

The Best Weekly Current Affairs Magazine for Civil Services Exam

PERFECT

7

Weekly Current Affairs

June 2021 | ISSUE 02



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DHYEYA IAS : AN INTRODUCTION



Vinay Kumar Singh
Founder & CEO

The guiding philosophy of the institute, throughout, has been creation of knowledge base.

Dhyeya IAS inculcates human values and professional ethics in the students, which help them make decisions and create path that are good not only for them, but also for the society, for the nation, and for the world as whole. To fulfill its mission in new and powerful ways, each student is motivated to strive towards achieving excellence in every endeavor. It is done by making continuous improvements in curricula and pedagogical tools.

The rigorous syllabi not only instills in them, a passion for knowledge but also attempts to teach them how to apply that knowledge in real-life situations. The programmes lay emphasis on well-rounded personality development of the students and also in inculcating the values of honesty and integrity in them.



Q.H. Khan
Managing Director

Dhyeya IAS is an institution that aims at the complete development of the student.

Our faculty are hand-picked and highly qualified to ensure that the students are given every possible support in all their academic endeavors. It is a multi-disciplinary institution which ensures that the students have ready access to a wide range of academic material.

Our brand of education has broad horizons as we believe in exposure. Our students are encouraged to widen their knowledge base and study beyond the confinements of the syllabus. We aim to lend a gentle guiding hand to make our students recognize their inner potential and grow on their own accord into stalwarts of tomorrow's society.

PERFECT 7 : AN INTRODUCTION



Kurban Ali
Chief Editor

With immense pleasure I would like to inform you that the new version of 'Perfect 7', from the Dhyeya IAS, is coming with more information in a very attractive manner. Heartily congratulations to the editorial team. The 'Perfect 7' invites a wider readership in the Institute. The name and fame of an institute depends on the caliber and achievements of the students and teachers. The role of the teacher is to nurture the skills and talents of the students as a facilitator. This magazine is going to showcase the strength of our Institute. Let this be a forum to exhibit the potential of faculties, eminent writers, authors and students with their literary skills and innovative ideas.

Please do visit our website www.dhyeyaias.com and our youtube channel for regular and updated information on current affairs.



Ashutosh Singh
Managing Editor

We have not only given the name 'Perfect 7' to our magazine, but also left no stone unturned to keep it 'near to perfect'. We all know that beginning of a task is most vital and full of challenges. So we met the same fate.

Publishing 'Perfect 7' provided us various challenges because from the beginning itself we kept our bar too high to ensure the quality. Right from the very first issue we had a daunting task to save aspirants from the 'misinformation' or 'overdose of information'. Focussing on civil services examination 'Perfect 7' embodies in itself perfect friend and guide in your preparation. This weapon is built to be precise yet comprehensive. It is not about bombardment of mindless facts, rather an analysis of various facets of the issues, selected in a systematic manner. We adopted the 'Multi Filter' and 'Six Sigma' approach, in which a subject or an issue is selected after diligent discussion on various levels so that the questions in the examination could be covered with high probability.

Being a weekly magazine there is a constant challenge to provide qualitative study material in a time bound approach. It is our humble achievement that we feel proud to make delivered our promise of quality consistently without missing any issue since its inception.

Your suggestions and popular demands always motivate us and keep our morale high.

May this version of 'Perfect 7' instill a new energy and a new spirit in you. We wish that the bond of affection between you and Dhyeya IAS reaches at a new height.



Send us your suggestions, comment, views and feedback for guiding us on

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PREFACE



Dhyeya family has decided to bring a new colourful and vibrant version of '**Perfect 7**' – a panacea for current affairs, which will add positive and dynamic energy in your preparation.

'**Perfect7**' is an outstanding compilation of current affairs topics as per the new pattern of Civil Services Examination (CSE). It presents weekly analysis of information and issues (national and international) in the form of Articles, News Analysis, Brain Boosters, PIB Highlights and Graphical Information, which helps to understand and retain the information comprehensively. Hence, '**Perfect 7**' will build in-depth understanding of various issues in different facets.

'**Perfect7**' is our genuine effort to provide correct, concise and concrete information, which helps students to crack the CSE. This magazine is the result of the efforts of the eminent scholars and the experts from different fields. '**Perfect 7**' is surely a force multiplier in your effort and plugs the loopholes in the preparation.

We believe in environment of continuous improvement and learning. Your constructive suggestions and comments are always welcome, which could guide us in further revision of this magazine.

Omveer Singh Chaudhary

Editor
Dhyeya IAS

As a proud jewel of Dhyeya IAS, '**Perfect 7**' now comes in a new coloured avatar. '**Perfect 7**' is a quintessential part of your preparation strategy for Civil Services Examination. A regular and manageable dose of current affairs will now reach you in new format, making it more reader friendly. Our humble attempt to serve you is surely rewarded by your appreciations. It encourages us to innovate and provide the best as per our ability.

A dedicated team of experts at Dhyeya IAS toils night and day to make your dream of Civil Services come true. I heartily thank and express my gratitude to the esteemed readers and all the people involved in making this magazine a shining star in the galaxy of Dhyeya IAS.

Rajat Jhingan

Editor
Dhyeya IAS

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Issues of the Week

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- ◆ Eighth Global Nitrogen Conference
- ◆ X-Press Pearl Cargo Ship
- ◆ Delta Variant of COVID-19
- ◆ Research Design & Standards Organization
- ◆ Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy 2021

GS Paper-1

Indian Heritage and Culture, History and Geography of the World and Society

1. 37th Anniversary of Operation Blue Star

Why in News?

- ◆ Many Sikh organisations have organised several programmes to celebrate 37th anniversary of Operation Bluestar.

About Operation Blue Star

- ◆ Operation Bluestar was a military action ordered by then PM Indira Gandhi to flush out Sikh militants holed up in Harmandir Sahib Complex (Golden Temple) in Amritsar in June 1984. The operation was carried out to save the sanctity of the holy site by eliminating the Sikh extremist religious leader Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale and his armed militant group.
- ◆ The Harmandir Sahib, also known as the Golden Temple, is considered as the holiest site for Sikhs.
- ◆ Operation Bluestar was a two-fold operation - the first one was called Operation Metal, which was restricted to eliminating the armed militants holed up in the Golden Temple complex. This was followed by Operation Shop, which was carried out across Punjab to ensure that all suspects were captured or killed.



- ◆ The operation resulted in the death of Bhindranwale and a high casualty figure among the army, the civilians and the militants.
- ◆ The assault on Golden Temple was heavily criticised by Sikhs worldwide and had led to several Sikhs resigning from administrative positions.
- ◆ Prime Minister Indira Gandhi was assassinated by her Sikh bodyguards after Operation Bluestar, triggering a further wave of retaliation in form of anti-Sikh riots in Delhi.
- ◆ The operation, which was reportedly backed by ISI Pakistan, had made his political claims very clear. He wanted the Indian government to pass the Anandpur Resolution, and thereby agree to the formation of a separate state of Khalistan for Sikhs.
- ◆ Since 1982, the radical leader of Sikhism had managed to gain enough support for his cause and by mid-1983 had set up a base inside the Golden Temple complex, with ammunition and his followers.
- ◆ The Operation Blue Star was launched between June 1 and June 6, 1984 with the aim of getting rid of Bhindranwale and his demands.

Background

- ◆ Bhindranwale, who was reportedly

GS Paper-2

Governance, Constitution, Polity, Social Justice and International relations

1. SDG India Index 2020–21

Why in News?

- ◆ NITI Aayog has released the third edition of the SDG India Index and Dashboard 2020–21.

About SDG Index

- ◆ The index is developed in collaboration with the United Nations in India.
- ◆ It tracks the progress of all states and UTs on 115 indicators aligned with the National Indicator Framework (NIF) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.
- ◆ First launched in December 2018, the index has become the primary tool for monitoring progress on the SDGs in India.
- ◆ It has also fostered competition among the states and UTs by ranking them on the global goals.
- ◆ The SDG India Index scores range between 0–100, higher the score of a State/UT, the greater the distance to target achieved.
- ◆ States and UTs are classified in four categories based on their SDG India Index score — aspirant: 0–49; performer: 50–64; front-runner: 65–99; achiever: 100.

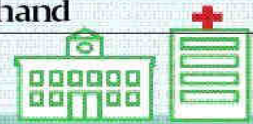
Top 5 positions

State	Score
Kerala	75
Himachal Pradesh, Tamil Nadu	74
Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Karnataka, Uttarakhand	72
Sikkim	71
Maharashtra	70



Bottom 5 positions

State	Score
Chhattisgarh, Nagaland, Odisha	61
Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh	60
Assam	57
Jharkhand	56
Bihar	52



- ◆ From covering 13 Goals with 62 indicators in its first edition in 2018, the third edition of the index covers 16 Goals on 115 quantitative indicators.

Key Findings

- ◆ The country's overall SDG score improved by 6 points—from 60 in 2019 to 66 in 2020–21. This positive stride towards achieving the targets is largely driven by exemplary country-wide performance in Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation) and Goal 7 (Affordable and Clean Energy), where the composite Goal scores are 83 and 92, respectively.
- ◆ Currently, there are no states in the aspirant and achiever category;

15 states/UTs are in the performer category and 22 states/UTs in the front runner category.

- ◆ While Kerala retained its rank as the top with a score of 75, Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu both took the second spot with a score of 74.
- ◆ Bihar, Jharkhand and Assam were the worst performing states in this year's India index.
- ◆ Chandigarh maintained its top spot among the UTs with a score of 79, followed by Delhi (68).
- ◆ Mizoram, Haryana and Uttarakhand are the top gainers in 2020–21 in terms of improvement in score from 2019, with an increase of 12, 10 and 8 points, respectively.

2. Model Tenancy Act

Why in News?

- ◆ The Union Cabinet has approved the Model Tenancy Act (MTA) to streamline the process of renting property in India and aid the rent economy in the estate sector.

Rationale Behind

- ◆ As per Census 2011, more than 1 crore houses were lying vacant in urban areas.
- ◆ The existing rent control laws are restricting the growth of rental housing and discourage owners from renting out their vacant houses due to fear of repossession.
- ◆ One of the potential measures to unlock the vacant house is to bringing transparency and accountability in the existing system of renting of premises and to balance the interests of both the property owner and tenant in a judicious manner.

Key Features

- ◆ States can adopt the Act as it is with fresh legislation, since it is a state

subject, or they can amend their existing rent acts to factor in the new MTA. States and Union Territories have MoUs with the Centre under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Urban which has this provision.

- ◆ The Act aims to formalise the shadow market of rental housing, unlock vacant properties, increase rental yields, ease/remove exploitative practices, reduce procedural barriers in registration, and increase transparency and discipline.
- ◆ After enforcement of this Act, no person can let or take on rent any premises except by an agreement in writing. Repeal of local rent control Acts has been a politically sensitive issue in cities with high-value rent markets.
- ◆ The new Act will be applicable prospectively and will not affect existing tenancies.
- ◆ The Act seeks to cover urban and as well as rural areas.
- ◆ States will set up a grievance redressal mechanism comprising

of Rent Authority, Rent Court and Rent Tribunal to provide fast-track resolution of disputes. Disposal of a complaint/appeal by the Rent Court and the Rent Tribunal will be mandatory within 60 days.

Significance

- ◆ It will help overhaul the legal framework with respect to rental housing across the country, which would help spur its overall growth.
- ◆ It will enable creation of adequate rental housing stock for all the income groups thereby addressing the issue of homelessness. It will also enable institutionalisation of rental housing by gradually shifting it towards the formal market.
- ◆ The Act will facilitate unlocking of vacant houses for rental housing purposes. It is expected to give a fillip to private participation in rental housing as a business model for addressing the huge housing shortage.

3. Supreme Court on Protection of Child Rights

Why in News?

- ◆ The Supreme Court has agreed to intervene after the National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) sounded the alarm on a spate of complaints about illegal adoption of children orphaned by COVID-19 through private individual and organisations.

Key Points

- ◆ The NCPCR statistics showed that

3,621 children were orphaned, 26,176 children lost either parent and 274 children were abandoned between April 1, 2021 to June 5, 2021.

- ◆ The second wave of the pandemic was at its worst form during this period, leaving a trail of death across the country.
- ◆ The NCPCR has received many complaints in May that private individuals and organisations have been actively collecting data on these

children while claiming that they want to assist families and children in adoption.

- ◆ Social media posts are circulating that children are up for adoption. This is plainly illegal and violates the Juvenile Justice Act.
- ◆ The adoption of orphaned/abandoned/surrendered children is lawful only after the adoption procedure as given under the Juvenile Justice Act, 2015 is followed and the final adoption order is passed by the prescribed authority.

- ◆ The provision prohibits the disclosure of identity of children with regard to the name, school, age, address or any information which would reveal the essential details of the child.
- ◆ The national child rights body said information about these children, including their personal details, are being leaked from within government sources to private bodies, which circulate them.
- ◆ The NCPCR urged the court to direct the States and Union Territories to not place any confidential information about children in the public domain which would make them susceptible to trafficking.
- ◆ The Commission is also concerned to note that several NGOs are seeking monetary support in the name of children impacted by COVID. However, there is no disclosure to authorities regarding actual beneficiaries, as mandated under the JJ Act, 2015.
- ◆ The Commission asked the court to direct the States and UTs to create State Juvenile Justice Funds to enable the credit of donations/ contributions/ subscriptions directly in the notified account.

About NCPCR

- ◆ The National Commission for

Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) was set up in March 2007 under the Commissions for Protection of Child Rights (CPCR) Act, 2005.

- ◆ NCPCR is a statutory body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
- ◆ The Commission's mandate is to ensure that all laws, policies, programmes, and administrative mechanisms are in consonance with the child rights perspective as enshrined in the Constitution of India and also the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- ◆ The Child is defined as a person in the 0 to 18 years age group.

4. G7 Summit

Why in News?

- ◆ At the invitation of UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson, Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the Outreach Sessions of the G7 Summit on June 12 and June 13, in virtual format.

Introduction

- ◆ The UK currently holds the presidency of the G7 and has invited India, along with Australia, Republic of Korea and South Africa, as guest countries for the Summit.
- ◆ The meetings will be held in hybrid mode. The G7 comprises the US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan.

Key Points

- ◆ The theme for the summit is 'Build Back Better' and the UK has outlined four priority areas for its presidency.
- ◆ These are leading the global recovery from coronavirus while strengthening resilience against future pandemics; promoting future prosperity by championing free and fair trade; tackling climate change and preserving

the planet's biodiversity; and championing shared values and open societies.

- ◆ The leaders are expected to exchange views on the way forward for the world amid the pandemic, with focus on health and climate change.

Participation of India

- ◆ Since 2014, this is the second time PM Modi will be participating in a G7 meeting.
- ◆ India had been invited by the G7 French Presidency in 2019 to the Biarritz Summit as a "Goodwill Partner" and the Prime Minister participated in the Sessions on 'Climate, Biodiversity and Oceans' and 'Digital Transformation'.
- ◆ During Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's UPA rule, India attended the G8 five times.
- ◆ Russia was indefinitely suspended in March 2014 after the annexation of Crimea, reducing the count of the G8.

India's Stack

- ◆ India has long called for reforming global

institutions and groupings to reflect modern-day geopolitical realities.

- ◆ Trumps' offer to expand G7 fitted into New Delhi's idea of being part of the global high table. With an assertive China looming, the US is calling all like-minded countries to partner in dealing with Beijing. If Biden and Johnson want to take the leap forward and constitute a global democratic alliance of 10-11 countries, it will be an important signal.
- ◆ As India faces a massive shortage of vaccines, Delhi will be watching the allocation announced by the US President very carefully.
- ◆ This means that India is likely to get vaccines from the US — both directly as well as through COVAX. Initial estimates suggest India will get about 2 to 3 million vaccines in the first tranche.
- ◆ On Washington's rapprochement with Moscow, New Delhi will be extremely relieved as the US can then focus on China. While that is easier said than done, drawing away Russia from Beijing could be one of the game-changers in current geo-politics.

5. 24th BIMSTEC Day

Why in News?

- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended warm greetings on the occasion of 24th BIMSTEC Day.

Key Points

- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has acknowledged the progress made by the grouping on several fronts in recent years. He also stressed the need to continue to work together in the fight against the pandemic.
- ◆ Prime Minister Narendra Modi has also expressed his appreciation for enhanced regional cooperation under BIMSTEC framework which has intensified substantially in the recent years.

- ◆ PM Modi underlined the progress that has been made on several fronts including the finalization of the BIMSTEC Master Plan for Transport Connectivity and the text of the BIMSTEC Charter.

- ◆ The prime minister also complimented Sri Lanka, the current Chair of BIMSTEC, for providing "able leadership" to the grouping during this time.

- ◆ India has been making concerted efforts to make BIMSTEC a vibrant forum for regional cooperation as initiatives under SAARC (South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation) were not moving forward for a variety of reasons.

About BIMSTEC

- ◆ The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a regional organization comprising seven Member States lying in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal.
- ◆ This sub-regional organization came into being on 6 June 1997 through the Bangkok Declaration.
- ◆ It constitutes seven Member States: five deriving from South Asia, including Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and two from Southeast Asia, including Myanmar and Thailand.

6. Performance Grading Index 2019-20

Why in News?

- ◆ The Ministry of Education has released the Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2019-20 for states and Union Territories.

About Index

- ◆ The first PGI was published in 2019 with reference year 2017-18.
- ◆ It assesses states' performance in school education based on data drawn from several sources, including the Unified District Information System for Education Plus, National Achievement Survey, and Mid-Day Meal.
- ◆ States are scored on a total of 1,000 points across 70 parameters, which are grouped under five broad categories: access (eg. enrolment ratio, transition



rate and retention rate); governance and management; infrastructure; equity (difference in performance between scheduled caste students and general category students) and learning outcomes (average score in mathematics, science, languages and social science).

- ◆ The PGI grading system has 10 levels. Level 1 indicates top-notch performance and a score between 951 and 1,000 points. Level II, also known as Grade 1++, indicates a score between 901 and 950. Those with Grade 1+ (or Level III) have scored between 851 and 900. The lowest is Grade VII, and

it means a score between 0 and 550 points.

Key Findings

- ◆ In PGI 2019-20, no state or Union Territory could achieve the highest grade, that is Level I.
- ◆ Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Puducherry, Punjab and Tamil Nadu have improved overall PGI score by 10%, i.e., 100 or more points.
- ◆ Access Domain: Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Lakshadweep and Punjab have shown improvement by 10% (8 points).
- ◆ Infrastructure and Facilities Domain: As many as thirteen States and UTs have shown improvement by 10%

(15 points) in the Infrastructure and Facilities domain. While, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Odisha have shown improvement by 20% or more.

- ◆ Equity Domain: Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur and Odisha have shown more than 10% improvement in the equity domain.
- ◆ Governance Process Domain: Nineteen States and UTs have shown improvement by 10% (36 points) or more in the Governance Process. Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Punjab, Rajasthan and West Bengal have shown improvement by at least 20% (72 points or more).

Areas to Improve

- ◆ According to the index, states and UTs mainly need to improve their performance in terms of governance processes. This domain carries several parameters, including teacher availability, teachers training, regular inspection, and availability of finances.
- ◆ The second area that requires attention is the Domain for Infrastructure and facilities, where twenty States/UTs have scored less than 120 (80% of maximum possible score in this domain). Two States, Bihar (81) and Meghalaya (87) recorded lowest scores in this domain.
- ◆ This is a cause for concern as a proper school building with adequate facilities is a must to improve the overall quality of school education.

GS Paper-3

Technology, Economic Development, Biodiversity, Environment, Security and Disaster Management

1. 'Five to 50'

Why in News?

- ◆ OneWeb's Low Earth Orbit (LEO) has launched 36 satellites. With this launch OneWeb's LEO constellation reached 218 in-orbit satellites.

About Five to 50 Service

- ◆ The company only has one more launch to complete before it obtains the capacity to enable its 'Five to 50' service of offering internet connectivity to all regions north of 50 degrees latitude.
- ◆ The Five to 50 service is expected to be switched on by June 2021 with global services powered by 648 satellites available in 2022.
- ◆ OneWeb is a global communications company that aims to deliver broadband satellite Internet around the world through its fleet of LEO satellites.

LEO Technology

- ◆ LEO satellites have been orbiting the planet since the 1990s, providing companies and individuals with various communication services.
- ◆ LEO satellites are positioned around 500km-2000km from Earth, compared to stationary orbit satellites which are approximately 36,000km away.
- ◆ Latency, or the time needed for data to be sent and received, is contingent

on proximity. As LEO satellites orbit closer to the Earth, they are able to provide stronger signals and faster speeds than traditional fixed-satellite systems.

- ◆ Additionally, because signals travel faster through space than through fibre-optic cables, they also have the potential to rival if not exceed existing ground-based networks.
- ◆ However, LEO satellites travel at a speed of 27,000 kph and complete a full circuit of the planet in 90-120 minutes. As a result, individual satellites can only make direct contact with a land transmitter for a short period of time thus requiring massive LEO satellite fleets and consequently, a significant capital investment.
- ◆ Due to these costs, of the three mediums of Internet – fibre, spectrum and satellite – the latter is the most expensive.

- ◆ LEO satellite broadband is only preferable in areas that cannot be reached by fibre and spectrum services. It will target the rural populations and military units operating away from urban areas.

Criticisms

- ◆ During the days of the Sputnik and Apollo missions, governments dominated and regulated space-based activities. However, today, the balance

of power has shifted from countries to companies. Therefore, there are questions related to who regulates these companies, especially given the myriad of nations that contribute to individual projects.

- ◆ There are logistical challenges with launching thousands of satellites into space as well. Satellites can sometimes be seen in the night skies which creates difficulties for astronomers as the satellites reflect sunlight to earth, leaving streaks across images.
- ◆ Another worry is that there are already almost 1 million objects larger than 1cm in diameter in orbit, a byproduct of decades of space activities. Those objects, colloquially referred to as 'space junk,' have the potential to damage spacecrafts or collide with other satellites.

Other Similar Projects

- ◆ Starlink, a venture led by Elon Musk's SpaceX.
- ◆ Project Kuiper, led by Amazon.
- ◆ Google's Project Loon was launched in 2013. However, Google's parent company, Alphabet, abandoned the project in 2021.
- ◆ Facebook had also attempted to beam internet down to earth using drones. However, after two failed test flights, it also abandoned the project in 2018.

2. World Bank's Study on Black Carbon

Why in News?

- ◆ World Bank has recently released a report titled “Glaciers of the Himalayas, Climate Change, Black Carbon and Regional Resilience”.

Key Findings

- ◆ The research report from the World Bank covers the Himalaya, Karakoram and Hindu Kush (HKHK) mountain ranges, where, it says, glaciers are melting faster than the global average ice mass.
- ◆ The rate of retreat of HKHK glaciers is estimated to be 0.3 metres per year in the west to 1.0 metre per year in the east. BC adds to the impact of climate change.
- ◆ Enacting new policies can achieve benefits over the projected 23% reduction in Black Carbon as a result of ongoing efforts.
- ◆ Black carbon (BC) deposits produced by human activity which accelerate the pace of glacier and snow melt in the Himalayan region can be sharply reduced through new, currently feasible policies by an additional 50% from current levels.
- ◆ Full implementation of current policies to mitigate BC can achieve a 23% reduction but enacting new policies and incorporating them through regional cooperation among countries can achieve enhanced benefits.
- ◆ Some of the ongoing policy measures to cut BC emissions are enhancing fuel efficiency standards for vehicles, phasing out diesel vehicles and promoting electric vehicles, accelerating the use of liquefied

petroleum gas for cooking and through clean cookstove programmes, as well as upgrading brick kiln technologies.

- ◆ However, with all existing measures, water from glacier melt is still projected to increase in absolute volume by 2040, with impacts on downstream activities and communities.
- ◆ Specifically, in the Himalayas, reducing black carbon emissions from cookstoves, diesel engines, and open burning would have the greatest impact and could significantly reduce radiative forcing and help to maintain a greater portion of Himalayan glacier systems.
- ◆ More detailed modelling at a higher spatial resolution is needed to expand on the work already completed,” it says, calling upon regional governments to review policies on water management, with an emphasis on basin-based regulation and use of price signals for efficiency, careful planning and use of hydropower to reflect changes in water flows and availability, and increasing the efficiency of brick kilns through proven technologies. There must also be greater knowledge sharing in the region.

About Black Carbon

- ◆ BC is a short-lived pollutant that is the second-largest contributor to warming the planet behind carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- ◆ Unlike other greenhouse gas emissions, BC is quickly washed out and can be eliminated from the atmosphere if emissions stop. Unlike historical carbon emissions it is also a localised source with greater local impact.



- ◆ Deposits of BC act in two ways hastening the pace of glacier melt: by decreasing surface reflectance of sunlight and by raising air temperature.

Sources of Black Carbon

- ◆ Industry (primarily brick kilns) and residential burning of solid fuel together account for 45–66% of regional anthropogenic (man-made) BC deposition, followed by on-road diesel fuels (7–18%) and open burning (less than 3% in all seasons).

Importance of Glaciers

- ◆ There are almost 55,000 glaciers in the HKHK mountains, and they store more freshwater “than any other region outside the North and South Poles”.
- ◆ The glaciers contain estimated ice reserves of 163 cubic kilometres, of which almost 80% feeds the Indus, the Ganges and the Brahmaputra.
- ◆ Glacier melt produces flash floods, landslips, soil erosion, and glacial lake outburst floods (GLOF), and in the short run, the higher volumes of melt water could replace receding groundwater downstream. But in the long run, decreased water availability would aggravate water shortage.

3. NASA's Two New Missions to Venus

Why in News?

- ◆ NASA has selected two missions to the planet Venus, Earth's nearest neighbour.
- ◆ The missions called 'DAVINCI+ and VERITAS' have been selected based on their potential for scientific value and the feasibility of their development plans.

About Missions

- ◆ Both missions are part of the space agency's Discovery Program, which began in 1992 to give scientists the chance to launch some missions that use fewer resources and have shorter developmental times.
- ◆ DAVINCI+ is short for 'Deep Atmosphere Venus Investigation of Noble gases, Chemistry, and Imaging' and is the first US-led mission to the planet's atmosphere since 1978.
 - It will try to understand Venus' composition to see how the planet formed and evolved.
 - This mission also consists of a descent sphere that will pass through the planet's thick atmosphere and make observations and take measurements of noble gases and other elements.
 - Significantly, this mission will also try to return the first high resolution photographs of a geological feature that is unique to Venus. This feature, which is called "tesserae" may be comparable to Earth's continents.
 - The presence of tesserae may suggest that Venus has tectonic plates like Earth.
- ◆ The second mission called VERITAS is short for 'Venus Emissivity, Radio



Science, InSAR, Topography, and Spectroscopy' and will map the planet's surface to determine its geologic history and understand the reasons why it developed so differently from Earth.

- VERITAS will orbit Venus with a radar that will help to create a three dimensional reconstruction of its topography which might be able to tell scientists if processes such as plate tectonics and volcanism are still active there.
- This mission will also map the emissions from Venus's surface that may help in determining the type of rocks that exist on Venus—a piece of information that is not exactly known yet.
- It will also determine if active volcanoes are releasing water vapour into the atmosphere.

Why Venus?

- ◆ The results from DAVINCI+ are expected to reshape the understanding of terrestrial planet formation in the solar system and beyond.
- ◆ Taken together, both missions are expected to tell scientists more about the planet's thick cloud cover and the volcanoes on its surface.

- ◆ Further, scientists speculate about the existence of life on Venus in its distant past and the possibility that life may exist in the top layers of its clouds where temperatures are less extreme.

About Venus

- ◆ Venus is the second-brightest object in the sky after the moon. It appears bright because of its thick cloud cover that reflects and scatters light.
- ◆ The planet's thick atmosphere traps heat and is the reason that it is the hottest planet in the solar system, despite coming after Mercury, the closest planet to the Sun.
- ◆ Surface temperatures on Venus can go up to 471 degrees Celsius, which is hot enough to melt lead.
- ◆ Further, Venus moves forward on its orbit around the Sun but spins backwards around its axis slowly. This means on Venus the Sun rises in the west and sets in the East.
- ◆ One day on Venus is equivalent to 243 Earth days because of its backward spinning, opposite to that of the Earth's and most other planets. Venus also does not have a moon and no rings.

4. Eighth Global Nitrogen Conference

Why in News?

- ◆ The eighth triennial conference of the International Nitrogen Initiative (INI) was held virtually from May 31-June 3, 2021.
- ◆ The conference was postponed from May last year due to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

About the Conference

- ◆ INI2020 is co-organized by the International Nitrogen Initiative and hosted by Germany's Federal Environment Agency, with the support of the Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety (BMU).

Key Highlights

- ◆ The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were the main focus of the conference.

- ◆ Human activities have pushed climate change, biodiversity loss, shifts in nutrient cycles (nitrogen and phosphorus) and land use beyond the tolerance limits of planet earth.
- ◆ The difficulty is that they also limit the safe margin available for other environmental issues facing the earth, such as fresh water use, ocean acidification, land use and stratospheric ozone depletion.

- ◆ Fertilisers are a predominant source of nitrous oxide and ammonia pollution.

From Nutrient to Pollutant

- ◆ Nitrogen, which is a vital macronutrient for most plants, is the most abundant element in the atmosphere. A little over 78 per cent of dry air on Earth is nitrogen. But atmospheric nitrogen, or dinitrogen, is unreactive and cannot be utilised by plants directly.
- ◆ Nitrogen becomes a pollutant when

it escapes into the environment and reacts with other organic compounds. It is either released into the atmosphere, gets dissolved in water sources such as rivers, lakes or groundwater, or remains in the soil.

- ◆ While it might lead to favourable growth of species that can utilise this nutrient, nitrogen as a pollutant is often detrimental to the environment and health (see 'Nefarious nitrogen').
- ◆ Additionally, reactive nitrogen compounds like NO_x, ammonia and the greenhouse gas nitrous oxide impact air, water and soil quality, health, biodiversity and climate change, among others.
- ◆ These compounds are lost from fertilisers, manures and sewage as well as from fuel burning in transport and industry. Assessing and managing them sustainably will be crucial to achieve the 17 UN SDGs targeted for 2030.

5. X-Press Pearl Cargo Ship

Why in News?

- ◆ The X-Press Pearl cargo ship that caught fire off western Sri Lanka has begun to sink, raising alarms over oil and chemical spills that could have potentially devastating impacts on the marine and coastal ecosystem.
- ◆ The fire broke out on board the X-Press Pearl cargo ship on May 21.

Key Points

- ◆ Sri Lankan authorities are bracing for a possible oil spill, as a fire-damaged cargo vessel was sinking off the

island's main port in capital Colombo.

- ◆ Sri Lanka lies in a busy shipping lane, midway between the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Malacca.
- ◆ The ship was carrying chemicals and plastic. Therefore, tonnes of plastic pellet deposits are found deposited along the country's beaches.
- ◆ The country's Marine Environment Protection Authority (MEPA), which termed the incident one of Sri Lanka's worst ecological disasters in history, has readied oil spill containment booms, to tackle a possible leak from

the vessel that officials said carried 350 tonnes of oil in its fuel tanks.

What is Oil Spill?

- ◆ An oil spill is oil, discharged accidentally or intentionally, that floats on the surface of water bodies as a discrete mass and is carried by the wind, currents and tides.
- ◆ Oil spills can be partially controlled by chemical dispersion, combustion, mechanical containment and adsorption. They have destructive effects on coastal ecosystems.

Impact on Marine Life

- Oil destroys the insulating ability of fur-bearing mammals, such as sea otters, and the water repellency of a bird's feathers, thus exposing these creatures to the harsh elements.
- Without the ability to repel water and insulate from the cold water, birds and mammals will die from hypothermia.
- Heavy oils may affect several organism functions like respiration, feeding, and thermo-regulation.
- At the same time, the entire ecosystem can change temporarily because of the chemical components and elements of the spilled oil that are toxic to the environment.

6. Delta Variant of COVID-19

Why in News?

- According to the World Health Organisation (WHO), only Delta variant (B.1.617.2) -- one of the three strains of the B.1.617 COVID-19 variant first found in India is a 'variant of concern (VOC)'.

What is Delta Variant?

- Multiple SARS-CoV-2 variants are circulating globally.
- One of these is the B.1.617 lineage, detected in India earlier this year. Early evidence suggests that its sub-lineage B.1.617.2, known as the Delta variant, is more transmissible than contemporary lineages.
- The B.1.617 variant of coronavirus was divided into three strains-- B.1.617.1, B.1.617.2, and B.1.617.3.
- WHO has categorised it as a variant of concern (VOC). WHO classifies a variant as a VOC when it is associated with an increase in transmissibility or detrimental change in COVID-19 epidemiology; increase in virulence; or decrease in the effectiveness of public health measures or available diagnostics, vaccines, therapeutics.
- WHO announced the new naming

DELTA IS 1.6 TIMES MORE TRANSMISSIBLE COMPARED TO ALPHA

- According to the PHE study, there is a 64% increase in the odds of household transmission associated with infection with B.1.617.2 variant compared to B.1.1.7
- This study also found evidence of increased household transmission among households with an index case of Asian ethnicity
- They said households are high risk settings for transmission of Covid-19 and are an important factor in wider community spread
- Delta variant is behind multiple infections in households
- During wave I in Hyderabad, mostly one member in a family was affected
- In wave II, many members in a family are affected

PREVENTION

- Wear mask at home if someone in family is Covid-19 positive
- Those with symptoms after vaccination should isolate themselves
- Avoid sitting together at home in case of a positive case
- Follow Covid-19 protocol to prevent infection within household

system for key COVID19 variants and the labels are based on the Greek alphabet (i.e. Alpha, Beta, Gamma, etc), making them simple, easy to say and remember.

- The Delta variant has now been reported in 62 countries around the world as of June 1.

What makes the Delta Variant a VOC?

- Different variants are characterised

by mutations — or alterations in the virus's genetic material.

- An RNA virus, such as SARS-CoV-2, is made of about 30,000 base pairs of amino acids, placed like bricks next to each other.
- An alteration in any of these base cause a mutation, effectively changing the shape and behaviour of the virus.
- The Delta variant contains multiple mutations in the spike protein.

7. Research Design & Standards Organization

Why in News?

- ◆ Indian Railways' Research Design & Standards Organization (RDSO) has recently become the nation's first institution to be declared as Standard Developing Organization (SDO) under the mission called "One Nation One Standard" on Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS).

Key Highlights

- ◆ The RDSO's standard formulation procedures will be more focused on consensus-based decision making and will entail the extensive engagement of all stakeholders including Academia, Industry, Users, Test Houses, Recognized Labs, etc, in the standard making process from the very initial stages.
- ◆ Following are some major benefits that will flow out of this recognition by the Bureau of Indian Standards:
- ◆ Larger participation of industry/vendors/technology developers/MSME's in Indian Railways supply chain.
- ◆ The competitiveness amongst the industry will increase.
- ◆ There will be a reduction in cost and quantum improvement in the quality of product and services.
- ◆ There will be smooth induction of latest evolving & emerging technologies on Indian Railways.



- ◆ Dependence on imports will reduce and "Make-in-India" will get a boost.
- ◆ Improved ease-of-doing-business.
- ◆ RDSO will be recognized on international standards-making bodies and there will be integration with global supply chain/global trade.

About 'One Nation, One Standard' Scheme

- ◆ The 'One Nation One Standard' Mission was launched in 2019.
- ◆ The mission was envisioned on the line of 'one nation, one ration card' scheme in order to ensure quality products in the country.
- ◆ The objective of the scheme is to ensure there is a synergy and no overlap in the standardisation work in the country, thereby building a 'Brand India' identity in the long run.

About BIS

- ◆ BIS is the National Standard Body of India.
- ◆ It works under the aegis of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution.
- ◆ BIS is responsible for the harmonious development of the activities of standardization, marking and quality certification of goods and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.

About RDSO

- ◆ RDSO is the sole research and development wing of the Ministry of Railways.
- ◆ It is one of India's leading standard formulating body undertaking standardization works for the railway sector.

8. Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy 2021

Why in News?

- ◆ The Reserve Bank of India has announced the monetary policy for 2021.

What is Monetary Policy?

- ◆ Monetary policy is the macroeconomic policy laid down by the central bank.
- ◆ It involves management of money supply and interest rate and is the demand side economic policy used by the government of a country to achieve macroeconomic objectives like inflation, consumption, growth and liquidity.
- ◆ In India, monetary policy of the RBI is aimed at managing the quantity of money in order to meet the requirements of different sectors of the economy and to increase the pace of economic growth.
- ◆ Monetary policy can be expansionary and contractionary in nature. Increasing money supply and reducing interest rates indicate an expansionary policy. The reverse of this is a contractionary monetary policy.

Instruments of Monetary Policy

- ◆ There are several direct and indirect instruments that are used for implementing monetary policy.
- ◆ **Repo Rate:** The fixed interest rate at which the Reserve Bank provides overnight liquidity to banks against the collateral of government and other approved securities under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF).
- ◆ **Reverse Repo Rate:** The fixed interest rate at which the Reserve Bank absorbs liquidity, on an overnight basis, from banks against the collateral of eligible government securities under the LAF.

- ◆ **Liquidity Adjustment Facility (LAF):** The LAF consists of overnight as well as term repo auctions. Progressively, the Reserve Bank has increased the proportion of liquidity injected under fine-tuning variable rate repo auctions of range of tenors. The aim of term repo is to help develop the inter-bank term money market, which in turn can set market based benchmarks for pricing of loans and deposits, and hence improve transmission of monetary policy. The Reserve Bank also conducts variable interest rate reverse repo auctions, as necessitated under the market conditions.
- ◆ **Marginal Standing Facility (MSF):** A facility under which scheduled commercial banks can borrow additional amount of overnight money from the Reserve Bank by dipping into their Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) portfolio up to a limit at a penal rate of interest. This provides a safety valve against unanticipated liquidity shocks to the banking system.
- ◆ **Corridor:** The MSF rate and reverse repo rate determine the corridor for the daily movement in the weighted average call money rate.
- ◆ **Bank Rate:** It is the rate at which the Reserve Bank is ready to buy or rediscount bills of exchange or other commercial papers. This rate has been aligned to the MSF rate and, therefore, changes automatically as and when the MSF rate changes alongside policy repo rate changes.
- ◆ **Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR):** The average daily balance that a bank is required to maintain with the Reserve Bank as a share of such per cent of its Net demand and time liabilities (NDTL) that the Reserve Bank may

notify from time to time in the Gazette of India.

- ◆ **Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR):** The share of NDTL that a bank is required to maintain in safe and liquid assets, such as, unencumbered government securities, cash and gold. Changes in SLR often influence the availability of resources in the banking system for lending to the private sector.
- ◆ **Open Market Operations (OMOs):** These include both, outright purchase and sale of government securities, for injection and absorption of durable liquidity, respectively.
- ◆ **Market Stabilisation Scheme (MSS):** This instrument for monetary management was introduced in 2004. Surplus liquidity of a more enduring nature arising from large capital inflows is absorbed through sale of short-dated government securities and treasury bills. The cash so mobilised is held in a separate government account with the Reserve Bank.

Key Highlights of the Policy

- ◆ RBI has kept the repo rate unchanged at 4% while maintaining an 'accommodative stance' as long as necessary to mitigate the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ◆ The reverse repo rate too was kept unchanged at 3.35 per cent. The Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate and bank rate also remained unchanged at 4.25 percent.
- ◆ The policy cut the economic growth forecast for the current financial year (FY22) to 9.5 per cent from the previous forecast of 10.5 per cent.
- ◆ The RBI targeted retail inflation at 5.1 per cent in the current financial year 2021-22.

Persons of the Week

**Chhatrapati Shivaji
Maharaj**



Sir Anirudh Jugnauth



Lakshmi Nandan Bora



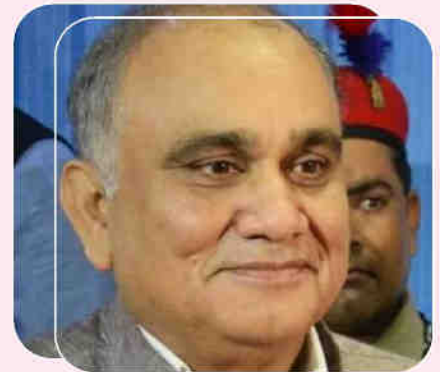
David Diop



Antonio Guterres



Anup Chandra Pandey



Abdulla Shahid



1. Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj

- ◆ Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Coronation Day Anniversary was observed on June 6.
- ◆ Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was crowned the king of Maratha Swaraj at Raigad Fort on June 6 in 1674 for the first time and on September 24, 1674, for the second time.
- ◆ The founder of the Maratha Empire, Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was born in the Bhonsle Maratha clan to Shahaji and Jijabai on February 19, 1630, in present-day Maharashtra.
- ◆ His father was a Maratha general who served the Deccan Sultanates.
- ◆ He was the first indigenous ruler of medieval India to build his own naval force and led his first full-fledged naval expedition in 1665.



2. Sir Anirudh Jugnauth

- ◆ Anerood Jugnauth, former Mauritius prime minister has passed away on June 3.
- ◆ As a mark of respect, the government of India has announced a day's state mourning on Saturday throughout the country.
- ◆ He served as the President of Mauritius from 2003 to 2012 and was elected as Prime Minister six times from 1982 to 2017.
- ◆ He was also a pioneer in the process of de-colonization of the Chagos Islands and the struggle to promote the well being of Chagosian community.
- ◆ He was named for Padma Vibhushan, the second highest civilian award, in the field of public affairs.



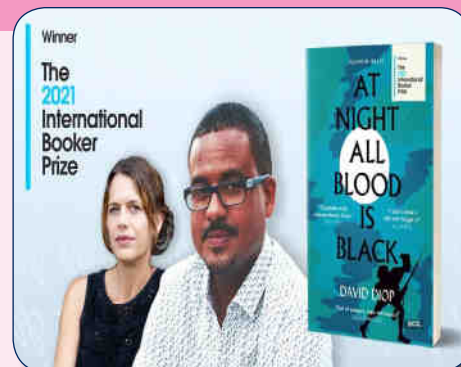
3. Lakshmi Nandan Bora

- ◆ Padma Shri awardee and noted Assamese litterateur Lakshmi Nandan Bora died on June 3 after suffering from Covid-19 complications.
- ◆ An acclaimed novelist and short story writer in the Assamese language, Lakshmi Nandan Bora has authored over 60 books including Patal Bhairavi and Kayakalpa.
- ◆ For Patal Bhairavi, Lakshmi Nandan Bora won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1988. In 2008, he published Kayakalpa, which won the Saraswati Samman from KK Birla Foundation.
- ◆ Lakshmi Nandan Bora was honoured by the Government of India in 2015 with Padma Shri, the fourth highest Indian civilian award.



4. David Diop

- ◆ David Diop has won International Booker Prize with WWI story titled “At Night All Blood is Black”.
- ◆ Born in France and raised in Senegal, Diop teaches 18th-century literature at the University of Pau in southern France.
- ◆ He is the first French author to win the prize, a counterpart to the prestigious Booker Prize for English-language fiction.
- ◆ Diop’s novel, which was published in French in 2018, resonates with present-day debates about racism and colonialism.



5. Antonio Guterres

- ◆ The United Nations Security Council has formally approved Secretary-General António Guterres for a second term- from 1 January 2022 to 31 December 2026.
- ◆ The recommendation will now go to the 193-member General Assembly, which is expected to make the appointment on June 18.
- ◆ The Secretary-General is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council.
- ◆ The Secretary-General’s selection is therefore subject to the veto of any of the five permanent members of the Security Council.



6. Anup Chandra Pandey

- ◆ The Union government has appointed Anup Chandra Pandey, a retired IAS officer of the 1984 batch, Uttar Pradesh cadre, as Election Commissioner.
- ◆ Anup Chandra Pandey has been appointed to the position left vacant by former Chief Election Commissioner Sunil Arora’s retirement on April 12.
- ◆ Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra and Election Commissioner Rajiv Kumar are the other two members on the panel.



7. Abdulla Shahid

- ◆ The Maldives’ Foreign Minister Abdulla Shahid has been elected as the new President of the UN General Assembly (UNGA), winning a three-fourth majority against contender Afghanistan’s former foreign minister Zalmi Rassoul.
- ◆ The election to the UNGA presidential post is held on an annual basis, rotated amongst various regional groupings.
- ◆ The 76th UNGA session (2021-22) was the turn of the Asia-Pacific group. This is the first time the Maldives will be occupying the office of the President of the UNGA.



Places of the Week

**Nashik's Buddhist
Caves Complex**



**Dehing Patkai Wildlife
Sanctuary and Raimona
Reserve Forest of Assam**



**32nd anniversary of
Tiananmen Square
Massacre**



**Anti-hail Guns,
Himachal Pradesh**



**Tulsa massacre
in America**



**'Sea snot' outbreak
in Turkey**



El Salvador



1. Nashik's Buddhist Caves Complex

- ◆ Almost two centuries after a British military officer documented the Trirashmi Buddhist caves — also known as Pandav Leni — in a hill in Nashik, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has found three more caves in the same area.
- ◆ The Trirashmi or Pandav Leni caves are a group of 25 caves that were carved out of Trirashmi Hill between the 2nd century BC and 6th century AD.
- ◆ The caves complex was documented in 1823 by one Captain James Delamaine; it is now an ASI protected site and a tourist destination.



- ◆ The Buddhist sculptures and caves (in Nashik) are a significant early example of

Indian rock-cut architecture representing the Hinayana tradition of Buddhism.

2. Dehing Patkai Wildlife Sanctuary and Raimona Reserve Forest of Assam

- ◆ Assam government has notified recently Dehing Patkai wildlife sanctuary as the 7th national park of the state.
- ◆ The announcement comes shortly after Raimona reserve forest in western Assam's Kokrajhar district was upgraded to a national park on June 5.
- ◆ Other five national parks are Kaziranga, Nameri, Orang, Manas and Dibru-Saikhowa.
- ◆ Assam now is the state with the second highest number of national parks in the country, after Madhya Pradesh's 11. The Union Territory of Andaman and Nicobar has nine national parks.
- ◆ The 111,942-sqkm Dehing Patkai wildlife sanctuary (notified in 2004) is located inside the larger Dehing Patkai Elephant Reserve.
- ◆ Known for its elephant population, Dehing Patkai has 47 mammal species,



47 reptile species and 310 butterfly species.

3. 32nd anniversary of Tiananmen Square Massacre

- ◆ The Tiananmen Square protests, known as the June Fourth Incident in China were student-led demonstrations held in Tiananmen Square, Beijing during 1989.
- ◆ In what is known as the Tiananmen Square Massacre troops armed with assault rifles and accompanied by tanks fired at the demonstrators and those trying to block the military's advance into Tiananmen Square.
- ◆ The popular national movement inspired by the Beijing protests is sometimes called the '89 Democracy Movement' or the Tiananmen Square Incident.



4. Anti-hail Guns, Himachal Pradesh

- ◆ To help out horticulturists who face crop damage due to hailstorms, the Himachal Pradesh government will be testing the use of indigenously developed 'anti-hail guns'.
- ◆ An anti-hail gun is a machine which generates shock waves to disrupt the growth of hailstones in clouds.
- ◆ The gun is "fired" by feeding an explosive mixture of acetylene gas and air into its lower chamber, which releases a shock wave (waves which travel faster than the speed of sound, such as those produced by supersonic aircraft).
- ◆ These shock waves supposedly stop water droplets in clouds from turning into hailstones, so that they fall simply as raindrops.
- ◆ Hail is produced by cumulonimbus



clouds, which are generally large and dark and may cause thunder and lightning.

5. Tulsa massacre in America

- ◆ Joe Biden has become the first sitting U.S. president to visit the site in Tulsa, Oklahoma, where hundreds of Black Americans were massacred by a white mob in 1921, saying the legacy of racist violence and white supremacy still resonates.
- ◆ White residents in Tulsa shot and killed up to 300 Black people on May 31 and June 1, 1921, and burned and looted homes and businesses, devastating a prosperous African-American



community after a white woman accused a Black man of assault.

6. 'Sea snot' outbreak in Turkey

- ◆ Turkey's Sea of Marmara, that connects the Black Sea to the Aegean Sea, has witnessed the largest outbreak of 'sea snot'.
- ◆ The sludge has also been spotted in the adjoining Black and Aegean seas.
- ◆ 'Sea snot' is marine mucilage that is formed when algae are overloaded with nutrients as a result of water pollution combined with the effects of climate change.



- ◆ The nutrient overload occurs when global warming. Water pollution adds to the problem.

7. El Salvador

- ◆ El Salvador has become the first country in the world to formally adopt Bitcoin cryptocurrency as a legal tender.
- ◆ El Salvador has not had its own monetary policy since 2001, when a right-wing government made the US dollar the official currency.
- ◆ Along with Ecuador and Panama, El Salvador is currently among three nations in Latin America to have a 'dollarized economy'.

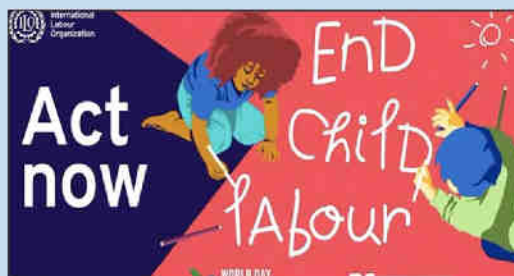


International/National Days of the Week

World Food Safety Day 2021



World Day Against Child Labour 2021



World Blood Donor Day 2021



International Archives Day 2021



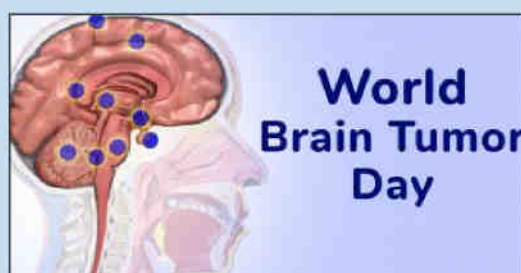
World Ocean Day 2021



World Environment Day 2021



World Brain Tumor Day 2021



1. World Food Safety Day 2021

- World Food Safety Day is celebrated every year on June 7 to draw global attention to the health consequences of contaminated food and water.
- The theme of World Food Safety Day 2021 is “Safe food now for a healthy tomorrow”. It stresses that the production and consumption of safe food have immediate and long-term benefits for people, the planet, and the economy.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) jointly facilitate the observance of World Food Safety Day, in collaboration with the Member States and other relevant organizations.



2. World Day Against Child Labour 2021

- World Day Against Child Labour is observed every year on June 12 to spread awareness about the illegal employment practice and also talk about the ways to eradicate it completely.
- This year's theme is 'Act now: End child labour'.
- It was launched by the International Labour Organization (ILO), an agency of the United Nations, in 2002.
- According to the latest report by the ILO and Unicef, child labour has soared to 160 million worldwide, the first increase in 20 years.
- There also has been a significant rise in the number of children between 5-11 years in child labour, who account for over half of the global figure.



3. World Blood Donor Day 2021

- World Blood Donor Day takes place on 14 June each year.
- The aim is to raise global awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products for transfusion and of the critical contribution voluntary, unpaid blood donors make to national health systems.
- The birth anniversary of Karl Landsteiner is celebrated as World Blood Donor Day on June 14. This day was first initiated and established on June 14, 2004, by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- For 2021, the World Blood Donor Day slogan will be “Give blood and keep



the world beating”.

4. International Archives Day 2021

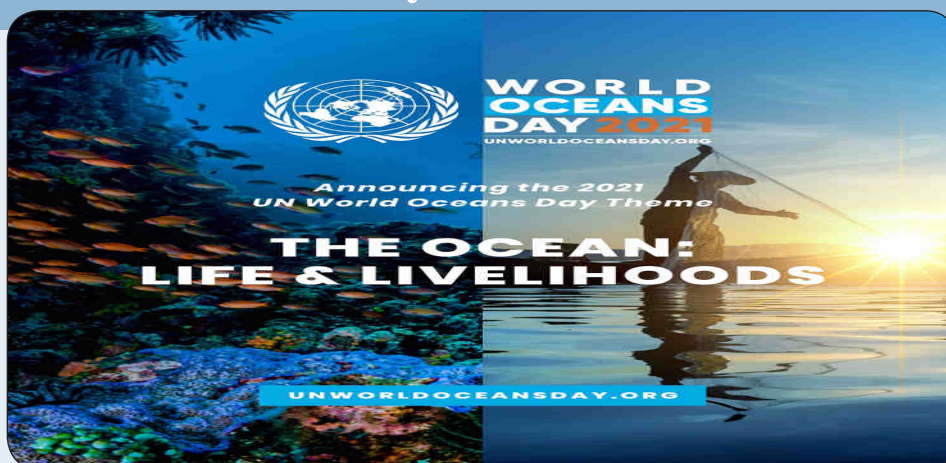
- ◆ International Archives Day is celebrated every year on June 9.
- ◆ International Archives Day is intended to raise awareness of the importance of records and archives, in order to make it understood that records and archives provide the foundation for people's rights and identity.
- ◆ During the 2004 International Congress in Vienna, 2000 attending participants



adopted a resolution requesting that the United Nations (UN) designate a specific day to mark the importance and value of archives.

5. World Ocean Day 2021

- ◆ World Ocean Day is observed every year on June 8.
- ◆ The theme of this year's World Oceans Day is 'The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods'.
- ◆ It is especially relevant in the lead-up to the UN Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development, which will run from 2021 to 2030.
- ◆ On the occasion of World Oceans Day, the United Nations (UN) has called for



sustainable efforts and stopping plastic pollution in order to save the oceans.

6. World Environment Day 2021

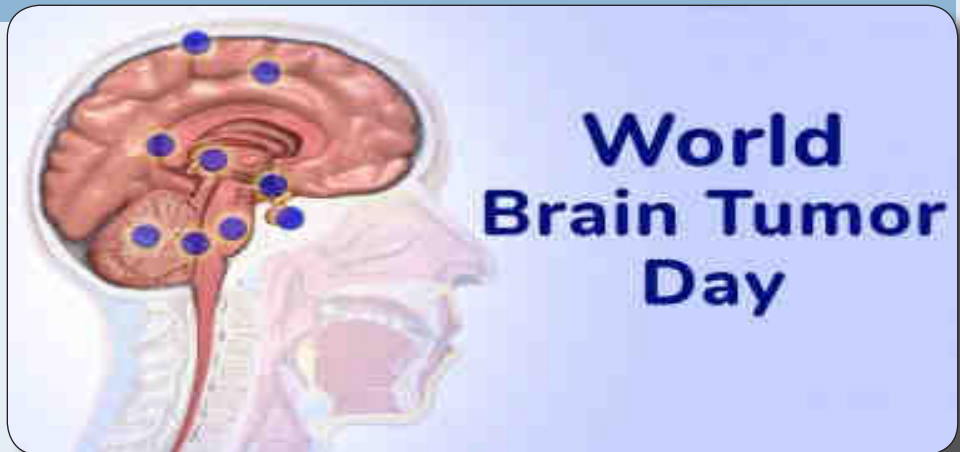
- ◆ World Environment Day is observed every year on June 5.
- ◆ The theme of this year's World Environment Day is Ecosystem Restoration.
- ◆ World Environment Day 2021 will see the launch of the UN Decade on Ecosystem Restoration, a global mission to revive billions of hectares, from forests to farmlands, from the top of mountains to the depth of the sea.



- ◆ Ecosystem restoration can take many forms: Growing trees, greening cities, rewilding gardens, changing diets or cleaning up rivers and coasts. This is the generation that can make peace with nature.

7. World Brain Tumor Day 2021

- ◆ World Brain Tumor Day is observed every year on June 8.
- ◆ The non-profit organisation, Deutsche Hirntumorhilfe e.V or German Brain Tumor Association, observed World Brain Tumor Day for the first time on June 8, 2000.
- ◆ Brain tumor is an unnecessary or abnormal growth of cells in the brain. Based on the intensity of growth, tumors are classified as benign (noncancerous, slow growth rate,



curable) and malignant (cancerous, further classified depending upon the

tumor's invasiveness and its potential to multiply).



Brain Boosters

01

Seniorcare Ageing Growth Engine

1. Why in News?

- ◆ The Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has launched the SAGE (Seniorcare Aging Growth Engine) initiative and SAGE portal for elderly persons.



2. Key Highlights

- ◆ The SAGE project aims to identify, evaluate, verify, aggregate, and deliver products, solutions and services directly to the stakeholders.
- ◆ The Ministry will act as a facilitator, enabling the elderly to access the products through these identified start-ups.
- ◆ The start-ups will be selected on the basis of innovative products and services, which they should be able to provide across sectors such as health, housing, care centers, apart from technological access linked to finances, food and wealth management, and legal guidance.
- ◆ The SAGE project is shaped on the recommendations of the empowered expert committee (EEC) report on start-ups for elderly.
- ◆ The EEC report has highlighted that the business opportunities in this space could emerge from social enterprises (non-profits, informal networks), technology start-ups (fintech, adtech, foodtech, healthtech, wealthtech), legal and financial services (planning solutions, insurance, medico-legal) and infrastructure and managed-care systems (senior housing, living facilities, care centres).
- ◆ Research and data-driven organizations and incubators of social enterprises are also expected to come forward to be a part of SAGE.
- ◆ The SAGE portal will be a “one-stop access” of elderly care products and services by credible start-ups.

3. Need

- ◆ India's elderly population is on the rise, and as per surveys, the share of elders, as a percentage of the total population in the country, is expected to increase from around 7.5% in 2001 to almost 12.5% by 2026, and surpass 19.5% by 2050.
- ◆ There is an urgent need to create a more robust elder care ecosystem in India, especially in the post-COVID phase.

4. Other Initiatives for Elderly Persons

- ◆ Integrated Programme for Older Persons (IPOP)
- ◆ Rashtriya Vayoshri Yojana (RVY)
- ◆ Pradhan Mantri Vaya Vandana Yojana (PMVVY)
- ◆ Vayoshreshtha Samman
- ◆ Maintenance and Welfare of Parents and Senior Citizens (MWPSA) Act, 2007

02

World Energy Investment Report 2021

1. Why in News?

- ◆ International Energy Agency (IEA) has released the World Energy Investment Report 2021.



3. About IEA

- ◆ IEA is an autonomous inter-governmental organization created in 1974 after the 1973 oil crisis.
- ◆ It is based in Paris.
- ◆ IEA focuses on energy policies of economic development, energy security and environmental protection. These policies are also known as the 3 E's of IEA.
- ◆ India joined the IEA family in March 2017 and became an Association member.

2. Key Highlights of the Report

- ◆ Global energy investment is expected to rebound this year and increase 10 per cent year-on-year to around \$1.9 trillion.
- ◆ Most of this investment will flow towards power and end-use sectors, shifting out of traditional fossil fuel production.
- ◆ Renewable power will have the largest share — around 70 per cent of the total \$530 million will be spent on new power generation capacity.
- ◆ Substantial gain of renewable as the future energy outlook has been dependent on technological development, well-established supply chain and demand from consumers for carbon-neutral electricity.
- ◆ The scenario varies from country to country but favourable policies and regulations play a very important role in providing long-term confidence among the investors towards renewables.
- ◆ Energy efficiency sector will also see a substantial rise (10 per cent) in investment, though the low fossil fuel price may act as a deterrent.
- ◆ The scenario is perfectly aligned with the projection that global energy demand will rise 4.6 per cent year-on-year in 2021, offsetting its contraction in 2020.
- ◆ But the above positive scenarios will still not deter the increase in carbon dioxide emission, after contraction in 2020 mainly due to economic slowdown induced by the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.
- ◆ Global emission is set to grow by 1.5 billion tonnes this year, the energy agency projected.
- ◆ The pandemic recovery strategies in many countries lack the required stimulant towards emission biennial technologies and pathways. The rhetoric around 'Net Zero' is gaining momentum but its transition to actual action is not visible.
- ◆ The emerging market is almost 70 per cent responsible for demand growth and India plays an important part in this block.
- ◆ China is showing a tremendous expansion in coal-based power production — their coal consumption in December 2020 was a historic high — though the country has a commendable renewable growth.
- ◆ Upstream investment in oil is expected to grow 10 per cent. This expansion in fossil fuels was planned with novel technologies like carbon capture and storage (CCS) and bioenergy CCS, which are yet to be attain commercial success.
- ◆ The increment of coal-fired power in 2020, mostly driven by China, is indicating that 'coal is down but not yet out'.
- ◆ The responsibility-share of developed nations should not be undermined: Their in-country growth of emission is moderate but their exported emission is of concern.
- ◆ Australia's exported emission through coal is double its domestic emission.
- ◆ The urgency visible in communication is still not satisfactorily reflected in action and the world is far away from the scientific target of limiting climate change within two degrees Celsius.
- ◆ The more democratic decision-making process and de-corporatisation of the energy sector is the need of the future for the survival of the civilisation in this planet.

03

China's 'Artificial Sun'

1. Why in News?

- ◆ China has successfully completed the first test of its nuclear fusion reactor, known as "Artificial Sun" because it mimics the energy-generation process of the Sun.



2. What is China's 'Artificial Sun'?

- ◆ The EAST reactor is an advanced nuclear fusion experimental research device located at the Institute of Plasma Physics of the Chinese Academy of Sciences (ASIPP) in Hefei, China.
- ◆ The EAST project is part of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) facility, which will become the world's largest nuclear fusion reactor when it becomes operational in 2035.
- ◆ The project includes the contributions of several countries, including India, South Korea, Japan, Russia and the United States.

3. Working of EAST

- ◆ The Experimental Advanced Superconducting Tokamak (EAST) Tokamak device is designed to replicate the nuclear fusion process carried out by the Sun and Stars.
- ◆ Nuclear fusion is a process through which high levels of energy are produced without generating large quantities of waste. Previously, energy was produced through nuclear fission — a process in which the nucleus of a heavy atom was split into two or more nuclei of lighter atoms.
- ◆ While fission is an easier process to carry out, it generates far more nuclear waste. Unlike fission, fusion also does not emit greenhouse gases and is considered a safer process with lower risk of accidents. Once mastered, nuclear fusion could potentially provide unlimited clean energy and very low costs.
- ◆ For nuclear fusion to occur, tremendous heat and pressure are applied on hydrogen atoms so that they fuse together. The nuclei of deuterium and tritium — both found in hydrogen — are made to fuse together to create a helium nucleus, a neutron along with a whole lot of energy.
- ◆ Fuel is heated to temperatures of over 150 million degrees C so that it forms a hot plasma "soup" of subatomic particles.
- ◆ With the help of a strong magnetic field, the plasma is kept away from the walls of the reactor to ensure it does not cool down and lose its potential to generate large amounts of energy. The plasma is confined for long durations for fusion to take place.

5. Other Similar Projects

- ◆ Apart from the EAST, China is currently operating the HL-2A reactor as well as J-TEXT.
- ◆ In December 2020, HL-2M Tokamak, China's largest and most advanced nuclear fusion experimental research device, was successfully powered up for the first time.

4. Significance

- ◆ The EAST reactor set a new record when it achieved a plasma temperature of 216 million degrees Fahrenheit and also managed to run for 20 seconds at 288 million degrees Fahrenheit.
- ◆ To put this in perspective, the sun's core only reaches about 15 million degrees Celsius, which means the reactor was able to touch temperatures that are 10 times hotter than that.
- ◆ The next goal for the scientists behind the experimental reactor is to maintain the high temperature for a long period of time.

04

Indus Best Mega Food Park

1. Why in News?

- ◆ Union Minister for Food Processing Industries Narendra Singh Tomar has virtually inaugurated the Indus Best Mega Food Park at Raipur, Chhattisgarh.



2. Key Highlights

- ◆ The Mega Food Park will ensure value addition, longer shelf life for farm produce, better price realization for farmers, and excellent storage facility.
- ◆ The Park will benefit the processors and consumers of Chhattisgarh and adjoining areas immensely and prove to be a big boost to the growth of the food processing sector in the State of Chhattisgarh.
- ◆ Further, in a bid to make India a resilient food economy and the Food Factory of the World, the government has made Food Processing a major thrust area of 'AtmaNirbhar Bharat'.
- ◆ This will also provide an opportunity to farmers, Self Help Groups (SHGs) and micro-entrepreneurs to undertake processing operations on plug and operate basis and create huge job opportunities in the catchment area of the Park.

3. About Mega Food Park Scheme

- ◆ To give a major boost to the food processing sector by adding value and reducing food wastage at each stage of the supply chain with a particular focus on perishables, the Ministry of Food Processing Industries is implementing the Mega Food Park Scheme in the country.
- ◆ Mega Food Parks create modern infrastructure facilities for food processing along the value chain from farm to market with strong forward and backward linkages through a cluster-based approach.
- ◆ Common facilities and enabling infrastructure is created at the Central Processing Centre and facilities for primary processing and storage are created near the farm in the form of Primary Processing Centers (PPCs) and Collection Centers (CCs).
- ◆ Under the Scheme, the Government of India provides financial assistance up to Rs. 50.00 Crore per Mega Food Park project.
- ◆ Ministry of Food Processing Industries is focusing on boosting the food processing industry so that the agriculture sector grows exponentially and become a major contributor to doubling the farmer's income and the 'AtmaNirbhar Bharat' initiative.

05

World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2021 Report

1. Why in News?

- ◆ The International Labour Organisation (ILO) has released the World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends (WESO) report 2021.



2. Key Highlights

- ◆ The pandemic has pushed over 100 million more workers into poverty, after working hours plummeted and access to good quality jobs evaporated.
- ◆ The report indicated that the planet would be 75 million jobs short at the end of this year compared to if the pandemic had not occurred. And it would still count 23 million fewer jobs by the end of next year.
- ◆ The report showed that global unemployment was expected to stand at 205 million people in 2022 - far higher than the 187 million in 2019.
- ◆ In 2020, 8.8 percent of global working hours were lost compared to the fourth quarter of 2019 -- the equivalent of 255 million full-time jobs.
- ◆ Compared to 2019, 108 million more workers around the world were categorised as poor or extremely poor, meaning they and their families live on less than \$3.20 per person per day.
- ◆ For many of the two billion people who work in the informal sector, where social protections are generally lacking, pandemic-related work disruptions have had catastrophic consequences for family incomes and livelihoods.
- ◆ Youth employment meanwhile fell 8.7 percent last year -- more than double the 3.7 percent for older workers.
- ◆ The consequences of this delay and disruption to the early labour market experience of young people could last for years.

3. Key Recommendations

- ◆ To ensure an economic recovery and avoid a long-term scarring of the global labour market, the world urgently needed a comprehensive and coordinated strategy backed by action and funding.

4. About ILO

- ◆ ILO was created in 1919, as part of the Treaty of Versailles that ended World War I, to reflect the belief that universal and lasting peace can be accomplished only if it is based on social justice.
- ◆ The only tripartite U.N. agency, since 1919 the ILO brings together governments, employers and workers of 187 member States, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work for all women and men.
- ◆ India is a founding member of the ILO.

06

Project 75 India

1. Why in News?

- ◆ The Indian Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has cleared the acquisition of six new conventional submarines for the Indian Navy under Project - 75 India.

2. Key Points

- ◆ This project envisages indigenous construction of six conventional submarines equipped with the state-of-the-art Air Independent Propulsion system at an estimated cost of Rs 43,000 crore.
- ◆ This would be one of the largest 'Make in India' projects and will serve to facilitate faster and more significant absorption of technology and create a tiered industrial ecosystem for submarine construction in India.
- ◆ From a strategic perspective, this will help reduce current dependence on imports and gradually ensure greater self-reliance and dependability of supplies from indigenous sources.



3. About Project 75 India

- ◆ Project 75 India or P75I will be the first under the strategic partnership model, promulgated in 2017 to boost indigenous defence manufacturing.
- ◆ The first submarine built under the project is likely to be delivered by 2030.
- ◆ P75I succeeds the P75 under which six diesel-electric attack submarines of the Kalvari class, based on the Scorpene class, were being built at MDL – the third submarine, INS Karanj, was commissioned in March this year.

4. India's Strength

- ◆ India has only one nuclear submarine, INS Arihant, at the moment. The INS Arighat, also a nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarine, is to be commissioned soon.
- ◆ In a report in March 2020, Parliament's Standing Committee on Defence said "there are 15 conventional submarines and two Nuclear Submarines" in the Indian Navy and "majority of the conventional submarines are over 25 years old".
- ◆ The Cabinet Committee on Security, in June 1999, had approved a 30-year submarine-building plan which included construction of 24 conventional submarines indigenously by 2030.
- ◆ Of the total 24 submarines to be built in India, six will be nuclear-powered.

07

World University Rankings 2022

1. Why in News?

- ◆ Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), global higher education analysts has released the 18th edition of the world's international university rankings recently.



2. Key Findings

- ◆ The US-based Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) has been ranked number 1 university in the world, with an overall score of 100. University of Oxford has been ranked second, while Stanford University has secured third position.
- ◆ Singapore's National University of Singapore and Nanyang Technological University, and China's Tsinghua University and Peking University, are the only Asian universities in the global top 20.
- ◆ Overall, there are 22 Indian institutions in the top 1,000 list compared to 21 last year, with the Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs) in Guwahati, Kanpur, Kharagpur and Madras making major strides in rankings.
- ◆ Three Indian universities are ranked in the top-200 in QS World University Rankings 2022, with IIT-Bombay securing 177th position, IIT-Delhi at 185th, and IISc-Bengaluru placed on 186th position.
- ◆ IISc-Bengaluru has been ranked number 1 in the world for research.
- ◆ Jawaharlal Nehru University has entered the top 1,000 of the QS World University rankings for the first time.

3. Concerns

- ◆ The ranking does not reflect the quality of Indian education in any real sense as they are largely dependent on international perception factors.
- ◆ Some experts have alleged that this year's improvement in scores was simply a manipulation of numbers by the rankings agency, driven by commercial pressures.

Self Assessment (Objective Questions)



1. 37th Anniversary of Operation Blue Star

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Operation Blue Star':

1. Operation Bluestar was a military action ordered by then PM Indira Gandhi.
2. It was launched between June 1 and June 6, 1984 with the aim of getting rid of Bhindranwale and his demands.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

2. SDG India Index 2020–21

Q. With reference to the 'SDG India Index 2020-21', consider the following statements:

1. The index is developed by NITI Aayog in collaboration with the World Bank.
2. Himachal Pradesh has retained its rank as the top, while Bihar is the worst performing state in the index.
3. Chandigarh maintained its top spot among the UTs, followed by Delhi.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 3 only
- c. 2 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

3. Model Tenancy Act

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. The government has approved the Model Tenancy Act (MTA) to streamline the process of renting property in India and aid the rent economy in the estate sector.
2. The new Act will be applicable prospectively and will not affect existing tenancies.
3. The new Act seeks to cover urban areas only.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 1 and 2 only
- d. 3 only

Ans: (c)

4. Supreme Court on Protection of Child Rights

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR)':

1. NCPCR is a non-statutory body under the administrative control of the Ministry of Women & Child Development.
2. NCPCR was set up in March 2007.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

5. G7 Summit

Q. With reference to the 'G7 Summit', consider the following statements:

1. Germany holds the presidency of the G7 for 2021.
2. The G7 comprises the US, UK, France, Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan.

3. For the first time in 2021, G7 leaders have invited India to take part in the Summit.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 2 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (c)

6. 24th BIMSTEC Day

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. Nepal holds the current chairship of BIMSTEC.
2. It came into being on 6 June 1997 through the Bangkok Declaration.
3. Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Myanmar

and Maldives are the member states of BIMSTEC.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (b)

7. Performance Grading Index 2019-20

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Performance Grading Index 2019-20':

1. NITI Aayog has released the Performance Grading Index (PGI) 2019-20 for higher education.
2. Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Puducherry, Punjab and Tamil Nadu have improved overall

PGI score.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (b)

8. 'Five to 50'

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. 'Five to 50' service will offer internet connectivity to all regions north of 50 degrees latitude through LEO satellite.
2. It is a joint venture of Google and Facebook.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (a)

9. World Bank's Study on Black Carbon

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Black Carbon':

1. Black Carbon is a short-lived pollutant that is the second-largest contributor to warming the planet behind carbon dioxide (CO₂).
2. Black carbon deposits accelerates the pace of glacier and

snow melt by decreasing surface reflectance of sunlight and by raising air temperature.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

10. NASA's Two New Missions to Venus

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. NASA will send 'DAVINCI+' and VERITAS' missions to the Venus.
2. Venus is the second-brightest object in the sky after the moon.

3. Venus does not have a moon and no rings.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

11. Eighth Global Nitrogen Conference

Q. With reference to the 'Eighth Global Nitrogen Conference', consider the following statements:

1. It was co-organized by the International Nitrogen Initiative and hosted by Germany's Federal Environment Agency.
2. The United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) were the main focus of the conference.

3. Atmospheric nitrogen, or dinitrogen, is unreactive and cannot be utilised by plants directly.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

12. X-Press Pearl Cargo Ship

Q. Consider the following statements:

1. X-Press Pearl cargo ship, caught fire off western Sri Lanka is owned by China.
2. Sri Lanka lies in a busy shipping lane, midway between the Persian Gulf and the Strait of Malacca.

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

Ans: (b)

13. Delta Variant of COVID-19

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Delta Variant of COVID-19':

1. Delta variant (B.1.617.2) - one of the three strains of the B.1.617 COVID-19 variant first found in India is a 'variant of concern (VOC)'.
2. The B.1.617 variant of coronavirus was divided into three strains-- B.1.617.1, B.1.617.2, and B.1.617.3.

3. The Delta variant contains multiple mutations in the spike protein.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 and 2 only
- b. 2 and 3 only
- c. 1 and 3 only
- d. 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (d)

14. Research Design & Standards Organization

Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the 'Research Design & Standards Organization':

1. RDSO is the sole research and development wing of the Ministry of Railways.
2. It is one of India's leading standard formulating body

undertaking standardization works for the railway sector.

Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (c)

15. Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy 2021

Q. Consider the following statement:

1. Monetary policy is the macroeconomic policy laid down by the government of India.
2. It is aimed at managing the quantity of money in order to meet the requirements of different sectors of the economy

and to increase the pace of economic growth.

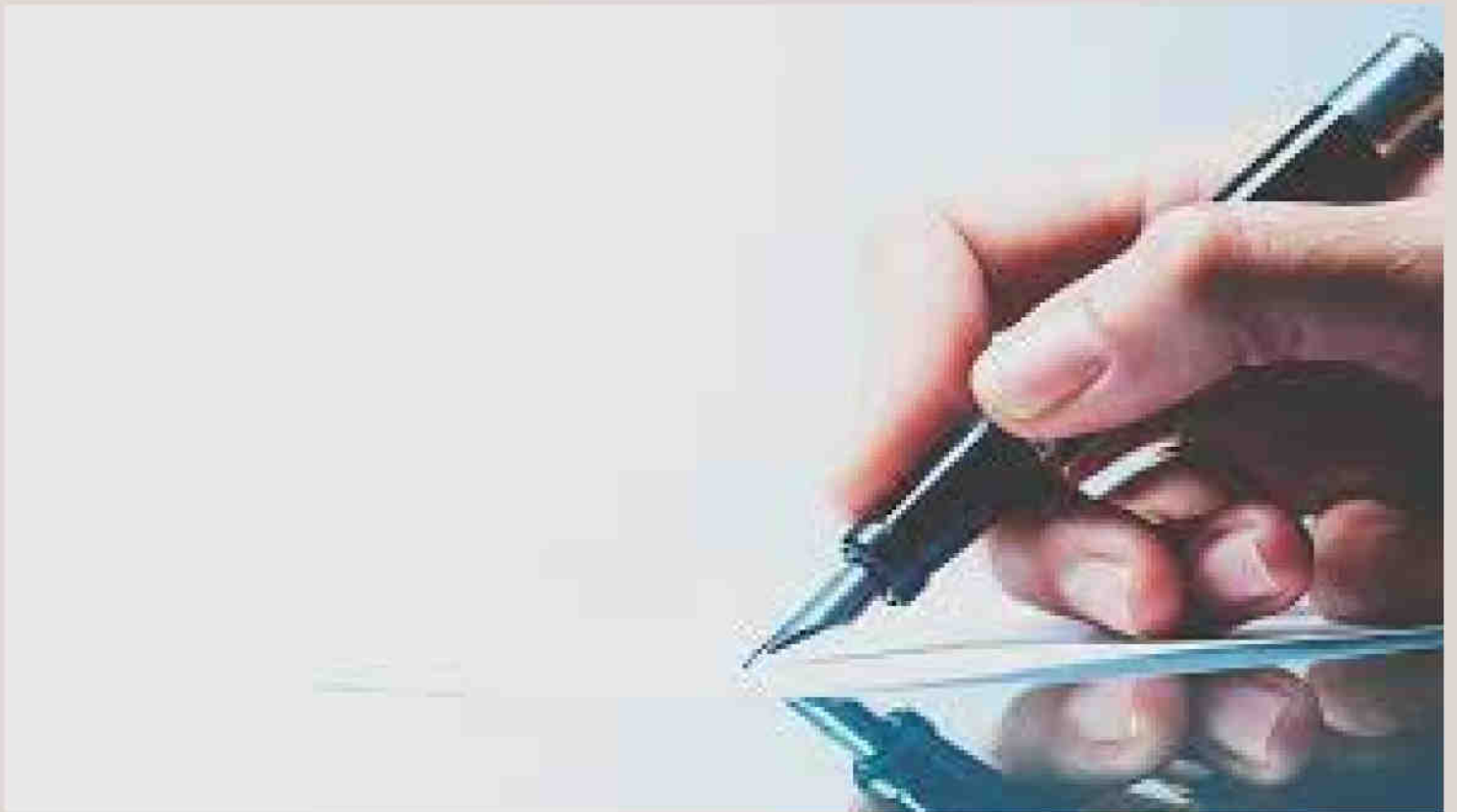
Which of the statement(s) given above is/are correct?

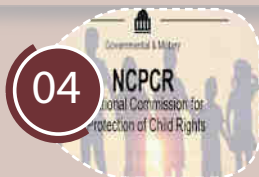
- a. 1 only
- b. 2 only
- c. Both 1 and 2
- d. Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (d)



Self Assessment (Subjective Questions)





- 01 Discuss the factors and consequences of the Operation Blue Star.
- 02 What is the SDG India Index? Critically evaluate the performance of India in achieving the sustainable development goals.
- 03 Model Tenancy Act will help overhaul the legal framework with respect to rental housing across the country, which would help spur its overall growth.
- 04 Write a short note on National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR).
- 05 During G7 Summit Prime Minister Narendra Modi has called for a 'One Earth, One Health' approach. Discuss how 'One Earth, One Health' approach will prevent future pandemics.
- 06 "BIMSTEC emerged as a promising regional grouping." With reference to the given statement discuss the importance of BIMSTEC for India.
- 07 Discuss the key findings of 'Performance Grading Index 2019-20' for school education in India.
- 08 Write a short note on "Digital Connectivity and Low Earth Orbit Satellite Constellations."
- 09 What is Black Carbon? Discuss how Black carbon deposits produced by human activity accelerate the pace of glacier and snow melt in the Himalayan region.
- 10 Write a short note on 'DAVINCI+ and VERITAS' mission to Venus.
- 11 Human activities have pushed climate change, biodiversity loss, shifts in nutrient cycles (nitrogen and phosphorus) and land use beyond the tolerance limits of planet Earth. Discuss.
- 12 What is Oil Spill? Discuss its impact on marine life.
- 13 Write a short note on Delta variant (B.1.617.2) of COVID-19.
- 14 What is "One Nation One Standard" mission of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)?
- 15 What is monetary policy of the Reserve Bank of India? Discuss its various instruments.

AN INTRODUCTION

Dhyeya IAS, a decade old institution, was founded by Mr. Vinay Singh and Mr. Q.H. Khan. Ever since its emergence it has unparalleled track record of success. Today, it stands tall among the reputed institutes providing coaching for Civil Services Examination (CSE). The institute has been very successful in making potential realize their dreams which is evident from success stories of the previous years.

Quite a large number of students desirous of building a career for themselves are absolutely less equipped for the fairly tough competitive tests they have to appear in. Several others, who have a brilliant academic career, do not know that competitive exams are vastly different from academic examination and call for a systematic and scientifically planned guidance by a team of experts. Here one single move invariably puts one ahead of many others who lag behind. Dhyeya IAS is manned with qualified & experienced faculties besides especially designed study material that helps the students in achieving the desired goal.

Civil Services Exam requires knowledge base of specified subjects. These subjects though taught in schools and colleges are not necessarily oriented towards the exam approach. Coaching classes at Dhyeya IAS are different from classes conducted in schools and colleges with respect to their orientation. Classes are targeted towards the particular exam. Classroom guidance at Dhyeya IAS is about improving the individual's capacity to focus, learn and innovate as we are comfortably aware of the fact that you can't teach a person anything you can only help him find it within himself.

DSDL Prepare yourself from distance

Distance learning Programme, DSDL, primarily caters the need for those who are unable to come to metros for economic or family reason but have ardent desire to become a civil servant. Simultaneously, it also suits to the need of working professionals, who are unable to join regular classes due to increase in work load or places of their posting. The principal characteristic of our distance learning is that the student does not need to be present in a classroom in order to participate in the instruction. It aims to create and provide access to learning when the source of information and the learners are separated by time and distance. Realizing the difficulties faced by aspirants of distant areas, especially working candidates, in making use of the institute's classroom guidance programme, distance learning system is being provided in General Studies. The distance learning material is comprehensive, concise and exam-oriented in nature. Its aim is to make available almost all the relevant material on a subject at one place. Materials on all topics of General Studies have been prepared in such a way that, not even a single point will be missing. In other words, you will get all points, which are otherwise to be taken from 6-10 books available in the market / library. That means, DSDL study material is undoubtedly the most comprehensive and that will definitely give you added advantage in your Preliminary as well as Main Examination. These materials are not available in any book store or library. These materials have been prepared exclusively for the use of our students. We believe in our quality and commitment towards making these notes indispensable for any student preparing for Civil Services Examination. We adhere all pillars of Distance education.

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नोट : पहले अपने फ़ोन में टेलीग्राम App Play Store से Install कर ले उसके बाद लिंक में क्लिक करें जिससे सीधे आप हमारे चैनल में पहुँच जायेंगे।

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