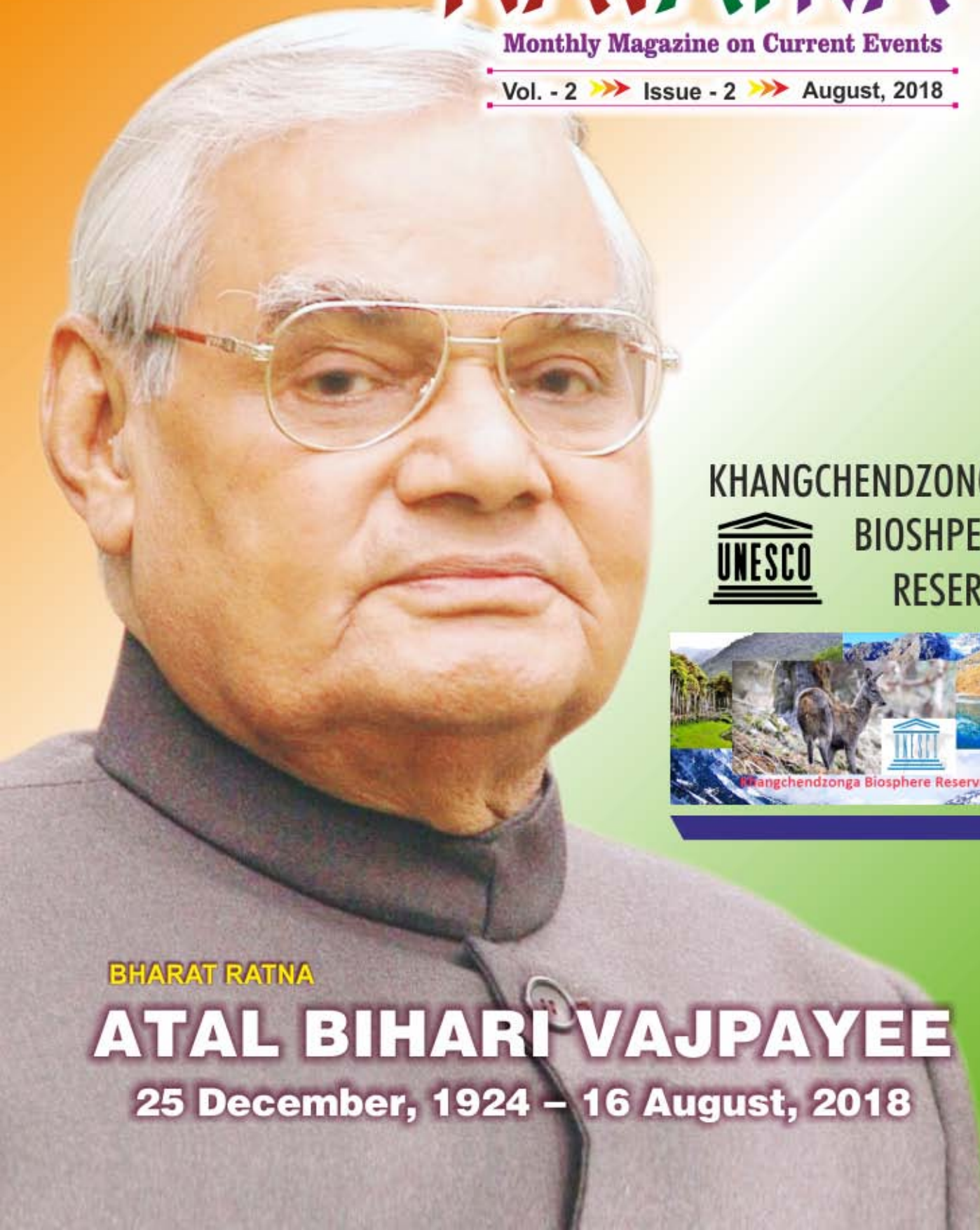


Website-  **edristi.in**

# NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

Vol. - 2 >>> Issue - 2 >>> August, 2018



**KHANGCHENDZONGA  
UNESCO  
BIOSPHERE  
RESERVE**



**BHARAT RATNA**

# **ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE**

**25 December, 1924 – 16 August, 2018**

## Preface

Dear readers, we have started edristi English edition as well since August, 2015. We are hopeful that it will help us to connect to the broader audience and amplify our personal bonding with each other.

While presenting Day-to-day current affairs, we are very cautious on choosing the right topics to make sure only those get the place which are useful for competitive exams perspective, not to increase unnecessary burden on the readers by putting useless materials. Secondly, we have also provided the reference links to ensure its credibility which is our foremost priority. You can always refer the links to validate its authenticity. We will try to present the current affairs topics as quickly as possible but its authenticity is given higher priority over its turnaround time. Therefore it could happen that we publish the incident one or two days later in the website.

Our plan will be to publish our monthly PDF on very first day of every month with making appropriate modifications of day-to-day events. In general, the events happened till 31 day will be given place in the PDFs. The necessity of this is to ensure the contents factual authenticity.

Reader's satisfaction is our utmost priority so requesting you to provide your valuable feedback to us. We will warmly welcome your appreciation/criticism given to us. It will surely show us the right direction to improve the content quality. Hopefully the current affairs PDF (from 1st July to 31st July, 2018) will benefit our beloved readers.

Current affairs data will be useless if it couldn't originate any competitive exam questions. E-Dristi has been very successful in that direction. Almost all the questions from UPPCS and other examinations have been asked from our materials. You can verify that by matching the question papers and e-Dristi contents from yourselves.

## **National** Atal Bihari Vajpayee

**Question: Former Prime Minister, Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee passed away on 16 August, 2018. Consider the following statements related to him-**

- (i) He was born on December 25, 1936.**
- (ii) He was honored with Bharat Ratna, India's highest civilian honor, in the year 2015.**
- (iii) His famous poetry collection is 'Meri Ekyavan Kavitaeyin'.**
- (iv) 'National Good Governance Day' is celebrated on December 25 every year on the occasion of his birthday.**

**Which of the above mentioned statements is/are correct?**

- (a) Only (i), (ii) and (iii)**
- (b) Only (ii), (iii) and (iv)**
- (c) Only (iii) and (iv)**
- (d) All of the above**



**Answer- (b)**

**Related facts-**

- On August 16, 2018, former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee passed away. He was 93 years old.
- He was born on December 25, 1924 (Gwalior State; Madhya Pradesh, British India).
- He remained a member of parliament for four decades.
- He was elected to the Lok Sabha for 10 times and Rajya Sabha for 2 times.
- He was first elected to Lok Sabha from Balrampur (Gonda, UP) in 1957.
- He represented Lucknow from 1991 to 2009 in 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, and 14th Lok Sabha.
- During the second and fourth Lok Sabha, he represented Balrampur.
- He was elected from Gwalior for the fifth Lok Sabha, while in the sixth and seventh Lok Sabha, he represented New Delhi.
- He was elected to the Rajya Sabha in the year of 1962 and 1986.
- He became the founder member of the Indian Jana Sangh (B.J.S) founded in 1951 by **Shyama Prasad Mukherjee**.

- He was the External Affairs Minister of the Janata Party's **Morarji Desai** Government from **1977-1979**.
- As Foreign Minister, he delivered a speech in Hindi in the United Nations General Assembly (UN) for the first time in 1977.
- He was the President of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from 1980-86.
- He was the Prime Minister of the country three times between 1996 and 2004.
- For the first time in **1996, for 13 days**, then for **13 months between 1998 and 1999** and then **from 1999 to 2004 for 5 years**.
- He formed a government with coalition of **24 parties**, which consisted 81 ministers.
- He was the first person to become Prime Minister from the Bharatiya Janata Party.
- Apart from this, he was the first non-Congress Prime Minister to complete the five-year term.
- Successful nuclear tests were carried out in **Pokhran in 1998** during his **13 months** tenure as Prime Minister.
- During his tenure, India involved in **Kargil war** with Pakistan in 1999.
- He initiated peace talks with Pakistan again after the war.
- He started the Delhi-Lahore bus service in **February 1999** with the then-Pakistani Prime Minister **Nawaz Sharif**.

### **Some major works done during his tenure**

**(i) Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan-** It was launched in year 2001 to provide free education to children of 6-14 years of age. For this, his government had done 86th constitutional amendment.

**(ii) Golden Quadrilateral project** - This project was launched in 2001 to connect four major metros i.e. Delhi in the north, Chennai in the south, Kolkata in the east and Mumbai in the west, in addition to this '**Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana**' was launched on **25 December 2000** to connect the villages from roads.

**(iii) Antyodaya Anna Yojana** - This scheme was launched on **December 25, 2000** to provide wheat and rice at subsidized rates to poorest people.

- He retired from active politics in the year 2005.
- He was a successful politician as well as a famous poet and writer.
- Some of his major works include '**My Ekyavan Kavitayein**', '**Shrestha Kavitayein**', '**Nayi Disha-an album with Jagjit Singh**', '**Kya Khoya Kya Paya**', etc.

- Among the major books written by him are the **India's Foreign Policy: New Dimensions**, '**National Integration**', '**Shakti se Shanti**' and '**Rajneeti Ki Rapteli Rahein**', etc.
- He was honored with the highest civilian honor '**Bharat Ratna**' in the year 2015.
- Before this he was awarded Padma Vibhushan in 1992, 'Bangladesh Liberation War Honor' etc. in 2015.
- National Good Governance Day is celebrated on December 25 every year on the occasion of his birthday.

## References

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/former-prime-minister-atal-bihari-vajpayee-passes-away-at-93/article24704802.ece>

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atal\\_Bihari\\_Vajpayee](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Atal_Bihari_Vajpayee)

<https://hindi.thequint.com/news/india/atal-bihari-vajpayee-best-poem-geet-nahi-gata-hun>

## UNESCO'S World Network on Biosphere Reserves

**Question-Recently, which of the following biosphere reserve has been included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR)?**

- (a) Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve
- (b) Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.
- (c) Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve.
- (d) Nokrek Biosphere Reserve.

**Answer- (a)**

**Related facts-**



- The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve of Sikkim, one of the highest biosphere reserve in the world has been included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR); it is 11<sup>th</sup> Biosphere Reserve of India that has been included in WNBR.
- This Biosphere Reserve includes world's third highest Mountain peak, **MountKangchenjunga (8,586m)**.
- The decision was taken to include khangchendzonga in WNBR at the **30<sup>th</sup> session of international coordinating council of Man and Biosphere reserves programme of UNESCO held at Palembang, Indonesia, in July, 2018.**
- India has **18 Biosphere Reserves** and with the inclusion of Khangchendzonga, the number of internationally designated WNBR has

become 11, with 7 Biosphere Reserves being domestic Biosphere Reserves.

- **The core zone** – Khangchendzonga National Park was designated a World Heritage Site in 2016 under the ‘mixed’
- **Biosphere reserve-**
- Biosphere Reserves (BRs) are representative parts of natural and cultural landscapes extending over large area of terrestrial or coastal/marine ecosystems or a combination thereof and representative examples of biogeographic zones/provinces.

#### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181663>

<http://www.moef.nic.in/division/biosphere-reserves>

### President Inaugurated Festival of Democracy

**Question: Recently Festival of Democracy was inaugurated at which of the following place?**

**(a)Thiruvananthpuram (b)Balasore  
(c)Jaisalmer (d)Puducherry**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- President inaugurated Festival of Democracy to mark the completion of Diamond Jubilee Celebrations of **Kerala Legislative Assembly**.
- Praising the glorious history of state President quoted that politics, social life and quality of democracy are essential elements of society. Farsighted reformers like **Adi Shankaracharya, Shri Narayan Guru and Ayyankali** has also conferred this path.
- Feeling worried about the political violence in some parts of the state he proclaimed that debate, disagreement and dissent are acceptable but there is no place of violence.
- Addressing to people he said that educated and informed debate and mutual accommodation has been culture of Kerala and in this purview we can establish a ideal society.
- **Festival of Democracy is generally organized to mark the celebration of country’s integration and quality of democracy.** During this, a substantive dialogue is organized on various aspects such as politics, literature, art, health, sports, education and others. Distinguished personalities from various fields participate and make discussions resulting to path of reforms.

#### Reference

<http://www.pib.nic.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1541707>

## 6 Central Universities identified to start Yoga Departments

**Question: At which of the following place Indira Gandhi National Tribal University is located?**

(a) Bhopal (b) Ujjain (c) Amarkantak (d) Bilaspur

**Answer: (c)**

**Related facts:-**



- Now yoga is coming as full-flagged course in the universities and for this purpose Human resource development Ministry had identified 6 central universities.
- As posted on 6 August 2018 on PIB, following Central Universities had been identified to start the Yoga Departments-

1. **Hemwati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Uttarakhand**
2. **Visva Bharti Shantiniketan, West Bengal**
3. **Central University of Rajasthan**
4. **Central University of Kerala**
5. **Indira Gandhi National Tribal University, Madhya Pradesh**
6. **Manipur University**

- Courses inducted in Yoga for- UG, PG, PGDY, PGDYT and PhD.

**Note:-**

**Amarkantak** is one of the most famous pilgrim hubs in Madhya Pradesh and a unique natural heritage area and is the meeting point of the Vindhya and the Satpura Ranges

**Reference-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181577>

## Ayushman Bharat Scheme

**Question- To implement the Ayushman Bharat scheme through three- lakh CSCs(common service centre) across the country, a memorandum of understanding has been signed between common service center (CSC) and-**

(a)National Health Accounts (b)World Health Organization  
(c)Food and Agricultural Organization (d)Ministry of railway

**Answer (a)**

**Related facts-**



- On 31 July, **Common Service Center and National Health Accounts** signed a memorandum of understanding to implement the

Ayushman Bharat scheme through three-lakh CSCs (common service center) across the country.

- **According to MoU:-**

**(1)-** A beneficiary can now visit the nearby CSC to get the benefit of this scheme and help the beneficiary to identify his/her name in the ministry of health and family welfare database and his entitlement for the scheme.

**(2)-** CSC will help the beneficiary to scan /upload his KYC documents for verification of his/her identity and claims his/her entitlement.

**(3)-** CSC will also have facility to print his/her Ayushman Scheme Card through the center which will be his/her base source claim.

**(4)-** CSC will provide requisite information about the scheme and promote the same.

### **About Ayushman Bharat Scheme-**

- Ayushman Bharat is a '**national health protection scheme**' launched on **14 April 2018**, which is supposed to cover over 10 crore vulnerable families by providing insurance coverage up to 5 lakh rupees per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.
- It subsumed following ongoing centrally sponsored schemes:-

**(a) Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY).**

**(b) Senior Citizen Health Insurance Scheme (SCHIS).**

### **Common service center-**

- CSCs are for delivering government's e-services to rural areas and remote locations where availability of computers and internet is negligible.
- **Objectives of CSCs are-**

**(1) –** Access to information for all remote and rural citizens.

**(2) –** Access to quality education/skill upgradation.

**(3) –** Access to cost efficient and quality health services.

**(4) –** To promote rural entrepreneurship; enable community participation and collective action for social improvement.

**National Health Accounts** is an important tool to monitor government priorities and allocations in Healthcare sector, it also assess whether these priorities are being fulfilled or not.

### **Reference:**

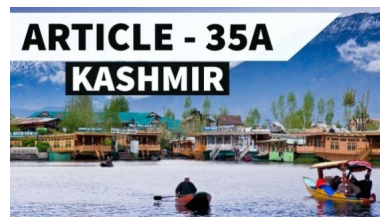
<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181275>



## Article 35-A

### Question-Consider Following alternatives regarding article-35A

- (a) This article empowers permanent residents' status for the citizens of Jammu and Kashmir.
- (b) This article applies to all 5<sup>th</sup> schedule states.
- (c) It does not contain the employment clause in public sector jobs.
- (d) None of the above.



### Answer- (a)

### Related Facts-

- Article 35-A entitles Jammu and Kashmir's state legislature to define permanent resident status to citizens of state and also accredits those permanent citizen of the state with special privileges and rights.
- In accordance with **article 370** this act was added through presidential order. I.e. **the Constitution (Application to Jammu and Kashmir) Order, 1954** with the approval of state government of Jammu and Kashmir.
- This act confers privileges and special rights on citizen of state which is Public sector jobs, acquisition of property in state, scholarship and other public aid and welfare.
- The provision of act mandates that none of the state legislature's decision coming under the ambit of the act can be challenged for violation of constitution or any other law of the land.

### Why Relevant-

- On 6 august 2018, three-judge constitutional bench heard a legal challenge for constitutional validity of article 35-a which prohibits non-residents of Jammu and Kashmir to acquire land in state, hearing was adjourned by bench till last week of august.

### Link

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/article-35-a-what-it-means-for-jammu-and-kashmir/articleshow/65287620.cms>

## 155th Meeting of the Board of Directors of the State Agricultural Production Board

**Question: Recently, in regard to the 155<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board of Directors of the State Agricultural Production Board held in Uttar Pradesh which one is not true?**

- (a) Meeting was held on 24<sup>th</sup> July, 2018 under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- (b) This meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Agriculture Minister.

(c) A budget of Rs 2,911.18 crores has been passed for the State Agricultural Production Council for the financial year 2018-19.

(d) In the first phase, the proposal for the development of 25 new mandi sites in the first phase was also approved.

**Answer- (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the 155<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Board of Governing Council of the State Agricultural Production Board concluded under the chairmanship of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- In this meeting, the budget of Rs 2,911.8 crores has been passed for the fiscal year 2018-19 of the State Agricultural Production Board of the Board by the Board of Directors.
- This budget includes development of Mandi sites, repairing of Kisan Bazar, Contact Roads, Development of Mandi Committees, Chief Minister Farm-Khalai Fire Accident Assistance Scheme and Chief Minister Farmer Accident Assistance Scheme, Chief Minister Farmer Scholarship Scheme, Study Plan, Dormitory in Government Agricultural Universities Money has been arranged for construction scheme etc.
- In the meeting, approval for the proposal related to the development of 25 new mandi sites in the first phase was also approved.
- Under this, advanced arrangements for garbage disposal will be arranged along with the arrangement of the reception room for the farmers, facility of comfort and toilet facility, Wi-Fi facility, cold storage and wiping chamber.
- Scheme to provide free plastic crates for fruit and vegetable farmers to reduce post harvest losses and plan to provide tarpaulin in campus to prevent loss and dirt during sale of agricultural produce in market committees.
- In order to ensure 100% percent registration in the Mandi site and curb complaints of tax evasion, it has been decided to install CCTV Cameras in all the 219 mandies in the state and in all 31 major sub-mandies.
- The Board of Directors has also sanctioned the proposal for the audit of council / committees by the Accountant General Uttar Pradesh instead of the Local Fund Audit Department.



**Reference:**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b575a7a-d344-45b1-b000-73340af72573.pdf>

[Another place in India is included in UNESCO World Heritage List](#)

**Question- On June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, which Indian site has been included in the UNESCO's World Heritage Site list?**

(a) Victorian and Art Deco Ensemble of Mumbai (b) Historical fort of Allahabad

(c) Santiniketan (d) Mughal Gardens

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- During June 24 to July 4, 2018, the 42<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the World Heritage Committee of United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) was organized in Manama, Bahrain.
- During the session, the Committee inscribed 19 sites on the World Heritage List (13 cultural sites, three natural and three mixed sites, i.e. both natural and cultural).
- It also approved the extension of one natural site.
- The World Heritage List now numbers 1092 sites in 167 countries.
- During this meeting, on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, 4 cultural sites of the world were included in UNESCO's 'World Heritage List'.
- The Victorian Gothic and Art Deco Ensembles of Mumbai inscribed in the World Heritage Sites is the third site in Mumbai after the Elephanta Caves and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminal Railway Station (Victoria Terminal).
- It led to the construction of ensembles of public buildings bordering the Oval Maidan open space, first in the Victorian Neo-Gothic style and then, in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, in the Art Deco idiom.
- The Victorian ensemble includes Indian elements suited to the climate, including balconies and verandas. T
- The Art Deco edifices, with their cinemas and residential buildings, blend Indian design with Art Deco imagery, creating a unique style that has been described as *Indo-Deco*.
- It is known that before this Ahmedabad city was recognized as the first global heritage city of India in the cultural category in the 41<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Committee on World Heritage Site of UNESCO held in Karkow Poland, in July 2017.
- Ahmedabad was the first Indian and third city in Asia to be included in this list.
- Presently, 37 sites in India have been included in UNESCO's World Heritage List, out of which are 29 are in cultural category, 7 in natural category and 1 in mixed category.



**See also the links below:**

<https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1480>

## Swachh Survekshan Grameen

**Question: Which one among the given is not included where Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018; announced Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, was launched on July 13th, 2018?**



(a)Uttar Pradesh (b)Bihar (c)Jharkhand (d)Maharashtra

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On July 13th, 2018 Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 (SSG 2018) announced by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation was launched by three States.
- These states were Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and Maharashtra.
- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, launched the SSG in Lucknow while Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Shri Raghubar Das, launched the Survekshan in Ranchi.
- Babanrao Lonikar, Cabinet Minister, Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Government of Maharashtra, launched SSG 2018 in Maharashtra at an event in Pandharpur.
- Under the SSG 2018, an independent survey agency will conduct the survey in all districts from 1st to 31st August 2018.
- Results will be announced in the form of a ranking of all districts and States on the basis of quantitative and qualitative sanitation (Swachhata) parameters.
- The top performing States and Districts are expected to be awarded on 2nd October 2018.
- As part of Swachh Survekshan Grameen 6980 villages in 698 districts across India will be covered.
- 34,000 public places namely schools, anganwadis, public health centres, haat/bazaars/religious places in these 6980 villages will be visited for survey.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1539805>

## 19th IUFOST WORLD CONGRESS

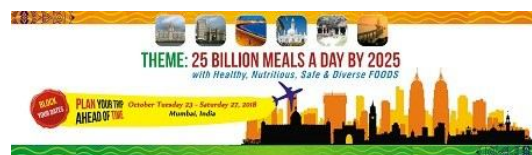
**Question: Where will the 19<sup>th</sup> IUFOST World Food Science Congress, 2018 'be organized from 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October, 2018?**

(a) Toronto (b) Mumbai (c) Shanghai (d) New Delhi

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- During 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> October, 2018, 19<sup>th</sup> International Union of Food Science and Technology (IUFOST) World Food Science and Technology Congress is being held in Mumbai in CIDCO at Vashi in Mumbai.
- IUFOST stands for "International Union of Food Science and Technology".
- Theme of these 5 days programmes will be "25 Billion Meals a Day by 2025 with Healthy, Nutritious, Safe and Diverse Foods".



**Reference:**

<https://www.iufost2018.com/about-event.php>

### First ever 'India Tourism Mart'

**Question: Where will the first ever 'India Tourism Mart' be organized from 16<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2018?**

(a) Varanasi (b) Udaipur (c) New Delhi (d) Guwahati

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- **First ever 'India Tourism Mart (ITM)'** will be organized from 16<sup>th</sup>-18<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi.
- Tourism Ministry in partnership with the Federation of Associations in Indian Tourism and Hospitality (FAITH) and with the support of State /UT Governments will organize the Mart.
- The event will be formally inaugurated on 17<sup>th</sup> September, 2018 and B2B meetings between buyer and seller delegates will be held on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> September, 2018.
- The objective of the event is to create an annual Global Tourism Mart for India in line with major international travel marts being held in countries across the world.
- The Mart will provide a platform for all stakeholders in the tourism and hospitality industries to interact and transact business opportunities.
- Approximately 175-200 stalls will be provided to the sellers to enable them to interact with the buyers.
- These will include pavilion for States & Union Territories to showcase their unique tourism destinations and products.
- FAITH and State Governments will offer pre and post event FAM trips (Familiarization trips) for the buyer delegates from overseas.
- FAITH is the apex organization of all the important trade and hospitality associations of the country.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=73145>

### 4th National Conclave on Mines and Minerals

**Question: Recently, where was the 4<sup>th</sup> National Conclave on Mines and Minerals organized?**

(a) New Delhi (b) Ranchi (c) Indore (d) Jaipur

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts**



- On 13<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, 4<sup>th</sup> National Conclave on Mines & Minerals held at Indore.
- This Mining Conclave will provide unique opportunity to the State Governments to showcase their auctionable mineral blocks with regard to its exploration, mineral resources, transport connectivity from mineral block, policy scenario in State and incentives to attract prospective investors.
- It will also provide a great opportunity to the investors to identify the mineral blocks and participate in the auction of suitable mineral blocks, the Minister added.
- Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, CEO, NITI Aayog and Mining Ministers of the State Governments have consented to participate in the Conclave.
- A webpage on the Ministry of Mines website, “NCMM July, 2018” has been created about the Conclave.
- The Ministry of Mines organized the 1st National Conclave on Mines & Minerals on 4-5 July, 2016 at Raipur, 2nd National Conclave on Mines & Minerals on 15th Feb, 2017 at New Delhi and 3rd National Conclave on Mines & Minerals on 20th March, 2018 at New Delhi.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180485>

## Conference of Power and New & Renewable Energy Ministers of States & UTs

**Question- Recently, where was the Conference of Power and New & Renewable Energy Ministers of States & UTs held?**

(a) Shimla (b) New Delhi (c) Hyderabad (d) Lucknow

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- On 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2018, the Conference of Power and New & Renewable Energy Ministers of States & UTs held at Shimla Himachal Pradesh.
- The conference was inaugurated by RK Singh, Union Minister (IC) for Power and New & Renewable Energy.
- The object of this one-day conference was to review the implementation of various schemes / programs running currently and discuss various issues related to electricity and renewable energy sectors.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/pmreleases.aspx?mincode=52>

## Second phase of the Mission Indradhanush

**Question-** The second phase of Mission Indradhanush will commence from July 15th, 2018 in which of the following district of Haryana?

(a) Palwal (b) Nuh (c) Mewat (d) Rohtak

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- On 15th July, 2018 second phase of Mission Indradhanush will commence from Nuh district of Haryana.
- Under this program, about 27000 children and 8700 pregnant women of 299 villages will be vaccinated.
- Vaccination program will be run for 7 days.
- Chief Secretary of Haryana D S Dhesi informed that under the National Horticulture Mission, a plan of Rs. 12.50 crores is proposed for Nuh district.
- Mission Indradhanush was started by the Ministry of Health Government of India on December 25th, 2014.
- This year, 100 percent vaccination of children has been targeted by the year 2020.
- 5 districts in the state have been selected under this mission.

**Reference:**

<http://www.prharyana.gov.in/en/node/27667>

## Delhi-Meerut Expressway

**Question-** Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the Delhi-Meerut Expressway to the nation. In this regard which one of the given is not true?

- (a) This expressway is 14 lanes from Nizamuddin Bridge to Delhi-Uttar Pradesh border.
- (b) Up to the 27.74 km length the expressway will be 14 lanes and the remaining will be of 6 lanes.
- (c) This will be the second expressway on which there will be cycle path on the block at about 28 km from Delhi to Dasna.
- (d) The project was laid on December 31, 2015 by Prime Minister Modi.



**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On May 27, 2018 Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the Delhi-Meerut Expressway to the nation.
- 14-lane of Delhi-Meerut Expressway is the first accessed phase, which extended from Nizamuddin Bridge to Delhi-Uttar Pradesh border.

- The construction cost of this 8.360 km part of the length is about Rs. 841.50 crores.
- It includes 6-lane expressway and 4-4 service lanes on both sides.
- The project was laid by the Prime Minister on December 31, 2015.
- This expressway aims to provide fast and secure connectivity between Delhi and Meerut and Uttar Pradesh and Uttarakhand.
- The total length of this project is 82 km. upon which initially the 27.74 km length will be of 14 lanes while there will be the remaining 6 lane expressway.
- The estimated cost of this project is Rs. 4975.17 crores.
- This will be the first Express on which there will be a cycle path on the block about 28 km between Delhi and Dasna.
- This project will have 11 flyover / interchange, 5 large and 24 small bridges, three rails over bridges, 36 vehicles and 14 underpass passes for pedestrians.
- On completion of the project, it will take only 60 minutes to travel from Delhi to Meerut.

#### Reference:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179561>

### Kundli-Ghaziabad-Palwal Expressway

**Question- Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the prestigious road project Kundli-Ghaziabad-Palwal Expressway (Eastern Peripheral Expressway) to the nation. In regards to this project which one of the given is not true?**

- (a) This is the country's first Axis Control Highway.
- (b) The length of this expressway is 13 km.
- (c) Construction cost of this project is approximately Rs 4617.87 crores.
- (d) This is the first expressway of the country fully solar power utilized.

**Answer: (b)**

#### Related Facts:

- On May 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated the prestigious Kundli-Ghaziabad-Palwal Expressway (Eastern Peripheral Express Way) to the nation.
- The length of this expressway is 135 km.
- This expressway has been constructed by the National Highways Authority of India to reduce traffic pressure in Delhi and NCR.
- This expressway connects NH-1 and NH-2.
- The construction cost of this project is approximately Rs 4617.87 crores.
- This is the first expressway of the country upon which full use of solar power (up to 135 km) has been done.





- 8 solar power plants of 4000 kW (4 Mw) capacity have been set up on this expressway for the lighting of underpasses and for the operation of solar pumps for water plants.
- There is also provision of rain water harvesting at every 500 meters on this expressway and there is a provision of drip irrigation on the entire route.
- This is the country's first Axis Control Highway (As much the vehicle travels as much as the toll is).
- On this day, the Prime Minister also inaugurated the Digital Art Gallery created by NHAI in the border of Sonipat on the number 5 of this expressway.
- This Expressway has also been installed 36 reproductions (India Gate, Gateway of India, Ashok Stambh etc.) of monuments displaying Indian culture and heritage.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179570>

## **International**

### **6th World Cities Summit 2020**

**Question- Recently, where was the sixth 'World Cities Summit, 2018' held?**

(a) New Delhi (b) Singapore (c) Berlin (d) Toronto

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Sixth World Cities Summit 2018 was held from 8 – 12 July 2018 in Singapore.
- World Cities Summit 2020 will be held from 5 – 9 July 2020 in Singapore.
- The theme of this five-day biennial conference was "Liveable & Sustainable Cities: Embracing the Future through Innovation and Collaboration".



**Reference:**

<http://www.worldcityssummit.com.sg/>

[http://www.worldcityssummit.com.sg/sites/default/files/World\\_Cities\\_Summit2018\\_Brochure\(as\\_of\\_November\\_2017\).pdf](http://www.worldcityssummit.com.sg/sites/default/files/World_Cities_Summit2018_Brochure(as_of_November_2017).pdf)

<http://www.worldqbc.org/calendar/world-cities-summit-2018>

### **Trump-Kim Singapore Summit**

**Question: Which of the given statement/statements is/are not true in regards to Trump-Kim Singapore Summit concluded recently?**

(1) This meeting took place on June 12th, 2018 at the Capella Hotel located on Sentosa Island.

(2) There were a total of 4 issues in the Joint Manifesto issued by the two



**countries.**

**(3) The Panmunjom Declaration was signed between North Korea and the US.**

(a) 1, 2, 3 (b) 1 and 2 (c) 1 and 3 (d) Only 1

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 12th, 2018, President Donald J. Trump of the United States of America and Chairman Kim Jong Un of the State Affairs Commission of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) held a first, historic summit in the Capella Hotel, Sentosa Island Singapore.
- Joint Statement was released by both the leaders.
- People of both the countries are committed to establishing new bilateral relations for peace and prosperity.
- Both the US and North Korea will work to established relations and the building of a lasting and robust peace regime on the Korean Peninsula.
- While Reaffirming the April 27, 2018 Panmunjom Declaration, the north Korea commits to work toward complete denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula.
- The United States and North Korea have expressed their commitment that they will work towards returning the POWs or the remains of the missing people in the war.
- Although Kim has agreed to denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, Trump has made it clear that the ban on North Korea will continue until the terms of the agreement are completed.
- This was the first bilateral dialogue of any President, American President and North Korean President.
- **Panmunjom Manifesto:-**
- This manifesto was released on April 27, 2018, in Southampton, between the Presidents of the South Korean President Moon J. In and the President of North Korea in Panmunjom.
- This announcement is for peace, prosperity and integration of the Korean Peninsula.
- Panmunjom is located in Kaesong of Hwanghae province of North Korea.

**See also the links below:**

<https://www.whitehouse.gov/briefings-statements/joint-statement-president-donald-j-trump-united-states-america-chairman-kim-jong-un-democratic-peoples-republic-korea-singapore-summit/>

### 44th Summit of G-7 Nations-2018

**Question: At which of the following places the 44<sup>th</sup> Summit of G-7 nations concluded during June 8- 9, 2018?**

(a) Charlevoix Quebec City, Canada (b) Ise-Shima, Japan (c) Taormina, Italy



(d) Brussels, Belgium

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- During 8-9 June, 2018, the 44<sup>th</sup> Summit of G-7 nations concluded in Charlevoix Quebec City, Canada.
- This was the sixth opportunity when Canada hosted the summit.
- Earlier Canada had hosted it in the year 1981, 1988, 1995, 2002 and 2010.
- It is notable that on May 26-27, 2017, at the 43rd Summit of G-7 held in Taormina (Italy), chairmanship of 44th Summit was given to the Canada.
- Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, French President Emmanuel Macron, US President Donald Trump, British Prime Minister Theresa May, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, and Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte, joined the G-7 Summit.
- The European Union was represented by the European Commission President Jean Claude Juncker and European Council President Donald Tusk.
- On the closing of this two-day summit, leaders of G-7 member countries said they are *committed to permanently ensuring that Iran's nuclear program remains peaceful*.
- It is known that the G-7 is an informal organization. it is no headquarter or secretariat. There is no charter at all.
- The selection of its president is based on the rotation system.
- In the Rambouillet near Paris, in 1975 In the backdrop of the global economic downturn and oil crisis of the 1970s, a meeting of the world's most industrialized, democratic and non-socialist 6 nations – France, America, Britain, Italy, Germany, and Japan was organized on the call of the then President of France, *Valery Giscard d'Estaing*, in which this group was formed.
- In 1976, after the participation of Canada, this group came to be known as G-7.
- The European Union's participation began with this group since 1977 but it is not considered as a separate member.
- With the joining of Russia in G-7 in the year 1994, this group was known as G8 from the year 1997.
- It is significant that on March 27, 2014 Russia was suspended from the organization indefinitely by the original G-7 countries.
- Now it is again known as G-7.
- The 45<sup>th</sup> summit of the G-7 nations will be organized in France in 2019.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/meetings/international-summit/2018/06/08-09/>  
<https://g7.gc.ca/en/official-documents/>

## Economics

### SBI Revises Fixed Deposit (FD) Interest Rates

**Question: Consider the following statements about SBI Fixed Deposit policy:**

1. For FDs with maturity of 1-2 years new interest rate is 6.70%
2. On FDs for 5-10 years interest rate is 6.75%
3. New rates are effective from 30 July.



**Of the above the correct statements is /are:**

**(a) Only 1&2 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1 (d) Only 1&3**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related facts:**

- On 28 July India's largest Public Sector bank SBI (State Bank of India) has revised the interest rates on Fixed Deposits by **5-10 basis points**. These new rates are applicable from 30 July on Fixed Deposit (FD) of less than 1crore.
- SBI has increased the interest rate on FD with maturity of more than one year. The bank is offering interest of 6.70% on FD having maturity of 1-2 years which was earlier 6.65%. At the same time, the bank is paying interest rate of 6.75% on the FD of 2-3 year, which was earlier 6.65%.
- In addition, the bank is paying interest of 6.80% on deposits for 3 to 5 years (earlier 6.70%). On FD for 5-10 years, the bank is now paying interest of 6.85% (earlier 6.75%).
- Interest rate on State Bank's Tax Saving Deposit has also been raised. Earlier on this type of FD the interest rate was 6.75%, and it is 6.85%.
- For Senior Citizens, interest rate of 7.20% is given for FD for 1 to 2 years (earlier 7.15%). On FD for 2 to 3 years 7.25% (earlier 7.15%), for 3 to 5 years 7.30% (earlier 7.20%). Apart from this, interest rate on deposits of more than 5 years is 7.35%.

**About Fixed Deposit (FD):**

- Fixed Deposit is a type of financial contract serviced by the banks /NBFCs in which the respective bank provides interest on the particular deposit which is usually greater than the normal saving deposits, until the given maturity date. The period can vary from 7 days to 10 years.
- It is known as Term or Time Deposit in Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and the US and as bond in the United Kingdom and India.

- There is no effect on fixed deposit by market fluctuations which ensure greater safety to the investment capital.

### References-

<https://www.sbi.co.in/portal/web/interest-rates/domestic-term-deposits>

## Business First Portal

**Question: Recently, Government of which state has launched 'Business First Portal' under the decision to bring momentum in the economic development by encouraging entrepreneurs under the new industrial policy?**

(a) Punjab (b) Haryana (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Himachal Pradesh

**Answer: (a)**

### Related Facts:

- On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Punjab government launched a Business First Portal to facilitate the business.
- Portal was unveiled by Industries Minister Sunder Shyam Arora.
- The portal has been launched by the State Government under the decision to bring momentum in the economic development by providing generous incentive to entrepreneurs under the new industrial policy.
- This online portal will provide all facilities on the same platform for regulatory clearance and financial sanction to industrialists.
- Regulatory approvals will also be provided to other departments through this portal.
- In the portal, the applicant will also be provided self-assessment facility so that the trader will be able to examine the documents and attached documents for the first time.
- This portal will work as a single window.



### See also the links below:-

<http://wishawarta.in/?p=27487>

## Scientific

### Defense/Science Short Notes

#### Conversion of Cantonments into Exclusive Military Stations

Question. How many cantonments are currently being governed by Cantonment act, 2006?

(a) 60 (b) 61 (c) 62 (d) 63

Answer- (c).

Related Fact:



- On **August 6, 2018**, answering a question asked by Dr. Prabhakar Kore in Rajya Sabha, Minister of State for Defence **Subhash Bhamre** said that Army has proposed conversion of cantonments into '**Exclusive Military Stations**'.
- Notably, there are **62 Cantonments**, governed by the Cantonments Act, 2006, located in **19 States** across the country in a total area of **57 lakh acres**.

#### Cantonments-

- Cantonments are important institutions that bear testimony to the harmonious co-existence of civilians and defence personnels.
- The Army has suggested excision of civil areas of Cantonments and converting military pockets into Military Stations.

#### Reference:

<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-indian-army-wants-to-convert-cantonments-into-exclusive-military-stations-modi-govt-tells-parliament-2646372>

#### Recommendation for lifting Ban on Oxytocin

Question- Which of the following alternatives is / are true about Oxytocin?

(1) It is a hormone that is made in the brain.

(2) It acts both as a hormone and as a brain neurotransmitter.

(3) It acts to regulate two female reproductive functions: Childbirth and Breast-feeding.

(4) It is not used to induce labor in pregnant women.

(a) 1&2 (b) 1, 2 &, 3 (c) all of the above. (d) 1, 2 &, 4

Answer (b).

Related facts-

- In the meeting on July 25, the **Drug Technical Advisory Board (DTAB)** has recommended to the union ministry of health and family welfare



that the ban on retail sale of the life- saving drug, oxytocin, may be lifted.

### About Oxytocin-

- Oxytocin is a hormone that is made in the brain, in the **hypothalamus**. It is transported to, and secreted by, the pituitary gland and also acts as a neurotransmitter.
- It is also called as the ***hug hormone, cuddle chemical, moral molecule and, the bliss hormone*** because of its effects on human behavior.
- It regulates two of the female reproductive functions: **Childbirth** and **Breast-feeding**.

### Why Oxytocin is used-

- Oxytocin is most commonly used by doctors to induce labor in pregnant women and to suppress postpartum bleeding.
- Due to its significant role in maternal health, the world health organization recommends it as the drug of choice in postpartum hemorrhage. It is a life-saver for women.

### References-

<https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-national/oxytocin-ban-may-be-lifted/article24586800.ece>

## New Shape Identified

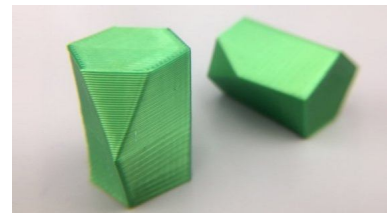
**Question – Recently, a new shape has been identified by scientists which is-**

(a)Prism (b)Frustum (b)Prismatoid (d)Scutoid

**Answer- d**

**Related facts –**

- A scutoid is a solid geometric shape, like a cube or a pyramid, with five-sided at the top, six-sided at the bottom, minus a triangular wedge. It could be said that they look like “twisted prisms”.
- The epithelial cells adopt this form when the tissue curves, giving it a more stable structure.
- It was discovered by an international team of scientists led by researchers at Seville University in Spain.



### Epithelial cells-

- Epithelial cells are defined as cells or tissue of the epithelium that covers or lines the surface of tubes or cavities within the body. It covers the surfaces of many organs as the safety shields of the body.
- Epithelial cells form structure with multiple functions like forming a barrier against infections or absorbing nutrients.

## Benefits of this new shape–

- It opens the door to understand how organs are formed during their development and what might be missing during process which leads to diseases.
- This discovery might be helpful for scientists who are trying to create artificial organs and tissues in the lab.

## References-

<https://www.pedestrian.tv/news/scientists-discover-new-shape/>

## Crew Escape System

**Question: From which of the following launch facilities ISRO successfully carried out the flight testing crew escape system in July, 2018?**

- (a) Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Thiruvananthapuram (Thumba), Kerala
- (b) Satish Dhawan Space Centre (Sriharikota), Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Abdul Kalam Island, Balasore, Odisha
- (d) Kennedy Space Center, Florida

**Ans: (b)**

### Related Facts:-

- On July 5, 2018; in a major technology demonstration ISRO successfully carried out the flight testing crew escape system.
- The Crew Escape System along with the simulated crew module with a mass of 12.6 tonnes launched from its pad at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- The test completed in 259 seconds, the crew module with the help of its parachutes landed back safely.
- It was a first in the series of tests to qualify a Crew escape system for human spaceflight.
- The Crew Escape System is an emergency escape measure designed to quickly pull the crew module along with the astronauts to a safe distance from the launch vehicle in the event of launch failure.



### Note:

- Only three countries -USA, Russia and China have human space flight programmes.
- The only Indian citizen to ever travel to space was fighter pilot Rakesh Sharma who flew aboard Soyuz T-11, a spacecraft of the former USSR in 1984.

## Reference-

<https://www.isro.gov.in/update/05-jul-2018/successful-flight-testing-of-crew-escape-system-technology-demonstrator>



## Approval to sell Apache helicopter to India

**Question: Recently America has approved the deal to sell AH-64E Apache helicopter to India. Consider the following and find out the one which is not true in this regard?**

- (a) Recently, the America has approved the sale of AH-64E helicopters to India.
- (b) The amount of the deal is USD 830 million.
- (c) These AH-64E helicopters are Apache helicopter.
- (d) Apache helicopter are able to fly in night with the help of night vision sensors and inertial navigation systems.

**Answer- (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- In June, 2018, America has approved a deal to sell six AH-64E Apache attack helicopters to India.
- The amount of this deal is 930 million US dollars.
- On June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 information in this regard was provided by the Pentagon's Defense Security Cooperation Agency.
- The deal also includes to sell fire control radars; Hellfire Longbow missiles; stinger Block I-92H missiles; night vision sensors and inertial navigation systems.
- Apache helicopter are able to fly in night with the help of night vision sensors and inertial navigation systems.
- This helicopter will increase the capacity of India to combat the threats related to land attack and modernization of the Armed Forces.
- In the past years, America has sold to India C-17 transport aircraft, 155 mm Lightweight Todd Havildar, RGM-84L Harpoon missile, Support for Sea-130J Super Hercules aircraft and chemical, biological, radiological and atomic (CBRN) collaboration tools.



**Reference:**

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/world/us-approves-sale-of-apache-attack-choppers-to-india/article24150303.ece>

## ICAT Issued the First BS-VI Engine Certificate

**Question- Recently, the International Automotive Technology Center (ICAT) issued the first BS-VI engine certificate to which auto-mobile company?**

- (a) Tata Motors
- (b) Maruti Suzuki Company
- (c) M / s Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicle Ltd.
- (d) Hyundai Motors Company



**Answer: (c)****Related Facts:**

- On July 5th, 2018, ICAT issued the first BS-VI certification for a heavy duty engine model for M/s Volvo Eicher Commercial Vehicle Limited.
- The engine has been developed and manufactured indigenously by Volvo Eicher in India.
- The successful completion of the compliance test of the engine, much ahead of the implementation date of 1 April, 2020, gives sufficient time for product stabilization in terms of making it more robust and cost competitive for the end consumers.
- The pro-active approach from the Government of India has made the country leapfrog from the conventional BS-IV to directly adopt BS-VI emission norms as the next level for regulatory framework in India.
- The BS-VI emission standards are much more elaborate in their scope and integrate substantial changes to existing emission standards ensuring cleaner products to the consumer.
- Besides the more stringent limits on the gaseous emission components, the particulate matter (PM) limits have also been significantly reduced along with the introduction of particle number (PN) limits.
- The International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) is a division of NATRiP implementation society (NATIS), under the administrative control of Ministry of Heavy Industries & Public Enterprises, Government of India.
- ICAT is the first of new world class centers established under the National Automotive Testing and R&D Infrastructure Project (NATRiP) with the main objective of carrying out Research & Development besides extending homologation facilities in the field of Automotive Engineering.
- ICAT is one of the prime testing agencies recognized by the Government of India as one of the accredited 'Type Approval and Homologation' agencies in India under Central Motor Vehicle Rules (CMVR).
- ICAT has emerged as a comprehensive technical partner of the automotive industry.
- Bharat stage emission standards (BSES) were implemented in the year 2000 based on Standards of European regulations.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180429>

## Sports

### Tennis

#### Washington Open Title

**Question: Alexander Zverev who recently won Washington Open Tennis Tournament, belongs to which of the following country?**

**(a)Serbia (b)America (c)France (d)Germany**

**Answer (d)**

**Related Facts:**



- **Alexander Zverev** (Germany) bagged Washington Open Tennis Tournament defeating **Alex de Minaur** (Australia) by 6-2,6-4 held from 28 July-05 August in Rock Creek park Tennis Center ,Washington DC.
- It is his third victory of the season and 9<sup>th</sup> title of his career .This was the 50<sup>th</sup> edition of the prestigious tournament.
- This tournament marks the record of battling between two young players [Zverev (21) & Minaur (19)] in final regarding any ATP tournament after 11 years. Earlier in 2007, Rafael Nadal (20) defeated Novak Djokovic (19) to grab the title.

**Reference:**

<https://www.bbc.com/sport/tennis/45080867>

#### French Open-2018

**Question: Who amongst the following won the women's singles title in the recently concluded French Open Tennis (Roland Garros) competition?**

**(a) Simona Halep (b) Sloane Stephens (c) Angelique Kerber (d) Jelena Ostapenko**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Tennis competition the French Open, 2018 (Roland Garros) concluded in Paris, France. (May 21, 2018-10, June 2018)
- The results of this prestigious Grand Slam competition (second of the year) of lawn tennis are as follows-
- **Men's Singles:-**
  - Winner-Raphael Nadal (Spain)
  - Runner-up Dominic Thiem (Austria)
- **Women's Singles:-**
  - Winner-Simona Halep (Romania)



- Runner-up Sloane Stephens (America)
- **Men's Doubles:-**
- Winner-Pierre Hughues Herbert and Nicolas Mahut (both France)
- Runners-up Oliver Marach (Austria) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)
- **Women's Doubles:-**
- Winner-Katrina Siniakova and Barbora Krejckikova (both Czech Republic)
- Runner-up Makoto Ninomiya and Eri Hozumi (both Japan)
- **Mixed Doubles:-**
- Winner-Latisha Chan (Chan Yung-Jan) (Chinese Taipei) and Ivan Doding (Croatia)
- Runner-up-Gabriela Dabrowski (Canada) and Mate Pavic (Croatia)
- Rafael Nadal won the French Open title for the 11th time.
- Simona Halep won the French Open for the first time.
- Simona Halep reached the final of the competition for the third time.
- The women's singles title is most often won by the American player Chris Evert (7 times) in the French Open.
- Simona Halep won the Grand Slam title for the first time.

**See also the links below:-**

<https://www.rolandgarros.com/en-us/results/1?type=SM>

## Cricket

### Women's Asia Cup (T-20 Cricket Tournament), 2018

**Question: Women cricket team of which of the following countries won the title of recently concluded Women's Asia Cup (T-20 Cricket Tournament), 2018?**

(a) India (b) Bangladesh (c) Sri Lanka (d) Pakistan

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- Women Asia Cup (T-20 Cricket Tournament), 2018 concluded in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (3-10 June, 2018)
- Organizer – Asia Cricket Council
- This was the seventh edition of the women's Asia Cup (Cricket Tournament) and the third edition of the T-20 tournament.
- Participants Teams were Malaysia, Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Thailand.
- In the final match of the tournament, the Bangladesh team (Captain-Salma Khatun) won the title by defeating the Indian team by 3 wickets (Captain-Harmanpreet Kaur).
- Bangladesh won the title of Women's Asia Cup Cricket Tournament for the first time.
- Player of the Match in the Final: Rumana Ahmed Bangladesh.

- Player of the tournament: Harmanpreet Kaur India.
- Indian women cricket team has reached in the final for the seventh time.
- Most wickets (11 wickets) scored by Nida Dar Pakistan and Most run (215 runs) scored by Harmanpreet Kaur India.

**Reference:**

[http://www.espncricinfo.com/series/\\_/id/8659/season/2018/women's-twenty20-asia-cup/](http://www.espncricinfo.com/series/_/id/8659/season/2018/women's-twenty20-asia-cup/)

## Ireland Tour of Indian Cricket Team- 2018

**Question: Which one of the following Players has been selected as the “Player of the Series” in the series of two T-20 matches held in Ireland on June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018?**

(a) Lokesh Rahul (b) Yujwendra Chahal (c) Kuldeep Yadav (d) Rohit Sharma

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- Indian cricket team’s Ireland tour concluded. (June 27-29, 2018)
- India won a 2-0 win over the tour with a clean sweep in the series of two international T-20 matches.
- ‘Player of the Series’ – Yujwendra Chahal (India)
- ‘Most runs in the series’ – Rohit Sharma (India), total 97 runs.
- Indian Captain in Series – Virat Kohli
- Ireland Captain in Series- Gary Wilson
- India won the second match of the series with a difference of 143 runs.
- It is India’s biggest victory and overall combined second win in terms of runs in international T20 matches.
- Earlier in April 2018, Pakistan defeated the West Indies by 143 runs in a match played at Karachi.
- In this regards, Sri Lankan team is at the top by defeating Kenya by 172 runs in Johannesburg in 2007.
- In the second match of the series, Siddharth Kaul (India) played his first international T-20 match.

**Reference:**

[http://www.espncricinfo.com/series/\\_/id/18018/ind-in-eng-2018/](http://www.espncricinfo.com/series/_/id/18018/ind-in-eng-2018/)

## Hockey

### Men's Hockey Champions Trophy, 2018

**Question: Consider the following statements in the context of Men's Hockey Champions Trophy, 2018 concluded on July 1st, 2018.**

- (a) It was the 37th and last edition of this tournament.
- (b) This was Australia's 15th Champions Trophy title.
- (c) India has reached the final twice and won only once.
- (d) In 2019 this tournament will be replaced by Hockey Pro League (HPL).

**Which one of the aforesaid statements is not true?**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- The 37th and last edition of the Men's Hockey Champions Trophy, 2018 concluded in Breda, Netherlands. (June 23rd-1st July, 2018)
- Organizer – International Hockey Federation (FIH)
- Sponsor – Rabobank
- **Competition Results:**
- Gold Medal – Australia (15th title), 3-1 in penalty shootout
- Silver Medal – India
- Bronze Medal – Netherlands (defeated Argentina 2-1)
- Belgium and Pakistan got 5th and 6th ranked respectively.
- Indian team's captain was SV Sunil and Coach was Harendra Singh.
- Individual Awards given in the Competition:
- Best Player, presented by Rabobank: Aran Zelewski (Australia)
- Best Goalkeeper, Presented by ONVZ: PR Sreejesh (India)
- Hero Top Goal Scorer – Gonzalo Peillat (Argentina) (6 goals)
- Best Rising Player, presented by Volvo: Jake Harvie (Australia)
- Best Coach, presented by Deloitte: Colin Batch (Australia)
- Best Goal, presented by Auping: Mirco Pruyser (Netherlands) – Fifth goal of the match Vs. Belgium
- FIH is going to launch Hockey Pro League (HPL) in January 2019; a new competition in place of Champions Trophy, World League Semi-Finals and World League Finals.
- The league will have 9 men's and 9 women's teams.
- Each team will play 8 home and 8 away matches.
- The women's event will be contested between Argentina, Australia, China, England/Great Britain, Germany, India, Netherlands, New Zealand and USA.



- The men's teams were confirmed as Argentina, Australia, Belgium, England/Great Britain, Germany, India, Netherlands, New Zealand and Pakistan, the latter playing their home matches in Scotland.
- A total of 144 one-off matches (i.e. excluding Grand Final) will be played in the League.
- Matches will be organized every year from January to June.
- Each team will have a place in the league for a minimum of four years. (Until 2022)

**See also the links below:-**

<http://www.fih.ch/events/champions-trophy/rabobank-hockey-champions-trophy-breda-2018/news/australia-defeat-india-to-win-mens-rabobank-hockey-champions-trophy-2018/>

## **Football**

### Intercontinental Cup, 2018

**Question: Recently, which country has won the football competition Intercontinental Cup, 2018?**

(a) India (b) Kenya (c) Chinese Taipei (d) New Zealand

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Football Competition Intercontinental Cup, 2018 concluded in Mumbai. (1<sup>st</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June, 2018).
- Sponsor-Hero
- Organizer- All India Football Federation
- Participants Teams were India, Kenya, New Zealand and Chinese Taipei.
- Indian team won the title of the competition defeating *Kenyan Team* by 2-0 in the final match played at Mumbai Football Arena on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- 'Best Player' award Sunil Chhetri.
- The highest goals in the competition were by Sunil Chhetri (8 goals).



**Reference:**

<https://www.sportskeeda.com/go/intercontinental-cup/points-table>

## **Badminton**

### Russian Open

**Question: Consider the following statements about Indian Player Saurabh Verma:**

1. He is an Indian javelin thrower.
2. As of 29 July 2018 he is World No. 71 badminton player.
3. He won Russian open -2018.

**Which among of the above statements is /are correct.**

(a) Only 1 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1&3 (d) Only 3

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Indian shuttler Sourabh Verma won Russian Open 2018 held from 24-29 July in the Sport Hall Olympic, Russia.
- He marked this achievement by defeating Koki Watanabe of Japan with 18-21,21-12,21-17.
- This is his first title of the season. Currently, he is ranked World No. 71.
- Sourabh Verma is a part of Indian squad for Asian Games which he acquired by winning All India Senior Ranking Tournament in Bangalore.
- Vladimir Ivanov (Russia) and Rohan Kapoor (India) won Mixed Doubles.



Reference:

<http://bwfbadminton.com/results/3198/russian-open-2018/podium>

### Malaysia Open Badminton Tournament, 2018

**Question: Who among the following has won the Men's single title of the recently concluded Malaysia Open Badminton tournament-2018?**

(a) Chen Long (b) Lee Chong Wei (c) Srikanth Kidambi (d) Victor Excel Sen

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Malaysia Open Badminton tournament, 2018 concluded in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia) (June 26-1<sup>st</sup> July, 2018)
- **Competition Results**
- **Men's singles**  
Winner – Lee Chong Wei (Malaysia)  
Runner-up – Kento Momota (Japan)
- **Woman's singles**  
Winner – Tai Tzu-Ying (runner-up)  
Runner-up – He Bingjiao (China)





- **Men's doubles**  
Winner – Takeshi Kamura and Keigo Sonoda (both Japan)  
Runners-up – Hiroyuki Endo and Yuta Watanabe (both Japan)
- **Women's doubles**  
Winners – Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi (both Japan)  
Runner-up – Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (both China)
- **Mixed doubles**  
Winner – Zheng Siwei and Huang Yakqiong (both China)  
Runners-up – Wang Yilyu and Huang Dongping (both China)
- Lee Chong Wei is the player who won the title (12-times) of Malaysia Open Badminton Tournament

**Reference:**

<http://bwfworldtour.com/tournament/3142/celcom-axiata-malaysia-open-2018/results/podium/>

### Thomas and Uber Cup-2018

**Question: Which of the given countries team has won the title of recently concluded Uber Cup, 2018; a women's Badminton competition?**

(a) Japan (b) Thailand (c) South Korea (d) China

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts**



- Men's Badminton Team Competition 'Thomas Cup' and Women's Badminton Team Competition 'Uber Cup' concluded in Bangkok, Thailand. (May 20-27, 2018)
- This was the 30<sup>th</sup> edition of Thomas Cup and 27<sup>th</sup> edition of Uber Cup.
- Sponsor- TOTAL
- **Results of Thomas Cup (Men's Competition)**
- Gold Medal – China (3-1)
- Silver Medal-Japan
- Bronze Medal – Denmark and Indonesia
- **Results of Uber Cup (Women's Competition)**
- Gold Medal – Japan (3-0)
- Silver Medal-Thailand
- Bronze Medal – South Korea and China
- Japan has won Uber Cup after 37 years.
- Earlier in the year 1981 Japan had won the Uber Cup.
- China won the Thomas Cup title for the 10<sup>th</sup>
- Last time, China had won the title in year 2012.
- Japan won (only once) the Thomas Cup in year 2014.

**See also the links below:**

<http://bwfthomasubercups.com/news-single/2018/05/27/title-no-10-for-china-thomas-cup-final-total-bwf-thomas-uber-cup-finals-2018/>

## Table Tennis

### Ceat Ultimate Table Tennis, 2018

**Question:** Which of the following team won the title of the Ceat Ultimate Table Tennis Championship, 2018, held on July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018?

(a) Warriors TTC (b) Maharashtra United (c) Dabang Smashers TTC (d) Empowerji Challengers

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Final round of Ultimate Table Tennis, 2018 Sponsored by CEAT concluded in Kolkata. (July 1, 2018)
- Six teams participated in competition namely- Dabang Smashers TTC, Empowerji Challengers, Falcons TTC, Maharashtra United, RP-SG Mavericks and Warriors TTC.
- **Competition Results:**
- Winner – Dabang Smashers TTC (by 11-7), prize money – Rs. 1 crore
- Runner Up – Falcons TTC, prize money – Rs. 75 lakhs
- **Competition award:**
- Standout Indian player – Manika Batra (Dabang Smasher)
- Most Valuable Players (MVP), Women – Elizabeta Samara (Maharashtra United)
- CEAT Most Valuable Player (Male) – Liam Pitchford (Falcons)
- Super Saver – Matilda Ekholm (Falcons)
- Ultimate 1 – Yoshida Masaki (Dabang Smashers)



**See also the links below:**

<https://www.ultimatetabletennis.in/news/sathiyam-manika-power-smashers-to-ceat-utt-finale-triumph>

## Formula One

### Hungarian Grand Prix-2018

**Question:** Who among the following Formula One driver has won the recently concluded “Hungarian Grand Prix, 2018”?

(a) Lewis Hamilton (b) Sebastian Vettel (c) Daniel Ricciardo (d) Kimi Raikkonen

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- Lewis Hamilton of Mercedes maintained his top ranking by winning twelfth race of the season-2018, Hungarian Grand Prix organized between 27-29 July in Budapest.
- Sebastian Vettel of Ferrari remained at second position.



- Kimi Raikkonen of Ferrari and Daniel Ricciardo of Red Bull remained at third and fourth position respectively.
- Daniel Ricciardo of Red Bull Racing team became the winner of Fastest Lap Award.
- Next Grand Prix will be organized in Belgium on 24-26 August 2018.

Reference:

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2018/races.html>

## Canadian Grand Prix, 2018

**Question- Who among the given won the title of the recently concluded Formula One car race 'Canadian Grand Prix, 2018'?**

(a) Lewis Hamilton (b) Valtteri Bottas (c) Sebastian Vettel (d) Daniel Ricciardo

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Seventh Formula 1 race of the session-2018 Canadian Grand Prix concluded at Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve, Montréal during 08<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup> June 2018.
- This race was won by Ferrari Team driver Sebastian Vettel (Germany).
- Mercedes team driver Valtteri Bottas (Finland) remained at second position.
- Driver of the Red Bull Team Max Verstappen (Netherlands) and Red Bull Team driver Daniel Ricciardo remained at third and fourth position respectively.
- Pole Position – Sebastian Vettel, Team-Ferrari
- Fastest Lap-Max Verstappen, Team-Red Bull
- Vettel won the Canadian Grand Prix for the first time in 14 years for Ferrari.



**Reference:**

<https://www.formula1.com/en/results.html/2018/races/985/canada/race-result.html>

## Sports Miscellaneous

### SANGITA KALANIDHI AWARD-2018

**Question: Consider the following statements about Junior Asian Wrestling Championship-2018:**

1. Sachin Rathi of India won gold medal in 74-kg weight category.
2. In junior freestyle teams ranking India was at 1<sup>st</sup>
3. Sajjan Bhanwal won gold medal in Greco Roman 87-kg weight category.

Which among the above statements is /are correct?

(a) Only 1 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1&3 (d) Only 3

Answer: (a)

**Related Facts:**

- Junior Asian Wrestling Championship was held in New Delhi, India from 17-22 July, 2018. Total 18 Asian teams participated in the wrestling events.
- In Junior's Freestyle Wrestling Teams Ranking India finished at 2<sup>nd</sup> Iran topped the ranking table points and Uzbekistan secured third position.
- India grabbed total **8 medals** in junior freestyle Men's wrestling which comprised **2 Gold, 3 Silver and 3 Bronze**.
- In the Juniors Greco-Roman Teams Ranking India were at fourth position first being Iran, second Kazakhstan and third Kyrgyzstan. India bagged 5 medals which comprised 1 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze.
- In the Juniors Women's Wrestling Teams Ranking India secured 3<sup>rd</sup> Japan topped the ranking table and China settled at 2<sup>nd</sup> position. India won 5 medals which includes 2 Silver and 3 Bronze.



**Gold Medals:**

- **Sachin Rathi (74kg Free Style Men)**
- **Deepak Punia (86kg Free Style Men)**
- **Sajan Bhanwal (77kg Greco-Roman)**

**Reference:**

[https://unitedworldwrestling.org/sites/default/files/2018-07/final-booknew\\_delhi.pdf](https://unitedworldwrestling.org/sites/default/files/2018-07/final-booknew_delhi.pdf)

### Dubai Kabaddi Masters, 2018

Question: Who among the given won the title of the first edition of Dubai Kabaddi Masters, 2018, concluded on June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018?

(a) D. Korea (b) Iran (c) Pakistan (d) India

Answer: (d)

**Related Facts:**

- The inaugural edition of Dubai Kabaddi Masters was organized by the *International Kabaddi Federation* in partnership with the Dubai Sports Council and Star India Network. (June 22-30, 2018)
- **Competition Results:**
- Winner – India (by 44-26)
- Runner Up – Iran
- Third Place – Pakistan and South Korea (Semi-finalist)



- The Kenya and Argentina teams could not reach the Knock Out stage in this competition of 6 countries.
- Captain of the Indian Team – Ajay Thakur
- Captain of Iran – Amirhossein Mohamed Maleki
- The chief guest of the opening match of the tournament, played between India and Pakistan, was Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore, the current sports minister of India and former professional shooter.

**See also the links below:**

<https://www.sportskeeda.com/live/kabaddi-masters-dubai-2018-final-india-vs-iran-live-match-updates>

## Sports Personality

Smriti Mandhana

**QUESTION:** Consider the following statements about Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana:

1. Smriti Mandhana hits joint fastest fifty in 21 balls.
2. She did this against Loughborough Lightning.
3. Sophie Devine is world record holder of fastest fifty in 18 balls.

Of the above the correct statement is/are:

(a) Only 1&2 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 2 (d) Only 3

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:



- On 29 July 2018, Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana smashed fastest fifty against **Loughborough Lightning** in **18 balls** in the ongoing **KIA Super League**. By doing this she became the joint record holder of fastest fifty with **Sophie Devine** of **New Zealand** which was against India in Bangalore (2015).
- Batting for **Western Storm** Mandhana made 52 not out off 19 balls which included 5 fours and 4 sixes marking her team score to 85 runs off 2 wickets in a rain-shortened match.
- This 22-year-old cricketer is first Indian to play in England's premier women domestic t20 tournament.
- Smriti Mandhana played 42 T20's in which she made 857 runs having 25 half centuries. In 41 ODIs she made 1464 runs at an average of 37.53 which includes 3 hundreds and 11 fifties.
- Indian cricketer Yuvraj Singh is also jointly holding the record of fastest fifty with Chris Gayle which they have done in 12 balls.

**Reference:**

<https://www.icc-cricket.com/news/789929>

## Neeraj Chopra

**Question: Consider the following statements about Indian Athlete Neeraj Chopra:**

1. He is an Indian javelin thrower.
2. Neeraj Chopra best throw is 87.43m at Sotteville Athletics meet, 2018.
3. He won gold medal at Commonwealth Games at Gold Coast, Australia.

**Which among the above statements is/are correct?**

**(a) Only 1 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1&3 (d) Only 3**

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**



- India's star Javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra bagged the gold medal in Savo Games, Finland, 2018 by defeating his Chinese Taipei counterpart Chao-Tsun Cheng.
- Champion of Commonwealth Games marked the throw of 85.69m and clinched the top spot in Lapinlahti; Finland. Chinese Taipei javelin thrower Chao-Tsun Cheng maintained the second position with a throw of 82.52m.
- Cheng is the Asian record holder of best throw (91.36m) which he set in the World University Games in Taipei after shattering the previous record of Zhao Qinggang of China (89.15m).
- Prior to this, Neeraj Chopra has won gold medals in Sotteville Athletics Meet (85.17m) France and in Commonwealth Games (86.47m) Gold Coast, Australia. However Neeraj best throw ever recorded is 43m which he made in the IAAF Diamond League 2018, Doha.
- He is a part of India's squad for Asian Games, 2018 that will be organized in Jakarta and Palembang, Indonesia from 18 August to 2 September.

**Reference:**

<https://www.firstpost.com/sports/neeraj-chopra-wins-gold-in-finlands-savo-games-beats-chinese-taipeis-chao-tsun-cheng-in-build-up-to-asian-games-2018-4847451.html>

## First Indian Batsman to Hit a Century before Lunch

**Question: Recently, which Indian batsman among the given achieved the record of *becoming the* first batsman to make a century before lunch in a cricket match played between India and Afghanistan?**

- (a) Murali Vijay (b) Shikhar Dhawan (c) Ajinkya Rahane (d) Hardik Pandya**

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018, in the historic Test match played between India and Afghanistan at Chinnaswamy Stadium Bangalore, Indian cricketer Shikhar Dhawan hit a century before the lunch break (104 run).
- He scored total 107 run in this innings.
- In this way he became the first Indian batsman to make a century before lunch.
- Prior to Dhawan, Indian cricketer Virendra Sehwag had a record to make 94 runs before lunch in an innings.
- Sehwag had made this record in a match played against Afghanistan in 2006.
- By making this record, Dhawan joined that special club in which there are great players like Bradman.
- In Test Cricket this was first achieved by *Australian cricketer Victor Trumper (103 not out) against England in Manchester in 1902.*
- Australia's Charlie Marktany (*112 not out*) scored a century against England in 1926.
- Bradman is Australia's third batsman in this list.
- He scored 105 runs in England in Leeds against England in London in the year 1930 and scored total 334 runs in this innings.
- In the year 2016-2017, Australia's David Warner scored 100 run (not out) in match played against Pakistan in Sydney.

**Reference:**

<http://stats.espncricinfo.com/wi/content/records/283003.html>

### Nathaniya John

**Question: Who amongst the following became the India's first FIFA ball girl in FIFA World Cup?**

(a) Nathaniya John K (b) Shelja Kumari (c) Sonia Seth (d) Selina Murmu

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 22, 2018, 11-year-old girl from Tamil Nadu (India), Nathaniya officially acted as a ball girl for the Brazilian team against Costa Rica in the FIFA World Cup, 2018.
- After this, Nathaniya handed over the ball to referee to start the match.
- With this, Nathaniya became India's first FIFA ball girl.
- Brazil won the match by 2-0, defeating Costa Rica.
- It is worth mentioning that, Tamil Nadu referee Komaleswaran Sankar took part as assistant referee in the FIFA World Cup 2002.
- This was the first opportunity for India when an Indian played a part in the Mahakumbh of football.

**See also the links below:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/football/fifa-world-cup/11-year-old-makes-history-as-first-indian-ball-girl-at-fifa-world-cup/articleshow/64699286.cms>

## Fifth Indian cricketer included in ICC Hall of Fame

**Question: Which of the following former Indian cricketers was recently inducted in the ICC Hall of Fame by the International Cricket Council (ICC)?**

(a) Sachin Tendulkar (b) Sourav Ganguly (c) Vinod Kambli (d) Rahul Dravid

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Popular by his nickname 'The Wall' in the world cricket, former Indian classical batsman with an outstanding defence Rahul Dravid has been inducted into the 'ICC Hall of Fame'. (July 1st, 2018)
- ICC announced his induction in a ceremony held in Dublin (Ireland).
- Former Australian captain Ricky Ponting and former women cricketer of England Claire Taylor have also been inducted in the Hall of Fame.
- 45-year-old Rahul Dravid is the fifth Indian to be inducted in this Hall of Fame.
- Earlier, in 2009 Bishan Singh Bedi and Sunil Gavaskar, in 2010 Kapil Dev and in 2015 Anil Kumble were inducted in the Hall of Fame.
- The ICC Cricket Hall of Fame was launched on 2 January 2009.
- The ICC Cricket Hall of Fame recognizes the achievements of the legends of the game from cricket's long and illustrious history.



**See also the links below:**

<https://www.icc-cricket.com/media-releases/769200>



## Short Notes

### Personalities

Rekha Sharma

**Question: Who has been replaced by Rekha Sharma to hold the office of Chairperson of National Commission for Women?**

**(a)Lalitha Kumaramangalam (b)Mamta Sharma (c)Girija Vyas (d) Dr. Poornima Advani**

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- **Rekha Sharma** became the **9<sup>th</sup>** Chairperson of National Commission for Women (NCW) by replacing **Lalitha Kumaramangalam**, who resigned office in September, 2017.
- As member of Commission she visited numerous psychiatric institutions, custodial homes throughout the country and interacted with womens regarding their welfare.
- She hails from Haryana and has been an erstwhile Member of District Consumer & Redressal Forum with the Govt. of Haryana.
- She has credit of establishing a registered NGO called '**Haryana Mahila Uthan Samiti**' which works for the empowerment of rural women of Haryana.
- She has been a Social Media activist since the proliferation of internet environment in the country.
- Sharma has been in controversy for his recommendation of closing confession rooms in churches for a cause of exploitation of women after such a case in Kerala.



**Reference:**

<http://ncw.nic.in/fmcurrentcommission.aspx>

Harivansh Narayan Singh

**Question: Who has been replaced by Harivansh Narayan Singh to hold the office of Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha?**

**(a)J. Kurien (b)Rahman Khan (c)Ram Niwas Mirdha (d)K.Hariprasad**

**Answer (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- NDA candidate and Member of JD(U) Harivansh Narayan Singh was elected as Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha with **125 votes(B K Hariprasad 105)**.He replaced **J. Kurien of Congress** on this post which was vacant since **1 July** after his retirement.

- Harivansh Narayan Singh is an accomplished **writer, journalist and activeparliamentarian** .He was born on **30 June 1956 in Ballia district (UP)** and holds Post Graduate degree in Economics as well as Diploma in Journalism. He has served as bank official, chief editor in Hindi daily **Prabhat Khabar** and other publications such as **Dharmayug, Raviwar**.
- He derived his inspiration from **Loknayak Jaiprakash Narayan** and dropped his surname .He has also worked as media advisor of Prime Minister Chandra Shekhar.
- Mr Harivansh hold office for first time as Rajya Sabha member in April 2014 from Bihar constituency.He is the first Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha to be elected by division of votes since 1992.
- Harivansh posses 89% attendance in Rajya Sabha and raised his concerns over **Fugitive Economic Offenders Bill** , The Motor Vehicles (Amendments) Act and the banking sector crisis in country and many more issues in the Upper House.



### About deputy Chairman of Rajya sabha

- In the absence of the chairman of the Rajya Sabha i.e. **Vice President**, Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha presides over the proceedings of the Rajya Sabha.

### Election of Deputy Chairman and Panel of Vice Chairman

- The election of a Deputy Chairman shall be held on such date as the Chairman may fix and the Secretary-General shall send to every member notice of this date.
- At any time before noon on the day- preceding the date so fixed, any member may give notice in writing addressed to the Secretary-General of a motion that another member be chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Council, and the notice shall be seconded by a third member and shall be accompanied by a statement by the member whose name is proposed in the notice that he is willing to serve as Deputy Chairman if elected:
- Provided that a member shall not propose or second more than one motion.
- A member in whose name a motion stands in the list of business may, when called, move the motion or not move the motion, in which case he shall confine himself to a mere statement to that effect.
- The motions which have been moved and duly seconded shall be put one by one in the order in which they have been moved and decided if necessary by division. If any motion is carried, the person presiding shall, without putting later motions, declare that the member proposed in the motion which has been carried, has been chosen as the Deputy Chairman of the Council.
- **Panel of Vice Chairman**

- The Chairman shall, from time to time, nominate from amongst the members of the Council a panel of not more than six Vice-Chairmen, any one of whom may preside over the Council in the absence of the Chairman and the Deputy Chairman when so requested by the Chairman, or in his absence, by the Deputy Chairman.
- A Vice-Chairman nominated under sub-rule (1) shall hold office until a new panel of Vice-Chairmen is nominated.

**References:**

[https://raiyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/rs\\_rule/electionhdc.asp](https://raiyasabha.nic.in/rsnew/rs_rule/electionhdc.asp)

## M.Karunanidhi Passed Away

**QUESTION: Consider the following statements about M.Karunanidhi:**

1. He made his debut as a screen writer for the Movie 'Abhimanyu'.
2. He was five time Chief Minister of Tamilnadu.
3. Parasakthi movie supports ideologies of Dravida Movement.

**Of the above the correct statements is /are:**  
**(a) Only 1&2 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1 (d) Only3**

**ANSWER: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- Eminent **politician ,litterateur, scriptwriter** Karunanidhi died on **7 August,2018** battling with prolonged urinary tract infection and age-related issues in Kauvery Hospital,Chennai.He was 94 years old.
- Muthuvel Karunanidhi was born on **3 June 1924** in Thirukkuvalai village in Nagapattinam district of Tamil Nadu and was popularly known by "**Kalaigñar**" which means '**intellectual of art**' in English.
- He was Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu for **five times in between 1969-2011** and served as president of **DMK (Dravida Munnetra Kazhagan)** for **10 times**. At present, he was Member of Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly from **Thiruvarur seat**.
- He was a long standing leader of Dravidian Movement pertaining to Brahmin and Non-Brahmin communal division in the state.
- He has written several stories, plays, novels, and multiple-volume memoir. He made his debut as a screen writer for the movie **Rajakumari** produced by Jupiter Films; others include **Abhimanyu, Manthiri Kumari, Marudhanattu Ilavarasi** and many more.
- '**Parasakthi**' was the the notable movie of M. Karunanidhi that has supported the ideologies of Dravida Movement and has proposed the views of Karunanidhi about politics.
- He has written **Kuraloviam for Thirukural** (Classic Tamil Text), **TholkaappiyaPoonga, Poombukar** as well as many **poems, essays, and books**. Some of his well-known books include **Sanga Thamizh, Thirukkural Urai, Ponnar Sankar, Romapuri**

**Pandian, Thenapandi Singam, Vellikizhamai, Nenjukku  
Needhi, Iniyavai and Kuraloviam.**

**References:**

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M.\\_Karunanidhi](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/M._Karunanidhi)

## Pingali venkayya

**Question –Who of the following was the designer of the Indian National Tricolor?**

(a) Pingali venkayya (b) Motilal Nehru (c) Bal Gangadhar Tilak (d) Lala lajpat Rai

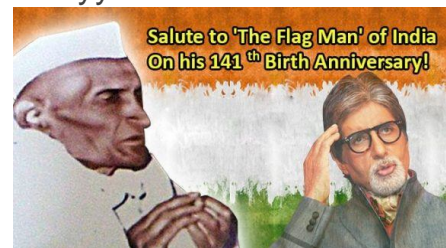
**Answer-a.**

**Related facts–**

- On August 2, 2018, the 141<sup>st</sup> birth anniversary of freedom fighter and designer of Indian National Tricolor, Pingali Venkayya was celebrated.

**About pingali venkayya–**

- He was born on August 2, 1876 in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh; he was a hard believer in Gandhian principles and served as a soldier in the British army in South Africa during the Anglo Boer war in Africa.
- He was a designer of Indian National Tricolor.
- He had a Ph.D in geology and was expert in mining.



**National flag evolution–**

- In every session of the congress between 1918 and 1921, Pingali Venkayya raised the matter of having an own flag.
- He met with Mahatma Gandhi once again (previously, he met him in the Anglo Boer war) in Vijayawada and showed him his various designs of the flag.
- Gandhi requested (due to the need for a national flag) Venkayya to design a completely new flag at the congress meeting in 1921.
- Initially, he designed the flag with saffron and green colours, but later he added a third colour- white with a spinning wheel at the centre. Addition of spinning wheel was suggested by **Lala Hans Raj Sondhi**.
- In congress session of 1931, the flag was officially adopted.

link

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Visakhapatnam/tricolour-designer-remembered/article19411017.ece>

## Emmerson Mnangagwa

**Question: Recently, Emmerson Mnangagwa was elected as the President of which of the following country?**

(a) Zimbabwe (b) Namibia (c) Zambia (d) Botswana

**Ans: (a)**

**Related Facts:-**

- On 2 August, 2018; Emmerson Mnangagwa was elected as President of Zimbabwe. Elections were held on 30 July 2018.
- Elections were conducted after longtime president Robert Mugabe resigned from his post after a coup lead by Zimbabwe Defence Forces (ZDF) in November 2017.
- Emmerson Mnangagwa is the President and first Secretary of Zimbabwean ruling party **Zimbabwe African National Union-Patriotic Front(ZANU–PF)** and was a longtime ally of former President **Robert Mugabe**.
- Mnangagwa is a Zimbabwean revolutionary politician who is serving as the 3rd and ruling President of Zimbabwe since 24 November 2017.
- Mnangagwa is nicknamed as **Garwe or Ngwena** which means **‘the Crocodile’** in **Shona** language due to his political shrewdness.
- It is to be noted that Zimbabwe got independence in 1980 from the British rule.
- On December 10, 2014, Mugabe appointed Mnangagwa as Vice-President of Zimbabwe.
- Zimbabwe had been known before by several names: Rhodesia, Southern Rhodesia and Zimbabwe Rhodesia.



**Reference:-**

<https://www.theguardian.com/world/2018/aug/02/mnangagwas-zanu-pf-on-track-to-pull-off-narrow-win-in-zimbabwe-election>

## Anoop Chandra Pandey

**Question: Anoop Chandra Pandey, senior official of the Indian Administrative Service, was appointed as the new principal secretary of which of the following state?**

(a) Uttarakhand (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Rajasthan (d) Jammu and Kashmir

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Anoop Chandra Pandey, senior official of the Indian Administrative Service, assumes charge as the new Chief Secretary of Uttar Pradesh.
- He is a 1984 batch IAS officer.



- For this post he replaced Rajiv Kumar. Earlier Anoop Chandra Pandey was the Chief of UPSIDC.

**See Also the links below:-**

<https://www.amarujala.com/lucknow/anoop-chandra-pandey-becomes-chief-secretary-of-uttar-pradesh>

### New Executive Director of the EEPC India

**Question: Recently who amongst the given assumed the charge of new Executive Director (ED) of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, India (EEPC India)?**

(a) Bhaskar Sarkar (b) Ravi Segal (c) Suranjan Gupta (d) Ravi Prakash

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Suranjan Gupta assumed the charge of new Executive Director (ED) of the Engineering Export Promotion Council, India (EEPC India).
- EEPC was established in the year 1955 by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India.
- EEPC is the leading trade and investment promotion organization of the Indian engineering field.



**See also the links below:**

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/economy/new-ed-for-eepc-india/article24105227.ece>

### Nina Tshering La

**Question: Recently who among the given has been appointed as next ambassador of India to Democratic Republic of Congo?**

(a) Rajiv Kumar Nagpal (b) Krishan Kumar (c) Nina Tshering La (d) Subrata Bhattacharjee

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On July 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Nina Tshering La has been appointed as next ambassador of India to the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- Presently she is serving Deputy Chief of Mission, Hanoi.
- Kinshasa is the capital of Congo.
- This country is located in Central Africa and its currency is Congolese franc (CDF).



**Reference:**

<http://mea.gov.in/pressreleases.htm?dtl/30043/Nina+Tshering+La+appointed+as+the+next+Ambassador+of+India+to+the+Democratic+Republic+of+Congo>

**Chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)**

**Question: Recently, who among the given has been appointed as the new Central Board of Direct Taxes and the Customs Board (CBEC) by the Central Government?**

(a) M. Venkatesh (b) Ajit Seth (c) V.N. Sarna (d) S. Ramesh

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2018, senior bureaucrat S Ramesh has been appointed as chairman of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
- He will succeed Vanaja N Sarna, who superannuates on June 30.
- Ramesh, a 1981 batch officer of the Indian Revenue Service (Customs and Central Excise), is at present the member in the board, mandated with the responsibility of implementing the Goods and Services Tax (GST).
- He has been appointed as chairman of the CBIC with the status of special secretary to the central government.
- Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) is a part of the Department of Revenue under the Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- It deals with the tasks of formulation of policy concerning levy and collection of Customs & Central Excise duties and Service Tax, prevention of smuggling and administration of matters relating to Customs, Central Excise, Service Tax and Narcotics to the extent under CBEC's purview.
- It's headquarter is in Delhi.
- The *Central Board of Excise & Customs (CBEC)* is being *renamed* as the *Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC)* in March 2017.

**Reference:**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/9830558\\_S-Ramesh-appointed-chairman-of-CBIC.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/9830558_S-Ramesh-appointed-chairman-of-CBIC.html)

**H R Khan**

**Question: Recently, former RBI deputy governor H.R. Khan Khan was appointed the non-executive part-time president of the bank?**

(a) Indusind Bank (b) Kotak Mahindra Bank (c) Bandhan Bank (d) HDFC Bank

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, former RBI deputy governor Harun Rasid Khan was appointed as the non-executive part-time chairman of the Bandhan Bank.
- His appointment will be for a period of three years with effect from 5<sup>th</sup> June 2018 or till the expiry of his term as an independent director whichever is earlier.
- India is that 'Bond Bank' is India's banking and financial services company.
- It was set up in 23<sup>rd</sup> August, 2015.
- It's headquarter is in Kolkata.
- Currently it's Chief Executive Officer (CEO) Chandra Shekhar Ghosh.



**Reference:**

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/bandhan-bank-appoints-former-rbi-deputy-governor-h-r-khan-as-chairman/articleshow/64468347.cms>

**Maria Bueno**

**Question: Recently, tennis player Maria Bueno passed away. She was the player of which county?**

- (a) Spain (b) America (c) Argentina (d) Brazil

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Brazilian tennis player Maria Bueno passed away.
- She has won singles titles of three Wimbledon and four American championship.
- She was considered the Brazilian 'Queen of Tennis'.
- Apart from this she was also called by the 'São Paulo Swallow' surname.



**Reference:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/tennis/top-stories/legendary-brazilian-tennis-player-maria-bueno-dies/articleshow/64516447.cms>

**Vijai Kumar**

**Question: Recently, Indian Foreign Service officer Vijai Kumar has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to which of the following?**

- (a) Papua New Guinea (b) Australia (c) Bangladesh (d) Pakistan

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**





- On June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Indian Foreign Service officer Vijai Kumar has been appointed as the next High Commissioner of India to the independent State of Papua New Guinea.
- Earlier, he was Counsellor, Embassy of India, Stockholm.
- Papua New Guinea is an independent state located in the Pacific Ocean region near Indonesia, which is a group of islands in the Southwest Ocean area.
- Its capital is Port Moresby.

**Reference:**

[http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29974/Vijai\\_Kumar\\_appointed\\_as\\_the\\_next\\_High\\_Commissioner\\_of\\_India\\_to\\_Papua\\_New\\_Guinea](http://www.mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29974/Vijai_Kumar_appointed_as_the_next_High_Commissioner_of_India_to_Papua_New_Guinea)

### New chairman of the Payments Council of India

**Question: Recently who amongst the given has been appointed as the new chairman of the Payments Council of India (PCI)?**

(a) Dilip Asbe (b) Girish Patel (c) Deepak Agarwal (d) Vishwas Patel

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts**



- On 2nd July 2018, Vishwas Patel, Director at Infibeam Avenues has been appointed as new Chairman of Payment Council of India.
- Earlier, he was working as the co-chairman of PCI.
- At this post, he will replace the Naveen Surya.
- Managing Director Hitachi Payment Services Loney Antony was appointed as co-chairman of PCI with the appointment of Patel.
- PCI is an apex non-governmental body representing companies in payments and settlement system.
- It was formed in 2013 under the IAMAI: Internet and Mobile Association of India to meet the requirements of Digital Payment Industry.

**Reference:**

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/money-and-banking/vishwas-patel-appointed-payments-council-of-india-chairman/article24309866.ece>

### New Member (traffic) of Railway Board

**Question: Recently, who amongst the following assume charge as new member (traffic) of Railway Board?**

(a) Dinesh Chandra (b) R C Lohani (c) Girish Pillai (D) Ashwini Lohani

**Answer: (C)**

**Related Facts**



- On July 1st, 2018, Girish Pillai assumed chare as new member (Traffic) Railway Board.
- Prior to this, he was General Manager, West Central Railway, Jabalpur from 01st September 2016 to 30th June, 2018.
- He is an Indian Railway Traffic Services (IRTS) officer of 1980 Batch.
- Currently Ashwini Lohani is the Chairman of the Railway Board.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=73104>

### Girish Chandra Chaturvedi

**Question: Recently, Girish Chandra Chaturvedi; former officer of the Indian Administrative Service, was appointed as the non-executive chairman of which bank?**

(a) ICICI Bank (b) HDFC Bank (c) Kotak Mahindra Bank (d) Bandhan Bank

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 29th, 2018, the private sector ICICI Bank appointed former Girish Chandra Chaturvedi; former official of the Indian Administrative Services, as part-time non-executive chairman.
- His 3 year term will be effective from July 1, 2018.
- At this post, he will replace M.K. Sharma.
- His appointment is subject to the approval of the Reserve Bank and shareholders.
- He is an IAS officer of the year 1977 batch of the UP cadre.
- He was Secretary, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas from 2011 to 2013.



**See also the links below :**

<https://www.firstpost.com/business/icici-bank-appoints-former-ias-officer-girish-chandra-chaturvedi-as-non-executive-chairman-for-3-years-4627871.html>

### New Vigilance Commissioner Appointed

**Question: Who among the following was recently appointed as the new Vigilance Commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)?**

(a) V.K. Saraswat (b) Sharad Kumar (c) D.K. Pathak (d) Vijay Sharma

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, former chief of National Investigation Agency (NIA) Sharad Kumar was appointed as the new Vigilance Commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).
- His tenure will last for 4 years or 65 years (whichever is earlier).
- It is notable that the Central Vigilance Commissioner is appointed by the President upon the recommendation of the committee, headed by the Prime Minister, which includes, Home Minister and Leader of the opposition in Lok Sabha or the leader of the biggest Opposition party in that House.
- It is worth mentioning that in order to give advice and guidance to central government agencies in the field of vigilance, the government established the Central Vigilance Commission in February, 1964 on the recommendations of the committee for Prevention of Corruption headed by Santhanam.
- It is notable that, in accordance with the ordinance issued by the President, the Central Vigilance Commission was constituted as multimember commission by giving statutory status with effect from *25th August, 1998*.
- The structure of the Commission consists – Chairman of CVC and two other Vigilance Commissioner.
- Currently K V Chowdary is Central Vigilance Commissioner and T.M. Bhasin is working as Vigilance Commissioner.

**See also the links below:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/ex-nia-chief-sharad-kumar-appointed-vigilance-commissioner-in-cvc/articleshow/64529854.cms>

## New ambassador of India in ASEAN

**Question: Who amongst the given has recently been appointed by the Central Government as the next ambassador of India to ASEAN?**

(a) Suresh K. Reddy (b) Rudrendra Tandon (c) Rajesh Shrivastav (d) Madhu Sethi

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Central Government appointed Indian Foreign Service Officer Rudrendra Tandon as the next Ambassador of India to ASEAN.
- He is currently working as the Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- On this post, he will replace Suresh K. Reddy



**See also the links below:**

[https://mea.gov.in/press-releases-hi.htm?dtl/29957/Rudrendra\\_Tandon\\_appointed\\_as\\_next\\_Ambassador\\_of\\_India\\_to\\_ASEAN](https://mea.gov.in/press-releases-hi.htm?dtl/29957/Rudrendra_Tandon_appointed_as_next_Ambassador_of_India_to_ASEAN)

## UPSC's acting Chairman

**Question: Who amongst the given has recently been appointed as the acting chairman of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC)?**

(a) Vinay Mittal (b) Sharad Kumar (c) Arvind Saxena (d) Sujata Mehta

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Central Government appointed Union Public Service Commission member Arvind Saxena as the acting chairman of the Commission.
- His appointment will be effective from June 20, 2018.
- In this post, he will replace the outgoing President Vinay Mittal whose term will be completed on June 19, 2018.
- Significantly, Arvind Saxena became a member of the commission in 2015.



**See also the links below:**

<https://www.firstpost.com/india/arvind-saxena-appointed-acting-chairman-of-upsc-to-take-over-from-vinay-mittal-on-20-june-4504593.html>

## Tommy Thomas

**Question: In which of the following countries Indian-origin lawyer Tommy Thomas has recently been appointed as Attorney General?**

(a) Indonesia (b) Malaysia (c) Mauritius (d) Bangladesh

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Malaysia's Sultan Muhammad V appointed Indian-origin lawyer Tommy Thomas as new Attorney General of the country.
- Thomas is the first person belonging to minority appointed at this post in last 55 years.
- At this post he replaced Mohammad Apandli Ali.
- Despite of opposition from Islamic groups; Sultan has approved the appointment of Thomas for this post.

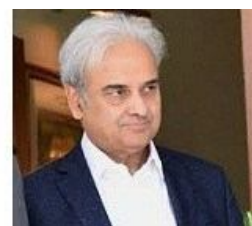


**See also the links below:**

<https://scroll.in/latest/881474/malaysias-king-appoints-ethnic-indian-lawyer-tommy-thomas-as-new-attorney-general>

## Interim Prime Minister of Pakistan Appointed

**Question: Who amongst the followings was recently appointed as Interim Prime Minister of Pakistan?**



(a) Ashif Zardari (b) Shahid Khaqan Abbasi (c) Nasir ul Mulk (d) Ikhtiyar Chowdhury

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Fact:**

- On June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, the former Chief Justice of Pakistan, Nasir ul Mulk, took charge as Interim Prime Minister of the country.
- He will be the Interim Prime Minister of the country for a period of two months till the general elections to be held on July 25, 2018 in the country.
- In this post, he replaced the country's Prime Minister, Shahid Khaqan Abbasi.
- He became the 22<sup>nd</sup> Chief Justice of the country in 2014.

**Reference:**

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2018/05/pakistan-names-judge-caretaker-prime-minister-180528094649314.html>

### S.D. Moorthy

**Question: Recently, in which of the following countries the Indian Foreign Service officer S.D. Moorthy was appointed as the next ambassador of India?**

(a) Mozambique (b) Ethiopia (c) South Sudan (d) Somalia

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts**



- On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, Indian Foreign Service officer S.D Moorthy was appointed by Central Government as next Ambassador of India to South Sudan.
- He is currently working as Deputy Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- It is notable that the capital of South Sudan is Juba.

**See the links below:**

[http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29912/SDMoorthy\\_appointed\\_as\\_the\\_next\\_Ambassador\\_of\\_India\\_to\\_the\\_Republic\\_of\\_South\\_Sudan](http://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/29912/SDMoorthy_appointed_as_the_next_Ambassador_of_India_to_the_Republic_of_South_Sudan)

### New Chair of the BAFTA

**Question: Who has recently been elected as the new chairperson of the British Film and Television Arts Academy (BAFTA)?**

(a) Jane Lush (b) Pippa Harris (c) Margaret Harris (d) Jane Harris

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the famous British film and television producer Pippa Harris was elected Chair of the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA).
- Her tenure is two years.
- At this post, she will replace Jane Lush.
- Earlier she was Vice President of BAFTA.

**See also the links below:**

[http://www.ptinews.com/news/9776688\\_Pippa-Harris-named-BAFTA-chairperson.html](http://www.ptinews.com/news/9776688_Pippa-Harris-named-BAFTA-chairperson.html)

## New Chairperson of the TRIFED

**Question: Who amongst the given was recently elected the new chairperson of the TRIFED?**

(a) Pratibha Brahma (b) Ramesh Chand Meena (c) Nand Kumar Sai (d) P.J. Kurian

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts**

- On May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Ramesh Chandra Meena elected as new chairperson of Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India Ltd (TRIFED).
- With this, Pratibha Brahma was elected Vice Chairperson of TRIFED.
- He was elected in the General Body meeting of TRIFED, in which 11th Board of Directors was reconstituted.
- It is notable that the National level top organization TIFED was established in the year 1987 under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
- It encourages tribal arts and crafts and works for the welfare of tribal craftsmen of the country.



**Reference:**

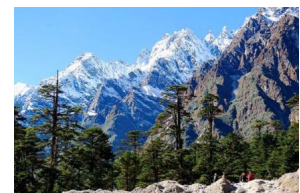
<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179546>

## Places

### UNESCO'S World Network on Biosphere Reserves

**Question-Recently, which of the following biosphere reserve has been included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR)?**

(a)Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve (b)Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.  
(c)Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve. (d)Nokrek Biosphere Reserve.



## Answer- (a)

### Related facts-

- The Khangchendzonga Biosphere Reserve of Sikkim, one of the highest biosphere reserve in the world has been included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR); it is 11<sup>th</sup> Biosphere Reserve of India that has been included in WNBR.
- This Biosphere Reserve includes world's third highest Mountain peak, **MountKangchenjunga (8,586m)**.
- The decision was taken to include Khangchendzonga in WNBR at the **30<sup>th</sup> session of international coordinating council of Man and Biosphere reserves programme of UNESCO held at Palembang, Indonesia, in July, 2018.**
- India has **18 Biosphere Reserves** and with the inclusion of Khangchendzonga, the number of internationally designated WNBR has become 11, with 7 Biosphere Reserves being domestic Biosphere Reserves.
- **The core zone** – Khangchendzonga National Park was designated a World Heritage Site in 2016 under the 'mixed'

### Biosphere reserve-

- Biosphere Reserves (BRs) are representative parts of natural and cultural landscapes extending over large area of terrestrial or coastal/marine ecosystems or a combination thereof and representative examples of bio-geographic zones/provinces.

### References-

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181663>

## Central Cabinet renamed the Agartala Airport of Tripura

**Question: On July 4, 2018, Union Cabinet gave its approval to rename the Agartala Airport in Tripura as**

(a) Deendayal Upadhyay Airport (b) Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore Airport

(c) Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Airport (d) Dr.P.C. Mahalanobis Airport

**Answer: (b)**

### Related Facts:

- On July 4, 2018, Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi gave its approval to rename the Agartala Airport in Tripura as 'Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore Airport, Agartala.
- The decision comes in the wake of the long pending demand of people of Tripura as well as the Tripura Government for paying tribute to Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore



Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore

- Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore, who ascended the throne of the erstwhile Tripura Princely State in 1923, was an enlightened and benevolent ruler.
- Agartala Airport was constructed in 1942 on the land donated by Maharaja Bir Bikram Manikya Kishore.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1537558>

## Book- Ratangarh Mata Temple, Ambedkar Shatak and Lok Devata Hardol

**Question: Who is the author of these three books Ratangarh Mata Temple, Ambedkar Shatak and Lok Devata Hardol?**

(a) Rahat Indore (b) Bhagwan Dutt Sharma (c) Dr. M.L. Prabhakar (d) Kailash Satyarthi

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Minister of Public Relations, Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs of Madhya Pradesh, Dr. Narottam Mishra released three works – ‘Ratangarh Mata Mandir’, ‘Ambedkar Shatak’ and ‘Lok Devata Hardol’.
- The author of these three books is Dr. M.L. Prabhakar (Principal, Government Post Graduate College, Datia).
- Ratangarh Mata Mandir is located in Indergarh tehsil Datia district (Madhya Pradesh).
- On the day of Bhai Dooj (the next day of Dipawali) every year, lakhs of devotees come here to pay obeisance to the Goddess and Kunwar Maharaj.
- Hardol, among the most revered folk deities, remembered on the occasion of marriage at every family in the Bundelkhand, and invited to the wedding.
- Hardol was the son of Orchha Naresh Veer Singh Ju Dev Bundela.



**See also the links below:-**

<https://www.narendramodi.in/pm-modi-lays-foundation-stone-of-national-aging-centre-at-aiims-new-delhi-540642>

## Country's first Khadi Mall

**Question: In which of the following states First Khadi Mall of the country would be set up?**

(a) Jharkhand (b) Chhattisgarh (c) Maharashtra (d) Bihar

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**





- On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2018 Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghuvar Das announced the establishment of the country's first Khadi Mall in the state.
- Announcement was made during the "Karigar Panchayat" program organized by the Khadi Board at the Harivansh Tana Bhagat Indoor Stadium located at Khel Gaon, Ranchi.
- Mall will be set up in the premises of Khadi Mall Heavy Engineering Corporation (HEC)
- This Mall will be developed by the Khadi Board.
- In the state 1.13 lakh handicraft artisans have been listed.
- The state government will provide modern technology to these artisans and will also make value addition to their products.
- Apart from this, the government will make available market for them by making rural haat and urban haat and also haat at tourist places.
- Khadi and Village Industries Commission was established in 1956.
- It is a statutory body formed by the Government of India.

**Reference:**

<http://cm.jharkhand.gov.in/hi/node/6889>

### Inauguration of the Country's First Media Incubation Center

**Question: Recently, Minister of Public Relations, Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs of Madhya Pradesh Dr. Narottam Mishra, inaugurated the Media Incubation Center. Find out the one which is not true in regard to this center.**

- (a) Media Incubation Center established at Makkhanlal Chaturvedi Rashtriya Patrakarita Evam Sanchar Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal.
- (b) This center would be established in collaboration with the Ministry of Communications.
- (c) This is the country's first media incubation center.
- (d) The center will be operated through the *Samvad Bharti Sanstha*

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 4<sup>th</sup> July, 2018, Minister of Public Relations, Water Resources and Parliamentary Affairs of Madhya Pradesh Dr. Narottam Mishra, inaugurated the Media Incubation Center established at Makkhanlal Chaturvedi Rashtriya Patrakarita Evam Sanchar Vishwavidyalaya, Bhopal.
- This center has been established in collaboration with the NITI Aayog.
- According to the Minister, this is the country's first media incubation center.
- Training in media entrepreneurship will be provided and mentoring from time to time to entrepreneurs will also be given.
- The center will be operated through the *Samvad Bharti Sanstha*

**Reference:**

<http://www.mcnujc.ac.in/Encyc/2018/7/4/the-minister-for-public-relation-mp-dr-narottam-mishra-has-been-inaugurated-media-firs-incubation-center-in->

## Incubation Centre of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)

**Question: Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh Jai Ram Thakur along with the Union Minister of Electronics and Information and Technology and Law and Justice Ravi Shankar Prasad laid foundation stone of Incubation Centre of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI). Where would this Centre be setup?**

(a) Mehli (b) Chaupal (c) Shirala (d) *Kasumpti*

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 2<sup>nd</sup> July, 2018, Chief Minister of Himachal Pradesh Jai Ram Thakur along with the Union Minister of Electronics and Information and Technology and Law and Justice Ravi Shankar Prasad laid foundation stone of Incubation Centre of Software Technology Parks of India (STPI).
- The Centre would be setup at Mehli near Shimla.
- Park would be developed with incubation facility with approximate built up area of 14000 sq ft at a tentative cost of Rs 10 crore.
- This would accommodate about 15 to 20 startups with direct employment to 300 to 400 IT professionals and four times the indirect employment in over five years.
- Another STPI was proposed to be setup in Kangra district near Gaggal Airport and the land for the same has been identified.
- The state government had set up ten targets for the first 100 days and out of these nine has been achieved and tenth target had been achieved with the laying of foundation stone of this Centre.
- Ravi Shankar Prasad said that the stupendous growth in exports by the STPI units from Rs 52 crore in 1992-93 to more than Rs 3,50,680 crore in 2016-17 shows that STPI has played a key role in creating Brand India and transforming the country as the most preferred IT destination.
- Ravi Shankar Prasad announced that all the district hospitals of the State would be made e-Hospital so that people could be benefitted.
- He announced that 50 villages of the State would be made Digital Villages.



**Reference:**

[https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/software-technology-park-s-foundation-stone-laid-in-shimla-118070200710\\_1.html](https://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/software-technology-park-s-foundation-stone-laid-in-shimla-118070200710_1.html)

## Establishment of Child Protection Unit in Telangana

**Question: Which state will established child protection units in it's all 31 districts?**

(a) Meghalaya (b) Kerala (c) Orissa (d) Telangana

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Government of Telangana will established District Child Protection Unit in all the 31 districts for the protection of children's rights.
- So far, 'District Child Protection Unit' has been established in 10 districts and in coming days it will be expanded in remaining 21 districts.
- Child Protection Unit (CPU) will coordinate and implement children's rights.
- Its main purpose is to protect the children from child labor and to prevent them smuggling and to implement the Juvenile Justice Act.



**Reference:**

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/telangana-govt-to-set-up-child-protection-units-in-all-31-districts-5221167/>

## Rebuilt Blast Furnace-1 of Rourkela Steel Plant Dedicated to the Nation

**Question: Rourkela steel plant was established with the help of which country?**

(a) UK (b) Russia (c) Western Germany (d) France

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 11, 2018 the Union Minister of Steel, Chaudhary Birender Singh dedicated the rebuilt Blast Furnace-1 'Parvati' of SAIL, Rourkela Steel Plant (RSP) to the Nation.
- Parvati is the first Blast Furnace of SAIL that was dedicated to the nation on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1959 by the first President of India, Dr. Rajendra Prasad.
- The Blast Furnace was put down on 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013 for total rebuilding.
- Although erected on the old foundation, the rebuilt furnace equipped with superior technology has a higher production capacity.
- With the rebuilding, the annual production capacity, of the furnace has increased from 0.438 Million tonnes (MT) to 1.015 MT.
- The Steel Minister also laid the foundation stone of the Burns and Plastic Surgery Department of Super Specialty block at Ispat General Hospital.
- Rourkela Steel Plant was established in the year 1955 located in Odisha state, this plant was established with the help of western Germany.
- This is the first integrated steel plant in the public sector in India.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179891>

## Sex Sorted Semen Laboratory

**Question: Recently, Uttarakhand chief minister Trivendra Singh Rawat and Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh unveiled the Sexed Sorted Semen Laboratory. Consider the following and chose one which is wrong in this regard?**

- (a) Sex-Sorted Semen Laboratory has been established in the Deep Frozen Semen Production Centre, Shyampur, Uttarakhand.
- (b) Laboratory has been set up as part of the Rashtriya Gokul Mission.
- (c) This sex semen center will be the second state institution in the country.
- (d) In this center, techniques for generating female calves through artificial insemination will be developed.

**Answer- (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- Sex-Sorted Semen Laboratory has been established in the Deep Frozen Semen Production Centre, Shyampur, Rishikesh Uttarakhand.
- Laboratory has been set up as part of the Rashtriya Gokul Mission.
- This sex semen center will be the first state institution in the country.
- In this center, techniques for generating female calves through artificial insemination will be developed.
- Test centre is aimed to produce high milk yielding indigenous varieties of cows and buffaloes
- On this occasion, the Chief Minister informed that the international level Convention Center will be set up in Rishikesh.



**Reference:**

<http://www.cm.uk.gov.in/upload/pressrelease/Pressrelease-2573.pdf>

## India's first Police Museum

**Question: At which of the following places Central Government has decided to set up India's first police museum?**

- (a) Bhopal (b) Ahmedabad (c) Hyderabad (d) New Delhi

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Central Government decided to set up India's first police museum in New Delhi.
- This underground museum will be built in National Police memorial premises in Chanakyapuri of Delhi.



- There will be a chance to get to know through this museum the history of central and state police forces.
- Along with this, artwork, uniforms and other materials related to them will also be displayed.
- The museum is expected to be inaugurated on October 21 (Police Commemoration Day) by either Prime Minister or Home Minister.

**See also the links below:-**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/india-to-have-its-1st-police-museum-in-delhi/india-to-have-its-first-police-museum-in-delhi/articleshow/64530804.cms>

## Kabir Das Academy

**Question: Kabir Das Academy will be set up in which of the following cities of Uttar Pradesh?**

(a) Lahartara (b) Maghar (c) Kushinagar (d) Lucknow

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- A proposal in regards to establish Kabir Das Academy was approved by the Uttar Pradesh government in a cabinet meeting held on June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- This academy will be established in Magahar (the place of burial of Saint Kabir), Sant Kabir Nagar district.
- For this work 'Uttar Pradesh Awas Avam Vikas Parishad' has been nominated as the executive body.
- The cost of the scheme has been valued by executive body at Rs 75 reduced to Rs 2359.00 lakhs finally by the Construction assessment division.



**See also the links below:**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b16a982-29b8-4177-8271-10650af72573.pdf>

## Awards & Honors

### SANGITA KALANIDHI AWARD-2018

**QUESTION: Consider the following statements about Sangita Kalanidhi Award -2018:**

1. Vidwan N Ravikiran has been selected for 2018- Sangita Kalanidhi.
2. This is considered as one of the highest award in Carnatic Music.
3. The award will be given by The Music Academy, Madras.



**Of the above the correct statement is/are:**

**(a) Only 1&2 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1 (d) Only 3**

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- The Madras Music Academy announces Sangita Kalanidhi (one of the highest award in Carnatic Music) and other awards on **15<sup>th</sup> July 2018**.
- Well – known Carnatic vocalist **Aruna Sairam** has been selected for 2018- Sangita Kalanidhi.
- At the same occasion other awards were also announced under various titles. These are:

**SANGITA KALA ACHARYA AWARD** – It is to be given to two persons namely **Shri Thanjavur R Ramdas** (a Veteran Mridangam artist) for consciously training several artists as jewels and **Dr.K Omana Kutty** (Vocalist) for teaching music for several years within the academic framework.

**T.T.K AWARDS** –It is to be given **Smt. Kalyani Ganesan** (a respected Vainika) and Shri S.R.G. Rajanna (Veteran Nagswaram Performer).

**MUSICOLOGIST AWARD**– **Dr. Premeela Gurumurthy** was declared as winner. She is a professional in Carnatic Music and currently serving as Vice Chancellor of Tamil Nadu University of Fine Arts.

**NRITYA KALANIDHI AWARD** – This is a dance award conferred to **Smt. Shanta Dhananajayan** for the year 2018. She is an eminent Bharatnatyam exponent and a guru.

**About Sangita Kalanidhi Award:**

- This is a prestigious award bestowed to the jewels and experts of Carnatic music who has contributed distinguishly for the development and dignity of it.

**Reference:**

<https://musicacademymadras.in/sites/default/files/Press%20release/MA-AWARDS%20PRESS%20RELEASE%202018.pdf>

## Shalaka Samman 2017-18

**Question: Consider the following statements about Shalaka Samman 2017-18:**

1. Manager Pandey was announced as the winner of 2017-18.
2. This award is being given since 1987.
3. Shalaka Samman is highest honour of Hindi Academy, Delhi.

**Which among the above statements is /are correct?**

**(a) Only 1&2 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 2 (d) Only3**

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- Prominent scriptwriter, lyricist and poet Javed Akhtar received “Shalaka Samman” for the year 2017-18 by Hindi Sahitya Academy, New Delhi.
- The award was bestowed to him by Academy Vice Chairman Vishnu Khare on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2018.
- Javed Akhtar has won five National Film Awards for best lyricist ,16 Filmfare Awards for Best Lyrics, Best Script and Best Dialogue, Sahitya Akademi for Urdu in 2013, major civilian awards like Padma Shri in 1999 and Padma Bhusan in 2007.
- In March 2010, Javed Akhtar was nominated to the Rajya Sabha as Member of Parliament.



**About Shalaka Samman:**

- It is the highest honor given by Hindi Academy every year to the scholars who have done premier literary contribution for the upliftment of Hindi language.
- This award is provided since 1987 and the first recipient was legendary poet Dr. Ram Vilas Sharma.
- The award includes a cash reward of Rs. 5 Lakh, citation and emblem etc.

**References:**

[http://delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/doiit\\_hindi/hindiacademy/Home+Page/Honors+and+awards+system](http://delhi.gov.in/wps/wcm/connect/doiit_hindi/hindiacademy/Home+Page/Honors+and+awards+system)

## Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award-2018

**Question: Consider the following statements about Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award -2018:**

1. Gopalkrishna Gandhi is announced as the winner of 2018.
2. This award is being provided since 1995.
3. Cash prize of 10 lakh is given to the awardees.



**Which among the above statements is/are correct?**

**(a) Only 1&2 (b) 1, 2&3 (c) Only 1 (d) Only3**

**Answer: (b)**

**Related facts:**

- Gopalkrishna Gandhi was declared as the winner of Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award on 28<sup>th</sup> July for the year 2018.He was given this award

for his outstanding contribution for promoting communal harmony, peace and goodwill.

- Gopalkrishna Gandhi is a retired IAS officer and was 22<sup>nd</sup> Governor of West Bengal served from 2004 to 2009. For a few months he also took additional charge of Governor of Bihar in 2006.
- This is the 24<sup>th</sup> edition of Rajiv Gandhi National Sadbhavana Award. Former recipients of this award comprises the legendary personalities including Mother Teresa ,Ustad Bismillah Khan, Mohammed Yunus, Lata Mangeshkar, Sunil Dutt, Dilip Kumar,K.R.Narayann,Ustad Amjad Ali Khan and many more.

### **About Rajiv Gandhi Sadbhavana Award:**

- It is an Indian award instituted by All India Congress Committee of the Indian National Congress in 1992 to commemorate the contribution made by Rajiv Gandhi for promoting the communal harmony, peace and national integration.
- This award is presented on 20<sup>th</sup> August every year on the birth anniversary of Rajiv Gandhi, which is celebrated as Sadbhavana Diwas (Harmony Day).
- The award includes cash prize of Rs. 10 lakh and a citation.
- In the year 2017, this award was given jointly to Mohammed Azharuddin (Former Indian Cricketer) and M.Gopala Krishna (A retired IAS Officer).
- First Recipient of this award was Jagan Nath Kaul in 1995.He is a social activist founder of SOS Children's Village of India (SOS CVI) which provides home to almost 15000 children.

### **Links:**

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/rajiv-sadbhavana-award-for-gopalkrishna-gandhi/article24566540.ece>

## **Fields Medal-2018**

**Question: Consider the following statements about Fields Medal Award - 2018:**

1. Manjul Bhargava is announced as one of the winners of 2018.
2. This award is being provided since 1940.
3. The award is provided under the supervision of International Mathematical Union.

**Which among the above statements is/are correct?**

**(a) Only 1&2 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1 (d) Only 3**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- Renowned Indian-Australian mathematician Akshay





Venkatesh has been bestowed with prestigious Fields Medal for his synthesis of analytic number theory, homogeneous dynamics, topology and representation theory, which has resolved long-standing problems in areas such as the equi-distribution of arithmetic objects.

- He was awarded on 1<sup>st</sup> August at the International Congress of Mathematicians in Rio de Janeiro.
- Other awardees of Fields Medal include Alessio Figalli of Italy, Peter Scholze of Germany and Caucher Birkar (Kurdish Iranian).
- Akshay Venkatesh is a New Delhi born mathematician who is currently teaching at Stanford University.

### About Fields Medal:

- Fields Medal, often described as the Nobel Prize of mathematics is a prestigious award which is given to the individuals for their profound contribution in Mathematics who are under the age of 40 as on 1<sup>st</sup> January of the awarding year, this award was institutionalized in 1936.
- Fields Medal is awarded every four year on the occasion of the International Congress of the International Mathematical Union (IMU).
- The award constitutes a medal and cash prize of 15,000 Canadian Dollars that are funded by a trust established by J.C. Fields at the University of Toronto.

### Reference:

<https://www.mathunion.org/imu-awards/fields-medal>

## Best Performing Social Sector Ministry' SKOCH Award

**Question: Which ministry of the government of India recently got the 'Best Performing Social Sector Ministry' SKOCH award for their achievements and initiatives?**

- (a) Ministry of Power (b) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare  
(c) Ministry of Women and Child Development (d) Ministry of Labor and Employment

**Answer: (c)**

### Related Facts

- On June 22, 2018, the Ministry of Women and Child Development received the 'Best Performing Social Sector Ministry' SKOCH Award for its achievements and initiatives.
- Women and Child Development Minister Maneka Gandhi received this on the behalf of Ministry.
- On this occasion, discussing about the achievements of her ministry, she told in detail about the six months of maternity leave, sexual abuse law at the workplace, She Box, One Stop Centers, Universal Women Helpline (181), 33% Female Reservation in Police Recruitment.



- She also informed that recently on the request of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, the Home Ministry has constituted a special department on women related issues.
- Simultaneously, the foundation of prestigious Sakhi Suraksha Advanced DNA Forensic Laboratory was laid in Chandigarh and Forensic Laboratories will be established recently in Guwahati, Kolkata, Hyderabad and Pune.
- He informed that now all the police stations and hospitals will be provided special forensic kits for rape cases.
- The funds will be made available to them from the Nirbhaya Fund.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=72861>

### Ramon Magsaysay Awards, 2018

**Question: Name the two Indians who were named for the prestigious Magsaysay Award for the year 2018?**

- (a) Rajendra Singh and Ashok Choubey (b) Bharat Vatwani and Sonam Wangchuk  
(c) TM Krishna and Bezwada Wilson (d) Sunita Narain and Poonam Mahajan

**Answer-(b)**

**Related facts:**

- On July 26, 2018, Ramon Magsaysay awards, popularly known as Nobel of Asia, were declared for year 2018.
- Ramon Magsaysay Award is the Asia's highest honor established by Ramon Magsaysay Foundation in 1957.
- It celebrates the memory and leadership example of the third president of Philippines after whom the award is named.
- The 2018 Magsaysay Awardees are-
  - (i) Youk Chhang, from Cambodia
  - (ii) Maria de Lourdes Martins Cruz, from East Timor
  - (iii) Howard Dee, from the Philippines
  - (iv) Bharat Vatwani, from India
  - (v) Vo Thi Hoang Yen, from Vietnam
  - (vi) Sonam Wangchuk, from India
- The six 2018 Magsaysay awardees join the community of 324 other Magsaysay laureates who have received Asia's highest honor to date.
- This year's Magsaysay Award winners will each receive a certificate, a medallion bearing the likeness of the late President, and a cash prize.
- They will be formally conferred the Magsaysay Award during formal Presentation Ceremonies to be held on Friday, 31 August 2018 at the Cultural Center of the Philippines.



**Reference:**

<http://rmaward.asia/news/2018-ramon-magsaysay-awardees-announced/>

## New Police Medals

**Question:** Recently in order to promote professionalism and excellence in service and give recognition to those security personnel doing good work in stressful environment and in difficult areas how many Police Medals have been instituted by Union Home Minister?

(a) Four (b) Five (c) Seven (d) Eleven

**Answer:** (b)

**Related Facts:**



- On July 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 the Union Home Minister has instituted five Police Medals.
- These medals are to promote professionalism and excellence in service and give recognition to those security personnel doing good work in stressful environment and in difficult areas.
- These medals are non-cash awards which will supplement and strengthen the existing award schemes in the State Police Forces and Central Police Organizations and Armed Forces.
- Medals are namely: Union Home Minister's Special Operation Medal, Police Antarik Suraksha Seva Padak, Asadharan Aasuchana Kushalata Padak, Utkrisht and Ati Utkrisht Seva Medals and Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation.
- The awards will recognize the unblemished service, with professional excellence, in the past 15 years (Utkrisht Medal) and 25 years (Ati Utkrisht Medal).
- The number of Utkrisht and Ati Utkrisht Seva Medals in any year shall, in no case exceed 1% and 0.5% respectively of the sanctioned strength of the police force or security agency.
- All the above medals will be minted and supplied by the Union Home Ministry and will be awarded each year by the Central or State police force/organizations on the days fixed by them.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180513>

## Sports Illustrated Yearly Award

**Question-** Which Indian player amongst the following has been awarded 'Sportsperson of the Year' for the year 2017 in Sports Illustrated Annual Awards distributed on June 20th, 2018?

(a) Leander Paes (b) Srikanth Kidambi (c) Shubhankar Sharma (d) Manav Thakkar

**Answer:** (b)



## Related Facts:

- Eighth award ceremony of Sports Magazine 'Sports Illustrated- India' concluded in New Delhi. (June 20, 2018)
- Kidambi Srikanth, the country's top badminton player, was awarded with the Indian Sports person of the Year award for year 2017.
- **Other award recipients are as follows:**
  - 'Team of the Year' – Indian women's cricket team
  - 'Coach of the Year' – Stefan Constantine (National football team)
  - 'Outstanding Contribution to Sport' – Leander Paes (Tennis)
  - 'Editors Choice for Excellence' (Team) – Aizawl Football Club
  - 'Editors Choice for Excellence (Male)' – Jitu Rai (Shooter)
  - 'Young Sports Person of the Year' – Manav Thakkar (Table Tennis)
  - 'Game Changer of the Year' – Shubhankar Sharma (Golf)
  - Lifetime Achievement Award – Dhanraj Pillai (Former Hockey Player)
  - 'Community Development in Sport' – Sailen Tudu (Rugby)
  - 'Comeback of the Year' – Sushil Kumar (Wrestling)
  - 'Special Award Living Legend' – Balbir Singh Senior (Former Hockey Player)
- Kidambi Srikanth won four Super Series titles in the year 2017 and finished the season as the world's second number player.
- These awards have been provided for the best performance in year 2017.
- Sports Illustrated is a bi-weekly American sports magazine under the Meredith Corp's ownership.
- The Sports Illustrated Group and Dennis Media Transasia India jointly launched its Indian version in October 2009.

## See also the links below:-

<https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/badminton/kidambi-srikanth-bags-sports-illustrateds-sportsperson-of-the-year-award-for-2017-5226605/>

## Operations & Campaign

### Swachh Survekshan Grameen

**Question: Which one among the given is not included where Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018; announced Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation, was launched on July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018?**

(a)Uttar Pradesh (b)Bihar (c)Jharkhand (d)Maharashtra

**Answer: (b)**

## Related Facts:

- On July 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Swachh Survekshan Grameen 2018 (SSG 2018) announced by the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation was launched by three States.
- These states were Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand and Maharashtra.



- Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath, launched the SSG in Lucknow while Chief Minister of Jharkhand, Shri Raghubar Das, launched the Survekshan in Ranchi.
- Babanrao Lonikar, Cabinet Minister, Water Supply and Sanitation Department, Government of Maharashtra, launched SSG 2018 in Maharashtra at an event in Pandharpur.
- Under the SSG 2018, an independent survey agency will conduct the survey in all districts from 1st to 31st August 2018.
- Results will be announced in the form of a ranking of all districts and States on the basis of quantitative and qualitative sanitation (Swachhata) parameters.
- The top performing States and Districts are expected to be awarded on 2nd October 2018.
- As part of Swachh Survekshan Grameen 6980 villages in 698 districts across India will be covered.
- 34,000 public places namely schools, anganwadis, public health centres, haat/bazaars/religious places in these 6980 villages will be visited for survey.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1539805>

## Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction 2018

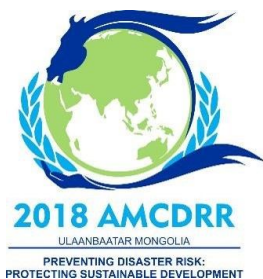
**Question: During 3-6 July, 2018, where was the ‘ Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction ‘ organized?**

(a) Colombo (b) Jodhpur (c) Ulaanbaatar (d) Dhaka

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 3-6 July, 2018; the Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction, 2018 was organized in, Ulaanbaatar Mongolia.
- The theme of AMCDRR, 2018 – Preventing Disaster Risk: Protecting Sustainable Development”.
- Theme reflects the essence of the Sendai Framework. Development that does not take risk into account cannot be sustainable.
- The theme of the AMCDRR 2018 is aligned with the theme of the 2018 High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development that focuses on ‘Transformation towards sustainable and resilient societies’.
- The conference represented a key milestone for reflection on three years into the implementation of the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030.
- Specifically, the conference will enable governments and stakeholders to review progress made against the commitments at the AMCDRR 2016, i.e. the New Delhi Declaration, the Asia Regional Plan, and ten stakeholder voluntary action statements.



- The Government of India will also organize a side event during the AMCDRR 2018 on Cultural Heritage and Disaster Risk Management.
- In addition, participants from Private Sector/FICCI will participate in an event being jointly organized by Mongolian Chambers of Commerce, ARISE & FICCI.

**See also the links below:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180330>

## Planting campaign on river banks in Jharkhand

**Question-**In how many districts of Jharkhand, plantation drive is being undertaken on both sides of 24 rivers since July 2, 2018?

(a) 22 (b) 23 (c) 24 (d) 25

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the fourth edition of the Implementing Committee for 20 Point Program was organized under the chairmanship of Jharkhand Chief Minister Raghuvar Das.
- In this meeting, the Chief Minister directed the officers to organize Janata Darbar every month (from July) in all 264 blocks of the state.
- Under this campaign, plantations are being done on both the banks of 24 rivers in 24 districts.



**See also the links below:**

[http://cm.jharkhand.gov.in/sites/default/files/press\\_release\\_41254\\_27-06-2018.pdf](http://cm.jharkhand.gov.in/sites/default/files/press_release_41254_27-06-2018.pdf)

## Commission & Committee

### High level committee to check mob lynching

**Question-** Recently, under whose chairmanship Central Government constituted a high-level committee to check mob lynching?

(a) Cabinet Secretary (b) Union Home Secretary (c) National Security Adviser  
(d) Defense Secretary

**Answer-**



**Related Facts:**

- On July 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, the Central Government constituted a high-level committee under the chairmanship of Union Home Secretary Rajiv Gauba to check mob lynching.
- The Secretary, Department of Justice, Secretary, Department of Legal Affairs, Secretary, Legislative Department and Secretary, Social Justice and Empowerment are the members of the committee.
- The committee will submit its recommendations to the Government within four weeks.
- Government has further decided to constitute a Group of Ministers headed by the Union Home Minister to consider the recommendations of the high level committee.
- The Minister, External Affairs, Minister, Road Transport and Highways; Shipping, Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Minister, Law & Justice and Minister, Social Justice and Empowerment are the members of Group of Ministers.
- The Group of Ministers will submit their recommendations to the Prime Minister.

**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180891>

## **Planning & Project**

### **Train Captain Service**

**Question: In view of grievance redressal of all sorts of problems regarding railway passengers, which service has been recently introduced by Indian Railways?**

**(a) Train Captain (b) Train Supervisor (c) Yatri Sahayak (d) Train Sarthi**

**Answer : (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- In view of facilitating all services in train regarding Train Captain Concept, Ministry of Railways issued instructions on **9 August 2018**.
- On board Train captain will coordinate entire team for all sort of guidance, assistance and grievance redressal related to passengers. **It is a single window facility.**
- In trains like **Rajdhani/Duranto/Shatabdi** Train Superintendents (TS) will be made Train captain and will be responsible for all passenger related services.
- In all other trains where TS is not present, Zonal Railways have to nominate their most senior ticket checking staff as Train Captain.



- Passengers are facilitated with **Railway Helpline No. 138** so that they can concern with associated official regarding their problems.

**References:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181675>

## Niryat Mitra Mobile App

**Question-Which of the following alternative is /are true about ‘Niryat Mitra Mobile App’?**

1. It has been developed by Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO).
2. It provides information about policy provisions for export and import, applicable GST rates, tariffs etc.
3. Application launched by Ministry of External Affairs.

**(a) 1 &, 2 (b) 1 &, 3 (c) All of the above. (d) Only 3**

**Answer- (a).**

**Related facts-**

- On 8th August 2018, Niryat Mitra mobile app (an app promoting India’s International Trade) was launched by **Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry**. It has been developed by Federation of Indian Export Organizations (FIEO).
- This app is available on Android as well as on IOS platforms.



**About Niryat Mitra app-**

- This app provides information about policy provisions for export and import, GST rates, incentives on exports, tariffs, preferential tariffs, market access requirements SPS and TBT measures.
- It gives all information at tariff line.

**Federation of Indian export organizations (FIEO)-**

- It is an organization to promote Indian Trade in Global Market. It is formed in 1965 jointly by Ministry of Commerce of India, Government of India and private trade and industry.
- It is responsible for representing and helping Indian entrepreneurs and exporters in foreign markets.

**Link**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181661>



## IMPRINT-2

**Question. How many projects have been selected for funding under IMPRINT-2?**

**(a)115 (b)118 (c)120 (d)122**

**Answer- (d)**

**Related Fact:**



On **August 5, 2018** the government headed by Prime Minister Narendra Modi approved **122 new research projects** under **IMPRINT-2** for advancing research in the higher education institutions.

These projects estimate Rs 112 crore covering **Energy, Healthcare, Advanced Materials, ICT, and Defence Domains.**

### **What is IMPRINT and IMPRINT -2**

**IMP**acting **R**esearch **I**nnovation and **T**echnology (**IMPRINT**) launched on November 5, 2015 was a multi-stakeholder mission programme aimed at bridging the gap between scientific knowledgebase created through fundamental and applied research and fruitful translation of the same through engineering invention and technological innovation for the betterment of society.

**IMPRINT-2**, with wider scope, simpler guideline for participation and better synergy among investigators, partners and collaborators.

**SERB (Science and Engineering Research Board)** in the **Department of Science & Technology (DST)** is proposed to be made the nodal agency for implementing the IMPRINT-2 initiative working along with the National Coordinator . The SERB will create a separate vertical under its overall set up with allocated resources and a time bound action plan for selection, funding and management of research projects under IMPRINT. Secretary (HE) and Secretary (DST) would be co-chairpersons of this vertical. The Expert Pool of Indian National Academy of Engineering (INAE) will also be utilised for project review and knowledge management.

In order to improve end-user tuning, it has been proposed to bring on board the stakeholder ministries right from the conceptualisation stage so as to nurture a participative ecosystem of project formulation, maturation, execution and delivery. Further integration of the programme for achieving national development and our commitment to global goals is proposed through sub-programmes covering states of India and partnership with the sustainable development goals (SDGs). Specific focus is proposed to be given to collate, analyse and document all the communications and consultations during Round-1 and those proposed in Round-2 in order to come up with the policy document and roadmap to research in engineering sciences within the next couple of years. **The Uchhatar Avishkar Yojana (UAY) scheme will be**

subsumed with IMPRINT-2 and no further call for proposal submission under UAY will be issued.

**Reference:**

<http://www.pib.nic.in/NEW SITE/erecontent.aspx?relid=181519>

### A library for digital literacy

**Question- Which of the following alternative is /are true about Digital literacy library?**

1. It is launched by facebook.
2. Its aim is to help young people build the skills they need to safely enjoy online technology.
3. It is launched by Google.

(a)1&3 (b)1&2 (c)1,2&3 (d)None of the above.

**Answer-b.**

**Related facts-**



- Facebook has started a new online portal called 'Digital literacy library' for helping youth to build skills online.

**Digital literacy library-**

- Its aim is to help young people to build the skills they need to safely enjoy online technology.
- It is collection of lessons to help young people think decisively.
- Lessons and videos are made in partnership with berkman Klein center for internet and society at Harvard University.
- Facebook is considering to launch the 18 lessons in additional 45 languages soon (right now, it is only in English language).

**Link**

<https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-in-school/a-library-for-digital-literacy/article24618666.ece>

### Dugar Hydro Electric Project

**Question: Dugar Hydro Electric Project is situated on which of the following rivers?**

(a) Beas (b) Chenab (c) Sutlej (d) Ravi

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On July 24<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the Cabinet in its meeting held under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur decided to allot Dugar Hydro Electric Project

with capacity of 449 MW in favour of NPHC limited on BOOT basis for a period of 70 years.

- After completion the project will revert to Government of Himachal Pradesh with specified generation capacity, free of cost and free from all encumbrances.
- Dugar Hydro Electric Project is established in Chamba district of Himachal Pradesh.
- This project is built on the Chenab River.



**Reference:**

<http://himachalpr.gov.in/OneNews.aspx?Language=2&ID=12613>

## CMSMS and 'Khan Prahari' App launched

**Question- Who amongst the following launched the 'CMSMS' and 'Khan Prahari' app?**

(a) Suresh Prabhu (b) Piyush Goyal (c) Narendra Singh Tomar (d) Nitin Gadkari

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- On July 4, 2018 Union Minister of Coal, Railways, Finance & Corporate Affairs, Shri Piyush Goyal launched the Coal Mine Surveillance & Management System (CMSMS) and Mobile Application 'Khan Prahari' at a ceremony at, New Delhi.
- This App is developed by CMPDI, Ranchi a Subsidiary of CIL and Bhaskarcharya Institute of Space Application and Geo-informatics (BISAG).
- The basic objective of CMSMS is reporting, monitoring and taking suitable action on unauthorised coal mining activities.
- The CMSMS is a web based GIS application through which location of sites for unauthorised mining can be detected.
- The basic platform used in the system is of Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology's (MeiTY) map which provides village level information.
- The leasehold boundary of all the coal mines is displayed on this map.
- The system will use satellite data to detect changes by which unauthorised mining activity extending beyond the allotted lease area can be detected and suitable action can be taken on it.
- It is the working of the concept of 'cooperative federalism' in action.
- The complaint originating from coal mines allotted to Coal India will go to Coal India Offices and those originating from coal blocks not allotted to Coal India will go straight to the State Government Officers and for each complaint the alert will also go to the District Magistrate and SP of the district.

- The system also uses information provided by responsible citizens using smartphones using the mobile application “Khan Prahari”.
- Khan Prahari is a tool for reporting any activity taking place related to illegal coal mining like rat hole mining, pilferage etc. One can upload geo-tagged photographs of the incident along with textual information directly to the system.
- The complainant can also track his complaint through the system. The identity of the complainant shall not be revealed. This app can easily be downloaded in Android and IOS.
- The uniqueness of the system is that it uses satellite data as well as public input to capture information on unauthorised coal mining activities and also take appropriate action on them with due transparency.
- The CMSMS will also provide other important information like reclamation work being done by Coal India Limited which is being monitored every year by CMPDI using satellite data.
- Status of Environmental Clearances /Forest Clearances etc. are also linked for information in this system.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180416>

### Acceptance of funds for two irrigation projects

**Question: In which of the following district of Madhya Pradesh Ratangarh Multipurpose Project is situated?**

(a) Sagar (b) Datia (c) Shivpuri (d) Shahdol

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018; in the meeting of the Madhya Pradesh cabinet, administrative clearance and investment clearance was approved for providing funds for two irrigation projects.
- The Council of Ministers sanctioned administrative clearance and investment clearance of Rs. 2610 crore 54 lakh for the total 80 thousand hectare irrigated area Sagar district’s Banda irrigation project.
- Administrative clearance and investment clearance of 2,244 crore 97 lakh also Sanctioned for 78 thousand 484 hectare irrigated area of Mata Ratangarh Multipurpose Project.
- The Ratangarh Multipurpose Project is located in Datia district.
- In this meeting, the proposal for the appointment of Bhaskar Kumar Choubey as the chairperson of the Madhya Pradesh Public Service Commission was also approved.



See also the links Below:

<http://mpinfo.org/news/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180619N25&LocID=1>

### Aerobic rice' technology

**Question: Recently, which company intends to take the 'aerobic rice' technology to five states during this Kharif season?**

(a) Kisan Kraft (b) Farmers Kraft (c) Krishak Shilp (d) None of these

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- In June 2018, Bengaluru-based Kisan Kraft intends to take the 'aerobic rice' technology to five states.
- Kisan Craft wants to implement its plan during this Kharif season and will conduct demonstrations to reach out to more farmers.
- Aerobic rice is a production system where rice is grown in well-drained, non-puddled, and non-saturated soils.
- Water requirements can be lowered by reducing water losses due to seepage, percolation, and evaporation.
- This will help in reclamation of soil condition as well as contributing to national food security.
- Only 2500 liters of water is needed for aerobic rice on wet land Compared to 5,000 liters of water for production 1 kilogram of rice.
- This technique ensures saving of more than 60 percent in water and 55 percent in labour.
- Except the Himalayas, the coastal areas and the hilly areas (with excess water), the rest of the country can grow aerobic rice.



See also the links below:-

<https://techdzone.wordpress.com/2018/06/19/kisankraft-plans-to-take-aerobic-rice-technology-to-5-states/>

### Bihar State Crop Support Scheme

**Question- In regard to Bihar State Crop Assistance Scheme (Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojna) started in June, 2018 which one of the given is not true?**

- (a) The name of this new crop insurance scheme is ' Bihar State Crop Assistance Scheme (Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojna)'.  
(b) This scheme will be effective for kharif crops.  
(c) Under the scheme, farmers will be compensated at a rate of 7500 per hectare in case of a fall of less than 20% in production.  
(d) In case of a fall of more than 20% in production, compensation will be provided at a rate of Rs 8500 per hectare.



**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018 Bihar government in the meeting of Cabinet decided to start a new Crop Assistance Scheme named “Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojna”.
- This insurance scheme will be effective for Kharif season -2018 this year.
- Under the scheme, farmers will be compensated at a rate of 7500 per hectare in case of a fall of less than 20% in production.
- In case of a fall of more than 20% in production, the assistance amount would be 10,000 per hectare for a maximum of two hectares.
- The assistance amount will be provided to the farmers on the basis of the threshold yield rate prescribed for the notified crop.
- Beneficiaries receiving state’s agricultural input plan and benefits under the Diesel Grant Scheme will also be able to avail this scheme.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://210.212.23.61/AdminPanel/Files/PressRelease/417.pdf>

### Approval for Financial Grant for various projects of Civil Aviation Department

**Question: How much financial grant has been approved by Uttar Pradesh Cabinet for the financial year 2017-18 under the onetime budget arrangement to various projects of the Civil Aviation Department?**

- (a) 2 billion 25 crore 8 lakh 27 thousand 760 rupees
- (b) 2 billion 55 crore 5 lakh 23 thousand 225 rupees
- (c) 2 billion 83 crore 8 lakh 27 thousand 760 rupees
- (d) 2 billion 90 crore 8 lakh 27 thousand 760 rupees

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 3<sup>rd</sup>, July, 2018, Uttar Pradesh Cabinet has approved financial grant to various projects of the Civil Aviation Department for the financial year 2017-18 under the onetime budget arrangement.
- This financial sanction is for 2 billion 83 crore 8 lakh 27 thousand 760 rupees.
- Proposals have also been passed to transfer the assets of State Mineral Development Corporation Limited to Mineral Directorate.
- Proposal passed in respect of loan acceptance of 12000 crores from various banks for the funding of Purvanchal Express scheme.
- Payments will be made in 48 installments for 12 years.
- Public Works Department has been authorized for the development of the airport to increase regional connectivity in Aligarh, Moradabad, Azamgarh, Shravasti.



**Reference:**

<https://m.dailyhunt.in/news/india/hindi/tahlka+news-epaper-tahlnws/yogi+kaibinet+ne+diphens+koridor+yojana+samet+sat+prastavo+par+la+gai+muhar-newsid-91478720>

## Industrial Development Scheme, 2017 for Himachal Pradesh

**Question: Recently, the Government of India announced the Industrial Development Scheme, 2017 for Himachal Pradesh. Effective period of this scheme is-**

- (a) March 1, 2017 to March 31, 2022 (b) April 1, 2017 to March 31, 2022  
(c) August 1, 2017 to – March 31, 2021 (d) April 1, 2018-March 31, 2021

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- According to the reports published on June 28, 2018, the Government of India has announced the Industrial Development Scheme, 2017 for Himachal Pradesh.
- This announcement was essential to the new and existing industrial units engaged in manufacturing and service sector enterprises in the service sector that requires significant capital expenditure and employment generation.
- This scheme is effective from 1 April, 2017 and will remain in force till 31 March, 2022.
- Those units which have already commenced commercial production/operation after 1 April, 2017 can register under this scheme with department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, Government of India up to 30 September, 2018.
- He said this scheme will also be applicable to bio-technology and hydel power generation units' up to 10 MW.
- The web link for applying for registration at DIPP portal is [gov.in/ds/login](http://gov.in/ds/login).
- The salient features of this Industrial Development Scheme includes Central Capital, Investment Incentive for access to credit (CCIIAC) @ 30 percent investment in plant and machinery with an upper limit of Rs. 5 crore.
- All eligible new industrial units and existing units on their substantial expansion located anywhere in the State and Central Comprehensive Insurance Incentive (CCII) under which eligible units are included in Fire Policy " C" as per All India Fire Tariffs, will be eligible for reimbursement of 100 percent insurance premium on insurance of building plant and machinery for a period of five years from the date of commencement of commercial production/operation.



**Reference:**

<http://himachalpr.gov.in/OnePressRelease.aspx?Language=1&ID=12469>

## Bina Irrigation Project

**Question: Recently the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan will lay foundation of Bina Irrigation Project. Which of the given fact is not true in regards to project?**

- (a) This project is being set up at Khurai of Shahdol district.
- (b) The cost of the project is approximately Rs.4000 crores.
- (c) Project will facilitate irrigation on over 90 thousand hectare land of 4033 villages of Bundelkhand region.
- (d) Dams will be constructed on Bina River at Madiya and Chakarpur.



**Answer- (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On July 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh Shivraj Singh Chauhan laid the foundation of Bina Irrigation Project.
- This project is being set up at Khurai of Sagar district.
- Project cost is about Rs.4 thousand crore.
- Bina Irrigation Project will facilitate irrigation on over 90 thousand hectare land of 4033 villages of Bundelkhand region.
- Under the project, dams will be constructed on Bina River at Madiya and Chakarpur.
- Moreover, this project will resolve potable water problem of 331 villages of the region.
- The Project will facilitate irrigation in the entire command area in the next 4 years.
- A total of 48 hectare land has been allocated in village Bairkhedi for rehabilitation of 1324 families, which will be affected by the construction of this project.

**Reference:**

<https://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180701N16&LocID=1&PDt=7/1/2018>

## Commercial Tax at Your Door Step Scheme

**Question: Recently, in which of the following states “Commercial Tax at Your Door Step” Scheme has been started?**

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Madhya Pradesh (c) Uttarakhand  
(d) Bihar

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**





- On July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, the commercial tax department of Uttar Pradesh and all the Zonal Offices of the State celebrated completion of one year of implementation of GST.
- On this occasion, 'Commerce Tax at Your Door Step' scheme was launched in the state.
- This is an ambitious scheme of public relations.
- This scheme has been implemented from July 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.
- In this period, the departmental officers will contact personally to the all small traders and resolve their problems.
- Apart from this, the officials will make them aware of the Return filing, Registration, Modification and e-way billing downloading and resolve any technical issues in these regards on the spot.

**See also the link below:**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b38d720-ff84-4147-b5d1-6c1a0af72573.pdf>

## Pilot Project launched to deal climate change

**Question: Recently which of the following two states have been selected by the World Resources Institute as the pilot project in India to deal with climate change?**

- (a) Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh (b) Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand  
 (c) Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand (d) Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the pilot project to deal with climate change was started from Madhya Pradesh.
- World Resources Institute and the Government of India are operating this Pilot Project as integrated efforts.
- World Resources Institute has selected Madhya Pradesh and Uttarakhand states for the pilot project in India.
- On this occasion, Chief Secretary, Environment Anupam Rajan launched the Climate Information Dashboard.
- The dashboard will help in disseminating climate information and also will develop quality projects.



**Reference:**

<http://wri-india.org/news/release-bridging-gap-between-climate-data-and-resilience-planning>

## Saral Bijli and Bill Waiver scheme

**Question: Saral Bijli Bill and Chief Minister's Power Bill Surcharge Waiver Scheme came into force from July 1st, 2018. Which one of the following is not true in regards to this?**

- (a) Under this scheme Consumers will have to pay only Rs.200 per month and the government will provide subsidy for the remaining amount.
- (b) Saral Bijli and Bill Waiver scheme will benefit 88 lakh registered workers.
- (c) The outstanding amount of electricity bill will be waived off by August, 2018 under the Chief Minister's Power Bill Surcharge Waiver Scheme.
- (d) 77 lakh registered workers and BPL consumers will be benefited under Chief Minister's Power Bill Surcharge Waiver Scheme.

**Answer- (c)**

### **Related Facts**

- On from July 1st, 2018 Saral Bijli Bill and Chief Minister's Power Bill Surcharge Waiver Scheme came into force in Madhya Pradesh.
- This scheme has been started to provide relief to the electricity bill registered in the mukhya mantri Jan kalyan (sambal) yojana, 2018.
- Saral Bijli Scheme will benefit 88 lakh registered workers.
- 77 lakh registered workers and BPL category consumers will benefit from the Chief Minister's Power Bill Surcharge Waiver Scheme.
- There is no end date fixed for joining the Saral Bijli Scheme, it will remain continue.
- Under the scheme, the electricity bills in rural area will be charged at the rates fixed by the Electricity Regulatory Commission on unmetered connections.
- Under the scheme Consumers (registered workers) will have to pay Rs.200 per month for the electricity bill, the remaining amount will be subsidized by the government.
- Power connections to eligible families will be provided free of charge.
- Madhya Pradesh Government will provide an amount of Rs. 1000 crore as annual subsidy.
- Beneficiary will be benefited by this scheme on being consumer.
- Persons who are part of beneficiary family or residing with such families will also be eligible for the benefit.
- The person registered as a family in the overall database will be considered a member of the family.
- Air conditioner (A.C.), the heaters and consumers using over 1000 W electricity are not eligible for the benefit of this scheme.
- Consumers who use electricity uses (for bulb, TV and fan running only) up to for 1000 Watt will be eligible for profit in the rural and urban areas under the scheme.
- In 1000 watts, 4 bulbs, 2 fans, one TV And a cooler can be run.
- Under Chief Minister's Power Bill Surcharge Waiver Scheme, the outstanding amount of electricity bill will be waived by the registered workers and BPL consumers till June 2018.

- This amount includes the outstanding and surcharged amount.
- For this scheme State Government will provide subsidy of Rs.1806 crores.
- The Eligibility Conditions of Saral Bijli Bill Scheme is also applicable for this scheme.
- Under this scheme, the case under consideration in the court and the case of cases registered in sections 126,135 and 138 of Electricity Act will also be provided.
- Consumers who have benefitted in the previous solution plan can also get the benefit of this scheme.

**Reference:**

<https://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180630N1&LocID=1>  
<https://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180709N1&LocID=1&PDt=7/9/2018>

### Free Higher Education Scheme, 2018-19

**Question- Recently which of the following states government issued instructions for implementing the Free Higher Education Scheme, 2018-19 in the process of e-admission, 2018-19?**

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Madhya Pradesh (c) Chhattisgarh (d) Rajasthan

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts**

- On July 1st, 2018, Government of Madhya Pradesh issued Instructions for the implementation of Free Higher Education Scheme, 2018-19 in the process of e-admission by the 2018-19.
- This scheme will be implemented in all Government Universities, Government Colleges and grant aided Non-Government Colleges.
- Free admission will be given in the first, second and third year of the program in graduate level and first and second year traditional and independent courses in postgraduate level.
- The parents of the beneficiary students must register as an unorganized worker in the labor department.
- Children of unorganized workers will get free admission in Degree Colleges under the Mukhya Mantri Jan-Kalyan Yojana (Education Incentive Scheme).



**Reference:**

<https://www.mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180701N18&LocID=1&PDt=7/1/2018>

## Mobile App 'ReUnite'

**Question: On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry and Civil Aviation Suresh Prabhu launched the mobile app 'Reunite'. This app will provide assistance in-**

- (a) tracking missing and abandoned children
- (b) online bill payment
- (c) online air ticket booking
- (d) registration of the registration

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 29<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Union Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prabhu launched a mobile application called ReUnite.
- It helps to track and trace missing and abandoned children in India.
- This app has been developed by the NGO, Bachpan Bachao Andolan & Capgemini.
- This is an effort to reunite parents whose children have gone missing and is a wonderful use of technology to address real life social challenges.
- The app is multiuser where parents and citizens can upload pictures of children, and provide detailed description like name, birth mark, address, report to the police station, search and identify missing kids.
- The photographs will not be saved in the mobile phone's physical memory. Amazon Recognition, web facial recognition service, is being used to identify missing kids.
- The app is available for both Android and iOS.
- Bachpan Bachao Andolan, (BBA) is India's largest movement for the protection of children and works along with law enforcement agencies and policymakers.
- Kailash Satyarthi; Nobel Laureate is the founder of Bachpan Bachao Andolan.



**Reference:**

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1537135>

## Treaty & Agreements

### Myanmar-UN Agreement

**Question- Recently, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Myanmar and United Nations agencies-**

- (a) To provide financial assistance to Myanmar
- (b) For the deployment of United Nations Supervisors in Myanmar
- (c) For improving healthcare in Myanmar
- (d) For the return of Rohingya Muslims

**Answer: (d)**



### Related Facts:

- On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2018, in connection with the return of Rohingya Muslims, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed between Myanmar and United Nations agencies.
- This agreement will help in returning 7 lakh Rohingya Muslims who left the country due to the atrocities of security forces in Myanmar.
- Rohingya Muslims living in temporary camps can return to Bangladesh with this agreement.
- Under this agreement, it was agreed to formulate a framework of cooperation between the two parties with object to create conditions for voluntary, safe, respectable and permanent return to Rohingya refugees.

### See also the links below:

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2018/06/1011491>

### Agreement between Ministry of Railways and RCIL

**Question: Under a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between Rail Ministry and Indian RailTel Corporation Limited, RCIL has projected revenue of how many crore in the financial year 2018-19 from operations?**

(a) 900 crores (b) 1100 crores (c) 1200 crores (d) 1400 crores

**Answer: (c)**

### Related Facts:

- On May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2018, Ministry of Railways and RailTel Corporation of India Limited(RCIL), a CPSE under the administrative control of the Ministry of Railways, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU).
- RCIL is implementing several Rail projects all over India for doubling, New Line, Electrification, Workshops etc.
- The MoU was signed by Railway Board Secretary, Shri Ranjanesh Sahai and RCIL, Chairman and Managing Director, Shri N. Kashinath and laid down the targets for 18-19, both financial and physical, for various important Projects.
- As per targets under MoU, RCIL has projected revenue from operations of Rs. 1200 crore and several other target regarding CCTV & Wi-Fi at Stations development of Content on Demand (CoD) services on trains etc.



### See the links below:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179499>

## MoU for mineral exploration

**Q: Which of the following organization is not included in the MoU signed for the mineral exploration with ISRO?**

(a)NMDC (b)MOIL (c)GSI (d)HCL

**Answer (d)**

**Related facts-**



- ISRO has signed the MoU with organizations engaged in the exploration of some important minerals.
- Under this MoU, ISRO will authorize these organizations to use Satellite data to explore minerals.
- **Organizations associated with this MoU-**
- **National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC)** – for identifying potential areas for exploration of Iron and Diamond.
- **Manganese Ore India Limited (MOIL)** – for mineral exploration studies to identify prospective areas of Manganese mineralization in some areas in Madhya Pradesh.
- **Jointly with Department of Fertilizers (Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers) Geological Survey of India (GSI) and Atomic Minerals Directorate (AMD)** – for rock phosphate exploration in the Country.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181017>

## Conference

### Asia Society to host Season of India

**Question: 'Season of India' which aims on focusing Indian arts and culture will be organized in which of the following country?**

(a)USA (b)Japan (c)Germany (d)UK

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- **Asia Society** will host Season of India events which aim to familiarize multi dimensional aspects of India at Asia Society Museum in New York **from 14 September 2018 to 20 January 2019.**
- It is series of events on Indian arts and culture that will be held in conjunction with the exhibition.
- **"The Progressive Revolution: Modern Art for a New India"** will be the theme of exhibition.
- The event will mark a high-level discussion **'India 2050'** with eminent government leaders and businessman arguing how country stands to meet the challenges and opportunities of next decades.

- CEO of NITI Ayog Amitabh Kant, Founder and Chairman of Ayurveda company Biotique Vinita Jain and many other prominent personalities will address the event.

**Links:**

<https://asiasociety.org/new-york/exhibitions/progressive-revolution-modern-art-new-india>

**President of India inaugurates “One District One Product” Summit**

**QUESTION: Consider the following statements about “One District One Product”:**

1. Scheme aims to provide 25 lakh employments in the state of Uttar Pradesh.
2. This scheme was launched on 20 January.
3. The scheme is expected to raise GDP of state by 2%.

**Of the above the correct statements is /are:**

**(a) Only 1&2 (b) Only 2&3 (c) Only 1 (d) Only1&3**

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurated the **One District One Product Summit** on **10 August 2018**, in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh.
- Addressing to peoples he said that MSME (Micro Small and Medium Enterprises) acts as the backbone of our economy. Because of lower cost of capital it is widely practiced in rural and backward areas and provides employment on mass level.
- He further said that this scheme will enhance skill and will induce reach to products.
- Around **44% contribution is made by UP in country’s total handicrafts exports.**



**About One District One Product:**

- One District One Product (ODOP) is a comprehensive scheme launched by UP Government on 24 January which identifies each district on the basis of specialization as well as traditional manufacturing and aims to promote the manufacturing by enriching the quality to meet international standard.
- This scheme will assure the inclusive and sustainable growth of the state.
- During the summit, loan papers with amount of **94 crore** are distributed to artisan from **75 districts of UP**, under tagline **“Nayi Udaan, Nai Pehchan.”**

- This scheme has a target of procuring **25 lakh employment in 5 years**. Effective implementation of the scheme will raise **GDP of state by 2%**.

**References:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=181776>

## 2nd Young Superintendent of Police Conference

**Question: 2nd Young Superintendent of Police Conference was held in-**  
**(a)Bengaluru (b)New Delhi (c)Hyderabad (d)Chandigarh**

**Answer: (b)**

- On July 26-27, 2018 2nd Conference of Young Superintendent of Police was organized by **Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D)** in **New Delhi**.
- This two-day conference was attended by over 100 Superintendents of Police and senior officers from the States and CAPFs.
- The theme of the Conference is **“Predictive Policing and Contemporary Challenges for Indian Police Forces”**.
- It aims to create awareness among young Superintendents of Police and Commandants regarding latest technologies in areas of Artificial Intelligence (AI), Predictive Policing/ Crime Analytics/ Big data Analytics, Geospatial Technology, Cyber Crime, Surveillance Tracking & UAVs, CCTV Equipment, for effective delivery of Police Services to citizens.
- Along with the conference a National Level Police Expo was also organized in association with various knowledge partners and stakeholders.



### About Bureau of Police Research & Development

The Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPR&D) was set up in 1970 to identify the needs and problems of the police in the country and suggest modalities to overcome problems and meet the needs and requirements of the police. Its headquarters is in New Delhi.

**References:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1540013>

## MOVE: Global Mobility Summit

**Question: MOVE: Global Mobility Summit will be organized in New Delhi in September 2018 by-**

**(a)Ministry of External Affairs (b)Ministry of Commerce (c)NITI Aayog (d)UNO**

**Answer: (c)**





## Other Facts:-

- On 7th and 8<sup>th</sup> September, 2018; NITI Aayog will organize **MOVE: Global Mobility Summit** in, New Delhi.
- The summit will be held in collaboration with various ministries and industry partners, aimed at providing feedback for the government's goals towards vehicle electrification, renewable energy integration and job growth and to give momentum for India's transition to a clean energy economy.
- The Summit will be the first Global Mobility Summit of its kind, with over 1,200 expected participants from across the world including Government leadership, Industry leaders, Research Organizations, Academia, Think Tanks and Civil Society Organizations.
- The Summit will constitute three designated components – The Conclave, the Expo and the Featured Events
- MOVE Summit aims to bring together and engage with key stakeholders within the rapidly transforming global mobility landscape.
- It will put forward the agenda of evolving a public interest framework for a shared, connected, zero emission and inclusive mobility for the future.
- The six tracks or themes for the Summit will focus on:

- (i) Asset Utilization and Services
- (ii) Comprehensive Electrification
- (iii) Alternative Energy
- (iv) Reinventing Public Transit
- (v) Logistics and Goods Transport
- (vi) Data Analytics and Mobility.

### See also the links below:

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=180362>

[www.movesummit.in/about.php](http://www.movesummit.in/about.php)

## CEEW Renewable Energy Dialogue

**Question- Where was the 'CEEW Renewable Energy Dialogue, 2018' concluded during June 28-29, 2018?**

(a) Mumbai (b) New Delhi (c) Jaipur (d) Hyderabad

**Answer: (b)**

### Related Facts:-

- During 28-29 June, 2018; CEEW Renewable Energy Dialogue, 2018, was concluded in New Delhi.
- Minister of Commerce & Industry and Civil Aviation, Suresh Prakash Mehta addressed the Dialogue.
- He informed that India is running one of the largest and most ambitious renewable energy capacity expansion programmes in the world.



- India has set a target of achieving 40% of its total electricity generation non-fossil fuel sources by 2030.
- International Solar Alliance is sending positive market signals therefore all countries want to invest in renewables encouraging new technologies to be made available thereby promoting financial investments in renewables.
- Government of India's target of installing 20 GW of solar power by 2022 was achieved four years of ahead of schedule in January, 2018 through solar parks and India has set a fresh target of achieving 100 GW of solar power by 2022.
- The Renewable Energy Dialogue was organised by the Council on Energy, Environment and Water (CEEW) in collaboration with Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE), International Solar Alliance (ISA), International Energy Agency (IEA), Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation (SSEF), and REN21.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintHindiRelease.aspx?relid=73000>

## Discovery of New type of Photosynthesis

**Question: What is necessary to plants for photosynthesis?**

(a) Light (b) Water and CO<sub>2</sub> (c) chlorophyll (d) All of the above

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**



- According to a report published in Science magazine, scientists have achieved success in discovery of a new type of photosynthesis.
- This discovery was led by Imperial College London.
- During the research study new chlorophyll was also discovered.
- This new chlorophyll is known as Chlorophyll F.
- This new chlorophyll works near infrared light in similar manner as chlorophyll A works in sunlight.
- Chlorophyll that is used by vast majority of plants in visible red light during the process of photosynthesis is known as chlorophyll A.
- This came to know when a wide range of cyanobacteria (blue-green algae) grow near-infrared light on the rocks along the seashore in Australia and found in shaded conditions.
- Now, as discovered it also occurs in a cupboard fitted with infrared LEDs in Imperial College London.
- The process of changing of light energy in to the chemical energy is called photosynthesis.
- Plants make food in their leaves. The leaves contain a pigment called chlorophyll, which colors the leaves
- In the presence of sunlight, carbohydrate is formed before the formation of carbon dioxide and water.

- After that formation of other organic substance like proteins, cellulose, enzymes etc. in plants takes place.
- Through the process of photosynthesis carbon dioxide is absorb and oxygen is released by plants.

**Reference:**

<https://www.independent.co.uk/news/science/new-photosynthesis-bacteria-algae-hunt-alien-life-cyanobacteria-imperial-college-a8401126.html>

## 18th Meeting of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Council of Heads of Member States

**Question- In which city 18<sup>th</sup> summit of the Heads of State of the member countries of the SCO held between June 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2018?**

(a) Astana (b) Wuhan (c) Qingdao (d) Ufa

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts:**



- 18<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Heads of State of the member countries of the SCO held in Qingdao China during June 9<sup>th</sup>-10<sup>th</sup>, 2018.
- China's President Xi Jinping hosted and chaired this meeting.
- This was the fourth occasion when China has chaired and hosted the summit of the Heads of State of the member countries of the SCO.
- Earlier China has hosted these meeting in 2001 (the first summit), 2006 and 2012.
- At this summit, for the first time India has participated as a full time member.
- In 17<sup>th</sup> Summit of the SCO, India and Pakistan were granted the status of the member country of the organization under the important phase of the process of expansion of this organization.
- Now it is 8 members organization and its other members include China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan.
- Now India and Pakistan became full time member so the SCO counts four observer states, namely the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan, the Republic of Belarus, the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Republic of Mongolia.
- In this meeting, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and President of Russia Vladimir Putin participated including the Heads of others Members State.
- SCO is a military, political and economic cooperation organization.
- It was established on June 15<sup>th</sup>, 2001.
- It is mainly related to military cooperation between member countries.
- It includes sharing of Secret information and running anti-terrorism campaign in Central Asia.
- Its headquarters is in Beijing, China.
- At present, Rashid Alimov is the Secretary-General of the SCO.

**Reference:**

<http://mea.gov.in/Speeches-Statements.htm?dtl/29971/English+translation+of+Prime+Ministers+Intervention+in+Extended+Plenary+of+18th+SCO+Summit+June+10+2018>

## State level Workshop on Welfare and Management of Cattle

**Question- Recently, the state level workshop on welfare and management of cattle was organized in Uttar Pradesh. Consider the following and chose the wrong one in this regard?**

- (a) This workshop was organized in Veterinary College, Mathura.
- (b) Workshop was inaugurated by Chief Secretary Livestock Sudhir M. Bobde.
- (c) Workshop was organized by the Federation of India Animal Protection Organization, New Delhi, with the help of Animal Husbandry Department, UP.
- (d) Main theme of this seminar was 'Policy set-up for the management of dairy and destitute cattle in Uttar Pradesh'.

**Answer- (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the state level workshop on the welfare and management of cattle was organized in the Animal Husbandry Directorate, Lucknow.
- Workshop was inaugurated by Chief Secretary Livestock Sudhir M. Bobde.
- This workshop was organized by the Federation of India Animal Protection Organization (FIAPO), New Delhi with association of Animal Husbandry Department, Uttar Pradesh.
- Main theme of this seminar was 'Policy set-up for the management of dairy and destitute cattle in Uttar Pradesh'.
- The main objective of this workshop is for the welfare and management of dairy and destitute cattle (bovine and herbivorous animals) was to discuss the policy decision for dairy and destitute cattle for the welfare and management of dairy and destitute cattle (bovine and feminine animals) through the lecture of various departmental experts.
- In the workshop, discussions were held on various issues related to animal welfare, dairy interventions, self-reliance of goats and management of destitute cattle.
- In this workshop District Development Department, Uttar Pradesh Go Services Commission, Municipal Development Department, Panchayat Raj Department, Dairy Development Department, Rural Development Department, *BAIF Institute for Sustainable Livelihoods and Development*, Lucknow, Animal Cruelty Prevention Committee and Animal Welfare attached with animal welfare participated.

**Reference:**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b1a6b28-28d8-4a3a-a6c6-46ae0af72573.pdf>

## Van Mahotsav-2018

**Question: Recently from which of the following districts of Uttar Pradesh Van Mahotsav- 2018 was launched by Chief Minister?**

(a) Lucknow (b) Siddhartha Nagar (c) Barabanki (d) Bahraich

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts**



- On July 6th, 2018, Uttar Pradesh's Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the Van Mahotsav- 2018 in a program organized at Mahadeva Auditorium in Barabanki district.
- The festival started by planting on the sacred land of Mahadeva Dham.
- This Mahotsav will be run from 1st -31st July, 2018.
- 3 lakh 66 thousand (3.66 lakh) soil health cards were distributed on this occasion.
- The Chief Minister also gave approval letters to beneficiaries of the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna.
- Dr. Harsh Vardhan, Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change was also present on this occasion.
- Lodheshwar Mahadev Temple is a Hindu temple located in Mahadeva dham (tehsil Ram Nagar) district Barabanki.
- It is believed that this temple was built by the Pandavas during the Angyat Vas.

**Reference:**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b3f899c-143c-4ee8-b73b-11dd0af72573.pdf>

## Conference on National Consultation on Child Protection

**Question: At which of the following places the Conference on National Consultation on Child Protection was held recently?**

(a) Jaipur (b) Lucknow (c) New Delhi (d) Bhubaneswar

**Answer: (c)**

**Related Facts**



- On June 5<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the National Consultation Conference on Child Protection was held in New Delhi.
- It was organized by the Ministry of Women and Child Development.
- This discussion in this conference was held on the Juvenile Justice (Care and Protection of Children) Act, 2015 and Juvenile Justice Act (POSCO), 2012 for Sexual Offenses.

- In the discussions, best practices and experiences were shared by the Police Department of various states.

**See also the links below:**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179781>

## **Associations & Organizations**

### **Closure of Sterlite Copper unit in Tamilnadu**

**Question: Sterlite Copper Unit in Tamil Nadu which was closed due to pollution concerns is subsidiary of which of the following company?**

- (a) Hindalco Industries Limited (Birla Copper) (b) Hindustan Copper Limited  
(c) Jhagadia Copper Limited (d) Vedanta Limited

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**



- The closure of Sterlite Copper Unit in Thoothukudi, Tamil Nadu led country a huge loss of rupees 20 thousand crore following rise in import of copper worth USD 2 billion and export loss of over USD 1.5 billion, according to the CEO of Sterlite Copper.
- The company was supplying 250,000 tonne per annum of copper to the domestic market and exporting approximately 160,000 tonne per annum of copper.
- This statement come amid National Green Tribunal has rejected its plea of restoring against the state government order of permanently shut down.
- The closure order was given in May this year for violating the pollution norms and a massive protest was led by the public following death of one person due to leakage of gas and injuring several local residents.
- The apex court has ordered the company to pay compensation of Rs.100 crore for polluting environment.
- Sterlite Copper is a subsidiary of Vedanta Limited which is a cluster of metals and mining. This unit is situated in Thoothukudi (former Tuticorin) in Tamilnadu.
- It is a copper smelter plant which also included a refinery, a Phosphoric acid Plant and a Sulphuric acid Plant.
- National Green Tribunal- The National Green Tribunal has been established by an act of Parliament in 2010 under the National Green Tribunal Act 2010 for effective and expeditious disposal of cases relating to environmental protection and conservation of forests and other natural resources including enforcement of any legal right relating to environment and giving relief and compensation for damages to persons and property and for matters concerned. The Tribunal shall not be bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.

**Reference:**

<https://www.sterlitecopper.com/>

## Year, Day & Week

### Yoga Pakhwara program under the International Yoga Day

**Question: On the occasion of 4<sup>th</sup> International Yoga Day Yoga Week (Pakhwara) program Protsahan Puruskar were awarded to five districts. Which of the following district has not been given Protsahan Puruskar?**

(a) Bareilly (b) Agra (c) Hapur (d) Allahabad

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the concluding and prize distribution ceremony of the Yoga week (Pakhwara) program was organized under the Fourth International Yoga Day.
- It was organized in Vishveshwariya Auditorium (Public Works Department), Lucknow.
- Deputy CM and Health Minister Dr. Dinesh Sharma attended this program.
- It is worth mentioning that Yoga week (Pakhwara) program was started on June 21<sup>st</sup>, 2018 on the occasion of International Yoga Day.
- Excellent participants were also honored in this program in Yoga Pakhwara.
- M Saharanpur, Regional Ayurvedic and Unani Officer Saharanpur, District Homoeopathic Medical Officer, Saharanpur got first prize, D.M Firozabad, Regional Ayurvedic and Unani Officer Firozabad, District Homeopathic Medical Officer Firozabad got second prize.
- Apart from this, Protsahan Puruskar was given to five districts – Bareilly, Agra, Hapur, Sultanpur and Mahoba.
- Along with this, three institutions have also been awarded namely- Patanjali Yogapeeth first place, Prajapati Brahmakumari Ishwari University second place and Dev Culture University Gayatri family third place.

**See also the links below:**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b3780a3-b6c0-4e40-85b6-5ddc0af72573.pdf>

## World Population Day- 2018

**Question: What is the theme of World Population Day 2018?**

- (a) Family Planning is a Human Right (b) Unsafe food arrangements  
(c) Family planning: empowering people, developing nations  
(d) Unprotected population in emergency

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**

- On July 11, 2018, 'World Population Day' was celebrated throughout the world.
- The theme of World Population Day 2018 is "Family Planning is a Human Right".
- This year marks the 50th anniversary of the 1968 International Conference on Human Rights, where family planning was, for the first time, globally affirmed to be a human right.
- Nine standards to uphold the human right to family planning are: Non-discrimination, Available, Accessible, Acceptable, Good quality, Informed decision-making, Privacy and confidentiality, Participation and Accountability.
- In 1989, the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme recommended that 11 July be observed by the international community as World Population Day.



**Reference:**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/populationday/index.shtml>

## International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking'

**Question: On which date 'International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking' is celebrated?**

(a) June 25<sup>th</sup> (b) June 26<sup>th</sup> (c) June 23<sup>rd</sup> (d) June 20<sup>th</sup>

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 26th, 2018, 'International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking' was celebrated across the world.
- The theme of this day for year 2018, "Listen First – Listening to children and youth is the first step to help them grow healthy and safe."
- It is noteworthy that on 7th December 1987, the General Assembly decided to observe 26th June as the International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.
- Under this, awareness campaigns are run by various social organizations at the governmental, non-government level to get rid of intoxication.
- On the occasion of this day President Ramnath Kovind presented the fourth National Awards for outstanding services in the field of prevention of Alcoholism & Substance (Drug) Abuse to individuals and institutions at a function organized by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.
- It is notable that the Govt. of India has instituted a Scheme of the National Awards for outstanding services in the field of prevention of Alcoholism & Substance (Drug) Abuse from the year 2013.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/drugabuseday/>



## International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

**Question: On which date 'International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression' is celebrated?**

(a) June 5 (b) June 4 (c) June 3 (d) June 2

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2018, the 'International Day of Innocent Victims of Aggression' was observed all over the world.
- It is notable that the United Nations General Assembly had declared on August 19, 1982, 4 June as this day every year.
- The objective of this day is to save children from the sexual violence, kidnapping and to ensure their access to the schools.



**See also the links below :**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/childvictimday/>

## Global Day of Parents

**Question- When is 'Global Day of Parents' celebrated?**

(a) June 2 (b) June 1 (c) May 31 (d) June 3

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2018, 'Global Day of Parents' was celebrated all over the world.
- It is notable that in the year 2012, the United Nations General Assembly announced to celebrate this day on June 1 every year.
- This day offers an opportunity to appreciate all parents for their lifelong sacrifice towards unselfish commitment to children and nurturing this relationship in all parts of the world.



**See the links below:**

<http://www.un.org/en/events/parentsday/>

## Books

### Sambhavami Yuge-Yuge

**Question- Who is the author of the book 'Sambhavami Yuge-Yuge'?**

(a) Nalin Ranjan Singh (b) Sudama Pandey (c) Divya Prakash Dubey (d) Vidya Singh

**Answer: (d)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched the book 'Sambhavamy Yuge-Yuge' in the Circuit House Auditorium located in Varanasi.
- The author of this book is Vidya Singh.
- This book has a poetic presentation of Hari's Dashavtar.



**Reference:**

<https://twitter.com/myogiadityanath/status/1005426857389387776>

### Book: Karma Yogi

**Question: Who is the author of Book 'Karma Yogi'?**

(a) Ramendra Bajpai (b) Ramendra Sinha (c) Prasun Bajpai (d) R.K. Agarwal

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Union Minister of State for Finance Shiv Pratap Shukla inaugurated the book 'Karmayogi' in the auditorium of the tourist building, Gomtinagar Lucknow.
- The author of this book is Ramendra Sinha (Journalist and Writer).
- The book "*Karma Yogi*" (Yogi Adityanath Ka Jivan Charitra) highlights the multi-faceted personality of Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath.
- On this occasion, a seminar was also organized on 'Role of Politics, Religion, Media and Youth in Social Harmony'.



**See also the links below:**

<https://www.patrika.com/lucknow-news/book-launch-programme-in-lucknow-based-on-life-of-yogi-adityanath-1-2933156/>

## Miscellaneous

### Animation, Saathiya App and Comics Issued for Adolescent Health

**Question: In which year was the National Adolescent Health Care Program launched in the country?**

(a) 2012 (b) 2013 (c) 2014 (d) 2015

**Ans: (c)**

**Related Facts:-**



- On June 6, 2018, Dr. Jennifer Butler, deputy regional manager of the Asia-Pacific region and Madhya Pradesh Health Commissioner Pallavi Jain released the animation film, Saathiya app and comics book in the National Adolescent Health Program organized by the Health Ministry.
- The app and comics produced by the National Health Mission and UNFPA have been launched first time in the country in Madhya Pradesh.
- The Saathiya app is available free on the Google Play Store, which can be installed by any teenager or their guardian of the state on their mobile for free to avail various types of teenage health related information.
- National Adolescent Health Program is based on Mobile Applications and Web Software GPS.
- Through this, help will be obtained in collecting data related the Kishore Mitra Health Clinic, the activities organized by the Saathiya brigade at the village level and the health activities conducted between the village's adolescent boys and girls.
- The National Adolescent Health Program was started in the country in the year 2014.
- Presently, this program focuses on 6 health topics – Nutrition, Sexual and Reproductive health, mental health, side effects of narcotics, Violence and Injury and Non-communicable diseases.
- This program covers teenagers and adolescents of the age group of 10-19 years.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://mpinfo.org/News/TodaysNews.aspx?newsid=20180606N9&LocID=1>

### Sutra Seva: 'Madhya Pradesh Ki Apni Bus'

**Question: Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Sutra Seva-Madhya Pradesh ki Apni Bus in Madhya Pradesh. Which of the given fact is not true in this context?**

- (a) The Prime Minister started this service in a program organized in Indore on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.
- (b) On this occasion, the Prime Minister flagged off 50 buses for 4 Municipal Corporations and 2 Municipalities.
- (c) In the first phase service will be started in 20 cities.
- (d) *Urban Development and Housing Department* has started this service with private participation under the AMRUT scheme.

**Answer- (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Sutra Seva-Madhya Pradesh ki Apni Bus' in a program organized at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium Indore (Madhya Pradesh).
- This Bus service has been started under the ambitious Urban Transport Scheme of the Madhya Pradesh government.

- On this occasion the prime minister flagged 127 buses for 4 Municipal Corporations (Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur and Chhindwara) and 2 Municipalities (Guna, Bhind).
- In the first phase service will be started in 20 cities (16 Corporations and 4 Municipalities).
- *Service will be run on the basis of public-partnership Urban Development and Housing Department* has started this service with private participation under the AMRUT scheme.
- Under this service, the shares of centre, state and corporation in the cities having population over 10 lakh would be 33 percent, 50 percent and 17 percent respectively.
- In the cities having population less than 10 lakh the shares of the centre, state and corporation would be 50 percent, 40 percent and 10 percent respectively.
- These projects include Pradhan Mantri Housing Scheme, Urban Drinking Water Supply Scheme, Urban Solid Waste Management, Urban Sanitation, Urban Transport and Urban Landscape Project.
- Prime minister also launched Swachh Survekshan 2018 puruskar parking a garden for children developed by Bhopal Corporation and an intercity bus service under 'Sutra Seva'.
- In the recently released Swachh Survekshan 2018 Indore and Bhopal cities of Madhya Pradesh are first and second respectively.

**Reference:**

<https://www.dprmp.org/NewsDetail.aspx?newsid=556406&disid=45>

## DAC approves defense equipment acquisition proposals

**Question: Recently, Proposal for the procurement of equipment for the Defence Forces valued at over how many crore was approved in the DAC meeting?**

(a) 5,500 crores (b) 6,000 crores (c) 5,000 crores (d) 6,500 crores

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2018; the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) meeting was held under the chairmanship of the Defense Minister.
- Proposal for the procurement of equipment for the Defence Forces valued at over Rs 5500 crore.
- Pursuing the goal of indigenisation and self-reliance in the field of Defence Procurements, the DAC approved procurement of 12 High Power Radars for the Indian Air Force under 'Buy (Indian) IDDM' category.
- The radars will provide long range medium and high altitude radar cover with the capability to detect and track high speed targets following parabolic trajectories.

- Technologically superior, the radars will have the capability to scan 360° without mechanical rotation of Antenna and will operate on 24 x 7 basis with minimal maintenance requirement.
- Their procurement will enhance the overall efficacy of the Air Defence network in the country.
- The DAC also accorded approval for procurement of Air Cushion Vehicles (ACVs) for the Indian Coast Guard and Indian Army from Indian Shipyard.
- These vessels would offer great advantage over conventional boats/crafts with their ability to travel at very high speeds over shallow water, sand banks, mud flats and swamps which are non-navigable by boats/small crafts due to draught restrictions/uncharted depths.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=179854>

## Help Me Dear App

**Question- Under whose leadership a team has developed 'Help Me Dear App'?**

- (a) Dr. Vinod Kumar Agarwal (b) Dr. Vinod Kumar Arya  
(c) Dr. O.P. Singh (d) Dr. Padmakar Lal

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 13<sup>th</sup>, 2018, Uttar Pradesh Health Minister Siddhartha Nath Singh launched 'Help Me Dear App' in Lucknow.
- This app has been developed by a team under the leadership of Orthopedic surgeon Dr. Vinod Kumar Arya (working in Ram Manohar Lohia Hospital, Lucknow).
- In case of accident such as road accident, train accident or Poisoning (Jhrkhurani) or in case of death person would be identified.
- When Person's photo is loaded on this app, the date, time and location will be displayed automatically, which will make it possible to identify him.
- This app can also be used to identify the lost children in the crowd and to find out the luggage left in the journey.

**Reference:**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b211fac-6a94-430b-816f-5f060af72573.pdf>

## Merger and Acquisition Deals

**Question: According to the recent announcement of Corporate India, merger and acquisition deals of how many billion dollars have been done in May, 2018?**

- (a) 25 billion dollar (b) 30 billion dollar (c) 35 billion dollar  
(d) 40 billion dollar



**Answer: (a)**  
**Related Facts**

- In June, 2018 assurance, tax and advisory firm ‘ Grant Thornton released his latest ‘Dealtracker’.
- Through this dealtracker India Inc (Corporate India) has provided information about merger and acquisition deals of worth 25,656 million (about 25 billion dollars) in the month of May, 2018.
- During this period total 46 ‘Mergers and Acquisitions’ (M & A) deals have done.
- ‘Mergers and Acquisitions’ (M & A) deals have significantly increased in comparison to the same period of the previous year.
- Last year in the same time period (M & A) 35 transactions worth to 897 million dollars were done.
- ‘Wal-Mart-Flipkart Deals’ has contributed 62% alone in the deals that have been done in May, 2018.
- In May Walmart acquired Flipkart for 16 billion dollars.
- 204 (M & A) deals worth 63,328 million dollar were done between January and May 2018 while in same period there were 69 transactions worth 30,529 million dollar last year.

**Reference:**

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/india-inc-announces-ma-deals-worth-25-bn-in-may-report/articleshow/64478203.cms>

**Shaheed Swabhiman Yatra**

**Question: Which one of the given statement is true in regard to Shaheed Swabhiman Yatra?**

- (a) Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Trivedendra Singh Rawat, flagged this trip on 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 and proceeded further from Dehradun.
- (b) The Yatra was started from New Delhi on April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018.
- (c) A total 25 thousand km. will be covered during this visit in all 29 states.
- (d) Swabhiman Yatra convenor is Surender Singh Bidhuri.

**Answer: (b)**

**Related Facts:**

- On 10<sup>th</sup> June, 2018 Uttarakhand Chief Minister Trivendra Singh Rawat flags off Shaheed Swabhiman Yatra in Dehradun.
- The Shaheed Swabhiman Yatra was started from New Delhi on 23<sup>rd</sup> March, 2018 and on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2018 covered 16,500 km across 23 states during a period of 79 days.
- After completing the yatra, the pilgrim reached Dehradun.
- A total 25 thousand km. will be covered during this visit in all 29 states.
- Surender Singh Bidhuri is convenor of Shaheed Swabhiman Yatra.



**Reference:**

<http://www.cm.uk.gov.in/upload/pressrelease/Pressrelease-2574.pdf>

**Launch of Air Service between Varanasi-Kathmandu (Nepal)**

**Question- Recently, Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched Air service between Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport of Varanasi to Tribhuvan International Airport of Kathmandu. Which Airlines will provide this flight service between these two cities?**

(a) Buddha Air Pvt. Ltd. (b) Air Asia India (c) Spice jet  
(d) Air India

**Answer: (a)**

**Related Facts:**



- On June 29th, 2018, Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath launched air service between Lal Bahadur Shastri International Airport of Varanasi to Tribhuvan International Airport Kathmandu (Nepal).
- On this occasion the Chief Minister flagged off the flight of Buddha Airline.
- This service between the two cities will be provided by Buddha Air Pvt. Ltd. located in Nepal.
- This airline connects the major cities of India with capital of Nepal.

**See also the links below:-**

<http://information.up.nic.in/attachments/files/5b366143-b578-47a6-bee7-75b70af72573.pdf>