

Hi,

Here is the latest edition of current affairs quiz.....

Attempt the quiz and test your level of preparedness

Only important events that took place recently which have a high probability of being asked in exams/interviews are included in the quiz.

I request you to score yourself honestly...

If your score is above 45, congrats...you are a current affairs wizard and I salute you...!!!!!!!

If your score is between 40 and 45, you are good.....and you can become a wizard by putting in an extra bit of hard work.....

If you were able to score between 30 and 40, you have a fairly good knowledge and with hard work, you can improve your score....

If you have a score is less than 30, you need to seriously start putting in more effort to improve your skills if you want to qualify in any exam in which current affairs questions would be there

If you are serious about improving your knowledge of current affairs and ready to spare some time daily for it, please join the facebook group

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/647596659468029>

If you are not serious about your preparation, you need not join the group....I am not looking to increase the size of the group....I need people who can help each other grow and realise their potential.

Thank you and happy reading....

Current Affairs Quiz – 29/11/2020

1	Who was appointed by the Supreme Court of India as the head of a committee to monitor and prevent stubble burning that causes air pollution in Delhi?
	A] Althamas Kabir B] P Sathasivam C] R M Lodha D] Madan B Lokur E] Cyriac Joseph
2	Which tyre company in India is facing an anti-trust investigation for adopting unfair trade practices while bidding for a state government tender?
	A] Apollo B] MRF C] Ceat D] JK E] Goodyear
3	Which state government has come forward to sponsor the national men and women rugby teams?
	A] Uttar Pradesh B] Odisha C] Jharkhand D] Rajasthan E] Haryana
4	UN International Day for Eradication of Poverty falls on _____
	A] October 15 B] November 15 C] October 17 D] December 17 E] September 18
5	Which South American country has announced opening of its Consulate General Office in Mumbai, recently?
	A] Brazil B] Chile C] Peru D] Costa Rica E] Argentina

6	Name the act that has been amended recently in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, for creation of District Development Councils [DDC]?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act 2019 B] Jammu and Kashmir Special Security Group Act 2000 C] Jammu and Kashmir Public Services Guarantee Act 2011 D] Jammu and Kashmir Representation of the People Act 1957 E] Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act 1989
7	Which country has recently amended a law to criminalise acts of intentional insulting of its national flag and emblem?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] India B] Pakistan C] Bangladesh D] China E] Sri Lanka
8	The creditors of which debt-ridden airline company has agreed to a bail-out plan offered by its prospective new owners?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Jet Airways B] Indigo C] Spicejet D] Air India E] Deccan Air
9	The Chief Minister of which state has written a letter to the Chief Justice of India leveling allegations of corruption against a judge of the Supreme Court?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Maharashtra B] Andhra Pradesh C] Telangana D] Odisha E] West Bengal
10	Which Congress MP was criticised by BJP for his remarks made during an online interaction as part of a cultural event in Pakistan?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Adhir Ranjan Choudhury B] Gaurav Gogoi C] Rahul Gandhi D] Shashi Tharoor E] Maneesh Tewari

11	Name the BJP General Secretary and Core Committee Member from Punjab who has resigned from the party protesting against the agricultural laws passed by the parliament recently
	A] Jai Bhagwan Goyal B] Malvinder Kang C] Amarjit Singh Sahi D] Ajit Pal Singh E] Balram Das Tandon
12	The UN imposed arms embargo on which nation has ended on October 18 enabling it to start trading with other countries?
	A] North Korea B] Sudan C] Iran D] Yemen E] Libya
13	Which foot ball team won the Hero I-league football trophy for 2019-20?
	A] Churchill Brothers B] Gokulam Kerala C] Chennai City D] Mohun Bagan E] East Bengal
14	Elavenil Valarivan who shot into the lime light on October 18, 2020 is associated with which sport?
	A] Chess B] Shooting C] Archery D] Para-swimming E] Golf
15	Who won the top female artist award in the Billboard Music Awards event held recently?
	A] Billie Elish B] Ariana Grande C] Halsey D] Lizzo E] Taylor Swift

16	Which Indian company has signed a defence contract to build a fighter aircraft simulator centre?
	A] Dynamatic B] Godrej and Boyce C] Larsen and Toubro D] Hinduja Defence E] Alpha Design Technologies
17	Sashidhar Jagdishan has taken charge as CEO of which bank, recently?
	A] ICICI Bank B] Yes Bank C] Kotak Mahindra Bank D] HDFC Bank E] Axis Bank
18	“ The Battle of Belonging : On Nationalism, Patriotism And What It Means To Be Indian” is a book written by _____
	A] Romila Thapar B] Shashi Tharoor C] Yogendra Yadav D] Aravind Adiga E] Chetan Bhagat
19	Asan Conservation Reserve [ACR] that has become the first Ramsar site in the state of Uttarakhand, is on the banks of which river?
	A] Yamuna B] Alakananda C] Bhagirathi D] Mandakini E] Ganga
20	Mission Shakti is a women empowerment campaign launched by which state government recently?
	A] Madhya Pradesh B] Bihar C] Uttar Pradesh D] Uttarakhand E] Jharkhand

21	SLINEX is the annual joint naval exercise conducted by navies of India and _____
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Singapore B] Sri Lanka C] South Africa D] Switzerland E] Sweden
22	National Disaster Management authority has developed a Rapid Visual Screening Primer to assess the structural safety of constructions in case of earth quakes, in partnership with _____
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] IIT Kanpur B] IISc Bengaluru C] IIIT Hyderabad D] NID Ahmedabad E] IPA New Delhi
23	Which state/UT has launched My Town My Pride program recently?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Delhi B] Chandigarh C] Jammu and Kashmir D] Sikkim E] Goa
24	Eat Smart City challenge is organised by _____
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] United Nations Food Programme B] Ministry of Health C] All India Association for Advancing Research in Obesity D] Indian Medical Association E] Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
25	Which among the following was NOT a co-host of GCAM 2020 that conducted its annual meeting in the virtual mode recently?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation B] World Health Organisation C] NITI Ayog D] Indian Council for Medical Research E] United States Agency for International Development
26	Which state / UT has started operating HCNG buses on its roads from October 20, 2020?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Goa B] Delhi C] Maharashtra D] Daman E] Andaman and Nicobar

27	Ayushman Sahakar Scheme is launched by which Union Ministry to assist co-operatives in creating health care infrastructure in India?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Ministry of Health and Family Welfare B] Ministry of Rural Development C] Ministry of Women and Child Development D] Ministry of Agriculture E] Ministry of Finance
28	Which prominent J and K politician was recently questioned by Enforcement Directorate in a fund misappropriation scam connected with Jammu and Kashmir Cricket association?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Omar Abdulla B] Mehbooba Mufti C] Ghulam Nabi Azad D] Dr.Farooq Abdulla E] Sajjad Lone
29	Which University in India has recently conducted its 100 th convocation ceremony?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Benares Hindu University B] Aligarh Muslim University C] Jamia Milia Islamiya D] Osmania University E] Mysore University
30	Which Tamil actor was slated to play the role of Muttiah Muralitharan in his biopic “800”?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Prakash Raj B] Vijay Sethupathi C] Ramesh Aravind D] Nassar E] Ajith Kumar
31	Movement for Socialism is the left wing party that has returned to power in which south American country recently?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Bolivia B] Peru C] Honduras D] Panama E] Nicaragua

32	Portraits of Power is an autobiography of _____
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Montek Singh Ahluwalia B] M K Narayanan C] Vijay Kelkar D] N K Singh E] C Rangarajan
33	What is the capital expenditure [capex] target fixed for India's 14 large Central Public Sector Enterprises [CPSE]s for the current FY 2020-21?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Rs.115000 Crores B] Rs.125000 Crores C] Rs.135000 Crores D] Rs.150000 Crores E] Rs.165000 Crores
34	Which jewellery group in India has got the approval from SEBI recently for its Rs.1750 Crore Initial Public Offering [IPO]?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Malabar Gold and Diamond B] Kalyan Jewellers C] Amrapali Jewellers D] Tribhovandas Bhimji Zaveri E] Tanishq
35	Who has become the first cricketer to play 200 T20 matches in IPL recently?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] Rohit Sharma B] M S Dhoni C] Virat Kohli D] A B De Villiers E] Shikhar Dhawan
36	A major earth quake of magnitude 7.5 and a subsequent tsunami alert was issued in which part of North America recently?
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] New Orleans B] Mississauga C] British Columbia D] Alaska E] Victoria
37	The Election Commission has increased the election campaign expenditure limit for individual candidates by ____% with immediate effect, recently
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A] 5% B] 10% C] 15% D] 20% E] None of the above

38	Name the anti-tank missile that was test fired successfully by India recently
	A] Shaurya B] Rudram -I C] Prithvi D] BrahMos E] SANT
39	Consider the following statements regarding India's first Multi Modal Logistics Park [MMLP] <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The foundation stone for the MMLP was laid down by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari in Assam, recently 2. The park will be set up under the Bharatmala Pariyojana of the Central Government, in Bongaigaon district, at a cost of Rs.694 Crores. 3. The government's Ministry of Shipping is developing the MMLPs at selected locations in the country under its Logistics Efficiency Enhancement Program [LEEP]. 4. MMLP is a freight handling facility with a minimum area of 100 acres with various modes of transport access and comprising mechanised warehouses, specialised storage solutions like cold storage, mechanised material handling, inter-modal transfer container terminals and bulk and break-bulk cargo terminals. 5. MMLPs will also provide value added services like customs clearance with bonded storage yards, quarantine zones, testing facilities and ware housing management services. <p>Which of the above statement[s] is/are NOT correct?</p>
	A] 1 and 2 B] 2 only C] 3 only D] 4 and 5 E] All statements are correct
40	World Statistics Day is observed on _____
	A] October 18 B] October 20 C] October 25 D] October 28 E] October 30
41	Asian Development Bank has sanctioned a USD 177 million loan for upgrading the road network in which state?
	A] Meghalaya B] Uttar Pradesh C] Himachal Pradesh D] Maharashtra E] West Bengal

42	As per United Nations World Food Program [UNWFP] report, what percentage of average daily income is spent on food by Indians?
	A] 3.5% B] 5% C] 8.5% D] 11% E] 13.5%
43	The cultivation of Heeng [<i>Ferula asafoetida</i>] is undertaken for the first time in which state in India, recently?
	A] Uttarakhand B] Sikkim C] Arunachal Pradesh D] Himachal Pradesh E] Meghalaya
44	Which country has expressed its willingness to set up cold chains in India's Northeastern region for better marketing of its fruits and vegetable products in the world market?
	A] Switzerland B] Sweden C] Britain D] France E] Netherlands
45	Vessel Traffic Monitoring System [VTMS] and Vessel Traffic Services [VTS] are indigenous softwares being developed by Ministry of Shipping for the traffic management at Indian ports. Which Indian institute is developing these softwares?
	A] IIT Delhi B] IIT Chennai C] IIT Kharagpur D] IIT Kanpur E] IIT Mumbai
46	Wildlife Institute of India [WII], an autonomous body of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change [MoEF], is being converted into a deemed university, as part of government's policy of disengagement from unviable autonomous bodies. Where is WII situated?
	A] Ooty B] Kasauli C] Mussoorie D] Dehradun E] Nainital

47	National Green Tribunal [NGT] has given an important judgment recently that the post-facto environmental clearance given to an irrigation project by Ministry of Environment was unlawful. Name the project
	A] Palamaru- Rangareddy Lift Irrigation Project B] Khalwa Micro Lift Irrigation Project C] Jawar Micro Lift Irrigation Project D] Kaleswaram Lift Irrigation Project E] Bhairavani Tippa Irrigation Project
48	The Srinagar office of which newspaper was sealed by the Jammu and Kashmir administration recently?
	A] Rising Kashmir B] Kashmir Observer C] Daily Roshni D] Kashmir Reader E] Kashmir Times
49	The Supreme Court of which of our neighbouring country has recently ordered a referendum on certain clauses in a proposed constitutional amendment, giving more powers to the President?
	A] Pakistan B] Sri Lanka C] Bangladesh D] Nepal E] China
50	Who has achieved the record of being the first batsmen in IPL history to score two consecutive centuries?
	A] Shikhar Dhawan B] Rohit Sharma C] K L Rahul D] David Warner E] Shreyas Iyer

Scroll down for answers.....

Answers

1	Who was appointed by the Supreme Court of India as the head of a committee to monitor and prevent stubble burning that causes air pollution in Delhi?
Ans	<p>D] Retired Supreme Court Justice Madan B Lokur</p> <p>He will be assisted by student volunteers from National Cadet Corps [NCC], National Service Scheme [NSS], and Bharat Scouts and Guides.</p> <p>The committee will monitor the instances of stubble burning in the states of Punjab, Haryana and Uttar Pradesh which is the prime reason for the increasing levels of air pollution in Delhi and NCR, especially during the winter season.</p> <p>The Chief Secretaries of the three states have been directed by the Supreme Court to provide necessary facilities to the committee and to provide the student volunteers with adequate transportation to monitor the agricultural areas in the three states.</p>
2	Which tyre company in India is facing an anti-trust investigation for adopting unfair trade practices while bidding for a state government tender?
Ans	<p>D] J K Tyres</p> <p>Competition Commission of India is looking into a complaint by Haryana state government that alleged that J K Tyres adopted unfair trade practices while bidding for a tender to supply tyres for public transport vehicles.</p>
3	Which state government has come forward to sponsor the national men and women rugby teams?
Ans	<p>B] Odisha</p> <p>The state government of Odisha will pay the Indian Rugby Football Union also known as Rugby India Rs.3 Crores as sponsorship of the national teams for a period of three years.</p>
4	UN International Day for Eradication of Poverty falls on _____
Ans	<p>C] October 17</p> <p>UN General Assembly declared this day in 1992</p> <p>This year's theme is "Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all"</p>

5	Which south American country has announced opening of its Consulate General Office in Mumbai, recently?
Ans	<p>B] Chile</p> <p>This was announced during the first joint commission meeting between India and Chile held on October 17,2020</p> <p>Chile will become the fourth South American country to have a Consulate in Mumbai after Brazil, Peru and Costarica</p>
6	Name the act that has been amended recently in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir, for creation of District Development Councils [DDC]?
Ans	<p>E] Jammu and Kashmir Panchayati Raj Act 1989</p> <p>The provision for payment of remuneration to Sarpanches and Panches has been omitted from the amended Act.</p> <p>The amended law also says that Halqa panchayats shall be required to get its accounts audited by a chartered accountant every year. Halqa means the area comprising a village or contiguous number of villages as determined by the government.</p> <p>The newly formed DDCs as per the amendment will have jurisdiction over the entire district excluding those areas designated as municipalities or municipal corporations. All members of the DDC will have the right to vote in the meetings of the DDC</p> <p>{Additional reading on the topic recommended for state PSC and Civil Service aspirants}</p>
7	Which country has recently amended law to criminalise acts of intentional insulting of its national flag and emblem?
Ans	<p>D] China</p> <p>The law was amended after anti-government protesters in Hong Kong desecrated the Chinese national flag last year.</p> <p>The amended National Flag and National Emblem law will apply to Hong Kong and Macau also</p>
8	The creditors of which debt-ridden airline company has agreed to a bail-out plan offered by its prospective new owners?
Ans	<p>A] Jet Airways</p> <p>The airline is being taken over by an investor consortium of London based Kalrock Capital and UAE based businessman Murari Lal Jalan.</p>

	<p>The new owners have agreed to pump in USD 136 million as part of a revival package known as Kalrock-Jalan plan.</p> <p>The secured creditors of the debt ridden airline have agreed to the package as part of which Rs.10 billion will be given to creditors over five years.</p> <p>Jet Airways had halted operations in April 2019</p>
9	The Chief Minister of which state has written a letter to the Chief Justice of India leveling allegations of corruption against a judge of the Supreme Court?
Ans	<p>B] Andhra Pradesh</p> <p>The CM of Andhra Pradesh Jagan Mohan Reddy has alleged that Justice N V Ramana is influencing posting of cases in the State High Court and pressurising High Court Judges to deliver verdicts against the government in cases pending before the High Court. He has also alleged foul play in some land purchases made by the family members of the Supreme Court Judge.</p> <p>The letter was released to the media by the CM's office which has created uproar in the legal circles.</p> <p>[Important – The constitutional propriety of a sitting Chief Minister levelling serious allegations of corruption against a serving Supreme Court Justice and its legal ramifications are being widely discussed in legal circles and it is a likely question for CS Mains or interview. Additional reading strongly recommended]</p>
10	Which Congress MP was criticised by BJP for his remarks made during an online interaction as part of a cultural event in Pakistan?
Ans	<p>D] Shashi Tharoor</p> <p>He had criticised Narendra Modi while participating in Lahore Think Fest</p> <p>Shashi Tharoor spoke about the Modi government's failure in effectively handling the Covid-19 pandemic and the prejudice against a community during the pandemic. These remarks were criticised by BJP.</p>
11	Name the BJP General Secretary and Core Committee Member from Punjab who has resigned from the party protesting against the agricultural laws passed by the parliament recently
Ans	B] Malvinder Kang

	His resigned protesting against the party's refusal to address the concerns of the farmers surrounding the laws.
12	The UN imposed arms embargo on which nation has ended on October 18 enabling it to start trading with other countries?
Ans	C] Iran The arms embargo for 5 years was part of a nuclear non-proliferation deal that Iran signed with the UN in 2015. USA withdrew from the deal subsequently and had called for a continuation of the arms embargo on Iran. However, it failed to get the support of other member countries of the UN.
13	Which foot ball team won the Hero I-league football trophy for 2019-20?
Ans	D] Mohun Bagan The trophy was awarded after recently after a gap of seven months due to the pandemic. Mohun Bagan has since moved to Indian Super League [ISL] after its merger with ATK
14	Elavenil Valarivan who shot into the lime light on October 18, 2020 is associated with which sport?
Ans	B] Shooting She won the Women's gold in the International Air Rifle Championship organised online by Bangladesh Shooting Federation. Shahu Thushar Mane won the silver in the men's category
15	Who won the top female artist award in the Billboard Music Awards event held recently?
Ans	A] Billie Elish Top artist – Post Malone Top male artist – Post Malone Top new artist – Billie Elish Top duo/group – Jonas Bros Top Hot 100 song/ Top selling song – Old Town Road by Lil Nas X and Billy Ray Cyrus

16	Which Indian company has signed a defence contract to build a fighter aircraft simulator centre?
Ans	<p>E] Alpha Design Technologies Ltd of Bengaluru</p> <p>The defence contract worth RS.753 Crores with Ministry of Defence and Russia's RAC MIG is to build own and maintain two types of simulators for fighter aircrafts for training purposes.</p> <p>Alpha Design Technologies Ltd. (ADTL) has signed the first of two-phase defence contracts, together worth Rs.753 crore, with the Ministry of Defence and Russia's RAC MiG.</p> <p>The Bangalore-based company, that is involved in military aircraft, electronic devices for the military and satellite assemblies for ISRO, has been chosen by the two to build, own and maintain two types of simulators for fighter aircraft.</p> <p>Pilots of the Indian Air Force will train on these simulators before flying the upgraded Russian-origin MiG-29 fighters.</p> <p>Under the first contract worth Rs.53 crore, Alpha Design would set up and run the MiG-29 simulator centre at the Adampur airfield near Jalandhar initially for two years. The second 18-year contract would be signed after two years.</p> <p>Alpha has hired former IAF pilots as trainers. Training on simulators can save up to 75% of the cost of fuel and wear and tear of flying an actual plane.</p>
17	Sashidhar Jagdishan has taken charge as CEO of which bank, recently?
Ans	<p>D] HDFC Bank</p> <p>He will be the new MD and CEO of the bank, replacing Aditya Puri who retired recently.</p> <p>Aditya Puri was the founder CEO of the bank.</p>
18	“ The Battle of Belonging : On Nationalism, Patriotism And What It Means To Be Indian” is a book written by _____
Ans	<p>B] Shashi Tharoor</p> <p>The book was launched recently.</p>

19	Asan Conservation Reserve [ACR] that has become the first Ramsar site in the state of Uttarakhand is on the banks of which river?
Ans	<p data-bbox="277 216 451 247">A] Yamuna</p> <p data-bbox="277 289 1430 359">ACR is situated in Dehradun, on the banks of Yamuna and is home to many rare and endangered species of birds.</p> <p data-bbox="277 401 1430 548">Ramsar Convention or the Convention on Wetlands is an intergovernmental treaty established in 1971 by UNESCO, which came into force in 1975. The treaty was signed in the Iranian city of Ramsar and hence called Ramsar Convention.</p> <p data-bbox="277 590 1430 659">A Ramsar site is a wetland site designated to be of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.</p> <p data-bbox="277 701 1430 884">The Ramsar Convention encourages the designation of sites containing representative, rare or unique wetlands, or wetlands that are important for conserving biological diversity. Once designated, these sites are added to the Convention's List of Wetlands of International Importance and become known as Ramsar sites.</p> <p data-bbox="277 926 1430 1073">The Ramsar Convention on Wetlands provides the framework for the conservation and wise use of all wetlands through local and national actions and international cooperation, as a contribution towards achieving sustainable development throughout the world.</p> <p data-bbox="277 1083 1430 1188">The convention was held in the city of Ramsar, Iran, in February 1971 and was originally contracted by seven countries when it came into force on 21 December 1975.</p> <p data-bbox="277 1241 1430 1346">As of October 2019 there are 171 contracting parties and over 2,000 designated sites covering over 200,000,000 hectares (490,000,000 acres). India joined the Ramsar convention on 1 st February 1982.</p> <p data-bbox="277 1398 1430 1581">Sundarban Wetland is located within the largest mangrove forest in the world. It is the largest Ramsar Site in India. The Indian Sundarban, covering the south-westernmost part of the delta, constitutes over 60% of the country's total mangrove forest area and includes 90% of Indian mangrove species.</p> <p data-bbox="277 1623 1430 1692">The countries with the most Sites are the United Kingdom with 175 and Mexico with 142.</p> <p data-bbox="277 1745 1430 1814">Chilika Lake was designated the first Indian wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention.</p> <p data-bbox="277 1856 1430 1925">Lonar lake in Buldana district of Maharashtra is declared as a wetland area under Ramsar convention, recently.</p>

	<p>It is believed to be formed by a meteorite impact about 50000 years ago. The Lonar lake is the only crater lake in the country It is the 41 st Ramsar site in the country and second in Maharashtra</p> <p>Nandur Madhmeshwar Bird Sanctuary located in Nashik district of Maharashtra is the first Ramsar site in the state. It is also known as Bharatpur of Maharashtra.</p> <p>Sur Sarovar lake in Uttar Pradesh is also added to the Ramsar sites. The Sur Sarovar lake is also called the Keetham lake. More than 106 species of migratory birds rest in Sur Sarovar lake. The water of the lake is obtained from Agra Canal. The canal originates from Okhla barrage on River Yamuna in Delhi.</p> <p>{Additional reading on Ramsar Convention recommended for Civil Service aspirants}</p>
20	Mission Shakti is a women empowerment campaign launched by which state government recently?
Ans	<p>C] Uttar Pradesh</p> <p>It is aimed to tackle crime against women in the state and to raise awareness about the safety of women.</p> <p>UP is one of the worst performing state in terms of prevention of crimes against women.</p>
21	SLINEX is the annual joint naval exercise conducted by navies of India and _____
Ans	<p>B] Sri Lanka</p> <p>The eighth edition of the joint naval exercise was conducted from October 19 to 21.</p> <p>Indian Navy was represented by INS Kamorta and INS Kiltan</p>
22	National Disaster Management authority has developed a Rapid Visual Screening Primer to assess the structural safety of constructions in case of earth quakes, in partnership with _____
Ans	<p>C] IIIT Hyderabad</p> <p>International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad (IIIT-H) and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) have developed a rapid Visual Screening (RVS) Primer for better insight into structural safety in the wake of earthquake risks.</p>

	<p>The primer will serve as a pioneering document to screen various kinds of buildings for their structural stability and to assess and estimate the possible damage during an earthquake.</p> <p>The total number of buildings in India is well over 30.5 Crores. Structural status of buildings before and after the earthquake will provide an effective checkpoint for government institutions, industries, private organisations and local bodies against the threats posed by earthquakes.</p> <p>While disaster management has hitherto followed a relief-centric approach, the RVS Primer will assist in more mitigation- and preparedness-centric approach with a continued focus on response, which is proactive, holistic and integrated as per the Disaster Management Act, 2005.</p>
23	Which state/UT has launched My Town My Pride program recently?
Ans	<p>C] UT of Jammu and Kashmir</p> <p>This program is part of a public outreach initiative to deliver services at doorsteps to the urban population and to strengthen grassroots democracy.</p>
24	Eat Smart City challenge is organised by _____
Ans	<p>E] FSSAI [Food Safety Standards Authority of India]</p> <p>The challenge aims at creating an environment of right food habits and practices in smart cities of India so that it can set an example for other cities to follow.</p> <p>It was launched on World Food Day on October 16</p> <p>India aims to become trans-fat free by the year 2022, a year ahead of WHO's target, as per the Union government.</p> <p>FSSAI's Eat Right India movement aims to promote healthy and safe food for everyone in an environmentally sustainable way.</p> <p>[Additional reading recommended on Eat Right India movement and Fit India movement recommended for Civil Service aspirants]</p>
25	Which among the following was NOT a co-host of GCAM 2020 that conducted its annual meeting in the virtual mode recently?
Ans	B] World Health Organisation

	<p>GCAM [Grand Challenges Annual Meeting] is an international innovation collaboration to address the challenges in health and development.</p> <p>GCAM 2020 aims to bring together scientific leaders and policy makers to solve the global health problems, especially Covid-19.</p> <p>GCAM 2020 is co-hosted by Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Union Ministry of Science and Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Indian Council for Medical Research, NITI Ayog along with Grand Challenges Canada, Wellcome and United States Agency for International Development</p> <p>Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the meeting through virtual mode.</p> <p>Grand Challenges India was set up as a partnership of the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in 2012, and Wellcome Group also joined the partnership. Grand Challenges India works across a range of health and developmental priorities ranging from agriculture, nutrition, sanitation, maternal and child health to infectious diseases.</p>
26	Which state / UT has started operating HCNG buses on its roads from October 20, 2020?
Ans	<p>B] Delhi</p> <p>This is as per the government's plan to combat air pollution.</p> <p>HCNG stands for Hydrogen-enriched Compressed Natural Gas which is safer, more fuel efficient, cleaner and more economical than CNG.</p> <p>The use of HCNG is likely to result in 70% reduction in carbon monoxide emission, compared to CNG.</p> <p>The existing CNG buses are being converted to H-CNG with a little tuning.</p>
27	Ayushman Sahakar Scheme is launched by which Union Ministry to assist co-operatives in creating health care infrastructure in India?
Ans	<p>D] Ministry of Agriculture</p> <p>National Cooperative Development Corporation has created the scheme. Ayushman Sahakar is a unique scheme to assist cooperatives play an important role in creation of healthcare infrastructure in the country formulated by the apex autonomous development finance institution under the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, the National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC).</p>

	<p>NCDC would extend term loans to prospective cooperatives to the tune of Rs.10,000 Crore in the coming years. Ayushman Sahakar scheme would revolutionise the way healthcare delivery takes place in rural areas. It will promote existing cooperatives take up healthcare services as an activity for farmers.</p> <p>There are about 52 hospitals across the country run by cooperatives. They have cumulative bed strength of more than 5,000. The NCDC fund would give a boost to provision of healthcare services by cooperatives.</p> <p>NCDC's scheme aligns itself with the focus of the National Health Policy, 2017, covering the health systems in all their dimensions- investments in health, organization of healthcare services, access to technologies, development of human resources, encouragement of medical pluralism, affordable health care to farmers etc. It has a comprehensive approach to hospitals, healthcare, medical education, nursing education, paramedical education, health insurance and holistic health systems such as AYUSH. Ayushman Sahakar scheme fund would also assist cooperative hospitals take up medical / Ayush education.</p> <p>Any Cooperative Society with suitable provision in its byelaws to undertake healthcare related activities would be able to access the NCDC fund. NCDC assistance will flow either through the State Governments/ UT Administrations or directly to the eligible cooperatives. Subsidy/ grant from other sources can be dovetailed.</p> <p>Ayushman Sahakar specifically covers establishment, modernization, expansion, repairs, renovation of hospital and healthcare and education infrastructure.</p> <p>The scheme also provides working capital and margin money to meet operational requirements. The scheme provides interest subvention of one percent to women majority cooperatives.</p> <p>NCDC was set up under an Act of Parliament in 1963 for promotion and development of cooperatives. Since 1963, it has extended around Rs.1.60 lakh crore as loans to cooperatives.</p>
28	<p>Which prominent J and K politician was recently questioned by Enforcement Directorate in a fund misappropriation scam connected with Jammu and Kashmir Cricket association?</p>
Ans	<p>D] Dr.Farooq Abdullah</p> <p>He is the President of National Conference and former Chief Minister of the erstwhile state of Jammu and Kashmir.</p> <p>The case is regarding misappropriation of funds to the tune of Rs.43.69 Crores from the funds allotted to Jammu and Kashmir Cricket Association [JKCA] by BCCI [Board of Control for Cricket in India] , for development of infrastructure and promotion of cricket in the state.</p>

	<p>The misappropriation of funds took place during the period from 2002 and 2011 and Dr.Farooq Abdullah was the President of JKCA during part of the period. The CBI had registered a FIR in 2015 based on a direction from the J and K High Court.</p>
29	<p>Which University in India has recently conducted its 100 th convocation ceremony?</p>
Ans	<p>E] University of Mysore</p> <p>Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the meeting virtually on the occasion of the centenary convocation of the university</p>
30	<p>Which Tamil actor was slated to play the role of Muttiah Muralitharan in his biopic “800”?</p>
Ans	<p>B] Vijay Sethupathi</p> <p>The casting of the actor to play the role of Muttiah Muralitharan, the famous spinner from Sri Lanka, in his biopic titled 800 ran into a controversy as several Tamil political leaders and film industry personalities came forward to oppose it.</p> <p>The opposition was on account of certain statements made by Muttiah Muralitharan about the Sri Lankan civil war which were construed as anti-tamil by the Sri Lankan tamils and their Indian counterparts.</p> <p>Vijay Sethupathi has since been asked by Muralitharan to step away from the film so as to prevent him from encountering any problems in his cinematic career in future, as stated by Muralitharan.</p> <p>[Additional reading on the Sri Lankan tamil issue, its origins, growth and the civil war and its ramifications in Indian politics recommended for Civil Service aspirants]</p>
31	<p>Movement for Socialism is the left wing party that has returned to power in which south American country recently?</p>
Ans	<p>A] Bolivia</p> <p>Luis Arce will become the President of Bolivia defeating his rival Carlos Mesa.</p> <p>Evo Morales, who was the President of Bolivia for 14 years, was forced to quit last year as the election conducted last year was annulled due to allegations of vote rigging. This led to bloody protests and Morales was forced to resign and he fled the country.</p>

	Jeanine Anez took over as interim President and now the left wing party has returned to power with Luis Arce as the President. He was the Economy Minister under Evo Morales.
32	Portraits of Power is an autobiography of _____
Ans	D] N K Singh He is the chairperson of Fifteenth Finance Commission. The book was revealed by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, recently
33	What is the capital expenditure [capex] target fixed for India's 14 large Central Public Sector Enterprises [CPSE]s for the current FY 2020-21?
Ans	A] Rs.115934 Crores. The Finance Minister has requested the CMDs of these 14 CPSEs to achieve the target of 75% of the Capex budget by December end, to boost the economy. In 2019-20, PSEs in India achieved a capex of Rs.116323 Crores against a target of Rs.111672 Crores, which was 104% of the target. Capital expenditure by government is a major factor in boosting demand and consumption in the economy which spurs economic growth.
34	Which jewellery group in India has got the approval from SEBI recently for its Rs.1750 Crore Initial Public Offering [IPO]?
Ans	B] Kalyan Jewellers India Ltd
35	Who has become the first cricketer to play 200 T20 matches in IPL recently?
Ans	B] M S Dhoni. He is the captain of the Chennai Super kings franchise and became the only cricketer to play in 200 IPL matches when he played against Rajasthan Royals at the Sheikh Zayed stadium in Abu Dhabi. Rohit Sharma is the second player to feature in 200 IPL matches after M S Dhoni.
36	A major earth quake of magnitude 7.5 and a subsequent tsunami alert was issued in which part of North America recently?
Ans	D] Alaska

	<p>The earth quake had hit some 57 miles from the small city of Sand Point.</p> <p>The tsunami warning was subsequently downgraded to a tsunami advisory.</p>
37	<p>The Election Commission has increased the election campaign expenditure limit for individual candidates by ___% with immediate effect, recently</p>
Ans	<p>B]10%</p> <p>This was as per the recommendations of the election commission as the parties have to bear additional costs on account of purchase of masks, PPE kits, sanitisers, soaps etc in addition to enhanced spending for digital campaigning. The enhancement in expenditure limit is with immediate effect and will remain in force until further notification.</p> <p>The last revision in election campaign expenditure limit was made before the 2014 Lok Sabha election.</p> <p>The campaign expenditure limit varies from state to state as per the size of the state.</p> <p>With this new amendment, each candidate contesting the Bihar assembly elections will get an expenditure limit of Rs.30.8 Lakhs against the previous limit of Rs.28 Lakhs.</p> <p>[History of election campaign expenditure limits and the mechanism of monitoring the same – election reforms brought out by T N Sheshan – recommended reading for Civil Service aspirants]</p>
38	<p>Name the anti-tank missile that was test fired successfully by India recently</p>
Ans	<p>E] SANT [Stand-off Anti-tank Missile]</p> <p>The missile was developed by DRDO for Indian Air Force and was test fired off the coast of Odisha. It has Lock-on before launch and Lock-on after launch capabilities.</p> <p>The list of missiles recently test fired by India are as below.</p> <p>Surface to surface supersonic missile – Brahmos Anti Radiation missile – Rudram-I Anti-tank guided missile – ATGM Nuclear capable hypersonic missile – Shaurya Anti tank missile – SANT</p>

39	<p>Consider the following statements regarding India's first Multi Modal Logistics Park [MMLP]</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The foundation stone for the MMLP was laid down by Union Minister Nitin Gadkari in Assam, recently 2. The park will be set up under the Bharatmala Pariyojana of the Central Government, in Bongaigaon district, at a cost of Rs.694 Crores. 3. The government's Ministry of Shipping is developing the MMLPs at selected locations in the country under its Logistics Efficiency Enhancement Program [LEEP]. 4. MMLP is a freight handling facility with a minimum area of 100 acres with various modes of transport access and comprising mechanised warehouses, specialised storage solutions like cold storage, mechanised material handling, inter-modal transfer container terminals and bulk and break-bulk cargo terminals. 5. MMLPs will also provide value added services like customs clearance with bonded storage yards, quarantine zones, testing facilities and ware housing management services. <p>Which of the above statement[s] is/are NOT correct?</p>
Ans	<p>C] 3 only</p> <p>The Ministry of Road Transport and Highways [MoRTH] is developing the MMLPs.</p> <p>The foundation stone for MMLP was laid by Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari, in Assam.</p> <p>The park will be set up under the Bharatmala Pariyojana of the Central Government, in Bongaigaon district, at a cost of Rs.694 Crores.</p> <p>The park will provide direct connectivity to air, rail, road and waterways to the citizens of Assam and other parts of the North-east and will provide employment to about 20 lakh people.</p> <p>Multi-Modal Logistic Parks [MMLP] are a key policy initiative of the Govt. of India to improve the country's logistic sector by lowering overall freight costs, reducing vehicular pollution and congestion and cutting warehousing costs. The government's Ministry of Road Transport and Highways [MoRTH] is developing the MMLPs at selected locations in the country under its Logistics Efficiency Enhancement Program [LEEP].</p> <p>LEEP, which is spearheaded by MoRTH and National Highways Authority of India [NHAI], aims to enhance freight transport in India by reducing costs and time, and improving the tracking and traceability of consignments through infrastructural, procedural and technology initiatives.</p>

	<p>MMLP is a freight handling facility with a minimum area of 100 acres with various modes of transport access and comprising mechanised warehouses, specialised storage solutions like cold storage, mechanised material handling, inter-modal transfer container terminals and bulk and break-bulk cargo terminals.</p> <p>Logistics parks will also provide value added services like customs clearance with bonded storage yards, quarantine zones, testing facilities and ware housing management services. Provisions will also be provided for late stage manufacturing activities like kitting and final assembly, grading, sorting, labeling and packaging activities, re-working and returns management.</p> <p>[Additional reading on Bharatmala Pariyojana recommended for Civil Service aspirants]</p>
40	World Statistics Day is observed on _____
Ans	<p>B] October 20</p> <p>It is observed every five years by United Nations Statistical Commission</p> <p>The theme for 2020 is Connecting the world with data we can trust.</p>
41	Asian Development Bank has sanctioned a USD 177 million loan for upgrading the road network in which state?
Ans	<p>D] Maharashtra</p> <p>The project will upgrade 450 km comprising two major district roads and 11 state highways to two-lane standard across seven districts of Maharashtra</p>
42	As per United Nations World Food Program [UNWFP] report, what percentage of average daily income is spent on food by Indians?
Ans	<p>A] 3.5%</p> <p>India ranks 28 out of 36 countries as per the percentage of daily income required to buy a plate of food.</p> <p>A person living in Newyork spends 0.6% of his daily income on food.</p>
43	The cultivation of Heeng [Ferula asafoetida] is undertaken for the first time in which state in India, recently?
Ans	D] Himachal Pradesh

	<p>The first seeding of the spice was planted in Kwaring village of Lahaul valley. The cultivation is undertaken by CSIR-Institute of Himalayan Bioresource Technology</p> <p>India imports about 1200 tonnes of raw <i>Ferula asafoetida</i> annually.</p> <p><i>Asafoetida</i> or <i>Heeng</i> makes for an indispensable part of the Indian cuisine, especially in curries and dals. It is a latex gum extracted from various species of a perennial herb known as <i>ferula</i>. Its distinct flavour and aroma can transform any boring dish.</p> <p>Moreover, it has long been known for the health benefits it has to offer. It has a prominent place in traditional medicine; thanks to its carminative, anti-viral, anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory, sedative and diuretic properties. Considering its therapeutic and curative powers, <i>asafoetida</i> is also referred to as the Food of the Gods.</p>
44	Which country has expressed its willingness to set up cold chains in India's Northeastern region for better marketing of its fruits and vegetable products in the world market?
Ans	<p>C] Britain</p> <p>The British Council in India also proposed to collaborate with the state governments of north eastern states for teaching science and mathematics in all the eight states of the north east.</p>
45	Vessel Traffic Monitoring System [VTMS] and Vessel Traffic Services [VTS] are indigenous softwares being developed by Ministry of Shipping for the traffic management at Indian ports. Which Indian institute is developing these softwares?
Ans	<p>B] IIT Chennai</p> <p>The software development was e-launched by Union Minister for Shipping Mansukh Mandaviya</p> <p>VTS and VTMS are softwares which determine vessel positions, position of other traffic or meteorological hazard warnings and extensive management of traffic within a port or waterway. Vessel Traffic Services (VTS) contribute to safety of life at sea, safety and efficiency of navigation and protection of the marine environment, adjacent shore areas, work sites and offshore installations from possible adverse effects of maritime traffic.</p> <p>Vessels Traffic Management Systems are installed in some of the busiest waters in the world, and are making valuable contribution to safer navigation, more efficient traffic flow, and protection of the environment. Traffic flow in busy approach routes, access channels, and harbours can be coordinated safely, in the best interest of port and its users. Incidents and emergency situations can be dealt with quickly. Data from traffic</p>

movements can be stored and used as reference information for port administration, port authorities, coastguards and search and rescue services.

VTMS is mandatory under IMO Convention SOLAS (Safety of Life at Sea). The VTMS traffic image is compiled and collected by means of advanced sensors such as radar, AIS, direction finding, CCTV and VHF or other co-operative systems and services. A modern VTMS integrates all of the information into a single operator working environment for ease of use and in order to allow for effective traffic organization and communication.

Presently, India has approximately 15 VTS systems operational along the Indian Coast and there is no uniformity of VTS software as each system has its own VTS software. With the indigenous software development in progress the recent positive cooperation with office of Director General of Light and Lighthouses (DGLL) on joint development of the indigenous VTMS software development as part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat initiative will strengthen the cooperation in this area. At the same time, it will benefit the port sector, both in India and region. It is expected that a prototype system will be developed in ten-month time for testing and to operate as a parallel system until it is robust for day to day operations.

Development of the indigenous VTS software will reduce the expenditure of foreign exchange on this issue and also minimize the dependence on foreign support for VTS software. Accordingly, indigenous development of VTS software will benefit with respect to:

- i. Saving of foreign exchange for various VTSs in India.
- ii. VTS Software can be provided to Indian trade friendly nations viz. Maldives, Mauritius, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Bangladesh and Gulf countries.
- iii. Will also minimize the cost for future upgradations of software.
- iv. Shall be easier to interconnect with MIS/ERP softwares of ports.
- v. Availability of Indian VTS software shall make Indian companies to be competitive commercially in global bids.

Implementation of National Maritime Domain Awareness programme of Indian Navy and NCVTS by DGLL – a real time, interactive aids to navigation system for coastal shipping shall become feasible with Indian VTS software at low cost.

Ministry of Shipping has sanctioned an amount of Rs. 10 Crore to IIT, Chennai for development of indigenous VTS software.

46	Wildlife Institute of India [WII], an autonomous body of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change [MoEF], is being converted into a deemed university, as part of government's policy of disengagement from unviable autonomous bodies. Where is WII situated?
Ans	<p>D] Dehradun</p> <p>WII is an autonomous body of the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change [MoEF]. WII is situated in Dehradun.</p> <p>Dhananjai Mohan is the Director of WII at present.</p> <p>MoEF has decided to stop the annual funding to WII gradually as per the recommendation of the Expenditure department of the Finance Ministry to disengage from unviable autonomous bodies.</p> <p>MoEF is planning to convert WII in to a deemed university.</p> <p>WII is currently the consultant to the government and public sector undertakings to study the impact of developmental projects on wild life.</p> <p>Finance Ministry has recommended that 109 autonomous institutions under various ministries should be merged into 26 and that government must disengage from 23 autonomous bodies.</p> <p>Indian Institute of Forest Management and Indian Plywood Industries Research and Training Institute are two other bodies recommended for disengagement.</p>
47	National Green Tribunal [NGT] has given an important judgment recently that the post-facto environmental clearance given to an irrigation project by Ministry of Environment was unlawful. Name the project
Ans	<p>D] Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project [KLIP]</p> <p>It is a multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari river in Kaleswharam in Jayashankar-Bhupalapalli district of Telangana. It is currently world's largest multi-stage lift irrigation project.</p> <p>The post-facto environmental clearance [EC] given to the project by Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change [MoE&CC] was illegal as the same was given after considerable work was carried out on the project, as per the NGT order.</p> <p>The project proponent which is the state government did not submit the application for EC prior to the works contending that it is a multi-purpose project primarily intended for water distribution and water management and hence not covered by the Environment Impact Assessment [EIA] notification.</p>

	<p>NGT found the argument to be untenable and ordered to fix accountability for the lapse and to take remedial measures.</p> <p>It has ordered a seven member expert committee to be set up with sectorial experts to study the issue and suggest remedial measures.</p> <p>[Additional reading on environmental clearances on multi-purpose developmental projects and on EIA recommended for Civil Service aspirants]</p>
48	The Srinagar office of which newspaper was sealed by the Jammu and Kashmir administration recently?
Ans	<p>E] Kashmir Times.</p> <p>The news paper and its editor Anuradha Bhasin was at the forefront of the fight for press freedom in Kashmir and against the internet ban after the abrogation of Article 370.</p>
49	The Supreme Court of which of our neighbouring country has recently ordered a referendum on certain clauses in a proposed constitutional amendment, giving more powers to the President?
Ans	<p>B] Sri Lanka</p> <p>The court has cleared the 20 th Amendment to be presented in the Sri Lankan parliament but stated that four clauses in the proposed amendment that gave the President exemption from being answerable to the Parliament and immunity from law suits needed approval from the people by means of a referendum.</p> <p>The 20 th amendment seeks to amend the constitution of Sri Lanka and gives more powers to the President by taking away the powers of the Prime Minister and parliament.</p>
50	Who has achieved the record of being the first batsmen in IPL history to score two consecutive centuries?
Ans	<p>A] Shikhar Dhawan of Delhi Capitals</p> <p>He scored his second consecutive century in the match against Kings XI Punjab in IPL on October 20, 2020</p> <p>He also became the fifth batsmen to score 5000 runs in IPL</p>

A parting note

Some of you might have found the questions to be tough.

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