

ANALOG IAS ACADEMY



NOVEMBER MONTH

CURRENT AFFAIRS – KEY AND EXPLANATION

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1. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Selection: Members are chosen by a selection committee (headed by a sitting judge of the Supreme Court of India) that reviews their applications and conducts interviews. The Judicial members are chosen from applicants who are serving or retired judges of High Courts. The Tribunal is not bound by the procedure laid down under the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908, but shall be guided by principles of natural justice.

2. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Ltd (ISPRL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC) in Abu Dhabi to explore the possibility of storing ADNOC crude oil at ISPRL's underground oil storage facility at Padur in Karnataka, which has a 2.5 million tonne capacity. Under the agreement, ADNOC is expected to store crude in compartments at Padur.

3. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

It is the first of four Multi-Modal Terminals being constructed on National Waterways-I (NW1) on River Ganga as part of World Bank-aided Jal Marg Vikas project of Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI). The other three terminals are under construction at Sahibganj, Haldia and Gazipur.

4. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

It was inaugurated by Union Environment Minister Harsh Vardhan. It was jointly organised by Department of Science and Technology along with Alliance for An Energy-Efficient Economy (AEEE), Rocky Mountain Institute, Conservation X Labs and CEPT University.

5. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The inaugural edition India, Indonesia Bilateral Naval Exercise 'Samudra Shakti' was held at the port of Surabaya, Indonesia.

6. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Mahatma Gandhi had on November 12, 1947 visited the studio of All India Radio to address the displaced people from Pakistan who were temporarily settled in Kurukshetra, Haryana after the partition of the Indian subcontinent.

7. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

It is the world's largest supercomputer designed to work in the same way as the human brain. It has been switched on for the first time.

The newly formed million-processor-core Spiking Neural Network Architecture (SpiNNaker) machine is capable of completing more than 200 million million actions per second, with each of its chips having 100 million transistors.

8. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Twitter India has launched #PowerOf18 campaign aimed at encouraging youth to contribute in

public debates and participate in civic engagement for the 2019 general elections.

9. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

IHF was launched in 2016 by Tata Trusts in collaboration with The Global Fund, to drive innovations towards key infectious disease challenges in India.

10. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Pneumonia is form of acute respiratory infection that affects the lungs. It is caused by inflammation of the airspaces in the lungs. Lungs are made up of small sacs called alveoli, which fill with air when healthy person breathes. When an individual has pneumonia; alveoli are filled with pus and limits oxygen intake.

11. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Ministry of Human Resource Development has launched Leadership for Academicians Programme (LEAP) for higher education faculty.

The programme would provide senior faculty, with high academic credentials, the required leadership and managerial skills including skills of problem-solving, handling stress, team building work, conflict management, developing communication skills, understanding and coping with the complexity and challenges of governance in HEIs, financial & general administration.

12. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Annual Refresher Programme in Teaching (ARPIT), a major and unique initiative of online professional development of 15 lakh higher

education faculty using the MOOCs platform SWAYAM. For implementing ARPIT, 75 discipline-specific institutions have been identified and notified as National Resource Centers (NRCs) in the first phase, which are tasked to prepare online training material with focus on latest developments in the discipline, new & emerging trends, pedagogical improvements and methodologies for transacting revised curriculum.

13. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

It is a joint military exercise between Indian and Russia on combating insurgency under the aegis of United Nations (UN). The aim of the exercise is to practice joint planning and conduct to enhance interoperability of the two Armies in the peace keeping/ enforcement environment under the aegis of the UN. It focuses upon training on enhancing team building, special tactical level operations such as Cordon and Search, house intervention, handling and neutralisation of Improvised Explosive Devices and integrated employment of force multipliers.

14. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The theme for World Diabetes Day 2018 and 2019 is "The Family and Diabetes".

15. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

"India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO)" is the nodal agency of the Government of India under aegis of Ministry of Commerce and Industry for promoting country's external trade. It is Mini-Ratna Category-1 Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) with 100% shareholding of Government.

16. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

It is organised by India Trade Promotion Organisation (ITPO). The theme of this edition of fair was "Rural Enterprises in India". Afghanistan is partner country, while Nepal is focus country for this edition of fair. Jharkhand is participating as partner state in the event.

17. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The 6th Indian Social Work Congress was jointly organized by National Association of Professional Social Workers in India (NAPSWI) and Department of Social Work (Delhi School of Social Work), University of Delhi. The theme of 6th ISWC 2018 was "Human Development and Social Inclusion: Imperatives for Social Work Education and Practice". It engages with issues related to Social Justice and Inclusion, within context of social work education, research and practice.

18. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Navies of the IONS which have been geographically grouped into the following four sub-regions:

South Asian Littorals: Bangladesh, India, Maldives, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka, and the U.K. West Asian Littorals: Iran, Oman, Saudi Arabia, and UAE East African Littorals: France, Kenya, Mauritius, Mozambique, South Africa, and Tanzania South East Asian and Australian Littorals: Australia, Indonesia, Myanmar, Singapore, Thailand and Timor Leste.

Observer countries: China, Germany, Italy, Japan, Malaysia, Madagascar, the Netherlands, Russia, and Spain

19. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The new Ease of Doing Agri-Business Index will rank the States on the basis of reforms in the sector as well as their investment in agriculture, increased productivity, reduction of input costs, and risk mitigation measures.

The Agri Ministry will consider rewarding the higher performing States both in absolute and incremental terms by linking the performance with allocation from flexi funds made available in various flagship.

The proposed index will focus on reforms, with marketing reforms (25%) and governance and land reforms (20%) carrying almost half of the weight of the parameters in its scoring system.

20. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, in consultation with National Institute of Wind Energy Chennai, have prepared a draft of new Scheme called Indian Wind Turbine Certification Scheme (IWTCS) incorporating various guidelines.

The draft Scheme enlists the guidelines for the benefit of all the stakeholders from concept to lifetime of wind turbine, including Indian Type Approved Model (ITAM), Indian Type Certification Scheme (ITCS), Wind Farm Project Certification Scheme (WFPCS) and Wind Turbine Safety & Performance Certification Scheme (WTSPCS).

21. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, is hosting a conference on Global Digital Content Market (GDCM) 2018.

22. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The initiative, with technical support from the World Bank, WHO and the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), is being launched as unhealthy diet is pushing up metabolic syndrome and premature deaths due to non-communicable diseases (NCDs) among Keralites.

23. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

APEC works to help all residents of the Asia-Pacific participate in the growing economy. APEC projects provide digital skills training for rural communities and help indigenous women export their products abroad.

24. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The GROWTH-India telescope is part of a multi-country collaborative initiative – known as the Global Relay of Observatories Watching Transients Happen (GROWTH) – to observe transient events in the universe.

25. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

UNESCO global education monitoring report 2019 has been released. In India, 10.7 million children aged 6 to 14 lived in rural households with a seasonal migrant in 2013. About 28% of

youth aged 15 to 19 in these households were illiterate or had not completed primary school, compared to 18% of the cohort overall.

26. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The Environment Protection Act, 1986 does not mention the word “Eco-sensitive Zones”. The section 3(2)(v) of the Act, says that Central Government can restrict areas in which any industries, operations or processes or class of industries, operations or processes shall not be carried out or shall be carried out subject to certain safeguards.

Besides the section 5 (1) of this act says that central government can prohibit or restrict the location of industries and carrying on certain operations or processes on the basis of considerations like the biological diversity of an area, maximum allowable limits of concentration of pollutants for an area, environmentally compatible land use, and proximity to protected areas.

27. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

T-bills are short term securities issued on behalf of the government by the RBI and are used in managing short term liquidity needs of the government.

28. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The National Stock Exchange (NSE) has launched an app and web-based platform, ‘NSE goBID’, for retail investors to buy government securities. The app would allow investors to invest in treasury bills (T-Bills) of 91 days, 182 days and 364 days

and various government bonds from one year to almost 40 years.

29. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

According to the latest edition of the U.K. India Business Council's Ease of Doing Business report, the perception among U.K. businesses that corruption is a major barrier in doing business in India has halved compared with what it was in 2015.

30. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Currently, it is defined by the weight of a platinum-based ingot called "Le Grand K" which is locked away in a safe in Paris. Le Grand K has been at the forefront of the international system of measuring weights since 1889. Several close replicas were made and distributed around the globe. But the master kilogram and its copies were seen to change – ever so slightly – as they deteriorated.

31. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Objectives of the Witness Protection Scheme-2018: To enable a witness to give testimony in a judicial setting or to cooperate with law enforcement and investigations without fear of intimidation or reprisal. To ensure that the investigation, prosecution and trial of criminal offences is not prejudiced because witnesses are intimidated or frightened to give evidence without protection from violent or other criminal retribution.

32. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, in association with the Department of Tourism, Government of Tripura and the North Eastern States is organizing the 7th "International Tourism Mart" in Agartala, Tripura.

It brings together the tourism business fraternity and entrepreneurs from the eight North Eastern States. The event has been planned and scheduled to facilitate interaction between buyers, sellers, media, Government agencies and other stakeholders.

33. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The compact is the first intergovernmental agreement to cover wide-ranging dimensions of international migration in holistic and comprehensive manner, agreed upon by all the UN member states minus the United States.

34. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The objective of this challenge is to tap potential of young Indians, startups and other private enterprises to provide solutions to complex problems using current technology. It is in pursuance of Government's resolve to make India one of the easiest places to conduct business in the world.

35. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Government of India has put thrust to promote the usage of environment friendly clean fuel i.e. natural gas as a fuel/feedstock across the country to move towards a gas-based economy. Accordingly, development of CGD networks has been focused to increase the availability of cleaner

cooking fuel (i.e. PNG) and transportation fuel (i.e. CNG) to the citizens of the country. The expansion of CGD network will also benefit to industrial and commercial units by ensuring the uninterrupted supply of natural gas.

The projects recently awarded by the Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) would cover 65 Geographical Areas (GAs) under the ninth round of bidding.

36. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Indian Army has picked Russia's Iгла-S missile system as choice for its multibillion-dollar contract for man-portable air defence systems (MANPADS). It is designed for use against visible aerial targets at short range such as tactical aircraft, helicopters, unmanned aerial vehicle (UAVs), cruise missile, head-on or receding, in presence of natural (background) clutter and countermeasures.

37. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

They were discovered in the forests of Meghalaya and Arunachal Pradesh. Scientists have named them as Himalayan horned frog (Megophryshimalayana), Garo white-lipped horned frog (Megophrysoreocrypta); Yellow spotted white-lipped horned frog (Megophrysflavipunctata) and Giant Himalayan horned frog (Megophrysperosa)

38. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

'Vajra Prahar' is an Indo-US Special Forces joint training exercise conducted alternately in India and the US. The aim of the exercise is to promote

military relations between the two countries by enhancing interoperability and mutual exchange of tactics between Special Forces.

39. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Every foreigner, except citizen of Bhutan, who desires to enter and stay in protected or restricted area, is required to obtain special permit from competent authority having power to issue such permits to foreigner, seeking it. Citizens of Afghanistan, China and Pakistan and foreign nationals of Pakistani origin are exception and are not allowed to enter such areas.

40. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Sentinelese are a negrito tribe who live on the North Sentinel Island of the Andamans. The inhabitants are connected to the Jarawa based on physical, as well as linguistic similarities. Their numbers are believed to be less than 150 and as low as 40.

41. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The government has launched the 'Institution's Innovation Council (IIC) program under Innovation cell of MHRD. Ministry of Human Resource Development has established an "Innovation cell" at AICTE with a purpose to systematically foster the culture of Innovation in all Higher Education Institutions (HEIs) across the country.

42. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

To ensure judicious use of antibiotics in healthcare facilities, the Indian Council of Medical

Research (ICMR) has released Antimicrobial Stewardship Guidelines to advise hospitals in setting up Antimicrobial Stewardship Programmes (AMSP) for the purpose.

The National Health Policy, 2017, terms antimicrobial resistance as one of the key healthcare issues and prioritises development of guidelines regarding antibiotic use, limiting over-the-counter use of antibiotics and restricting the use of antibiotics as growth promoters in livestock.

43. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

'Global stocktake' refers to a proposed five-yearly review of the impact of countries' climate change actions.

Under the Paris Agreement, every country must present a climate action plan in five-yearly cycles. It is supposed to be like the plan countries submitted in the run-up to the talks that concluded last week. Under the Paris Agreement, the first global stocktake will happen in 2023. It will assess whether the net result of the climate actions being taken was consistent with the goal of keeping the increase in global average temperature from pre-industrial times to within 2 degree Celsius. The stocktake will help the world determine whether it needs to do more — and how much more.

44. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

BASIC countries are bloc (geopolitical alliance) of four large newly industrialized countries – Brazil, South Africa, India and China. It was formed by agreement in November 2009. They were committed to act jointly at Copenhagen climate

summit 2009, including possible united walk-out if their common minimum position was not met by developed nations during climate talks.

45. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The International Space Station (ISS) turned 20 years old on November 20, 2018. The ownership and use of the space station are established by intergovernmental treaties and agreements. The station is divided into two sections, the Russian Orbital Segment (ROS) and the United States Orbital Segment (USOS), which is shared by many nations.

46. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The sangai is an endemic and endangered subspecies of brow-antlered deer found only in Manipur, India. It is found in its natural habitat only at KeibulLamjao National Park over the floating biomass locally called "phumdi" in the south eastern part of LoktakLake. Its IUCN status: Endangered.

47. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

In a significant decision, the Union Cabinet approved the building and development of the Kartarpur corridor from Dera Baba Nanak in Gurdaspur district to the international border, in order to facilitate pilgrims from India to visit Gurdwara Darbar Sahib Kartarpur on the banks of the Ravi river, in Pakistan, where Shri Guru Nanak Devji spent eighteen years. Pilgrims would then be able to visit the holy shrine throughout the year.

48. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

This portal is an initiative to provide a platform to women working or visiting any office of Central Government (Central Ministries, Departments, Public Sector Undertakings, Autonomous Bodies and Institutions etc.) to file complaints related to sexual harassment at workplace under the SH Act.

Those who had already filed a written complaint with the concerned Internal Complaint Committee (ICC) constituted under the SH Act are also eligible to file their complaint through this portal. It is also an effort to provide speedier remedy to women facing sexual harassment at workplace as envisaged under the SH Act.

49. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Union Cabinet has approved the establishment of an Allied and Healthcare Council of India and corresponding State Allied and Healthcare Councils which will play the role of standard-setters and facilitators for professions of Allied and Healthcare.

Features of the Central and State Allied and Healthcare Councils: It includes 15 major professional categories including 53 professions in Allied and Healthcare streams.

The Professional Advisory Bodies under Central and State Councils will examine issues in detail and provide recommendations relating to specific recognized categories.

50. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

ACROSS scheme pertains to the atmospheric science programs of the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES). It addresses different aspects of weather and climate services, which includes warnings for cyclone, storm surges, heat waves, thunderstorms etc. Each of these aspects is incorporated as nine sub-schemes under the umbrella scheme "ACROSS" and is implemented in an integrated. The ACROSS scheme consists of nine sub-programmes which are multi-disciplinary and multi institutional in nature and will be implemented in an integrated manner.

51. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Fisheries are an important sector in India that provides employment to millions of people apart from contributing to the food security of the country. India has over 8,000 km of coastline, and an Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) of over 2 million sq km, and extensive freshwater resources. Thus, fisheries play a vital role in the economy of the country with the practice contributing about 1.07 per cent to the GDP (Gross Domestic Product).

Fisheries in India make up to 5.3 per cent to agriculture and allied activities.

52. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The MOU will provide a mechanism in taking part in establishing relationships with-schools, universities, cultural institutions, science & technology and specialized education institutions, high-tech companies, startups and innovation centers in both countries. The activities are expected to promote creation of new scientific knowledge, generation of intellectual property,

innovations and products development in both countries.

53. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Wildlife Crime Control Bureau is a statutory multi-disciplinary body established by the Government of India under the MoEFCC, to combat organized wildlife crime in the country.

Assist foreign authorities and international organization concerned to facilitate co-ordination and universal action for wildlife crime control.

It also assists and advises the Customs authorities in inspection of the consignments of flora & fauna as per the provisions of Wild Life Protection Act, CITES and EXIM Policy governing such an item.

54. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Uttar Pradesh Government has launched Women Empowerment Resolution Campaign to develop leadership capacities in women and make them vocal for their rights. The purpose of this campaign is to ensure the empowerment of women through different programs in the state.

Under it, the women employees of the state government will go to their house to know about schemes introduced by Center and the state government for women. Issues like education, self-employment, health, sanitation and nutrition will be included under this campaign.

55. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Fisheries and Aquaculture Infrastructure Development Fund (FIDF): It creates employment

opportunities to over 9.40 lakhs fishers/fishermen/ fisher folks and other entrepreneurs in fishing and allied activities.

It attracts private investment in creation and management of fisheries infrastructure facilities. It helps in the creation of fisheries infrastructure facilities both in marine and inland fisheries sectors, which would boost fish production and help achieve target of Rs. 15 million tonne by 2020 under Blue revolution.

It aims to achieve a sustainable growth of 8% to 9% in a move to augment fish production to the level of about 20 million tons by 2022-23.

56. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana (PMMVY) is a maternity benefit rechristened from erstwhile Indira Gandhi Matritva Sahyog Yojana (IGMSY). The IGMSY was launched in 2010.

The scheme is a conditional cash transfer scheme for pregnant and lactating women of 19 years of age or above for first live birth. It provides a partial wage compensation to women for wage-loss during childbirth and childcare and to provide conditions for safe delivery and good nutrition and feeding practices.

57. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The ministry of road transport and highways has approved the sale of quadricycles for personal use. Quadricycles will not be allowed for transporting cargo or luggage. The government has also approved full electric or hybrid models of

Quadricycle vehicles but even those models cannot skip the stringent crash test norms.

58. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

To increase transparency and build transport solutions, the transport department of the Delhi government has launched the Open Transit Data platform which provides real-time datasets free of cost.

The portal was designed and developed by IIT Delhi on behalf of the Delhi government. The government believes that application developer and researchers would be able to use the data for bringing out transport solutions.

59. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The 11 state-run banks, which are under the RBI's prompt corrective action (PCA) framework, have seen a 400 basis points increase in their share of retail loans at 19% in the four years ending September 2018. The PCA framework puts restrictions on weaker banks on many aspects, including fresh lending and expansion, and salary hikes, among others.

60. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Mudra Loans are available for non-agricultural activities up to Rs. 10 lakh and activities allied to agriculture such as Dairy, Poultry, Bee Keeping etc, are also covered.

61. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

These organisms play a key role in many aspects of host physiology, ranging from metabolism of otherwise complex indigestible carbohydrates and fats to producing essential vitamins, maintaining

immune systems and acting as a first line of defense against pathogens.

62. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

International Day for the Elimination of Violence against Women was instituted by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in December 1999.

This day is commemorated in memory of Mirabal sisters who were three political activists from Dominican Republic. They were brutally assassinated during the Rafael Trujillo dictatorship (1930-1961) in 1960.

63. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The RIMES is an intergovernmental body registered under United Nations. It is owned and managed by 45 collaborating countries in Asia Pacific and Africa Region. India is chairman of the body. It was established in 2009 and was registered with UN in July 2009.

Odisha Government has signed Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Regional Integrated Multi-Hazard Early Warning System (RIMES) to enhance effective management for all kind of disaster.

64. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Constitution day which is also known as the Samvidhan Divas is celebrated every year on November 26 to mark the day on which the

Constitution of India was adopted. While the adoption of the Constitution took place on November 26, 1949, it came into effect on January 26, 1950. Earlier, this day was commemorated as National Law Day, after a resolution by the Supreme Court Bar Association, a lawyers' body, in 1979.

65. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB): It is Central Armed Police Force (CAPF) entrusted with guarding country's border with Nepal and Bhutan.

It was established in 1963 and functions under administrative control of Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA). Its headquarters are in New Delhi.

It has specialist jurisdictions for national border patrol, security, and integrity.

66. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

This geo-engineering technique known as stratospheric aerosol injection (SAI) could limit rising temperatures that are causing climate change. Stratospheric sulfur aerosols are sulfur-rich particles which exist in the stratosphere region of the Earth's atmosphere.

67. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

A new technology called 'Impact Based Forecasting Approach' has been developed by IMD to assess the rise of water level in rivers and reservoirs by rain and can help state governments to minutely monitor the impact of rainfall.

68. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

A centralized electronic platform for processing interest subvention on bank loans to beneficiaries under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National

Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM). It is designed and developed by Allahabad Bank (Nodal bank).

69. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The Ministry of Women and Child Development has launched the National Festival for Children of Child Care Institutions (CCIs) – Hausla 2018.

The inter-Child Care Institution festival draws children from 18 States for the various events like painting competition, athletics meet, football, chess competition and speech writing as part of the Festival.

Theme of the Event – “Child Safety”

70. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Government of Republic of India and the Government of the People's Republic of China have amended the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) by signing a Protocol.

Purpose of the amendment of DTAA:

- For the avoidance of double taxation.
- For the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income.

71. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The United Nations has announced \$9.2 million in health and nutritional aid for crisis-stricken Venezuela, where hunger and preventable disease are soaring amid the collapse of the country's socialist economic system.

The U.N. Central Emergency Response Fund (CERF) will support projects to provide nutritional support to children less than five years old, pregnant women and lactating mothers at risk, and emergency health care for the vulnerable.

72. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Latest edition of Global Water Monitor & Forecast Watch List has been released by IScience (US based limited liability Corporation).

The findings are based on ISciences Water Security Indicator Model (WSIM). The model analyses global water anomalies using observed temperature and precipitation.

The forecast predicts severe to exceptional surplus water for regions including Jammu and Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Mizoram. Moderate to severe deficits were forecast for Bihar.

73. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Inclusive wealth index, as part of the Inclusive Wealth Report 2018 has been released by the UN Environment and partners.

The Inclusive Wealth Report (IWR) is a biennial effort led by the UN Environment to evaluate the capacities and performance of the nations around the world to measure sustainability of economy and wellbeing of their people.

74. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The World Meteorological Organization and UN Environment established the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) in 1988. UN Environment is also one of several Implementing Agencies for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) and the Multilateral Fund for the Implementation of the Montreal Protocol, and it is also a member of the United Nations Development Group.

75. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

HysIS, the country's first hyper spectral imaging satellite for advanced Earth observation, is slated for the launch. About 30 small satellites of foreign customers will be its co-passengers on the PSLV launcher, numbered C-43.

The primary goal of HysIS is to study the Earth's surface in visible, near-infrared and shortwave infrared regions of the electromagnetic spectrum.

HysIS will be ISRO's first full-scale working satellite with this capability. While the technology has been around, not many space agencies have working satellites with hyper spectral imaging cameras yet.

76. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Raksha Mantri Smt Nirmala Sitharaman has formally launched 'Mission Raksha Gyan Shakti'.

The event showcased salient inventions and innovations achieved by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), and Ordinance Factories (OFs) which have resulted in successful filing of Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) applications.

The Directorate General of Quality Assurance (DGQA) has been entrusted with the responsibility of coordinating and implementing the programme.

77. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The first Sustainable Blue Economy Conference was held in Nairobi, capital of Kenya. It was organized by Kenya and co-hosted by Japan and Canada.

"India endorses the growth of the Blue Economy in a sustainable, inclusive and people centered manner through the framework of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)".

78. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Union Home Minister Shri Rajnath Singh launched Emergency Response Support System (ERSS) for Himachal Pradesh. Himachal Pradesh is the first state to launch pan-India single emergency number '112' under ERSS.

It will connect to Police, Fire, Health and other helplines through an Emergency Response Centre in the State.

79. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Union Government has appointed renowned scientist Nageshwara Rao Guntur as Chairperson of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB).

80. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

La Nina is a climate pattern that describes the cooling of surface ocean waters along the tropical west coast of South America. It is considered to have the opposite effect of El Nino. It brings greater than normal rainfall in Southeast Asia and Australia, and causes drier-than-normal conditions in South America and the Gulf Coast of the United States. La Nina events sometimes follow El Nino events.

81. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Who is a Private Member? Any MP who is not a Minister is referred to as a private member. Bills introduced by Ministers are referred to as government bills.

They are backed by the government and reflect its legislative agenda. Private member's bills purpose is to draw the government's attention to what individual MPs see as issues

and gaps in the existing legal framework, which require legislative intervention.

82. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The International Labour Organization (ILO) has released Global Wage Report 2018-19. As per the report, women are paid the most unequally in India, compared to men, when it comes to hourly wages for labour. On average, women are paid 34% less than men.

In advanced economies (G20), real wage growth declined from 0.9 per cent in 2016 to 0.4 per cent in 2017, meaning near stagnation. By contrast, in emerging economies and developing G20 countries, real wage growth dipped marginally from 4.9 per cent in 2016 and 4.3 per cent in 2017.

83. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The G20 has no permanent staff of its own and its chairmanship rotates annually between nations divided into regional groupings.

The members of the G20 consist of 19 individual countries plus the European Union (EU). The 19-member countries of the forum are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, United Kingdom and the United States. The European Union is represented by the European Commission and by the European Central Bank.

84. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The Climate Vulnerable Forum is an international cooperation group of developing countries tackling global climate change. The CVF was founded by the Maldives government before the 2009 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen, which sought to increase awareness of countries considered vulnerable.

United Nations agencies collaborate in implementing activities linked to the CVF with the UNDP, the lead organization supporting the forum's work. The CVF was formed to increase the accountability of industrialized nations for the consequences of global climate change. Afghanistan, Nepal and Bhutan are its members, whereas India is one of the observer states.

85. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

An award scheme has been instituted with awards of more than Rs. 300 crore to be won by States/Discoms.

The first DISCOM/Power Departments who complete 100% household electrifications will be felicitated with cash award of Rs. 50 Lakh for the employees and 100 crore grants for distribution infrastructure.

The Government is committed to ensure 24x7 access to electricity for all by 31st March 2019.

86. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

It is a bilateral exercise between Indian Air Force (IAF) and US Air Force (USAF) conducted on and over Indian soil. The 2019 edition will be held in West Bengal.

The first such exercise was conducted at IAF air force station in Gwalior from February 2004.

87. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

UNWTO's membership includes 158 countries, 6 Associate Members and over 500 Affiliate Members representing the private sector, educational institutions, tourism associations and local tourism authorities.

88. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

The United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) is the United Nations agency for human settlements and sustainable urban development. It was established in 1978 as an outcome of the First UN Conference on Human Settlements and Sustainable Urban Development (Habitat I) held in Vancouver, Canada in 1976.

It is mandated by the United Nations General Assembly to promote socially and environmentally sustainable towns and cities with the goal of providing adequate shelter for all. It is a member of the United Nations Development Group.

89. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

World Cities Day 2018: World Cities Day is celebrated every year on October 31st. Theme: "Building sustainable and resilient cities".

Significance: The Day is expected to greatly promote the international community's interest in global urbanization, push forward cooperation among countries in meeting opportunities and addressing challenges of urbanization, and contributing to sustainable urban development around the world.

90. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

What does Section 7 of the RBI Act say?

According to Section 7 of the RBI Act the central government is empowered to issue directions it considers necessary for public interest to the central bank from time to time after consultation with the RBI governor.

“The Central Government may from time to time give such directions to the Bank as it may, after consultation with the Governor of the Bank, consider necessary in the public interest,” Section 7(1) of the RBI Act reads.

The sub-section under Section 7 further reads, “Subject to any such directions, the general superintendence and direction of the affairs and business of the Bank shall be entrusted to a Central Board of Directors which may exercise all powers and do all acts and things which may be exercised or done by the Bank.”

Section 7(3) reads, “Save as otherwise provided in regulations made by the Central Board, the Governor and in his absence the Deputy Governor nominated by him in this behalf, shall also have powers of general superintendence and direction of the affairs and the business of the Bank, and may exercise all powers and do all acts and things which may be exercised or done by the Bank.”

91. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The World Bank has released its latest Doing Business Report (DBR, 2019). The report ranks 190 economies based on how easy it is to do business there, taking into account trading regulations, property rights, contract enforcement, investment laws, the availability of

credit and a number of other factors. The first report was published in 2003.

92. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Rashtriya Ekta Diwas was observed on 31st October across the nation. It marks the occasion of the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel.

The government, in 2015, decided to observe Sardar Patel Jayanti Day as Ekta Diwas. This occasion provides an opportunity to re-affirm the inherent strength and resilience of the nation to withstand the threats to its unity, integrity and security.

93. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

VAHAN - The Integrated Solution for Vehicle Registration

VAHAN is a highly flexible and comprehensive system that takes care of all the burdensome activities of Vehicle Registration, leaving the Transport Department to deal with more important business issues. The software enables the processes at RTO/DTO/MLO/SDM involving Vehicle Registration, Fitness, Taxes, Permits & Enforcement to get computerized.

The State Transport Department is governed by both Central Motor Vehicle Regulation (CMVR) and state specific Motor Vehicle Regulation (State MVR). Consequently, Vahan was conceptualized as a product that would capture the functionalities as mandated by CMVR as well as state MVRs.

VAHAN Services

- ✓ Vehicle Registration
- New Vehicle Registration

- Renewal of Registration
- Transfer of Ownership
- Change of Address etc.
- ✓ Permit
- Issue of National & Interstate Permit
- Renewal of Permit
- ✓ Taxes
- State-wise tax calculation & Payment
- ✓ Fitness
- Issue of Fitness Certificate
- Renewal of Fitness Certificate
- ✓ Enforcement
- Issue of Challan
- Settlement of Penalty Amount

94. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Blue Bond is a part of an initiative that combines public and private investment to mobilise resources for empowering local communities and businesses. It will greatly assist Seychelles in achieving a transition to sustainable fisheries and safeguarding oceans.

The Seychelles blue bond is partially guaranteed by a USD 5 million guarantee from the World Bank (IBRD) and is further supported by a USD 5 million concessional loans from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) which will partially cover interest payments for the bond.

95. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

India has successfully conducted the night trial of the indigenously developed nuclear capable Agni-I ballistic missile off the Odisha coast. The surface-to-surface missile test was test-fired as part of a user-trial from the Abdul Kalam Island off Odisha coast.

Agni-I missile has a specialised navigation system which ensures it reaches the target with a high degree of accuracy and precision.

96. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

International biologists have launched Earth BioGenome Project (EBP)- an ambitious project to read all the DNA in each of the world's known animal, plant and fungal species over the next 10 years, sequencing 1.5m different genomes at an estimated cost of \$4.7bn.

97. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Dawn, a NASA spacecraft that launched 11 years ago and studied two of the largest objects in the asteroid belt, has ended its mission after running out of fuel.

98. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

ASTROSAT is India's first dedicated multi wavelength space observatory. This scientific satellite mission endeavors for a more detailed understanding of our universe.

ASTROSAT is designed to observe the universe in the Visible, Ultraviolet, low and high energy X-ray regions of the electromagnetic spectrum simultaneously with the help of its five payloads.

This mission has put ISRO in a very exclusive club of nations that have space-based observatories. Only the United States, European Space Agency, Japan and Russia have such observatories in space.

99. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Government to set up National Sports Stadium for differently-abled in Meghalaya:

The centre has announced that a stadium of international standard for differently-abled persons will be set up in Meghalaya.

100. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Shifting of the jurisdiction of 16 types of corporate offences from the special courts to in-house adjudication, which is expected to reduce the case load of Special Courts by over 60%, thereby enabling them to concentrate on serious corporate offences.

The penalty has been reduced to half for small companies and one person companies of that applicable to normal companies.

101. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

The Head of the US Treasury Steven Mnuchin has announced that Washington wants the world-wide payment network to cut off its services to the entities that were affected by Iran sanctions and warned that otherwise SWIFT might be sanctioned as well.

102. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

A Loan Agreement was recently signed between India and Japan on Japanese Official Development Assistance loan for the construction of Turga Pumped Storage (I) of Yen 29.442 Billion (Rs. 1817 crore approximately).

The Turga Pumped Storage Project on Turga nala is a closed loop type Pumped Storage Project located in Purulia district of West Bengal.

The Turga Pumped Storage Project envisages utilization of rainfall in the catchment of the Turga Nala in Ayodhya hills for peak power

generation for a Pumped Storage type project development.

103. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Dharma Guardian 2018: It is a joint military exercise between India and Japan.

Why in News? The first edition of this joint military exercise is being held in Mizoram.

Aim: The exercise is aimed at developing mutual understanding and respect between militaries of both countries, as also facilitate in tracking worldwide phenomenon of terrorism.

104. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The following are the objectives of the Commission:

- To prevent practices having adverse effect on competition.
- To promote and sustain competition in markets.
- To protect the interests of consumers.
- To ensure freedom of trade.

105. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

Generally, a PCR is managed by a public authority like the central bank or the banking supervisor, and reporting of loan details to the PCR by lenders and/or borrowers is mandated by law.

The Reserve Bank has initiated steps to set up a wide-based digital Public Credit Registry (PCR) to capture details of all borrowers, including willful defaulters and also the pending

legal suits in order to check financial delinquencies.

106. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Odisha Government has launched Saura Jalnidhi scheme to encourage use of solar energy in irrigation by farmers.

The beneficiary of this scheme will be farmers who have valid farmer identity cards and have minimum 0.5 acres of agricultural land.

107. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Opening the third round of the Regional connectivity scheme (RCS), the Ministry of Civil Aviation has invited proposals for air routes that include tourist destinations. The deadline for submitting applications is November 20.

Under this scheme, the government has allowed seaplanes to operate commercial passenger flights. Included among the 10 destinations that the government proposes to connect through seaplanes are the recently unveiled Statue of Unity at Sardar Sarovar Dam, Sabarmati Riverfront in Ahmedabad, Tehri Dam in Uttarakhand and Nagarjuna Sagar in Telangana.

108. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

India has declared that its nuclear triad, stated in its nuclear doctrine, is operational after indigenous ballistic missile nuclear submarine

INS Arihant recently achieved a milestone by conducting its first deterrence patrol.

The submarine recently returned from its first deterrence patrol, completing the establishment of the country's survivable nuclear triad. INS Arihant is now capable of prowling the deep seas carrying ballistic missiles equipped with nuclear warheads.

109. Answer: (d)

Explanation:

Ministry of Food Processing Industries (MoFPI) has approved the operationalisation strategy for Operation Greens.

NAFED will be the Nodal Agency to implement price stabilisation measures. MoFPI will provide 50 percent of the subsidy on transportation of Tomato Onion Potato (TOP) Crops from production to storage; and hiring of appropriate storage facilities for TOP Crops.

110. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

Shakti:

It is aimed at developing industrial-grade microprocessors and other components of the microprocessor ecosystem.

It was designed, developed and booted by IIT Madras with microchip fabricated in ISRO's Semi-Conductor Laboratory at Chandigarh.

It has been developed under project partly funded by Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), as part of two-decade-old efforts to develop indigenous microprocessors.

111. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) in partnership with HCL Foundation and German development agency GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit) had organized "Bal Ganga Mela" at HCL's Noida campus on November 4, 2018.

National Ganga Council under chairmanship of Hon'ble Prime Minister of India. Empowered Task Force (ETF) on river Ganga under chairmanship of Hon'ble Union Minister of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation. National Mission for Clean Ganga(NMCG). State Ganga Committees.

District Ganga Committees in every specified district abutting river Ganga and its tributaries in the states.

112. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

ICGS Varaha is a new Offshore patrol vessel (OPV) launched by the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). It is fourth in the series of 98 M OPVs designed and built indigenously by Larsen & Toubro (L&T).

It also equipped with an Integrated Bridge System (IBS), Automated Power Management System (APMS), Integrated Platform Management System (IPMS), and High Power External Fire Fighting (EFF) system.

113. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The functions of NTCA are as follows:
Ensuring normative standards in tiger reserve management
Preparation of reserve specific tiger conservation plan
Laying down annual/ audit report before Parliament
Instituting State level Steering Committees under the Chairmanship of Chief Minister and establishment of Tiger Conservation Foundation. According approval for declaring new Tiger Reserves.

114. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

The Border Area Development Programme (BADP) has been implemented through 17 States (viz. Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Bihar, Gujarat,

Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Punjab, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tripura, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and West Bengal) which constitute the International Land Borders.

The main objective of the BADP is to meet the special developmental needs and well being of the people living in remote and inaccessible areas situated near the international border and to saturate the border areas with the entire essential infrastructure through convergence of Central/ State/ BADP/ Local schemes and participatory approach.

115. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

Ganga Gram Swachchhata Sammelan was recently organized at Chyavan Rishi Ashram in Chousa Village of Buxar district in Bihar. Ganga Gram vision is an integrated approach for holistic development of villages situated on the banks of River Ganga with active participation of the villagers.

The objectives of Ganga Gram Project include solid and liquid waste management, renovation of ponds and water resources, water conservation projects, organic farming, horticulture, and promotion of medicinal plants.

116. Answer: (b)

Explanation:

India has been elected as a Member of the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) Council for another 4-year term (2019-2022). The elections to the Council were held during the ongoing ITU Plenipotentiary Conference 2018 at Dubai, UAE.

By securing 165 votes, India ranked third among the 13 countries elected to the Council from the Asia-Australasia region, and eighth

among the 48 countries elected to the Council globally. The ITU has 193 member states who elect representatives to the Council.

117. Answer: (a)

Explanation:

It will be set up in Relli village of Vizianagaram District of Andhra Pradesh. It will be established under Thirteenth Schedule to Andhra Pradesh Reorganisation Act, 2014.

118. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

AMF TCP is an international platform under the framework of International Energy Agency (IEA) for co-operation among countries to promote cleaner and more energy efficient fuels & vehicle technologies.

The activities of AMF TCP are deployment and dissemination of Advanced Motor Fuels. It looks upon the transport fuel issues in a systemic way taking into account the production, distribution and end use related aspects.

119. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

The Summit is a first-of-its-kind solutions-focused event that will bring together leaders from around the world to explore concrete means and pathways to address the climate threat that comes from the growing demand from room air conditioners.

The event is jointly organized by the Department of Science and Technology, Government of India, along with Rocky Mountain Institute, Alliance for An Energy Efficient Economy (AEEE), Conservation X Labs and CEPT University.

120. Answer: (c)

Explanation:

SIMBEX 18 – marks Silver Jubilee this Year:

The 25th edition of SIMBEX, an acronym for “Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise” is being held off Andaman Sea and Bay of Bengal. SIMBEX 2018 will be the largest edition since 1994 in terms of scale and complexity.

ANALOG IAS