cities in terms of particulate matter PM2.5 levels in 2016. These 14 cities include Delhi, Varanasi, Kanpur, Faridabad, Gaya, Patna, Agra, Muzaffarpur, Srinagar, Gurgaon, Jaipur, Patiala and Jodhpur. They were followed by Ali Subah Al-Salem (Kuwait) and few cities in China and Mongolia. In terms of PM10 levels, 13 cities in India figured among the 20 most-polluted cities.

Background

The database measured levels of fine particulate matter (PM10 and PM2.5) from more than 4,300 cities in 108 countries. It estimates that around 7 million people die every year from exposure to fine particles in polluted air that penetrate deep into lungs and cardiovascular system. WHO recognises air pollution is critical risk factor for noncommunicable diseases (NCDs) as it causes diseases including stroke, heart disease, lung cancer, chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases and respiratory infections, including pneumonia. Since 2016, over 1,000 additional cities are being added to WHO's database, showing

that more countries are measuring and taking action to reduce air pollution than ever before.

Key Facts

Pollution related Deaths: According to WHO database, ambient air pollution alone caused some 4.2 million deaths in 2016 across the globe, while household air pollution from cooking with polluting fuels and technologies have caused 3.8 million deaths in same period. It shows that 9 out of 10 people in the world breathe air containing high levels of pollutants.



India is Now Top Fifth Defence Spender

03 May '18

According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's report, India is now the world's fifth biggest military spenders, New Delhi's defense spending rose by 5.5 percent to \$63.9 billion in 2017 and has now passed France.

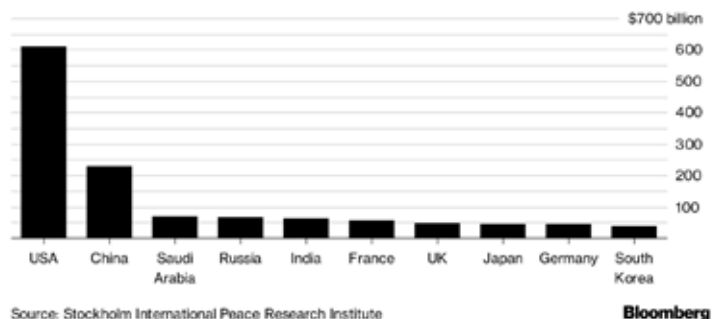
India was in the fifth spot, after the US, China, Saudi Arabia and Russia, and they together accounted for 60% of global military spending.

The list of the world's biggest military spenders has remained consistent in recent years, dominated by the U.S. and China, which spent \$610 billion and \$228 billion respectively.



Arms Race

India is now among the top five countries spending the most on defense in 2017



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04 May '18

China launched a new communication satellite "APSTAR-6C"



China has launched a new communication satellite "APSTAR-6C" at the southwestern Xichang Satellite Launch Center. The satellite was sent into orbit by the Long March-3B carrier rocket. This was the 273rd mission of the Long March rocket series. Both the satellite and the rocket were developed by the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation. The user of the satellite is Hong Kong-based APT Satellite Co. Ltd. The satellite will provide TV transmission, communication, Internet and multimedia services to customers across the Asia-Pacific region.



15 May '18

WHO has launched an initiative called REPLACE to eliminate Trans fats



The WHO has launched an initiative called REPLACE that will provide guidance for all countries on how to remove artificial trans fats from their foods, possibly leading to a worldwide eradication.

REPLACE stands for Review dietary sources, Promote use of healthier fats, Legislate, Assess changes, Create awareness and Enforce.

Artificial trans fats, or trans fatty acids, are made when vegetable oil hardens in a process called hydrogenation. Those hydrogenated fats can be used in fried foods, snack foods or baked goods, coffee creamer and ready-to-use frostings. They don't spoil as quickly as other fats, but they can have some harmful health effects, such as raising levels of "bad" LDL cholesterol and increasing risk of heart disease, stroke and type 2 diabetes.



Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP)

18 May '18

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) launched full-fledged Green Skill Development Programme (GSDP). It aims to train over 5.5 lakh workers in environment and forest sectors in the country through 30 courses by 2021 for sustainable conservation and management of natural resources. GSDP-ENVIS mobile application was also launched to provide more information and applying to courses under GSDP programme.

sustainable development. Under it, skilling of youth (especially 10th and 12th dropouts) will be undertaken for increasing availability of skilled workforce in environment and forest sector to provide them gainful employment or self-employment.

The green skills under it will be imparted in more than 30 programmes in diverse fields identified, which will be conducted in 84 institutions across country. Moreover, vast network and expertise of Environmental Information System (ENVIS) hubs and Resource Partners (RPs) will be utilized for implementation of this programme.

In the first stage, pool of master trainers and specialists is being created, who can further train youth across the country. All skilling courses under this programme will be National Skills

Qualifications Framework (NSQF) compliant. The MoEFCC will give certificates indicating skilling levels to all successful candidates.

Significance

The programme endeavours to develop green skilled workers having technical knowledge and commitment to sustainable development. It will go long way in reaping demographic dividend in the country and filling the skill gaps in environment and forest sector. It will help in attainment of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), National Biodiversity Targets (NBTs) and Waste Management Rules (2016).



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Assam government has appointed Kuladhar Saikia as the new Director General of Police of the state.

WHO published its first 'Essential Diagnostics List'

18 May '18

The World Health Organisation (WHO) has published its first 'Essential Diagnostics List', which is a catalogue of tests needed to diagnose the most common conditions along with a number of global priority diseases.

The list aims to address people's inability to access diagnostic services, which results in them failing to receive the correct treatment.

Significance

The list provides an essential package that can form the basis for screening and management of patients.

According to WHO, an estimated 46 per cent of adults with Type 2 diabetes worldwide were undiagnosed, risking serious health complications and higher health costs.

Late diagnosis of infectious diseases such as HIV and tuberculosis increases the risk of their spread and makes them more difficult to treat.

Key Features of the list

The essential diagnostics list concentrates on in-vitro tests

like tests of blood and urine.

It comprises 58 tests for detection and diagnosis of a wide range of common conditions.

It also comprises 55 tests for the detection, diagnosis and monitoring of 'priority' diseases such as HIV, tuberculosis, malaria, hepatitis B and C, human papillomavirus and syphilis.

Some of the tests are particularly suitable for primary health care facilities, where laboratory services are often poorly resourced and sometimes non-existent for example, tests that can rapidly diagnose a child for acute malaria or glucometers to test diabetes. These tests do not require electricity or trained personnel.

For each category of test, the list specifies the type of test and intended use, format and if appropriate for primary health care or for health facilities with laboratories.



The list also provides links to WHO guidelines or publications and to pre-qualified products.

Objective

With the publication of the essential diagnostics list, WHO aims to provide a tool that can be useful to all countries, not only to test and treat health complications better but also to use health funds more efficiently by concentrating on the truly essential tests.

The list, similar to the WHO essential medicines list, which has been in use for four decades, is intended to serve as a reference for countries to update or develop their own list of essential diagnostics.



Fourth meeting of South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) held in Kolkata

20 May '18

The fourth meeting of South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN), an inter-governmental wildlife law enforcement agency was held in Kolkata, West Bengal (India). It was the first meeting of SAWEN to be held in India since its inception in 2011.

Key Outcomes of meeting

The two-day conference was attended by representatives of seven (excluding Pakistan) out of eight member countries. Six proposals, including tracking of wildlife smuggling route, review of existing laws and structure for the organisation were tabled during the meeting. Participating countries also adopted many resolutions to curb wildlife crime in the region. They agreed on having operational framework for strengthening the regional body to combat wildlife crime.

South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN)

SAWEN is regional inter-governmental wildlife law enforcement support body of South Asian Countries. It was launched in January, 2011 in Paro, Bhutan during the second meeting of the South Asia Expert Group on Illegal Wildlife Trade. Its secretariat is in Kathmandu, Nepal. Its regional network comprises of eight South Asia countries: Afghanistan, Pakistan, India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Maldives.

Mandate: SAWEN aims at working collectively as a strong regional inter-governmental body to combat wildlife crime by attaining common mutual goals and approaches for combating illegal trade in the region. It also seeks to control trans-boundary wildlife crime through communication, coordination, collaboration, capacity building and cooperation in the region.



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Burning Topics of the Month

India ranks 4th in Asia-Pacific on power index.

India is in best position for H-1B visa holders in the US.

Shivangi Pathak - youngest Indian women from to scale Mt Everest from Nepal side.

& Many More...

Former Indian football Team captain Bhaichung Bhutia has launched his political party 'Hamro Sikkim'.

27 April '18

Former Indian football captain Bhaichung Bhutia launched his political party "Hamro Sikkim" in New Delhi. The party will be based in his native state Sikkim. The hill state is presently being ruled by Sikkim Democratic Front and five-term Chief Minister Pawan Chamling, who has virtually faced no proper opposition till now. Bhaichung's political front may



pose challenges to the SDF in the Assembly elections next year. The former footballer made it clear that corruption, unemployment and drug menace in Sikkim would be the main planks his party would focus on.

Sikkim Facts

Capital : Gangtok

Largest city: Gangtok

- **Governor :** Shriniwas Patil
- **Chief Minister :** Pawan Chamling



- **High Court :** Sikkim High Court

Boundary: It is surrounded by Nepal, China's Tibet Autonomous Region, Bhutan and West Bengal.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas to be held in Varanasi

30 April '18

The next Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in the holy city of Varanasi in January. This year's event would be inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Mauritian counterpart Pravind Jugnauth. Organised by the Ministry of External Affairs in association with the Uttar Pradesh government, the theme of the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India".

About Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD)

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on 9th January every year to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian community in the development of India. 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.

PBD conventions are being held every year since 2003. These conventions provide a platform to the overseas Indian community to engage with the government and people of the land of their ancestors for mutually beneficial activities. These conventions are also very useful in networking among the overseas Indian community residing in various parts of the world and enable them to share their experiences in various fields.

During the event, individuals of exceptional merit are honoured with the prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award to appreciate their role in India's growth. The event also provides a forum for discussing key issues concerning the Indian Diaspora.



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According to Deloitte's India Economic Outlook Report 2018, India's Gross Domestic Product(GDP) growth rate is expected to 7.2 % in the Financial Year 2018-19.

NEWS BITES | MISCELLANEOUS

India ranks 4th in Asia-Pacific on power index

08 May '18

India has ranked fourth out of 25 nations in the Asia-Pacific region on an index that measures their overall power, with the country being pegged as a "giant of the future" but trails behind in indicators of defence networks and economic relationships.

The Lowy Institute Asia Power Index measures power across 25 countries and territories in the Asia-Pacific region including Pakistan, Russia, Australia, New Zealand and the US.

A country's overall power is its weighted average across eight measures of power - economic resources, military capability, resilience, future trends, diplomatic influence, economic relationships, defence networks and cultural influence.

Among the key findings from the inaugural 2018 index are

- That the US remains the pre-eminent

power in Asia, while China, the emerging superpower, is rapidly closing in on the United States.

- Three of the world's four largest economies are in Asia, and the fourth, the United States, is a Pacific power.
- By 2025, two-thirds of the world's population will live in Asia, compared with just over a tenth in the West.

Key findings about India

- India is ranked fourth on the parameters economic resources, military capability, diplomatic influence and fifth on resilience.
- India scores well on the parameters of cultural influence and future trends, ranking third in both. However, it scores low on the measure of economic

relationships, ranking 7th and in defence networks, ranking 10th.

- Report said that India ranks third for its aggregate resources score and is set to become the fastest-growing economy in the region, predicted to grow 169 per cent between 2016 and 2030. It also stands to gain an additional 169 million people to its working-age population by 2030.

Russia, Australia, South Korea, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Thailand, New Zealand, Vietnam, Pakistan, Taiwan, Philippines and North Korea are ranked as "middle powers" while Bangladesh, Brunei, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Cambodia, Mongolia, Laos and Nepal as "minor powers."



Times Higher Education Emerging Economies University Rankings 2018

10 May '18

Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and some of the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) were ranked among the top 50 varsities in the Times Higher Education Emerging Economies University Rankings 2018. IIT Kharagpur climbed 26 places to break into the top 50 universities. IISc was ranked 13th, up from its previous position of 14, IIT Bombay maintained its ranking of 26. IIT Kharagpur was placed at 45th position. National Institute of Technology, Rourkela was the highest riser, with a jump of 57 positions. This jump was attributed to its research work and increase in citations.

Overall, 42 Indian institutions participated in the ranking this year, up from 27 last year. The Indian universities were competing against 350 universities and institutions from 42 emerging economies, including China, Taiwan, Russia, Brazil and Indonesia. However, most Indian universities, including the IIT at Kanpur, Delhi and Chennai, slipped in ranking. IIT Kanpur fell from 32nd to 49th position this year, whereas IIT Delhi came down to 63rd position from its previous ranking of 32. IIT Madras was down to 70, from its previous position of 35. Overall, Chinese universities were on the top. China's Peking and Tsinghua universities claimed the top two spots for fifth consecutive year.

India has taken several measures to improve global rankings of its universities in the recent past. These measures include establishing its own ranking process and allowing graded autonomy to some institutions for hiring foreign faculty and designing new courses. India is also in



the process of setting up 20 institutes of eminence, with an aim to break into the world's top 100 universities.

Ranking of Indian Institution		
2018 Rank	2017 Rank	Institution Name
13	14	Indian Institute of Science
26	26	Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
45	71	Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur
49	32	Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur
56	62	Indian Institute of Technology Roorkee
63	32	Indian Institute of Technology Delhi
70	35	Indian Institute of Technology Madras
99	140	Tezpur University
114	106	Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati
117	99	Jadavpur University
127	109	University of Delhi
130	135	Punjab University
138	195	National Institute of Technology Rourkela
146	NR	Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines) Dhanbad
167	157	Aligarh Muslim University
180	143	Savitribai Phule Pune University
195	201-250	Amrita University
201-250	NR	Banaras Hindu University
(NR indicates not ranked)		

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India is in best position for H-1B visa holders in the US

India accounted for 74.2 per cent of the total number of H-1B visas issued by the US to technology professionals. In 2016 and the next year the figure increased to 75.6 per cent.

United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) said in its report in Washington that in 2016, as many as 70,737 Indians received initial H-1B visas, which dropped to 67,815. During the same period, Indians accounted for 185,489 visas for continuing employment, which increased to 208,608 in 2017. In all there were 256,226 Indians on H1B visas in 2016 and 276,423 in 2017.

However there has been a drop in the number of new H-1B beneficiaries from India, the report said. China with a little over nine per cent, comes a distant second

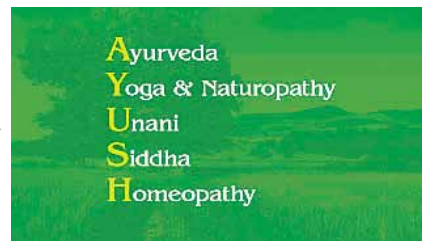


after India in terms of number of H-1B visas. The figures for China were 9.3 and 9.4 per cent respectively for 2016 and 2017.



“AYUSH” finds a place in English Language

The Commission for Scientific and Technical Terminology has decided to adopt the word ‘AYUSH’ in Hindi and English languages for scientific and technical purposes. The “AYUSH” became popular as the acronym for five traditional and complementary systems of medicine, namely Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha and Homoeopathy and successfully adopted and used in all Government communications. The decision follows a proposal from the Ministry of AYUSH in this regards.



As approved by the Commission, the word ‘ayush’ will have the meaning “Traditional and Non-Conventional Systems of Health Care and Healing which include Ayurveda, Yoga, Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, Sowa Rigpa, Homoeopathy etc. Following the Commission’s recognition, the word is expected to gain currency in popular usage in a short span of time.

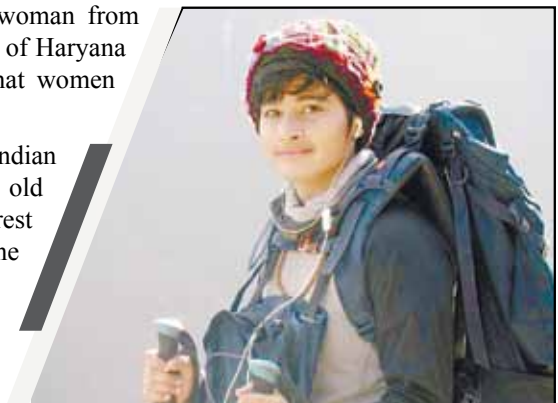


Shivangi Pathak - The youngest Indian woman to scale Mt Everest from Nepal side

16-year-old Shivangi Pathak has become the youngest woman from India to scale Mt Everest from Nepal side. Born in Hisar of Haryana Shivangi climbed Mt Everest to spread the message that women could overcome any obstacle to achieve their goals.



She was inspired by Arunima Sinha, the first Indian amputee to climb Mt Everest. In 2014, 13 year old Malavath Purna from India had climbed Mt Everest from Tibet side and became the youngest girl in the world to summit at Everest.



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NEWS BITES | MISCELLANEOUS

Jagrati Yatra has won Asian Voice Charity Award

20 May '18

An Indian charity 'Jagrati Yatra' that organises 15-day train journeys around India to understand and build the India of smaller towns and villages through enterprise has won Asian Voice Charity Award in London.

“Jagrati Yatra organises 15-day train journeys, covering 800 km for 400 young change-makers across India every year. It has created some of India’s foremost social entrepreneurs and pioneers of enterprise-led development that cuts across socio-economic boundaries in India.

The journey takes to understand and build the India of smaller towns and villages through enterprise.

The Cleft Lip and Palate Association won the Charity of the Year award for its work as the only United Kingdom-wide voluntary organisation helping those affected by cleft lip and palate.

Asian Voice Charity Awards

The third annual Asian Voice Charity Awards in London, organised by Britain’s oldest Asian diaspora publication ‘Asian Voice’ and Europe’s first independent charity due diligence platform Charity Clarity, recognised winners from across Britain, Afghanistan, India, Tibet and attracted an audience from around 40 countries.

The Editor’s Award for Community Service went to Sangat Advice Centre, based in Harrow and Wealdstone in north London. The charity helps the local South Asian community with legal information about their rights to welfare benefits, access to debt, immigration issues, anti-discrimination and to tackle homelessness.



Central University in Andhra Pradesh

20 May '18

The Union Cabinet has given its in-principle approval for establishing Central University by name of Central University of Andhra Pradesh in Jantalu village of Ananthapur District of Andhra Pradesh. It also approved the proposal for operationalization of Central University in transit campus.

Key Facts

Initially, the Central University will be formed as society under Societies Registration Act, 1860 in order to give legal status to it till amendment to Central Universities Act, 2009 is enacted and to enable commencement of academic activities from Academic Year 2018-19.

The Central University will be mentored by existing Central University till its governing structure is in place. It will increase access and quality of higher education and help in minimizing the regional imbalances in education facilities. It also gives effect to some provisions of Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act, 2014.



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WORLD OF ENGLISH | ETYMOLOGY

EDITORIAL WORD

Precedent (noun) /'pre si d(ə)nt/

An earlier event or action that is regarded as an example or guide to be considered in subsequent similar circumstances.

e.g. 'there are substantial precedents for using interactive media in training'.

PRONUNCIATION

It could be simply broken into two parts pre+ cedent - hence it may be pronounced as precedent

More example sentences

- ✎ 'People claimed that the precedent set out by the sleeper hit in 1998 was finally superseded.'
- ✎ 'The public sentiment would have been the necessity for humanitarian considerations to overcome precedent this once.'

In terms of Law

A previous case or legal decision that may be or (binding precedent) must be followed in subsequent similar cases.

'we hope to set a legal precedent to protect hundreds of miles of green lanes'

More example sentences

- ✎ 'Furthermore, this is a case of general importance and it may well set a precedent.'
- ✎ 'Critics say that the judges should have let the 1963 precedent stand, even if it was bad.'

DEFINITIONS

a : something done or said that may serve as an example or rule to authorize or justify a subsequent act of the same

or an analogous kind a verdict that had no precedent

b : the convention established by such a precedent or by long practice

c : a person or thing that serves as a model

ORIGIN

Late Middle English: from Old French, literally 'preceding'.

Precedent (adjective)

1. Going before:

advance, antecedent, anterior, earlier, preceding, previous, prior.

2. Just gone by or elapsed:

antecedent, anterior, earlier, foregoing, former, past, preceding.

SYNONYMS

Model, example, paradigm

ANTONYMS

After, following, later

EXAMPLES OF PRECEDENT IN A SENTENCE

- ✎ 'If this court hears the case, they say, any decision would set a precedent and would have ramifications across the country.'
- ✎ 'The court should never view a foreign legal decision as a precedent in any way.'
- ✎ 'A lower court cannot set precedent, and must follow any higher courts decision.'

FIRST KNOWN USE OF

15TH Century

NEW AND TRICKY

SUFFIX-	DESCRIPTION	PART OF SPEECH	MADE FROM	EXAMPLES
ENT	doing something	Adjective or noun	Verb	Intransigent, fervent, complacent

OTHER PARTS OF SPEECH

variable noun

If there is a precedent for an action or event, it has happened before, and this can be regarded as an argument for doing it again.

[formal]

- ✎ The trial could set an important precedent for dealing with large numbers of similar cases.
- ✎ There are plenty of precedents in Hollywood for letting people out of contracts.

adjective

1. that precedes; preceding

2. an act, statement, legal decision, case, etc. that may serve as an example, reason, or justification for a later one

3. a practice based upon earlier precedents

Contemporary Examples

- ✎ 'I want the kind of precedent I have seen in Europe followed here.'
- ✎ 'This is both illogical and a precedent we should not allow to be set.'
- ✎ 'However, based on precedent the cards are stacked against them.'

DESIGNATION | WHO'S WHO

WHO'S WHO		
S.No.	DESIGNATION	NAME
1.	Chairman, Rajya Sabha	Venkaiah Naidu
2.	Lok Sabha Speaker	Sumitra Mahajan
3.	Chairman of NITI Ayog	Narendra D Modi
4.	Leader of Opposition in Rajya Sabha	Gulam Nabi Azad
5.	Leader of House in Lok Sabha	Narendra D Modi
6.	Leader of Opposition in Lok Sabha	Mallikarjun Kharge
7.	Chief Election Commissioner	Om Prakash Rawat
8.	Election Commissioner	Ashok Lavasa, Sunil Arora
9.	Director General, ITBP	RK Pachnanda
10.	Chief Vigilance Commissioner	K V chaudhary
11.	Foreign Secretary	Vijay Keshav Gokhale
12.	Comptroller & Auditor General of India	Rajeev Mehrishi
13.	Chairman, National Commission for Backward Classes	Jus. Vangala Eswaraiah
14.	Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India	R. S Sharma
15.	CBI Director	Alok Kumar Verma
16.	Chairman, National Commission for Scheduled Tribes	Nand Kumar Sai
17.	Chairperson, National Commission for Minorities	Syed Ghayorul Hasan Rizvi
18.	Chairman, UPSC	Vinay Mittal
19.	Director General, National Investigation Agency	Y.C. Modi
20.	Chairman, UGC	D.P. Singh
21.	Chairman, Space Commission and ISRO	K. Sivan
22.	Chairman, Atomic Energy Commission and Sec. Deptt. of Atomic Energy	Sekhar Basu
23.	Chairman, SSC	Ashim Khurana
24.	Chairman, National Human Rights Commission	Justice H.L. Dattu
25.	Registrar General of India and Census Commissioner	Sailesh
26.	Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes	Sushil Chandra
27.	Chairman, Insurance Regulatory Development Authority of India	Subash Chandra Khuntia
28.	Chairman, Securities & Exchange Board of India	Ajay Tyagi
29.	Chairperson, State Bank of India	Rajnish Kumar
30.	Chairman, LIC	V.K. Sharma
31.	India's permanent representative in UNO	Syed Akbaruddin
32.	Home Secretary	Rajiv Gauba
33.	Chairperson of National Commission for Women	Rekha Sharma
34.	Chairman, 15th Finance Commission	N.K. Singh
35.	Chairman, Competition Commission of India	Devendra Kumar Sikri
36.	Chairperson, Central Board of Film Certification	Prasoon Joshi
37.	President, ASSOCHAM	Sandeep Jajodia
38.	Chairman, NASSCOM	Rishad Premji
39.	New Chief of Army Staff	Bipin Rawat
40.	Director General, RAW	Anil Dhasmana
41.	Chairperson, Children Film Society of India	Mukesh Khanna
42.	Director, Bhabha Atomic Research Centre	Kamlesh Nilkanth Vyas
43.	President, CII	Rakesh Bharti Mittal
44.	President, FICCI	Rashesh Shah
45.	Chairman, National Knowledge Commission	Sam Pitroda
46.	National Security Advisor	Ajit Doval
47.	Chairperson, Prasar Bharati	Dr. A. Surya Prakash
48.	Chairman, Investment Commission	Ratan Tata
49.	Finance Secretary	Hasmukh Adhia
50.	Chairman, Indian Banks Association	Usha Ananthasubramanian

Data as on 20th May, 2018

Krishan Kumar has been appointed as the next Ambassador of India to the Norway.

JULY 2018 | MICA

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OUR PRESENCE | BRANCH MOBILE NO.

Branch Name	Phone Number
Agra	9235253430/ 9236455136
Ahmedabad	9227575027
Ajmer	9261503888
Aligarh	7706008037
Allahabad	9235253403
Alwar	9521177944
Ambala	9253058711 /7206424816
Ambikapur	8823868882
Amritsar	9646606160
Asansol	7076880723
Azamgarh	9208242842
Budaun	9627671787
Bahraich	9208249852
Balasore	9583185223
Ballia	9208243152
Banda	9554334847
Bangalore	9538712808
Bareilly	9235253431
Basti	7706008031
Berhampur	9078907945
Bhagalpur	9204363221
Bhilai-Durg	8878783345
Bhopal-MP Nagar	9229174901
Bhopal-Lalghati	9229174902
Bhubaneswar	9237026745/ 9237081352
Bijnor	7706008027
Bilaspur	8878817515
Bulandshahr	7706008030
Chandigarh	9256002024
Chennai	8939777224
Coimbatore	8110967668
Cuttack	7894013095
Darbhanga	9204303818/ 9204300620
Dehradun	9236510116
Delhi Janakpuri	9212069515
Delhi Kingsway	9268561517
Delhi Laxmi Nagar	9268209355 /9268693952
Delhi Munirka	9210092245
Delhi Rohini	9250239671/9250239674

Deoria	9208248122
Dhanbad	9204979723/24
Durgapur	7076856390
Ernakulam	9645415987
Etah	9208237386
Faizabad	9235253421
Faridabad	9643396140
Farrukhabad	7706008029
Fatehpur	9554330811
Firozabad	9208235736
Gaya	9204311416
Ghaziabad	9212229752/24
Ghaziipur	9208244539
Gonda	9208250778
Gorakhpur	9235253400/ 9208205892
Gurugram	9643396139
Guwahati	8134935078
Gwalior	9229174910
Haldwani	9208256021
Hardoi	9208248208
Haridwar	7706008034
Hisar	9253678050
Hoshangabad	8358831338
Hyderabad-Ameerpet	9247749865 /8790034792
Hyderabad- Dilsukh Nagar	7032410704
Indore	7581800952
Jabalpur	9229174905
Jaipur	9261601713/ 9261518894
Jammu	9419305561
Jamshedpur	8877187640
Jaunpur	9208244355
Jhalandhar	8557088164
Jhansi	9235253424
Jodhpur	9636512855
Kanpur Kakadev	9235253484
Kanpur Kidwainagar	9235253482
Kanpur Mall Road	9236757143/ 9236720133
Karnal	8930175568
Kolkata	9230141497/8017652045

BRANCH MOBILE NO. | **OUR PRESENCE**

Kurukshetra	9253678053
Lakhimpur	9208251562
Lucknow Alambagh PO	9235253521
Lucknow Alambagh SSC	9235253438/66
Lucknow Bhootnath	9235253528
Lucknow Gomti Nagar	9235253548
Lucknow Mahanagar PO	9235253443
Lucknow Rajajipuram	9235253425
Ludhiana	9256002028
Mainpuri	9208241450
Mathura	9208235067
Meerut	9235253448
Mirzapur	9208243884
Moradabad	9235253442
Mumbai	9221944071
Muzaffarnagar	7706008032
Muzaffarpur	9204303515/ 9204355614
Nagpur Gandhinagar	9272273686/9272295576
Nagpur-Buldi	9168558073
Nasik	9168512624/ 9168511626
Noida	9953948834
Orai	9208237457
Patiala	9780859721
Patna Boaring Road	9204855301/02
Patna Fraizer Road	9204855305/06/09/11

Pilibhit	9837186684
Pratapgarh	9208245660
Pune	9225231629
Raebareilly	9235253412
Raipur	9229174912/ 9200193438
Rajkot	9979316870
Rampur	9208255388
Ranchi	9204855313
Rewa	7415690904
Rohtak	8930403886
Roorkee	7706008033
Sagar	7509219781
Saharanpur	9235253445
Sambalpur	8594958962/ 8594959148
Shahjahanpur	9208256201
Shimla	8894100342
Siliguri	7602742939
Sitapur	7706008028/ 9235253514
Sultanpur	9208252915
Surat	9537360459
Tirupati	9581933099
Thiruvananthapuram	9645415029
Unnao	9208242493
Vadodara	9537589477
Varanasi	9235253419
Vijaywada	8886309897
Vishakapatnam	9966593419
Warangal	8142230661



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National Bamboo Mission (NBM)



The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved Centrally Sponsored Scheme of National Bamboo Mission (NBM) under National Mission for Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA) during remaining period of Fourteenth Finance Commission (2018-19 & 2019-20). The Mission would ensure holistic development of the bamboo sector by addressing complete value chain and establishing effective linkage of producers (farmers) with industry. CCEA has also approved Empowerment of Executive Committee for formulation of guidelines of the NBM and to make the changes therein, including cost norms for various interventions from time-to-time as per the felt needs and specific recommendations of States, with the approval of Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers Welfare.

Expenditure:

An outlay of Rs.1290 crore (with Rs. 950 crore as Central share) is provisioned for implementation of the Mission during the remaining period of 14th Finance Commission (2018-19 and 2019-20).

Beneficiaries:

The scheme will benefit directly and indirectly the farmers as well as local artisans and associated personnels engaged in bamboo sector including associated industries. Since it is proposed to bring about one lakh ha area under plantation, it is expected that about one lakh farmers would be directly benefitted in terms of plantation.

States/ districts covered:

The Mission will focus on development of bamboo in limited States where it has social, commercial and economical advantage, particularly in the North Eastern region and States including Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Chhattisgarh, Odisha, Karnataka, Uttarakhand, Bihar, Jharkhand, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Tamil Nadu and Kerala. The Mission is expected to establish about 4000 treatment/ product development units and bring more than 100000 ha area under plantation.

Impact:

Bamboo plantation will contribute to optimizing farm productivity and income thereby enhancing livelihood opportunities of small & marginal farmers including landless

and women as well as provide quality material to industry. Thus, the Mission will not only serve as a potential instrument for enhancing income of farmers but also contributing towards climate resilience and environmental benefits. The Mission will also help in creating employment generation directly or indirectly in both skilled and unskilled segments.

The restructured NBM strives to -

To increase the area under bamboo plantation in non forest Government and private lands to supplement farm income and contribute towards resilience to climate change.

To improve post-harvest management through establishment of innovative primary processing units, treatment and seasoning plants, primary treatment and seasoning plants, preservation technologies and market infrastructure. To promote product development at micro, small and medium levels and feed bigger industry.

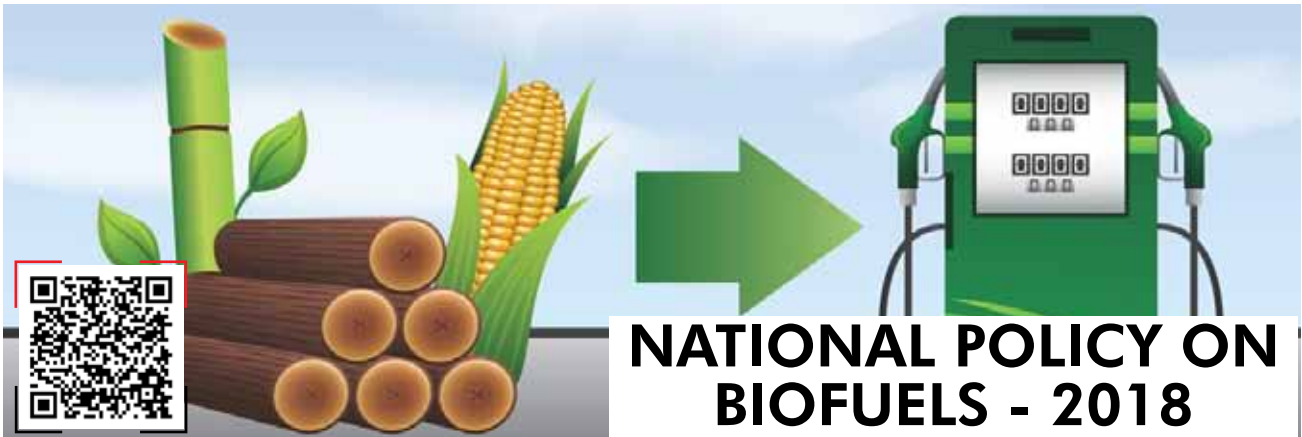
Background:

National Bamboo Mission (NBM) started as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 2006-07, was mainly emphasizing on propagation and cultivation of bamboo, with limited efforts on processing, product development and value addition. There, was weak linkage between the producers (farmers) and the industry. The restructured proposal gives simultaneous emphasis to propagation of quality plantations of bamboo, product development and value addition including primary processing and treatment; micro, small & medium enterprises as well as high value products; markets and skill development, thus addressing the complete value chain for growth of the bamboo sector.

Details and progress of scheme if already running:

National Bamboo Mission (NBM) was initially started as a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 2006-07 and was subsumed under Mission for Integrated Development of Horticulture (MIDH) during 2014-15 and continued till 2015-16. Funds were released thereafter only for maintenance of bamboo plantations raised earlier under NBM, and no new work or annual action plan was initiated. Since 2006-07, an area of 3.62 lakh ha covered under bamboo plantations and 39 bamboo wholesale markets, 40 bamboo bazaars and 29 retail outlets were set up.

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The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved National Policy on Biofuels – 2018. The Policy expands the scope of raw material for ethanol production by allowing use of Sugarcane Juice, Sugar containing materials like Sugar Beet, Sweet Sorghum, Starch containing materials like Corn, Cassava, Damaged food grains like wheat, broken rice, Rotten Potatoes, unfit for human consumption for ethanol production.

Salient Features:

- i. The Policy categorises biofuels as "Basic Biofuels" viz. First Generation (1G) bioethanol & biodiesel and "Advanced Biofuels" - Second Generation (2G) ethanol, Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) to drop-in fuels, Third Generation (3G) biofuels, bio-CNG etc. to enable extension of appropriate financial and fiscal incentives under each category.
- ii. Farmers are at a risk of not getting appropriate price for their produce during the surplus production phase. Taking this into account, the Policy allows use of surplus food grains for production of ethanol for blending with petrol with the approval of National Biofuel Coordination Committee.
- iii. With a thrust on Advanced Biofuels, the Policy indicates a viability gap funding scheme for 2G ethanol Bio refineries of Rs.5000 crore in 6 years in addition to additional tax incentives, higher purchase price as compared to 1G biofuels.
- iv. The Policy encourages setting up of supply chain mechanisms for biodiesel production from non-edible oilseeds, Used Cooking Oil, short gestation crops.
- v. Roles and responsibilities of all the concerned Ministries/Departments with respect to biofuels has been captured in the Policy document to synergise efforts.

Expected Benefits:

- ✎ **Reduce Import Dependency:** One crore lit of E10 saves Rs.28 crore of forex at current rates. The ethanol supply year 2017-18 is likely to see a supply of around 150 crore litres of ethanol which will result in savings of over Rs.4000 crore of forex.
- ✎ **Cleaner Environment:** One crore lit of E-10 saves around 20,000 ton of CO₂ emissions. For the ethanol supply year 2017-18, there will be lesser emissions of CO₂ to the tune of 30 lakh ton. By reducing crop burning & conversion of agricultural residues/wastes to biofuels there will be further reduction in Green House Gas emissions.
- ✎ **Health Benefits:** Prolonged reuse of Cooking Oil for preparing food, particularly in deep-frying is a potential health hazard and can lead to many diseases. Used Cooking Oil is a potential feedstock for biodiesel and its use for making biodiesel will prevent diversion of used cooking oil in the food industry.
- ✎ **MSW Management:** It is estimated that, annually 62 MMT of Municipal Solid Waste gets generated in India. There are technologies available which can convert waste/plastic, MSW to drop in fuels. One ton of such waste has the potential to provide around 20% of drop in fuels.
- ✎ **Infrastructural Investment in Rural Areas:** It is estimated that, one 100klpd bio refinery will require around Rs.800 crore capital investment. At present Oil Marketing Companies are in the process of setting up twelve 2G bio refineries with an investment of around Rs.10,000 crore. Further addition of 2G bio refineries across the Country will spur infrastructural investment in the rural areas.
- ✎ **Employment Generation:** One 100klpd 2G bio refinery can contribute 1200 jobs in Plant Operations, Village Level Entrepreneurs and Supply Chain Management.

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✎ **Additional Income to Farmers:** By adopting 2G technologies, agricultural residues/waste which otherwise are burnt by the farmers can be converted to ethanol and can fetch a price for these waste if a market is developed for the same. Also, farmers are at a risk of not getting appropriate price for their produce during the surplus production phase. Thus conversion of surplus grains and agricultural biomass can help in price stabilization.

Background:

In order to promote biofuels in the country, a National Policy on Biofuels was made by Ministry of New and Renewable Energy during the year 2009. Globally, biofuels have caught the attention in last decade and it is imperative to keep up with the pace of developments in the field of biofuels. Biofuels in India are of strategic importance as it augers well with the ongoing initiatives of the Government such as Make in India, Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, Skill Development and offers great opportunity to integrate with the ambitious targets of doubling of Farmers Income,

Import Reduction, Employment Generation, Waste to Wealth Creation. Biofuels programme in India has been largely impacted due to the sustained and quantum non-availability of domestic feedstock for biofuel production which needs to be addressed.

A biofuel is a fuel that is produced through contemporary biological processes, such as agriculture and anaerobic digestion, rather than a fuel produced by geological processes such as those involved in the formation of fossil fuels, such as coal and petroleum, from prehistoric biological matter.

Biofuels can be derived directly from plants, or indirectly from agricultural, commercial, domestic, and/or industrial wastes. Renewable biofuels generally involve contemporary carbon fixation, such as those that occur in plants or microalgae through the process of photosynthesis. Other renewable biofuels are made through the use or conversion of biomass (referring to recently living organisms, most often referring to plants or plant-derived materials).

Generations of Biofuels
<p>First Generation Biofuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✎ They are produced directly from food crops. ✎ Crops such as wheat & sugar are the most widely used feedstock
<p>Second Generation Biofuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✎ They are produced from marginal croplands unsuitable for food production or non-food crops such as wood, organic waste, food crop waste and specific biomass crops. For example- Jatropha. ✎ Thus, it overcomes over food vs fuel debate in first generation biofuel. ✎ It is also aimed at being cost competitive in relation to existing fossil fuels and increasing Net energy gains.
<p>Third Generation Biofuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✎ It is based on improvements on the production of biomass by taking advantage of specially engineered energy crops such as algae as its energy source. ✎ The algae are cultured to act as a low-cost, high- energy and entirely renewable feedstock. ✎ Algae will have the potential to produce more energy per acre than conventional crops.
<p>Fourth Generation Biofuels</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✎ Fourth Generation Bio-fuels are aimed at producing sustainable energy and also capturing and storing carbon dioxide. ✎ This process differs from second and third generation production as at all stages of production the carbon dioxide is captured which can be then geo-sequestered. ✎ This carbon capture makes fourth generation biofuel production carbon negative rather than simply carbon neutral, as it is 'locks' away more carbon than it produces.



20 YEARS OF POKHRAN



India marked itself in the map of nuclear world after Independence after two nuclear tests. First on May 18, 1974, when India conducted its first nuclear test in the deserts of Pokhran, Rajasthan making it a peaceful nuclear explosion.

The assigned code name of India's first successful nuclear bomb test is 'Smiling Buddha'. With this, India became the world's sixth nuclear power after the United States, Soviet Union, Britain, France and China to successfully test out a nuclear bomb.

Another milestone was achieved in 1998, which made India to adjust its place in the list of self-reliant and nuclear capable nations. The tests were carried out in secrecy and were revealed after their success. Pokhran which means "Place of 5 Mirages" is the place where both the nuclear tests were carried out. These tests raised a worldwide uproar and registered India's name in the list of nuclear nations.

The story of 'Pokhran' II

Twenty years ago, on May 11, 1998, India took a leap into the unknown world of nuclear weapon powers with the tests at Pokhran. The five nuclear devices exploded during the Pokhran II Test were Shakti I, II, III, IV and V.

It consisted of 5 detonations. First one was fusion and remaining 4 were fission bomb test. This test made India 6th nation to have tested a nuclear weapon.

May 11, the day of first of the five explosions during the Pokhran-II nuclear weapons testing, was officially declared as the National Technology Day.

The decision was taken after great deliberation and with preparation, but the reaction of the world would affect the future of India was unknown. But today, it is certain that the action was timely and inevitable. India has more or less achieved the strategic goals that the nuclear tests set their sights on.

What happened after Pokhran II Nuclear Tests:

The United States imposed sanctions on India, cutting off all aid except humanitarian assistance. The then President Bill Clinton signed official papers imposing the measures on India for carrying out nuclear tests.

The two new nuclear explosions drew further world condemnation. Pakistan had bitterly condemned the latest Indian tests.

- ✎ Pokhran-II nuclear tests resulted in a variety of sanctions against India by a number of major states, including Japan and the United States.
- ✎ The challenge to mitigate international opposition with US and eventually bridge the trust gap was a great concern.
- ✎ The test opened floodgates of trouble for India which include: economic and military and interactional isolation.

However, with those difficulties, Pokhran II has brought India to the nuclear mainstream and opened up the global nuclear market for development of nuclear power without signing the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) or the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test Ban Treaty (CTBT) which further led to The U.S.-India Nuclear Deal. The India-US civil nuclear deal was signed in 2008, after nearly 30 years of US-imposed sanctions since India tested its first nuclear weapon (1974).

- ✎ The agreement saw an implicit recognition for the first time – of India as a nuclear weapons power.

The core of this agreement was the emphasis on non-proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD). Even though India did not officially join the Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT)

The Nuclear weapons doctrine has become the cornerstone of India's diplomatic, military and political policy in the international arena.

India's nuclear expertise in the world

Pokhran-II nuclear tests carried out 20 years ago saying it established India's nuclear expertise in the world. India's test was not only successful but in a way, India had demonstrated its might in the field of science and technology. We can also say the date has been engraved in the history of India as a demonstration of its military power.

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Pokhran II test was concluded in 1998 and is always remembered as a day of pride for India. Many known personalities, political anomalies and Indian Military hunk coordinated with each other to carry out this test and made it successful. The test showed the self-dependency of India and still 11 May occupies a special place in calendars of scientists and researchers.

Despite not being a signatory to either the CTBT or NPT, India has managed to secure civilian nuclear deals with the US, Japan and Australia, among countries, thanks to an NSG waiver exempting India from the full-scope International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) safeguards. This waiver was backed by France, Russia, US, and Germany.



Although NSG membership remains a distant dream thanks to China's veto powers, Indian diplomacy and commitment to non-proliferation (unlike neighbours Pakistan) has triggered entry into other multilateral export regimes like the 35-nation strong Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), which seeks to prevent the proliferation of missile and unmanned aerial vehicle technology.

For India, joining groups like the NSG and MTCR is "driven by the need for access to high technology equipment, materials and know-how without which Indian industry cannot upgrade itself rapidly and remain globally competitive," it would help "strengthen its reputation as a responsible power committed to goals of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction".

India is now a member of three out of four multilateral export control regimes — MTCR, Wassenaar Arrangement, Australia Group — and is in the reckoning for membership of the NSG. Pokhran-II gave India the strategic space to manoeuvre at the world stage, and to showcase its international behaviour on the rules-based system, even without being part of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

Regardless of the international reactions to the nuclear tests of May 1998, the general public of India was happy and lauded the government's undeterred stand regarding national security.

Another major event that has shaken confidence in the value of nuclear power in India's energy mix was the Fukushima disaster. It has changed the global nuclear power scenario beyond recognition, though India has maintained that it is "business as usual".

India's intention to use of nuclear power for civilian purpose:

The share of nuclear power in the total electricity generated in the country in the year 2016-17 was a mere 3.05%. According to the data from

Department of Atomic Energy, the present installed nuclear capacity is 6780 MW and it will reach 13480 MW by the year 2024 with the completion of projects under construction.

The government's recent decision to build more indigenous reactors points to the fact that the dream of imported nuclear reactors dotting India has disappeared. India's focus has rightly shifted to solar and other new sources of energy.

India's No First Use policy pertaining to nuclear weapons was cemented by the Cabinet

Committee on Security meeting in January 2003. The Indian government's nuclear doctrine talked about "building and maintaining a credible minimum deterrence," and "No First Use", which meant nuclear weapons will only be used in retaliation. In the event of an attack, the retaliation would be "massive and designed to inflict unacceptable damage."

On the 20th anniversary of the Pokhran-II tests, it is safe to say India has burnished its reputation as a responsible nation dedicated to the spirit of non-proliferation of nuclear weapons, despite certain comments by some ministers — which can be considered nonsensical.

Twenty years after Pokhran-II, this demonstrated behaviour has given India the moral, political and legal standing to convey to the world that it plays by the rules.

So, be it the Paris Climate Accord, or the NSG, or freedom of navigation in the Indo-Pacific, or counter-terrorism initiatives, or a claim to be a permanent member of the UNSC, Pokhran-II and what followed has given India the right to claim the tag of a responsible power — a valuable asset in times when powers like the US and China are perceived to be not adhering to international commitments.

Iran Nuclear Deal



US President Donald Trump last week announced his decision to withdraw from the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action Agreement (JCPOA) signed in 2015 between the United States, United Kingdom, the Russian Federation, France, China, Germany and the European Union on one side, and the Islamic Republic of Iran on the other.

The unanimous endorsement of the JCPOA by the UN Security Council in its resolution 2231 of 20 July 2015 had effectively lifted UN sanctions on Iran. These sanctions had been imposed in 2006 following Iran's decision to accelerate its nuclear enrichment programme, which was seen by the Security Council as a violation of Iran's obligations as a signatory of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. The withdrawal by the United States from the JCPOA means the imposition of unilateral US sanctions on Iran, which are not endorsed by the Security Council and hence not binding on UN member states, including India.

However, under the laws of the United States, any violation of its unilateral sanctions on Iran by foreign companies or individuals will jeopardize the activities of such entities in the United States. This aspect has major implications on India's response to the adverse impact of these unilateral sanctions.

Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action Agreement (JCPOA)

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action known commonly as the Iran nuclear deal or Iran deal, is an agreement on the nuclear program of Iran reached in Vienna on 14 July 2015 between Iran, the P5+1 (the five permanent members of the United Nations Security Council—China, France, Russia, United Kingdom, United States—plus Germany),[a] and the European Union.

Formal negotiations toward the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on Iran's nuclear program began with the adoption of the Joint Plan of Action, an interim agreement signed between Iran and the P5+1 countries in November 2013. For the next twenty months, Iran and the P5+1 countries engaged in negotiations, and in April 2015 agreed on an

Iran nuclear deal framework for the final agreement. In July 2015, Iran and the P5+1 confirmed agreement on the plan along with the "Roadmap Agreement" made between Iran and the IAEA

The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action as it's known by its formal name or JCPOA — took years to negotiate and was endorsed by a United Nations Security Council resolution, solidifying it as international law. It went into effect in January 2016.

Inspectors from the U.N. nuclear watchdog, the IAEA, are in charge of monitoring Iran's compliance.

The parties also established a Joint Commission to monitor implementation and handle disputes. Federica Mogherini, the European Union foreign policy chief, chairs it.

The deal's architects have hailed it as a success story for multilateral diplomacy. President Trump has dismissed it as an "embarrassment" and one of the worst deals into which Washington has ever entered. During his campaign, Trump said he'd like to tear it up.

In 2015, Iran agreed a long-term deal on its nuclear programme with the P5+1 group of world powers - the US, UK, France, China, Russia and Germany. It came after years of tension over Iran's alleged efforts to develop a nuclear weapon. Iran insisted that its nuclear programme was entirely peaceful, but the international community did not believe that.

Under the accord, Iran agreed to limit its sensitive nuclear activities and allow in international inspectors in return for the lifting of crippling economic sanctions.

Here are the commitments set out in the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action.

Uranium enrichment

Enriched uranium is used to make reactor fuel, but also nuclear weapons. Iran's uranium stockpile was reduced by 98% to 300kg (660lbs), a figure that must not be exceeded until 2031. It must also keep the stockpile's level of enrichment at 3.67%.

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Plutonium pathway

Iran had been building a heavy-water nuclear facility near the town of Arak. Spent fuel from a heavy-water reactor contains plutonium suitable for a nuclear bomb.

World powers had originally wanted Arak dismantled because of the proliferation risk. Under an interim nuclear deal agreed in 2013, Iran agreed not to commission or fuel the reactor.

Iran will not be permitted to build additional heavy-water reactors or accumulate any excess heavy water until 2031.

Iran also committed to "extraordinary and robust monitoring, verification, and inspection".

Inspectors from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the global nuclear watchdog, continuously monitor Iran's declared nuclear sites and also verify that no fissile material is moved covertly to a secret location to build a bomb.

Iran also agreed to implement the Additional Protocol to their IAEA Safeguards Agreement, which allows inspectors to access any site anywhere in the country they deem suspicious.

'Break-out time'

Iran also agreed not to engage in activities, including research and development, which could contribute to the development of a nuclear bomb.

Lifting sanctions

Sanctions was previously imposed by the UN, US and EU in an attempt to force Iran to halt uranium enrichment crippled its economy, costing the country more than \$160bn (£118bn) in oil revenue from 2012 to 2016 alone.

Under this deal, Iran gained access to more than \$100bn in assets frozen overseas, and was able to resume selling oil on international markets and using the global financial system for trade.

Should Iran violate any aspect of the deal, the UN sanctions will automatically "snap back" into place for 10 years, with the possibility of a five-year extension.

If the Joint Commission cannot resolve a dispute, it will be referred to the UN Security Council.

Iran also agreed to the continuation of the UN arms embargo on the country for up to five years, although it could end earlier if the IAEA is satisfied that its nuclear programme is entirely peaceful. A UN ban on the import of ballistic missile technology will also remain in place for up to eight years.

US Sanctions On Iran And Its Global Implications

The European Union led by France and Germany have reacted guardedly to US withdrawal from the JCPOA. In fact, the French President Emmanuel Macron and German Chancellor Angela Merkel travelled to Washington DC in

order to stave off the inevitable. Both countries have key stakes in Iran. There have been protests in Iran over the issue. However, Tehran could spell out its actions in the immediate future.

This could aggravate the situation in the Middle East. Already the region is under tremendous strain and the JCPOA could have far reaching consequences on the global economy. The international crude prices are at a high of over \$ 72 a barrel and crude prices could shoot up further if the situation worsens.

India's economic and strategic interests could be directly affected. India being the only high growing economy in the world could face problems as New Delhi imports more than 27 million tons of crude from Iran. India's requirement for crude oil is driven by its demand for energy to fuel economic growth. The unilateral sanctions may force India to make up shortfalls in crude oil imports from the global spot market, which could resulting in greater exposure to price and supply fluctuations.

The unilateral sanctions could create difficulties for India for making investments in the natural gas sector in Iran's 'Farzad B' gas field. This investment is critical for implementing India's declared policy of using environmentally friendly energy like natural gas for its economic growth, including as part of its international commitments under the 2015 Paris Agreement on Climate Change and Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development.

India has huge investments in the Iranian Chahbahar port project, the construction of the Chahbahar-Zahedan railway link to Afghanistan and Central Asia, and the International North South Transport Corridor project between India, Iran and Russia which will connect Asia with Europe, bypassing the Red Sea. These projects are meant to connect the land-locked countries of Afghanistan and Central Asia to the Indian Ocean.

The international community needs to wake up to the grim realities the US imposed sanctions could have on the global economy. Europe has been keen to engage Iran. Even US companies were keen to do business with Iran after the JCPOA. But, now the ground situation has dramatically. The unilateral move could also have an impact on the forthcoming Summit between President Trump and North Korean leader Kim Jong-un.

India will need to take into account the long-term implications of the declared objective of unilateral US sanctions, which is supposedly to constrain and prevent an array of perceived threats from Iran. This might introduce volatility into India's immediate neighbourhood, including the Gulf. It might also affect almost 8 million Indian passport holders working in the Gulf region, as their remittances amount to over \$ 40 billion a year directly into the Indian household economy. The sanctions could affect the stability and security of the sea and air links in the region too.

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(9 A.M. - 6 P.M.)

- Q.1.** Which other country was visited by the Union External Affairs Minister Ms Sushma Swaraj during her tour to attend the meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)?
 (1) India (2) Mongolia (3) Russia
 (4) South Africa (5) None of these
- Q.2.** Tim Bergling, a Swedish musician who passed away recently, was a noted dance music star. He passed away in which country?
 (1) Sweden (2) Australia
 (3) United States (4) Oman
 (5) None of these
- Q.3.** UNESCO in 1969 declared to observe World Earth Day (WED) worldwide on April 22 every year, the first being observed in 1970. The theme of the World Earth Day (WED) 2018 was:
 (1) Save Earth from Pollution
 (2) End Plastic Pollution
 (3) Beware from Plastic Pollution
 (4) Environmental Literacy
 (5) None of these
- Q.4.** Nabi Tajima, the world's oldest person who passed away recently on April 21, 2018 belonged to which country?
 (1) Japan (2) China (3) South Korea
 (4) Taiwan (5) None of these
- Q.5.** Bengaluru FC has won the first edition(2018) of Indian Super Cup Football tournament held at Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar. What was the official name of this game?
 (1) Challengers Cup (2) Royal Cup Football
 (3) Hero Super Cup (4) Nehru Trophy
 (5) None of these
- Q.6.** Who among the following has become the first-ever Indian Filmmaker in Madame Tussauds Collection in London?
 (1) Neeraj Pandey (2) Rajkumar Hirani
 (3) Shoojit Sircar (4) Karan Johar
 (5) None of these
- Q.7.** Padma Bhushan awardee T V R Shenoy, who passed away recently, was a veteran personality from which field?
 (1) Sports (2) Journalism (3) Science
 (4) Film Industry (5) None of these
- Q.8.** What is the official mascot of the FIBA Basketball World Cup 2019 to be held in China during August-September 2018?
 (1) Mother of Peace (2) Qiu Qiu
 (3) Speed Tiger (4) Son of Dreams
 (5) None of these
- Q.9.** Which Australian F-1 racing driver has won the 2018 Formula One Chinese Grand Prix tournament?
 (1) Carlos Sainz (2) Kimi Raikkonen
 (3) Daniel Ricciardo (4) Valtteri Bottas
 (5) None of these
- Q.10.** What is the name of the Chairman of Bennett, Coleman & Co who was conferred with the All India Management Association's (AIMA's) annual award for lifetime contribution to media?
 (1) Indu Jain (2) Karan Thapar
 (3) Palagummi Sainath (4) Josy Joseph
 (5) None of these
- Q.11.** Who among the following is the Chief Minister of the State which observed Khongjom Day to pay tributes to the great warriors of their state?
 (1) Neiphiu Rio (2) Biplab Kumar Deb
 (3) Lal Thanhawla (4) N. Biren Singh
 (5) None of these
- Q.12.** The noted poet-composer Balantrapu Rajanikantha Rao who passed away recently belonged to which state?
 (1) Karnataka (2) Andhra Pradesh
 (3) Maharashtra (4) Telangana
 (5) None of these
- Q.13.** Where was the 16th Federation Cup Junior National athletics championship 2018 held?
 (1) Pune (2) Madurai (3) Bengaluru
 (4) Coimbatore (5) None of these
- Q.14.** When was the first World Creativity and Innovation Day (WCID) announced by United Nations observed on which date?
 (1) April 22 (2) April 21 (3) April 23
 (4) April 20 (5) None of these
- Q.15.** Why the Government of India (GoI) celebrates Civil Services Day (CSD) on 21st April every year?
 (1) first Prime Minister of Independent India, Jawahar Lal Nehru addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947 on this date.
 (2) first President of Independent India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947 on this date.
 (3) first Home Minister of Independent India, Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947 on this date.
 (4) first Education Minister of Independent India, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad addressed the probationers of Administrative Services Officers in 1947 on this date.
 (5) None of these

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- Q.16.** Which country will organise the global Football For Friendship (F4F) social programme in which Surya Varikuti and Rudresh Gaudnour have been selected to represent India?
(1) Germany (2) Spain (3) Russia
(4) Brazil (5) None of these
- Q.17.** Which company has become the first listed Indian IT firm to hit \$100 billion market capitalisation (m-cap)?
(1) Wipro (2) Acenture (3) Infosys
(4) TCS (5) None of these
- Q.18.** The Basava Sagar Dam has been built on which of the following rivers?
(1) Cauvery (2) Krishna (3) Godavari
(4) Narmada (5) None of these
- Q.19.** Which city hosted the 2018 Secure India Conclave organised by Global Counter Terrorism?
(1) Chandigarh (2) Hyderabad (3) Amritsar
(4) New Delhi (5) None of these
- Q.20.** National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD) is observed on April 24 every year in India. In which year on April 24 Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act came into force that institutionalised Panchayati Raj System in India?
(1) 1992 (2) 1993 (3) 1994
(4) 1995 (5) None of these
- Q.21.** Which city has been designated as the UNESCO World Book Capital 2018?
(1) Rome (2) Athens (3) Berlin
(4) Paris (5) None of these
- Q.22.** The Digambarpur gram panchayat has recently declared as the India's best panchayat. It is located in which state?
(1) Assam (2) Andhra Pradesh
(3) West Bengal (4) Madhya Pradesh
(5) None of these
- Q.23.** The Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has signed Information Utility pact with NeSL. What does "NeSL" stands for?
(1) National E-Governance Solutions Limited
(2) National E-Governance Services Limited
(3) National E-Governance Server Limited
(4) National E-Governance sBank Limited
(5) None of these
- Q.24.** To whom did the Rafael Nadal defeated to win the 2018 Monte Carlo Masters tennis tournament?
(1) Marin Cilic (2) Kei Nishikori
(3) Grigor Dimitrov (4) Diego Schwartzman
(5) None of these
- Q.25.** Who has become the first Egyptian footballer to win the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA) Player of the Year for the 2017-18 season?
(1) Mohamed Salah (2) Kevin De Bruyne
(3) Gary Lineker (4) Gurpreet Singh Sandhu
(5) None of these
- Q.26.** For the Rural Connectivity Project in which state, India has signed a \$210 million loan agreement with World Bank recently?
(1) Himachal Pradesh (2) Madhya Pradesh
(3) Maharashtra (4) Rajasthan
(5) None of these
- Q.27.** Which other ministry besides Ministry of Commerce and Industry is also held by Suresh Prabhu who chaired the first meeting of the think tank on the Framework for National Policy on E-commerce?
(1) Civil Aviation (2) Railways
(3) Education (4) Health
(5) None of these
- Q.28.** From which district in Madhya Pradesh Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan to strengthen the country's Panchayati Raj system and address critical gaps that hinder its success?
(1) Jabalpur (2) Gwalior (3) Mandla
(4) Indore (5) None of these
- Q.29.** Indo-Pak 1971 war veteran Brigadier Francis Regis Campos passed away. He was associated with which Indian Armed Force?
(1) Indian Coast Guard (2) Indian Air Force
(3) Indian Army (4) Indian Navy
(5) None of these
- Q.30.** Which country is the second highest recipient of remittances in 2017 after India, as per World Bank (WB)'s latest report "Migration and Development Brief"?
(1) India (2) Mexico (3) China
(4) Philippines (5) None of these
- Q.31.** Which of the following smart cities has become the India's first city to run on 100% Renewable Energy during Daytime?
(1) Bengaluru (2) Jaipur (3) Indore
(4) Diu (5) None of these
- Q.32.** The coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' was recently conducted in which of the following states?
(1) Kerala (2) Karnataka
(3) Andhra Pradesh (4) Tamil Nadu
(5) None of these
- Q.33.** Besides USA, India has tied up with which country to develop a pollution-forecast system?

- (1) Japan (2) United Kingdom
 (3) Brazil (4) Finland
 (5) None of these

Q.34. Consider the following statements:

- (A) The theme of the 2018 World Malaria Day (WMD) was “Ready to beat malaria”.
 (B) World Malaria Report 2017 was released by World Health Organisation (WHO).
 (C) In 2016, there was an increase of 5 million malaria cases over 2015.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (1) Only A (2) Only B
 (3) Only C (4) All A, B and C
 (5) None of these

Q.35. For which state/union territory the Union Government has signed a loan agreement of \$125 million with World Bank for Innovate in ‘India for Inclusiveness Project’?

- (1) Punjab (2) Haryana
 (3) New Delhi (4) Himachal Pradesh
 (5) None of these

Q.36. Photojournalist Mahmoud Abu Zeid has won the 2018 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize. He hails from which country?

- (1) Israel (2) Egypt (3) Iran
 (4) UAE (5) None of these

Q.37. Who won the first medal for India at the 2018 International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup held in South Korea?

- (1) Ronjan Sodhi
 (2) Shahzar Rizvi
 (3) Om Prakash Mitharwal
 (4) Jitu Rai
 (5) None of these

Q.38. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved the increase in the Minimum Support Price (MSP) for Raw Jute for 2018-19 season. The increase in MSP is based on recommendations of:

- (1) Commission for Actual Costs and Prices (CACP)
 (2) Council for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
 (3) Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP)
 (4) Commission for Agricultural Calculations and Pricing (CACP)
 (5) None of these

Q.39. The bilateral military exercise “Harimau Shakti 2018” was conducted between India and which country?

- (1) Myanmar (2) Malaysia (3) Indonesia
 (4) Shri Lanka (5) None of these

Q.40. Which union ministry has launched the 2nd edition of the Unnat Bharat Abhiyan?

- (1) Ministry of Home Affairs
 (2) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 (3) Ministry of Human Resource Development
 (4) Ministry of Rural Development
 (5) None of these

Q.41. Which union ministry in collaboration with Google India has launched a 360° Virtual Reality (VR) video on Incredible India?

- (1) Ministry of Information Technology
 (2) Ministry of Earth Sciences
 (3) Ministry of Culture
 (4) Ministry of Tourism
 (5) None of these

Q.42. The Union Cabinet has recently approved inclusion of tribal-dominated Scheduled areas of Rajasthan under which Schedule to the Constitution of India?

- (1) 4th Schedule (2) 5th Schedule
 (3) 6th Schedule (4) 7th Schedule
 (5) None of these

Q.43. Which city hosted the National Kharif Conference 2018?

- (1) Raipur (2) Ranchi (3) New Delhi
 (4) Kolkata (5) None of these

Q.44. Tony Daniel, who passed away recently, was associated with which sports?

- (1) Tennis (2) Athletics (3) Cricket
 (4) Hockey (5) None of these

Q.45. Nadiya Shafi has won the 2018 Martha Farrell Award for Excellence in women’s empowerment. She is video reporter from which city?

- (1) Shillong (2) Guwahati (3) Lucknow
 (4) Srinagar (5) None of these

Q.46. Consider the following statements:

- (A) The world’s first-ever female foreign ministers’ meeting will be held in September 2018.
 (B) The meeting will be hosted by Canada and the European Union (EU)
 (C) The meeting will be held in Berlin.

Which of the statements given above is/are false?

- (1) Only A (2) Only B
 (3) Only C (4) All A, B and C
 (5) None of these

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- Q.47.** The Jalaput Dam is built on Machkund River, a tributary of the Godavari River. This dam forms the boundary between Andhra Pradesh and which of the following states?
(1) Telangana (2) Odisha (3) Tamilnadu
(4) Chhattisgarh (5) None of these
- Q.48.** Which among the following city hosted India's first-ever nationwide food archaeology conference "ArchaeoBroma"?
(1) Mumbai (2) New Delhi (3) Chennai
(4) Bangluru (5) None of these
- Q.49.** The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has granted the first license to a company recently for Liquid Chlorine on All India basis. The headquarters of BIS is located in which city?
(1) Pune (2) Kolkata (3) Bangluru
(4) New Delhi (5) None of these
- Q.50. Consider the following statements:**
(A) India has been ranked 138th out of 180 countries in the World Press Freedom Index 2018 .
(B) World Press Freedom Index (WPFI), is compiled by Reporters Without Borders.
(C) Sweden topped the list of having the world's freest press for the second year in a row.
Which of the statements given above is/are true?
(1) Only A and B (2) Only A and C
(3) Only B and C (4) All A, B and C
(5) None of these
- Q.51. Consider the following statements:**
(A) Mario Abdo Benitez has won the 2018 presidential election in Paraguay.
(B) Montevideo is the capital city of Paraguay.
(C) He belongs to the ruling Colorado Party.
Which of the statements given above is/are true?
(1) Only A and B (2) Only A and C
(3) Only B and C (4) All A, B and C
(5) None of these
- Q.52. Consider the following facts:**
(A) joint venture carrier between Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines.
(B) recently became the 3rd Indian carrier to be a member of the International Air Transport Association (IATA).
(C) operates over 730 flights a week to 22 destinations.
Identify the airline from the facts given above:
(1) SpiceJet (2) Vistara (3) IndiGo
(4) Air Asia (5) None of these
- Q.53.** The World Intellectual Property Day (WIPD) is observed every year on April 26. What was the theme of the 2018 World Intellectual Property Day (WIPD)?
(1) Creating the Future Today
(2) Think, Imagine, Create
(3) Innovation – Improving Lives
(4) Powering Change: Women in Innovation and Creativity
(5) None of these
- Q.54.** Which research organisation has been awarded the 2018 National Intellectual Property Award in the category 'Top R&D Institution/Organisation for Patents and Commercialisation'?
(1) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
(2) Indian Space Research Organisation
(3) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
(4) Defence Research and Development Organisation
(5) None of these
- Q.55.** Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) of the NITI Aayog has launched the Atal New India Challenge that will provide grants of up to how much amount to innovative products and solutions?
(1) Rs 50 lakhs (2) Rs 1.0 crore (3) Rs 1.5 crore
(4) Rs 2.5 crore (5) None of these
- Q.56. Consider the following statements:**
(A) Indu Malhotra, is the third woman to be directly promoted as a judge of the Supreme Court (SC).
(B) The current strength of the Supreme Court is 25, against the sanctioned strength of 31.
(C) Justice M Fathima Beevi was the first woman to be appointed as a judge of the apex court.
Which of the statements given above is/are true?
(1) Only A and B (2) Only A and C
(3) Only B and C (4) All A, B and C
(5) None of these
- Q.57.** Dudhsagar Waterfalls is a four-tiered waterfall located on the Mandovi River. Mandovi River flows in which of the following states?
(1) Maharashtra (2) Karnataka (3) Haryana
(4) Goa (5) None of these
- Q.58.** Siddhant Banthia has won the Indian leg of the junior French Open wild card tournament. He belongs to which city?
(1) Patna (2) Pune (3) New Delhi
(4) Indore (5) None of these
- Q.59.** Under the 'Adopt a Heritage' project by the Union Ministry of Tourism, which corporate house has signed an MoU to maintain historic site "Red Fort"?

- (1) GMR Sports (2) IndiGo airlines
(3) Dalmia Bharat Ltd (4) Reliance Industries Ltd
(5) None of these

Q.60. The Shirui Lily Festival 2018 was celebrated in which state?

- (1) Mizoram (2) Assam
(3) Himachal Pradesh (4) Manipur
(5) None of these

Q.61. Which Indian shooter has been appointed as a brand ambassador for Haryana's Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign?

- (1) Apurvi Chandela (2) Ronjan Sodhi
(3) Vijay Kumar (4) Gauri Sheoran
(5) None of these

Q.62. The Government of India (GoI) has recently entered into a legal agreement with which international organisation to accelerate research towards early development for biopharmaceuticals.?

- (1) World Bank
(2) IMF
(3) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
(4) New Development Bank (NDB)
(5) None of these

Q.63. Consider the following statements:

- (A) Pawan Chamling has become the longest serving chief minister in India.
(B) He surpassed the record of former West Bengal chief minister, Late Jyoti Basu.
(C) Pawan Chamling became the chief minister of Sikkim in 1994 and has ruled the state ever since.

Which of the statements given above is/are true?

- (1) Only A and B (2) Only A and C
(3) Only B and C (4) All A, B and C
(5) None of these

Q.64. Which Indian city hosted the Asia-Pacific Regional Workshop of the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)?

- (1) Ahmedabad (2) Vadodara (3) New Delhi
(4) Gandhinagar (5) None of these

Q.65. Who has been selected for the Saraswati Samman-2017 his collection of verses titled 'Vakhar'?

- (1) Vijay Tendulkar
(2) Sitanshu Yashaschandra
(3) Ramakanta Rath
(4) Sri Ramayana Mahanveshanam
(5) None of these

Q.66. NDMA has conducted its first-ever Mock Exercise on Bio-Disasters at which city?

- (1) Patna (2) Pune (3) Kochi
(4) Agra (5) None of these

Q.67. Which Indian fencer has won a silver in the sabre event of the Tournoi World Cup Satellite Fencing Championship in Iceland?

- (1) Nandani Magesh (2) Ruchi Trikha
(3) C A Bhavani Devi (4) Geeta Singh
(5) None of these

Q.68. Consider the following statements:

- (A) Ayushman Bharat Diwas is to be celebrated across the country on April 30.
(B) The Ayushman Bharat Scheme has the benefits cover of 5 lakh rupees per family per year.
(C) The Ayushman Bharat Scheme aims to provide insurance coverage to 40% of India's population. Which of the statements given above is/are true?

- (1) Only A and B (2) Only A and C
(3) Only B and C (4) All A, B and C
(5) None of these

Q.69. To which state Prajnesh Gunneswaran belongs who recently clinched his first-ever singles tennis title on the ATP Challenger circuit?

- (1) Kerala (2) Karnataka (3) Tamilnadu
(4) Telangana (5) None of these

Q.70. To whom did Rafael Nadal defeated in final match to clinch the 2018 Barcelona Open tennis tournament?

- (1) Dominic Thiem (2) Stefanos Tsitsipas
(3) Kei Nishikori (4) Stefanos Tsitsipas
(5) None of these

Q.71. Which state government has signed a MoU with the British Council to strengthen educational and cultural cooperation?

- (1) Punjab (2) Kerala (3) Tamil Nadu
(4) Maharashtra (5) None of these

Q.72. Who is the author of the book "My Journey from Marxism-Leninism to Nehruvian Socialism"?

- (1) C H Hanumantha Rao
(2) Bimal Jalan
(3) Amartya Sen
(4) Kaushik Basu
(5) None of these

Q.73. Which city hosted the 2018 International Buddhist Conference recently?

- (1) Dharmshala (2) Varanasi (3) Kathmandu
(4) Lumbini (5) None of these

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- Q.74.** Which country will host the multi-nation counter-terrorism exercise “Peace Mission 2018” in September this year?
(1) Russia (2) India (3) China
(4) Tajikistan (5) None of these
- Q.75.** The 9th India Japan Energy Dialogue 2018 was held in which city?
(1) New Delhi (2) Bangaluru (3) Chennai
(4) Kochi (5) None of these
- Q.76.** Who has won the best actor award at the 2018 Dadasaheb Phalke Awards?
(1) Salman Khan (2) Akshay Kumar
(3) Shah Rukh Khan (4) Salman Khan
(5) None of these
- Q.77.** Anikta Raina, who has been included in the Government of India (GoI)’s Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS), is associated with which sports?
(1) Boxing (2) Tennis (3) Badminton
(4) Wrestling (5) None of these
- Q.78.** Who has been appointed as the principal director general of the Press Information Bureau (PIB)?
(1) Nikunj Srivastav (2) Sitanshu Kar
(3) Varsha Suri (4) Devesh Chaturvedi
(5) None of these
- Q.79.** Guruji Ravinder Sharma, the renowned artist-philosopher has passed away. He belonged to which state?
(1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Kerala
(3) Telangana (4) Uttar Pradesh
(5) None of these
- Q.80.** Which city of Uttar Pradesh will host the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBS-2019)?
(1) Bengaluru (2) New Delhi
(3) Gandhinagar (4) Varanasi
(5) None of these
- Q.81.** What is theme of 2018 International Labour Day?
(1) Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement
(2) Celebrating the International Labour Movement
(3) Let’s value work by providing the jobless with start-up capital support
(4) Promote employment by supporting prospective entrepreneurs
(5) None of these
- Q.82.** P P Lakshaman, who passed away recently, was associated with which sports?
(1) Football (2) Tennis (3) Badminton
(4) Boxing (5) None of these
- Q.83.** The Government of India (GoI) has launched which nationwide Karyashala for farmer outreach as part of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan?
(1) Kisan Kalyan Karyashala
(2) Krishi Jyoti Karyashala
(3) Kisan Jyoti Karyashala
(4) Krishi Kalyan Karyashala
(5) None of these
- Q.84.** Kottayam Pushpanath, the renowned detective novelist has passed away. He was associated with which language?
(1) Telugu (2) Tamil (3) Malayalam
(4) Kannada (5) None of these
- Q.85.** The GOBAR-DHAN scheme has launched from which state to promote wealth and energy from waste?
(1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Punjab
(3) Madhya Pradesh (4) Haryana
(5) None of these
- Q.86.** Ashok Mitra, the noted scholar and the first Finance Minister in the Left Front government in the state passed away recently. He belonged to which state?
(1) Assam (2) West Bengal (3) Jharkhand
(4) Odisha (5) None of these
- Q.87.** What is the India’s rank in the list of doping violations, as per latest report of World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)?
(1) 9th (2) 6th (3) 5th
(4) 8th (5) None of these
- Q.88.** The “2018 Vijay Prahar” exercise of Indian Army was conducted in which state?
(1) Rajasthan (2) Punjab (3) Kerala
(4) Tamil Nadu (5) None of these
- Q.89.** Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of Parliament?
(1) Ghulam Nabi Azad
(2) Mallikarjun Kharge
(3) Jyotiraditya Scindia
(4) Kamal Nath
(5) None of these
- Q.90.** Who has been appointed as the new Chairman of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for a period of 3 years?
(1) Nilesh Sathe
(2) Badri Singh Bhandari
(3) Subhash Chandra Khuntia
(4) VK Sharma
(5) None of these

Q.91. Consider the following statements:

- (A) The first-ever India- South Africa Business Summit (ISABS 2018) was held at Cape Town, South Africa.
- (B) The tag line of the Summit was “United by Legacy, Unified for Prosperity”.
- (C) The Summit was attended by the Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu.

Which of the statements given above is/are true?

- (1) Only A and B (2) Only A and C
- (3) Only B and C (4) All A, B and C
- (5) None of these

Q.92. Which state has become the first Indian state to provide digitally-signed land record receipts?

- (1) Maharashtra (2) Punjab (3) Haryana
- (4) Uttar Pradesh (5) None of these

Q.93. Consider the following statements:

- (A) The bilateral border trade between India and China from Shipki La border in Sikkim has resumed.
- (B) This is for a scheduled period from May 1 to November 30.
- (C) In 2017, the trade was disrupted following the Doklam standoff.

Which of the statements given above is/are true?

- (1) Only A and B (2) Only A and C
- (3) Only B and C (4) All A, B and C
- (5) None of these

Q.94. Which city hosted the national workshop on Data Requirements for Disaster Risk Reduction Database?

- (1) Bhopal (2) Surat (3) Udaipur
- (4) New Delhi (5) None of these

Q.95. Which union ministry will hold National Conference of 244 Districts under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP) in New Delhi?

- (1) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- (2) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- (3) Ministry of Human Resource Development
- (4) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
- (5) None of these

Q.96. What is the theme of the 2018 World Press Freedom Day (WPDF)?

- (1) Keeping Power in Check: Media, Justice and The Rule of Law
- (2) Media and Good Governance
- (3) Freedom of information: the right to know
- (4) 21st Century Media: New Frontiers, New Barriers
- (5) None of these

Q.97. Who has won the 2018 Azerbaijan Formula 1 Grand Prix tournament?

- (1) Lewis Hamilton (2) Daniel Ricciardo
- (3) Sebastian Vettel (4) Kimi Raikkonen
- (5) None of these

Q.98. Idris Hassan Latif, who passed away recently, was the former chief of which Indian Armed Forces?

- (1) Indian Coast Guard (2) Indian Army
- (3) Indian Navy (4) Indian Air Force
- (5) None of these

Q.99. Which Indian-American personality has been appointed as the interim judge to a US civil court of New York City?

- (1) Krishna Kaur (2) Priyanka Jain
- (3) Deepa Ambedkar (4) Jeeva Singh
- (5) None of these

Q.100. Which company has granted \$3.0 million fund for teacher training and educational content creation in India?

- (1) Google (2) TCS (3) Infosys
- (4) Wipro (5) None of these

Q.101. Which city hosted the 4th edition of Vibrant North East 2018'?

- (1) New Delhi (2) Guwahati (3) Shillong
- (4) Agartala (5) None of these

Q.102. Which Indian boxer has been conferred with the WBC Asia Boxer of the Year Award?

- (1) Neeraj Goyat (2) Shiva Thapa
- (3) Neerav Tomar (4) Vijender Singh
- (5) None of these

Q.103. Who has been named the Football Writers' Association (FWA) Footballer of the Year for 2017-18?

- (1) Cristiano Ronaldo (2) Lionel Messi
- (3) Kevin De Bruyne (4) Mohamed Salah
- (5) None of these

Q.104. Keyur Bhushan, the well-known Gandhian & freedom fighter has passed away recently. He belonged to which state?

- (1) Madhya Pradesh (2) Chhattisgarh
- (3) Uttar Pradesh (4) Jharkhand
- (5) None of these

Q.105. The 4th Regional Conference on 'Futuristic, Resilient and Digital Infrastructure' was held in which city?

- (1) Bengaluru (2) New Delhi (3) Ahmedabad
- (4) Agartala (5) None of these

Q.106. The sports initiative 'Star Khel Mahakumbh' has been launched from which state?

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- (1) Himachal Pradesh (2) Andhra Pradesh
(3) Uttar Pradesh (4) Madhya Pradesh
(5) None of these
- Q.107.** Which city hosted the 19th edition of TOONZ Animation Masters Summit 2018 recently?
(1) Chennai (2) Thiruvananthapuram
(3) Nashik (4) Bangluru
(5) None of these
- Q.108.** NITI Aayog has collaborated with which company to develop precision agriculture using Artificial Intelligence?
(1) Tata (2) IBM (3) Reliance
(4) Infosys (5) None of these
- Q.109.** Which state government has launched 'Go To Village' Mission to identify the eligible and deserving beneficiaries and deliver government services at their doorstep?
(1) Mizoram (2) Nagaland (3) Manipur
(4) Tripura (5) None of these
- Q.110.** The 2018 World Cartoonist's Day is observed on which date?
(1) May 6 (2) May 5 (3) May 4
(4) May 7 (5) None of these
- Q.111.** Which country hosted the 12th informal meeting of SAARC finance Ministers?
(1) Malaysia (2) Myanmar (3) Philippines
(4) India (5) None of these
- Q.112.** What is the India's rank at the 2018 A.T. Kearney Foreign Direct Investment Confidence Index?
(1) 8th (2) 5th (3) 16th
(4) 11th (5) None of these
- Q.113.** Arun Date, the veteran ----- singer has passed away recently?
(1) Marathi (2) Tamil (3) Telugu
(4) Odia (5) None of these
- Q.114.** Which country hosted the 15th Asia Media Summit (AMS-2018)?
(1) Philippines (2) Singapore (3) Malaysia
(4) India (5) None of these
- Q.115.** What is the India's GDP growth rate for 2018-19, as per latest economic data by Asian Development Bank (ADB)?
(1) 7.3% (2) 7.6% (3) 7.0%
(4) 7.2% (5) None of these
- Q.116.** Which state to host the International Children's Theatre Festival 2018?
(1) Uttar Pradesh (2) West Bengal
(3) Madhya Pradesh (4) Kerala
(5) None of these
- Q.117.** Which Indian squash player has won the 2018 Abu Dhabi Open squash title?
(1) Cyrus Poncha (2) Harinder Pal Sandhu
(3) Ramit Tandon (4) Mahesh Mangaonkar
(5) None of these
- Q.118.** The bi-annual Naval Commander's Conference will be held in which city?
(1) Kolkata (2) Pune (3) Chennai
(4) New Delhi (5) None of these
- Q.119.** The first organised census of Indus Dolphins will be carried out in which state of India?
(1) Punjab (2) Himachal Pradesh
(3) Jammu & Kashmir (4) Jharkhand
(5) None of these
- Q.120.** Which city hosted the first apex conference for the CEOs of Smart Cities?
(1) Gandhinagar (2) Bhopal (3) Varanasi
(4) Shimla (5) None of these
- Q.121.** Which country has successfully launched a new communication satellite "APSTAR-6C" into orbit?
(1) India (2) Indonesia (3) China
(4) Malaysia (5) None of these
- Q.122.** The Space Applications Centre (SAC) has developed an indigenous atomic clock for navigation satellites. Where is the headquarters of SAC, which works under the aegis of ISRO?
(1) Bangaluru (2) Kolkata (3) New Delhi
(4) Ahmedabad (5) None of these
- Q.123.** India and Guatemala has recently agreed to support each other for Non-permanent membership of UNSC. Guatemala will support India's candidature for which year?
(1) 2022-23 (2) 2023-24 (3) 2021-22
(4) 2020-21 (5) None of these
- Q.124.** Who has been appointed the new Cabinet Secretary of India?
(1) Pradeep Kumar Sinha
(2) Ajit Seth
(3) Hasmukh Adhia
(4) K. M. Chandrasekhar
(5) None of these
- Q.125.** Which Indian American professor has received a grant of \$1.6M by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to protect kidneys from obesity?
(1) Tahir Hussain (2) Vinayak Pandit
(3) Sri Pal Sandhu (4) Girish Pandey
(5) None of these
- Q.126.** The 3rd edition of the United Nations Peacekeeping Course for African Partners (UNPCAP) has inaugurated in which city?

- (1) Chennai (2) Indore (3) New Delhi
(4) Kanpur (5) None of these
- Q.127.** India has signed how much amount of loan deal with World Bank for National Nutrition Mission (POSHAN Abhiyaan)?
(1) \$300-million (2) \$200-million
(3) \$500-million (4) \$400-million
(5) None of these
- Q.128.** The birth anniversary of Nobel laureate Rabindra Nath Tagore is celebrated on which of the following dates?
(1) May 8 (2) May 9 (3) May 7
(4) May 6 (5) None of these
- Q.129.** Who has been named the new Prime Minister of Armenia?
(1) Nikol Pashinian
(2) Serzh Sargsyan
(3) Emma Khashmanyan
(4) Mike Minasyants
(5) None of these
- Q.130.** What is the India's rank in the Lowy Institute Asia-Pacific Power Index?
(1) 5th (2) 7th (3) 6th
(4) 4th (5) None of these
- Q.131.** The National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) has signed an MoU with MSME Ministry for FY 2018-19. Where is the headquarters of NSIC located?
(1) Kochi (2) Patna (3) New Delhi
(4) Ahmedabad (5) None of these
- Q.132.** Who has been sworn-in as the new President of Costa Rica?
(1) Fabricio Alvarado Munoz
(2) Carlos Alvarado
(3) Epsy Campbell Barr
(4) Luis Guillermo Solís
(5) None of these
- Q.133.** Who has been appointed as the country head for Google Cloud business in India?
(1) Mohit Pande (2) Nitin Bawankule
(3) Roopa Thakur (4) Shilpa Mathur
(5) None of these
- Q.134.** From which of the following cities the Union Government has launched the website of Digital India Internship Scheme?
(1) Chennai (2) Pune (3) Lucknow
(4) New Delhi (5) None of these
- Q.135.** The Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC) has approved modern animal-free testing for drugs.
Where is the headquarters of IPC located?
(1) New Delhi (2) Ghaziabad (3) Kolkata
(4) Shimla (5) None of these
- Q.136.** What was the theme of the 15th edition of the Asia Media Summit (AMS-2018)?
(1) Asia – Stories of Pride
(2) Telling our Stories- Asia and More
(3) Growing Inspiring Stories of Asia
(4) Covering Stories: Asia and the World
(5) None of these
- Q.137.** Which of the following cities hosted the 6th US-India Aviation Summit 2018?
(1) Mumbai (2) New Delhi (3) Ranchi
(4) Pune (5) None of these
- Q.138.** Who has been conferred with the 'Excellent Woman of Excellence' award at the Women Economic Forum (WEF) 2018?
(1) Nisha Bhalla (2) Aradhana Gupta
(3) Minakshi Kumari (4) Kritika Jain
(5) None of these
- Q.139.** Which country will host the 2018 World Robot Conference (WRC)?
(1) India (2) South Korea (3) China
(4) Vietnam (5) None of these
- Q.140.** The 15th Finance Commission has constituted an Advisory Council to advise and assist the Commission. It will be headed by whom?
(1) Neelkanth Mishra (2) Sanjeev Gupta
(3) Surjit S. Bhalla (4) Arvind Virmani
(5) None of these
- Q.141.** Which state has launched India's first Integrated Control and Command Centre (ICCC) for its smart cities?
(1) Maharashtra (2) Madhya Pradesh
(3) Assam (4) Kerala
(5) None of these
- Q.142.** Who has been elected as the new Prime Minister of Malaysia?
(1) Tunku Abdul Rahman
(2) Mahathir bin Mohamad
(3) Daim Zainuddin
(4) Abdullah Ahmad Badawi
(5) None of these
- Q.143.** Which state government has launched Rythu Bandhu scheme for farmers?
(1) Telangana (2) Kerala
(3) Andhra Pradesh (4) Tamil Nadu
(5) None of these

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- Q.144.** Who is the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)?
(1) Ashish Bahuguna (2) K S Sharma
(3) Pawan Kumar Agarwal (4) Nidhi Tiwari
(5) None of these
- Q.145.** What is the India's rank on the Global Optimism Index (GOI) in the first quarter of 2018, as per latest Grant Thornton's International Business Report (IBR)?
(1) 1st (2) 6th (3) 3rd
(4) 2nd (5) None of these
- Q.146.** Which country hosted the 2018 Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Tourism Ministers' conference?
(1) India (2) South Korea (3) China
(4) Myanmar (5) None of these
- Q.147.** The Sikkim government has nominated which Bollywood personality as the Green Ambassador of the state?
(1) Shreya Ghoshal (2) Atif Aslam
(3) Mohit Chauhan (4) Sonu Nigam
(5) None of these
- Q.148.** Which Indian table tennis player has officially signed with German Bundesliga's top division club ASV Grunwettersbach Tischtennis?
(1) Anthony Amalraj (2) G. Soumyajit Ghosh
(3) G Sathiyam (4) Kamlesh Mehta
(5) None of these
- Q.149.** The Parliamentary panel to study the recovery of black money and performance of public sector banks for 2018-19. The panel will be headed by whom?
(1) Shashi Tharoor (2) Arun Jaitley
(3) L. K. Advani (4) Murali Manohar Joshi
(5) None of these
- Q.150.** What is the India's GDP growth rate for 2018, as per IMF's latest report "Asia and Pacific Regional Economic Outlook"?
(1) 7.4% (2) 7.5% (3) 7.6%
(4) 7.8% (5) None of these
- Q.151.** On which of the following dates the National Technology Day (NTD) was celebrated in India?
(1) May 11 (2) May 10 (3) May 13
(4) May 12 (5) None of these
- Q.152.** Which country has become the largest remittance-receiving country in the world in 2017, as per report 'RemitSCOPE – Remittance markets and opportunities – Asia and the Pacific'?
(1) Bangladesh (2) Philippines (3) India
(4) Vietnam (5) None of these
- Q.153.** What will be India's economic growth rate in FY19, as per Fitch's second-quarter Sovereign Credit Overview for Asia Pacific region?
(1) 7.5% (2) 7.3% (3) 7.4%
(4) 7.6% (5) None of these
- Q.154.** Who has been conferred with the 11th KISS Humanitarian Award 2018?
(1) Dalai Lama (2) Alejandro Toledo
(3) R. N. Dash (4) Muhammad Yunus
(5) None of these
- Q.155.** Anne V Coates, the Oscar-winning film editor has passed away. She belonged to which country?
(1) England (2) Italy (3) Germany
(4) France (5) None of these
- Q.156.** Which city hosted the first-ever joint conference of Indian Customs and Department of India Posts?
(1) Kochi (2) Pune (3) Bengaluru
(4) New Delhi (5) None of these
- Q.157.** India and Peru have recently signed an agreement on cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy. Who is the Prime Minister of Peru?
(1) Cesar Villanueva Arevalo
(2) Ollanta Humala
(3) Mercedes Araoz
(4) Rene Cornejo
(5) None of these
- Q.158.** What is the theme of the 2018 International Nurses Day (IND) observed on May 12 every year?
(1) Nurses: A voice to lead – Safe Motherhood
(2) Nurses A Voice to Lead – Health is a Human right
(3) Nurses: Working with the Poor; Against Poverty
(4) Nurses: A Force for Change – A vital resource for health
(5) None of these
- Q.159.** Which country hosted the 2018 meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-Group on Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and precursor Chemicals?
(1) Nepal (2) India (3) Thailand
(4) Bhutan (5) None of these
- Q.160.** The legendary hockey player Mansoor Ahmed who passed away recently belongs to which country?
(1) Iran (2) India (3) Pakistan
(4) Bangladesh (5) None of these
- Q.161.** Which of the following is the China's first home-built aircraft carrier that recently started sea trials?
(1) Type 003A (2) Type 007A (3) Type 005A
(4) Type 001A (5) None of these
- Q.162.** The UNDP has proposed to set up skill development centre in which Indian city to empower vulnerable and marginalised women?
(1) New Delhi (2) Chennai (3) Hyderabad
(4) Bengaluru (5) None of these
- Q.163.** Where was the first meeting of the "BIMSTEC Working Group on Customs Cooperation" held?

- (1) Jaipur (2) New Delhi (3) Patna
(4) Pune (5) None of these
- Q.164.** Who has been honoured with the 2018 RedInk award for lifetime achievement in journalism?
(1) Faye D'Souze (2) Boris Johnson
(3) William Mark Tully (4) Hu Shuli
(5) None of these
- Q.165.** Which Indian shooter has won gold in the women's 10m air pistol event at the International Shooting Competitions of Hannover in Germany?
(1) P Shri Nivetha (2) Manu Bhaker
(3) Apurvi Chandela (4) Heena Sidhu
(5) None of these
- Q.166.** Which Indian personality has been honoured with the 2018 Nikkei Asia Prize in Japan?
(1) Narendra Modi (2) Manmohan Singh
(3) Nita Ambani (4) Bindeshwar Pathak
(5) None of these
- Q.167.** Who has taken charge as the new Minister of Information and Broadcasting (I&B)?
(1) Alphons Kannanthanam
(2) S S Ahluwalia
(3) Rajyavardhan Rathore
(4) Piyush Goyal
(5) None of these
- Q.168.** The World Health Organization (WHO) has launched which comprehensive plan to eliminate trans fat in foods by 2023?
(1) HEALTH (2) REPLACE
(3) CHANGE (4) TRANS HEALTH
(5) None of these
- Q.169.** The first-ever executive committee meeting of South Asia Wildlife Enforcement Network (SAWEN) was held in which Indian city?
(1) New Delhi (2) Pune (3) Patna
(4) Kolkata (5) None of these
- Q.170.** At which of the following places the 4th edition of Global Exhibition on services (GES-2018) was conducted?
(1) Mumbai (2) New Delhi (3) Jabalpur
(4) Chandigarh (5) None of these
- Q.171.** Which IIM has launched \$25million Bharat Inclusion Initiative for Start-Ups?
(1) IIM-Delhi (2) IIM-Indore
(3) IIM-Ahmedabad (4) IIM-Calcutta
(5) None of these
- Q.172.** Yamunabai Waikar, the acclaimed Lavani singer has passed away. She belonged to which state?
(1) Gujarat (2) Maharashtra
(3) Goa (4) Madhya Pradesh
(5) None of these
- Q.173.** Who has been appointed as 'eminent jurist' in the high-profile Lokpal selection committee?
(1) P.P. Rao (2) Dipak Misra
(3) Mukul Rohatgi (4) Ranjan Gogoi
(5) None of these
- Q.174.** What is the India's position in world in 2017, as per Mercom Communications' latest report "India Solar Market Leaderboard 2018"?
(1) 5th (2) 3rd (3) 1st
(4) 4th (5) None of these
- Q.175.** Which Intellectual Property (IP) mascot has been launched at the conference on National Intellectual Property Rights Policy in New Delhi?
(1) IP Dadi (2) IP Neni (3) IP Nani
(4) IP Dada (5) None of these

ANSWER KEY

- Q.1.(2) Q.2.(4) Q.3.(2) Q.4.(1) Q.5.(3) Q.6.(4) Q.7.(2) Q.8.(4) Q.9.(3) Q.10.(1)
Q.11.(4) Q.12.(2) Q.13.(4) Q.14.(2) Q.15.(3) Q.16.(3) Q.17.(4) Q.18.(2) Q.19.(4) Q.20.(3)
Q.21.(2) Q.22.(3) Q.23.(2) Q.24.(2) Q.25.(1) Q.26.(2) Q.27.(1) Q.28.(3) Q.29.(3) Q.30.(3)
Q.31.(4) Q.32.(1) Q.33.(4) Q.34.(4) Q.35.(3) Q.36.(2) Q.37.(2) Q.38.(3) Q.39.(2) Q.40.(3)
Q.41.(4) Q.42.(2) Q.43.(3) Q.44.(2) Q.45.(4) Q.46.(3) Q.47.(2) Q.48.(1) Q.49.(4) Q.50.(1)
Q.51.(2) Q.52.(2) Q.53.(4) Q.54.(1) Q.55.(2) Q.56.(3) Q.57.(4) Q.58.(2) Q.59.(3) Q.60.(4)
Q.61.(4) Q.62.(1) Q.63.(4) Q.64.(3) Q.65.(2) Q.66.(1) Q.67.(3) Q.68.(4) Q.69.(3) Q.70.(2)
Q.71.(4) Q.72.(1) Q.73.(4) Q.74.(1) Q.75.(1) Q.76.(2) Q.77.(2) Q.78.(2) Q.79.(3) Q.80.(4)
Q.81.(1) Q.82.(1) Q.83.(1) Q.84.(3) Q.85.(4) Q.86.(2) Q.87.(2) Q.88.(1) Q.89.(2) Q.90.(3)
Q.91.(3) Q.92.(1) Q.93.(3) Q.94.(4) Q.95.(2) Q.96.(1) Q.97.(1) Q.98.(4) Q.99.(3) Q.100.(4)
Q.101.(2) Q.102.(1) Q.103.(4) Q.104.(2) Q.105.(1) Q.106.(1) Q.107.(2) Q.108.(2) Q.109.(3) Q.110.(2)
Q.111.(3) Q.112.(4) Q.113.(1) Q.114.(4) Q.115.(1) Q.116.(2) Q.117.(3) Q.118.(4) Q.119.(1) Q.120.(2)
Q.121.(3) Q.122.(4) Q.123.(3) Q.124.(1) Q.125.(1) Q.126.(3) Q.127.(2) Q.128.(3) Q.129.(1) Q.130.(4)
Q.131.(3) Q.132.(2) Q.133.(2) Q.134.(4) Q.135.(2) Q.136.(2) Q.137.(1) Q.138.(1) Q.139.(3) Q.140.(4)
Q.141.(2) Q.142.(2) Q.143.(1) Q.144.(3) Q.145.(2) Q.146.(3) Q.147.(3) Q.148.(3) Q.149.(4) Q.150.(1)
Q.151.(1) Q.152.(3) Q.153.(2) Q.154.(4) Q.155.(1) Q.156.(4) Q.157.(1) Q.158.(2) Q.159.(1) Q.160.(3)
Q.161.(4) Q.162.(3) Q.163.(2) Q.164.(3) Q.165.(4) Q.166.(4) Q.167.(3) Q.168.(2) Q.169.(4) Q.170.(1)
Q.171.(3) Q.172.(2) Q.173.(3) Q.174.(2) Q.175.(3)

REASONING ABILITY & COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

Q.1-6. Read the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

Eight friends Ranveer, Rekha, Raj, Randheer, Rahul, Rohit, Roza, and Roman are sitting around a circular table and facing towards the centre, but not necessarily in the same order. Each of them wants to drink a variety of soft drinks i.e. Mirinda, Thums Up, Maaza, Dew, Sprite, 7 up, Limca, Coca-cola, but not necessarily in this sequence.

Roman and Rekha are not the neighbours of Ranveer and Rohit.

Rohit, who wants to drink Limca, is third to the left of Raj, who does not want to drink Sprite and 7 up. The one who wants to drink Dew is the neighbour of Randheer, who is third to the right of Rekha and Rekha is the neighbour of Rahul. Roman is in front of Rekha who wants to drink Maaza. There are two persons in between Randheer and Rohit and both the middle persons do not want to drink Coca-cola and Dew. The one who wants to drink 7up is in front of the one who wants to drink Sprite.

Q.1. Who wants to drink Mirinda?

- (1) Roman (2) Roza (3) Rohit
(4) Rekha (5) Either 1 or 2

Q.2. What is the position of Roza with respect to the person who wants to drink Dew?

- (1) Fifth to the left (2) Fourth to the right
(3) Third to the right (4) Immediate to the left
(5) 1 and 3

Q.3. If we arrange the name in alphabetical order from Rahul in a clockwise direction then what is the position of Rahul with respect to Roza?

- (1) Immediate to the left
(2) Fourth to the left
(3) Third to the right
(4) Sixth to the left
(5) Seventh to the right

Q.4. Who are the neighbours of Roman?

- (1) Ranveer and the one who wants to drink coca-cola.
(2) Roza and Randheer
(3) Ranveer and Rahul
(4) Roza and the one who wants to drink Maaza.
(5) Raj and the one who wants to drink Limca.

Q.5. Who is sitting in front of the person who wants to drink 7up?

- (1) Rohit (2) Randheer (3) Ranveer
(4) Rahul (5) Either 2 or 4

Q.6. Which of the following combinations is correct?

- (1) Rohit - Mirinda
(2) Randheer - Sprite
(3) Raj - Coca-cola
(4) Rekha - Thums Up
(5) Rahul - 7 Up

Q.7-11. Read the following information carefully and answer the question given below.

A disc jockey is planning a new format for his programs which has eight slots numbered one through eight consecutively. The program must consist of following eight segments - one business report (BR), two commercial (C), one sports report (SR) and four health report (HR), not necessarily in the order given. Each of these eight segments must be aired only once during the program according to the following conditions.

- (i) The two commercials cannot be aired consecutively.
(ii) The program must begin with either a commercial or business report and must end with either a commercial or the business report.

Q.7. Which of the following is a possible assignment of segments for the radio program to slots 1 through 8 respectively?

- (1) C,HR,BR,HR,SR,HR,HR,C
(2) HR,HR,C,C,HR,HR,SR,BR
(3) HR,SR,C,HR,BR,HR,C,HR
(4) BR,HR,C,HR,SR,HR,C,HR
(5) None of these

Q.8. Which of the following assignments of segments to slots 2 and 3 respectively, result in one and only type of segment to be assigned to each of the following slot?

- (1) BR,HR (2) BR,SR (3) HR, SR
(4) SR,C (5) None of these

Q.9. If a business report is aired in slot 2, and if the sports report is aired in slot 5, all of the following must be true except:

- (1) a health report is aired immediately after the sports report.

- (2) a commercial is aired in slot 4.
- (3) a commercial is aired in slot 8.
- (4) a commercial is aired immediately after a health report.
- (5) None of these

Q.10. If a program begins with the business report, and if one commercial is aired immediately before the sports report and one commercial is aired immediately after it, the health report must be assigned to slots _____.

- (1) 1 through 4 (2) 2 through 5 (3) 3 through 6
- (4) 4 through 7 (5) None of these

Q.11. If a health report is aired after each commercial, and if the sports report is aired in slot 5, which of the following must be true?

- (i) A health report is aired in slot 7.
 - (ii) A commercial is aired in slot 7.
 - (iii) The sports report is aired between two health reports.
- (1) (i) only (2) (ii) only
 - (3) (i) and (ii) only (4) (ii) and (iii) only
 - (5) None of these

Q.12-16. The question consists of six statements followed by five conclusions. Consider the given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance with commonly known facts. Read all the conclusions and then decide which of the given conclusions definitely does not follow from the given statements.

Q.12. Statements: Some flower are crown.
All crown are king.
Some king are jangle.
All jangle are output.
All output are train.
All flower are brain.

Conclusions:

- (1) Some king are brain.
- (2) Some king are output.
- (3) Some king are train.
- (4) Some flower are not brain.
- (5) Some train are crown.

Q.13. Statements:
Some magic are brain.
No brain is animal.

All general are animal.
Some general are train.
No train is globe.
All globe are goat.

Conclusions:

- (1) No general is brain.
- (2) Some magic are not animal.
- (3) All train being goat is a possibility.
- (4) Some animal are not train.
- (5) All goat are train.

Q.14. Statements:

Some car are jangle.
No jangle is flower.
All flower are disk.
No disk is dance.
Some dance are jangle.
All jangle are double.

Conclusions:

- (1) Some car are not flower.
- (2) All jangle being disk is a possibility.
- (3) No flower is double.
- (4) No flower is dance.
- (5) Some dance are flower.

Q.15. Statements:

All horn are globe.
Some globe are flower.
All flower are train.
No flower is lane.
All magic are lane.
Some magic are result.

Conclusions:

- (1) All train are magic.
- (2) Some result are not lane.
- (3) Some train are not lane.
- (4) Some globe are not lane.
- (5) Some horn are flower.

Q.16. Statements:

All zebra are frog.
Some zebra are rabbit.
All rabbit are star.
No star is digit.
All digit are crown.
No crown is bear.

Conclusions:

- (1) No zebra is star.
- (2) Some frog are star.
- (3) No rabbit is digit.
- (4) No star is crown.
- (5) Some frog are not bear.

Q.17-21. Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

Eight family members A, B, C, D, E, F, G and H are like eight different American dishes .i.e. French dip, Goulash, Fajita, Pop-Tarts, Pastrami, Popover, Eggo and Grits but not necessarily in the same order.

D is the father of E and F. B, who likes Pop-Tarts, is married to A. C, who likes Fajita, is married to the person who likes Goulash. There are three married couples. H who like Eggo is the sister of D whose brother-in-law likes Grits. The person who likes Popover is the grandmother of E, who likes French dip. E is the sister of F who is the nephew of H.

Q.17. Who are the three couples in the family?

- (1) AB, CD and EF
- (2) AD, CB and HG
- (3) AF, BE and AG
- (4) AC, BD and HG
- (5) AB, GH and CD

Q.18. A likes which of the following American dishes?

- (1) Goulash (2) Pastrami (3) Pop-Tarts
- (4) Popover (5) Grits

Q.19. How many males are there in the family?

- (1) One (2) Two (3) Three
- (4) Four (5) Five

Q.20. How is F related to G?

- (1) Uncle (2) Wife (3) Grandson
- (4) Grandfather (5) Nephew

Q.21. F likes which of the following American dishes?

- (1) Pop-Tarts (2) Popover (3) Goulash
- (4) French dip (5) Pastrami

Q.22-26. Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

Six books The God of Small Things, The cost of living, War Talk, Power Politics, Revolution 2020 and What Young India Wants are to be read from 2nd February to 8th February with Sunday being

an off day, not necessarily in the same order. Each of the books has different pages: 110, 115, 120, 125, 130 and 135, again not necessarily in the same order.

8th February is not Sunday and a book of 110 pages is read on that day. Book 'The God of Small Things' is less than 120 pages and is read immediately before book 'Revolution 2020'. There are two books read between book 'What Young India Wants' which is of 135 pages and book 'War Talk' which is of 120 pages. Book 'Revolution 2020' is read before Sunday and there are two days between Sunday and book 'The God of Small Things'. Book 'Power Politics' which is of 125 pages is not read on 2nd February. The book read on Saturday is of 135 pages.

Q.22. How many books are read before Sunday?

- (1) Two (2) One (3) Three
- (4) Four (5) None of these

Q.23. Which of the following combinations of Book-Day - Pages is correct?

- (1) Revolution 2020 - Wednesday - 125
- (2) The God of Small Things - Thursday - 115
- (3) War Talk - Thursday - 120
- (4) What Young India Wants- Tuesday - 135
- (5) None is correct

Q.24. How many pages does the book 'The cost of living have'?

- (1) 130 (2) 125 (3) 115
- (4) 110 (5) None of these

Q.25. On which day is the book 'Power Politics' read?

- (1) Monday (2) Saturday (3) Tuesday
- (4) Friday (5) Cannot be determined

Q.26. Which day is Sunday?

- (1) 3rd February (2) 2nd February
- (3) 5th February (4) 6th February
- (5) Cannot be determined

Q.27-31. Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below.

Seven students Rupa, Chaman, Damini, Neelam, Govinda, Roy and Bozo are studying in three schools- St. Xavier, St. Thomas and S.K.D. There are four boys and three girls in the school. There are at least one girl and one boy in each school. They like different subjects -Mathematics, Science, English, Hindi, Arts, Social Science and History. 'Rupa and Govinda' are sister-brother who

like Mathematics and English respectively and both are in different schools. Neelam likes Arts and she studies in school St. Thomas. Chaman does not study either with Roy or Neelam. Damini is not a boy and likes Social Science and she studies in S.K.D only with Bozo. Roy does not like Science and Hindi.

- Q.27.** Who likes History subject?
 (1) None (2) Govinda (3) Rupa
 (4) Roy (5) Chaman
- Q.28.** If Chaman likes Hindi subject then who likes Science subject?
 (1) Roy (2) Govinda (3) Bozo
 (4) Neelam (5) None of these
- Q.29.** Govinda studies in which school?
 (1) St.Thomas (2) S.K.D (3) St.Xavier
 (4) Either 1 or 3 (5) None of these
- Q.30.** In which school does three of them study?
 (1) St. Xavier (2) S.K.D
 (3) St. Xavier or St. Thomas (4) Data inadequate
 (5) None of these
- Q.31.** Which of the following groups represents four boys?
 (1) Bozo,Roy,Chaman Govinda
 (2) Roy,Bozo,Neelam,Chaman
 (3) Damini,Neelam,Bozo,Govinda
 (4) Data inadequate
 (5) None of these
- Q.32-37.** A word and number arrangement machine when given an input line of words and numbers rearranges them following a particular rule in each step. The following is an illustration of input and rearrangement.
- Input :** migratory 34 56 militant milk mimic militia 28 55
- Step I :** mimic migratory 34 militant milk militia 28 55 56
- Step II :** mimic milk migratory 34 militant militia 28 56 55
- Step III :** mimic milk militia migratory militant 28 56 55 34
- Step IV :** mimic milk militia militant migratory 56 55 34 28
- Step V :** migratory militant milk mimic militia 56 55 34 28

Step VI : migratory militant milk mimic militia 28 34 55 56

Step VII : 9 8 4 5 7 28 34 55 56

Step VIII : 4 5 7 8 9 28 34 55 56

Step IX : 4 5 7 8 9 1 7 1 2

Step X : 1 1 2 4 5 7 7 8 9

Step X is the last Step of the arrangement of the above input.

As per the rules followed in the above steps, find out the appropriate step for the given Input in each of the following questions.

Input: listless 12 65 liquor loam 17 45 loch load 87 97 lodgment logic

- Q.32.** Which of the following would be the Step IX for the above input?
 (1) listless load 87 97 lodgment logic 12 65 liquor loam 17 45 loch
 (2) loch load listless lodgment logic 12 65 liquor loam 17 45 87 97
 (3) 8 8 6 4 4 4 5 12 17 45 65 87 97
 (4) 8 8 6 4 4 4 5 65 87 97 12 17 45
 (5) None of these
- Q.33.** Which word/number would be at 6th position from the left in Step V for the above input?
 (1) liquor (2) 65 (3) 87
 (4) listless (5) None of these
- Q.34.** Which step number would be the following output?
 lodgment listless liquor loam loch load logic 12 17 45 65 87 97
 (1) There will be no such step (2) III
 (3) VII (4) VIII
 (5) IV
- Q.35.** How many steps are required to complete the above input?
 (1) Seven (2) Three (3) Eleven
 (4) Six (5) None of these
- Q.36.** Which of the following would be the Step VI for the above input?
 (1) logic lodgment loch loam load listless liquor 97 87 12 65 17 45
 (2) logic lodgment loch loam load listless liquor 97 87 17 45 12 65
 (3) logic lodgment loch loam load listless 12 liquor 97 87 65 45 17

(4) logic lodgment loch loam load listless liquor
97 87 65 45 17 12

(5) None of these

Q.37. Which of the following would be the Step XII for the above input?

(1) 2 3 4 4 4 5 6 7 6 8 8 8

(2) 2 3 4 4 4 5 6 6 7 8 8 8

(3) 2 3 4 4 4 5 6 7 8 8 6 8

(4) 8 3 4 4 5 4 6 7 8 6 8 6

(5) There will be no such step

Q.38-40. Read the information given below and answer the following questions.

The world has changed a lot. In today's world men and women equally contribute in running a family. It is not easy to earn a bread and butter today alone which is forcing both the partners to work. Even the conservative families have accepted the change. But the real problem comes when women transforms into mother.

(A) Mother is the first person with whom child gets connected even before coming in this world. They need their mother's time in the initial years.

(B) Child caretaker cannot pay the same attention as much as the mother. Also, there is no surety of proper upbringing and care in absence of mother.

(C) Early childhood is the time for children's overall development whether it is a physical, mental or emotional.

(D) It is tough world today where inflation is forcing both men and women to work for meeting the financial needs. In such scenario women cannot leave her job.

(E) Leaving job is not an ideal solution. Mother's love and care is important for a child but it doesn't guarantee the right upbringing of child. However focus should be on finding right alternative care where children will not miss the company of her mother. Also, mother should try to give the rest of the time to children.

Q.38. Which of the following are definitely true in the context of that mother should not leave their job?

(1) B (2) A (3) D

(4) E (5) None of the above

Q.39. Which of the following can be a cause for not giving the responsibility of a child to child caretaker?

(1) A (2) C (3) B

(4) E (5) Data inadequate

Q.40. Which of the following is implicit with the development of the child?

(1) E (2) A (3) D

(4) C (5) None of these

Q.41. IP is an abbreviation for which of the following?

(1) Internet Printer

(2) Internet Ping

(3) Internet Person

(4) Internet Protocol

(5) None of these

Q.42. Which of the following was the first Intel processor introduced?

(1) 3080 (2) 4004 (3) 8080

(4) 8086 (5) 8085

Q.43. What type of file is often downloaded from multiple servers at one time?

(1) Webpage (2) Embedded Video

(3) Home page (4) Torrent

(5) All

Q.44. HTTP, FTP, and TCP/IP are all different types of what?

(1) Websites (2) File Systems

(3) Protocols (4) Software Programs

(5) Internet files

Q.45. What is the process of smoothing out digital noise in graphics called?

(1) Refracting (2) Rounding (3) Flattening

(4) Dithering (5) None of these

GENERAL AWARENESS

- Q.46.** The Committee to Review the Arrangements for Institutional Credit for Agriculture and Rural Development (CRAFICARD) under the Chairmanship of B. Shivaraman recommended the establishment of NABARD. B. Shivaraman was a member of which of the following body?
- (1) Law Commission
 - (2) Finance Commission
 - (3) Planning Commission
 - (4) Lead Bank Commission
 - (5) None of these
- Q.47.** Which of the following organisations supported the establishment of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?
- (1) Reserve Bank of India
 - (2) Indian Banks' Association
 - (3) NABARD
 - (4) Both 1&2
 - (5) All of the above
- Q.48.** Who has been recently sworn in as the President of Costa Rica?
- (1) Abel Pacheco de la Espriella
 - (2) Óscar Arias Sánchez
 - (3) Laura Chinchilla Miranda
 - (4) Luis Guillermo Solís Rivera
 - (5) Carlos Alvarado Quesada
- Q.49.** Hyderabad is situated on the Bank of which river?
- (1) Sarayu
 - (2) Tapti
 - (3) Yamuna
 - (4) Ganga
 - (5) Musi
- Q.50.** What is the currency of Bulgaria?
- (1) Lev
 - (2) Franc
 - (3) Dirham
 - (4) Peso
 - (5) Euro
- Q.51.** What is the capital of FIJI?
- (1) Cairo
 - (2) Nassau
 - (3) Nicosia
 - (4) Riyadh
 - (5) Suva
- Q.52.** Narora Atomic Power Station is situated in which state?
- (1) Karnataka
 - (2) Tamilnadu
 - (3) Andhra Pradesh
 - (4) Madhya Pradesh
 - (5) Uttar Pradesh
- Q.53.** Mrugavani National Park is situated in which state?
- (1) Telangana
 - (2) Tamilnadu
 - (3) Andhra Pradesh
 - (4) Madhya Pradesh
 - (5) Uttar Pradesh
- Q.54.** Which of the following is a type of double taxation?
- (1) Educational & Political
 - (2) Political & Economical
 - (3) Economical & Juridical
 - (4) Juridical & Educational
 - (5) All of these
- Q.55.** Who is the chairman of CBDT?
- (1) Sushil Chandra
 - (2) Arun Jaitley
 - (3) Piyush Goyal
 - (4) Dileep Joshi
 - (5) J.S. Ghosh
- Q.56.** According to United Nation's report, what is the expected growth rate of India's GDP in the Financial Year 2018-19?
- (1) 7%
 - (2) 7.10%
 - (3) 7.20%
 - (4) 7.30%
 - (5) 7.50%
- Q.57.** The Government of India signed a loan deal worth \$ 200 million with the World Bank for the National Nutrition Mission. When was National Nutrition Mission launched?
- (1) 8-Jun-17
 - (2) 8-Mar-18
 - (3) 8-Jan-18
 - (4) 8-Apr-17
 - (5) None of these
- Q.58.** Grand Prix of Liberation is related to which games?
- (1) Shooting
 - (2) Skating
 - (3) Car Race
 - (4) Bike Race
 - (5) Cycle Race
- Q.59.** Who has been appointed as Australian cricket team's head coach for all three formats?
- (1) Mathew Hayden
 - (2) David Warner
 - (3) Cameron Bancroft
 - (4) Justin Langer
 - (5) Steve Smith
- Q.60.** According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's report, India is now the world's fifth biggest military spender. When was SIPRI founded?
- (1) 5 January 1901
 - (2) 15 April 1966
 - (3) 6 May 1966
 - (4) 6 June 1944
 - (5) 24 October 1945

- Q.61.** The next Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in the Varanasi in January. What will be the theme of the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas?
- (1) "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India"
 - (2) "Indian Diaspora in building a New India"
 - (3) "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New World"
 - (4) "Indian Diaspora in building a Digital India"
 - (5) "Indian Diaspora and Nuclear World"
- Q.62.** Uma Bharti has launched the GOBAR (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources)-DHAN scheme at the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) Auditorium, Karnal. What is the constituency of Uma Bharti?
- (1) Khajuraho
 - (2) Jhansi
 - (3) Bhopal
 - (4) Malehra
 - (5) Tikamgarh
- Q.63.** Arun Date has passed away recently. With which field was he related to?
- (1) Singing
 - (2) Politics
 - (3) Literature
 - (4) Science
 - (5) Photography
- Q.64.** In May 2016, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934 was amended to provide a statutory basis for the implementation of which of the following?
- (1) The flexible inflation targeting framework.
 - (2) The flexible deflation targeting framework.
 - (3) The flexible Banking Ombudsman framework.
 - (4) The flexible KYC framework.
 - (5) None of these
- Q.65.** Which of the following was enacted in 1999 to replace Foreign Exchange Regulation Act (FERA)?
- (1) Foreign Exchange Act
 - (2) Foreign Currency Management Act
 - (3) Exchange Earner Management Act
 - (4) Foreign Exchange Management Act
 - (5) None of these
- Q.66.** When was Liberalised Exchange Rate Management System (LERMS) involving the dual exchange rate was instituted?
- (1) March 1992
 - (2) March 1999
 - (3) March 1892
 - (4) March 1990
 - (5) None of these
- Q.67.** The Central Government is required to maintain a minimum cash balance of Rs.10 crore on daily basis except Friday with the Reserve Bank. What is the amount to be maintained on Friday?
- (1) Rs.10 Crore
 - (2) Rs.100 Crore
 - (3) Rs.1000 Crore
 - (4) Rs.10000 Crore
 - (5) Rs.100000 Crore
- Q.68.** Basel III Capital Regulations for Indian banks will be fully phased in as on March 31, 2019, closer to the internationally agreed date. What is the internationally agreed date?
- (1) 31 March 2019
 - (2) 1 January 2019
 - (3) 31 March 2018
 - (4) 1 January 2020
 - (5) 1 April 2021
- Q.69.** NABARD came into existence on 12 July 1982 by transferring the ___ of RBI and ___ of the Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation (ARDC).
- (1) Refinance Functions & Regulatory Functions
 - (2) Regulatory Functions & Monetary Functions
 - (3) Monetary Functions & Supervisory Functions
 - (4) Agricultural Credit functions & Refinance Functions
 - (5) Supervisory Functions & Agricultural Credit functions
- Q.70.** Which of the following is the world's largest micro finance project?
- (1) MGNREGA Project
 - (2) JLG Project
 - (3) SHG Bank Linkage Project
 - (4) Amdani Project
 - (5) None of these
- Q.71.** Who has been recently elected as the Prime Minister of Armenia?
- (1) Nikol Pashinyan
 - (2) Mikhail Gorgov
 - (3) Serzh Sargsyan
 - (4) Karen Karapetyan
 - (5) Tigran Sargsyan
- Q.72.** Where was the 12th informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers held?
- (1) Pisa
 - (2) Paris
 - (3) Kathmandu
 - (4) Manila
 - (5) Hongkong
- Q.73.** Which of the following state (US) has surpassed the UK as world's 5th largest economy?
- (1) California
 - (2) Florida
 - (3) Texas
 - (4) Hawaii
 - (5) Pennsylvania

- Q.74.** Where was India- South Africa Business Summit recently held?
(1) Johannesburg (2) New Delhi
(3) Gauteng (4) Durban
(5) Pretoria
- Q.75.** National Science Day (NSD) is celebrated every year on _____.
(1) 28 June (2) 28 August
(3) 28 April (4) 28 February
(5) 28 March
- Q.76.** According to which Report, Renewable energy or green energy sector has created an estimated 1, 64,000 jobs in India in 2017?
(1) International Renewable Energy Agency Report
(2) World Solar Energy Council Report
(3) Global Green Energy Promotion Group Report
(4) All of these
(5) None of these
- Q.77.** According to which Report, India has been ranked sixth on the global optimism index in the first quarter of 2018.
(1) International Business Machine Report
(2) Grant Thornton's International Business Report
(3) Global Optimism Magazine Report
(4) All of these
(5) None of these
- Q.78.** Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been ranked ninth in the world's top 10 most powerful people of 2018 by Forbes magazine. Who was the founder of Forbes magazine?
(1) B C Forbes (2) Walter Drey
(3) Steve Forbes (4) Both (1) & (2)
(5) All of the above
- Q.79.** NITI Aayog and Google have signed Statement of Intent (SOI) to help grow Artificial Intelligence (AI) ecosystem in India. Which of the following hubs is the core of NITI Aayog's creation?
(1) Policy and Planning Hub
(2) Team India Hub
(3) Knowledge and Innovation Hub
(4) Both (2) & (3)
(5) All of the above
- Q.80.** Subhash C. Khuntia has taken charge as Chairman of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). How many full time members are there in IRDAI?
(1) IRDAI has 5 full time members appointed by Reserve Bank of India
(2) IRDAI has 5 full time members appointed by Security Exchange Board of India
(3) IRDAI has 5 full time members appointed by the Government of India
(4) IRDAI has 15 full time members appointed by all of the above
(5) None of these
- Q.81.** Human Resource Development Ministry has launched an initiative of online professional development of 1.5 million higher education faculty using the MOOCs platform SWAYAM. What is the full form of MOOCs?
(1) Massive Open Online Classes
(2) Massive Open Online Courses
(3) Massive Open Online Competition
(4) All of these
(5) None of these
- Q.82.** Who have signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to provide real time advisory to farmers in Aspirational Districts?
(1) Ministry of Rural Development and Reliance
(2) NITI Aayog and IBM
(3) NABARD and Microsoft
(4) Finance Ministry and ISRO
(5) None of these
- Q.83.** The Swedish Academy has postponed the 2018 Nobel Prize in the field of Literature, with the intention of awarding it in 2019. Who was the winner of 2017 Nobel Prize in the field of Literature?
(1) William Faulkner
(2) Ernest Hemingway
(3) Kazuo Ishiguro
(4) Bob Dylan
(5) Toni Morrison
- Q.84.** Who has been appointed as the acting chief justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court?
(1) T. S. Thakur
(2) H. L. Dattu
(3) Ajay Kumar Mittal
(4) Rajendra Mal Lodha
(5) P. Sathasivam
- Q.85.** Ashok Lahiri has been appointed as the full-time member of the 15th Finance Commission. The first Finance Commission was established by the President of India in 1951 under which article of the Indian Constitution?
(1) Article 112 (2) Article 113
(3) Article 266 (4) Article 280
(5) Article 267

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- Q.86-92. Read each part of the sentence to find out if there is any error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is no error, mark your answer as (5).**
- Q.86.** Ambuja Cement Ltd's power & fuel and freight cost surged(1)/ in the March quarter compared to a year ago but(2)/ that is due to after import duty on petroleum coke(3)/ was hike from 2.5% to 10% in 2017.(4)/No Error (5)
- Q.87.** The government's move(1)/ to pull back high-value notes(2)/ had "little impact" on India's growth and the economy(3)/ will continued to grow at 7-8 per cent.(4)/No Error (5)
- Q.88.** Tata Motors Ltd. expects(1)/ India to grow into the third-biggest car market(2)/ on the world by 2020 and(3)/ is "determined" to play a big part in that growth.(4)/No Error (5)
- Q.89.** A country has said its population will peak(1)/ to 1.45 billion by 2030 and to 1.1 billion towards the end of this century(2)/ even as it shrugged off concerns(3)/ over a decline labour force.(4)/No Error (5)
- Q.90.** Auto components maker (1)/ Sona Group plan to invest Rs 300-400 crore(2)/ over the next four years (3)/ to expand business in the country.(4)/ No Error (5)
- Q.91.** China and the biggest search engine company are in talks for (1)/ the internet giant's return to the Chinese mainland after it (2)/ was pulled over seven years ago following a bitter spat(3)/ with Beijing over censorship rules.(4)/No Error (5)
- Q.92-94. In each sentence below four words have been printed in bold which are numbered (A), (B), (C) and (D). One/more than one word may be wrongly spelt or inappropriate in context of the sentence. Find out the wrongly spelt or inappropriate word. If all the words are correctly spelt and are appropriate the answer is (E) i.e. "All correct".**
- Q.92.** Leander Paes and his Argentine partner **crashed out (A)** in the opening round of the **men doubles (B)** to bring an **early closure (C)** to India's **challenge (D)** at the ATP Indian Wells Masters. **All Correct (E)**
 (1) Only (A) (2) Both (A) and (B)
 (3) Only (B) (4) Only (D)
 (5) All Correct
- Q.93.** The Centre's **demonetisation (A)** drive is seemed to have a **significant impact (B)** on the **gold demand (C)** in the country as imports of the metal **dropped sharp (D)**. **All Correct (E)**
 (1) Only (A) (2) Both (A) and (B)
 (3) Only (C) (4) Only (D)
 (5) All Correct
- Q.94.** A plea, seeking an order for fixing the **exhausted (A)** of all vehicles on the top rather than in the bottom **claiming (B)** that this **would lessen (C)** pollution, has been **rejected (D)** by the SC. **All Correct (E)**
 (1) Only (A) (1) Both (A) and (B)
 (3) Only (C) (4) Only (D)
 (5) All Correct
- Q.95-97. In the following question, fill the space in the sentence using the base word given in bold at the end. The required word may be a noun, adverb, adjective or verb and it may be either positive or negative.**
- Q.95.** Pakistan will begin its first census in about two decades with the ___ of over 200,000 troops and civilian officials who will collect crucial data that will be used for key policy decisions, including delimitation of constituencies. (assist)
 (1) unassisted (2) assisted
 (3) assistance (4) assisting
 (5) unaided
- Q.96.** An archaeological treasure trove on the site of a planned metro station in central Algiers is set to become a museum, ___ a window on 2,000 years of history.(open)
 (1) openly (2) openness
 (3) opening (4) unopened
 (5) opens
- Q.97.** China has warned of a trade war with the US if the current Presidential ___ decides to ignore WTO rulings and unilaterally imposes tariffs on its goods.(administrating)
 (1) administer (2) administration
 (3) administrative (4) administered
 (5) unadministering
- Q.98-99. Rearrange the following sentences (A), (B), (C), (D), (E), (F) and (G), questions given below them.**
- (A) Most of India is virtually dark at night,
 (B) This is a reality worth recalling at a time
 (C) With a few bright spots representing the major cities.
 (D) For having electrified the very last village
 (E) —a process well in train under the previous government,
 (F) When the government claims credit
 (G) When our last data was captured in 2013.

Q.98. Which of the following would be the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?

- (1) A (2) B (3) C
(4) G (5) F

Q.99. Which of the following would be the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?

- (1) D (2) B (3) G
(4) A (5) C

Q.100- 104. In the following passage there are blanks each of which has been numbered as well as filled with a word which may be appropriate in context of the passage or maybe not. If the word highlighted is incorrect and needs improvement then choose any one option suggested given below. But if the given word is correct and requires no change then mark (5) i.e. no change required as your answer.

When Trevor Longino worked at an Orlando-based startup incubator, he was promoted from copywriter to VP of marketing within his first six months on the job. "I had no real experience managing a large, diverse team," he recalls. "Naturally, there were people I liked more and people I liked less. But I didn't want to play favourites." This was hard, however, because Trevor had one direct report, "Joe," whom he couldn't stand. Joe did not have a strong work ethic, he **urbane** _____ (100), and he watched a lot of YouTube during work hours. "We didn't mesh," recalls Trevor, "and it was sometimes unpleasant." Over time, Trevor realized that how he managed the team was suffering from his disdain for Joe. "I was giving [the best assignments] to the people I played foosball with **for** _____ (101) lunch and colleagues with whom I used to go out for drinks after work. I liked them, and I knew I could rely on them."

One day, Trevor realized how unfair his treatment of Joe was while talking with a different colleague. Joe butted into their conversation with something unrelated; Trevor, as usual, **rough** _____ (102) acknowledged Joe. "But my colleague, a person I really trusted and respected, said something like, That's interesting, Joe. Trevor and I are busy right now working on something else. I will come over to you later and talk about it. Trevor saw that his colleague's response had a **surchage** _____ (103) impact on Joe's demeanour and attitude. "Joe seemed happy as he walked away from us," he says. The experience made him realize that he had been overly **squander** _____ (104) of Joe and that "needed to do [his] very best to have a cordial,

professional relationship" with him.

Q.100. Choose the correct option for (100)

- (1) sulked (2) vile (3) wagged
(4) uproar (5) No change required

Q.101. Choose the correct option for (101)

- (1) into (2) on (3) between
(4) during (5) No change required

Q.102. Choose the correct option for (102)

- (1) scarce (2) mischievously
(3) barely (4) sobriety
(5) No change required

Q.103. Choose the correct option for (103)

- (1) noticeable (2) green (3) suffrage
(4) amenable (5) No change required

Q.104. Choose the correct option for (104)

- (1) strangely (2) noisy (3) dismissive
(4) slur (5) No change required

Q.105-116. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some questions.

Faith seems to come in two personalities, the purist and the ironist. Purists believe that everything in the world is part of a **harmonious** whole. All questions point ultimately to a single answer. If we orient our lives toward this pure ideal, and get everybody else to, we will move gradually towards perfection.

The ironists believe that this harmony may be available in the next world but not, unfortunately, in this one. In this world, the pieces don't quite fit together and virtues often conflict: liberty versus equality, justice versus mercy, tolerance versus order. For the ironist, ultimate truth exists, but day-to-day life is often about balance and trade-offs. There is no unified, all-encompassing system for correct living. For the ironists, like Reinhold Niebuhr or Isaiah Berlin, those purists who aim to be higher than the angels often end up lower than the beasts. Throughout history we've seen a lot of purist religious faiths, from the Spanish inquisitors to the modern Islamic radicals, who believe in a single true way of living. Today we see a lot of **secular** purists: the students at Middlebury who want to shout down differing opinions, the legal activists who want to force Orthodox Christian bakers to work at specific weddings, against their conscience.

This movement has led many Christians to conclude that they are about to become pariahs in their own nation. One of these is my friend Rod Dreher, whose new book, "The Benedict

Option,” is already the most discussed and most important religious book of the decade. L.G.B.T. activism is the tip of the spear at our throats in the culture war. The struggle over gender rights is what is threatening religious liberty, putting Christian merchants out of business, threatening the tax-exempt status and accreditation of Christian schools and colleges.

Rod says it’s futile to keep fighting the culture war, because it’s over. Instead believers should follow the model of the sixth-century monk St. Benedict, who set up separate religious communities as the Roman empire collapsed around them. Rod is pre-emptively surrendering when in fact some practical accommodation is entirely possible. Most Americans are not **hell bent** on destroying religious institutions. If anything they are spiritually hungry and open to religious conversation. It should be possible to find a workable accommodation between L.G.B.T. rights and religious liberty, especially since Orthodox Jews and Christians aren’t trying to impose their views on others, merely preserve a space for their witness to a transcendent reality.

There is a beautiful cohesion to the monastic vocation. But most people are dragged willy-nilly into life — with all its contradictions and complexities. Many who experience faith experience it most vividly within the web of their rival loves — different communities, jobs, dilemmas. They have faith in their faith. It gives them a way of being within the realities of a messy and impure world. The right response to the moment is not the Benedict Option, it is Orthodox Pluralism. It is to surrender to some orthodoxy that will overthrow the superficial obsessions of the self and put one’s life in contact with a transcendent ideal. But it is also to reject the notion that that ideal can be easily translated into a pure, homogenized path. It is, on the contrary, to throw oneself more deeply into friendship with complexity, with different believers and atheists, liberals and conservatives, the dissimilar and unlike.

Q.105. As per the passage given above why it has been said that L.G.B.T. activism is the tip of the spear in the culture war?

- A. Because the struggle over gender rights is what is threatening religious liberty.
- B. Because it is putting Christian merchants out of business and it is threatening the tax-exempt status.

C. Because it is an accreditation of Christian schools and colleges.

- (1) Both A and B (2) Both A and C
- (3) Both B and C (4) Only B
- (5) All A, B and C

Q.106. For the ironists, like Reinhold Niebuhr or Isaiah Berlin, how do the purists who aim to be higher than the angels end up?

- (1) They often end up lower than the flora and fauna
- (2) They often end up lower than the beasts.
- (3) They often end up lower than the wounded dog.
- (4) They often end up lower than the Orthodox Jews.
- (5) Not clearly mentioned in the passage.

Q.107. As per the passage given whose new book the most discussed and most important religious book of the decade?

- (1) Tom Rogerer (2) David Pattinson
- (3) Rod Dreher (4) Julie Winfray
- (5) Dwayne Thomas

Q.108. According to the passage which of the following is/are the believe(s) of the Purists?

- A. The Purists believe that everything in the world is part of a harmonious whole.
 - B. All questions point ultimately to a single answer.
 - C. If we orient our lives towards the given pure ideal, and get everybody else to, we will move gradually toward perfection.
- (1) Both B and C (2) Only C
 - (3) Both A and B (4) All A, B and C
 - (5) Only A

Q.109. Today which kind of secular purists are seen a lot?

- A. The people who experience faith experience the secularism most vividly within the web of their rival loves.
 - B. The students at middlebury who want to shout down differing opinions.
 - C. The legal activists who want to force orthodox christian bakers to work at the homosexual weddings, against their conscience.
- (1) Both B and C
 - (2) Only C
 - (3) Both A and B
 - (4) All A, B and C
 - (5) Only A

Q.110. Which of the following statement is TRUE according to the passage?

- A. The right response to the moment is not the Benedict Option, it is Orthodox Pluralism. It is to surrender to some orthodoxy that will overthrow the superficial obsessions of the self and put one's life in contact with a transcendent ideal.
- B. It is also to reject the notion that that ideal can be easily translated into a pure, homogenized path.
- C. It is, on the contrary, to throw oneself more deeply into friendship with complexity, with different believers and atheists, liberals and conservatives, the dissimilar and unlike.

- (1) Both B and C (2) Only C
 (3) Both A and B (4) All A, B and C
 (5) Only A

Q.111. What according to the passage is the right response to the moment?

- (1) It is to surrender to some orthodoxy that will overthrow the superficial obsessions of the self.
 (2) It is the Benedict Option.
 (3) It is Orthodox Pluralism.
 (4) It is to put one's life in contact with a transcendent ideal.
 (5) All except (2)

Q.112. Which of the following statement is NOT TRUE according to the passage?

- (1) Rod is pre-emptively surrendering when in fact some practical accommodation is entirely possible.
 (2) Most Americans are hell bent on destroying religious institutions.
 (3) If anything they are spiritually hungry and open to religious conversation.
 (4) The ironists believe that this harmony may be available in the next world but not in this one.
 (5) Most people are dragged willy-nilly into life — with all its contradictions and complexities.

Q.113. For the ironist, ultimate truth exists, but how is day-to-day life for them?

- (1) It is often about balance.
 (2) It is often about trade-offs.
 (3) It is often about narcissism.
 (4) It is often about self restraining.
 (5) Both (1) and (2)

Q.114. Choose the word which is most nearly the **OPPOSITE** in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Harmonious

- (1) equipped (2) unfriendly (3) penalized
 (4) violate (5) amicable

Q.115-116. Choose the word which is most nearly the **SAME** in meaning as the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Q.115. Hell bent

- (1) object (2) debunk (3) diligent
 (4) rearing (5) negligent

Q.116. Secular

- (1) unprecedented (2) godly (3) holy
 (4) habitat (5) nonreligious

Q.117-121. In each of the following sentences there are three blank spaces. Below each sentence three words in each option have been denoted by numbers (1), (2), (3), (4) and (5). Find out the correct option can be filled in the blanks in order to make a meaningful sentence.

Q.117. The United Kingdom has tried to ___ the world that its huge meat industry poses no threat - with the President even inviting ambassadors to a ___ dinner – ___ allegations that corrupt exporters sold tainted products.

- (1) assuring-acclimation-between
 (2) aestival-aegis-zest
 (3) abominate-steak-before
 (4) reassure-steak-despite
 (5) ad-hoc-reassure-in spite of

Q.118. Shares of famous Cellular Company ___ nearly 7 per cent, wiping out Rs 3,692 crore from the company's market ___, after the announcement ___ the merger of the with Vodafone India.

- (1) acarpous-group-in
 (2) ad-lib-accretion-of
 (3) tumbled- valuation- of
 (4) abstemious-valuation-off
 (5) adjunct-morals-at

Q.119. With India ___ as a preferred investment destination, the country is expected to ___ nearly USD 4.2 billion ___ capital in the realty sector in the current year.

- (1) watches-has-apart
 (2) destination-face-new
 (3) babel-affray-active
 (4) brook-witness-of
 (5) emerging- witness- new

Q.120. The prices of the famous Chilli brand were up 1.99 per cent to Rs 8,400 per quintal in futures trading as ___ created speculative positions, triggered ___ tight supplies from ___ belts.

- (1) friends-in-mitigating
 (2) candidate-by-excruciating
 (3) aspirant-for-bilk
 (4) participants-by- producing
 (5) needy-in-brevity

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Q.121-125. Read the following informations carefully to answer the questions asked-

There are three sections in class 12 and students are given two choices whether to choose Science or Art as one of optional subject. Related informations are given as below-

- (1) In section C there are total 66 girls out of which $45\frac{4}{9}\%$ girls choose Arts which is 20 less than number of boys choosing Arts in same section.
- (2) Ratio of boys choosing Science to boys choosing Arts in section C is 24:25.
- (3) In section B, 12 more boys and 9 more girls choose Science as compared to section C.
- (4) In section B, 40 boys choose Arts which is 20% less than number of girls choosing Arts in same section.
- (5) Overall 188 boys and 121 girls choose science.
- (6) Total number of students taking all three sections together is 604.
- (7) Ratio of boys and girls choosing Art in section C is 11:14 respectively.

Q.121. Find the total number of girls who choose art.

- (1) 120 (2) 145 (3) 150
- (4) 175 (5) None of these

Q.122. Find the total number of students in section B.

- (1) 175 (2) 195 (3) 205
- (4) 185 (5) None of these

Q.123. Find difference of boys who choose Science in section A and number of girls who choose art in section B.

- (1) 20 (2) 25 (3) 30
- (4) 15 (5) None of these

Q.124. In section A number of boys is approximately how much percent less/more than the number of girls in same section?

- (1) 22.7% (2) 30.2% (3) 25.6%
- (4) 21.2% (5) 24.4%

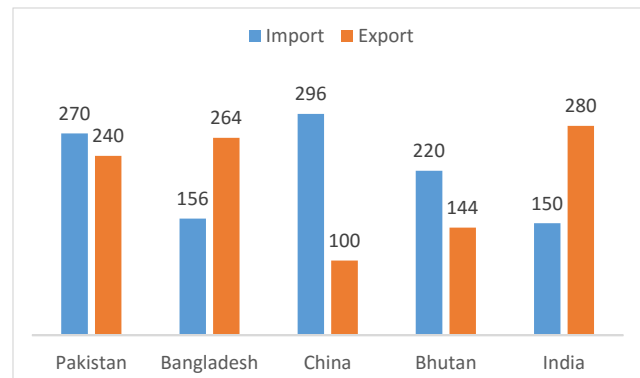
Q.125. Find the ratio of girls choosing Art and Science respectively.

- (1) 135:111 (2) 150:121 (3) 73:51
- (4) 19:13 (5) None of these

Q.126-130. Study the following information carefully to answer the questions asked.

The following bar graph represents the exports (in Cr Rs.) and imports (in Cr Rs.) of five countries in 2016.

Import and Export of five countries



Country	Ratio of Import (2016 to 2017)	Ratio of Export (2016 to 2017)
Pakistan	27:25	2:3
Bangladesh	39:41	12:11
China	37:32	5:3
Bhutan	10:11	18:19
India	15:16	7:5

Q.126. Find the respective ratio between Import of CHINA in 2017 and export of BHUTAN in 2017.

- (1) 32:17 (2) 32:19 (3) 35:23
- (4) 19:17 (5) None of these

Q.127. Imports of all the countries together in 2016 is what percent of the exports of all the countries together in 2016?

- (1) 112.57% (2) 108.59% (3) 106.22%
- (4) 123.15% (5) 119.62%

Q.128. Find the sum of the imports of the PAKISTAN and BANGLADESH in 2017 and exports of the CHINA and BHUTAN in 2017.

- (1) Rs. 313000 (2) Rs. 314000
- (3) Rs. 413000 (4) Rs. 513000
- (5) None of these

Q.129. Find the difference between the sum of Import and Export of INDIA in 2016 and that in 2017. (in crore)

- (1) 70 (2) 62 (3) 74
- (4) 80 (5) None of these

Q.130. Import of CHINA in 2017 is approximately what percent more/less than the export of the same country in same year?

- (1) 221% (2) 427% (3) 321%
- (4) 327% (5) 411%

Q.131-135. Read the following information carefully to answer the questions asked-

College	% of students pursuing engineering	Ratio of boys and girls in engineering students	Ratio of boys and girls in non-engineering students
A	60%	7:3	8:7
B	40%	3:2	2:3
C	28%	2:1	5:4
D	50%	13:7	9:7
E	56%	5:3	2:3

Q.131. If ratio of total students in college B and college E is 3:5. Find the ratio of engineering students studying in these colleges.

- (1) 11 : 17 (2) 5 : 9 (3) 3 : 7
(4) 13 : 17 (5) None of these

Q.132. If number of non-engineering students in college A and C are equal then find the ratio of total students studying in these colleges.

- (1) 2 : 3 (2) 5 : 8 (3) 7 : 12
(4) 9 : 5 (5) None of these

Q.133. If number of girls studying in engineering in college B is 220, find the difference of boys and girls studying in non-engineering.

- (1) 125 (2) 165 (3) 185
(4) 175 (5) None of these

Q.134. Find the ratio of boys and girls in college A.

- (1) 19:30 (2) 19:11 (3) 15:17
(4) 11:19 (5) Can not be determined

Q.135. If total students studying in all colleges together is 60000. Find the approximate percentage of students among them studying in college A,C and E.

- (1) 44% (2) 56% (3) 48%
(4) 39% (5) Can't be determined

Q.136-140. Each of these questions consist of a question followed by informations in three statements. You have to study the question and the statements and decide that information in which of the statement(s) is/are necessary to answer the question.

Q.136. What is the length of platform?

- I. Train crosses a platform in 24 seconds.
II. Train crosses a man moving at the speed of 5 km/h in opposite direction in 12 seconds.
III. Train crosses a pole in 14.4 seconds.

- (1) I and II together
(2) II and III together
(3) All three together
(4) All together are not sufficient
(5) None of these

Q.137. What is the cost price of the article?

- I. 20% discount is given on the marked price.
II. Marked price of the article is 125% of its selling.
III. Profit is Rs. 40.

- (1) I and II together
(2) II and III together
(3) All three together
(4) All together are not sufficient
(5) None of these

Q.138. Vijay alone completes a work in 15 days. In how many days Alok alone can complete that work?

- I. The ratio of their efficiencies of Vijay and Alok is 3 : 1 respectively.
II. Completing 33.33% of total work Alok alone takes 10 days more than Vijay alone.
III. Both working together completes the work in 11.25 days
(1) I and II together
(2) II and III together
(3) All three together
(4) All together are not sufficient
(5) None of these

Q.139. What is the area of right-angled triangle?

- I. Perimeter of the triangle is 48 cm.
II. Ratio of base and perpendicular of the triangle is 3:4.
III. Ratio of base and hypotenuse of the triangle is 3:5.

- (1) None of these
(2) II and III together
(3) All three together
(4) All together are not sufficient
(5) I and either II or III

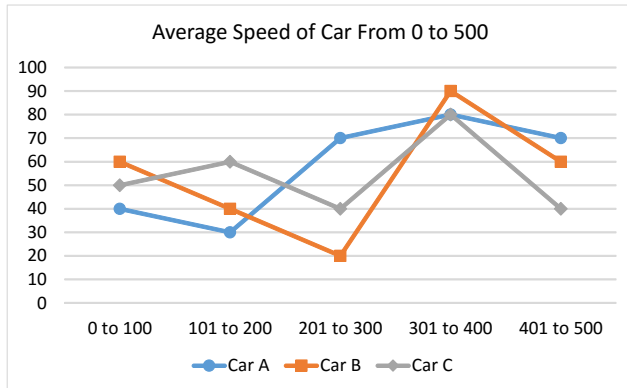
Q.140. What is the present age of father?

- I. The ratio between the son's age after 5 years and father's age 10 years ago is 1:2.
II. Difference of age of father and son is 25 years.
III. Ratio of age of father, mother and son is 6:5:1.

- (1) I and II together
(2) II and III together
(3) All three together
(4) All together are not sufficient
(5) Any two are sufficient

Q.141-145. Read the following information carefully to answer the questions asked-

Following line graph shows the average speed of three cars during a journey.



Q.141. Find the average speed of car C for whole journey. (Approx)

- (1) 38 Km/h (2) 50 Km/h (3) 56 Km/h
(4) 29 Km/h (5) 35 Km/h

Q.142. If the average speed of Car-B is increased by 50% after 200 km. find the total time to complete 300 km by Car B.

- (1) 6 hours (2) 8.2 hours (3) 7.2 hours
(4) 7.5 hours (5) None of these

Q.143. If car C wants to complete whole journey in 9 hour 25 minutes then from 401 to 500 km by how much percent its speed should be increased?

- (1) 20% (2) 16.67% (3) 25%
(4) 30% (5) None of these

Q.144. If the engine of Car B is damaged due to small accident after 400 km due to this the car is stopped for 12 minutes after every 45 min. Find the time to complete whole journey by Car B.(Approx)

- (1) 12 hours 20 min
(2) 13 hours 20 min
(3) 13 hours 45 min
(4) 12 hours 40 min
(5) 13 hours 12 min

Q.145. When Car C completed 200 Kms, Car A was how many Kms behind the Car C?

- (1) 30 Kms (2) 35 Kms (3) 25 Kms
(4) 40 Kms (5) Can not be determined

Q.146-150. Find the wrong term in the following number series-

Q.146. 9280 10648 12167 13824 15625

- (1) 10648 (2) 9280 (3) 13824
(4) 15625 (5) 12167

Q.147. 5 30 160 600 1800 3600

- (1) 3600 (2) 1800 (3) 30
(4) 5 (5) 160

Q.148. 6 20 120 676 3364 13444

- (1) 120 (2) 6 (3) 20
(4) 3364 (5) 676

Q.149. 5 10 21 43 85 171

- (1) 21 (2) 43 (3) 10
(4) 5 (5) 171

Q.150. 1 122 266 435 626 856

- (1) 122 (2) 1 (3) 435
(4) 626 (5) 856

Q.151-155. In each of the following question, a question is followed by information given in two statement named as Quantity-I (Q1) and Quantity -II (Q2). You have to study the information and compare the values derived from Quantity-I and Quantity-II. Then answer -

- (1) $Q1 > Q2$ (2) $Q1 \geq Q2$
(3) $Q1 < Q2$ (4) $Q1 \leq Q2$
(5) $Q1 = Q2$ or no relationship can be established

Q.151. What is the total number of boys in school?

Q1- Ratio of total number of boys and total number of girls in school is 4 : 5. If 200 boys and girls each are included then this ratio will become 5 : 6.

Q2- In the school there are 2800 students in which 70% are girls.

Q.152. Find effective discount percentage-

Q1- Shopkeeper gives 2 articles free on purchase of 3 articles.

Q2- Shopkeeper gives two successive discounts of 15% and 25% .

Q.153. Find the average-

Q1- Average of first 10 prime numbers.

Q2- Average of first 9 multiple of 3.

Q.154. What is the speed of Bus ?

Q1- Bus covers 80 km. distance in 5 hours.

Q2- Car covers 160 km in that time in which bus covers 128 km and speed of car is 20 km/hr.

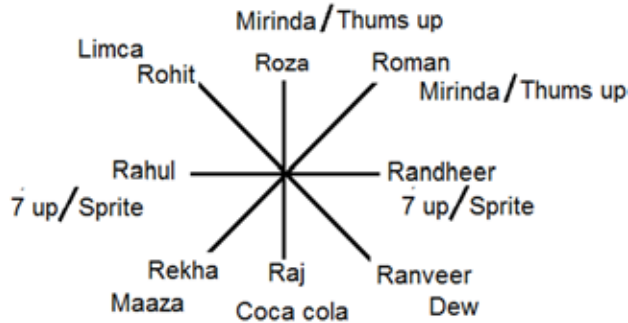
Q.155. Find the rate of interest-

Q1- After 2 years Rs.3200 becomes Rs. 4050 at Compound interest.

Q2- A principal becomes doubles itself at the end of 8 years at Simple interest

EXPLANATION/REASONING ABILITY & COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

Q.1-6.



- Q.1.(5)
- Q.2.(5)
- Q.3.(1)
- Q.4.(2)
- Q.5.(5)
- Q.6.(3)
- Q.7-11.

Q.7.(1) Option (2) and (3) are not correct because the program must begin with either a commercial or business report.
 Option (4) and (5) are not correct because the program must end either with a commercial or business report.
 Option (1) is the correct choice.

Q.8.(2) If the second and the third segments are the business report and sports report respectively then other segments will have a unique schedule:
 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
 C BR SR HR HR HR HR C

Q.9.(2) If a business report is aired in slot 2 and sports report in slot 5, then the schedule of the program cannot have commercial in slot 4 because the schedule will begin and end with a commercial as per condition (ii).
 or,

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	BR	HR	HR	SR	HR	HR	C

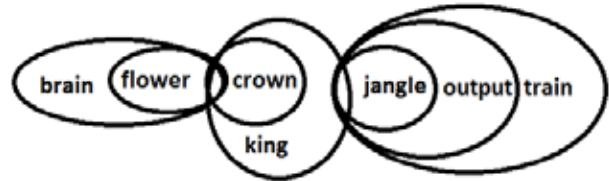
Q.10.(2)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
BR	HR	HR	HR	HR	C	SR	C

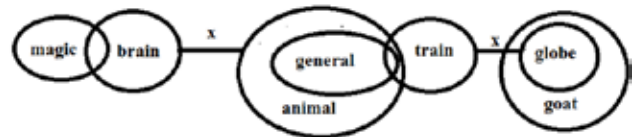
Q.11.(1)

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
C	HR	C	HR	SR	HR	HR	BR
C	HR	HR	HR	SR	C	HR	BR

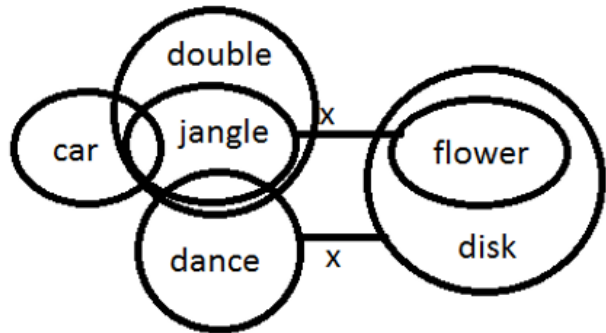
Q.12.(4)



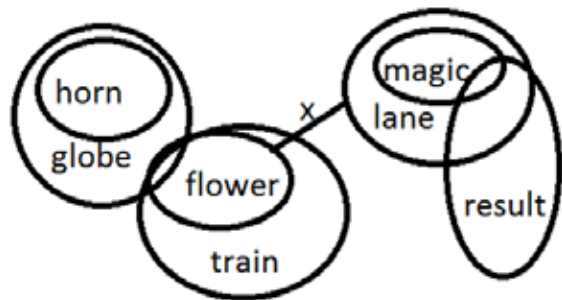
Q.13.(5)



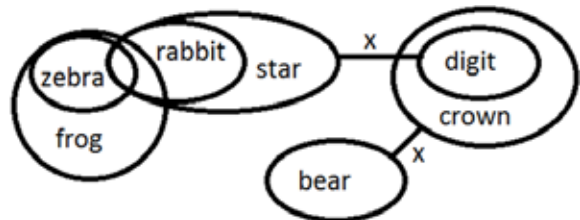
Q.14.(5)



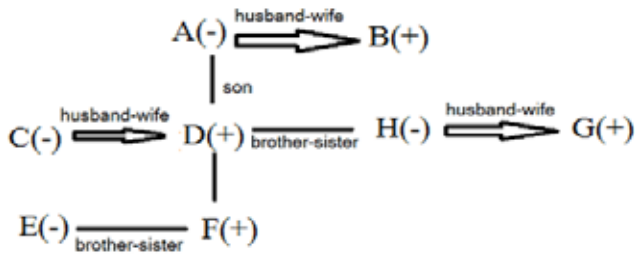
Q.15.(1)



Q.16.(1)



Q.17-21.



Person	American Dish
A	Popover
B	Pop-Tarts
C	Fajita
D	Gaulash
E	French dip
F	Pastrami
G	Grits
H	Eggo

Q.17. (5) Q.18. (4) Q.19. (4)
 Q.20. (5) Q.21. (5)
 Q.22-26.

Date	Day	Books	Pages
2nd	Wed	War Talk	120
3rd	Thur	Tho God of Small Things	115
4th	Fri	Revolution	130
5th	Sat	What Young India Wants	135
6th	Sun	Off Off	
7th	Mon	Power Politics	125
8th	Tues	The cost of living	110

Q.22.(4) Q.23.(2) Q.24.(4) Q.25.(1)
 Q.26.(4)
 Q.27-31.

Name	School	Subject
Rupa (-)	St. Xavier	Mathematics
Chaman(+)	St. Xavier	Hindi/Science
Damini(-)	S.K.D.	Social Sc.
Neelam(-)	St. Thomas	Arts
Govinda(+)	St. Xavier/ St. Thomas	English
Roy(+)	St. Thomos	History
Bozo(+)	S.K.D.	Hindi/Science

Q.27.(4) Q.28.(3) Q.29.(4)
 Q.30.(3) Q.31.(1)
 Q.32-37.

- Input:** listless 12 65 liquor loam 17 45 loch load 87 97 lodgment logic
- Step I:** logic listless 12 65 liquor loam 17 45 loch load 87 lodgment 97
- Step II:** logic lodgment listless 12 65 liquor loam 17 45 loch load 97 87
- Step III:** logic lodgment loch listless 12 liquor loam 17 45 load 97 87 65
- Step IV:** logic lodgment loch loam listless 12 liquor 17 load 97 87 65 45
- Step V:** logic lodgment loch loam load listless 12 liquor 97 87 65 45 17
- Step VI:** logic lodgment loch loam load listless liquor 97 87 65 45 17 12
- Step VII:** lodgment listless liquor loam loch load logic 97 87 65 45 17 12
- Step VIII:** lodgment listless liquor loam loch load logic 12 17 45 65 87 97
- Step IX:** 8, 8, 6, 4, 4, 4, 5, 12, 17, 45, 65, 87, 97
- Step X:** 4, 4, 4, 5, 6, 8, 8, 12, 17, 45, 65, 87, 97
- Step XI:** 4, 4, 4, 5, 6, 8, 8, 3, 8, 9, 2, 6, 7
- Step XII:** 2, 3, 4, 4, 4, 5, 6, 6, 7, 8, 8, 8

Words and numbers are arranged in descending order in step I to VI. After that in step VII, words are arranged in descending order according to their last letter's place value of each word. In step VIII, numbers are arranged in ascending order. In step IX, the total number of letters in each word. In step X, numbers are arranged in ascending order. In step XI, double digits numbers are converted into the single digit. In the last step, numbers are arranged in ascending order.

Q.32.(3) Q.33.(4) Q.34.(4)
 Q.35.(5) Q.36.(4) Q.37.(2)
 Q.38. (3) Q.39. (3) Q.40. (4)

- Q.41.(4)** IP is an abbreviation for Internet Protocol. An IP address is an address of a computer or other network device on a network using TCP/IP.
- Q.42.(2)** The Intel 4004 introduced in 1970 and was the first processor introduced by Intel.
- Q.43.(4)** A torrent is a file sent via the BitTorrent protocol.
- Q.44.(3)** A specific set of communication rules is called a protocol.
- Q.45.(4)** Dithering is a process that uses digital noise to smooth out colors in digital graphics and sounds in digital audio.

EXPLANATION/GENERAL AWARENESS

- Q.46.(3)** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) at the insistence of the Government of India, constituted a Committee to Review the Arrangements for Institutional Credit for Agriculture and Rural Development (CRAFICARD) to look into these very critical aspects. The Committee was formed on 30 March 1979, under the Chairmanship of Shri B. Shivaraman, former member of Planning Commission, Government of India.
- Q.47.(4)** National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is an umbrella organization for all retail payments system in India. It was set up with the guidance and support of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Indian Banks' Association (IBA).
- Q.48.(5)** Carlos Alvarado has been sworn in as the President of Costa Rica.
- Q.49.(5)** Hyderabad is situated on the Bank of Musi River.
- Q.50.(1)** Lev is the currency of Bulgaria.
- Q.51.(5)** Suva is the capital of FIJI.
- Q.52.(5)** Narora Atomic Power Station is situated in Uttar Pradesh.
- Q.53.(1)** Mrugavani National Park is situated in Telangana state.
- Q.54.(3)** Double taxation is the levying of tax by two or more jurisdictions on the same declared income, asset, or financial transaction. There are two types of double taxation: economical and juridical (international).
- Q.55.(1)** Sushil Chandra
- Q.56.(3)** According to United Nation's report, India's GDP growth rate is expected to be 7.2 % in the Financial Year 2018-19.
- Q.57.(2)** The Government of India signed a loan deal worth \$ 200 million with the World Bank for the National Nutrition Mission. On 08-March-2018, the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi launched the National Nutrition Mission at a mega event held at Jhunjhunu in Rajasthan.
- Q.58.(1)** Gagan Narang and Pooja Ghatkar have won the silver medal in 10m air rifle mixed team event in the Grand Prix of Liberation international shooting competition in Pilsen, Czech Republic.
- Q.59.(4)** Former Australian cricketer Justin Langer has been appointed as Australian cricket team's head coach for all three formats.
- Q.60.(3)** According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's report, India is now the world's fifth biggest military spender. SIPRI was founded on 6 May 1966.
- Q.61.(1)** The next Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be held in the Varanasi in January. The theme of the 15th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is "Role of Indian Diaspora in building a New India".
- Q.62.(2)** Uma Bharti has launched the GOBAR (Galvanizing Organic Bio-Agro Resources)-DHAN scheme at the National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) Auditorium, Karnal. The constituency of Uma Bharti is Jhansi.
- Q.63.(1)** Veteran Marathi singer Arun Date has passed away recently. He was 84.
- Q.64.(1)** In May 2016, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act, 1934 was amended to provide a statutory basis for the implementation of the flexible inflation targeting framework.
- Q.65.(4)** The Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) was enacted in 1999 to replace FERA. FEMA became effective from June 1, 2000.
- Q.66.(1)** In March 1992, Liberalised Exchange Rate Management System (LERMS) involving the dual exchange rate was instituted. A unified single market-determined exchange rate system based on the demand for and supply of foreign exchange replaced the LERMS effective March 1, 1993.
- Q.67.(2)** The Central Government is required to maintain a minimum cash balance with the Reserve Bank. Currently, this amount is Rs.10 crore on a daily basis and Rs.100 crore on Fridays, as

also at the annual account closing day of the Centre and the Reserve Bank (end of March and June).

- Q.68.(2)** Basel III Capital Regulations for Indian banks will be fully phased in as on March 31, 2019, closer to the internationally agreed date of January 1, 2019, instead of March 31, 2018 as was announced earlier.
- Q.69.(4)** NABARD came into existence on 12 July 1982 by transferring the agricultural credit functions of RBI and refinance functions of the then Agricultural Refinance and Development Corporation (ARDC).
- Q.70.(3)** The SHG Bank Linkage Project launched by NABARD in 1992 has blossomed into the world's largest micro finance project.
- Q.71.(1)** Nikol Pashinyan has been elected as Prime Minister of Armenia.
- Q.72.(4)** 12th informal meeting of SAARC Finance Ministers held in Manila.
- Q.73.(1)** California has surpassed the UK as world's 5th largest economy.
- Q.74.(1)** India- South Africa Business Summit was recently held in Johannesburg.
- Q.75.(4)** National Science Day (NSD) is celebrated every year on 28 February.
- Q.76.(1)** According to International Renewable Energy Agency's (IRENA) Report, Renewable energy or green energy sector has created an estimated 1, 64,000 jobs in India in 2017.
- Q.77.(2)** According to Grant Thornton's International Business Report (IBR), India has been ranked sixth on the global optimism index in the first quarter of 2018.
- Q.78.(4)** B C Forbes, a financial columnist for the Hearst papers, and his partner Walter Drey, the general manager of the Magazine of Wall Street, founded Forbes magazine on September 15, 1917. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been ranked ninth in the world's top 10 most powerful people of 2018 by Forbes magazine.
- Q.79.(4)** The National Institution for Transforming India is also called NITI Aayog. It was formed via a resolution of the Union Cabinet on January 1, 2015. At the core of NITI Aayog's creation are two hubs – Team India Hub and the Knowledge and Innovation Hub. NITI Aayog and Google have signed Statement of Intent (SOI) to help grow Artificial Intelligence (AI) ecosystem in India.
- Q.80.(3)** Subhash C. Khuntia has taken charge as Chairman of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI). IRDAI is a 10-member body including the chairman, five full-time and four part-time members appointed by the government of India.
- Q.81.(2)** Human Resource Development Ministry has launched an initiative of online professional development of 1.5 million higher education faculty using the MOOCs platform SWAYAM. Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) are free online courses available for anyone to enroll.
- Q.82.(2)** NITI Aayog and IBM signed a Statement of Intent (SoI) to provide real time advisory to farmers in Aspirational Districts.
- Q.83.(3)** The Swedish Academy has postponed the 2018 Nobel Prize in the field of Literature, with the intention of awarding it in 2019. The Nobel Prize in Literature for 2017 was awarded to Kazuo Ishiguro.
- Q.84.(3)** Justice Ajay Kumar Mittal has been appointed as the acting chief justice of the Punjab and Haryana High Court.
- Q.85.(4)** Ashok Lahiri has been appointed as the full-time member of the 15th Finance Commission. The first Finance Commission was established by the President of India in 1951 under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution. It was formed to define the financial relations between the central government of India, and the state governments.

EXPLANATION/ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- Q.86.(4)** Option (4) Replace ‘hike’ with ‘hiked’, because of the passive structure.
- Q.87.(4)** Option (4) Replace ‘continued’ with ‘continue’.
- Q.88.(3)** Option (4) Replace ‘on the world’ with ‘in the world’.
- Q.89.(4)** Option (4) Replace ‘decline’ with ‘declining’.
- Q.90.(2)** Option (2) Replace ‘Sona Group plan’ with ‘Sona Group plans’
- Q.91.(3)** Option (3) Replace ‘pulled over’ with ‘pulled out’.
- Explanation:** Pull out- withdraw from an undertaking.
Pull over- (of a vehicle) move to the side of or off the road.
- Q.92.(3)** Men's double is the correct word
- Q.93.(4)** dropped sharply is the correct word
- Q.94.(1)** Exhaustion is the correct word
- Q.95.(3)** Because noun is required.
- Q.96.(3)** Because gerund is required.
- Q.97.(2)** Because noun is required.
- Q.98.(5)** **Explanation:** The correct sequence of the passage is ‘ACBFDEG’, and the passage is based on ‘Electricity condition in India’.
- Q.99.(4)** **Explanation:** The correct sequence of the passage is ‘ACBFDEG’, and the passage is based on ‘Electricity condition in India’.
- Q.100.(1)** **For other options**
Vile(adj)-foul
Wag(v)-swing
Uproar(n)- a state of commotion, excitement, or violent disturbance.
- Q.101.(4)**
- Q.102.(3)** **For other options**
Sobriety(N)-Seriousness
- Q.103.(1)** **For other options**
Amenable(Adj)-Complaint
Suffrage(N)-Franchise
Surcharge(N)- an additional charge or payment.
- Q.104.(3)** **For other options**
Squander(V)- waste (something, especially money or time) in a reckless and foolish manner.
Slur(N)-Insult
- Q.105.(5)** Hint: Answer lies at last of the third paragraph.
- Q.106.(2)** Hint: Answer lies in the second paragraph.
- Q.107.(3)** Hint: Answer lies in the third paragraph.
- Q.108.(4)** Hint: Answer lies in the beginning of the passage.
- Q.109.(1)** Hint: Answer lies at last of the second paragraph.
- Q.110.(4)**
- Q.111.(5)** Hint: Answer is given at last of the passage.
- Q.112.(2)**
- Q.113.(5)** Hint: Answer lies in the second paragraph.
- Q.114.(2)** **For other options**
Amicable(Adj.)-friendly
- Q.115.(3)** **For other options**
Debunk(v)-disprove
- Q.116.(5)** **For other options**
Godly and holy are the synonyms.
- Q.117.(4)** **For other options**
Steak(N)- high-quality beef taken from the hindquarters of the animal, typically cut into thick slices that are cooked by grilling or frying.
Acclimation(N)- Acclimatization or acclimatisation (also called **acclimation** or acclimatation) is the process in which an individual organism adjusts to a change in its environment allowing it to maintain performance across a range of environmental conditions.
Abominate(V)-Detest
Zest(N)-relish
- Q.118.(3)** **For other options**
Acarpous(Adj)- not producing fruit.
Abstemious(Adj)-temperate
Valuation(N)-Price
Accretion(N)-augmentation
- Q.119.(5)** **For other options**
Babel(N)-Clamour
Affray(N)-Encounter
Brook(V)-Tolerate
- Q.120.(4)** **For other options**
Excruciating(Adj)-severe
Brevity(N)-Pith
Mitigate(V)-Deaden

EXPLANATION/QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

Q.121-125.

Section	Boys		Girls	
	Science	Art	Science	Art
A	80	55	40	70
B	60	40	45	50
C	48	50	36	30

Q.121.(3)

Q.122.(2) Required answer=195

Q.123.(3) Required answer=80-50=30

Q.124.(1) Required answer = $\frac{135-110}{110} \times 100\% = 22.7\%$

Q.125.(2) Required answer=150:121

Q.126.(2) Import of CHINA in 2017= 256

Export of BHUTAN in 2017= 152

Required ratio = 32:19

Q.127.(3) Imports of all the countries together in 2016= 1092

Exports of all the countries together in 2016= 1028

Required percentage

$$\frac{1092}{1028} \times 100\% \approx 106.22\%$$

Q.128.(1) Import of PAKISTAN in 2015

$$= (25/27) \times 135000 = \text{Rs.}125000$$

Import of BANGLADESH in 2015

$$= (41/39) \times 78000 = \text{Rs.}82000$$

Export of CHINA in 2015

$$= (3/5) \times 50000 = \text{Rs.}30000$$

Export of BHUTAN in 2015

$$= (19/18) \times 72000 = \text{Rs.}76000$$

Required sum

$$= 125000 + 82000 + 30000 + 76000$$

$$= \text{Rs.} 313000$$

Q.129.(1) Sum of Import and Export of INDIA in 2016

$$= 430$$

Sum of Import and Export of INDIA in 2017

$$= 360$$

$$\text{Required difference} = 430 - 360 = 70$$

Q.130.(4) Import of CHINA in 2017 = 256

Export of CHINA in 2017 = 60

Required percentage

$$= \frac{256-60}{60} \times 100\% \approx 327$$

Q.131.(3) Required ratio = $\frac{40\% \text{ of } 300}{56\% \text{ of } 500} = \frac{3}{7}$

Q.132.(4) 40% of A=72% of C

$$\frac{A}{C} = \frac{72}{40} = \frac{9}{5}$$

$$A : C = 9 : 5$$

Q.133.(2) $220 \times \frac{5}{2} \times \frac{60}{40} \times \frac{1}{5} = 165$

Q.134.(2) From allegation rule (taking boys)

$$\frac{7}{10} \quad \frac{8}{15}$$

x

$$x - \frac{8}{15} \quad \frac{7}{10} - x$$

$$\frac{x - \frac{8}{15}}{\frac{7}{10} - x} = \frac{60}{40}$$

$$5x = \frac{63+32}{30}$$

$$x = \frac{19}{30}$$

$$= 19 : (30-19) = 19 : 11$$

Q.135.(5) Given data is not sufficient

Q.136.(3) Three equation and three variables hence all together are sufficient

Q.137.(4) all three together are not sufficient

Q.138.(5) Any statement alone is sufficient

Q.139.(5) I and either II or III

Q.140.(5) Any two are sufficient

Q.141.(2) $A_5 = \frac{500}{2 + \frac{5}{3} + \frac{5}{2} + \frac{5}{4} + \frac{5}{2}} \approx 50$

Q.142.(4) $T = \frac{100}{60} + \frac{100}{40} + \frac{100}{150 \text{ of } 20} = 7.5$

Q.143.(3) to complete journey its speed should be 50km/h hence answer should be 25%

Q.144.(2) $T = \frac{100}{60} + \frac{100}{40} + \frac{100}{20} + \frac{100}{90} + \frac{100}{60} + 2(12) \approx 13 \text{ h } 20 \text{ m}$

Q.145.(2) Time taken by car C to cover 200 Kms=2h+1h 40m=3h 40m

In this time car A will cover 35 Kms less

Q.146.(2) $21^3, 22^3, 23^3, 24^3, 25^3$

Q.147.(5) $5 \times 6 = 30$
 $30 \times 5 = 150$
 $150 \times 4 = 600$
 $600 \times 3 = 1800$
 $1800 \times 2 = 3600$

Q.148.(1) $6 \times 8 - 28 = 20$
 $20 \times 7 - 24 = 116$
 $116 \times 6 - 20 = 676$
 $676 \times 5 - 16 = 3364$
 $3364 \times 4 - 12 = 13444$

Q.149.(3) $5 \times 2 + 1 = 11$
 $11 \times 2 - 1 = 21$
 $21 \times 2 + 1 = 43$
 $43 \times 2 - 1 = 85$
 $85 \times 2 + 1 = 171$

Q.150.(4) $1 + (11)^2 = 122$
 $122 + (12)^2 = 266$
 $266 + (13)^2 = 435$
 $435 + (14)^2 = 631$
 $631 + (15)^2 = 856$

Q.151.(3) $Q1 = 800$
 $Q2 = 840$
 $Q1 < Q2$

Q.152.(1) $Q1 = 40\%$
 $Q2 = 36.25\%$
 $Q1 > Q2$

Q.153.(3) $Q1 = 12.9$
 $Q2 = 15$
 $Q1 < Q2$

Q.154.(5) $Q1 = 16$
 $Q2 = 16$
 $Q1 = Q2$

Q.155.(5) $Q1 = 12.5\%$
 $Q2 = 12.5\%$
 $Q1 = Q2$

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GENERAL INTELLIGENCE AND REASONING

- Q.1-6.** In each of the following question, select the related word / letter / number from the given alternatives.
- Q.1.** 63D12L : 9W3O :: 28U43P : ?
 (A) 4R8E (B) 10F7K
 (C) 10F4K (D) 10F9K
- Q.2.** 18-5-23-15-12-6 : F-L-O-W-E-R : : 7-14-15-18-20-19 : ?
 (A) S-T-R-I-N-G (B) S-T-R-O-N-G
 (C) S-P-O-O-N-S (D) S-T-A-I-R-S
- Q.3.** 1443 : 144 :: 1527 : ?
 (A) 152 (B) 225
 (C) 256 (D) 625
- Q.4.** 8 : 215 :: ? : 612
 (A) 9 (B) 7
 (C) 6 (D) 5
- Q.5.** Adorable : Lovable :: Naughty : ?
 (A) Soul (B) Improper
 (C) Smile (D) Child
- Q.6.** SIM : Number :: ? : ?
 (A) Soup : Bill
 (B) Trip : Bus
 (C) Recharge Coupon :: Amount
 (D) Water : Pure
- Q.7-12.** In each of the following question, select the one which is different from the other three alternatives.
- Q.7.** (A) Monitor / 7 (B) Keyboard / 8
 (C) Mouse / 5 (D) Pen drive / 9
- Q.8.** (A) Australia - Malcolm Turnbull
 (B) Bangladesh - Sheikh Hasina
 (C) Canada - Justin Trudeau
 (D) Finland - Alexis Tsipras
- Q.9.** (A) Onion-LMRLM
 (B) Mango-NZMTL
 (C) Banana-YZOZMZ
 (D) Cucumber-XFXFYVI
- Q.10.** (A) 6183 (B) 9182
 (C) 4369 (D) 580
- Q.11.** (A) (21, 32) (B) (84, 95)
 (C) (72, 61) (D) (25, 36)
- Q.12.** (A) zero (B) five
 (C) six (D) nine
- Q.13.** Arrange the following words according to the order given in the English dictionary.
 1. gender 2. section
 3. sport 4. potency
 5. polite
 (A) 1, 5, 4, 2, 3 (B) 1, 5, 1, 3, 4
 (C) 1, 2, 5, 4, 3 (D) 1, 5, 3, 4, 2
- Q.14.** Which one set of letters when sequentially placed at the gaps in the given letter series shall complete it?
 u _ m _ u l _ m _ u u l _ _ m _ _
 (A) lulmlmm (B) lmlmlmm
 (C) lulllmm (D) llmlmm
- Q.15.** Which one of the given responses would be a meaningful order of the following?
 1. Butterfly 2. Chrysalis
 3. Caterpillar 4. Egg
 (A) 4, 2, 3, 1 (B) 2, 3, 4, 1
 (C) 4, 3, 1, 2 (D) 1, 2, 3, 4
- Q.16-17.** In following question, a number series is given with one term missing. Choose that correct alternative which will complete the series.
- Q.16.** 15, 32, 99, 400, ?
 (A) 6005 (B) 2004
 (C) 2005 (D) 520
- Q.17.** MS, TZ, OU, ?
 (A) OP (B) LF
 (C) RX (D) JD
- Q.18.** In the following question, select the term from the given options, which cannot be formed with the letter of the given word.
LEADERSHIP
 (A) SHIP (B) DEAR
 (C) RAIL (D) LOAD
- Q.19.** What was the day of the week on 11th September 2011?
 (A) Friday (B) Sunday
 (C) Tuesday (D) Wednesday

Q.20. Find out the related number to complete the equation. If $175 = 42$ and $325 = 16$, 485 is equivalent to what?

- (A) 65 (B) 72
(C) 85 (D) 56

Q.21-22. In each of the following question, find the missing number from the given responses.

- Q.21.** 9 5 6
 4 8 3
 3 7 4
 92 260 ?
(A) 224 (B) 59
(C) 334 (D) 46

- Q.22.** 10 11 33
 21 34 52
 04 09 ?
(A) 24 (B) 19
(C) 13 (D) 26

Q.23. In each question given below two statements are followed by two conclusions numbered I and II. You have to take the two given statements to be true even if they seem to be at variance from the commonly known facts. Read the conclusions and decide which logically follows.

Statement :

X wants to eat toffee.

All boy want to eat toffee.

Conclusions :

I. X is a boy.

II. X likes toffee.

- (A) Only conclusion I follows.
(B) Only conclusion II follows.
(C) Neither conclusion I nor II follows.
(D) Both conclusions I and II follow.

Q.24. In the question, a word is represented by only one set of numbers as given in any one of the alternatives. The sets of numbers given in the alternatives are represented by two classes of alphabets as in two matrices given below. The columns and rows of Matrix I are numbered from 0 to 4 and that of Matrix II are numbered from 5 to 9. A letter from these matrices can be represented first by its row and next by its column, e.g., 'L' can be represented by 58, 75, etc., and 'G' can be represented by 00, 44 etc. Similarly you have to identify the number set for the word 'LOAN'?

Matrix - I

Matrix -II

	0	1	2	3	4
0	G	O	A	H	R
1	A	R	H	G	O
2	O	G	C	R	A
3	R	A	G	O	H
4	H	C	R	A	G

	5	6	7	8	9
5	M	E	N	L	B
6	E	B	L	N	M
7	L	N	M	B	E
8	F	M	B	E	L
9	B	L	E	M	F

- (A) 54, 14, 10, 98
(B) 58, 14, 24, 76
(C) 89, 20, 20, 98
(D) 96, 33, 31, 99

Q.25. If a mirror is placed on the line MN, then which of the answer figures is the correct image of the question figure?

Question figure



Answer figures

- (A)
- (B)
- (C)
- (D)

GENERAL STUDY

- Q.26.** Kailasa temple at Ellora was built by the _____.
(A) Chalukya (B) Chola
(C) Pallava (D) Rashtrakuta
- Q.27.** As per 2011 census, among the following States, which State has the lowest child-sex ratio?
(A) Chhattisgarh (B) Punjab
(C) Kerala (D) Haryana
- Q.28.** How many Indian Prime Ministers have died while in office?
(A) 1 (B) 2
(C) 3 (D) 4
- Q.29.** Photosynthetic vesicle found in bacteria is called a:
(A) Mesosome (B) Chromatophore
(C) Genophore (D) Pneumatophore
- Q.30.** Which is the most important factor that determines whether advertising by manufacturing sector will lead to higher sales?
(A) Demand is elastic
(B) Demand is inelastic
(C) The product can be differentiated
(D) The product can be homogenous.
- Q.31.** In which Constitutional Amendment Act seats of Lok Sabha were increased from 525 to 545?
(A) 21st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1967
(B) 42nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1976
(C) 52nd Constitutional Amendment Act, 1985
(D) 31st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1973
- Q.32.** First Indian Woman President of the 'Indian National Congress'?
(A) Annie Besant (B) Sarojini Naidu
(C) Sucheta Kripalani (D) Rajkumari Amrit Kaur
- Q.33.** Which of the following rivers is not a tributary of The Ganga?
(A) Indravati (B) Son
(C) Gomati (D) Yamuna
- Q.34.** Proteins are made of which of the following?
(A) Sugar (B) Amino acid
(C) Fatty acid (D) Nucleic acid
- Q.35.** Which of the following Committee's recommendations is being followed for estimating Poverty Line in India?
(A) Dutt Committee (B) Lakdawala Committee
(C) Chelliah Committee (D) Chakravarty Committee
- Q.36.** From where does the Indira Gandhi Canal originate?
(A) Barmer (B) Harike
(C) Churu (D) Jodhpur
- Q.37.** Who founded the Lingayat Movement?
(A) Basavanna (Basava) (B) Ramanuja
(C) Shankracharya (D) Kamban
- Q.38.** The chemical name of quartz is _____.
(A) Calcium oxide (B) Calcium phosphate
(C) Silica (D) Sodium silicate
- Q.39.** In Lok Sabha the total number of members from states is
(A) 630 (B) 530
(C) 430 (D) 330
- Q.40.** In which five years plan India opted for the mixed economy?
(A) First five-year plan (B) Second five-year plan
(C) Third five-year plan (D) Fourth five-year plan
- Q.41.** What kind of a plant is Nymphaea Alba?
(A) Mangrove (B) Desert Plant
(C) Mountainous Plant (D) Aquatic Plant
- Q.42.** The award given for outstanding performance in sports is _____.
(A) Dronacharya Award (B) Padma Shri Award
(C) Bharat Ratna (D) Arjuna Award
- Q.43.** Which is the longest national highway in India?
(A) NH- 7 (B) NH-44
(C) NH- 10 (D) NH- 5
- Q.44.** Battle of Haldighati was fought in the year _____.
(A) 1764 (B) 1526
(C) 1576 (D) 1857
- Q.45.** The phonograph was invented by which of the following scientists?
(A) Hans Geiger (B) Hans Oersted
(C) Thomas Edison (D) Paul Cornu
- Q.46.** In West Bengal, which of the following wind blows during April to June?
(A) Norwesters (B) Hurricane
(C) Loo (D) Gale
- Q.47.** The League of Nations was formed at the end of which war?
(A) World War I (B) World War II
(C) Gulf War I (D) Gulf War II
- Q.48.** Sea water can be purified by the process of _____.
(A) Distillation (B) Evaporation
(C) Filtration (D) Fractional Distillation
- Q.49.** The 10th BRICS Summit will be held in _____.
(A) Pretoria, South Africa
(B) Saint Petersburg, Russia
(C) New Delhi, India
(D) Johannesburg, South Africa
- Q.50.** The shipbuilding yard-Mazagon Dock is located at _____.
(A) Vishakhapatnam (B) Kolkata
(C) Kochi (D) Mumbai

QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE

- Q.51.** A can do a piece of work in 60 days. A and B can do the same work in 40 days while B and C can do the same in 30 days. Find in how many days A, B and C can complete the whole work together?
 (A) 21 days (B) 20 days
 (C) 22 days (D) 25 days
- Q.52.** If $x = \sqrt{870 + \sqrt{870 + \sqrt{870 + \sqrt{870 + \dots}}}}$ then find the value of x
 (A) 30 (B) 31
 (C) 29 (D) 28
- Q.53.** If $Mp + \left(\frac{N}{p}\right) = 1$ and $\frac{5p}{4p^2 + 3p + 9} = \frac{1}{3}$ then find the correct relation between M and N.
 (A) $2M + 3N = 6$ (B) $4M + 9N = 15$
 (C) $9M - 4N = 15$ (D) $9M + 4N = 6$
- Q.54.** If a person invests a certain amount of money in a fixed deposit scheme offering 12% per annum for 1st year and 15% per annum for 2nd year and received an amount of Rs. 18032 after two years at compound interest. What is the amount of money invested?
 (A) 12000 (B) 12500
 (C) 16500 (D) 14000
- Q.55.** The ratio of cost price and marked price of an article is 4 : 5 and ratio of % profit and % discount is 5 : 3, then what is the discount percent?
 (A) $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ (B) $8\frac{4}{7}\%$
 (C) $14\frac{2}{7}\%$ (D) $16\frac{6}{7}\%$
- Q.56.** If $x \cos \phi - \sin \phi = 1$, then $x^2 - (1+x^2) \sin \phi$ is-
 (A) 0 (B) 1
 (C) 2 (D) -1
- Q.57.** When an article is sold for 1125 instead of 1112, the profit percentage triples. If the same article is sold for 1117, then what will be the profit percentage ?
 (A) $1\frac{196}{1104}\%$ (B) $1\frac{183}{1104}\%$
 (C) $1\frac{187}{1117}\%$ (D) $1\frac{183}{1117}\%$
- Q.58.** What is the remainder when $1663 \times 1664 \times 1665 \times 1666$ is divided by 17.
 (A) 13 (B) 11
 (C) 15 (D) 14
- Q.59.** What is the length of the part of the oblique line intercepted between co-ordinate axes $3x + 4y = 12$?
 (A) 3 (B) 5
 (C) 4 (D) 7
- Q.60.** Ankur borrowed Rs. 10000 from Anil for 4 years and Rs. 30000 from Naimish for 2 years. If he has to pay a total interest of Rs. 9000, then what is the rate of interest ?
 (A) 5% (B) 7%
 (C) 8% (D) 9%
- Q.61.** At the time of birth of Rohini, Prashant's age was 4 years 7 months and Rohini's age was 3 years 4 months at the time of birth of Shivangi. When Shivangi was 5 years and 2 months, then what was the average age of them.
 (A) 8 years 9 months (B) 7 years 3 months
 (C) 8 years 4 months (D) 8 years 11 months
- Q.62.** A cone of same height and same diameter of base is cut down from a solid cylinder whose height is 12 cm and diameter is 10 cm. What is the volume of the remaining solid? (approx)
 (A) 942.86 cm^3 (B) 314.29 cm^3
 (C) 628.57 cm^3 (D) 450.76 cm^3
- Q.63.** In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle B$ is right angled and its sides AB and BC are respectively 15 cm and 20 cm, then what will be the circum-radius of this triangle?
 (A) 25 cm (B) 20 cm
 (C) 15 cm (D) 12.5 cm
- Q.64.** If weekly income of three persons P, Q and R is such that P's income is $\frac{7}{11}$ times of Q's income and R's income is $\frac{8}{13}$ times of R's income. If the total weekly income is Rs. 6440. What is the monthly income (Consisting 4 weeks) of P?
 (A) Rs. 7760
 (B) Rs. 7280
 (C) Rs. 8080
 (D) Rs. 8720

Q.65. In $\triangle ABC$, $\angle A = 90^\circ$ and BP and CQ are two medians, then $\frac{BP^2 + CQ^2}{BC}$ is equal to-

- (A) $\frac{4}{5}$ (B) $\frac{5}{4}$
 (C) $\frac{3}{4}$ (D) $\frac{3}{5}$

Q.66. A train travels at 35 km/hr. in first 10 minutes and at 20 km/hr. in second 5 minutes. Find the average speed in total 15 minutes.

- (A) 30 km/hr. (B) 23 km/hr.
 (C) 31 km/hr. (D) 29 km/hr.

Q.67. If $p = a \sec \theta$, $q = b \tan \theta$, then what is the value of

$$\left[\frac{1 - 2 \sin^2 \theta / 2}{\left(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right) \left(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2} \right)} \right] \cdot \left(\frac{p^2}{a^2} - \frac{q^2}{b^2} \right)$$

- (A) -1 (B) 0
 (C) 1 (D) 2

Q.68. In a school, there are 40% girls student and rest is boys, 75% of the boys passed in the remainder. The total of 80% passed out of 2400 students. What is the number of girls student passed in the examination?

- (A) 1080 (B) 960
 (C) 840 (D) 1020

Q.69. In $\triangle PQR$, the line QR is extended upto S. If $\angle PRS = 170^\circ$ and $\angle Q = \frac{2}{3} \angle P$ then $\angle P$ is-

- (A) 68° (B) 10°
 (C) 170° (D) 102°

Q.70. A man can row a boat at 5 kmph in still water. If the velocity of stream is 1 km/hr. and he takes 1 hour to row to a place and come back, how far is the place ?

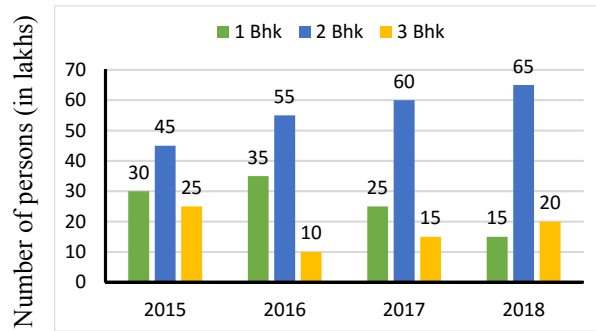
- (A) 2.4 km (B) 12.4 km
 (C) 4.8 km (D) 2 km

Q.71. The average of first three numbers from four numbers is 18 and the last three is 16. If last number is 19, then first number is-

- (A) 19 (B) 18
 (C) 20 (D) 25

Q.72-75. Study the following information carefully to answer the questions.

Following bar graph represents the percentage of the number of persons living in various flats in a city over the years



Q.72. If total population in 2017 was 80 lakhs, then what was the population living in 1 Bhk flat in the year 2017.

- (A) 25 lakh (B) 16 lakh
 (C) 18 lakh (D) 20 lakh

Q.73. What is the percentage decrement in number of persons living in 1 Bhk flat in the year 2018 from year 2015?

- (A) 50 (B) 40
 (C) 25 (D) 15

Q.74. If total population in the year 2016 was 95 lakhs, then what was the average number of persons living in 2 Bhk and 3 Bhk flats.

- (A) 3087500
 (B) 3078500
 (C) 3087700
 (D) 3088500

Q.75. If in 2018, total population of number of persons living in 1 Bhk flat was 12 lakhs, then what is the difference between the number of persons living in 2 Bhk and 3 Bhk flats.

- (A) 32 lakh (B) 30 lakh
 (C) 36 lakh (D) 40 lakh

ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Q.76-80. Read the following passage carefully and answer the given questions.

A new report from the World Health Organisation highlights not only how widespread air pollution is in urban India, but also how deficient air quality monitoring is. The report, which summarised data for 4,300 cities and ranked 14 Indian cities among the 20 most polluted ones globally. While Delhi comes in at number six, Kanpur, Faridabad, Varanasi, Gaya, and Patna are ranked ahead of it, by PM 2.5 levels. And yet, Kanpur, Faridabad and several other pollution-choked cities have only one PM 2.5 monitoring station each, while Delhi has several. WHO researchers get around this problem by using alternative data sources such as satellite remote sensing and chemical transport models, along with ground-monitoring stations. The outcome of this exercise makes it clear that air pollution is not a problem of large metropolises alone, even though they have traditionally been the focus of mitigation efforts. Such wide variations in data quality exist across the world. The report puts the global death toll from air pollution at seven million a year, attributable to illnesses such as lung cancer, pneumonia, and ischemic heart disease.

There are silver linings, however. The report had words of praise for India's Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana scheme, which has provided 37 million women living below the poverty line with LPG (liquefied petroleum gas) connections. Such schemes will also help cut the indoor air pollution that plagues much of rural India, which is not covered in the WHO analysis. It is important to remember, though, that rural India has problems beyond inefficient cook-stoves. As the recently published draft National Clean Air Programme noted, there are currently no air pollution monitoring stations in rural India. This does not mean outdoor air pollution is not a problem here. Studies have shown that ozone levels are higher in rural areas, as is pollution from insecticide use and crop-burning. India must realise that its problems are larger than the WHO estimates, and take the call to action seriously.

- Q.76.** Why must India take the call to action seriously regarding pollution according to the passage?
- (A) Because India's population is more and increasing day by day.
 - (B) Because the report from the WHO ranked 14 Indian cities among the 20 most polluted ones globally.
 - (C) Because India's problems are larger than the WHO estimates.

- (D) Because Delhi comes in at number six among the 20 most polluted cities globally according to the report from the WHO.

Q.77. How do WHO researchers get around the problem of pollution as per the given passage?

- (A) By using alternative data sources as satellite remote sensing and along with ground-monitoring stations.
- (B) By using alternative data sources as satellite remote sensing and chemical transport models, along with ground-monitoring stations.
- (C) By using both chemical transport models and ground-monitoring stations.
- (D) By using an alternative data method along with ground-monitoring stations.

Q.78. What does the report put the global death toll from air pollution according to the given passage?

- (A) At 4.2 million a year
- (B) At 3.8 million a year
- (C) At 3.7 million a year
- (D) At 7 million a year

Q.79. In which areas have studies shown that ozone levels are higher according to the passage?

- (A) In industrial areas
- (B) In urban areas
- (C) In rural areas
- (D) In suburban areas

Q.80. Which of the following has been noted by the recently published draft National Clean Air Programme, according to the given passage?

- (A) There are currently no air pollution monitoring stations in rural India.
- (B) Southeast Asian countries take swift action to tackle the twin problems of indoor and outdoor pollution.
- (C) Two years ago, around four million people died owing to outdoor air pollution.
- (D) Kanpur, Faridabad and several other pollution-choked cities have only one PM 2.5 monitoring station each, while Delhi has several.

Q.81-85. In the following passage, some of the words have been left out and these have been numbered. First read the passage over and try to understand what it is about. Then fill in the blanks with the help of the alternatives given.

A synonym, in its narrowest sense, is a word or phrase that is perfectly substitutable in a context for another word or phrase. Indeed, linguists have long noted the economy of language, which suggests that no language (--81--) a perfect fit, in all respects, between any two words or phrases. Many examples of overlapping can be cited; the more obvious ones in English are those that (--82--) a duplication arising from Germanic and Romance

sources, like motherly and maternal, farming and agriculture, teach and instruct. In such pairs, the native English form is often the one with an earthier, warmer connotation. In some instances, where a new coinage or a loanword has been adopted (--83--) duplicating an existing term, creating 'true' synonyms.

Today, the terms exist side by side in English, the older expression still in common use but the (--84--) more frequent in the scientific and technical literature. Any synonym book must be seen as a compromise that relies on the sensitivity of its users to the idiomatic (--85--) of the language.

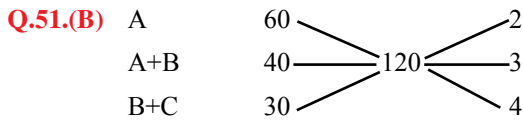
- Q.81.** (A) relinquishes (B) permits
(C) produces (D) deploys
- Q.82.** (A) respond (B) reverberate
(C) reciprocate (D) reflect
- Q.83.** (A) friendly (B) restlessly
(C) inadvertently (D) spiritually
- Q.84.** (A) viewer (B) little
(C) vision (D) newer
- Q.85.** (A) similarities (B) nuances
(C) benedictions (D) impediments
- Q.86-90.** In the following questions, some have an error and some have none. Find out which part of a sentence has an error and mark the answer to the appropriate letter (A), (B) and (C). If there is no error, mark your answer as (D).
- Q.86.** When the moon comes(A)/ between the earth and the sun,(B)/ her shadow causes a solar eclipse.(C)/ No error(D)
- Q.87.** Heaven or hell make(A)/ little difference for the man(B)/ who believes only in life on earth.(C)/ No error(D)
- Q.88.** A telephone is(A)/ a convenience to those in(B)/ constant need for communication from afar.(C) No error(D)
- Q.89.** We arrived home early(A)/ and surprised a burglar(B)/ trying to break in.(C)/ No error(D)
- Q.90.** Strength of a team(A)/ is in its ability(B)/ to maintain harmony.(C)/ No error(D)
- Q.91-93.** In the following questions, sentences are given with blanks to be filled in with an appropriate word. Four alternatives are suggested for each question. Choose the correct alternative out of the four and mark your answer.
- Q.91.** Not only the students but also the teacher _____ responsible for what happened in the class.
(A) was (B) were
(C) is (D) are

- Q.92.** Once, I saw him _____ the garden on his tiptoes.
(A) to leave (B) left
(C) to enter (D) enter
- Q.93.** The saving income _____ of the Indian economy has shot up substantially.
(A) ratio (B) proportion
(C) perception (D) Analysis
- Q.94-96.** In questions given below, a part of the sentence is underlined. Below are given alternatives to the underlined part at (A), (B) and (C) which may improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative. In case no improvement is needed your answer is (D).
- Q.94.** My friend is more skilful than me in dealing with this type of the problem.
(A) than me in deal (B) than I in dealing
(C) to me in dealing (D) No improvement
- Q.95.** If you would have completed the assignment, I would have granted you leave.
(A) Had you been (B) If you would been
(C) If you had (D) No improvement
- Q.96.** Of the two brothers, I think the oldest one is taller.
(A) the eldest one is the taller
(B) the elder one is the taller
(C) the older one is the taller
(D) No improvement
- Q.97-98.** In the following questions, four alternatives are given for the idiom/phrase. Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the idiom/phrase and mark it as your answer.
- Q.97.** **To be in the doldrums**
(A) To be in the big drums
(B) To be in high spirits
(C) To be in low spirits
(D) To be in the small drums
- Q.98.** **Jump the bandwagon:**
(A) To run fast like a car
(B) To join a popular trend
(C) To jump very high
(D) To cross all the limits
- Q.99-100.** In questions below out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given sentence and mark it as your answer.
- Q.99.** A group of things that have been hidden in a secret place.
(A) Indolent (B) Cache
(C) Biopsy (D) Cavalry
- Q.100.** One who possesses outstanding technical ability in a particular art or field.
(A) Virtuoso (B) Impudent
(C) Artisan (D) Caricature

EXPLANATION/GENERAL STUDY

- Q.26.(D)** The Kailasa temple is one of the largest rock-cut ancient Hindu temples located in Ellora, Maharashtra, India. A megalith carved out of one single rock, it is considered one of the most remarkable cave temples in India because of its size, architecture and sculptural treatment. It was built by the Rashtrakuta king Krishna. The Kailasa temple (Cave 16) is one of the 34 cave temples and monasteries are known collectively as the Ellora Caves. The temple architecture shows traces of Pallava style.
- Q.27.(D)** In the Census 2011, Haryana (830), Punjab (846), Jammu & Kashmir (589), Delhi (866) and Chandigarh (867) had the lowest child sex-ratios. In the period 1991-2011, child sex-ratio declined from 945 to 914, whereas the overall sex-ratio climbed up to 940 from 927.
- Q.28.(C)** There are 3 Prime Ministers have died while in office. Shri Jawaharlal Nehru, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, and Smt. Indira Gandhi.
- Q.29.(B)** Photosynthetic vesicle found in bacteria is called a Chromatophore. Chromatophores are pigment-containing and light-reflecting cells, or groups of cells, found in bacteria and a wide range of animals including amphibians, fish, reptiles, crustaceans, and cephalopods. Mammals and birds, in contrast, have a class of cells called melanocytes for coloration.
- Q.30.(C)**
- Q.31.(D)** By 31st Constitutional Amendment Act, 1973 amendment the seats of Lok Sabha was increased from 525 to 545 but reduced the representation of UT's in Lok Sabha from 25 to 20.
- Q.32.(B)** Sarojini Naidu is the first Indian woman president of INC in 1925 Kanpur session. Annie Besant is the first woman president of INC in 1917 Calcutta session.
- Q.33.(A)** Indravati is a tributary of the Godavari River, located in Central India.
- Q.34.(B)** Proteins are made up of smaller building blocks called amino acids, joined together in chains. There are 20 different amino acids.
- Q.35.(B)** T. Lakdawala Committee.
- Q.36.(B)** The Indira Gandhi Canal is one of the largest canal projects in India. It starts from the Harike Barrage at Harike, a few kilometers below the confluence of the Satluj and Beas rivers in the Indian state of Punjab in the Thar Desert in the north-west of Rajasthan state. Previously known as the Rajasthan Canal, it was renamed the Indira Gandhi Canal in 1985 following the assassination of Prime Minister Indira Gandhi.
- Q.37.(A)** Basavanna (Basava) was founded by the Lingayat Movement.
- Q.38.(D)** The chemical name of quartz is Sodium silicate. Sodium silicate is the common name for compounds with the formula (Na₂SiO₃).
- Q.39.(B)** As per the Constitution, up to 552 members can be elected to represent the Lok Sabha. Maximum strength of Lok Sabha is 552. Up to 530 members to represent the States, up to 20 members can be elected to represent the Union Territories. And the President of India can nominate two members of the Anglo-Indian Community.
- Q.40.(C)** India opted for the mixed economy in the third-five years plan (1961-66).
- Q.41.(D)** Nymphaea Alba is an aquatic plant. It is also known as the European white water lily, white water rose or white nenuphar. It is native to North Africa, temperate Asia, Europe and Tropical Asia (India).
- Q.42.(D)** Arjuna Award is given for outstanding performance in sports established in 1961.
- Q.43.(B)** NH 44 is the longest national highway in India. It makes the North-South Corridor and is officially listed as running over 3,745 km from Srinagar to Kanyakumari. Moreover, this highway passes through the states of Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu.
- Q.44.(C)** The Battle of Haldighati was a battle fought on June 1576 between cavalry and archers supporting the Rana of Mewar, Maharana Pratap; and the Mughal emperor Akbar's forces, led by Man Singh of Amber. The Mughals were the victors and inflicted significant casualties among the Mewaris but failed to capture Pratap, who escaped.
- Q.45.(C)** The phonograph is a device, invented in 1877, by Thomas Edison for the mechanical recording and reproduction of sound. In its later forms, it is also called a gramophone.
Hans Geiger- Geiger counter
Hans Oersted- Electromagnetism
Paul Cornu- Helicopter
- Q.46.(A)** Norwesters is a local thunderstorm which occurs in India and Bangladesh. It occurs, with increasing frequency from March till monsoon establishes over North-East India.
- Q.47.(A)** The League of Nations was formed in 1920
- Q.48.(A)** Distillation is a process of separating the component substances from a liquid mixture by selective evaporation and condensation.
- Q.49.(D)** The 10th edition of the annual BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa) summit will be held in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2018.
- Q.50.(D)** The shipbuilding Yard-Mazgaon Dock is located at Mumbai and Nhava.

EXPLANATION/QUANTITATIVE APTITUDE



Hence, B = 1 unit work per day
 C = 3 unit work per day
 A, B and C can complete the whole work working together in = $\frac{120}{2+1+3}$
 = 20 days

Q.52.(A) Since two factors of 870 are 30 and 29.
 So, x = 30

Q.53.(D) $Mp + \frac{N}{p} = 1 \dots (1)$

$$5 \times 3 = 4p + 3 + \frac{9}{p}$$

$$4p + \frac{9}{p} = 15 - 3 - = 12 \dots (2)$$

On comparing (1) and (2), we get

$$M = \frac{1}{3}, N = \frac{3}{4}$$

Now from options,

$$9M + 4N = 9 \times \frac{1}{3} + 4 \times \frac{3}{4}$$

$$= 3 + 3 = 6$$

Q.54.(D) Let the sum invested be Rs. P

$$P = 18032 \times \frac{100}{115} \times \frac{100}{112}$$

$$= 14000$$

Q.55.(B) C.P. : M.P. = 4 : 5

$$\% \text{ profit} : \% \text{ discount} = 5 : 3$$

We know that

% profit

$$= \% \text{ mark up} - \% \text{ discount} - \frac{\% \text{ markup} \times \text{discount}}{100}$$

$$5x = 25 - 3x - \frac{25 \times 3x}{100}$$

$$5x = 25 - 3x - \frac{3x}{4}$$

$$5x + 3x + \frac{3x}{4} = 25$$

$$20x + 12x + 3x = 100$$

$$x = \frac{100}{35} = \frac{20}{7}$$

$$\text{Now, \% discount} = 3 \times \frac{20}{7} = \frac{60}{7} \% = 8\frac{4}{7} \%$$

Q.56.(B) $x \cos \phi - \sin \phi = 1$

$$x^2 \cos \phi = 1 + \sin \phi$$

$$x^2 \cos^2 \phi = \left(\frac{1 + \sin \phi}{\cos^2} \right)$$

$$x^2 = \frac{1 + \sin \phi}{1 - \sin \phi}$$

$$x^2 - x^2 \sin \phi = 1 + \sin \phi$$

$$x^2 - (1+x^2) \sin \phi = 1$$

Q.57.(D) Let C.P. of the article be Rs. x

According to the question,

$$(1128-x) = 3(112-x)$$

$$1128 - x = 3336 - 3x$$

$$2x = 2208$$

$$x = 1104$$

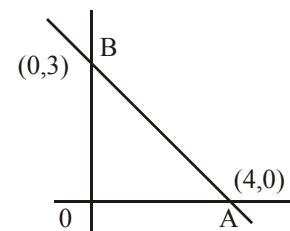
$$\text{Profit on selling the article at 1117} = 1117 - 1104 = 13$$

$$\text{Profit \%} = \frac{13 \times 100}{1117} = 1\frac{183}{1117} \%$$

Q.58.(B) Required remainder

$$\frac{14 \times 15 \times 16}{17} = 11$$

Q.59.(B)



On taking x = 0, y = 3, Point B = (0, 3)

On taking y = 0, x = 4, Point A = (4, 0)

$$\text{Length of AB} = \sqrt{3^2 + 4^2}$$

$$= \sqrt{9+16} = \sqrt{25}$$

$$= 5$$

Q.60.(D) According to question,

$$\frac{10000 \times 4 \times r}{100} + \frac{30000 \times 2 \times r}{100} = 9000$$

$$40000r + 60000r = 900000$$

$$100000r = 900000$$

$$r = \frac{900000}{100000}$$

$$r = 9\%$$

Q.61.(D) Shivangi's age = 5 years 2 months

Rohini's age = 5 years 2 months + 3 years 4 months

= 8 years 6 months

Prashant's age = 8 years 6 months + 4 years 7 months

= 13 years 1 month

Average age =

$$\frac{13 \text{ years 1 month} + 8 \text{ years 6 months} + 5 \text{ years 2 months}}{3}$$

$$= \frac{26 \text{ years 9 months}}{3}$$

= 8 years 11 months

Q.62.(C) Required volume

$$= \frac{2}{3} \times \frac{22}{7} \times \left(\frac{10}{2}\right)^2 \times 12$$

$$\frac{2}{3} \times \frac{22}{7} \times 25 \times 12 = 628.57 \text{ cm}^3$$

Q.63.(D) Circum radius of the right angled triangle

$$= \frac{\text{Hypotenuse}}{2}$$

$$= \frac{\sqrt{15^2 + 20^2}}{2} = \frac{25}{2}$$

= 12.5 cm

Q.64.(B) P : Q = 7 : 11 = 91 : 143

R : Q = 8 : 13

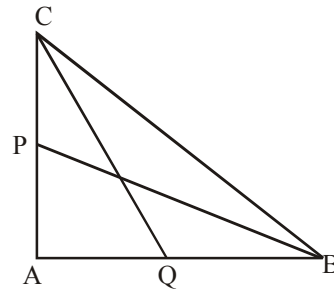
Q : R = 13 : 8 = 143 : 88

P's monthly income

$$= 4 \times \frac{91}{322} \times 6440$$

$$= 4 \times 91 \times 20 = 7280$$

Q.65.(B)



$$\frac{BP^2 + CQ^2}{BC}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{CA}{2}\right)^2 + AB^2 + \left(\frac{AB}{2}\right)^2 + CA^2}{BC^2}$$

$$= \frac{5}{4} \times \frac{AB^2 + CA^2}{BC^2}$$

$$= \frac{5}{4} \frac{BC^2}{BC^2}$$

$$= \frac{5}{4}$$

Q.66.(A) Average speed = $\frac{35 \times \frac{10}{60} + 20 \times \frac{5}{60}}{\frac{15}{60}}$

$$= \left(\frac{35}{6} + \frac{5}{3}\right) \times 4$$

$$= 30$$

Q.67.(C) $p = a \sec \theta$ $q = b \tan \theta$

$$\frac{p^2}{q^2} - \frac{q^2}{p^2} = \frac{a^2 \sec^2 \theta}{a^2} - \frac{b^2 \tan^2 \theta}{b^2}$$

$$= \sec^2 \theta - \tan^2 \theta$$

$$= 1$$

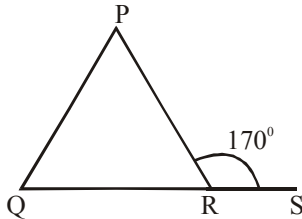
Now,

$$\left[\frac{1 - 2 \sin^2 \left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right)}{\left(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin \frac{\theta}{2}\right) \left(\cos \frac{\theta}{2} + \sin \frac{\theta}{2}\right)} \right]$$

$$= \left(\frac{\cos \theta}{\cos^2 \frac{\theta}{2} - \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}} \right) \cdot 1 = \frac{\cos \theta}{\cos \theta} = 1$$

Q.68.(C) Total passed students = 1920
 Now,
 Girls + 75% of 60% of 2400 = 1920
 Girls = $1920 - \frac{2400 \times 75 \times 60}{10000}$
 = 1920 - 1080
 = 840

Q.69.(D)



$\angle PRS = 170^\circ$
 $\angle PRQ = 180^\circ - 170^\circ = 10^\circ$
 In ΔPQR
 $\angle P + \angle Q + \angle R = 180^\circ$
 $\angle P + \frac{2}{3}\angle P = 170^\circ$
 $5\angle P = 170 \times 3$
 $\angle P = \frac{170 \times 3}{5} = 102$

Q.70.(A) Let the distance be d km.

$$\frac{d}{6} + \frac{d}{4} = 1$$

$$\frac{5d}{12} = 1$$

$$d = \frac{12}{5} = 2.4 \text{ km.}$$

Q.71.(D) $a+b+c = 54 \dots\dots\dots(1)$

$b+c+d = 48 \dots\dots\dots(2)$

$(1) - (2)$

$$a-d = 6$$

$$a = 25$$

Q.72.(D) Required number

$$= 80 \times \frac{25}{100}$$

$$= 20 \text{ lakh}$$

Q.73.(A) % decrement

$$= \frac{30-15}{30} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{15}{30} \times 100 = 50\%$$

Q.74.(A) Average number

$$\frac{65 \times 9500000}{200} = 3087500$$

Q.75.(C) 15 ratio = 12 lakhs

45 ratio = 36 lakhs

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Hockey India recommends Manpreet Singh for Arjuna Award.

TOP NOTCH CAPTIVATORS OF THE MONTH

1



Sitanshu Ranjan Kar took over as the 27th Principal Spokesperson of the Government of India and Director General of PIB.

6



International Buddhist Conference was held in Lumbini, Nepal to commemorate 2562nd Buddha Jayanti.

2



Cabinet approves Doubling of Investment Limit for Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)

7



As per World Bank's Migration and Development Brief, India received the highest remittances of USD 69 billion from its diaspora in 2017.

3



Atal Pension Yojana subscribers base crosses 1 crore mark on completion of 3 years of launch of the Scheme.

8



Shashank Manohar was re-elected as the Independent Chairman of the International Cricket Council (ICC) for his second term.

4



Indore has emerged as the cleanest city in Swachh Survekshan 2018.

9



14 of Indian cities figure in World's 20 most polluted cities list: WHO

5



Sikkim Chief Minister Pawan Chamling became the longest-serving Chief Minister in India

10



According to the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute's report, India is now the world's fifth biggest military spenders.



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