

– Current Affairs –

June 2017

Union Government launched Mobile App “Celebrating Yoga”

Minister for Science & Technology Dr. Harshvardhan launched a Mobile App “Celebrating Yoga” developed by Ministry of Science & Technology in New Delhi. The Mobile App has been developed by DST on the occasion of International Yoga Day (21 June) 2017. The purpose of the App is to popularize Yoga and encourage people to participate in it for a scientifically healthy living. The App will enable in capturing both mass events being organized in public places, schools and office complexes across the country and individual enthusiasts who are performing yoga to promote the celebration of the day and yoga performances. The App “Celebrating Yoga” can be downloaded from Google Play Store.

Govt makes Aadhaar card mandatory for opening bank account

The government has made Aadhaar card mandatory for opening of bank accounts as well as for any financial transaction of Rs 50,000 and above.

Key Points:

- i. The government in Budget 2017 has already mandated link of Aadhaar number with Permanent Account Number to avoid individuals using multiple PANs to evade taxes.
- ii. Existing bank account holders have been asked to furnish the Aadhaar number issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) by December 31, 2017.

Railways to reduce emission by 33 per cent by 2030

The Indian Railways is going to reduce emission by 33 per cent in the next 10-12 years. The Railways will going to involve with green initiatives undertaken by the public transporter.

Key Notes:

- i. It will reduce emission through sustained energy efficiency measures and maximum use of clean fuel.

- ii. The Indian Railways is 12 times more energy efficient in freight traffic and three times more in passenger traffic compared to roadways.
- iii. Railways will promote low carbon mass transportation system.
- iv. The target of tree plantation on rail land is 5 crore trees in the next three years.
- v. This year 1.2 crore trees have been planted against a target of 1.15 crore.
- vi. The Railways will be using 5 per cent bio diesel and CNG/LNG for traction and use of renewables up to 10 per cent of its energy needs by 2030.
- vii. A big target has been set to achieve 1000 MW of solar power and 170 MW of wind power installed capacities.
- viii. Fitting bio-toilets in its entire 55,000 strong fleet of coaches by 2019 is another green initiative of the Railways.

Arun Jaitley inaugurates Telangana solar plant

Defence Minister Arun Jaitley inaugurated a grid-connected solar power plant of 16 MW capacity at the Ordnance Factory in Telangana's Medak district. The solar power plant at Medak set up at a cost of Rs 105 crore by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) with the commissioning of 9 Mega Watt windmill project at Dammit.

The excellence awards in the institutional category for 2014-15 was given to Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad while the award for 2015-16 was conferred on Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Bengaluru. The best performance award in exports for 2014-15 was given to Goa Shipyard Limited while the award for 2015-16 was conferred on Bharat Electronics Limited, Bengaluru.

Stamp on Noted Playwright Balwant Gargi released

A stamp on noted playwright and theatre director late Balwant Gargi was released on 31st of May.

Key Notes:

- i. BJP leader and Chandigarh MP Kirron Kher has released the stamp on the commemoration of Balwant Gargi centenary by the Panjab University.
- ii. Balwant Gargi was the founder-director of the Indian Theatre Department, Panjab University Chandigarh.
- iii. The Punjab University, in 2016, had declared the 100th year of his birth as a year-long celebration.
- iv. He was born in 1916 in Bathinda.

v. He was awarded the Sahitya Akademi award, the highest Indian literary award, in 1962 for his book Rang Manch.

vi. He had also received Padma Shri in 1972 and the Sangeet NatakAkademi Award in Punjabi Playwriting in 1998.

vii. On this occasion, the stamps of two other writers Krishan Chander and Bisham Sahni were also released. They both were also the alumni of Panjab University (PU).

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West Indies cricket team's official name changed to WINDIES

The cricket board for West Indies, on its 91st anniversary, has re-branded themselves as Cricket West Indies from the former West Indies Cricket board. The board also announced in a media release on their official website that the cricket team from now on will be officially known as 'WINDIES.

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PM Modi inaugurates Kerala's first metro line

On June 17, 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Kerala's first metro line in Kochi. PM Modi inaugurated the first phase – 2 km of the total 25 km stretch – of the Kochi metro from Palarivattom station.

- i. The Kochi Metro is the first in India to use Communication Based Train Control technology to maximise frequencies and minimise errors.
- ii. Each station will showcase a theme, such as maritime history, Western Ghats as well as the local history of the city, among others. Moreover, each station on the Kochi Metro will have solar panels, which will focus on producing 35% of the total power usage.

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Mypetrolpump' of Bengaluru becomes 1st in India to deliver diesel at home

Bengaluru has become the country's first city where one can have fuel delivered at one's doorstep, just like milk and newspapers, only weeks after oil ministry announced that the Centre was thinking of rolling out such a system. Mypetrolpump, a one-year-old startup launched this home delivery system with three vehicles, each with the capacity of 950 liters. Diesel is delivered at home at the price declared for that day. The startup is charging Rs. 99 as one-time delivery charges for up to 100 litres whereas for additional one liter of fuel, the customer has to pay Re. 1 each as delivery charge. The order for the supply of fuel can be placed online, through app or through a phone call.

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Real Madrid wins UEFA Champions League title

Real Madrid beat Juventus 4-1 in the Champions League final 2017 to successfully defend the title. Cristiano Ronaldo, Casemiro and Marco Asensio all scored to take their side to the 12th title in the

tournament. It was a historic day for the French manager Zinedine Zidane as well as the Spanish giants, which became the only club to retain the title in the Champions League era.

AP's Vizianagaram bags MGNREGA national award

The Ministry of Rural Development has selected Vizianagaram as one among the 17 districts across the nation for the MGNREGA annual award for effective implementation of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act during 2015-16. The award would be presented at the Mahatma Gandhi NREGA Sammelan to the district programme coordinator and District Collector on June 19 in New Delhi.

Telangana CM announces 6-point comprehensive plan for farmers

During the occasion of State Formation Day , Telangana Chief Minister Chandrasekhar Rao has announced 6-point comprehensive plan for farmers on June 2nd 2017 in Secunderabad.

i. The plans include the following points

1.8 thousand rupees cash assistance per acre per annum to each farmer in the state.

2.24/7 continuous electricity supply.

3. Formation of crop colonies and support price for their yield.

ii. He also announced other welfares such as thousand rupees social security pension for single destitute women.

iii. The state government is going to implement in coming days like the Chief Minister further announced 15 thousand rupees assistance to mother and child which includes 'KCR Kits' worth two thousand rupees to take care of their nutrition and health needs.

Shri Piyush Goyal launches Energy Conservation Building Code 2017

On June 19, 2017, Piyush Goyal, Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New and Renewable Energy and Mines launched the Energy Conservation Building Code 2017 (ECBC 2017) which prescribes the energy performance standards for new commercial buildings to be constructed across India.

i. Objective: ECBC 2017 aims to optimise energy savings with the comfort levels for occupants, and prefers life-cycle cost effectiveness to achieve energy neutrality in commercial buildings.

ii. Developed by: ECBC 2017 has been developed by Ministry of Power and Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) with technical support from United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under the U.S. – India bilateral Partnership to Advance Clean Energy – Deployment Technical Assistance (PACE-D TA) Program.

70th World Health Assembly held in Geneva, Switzerland

The World Health Assembly is the decision-making body of WHO. It is attended by delegations from all WHO Member States and focuses on a specific health agenda prepared by the Executive Board. The main functions of the World Health Assembly are to determine the policies of the Organization, appoint the Director-General, supervise financial policies, and review and approve the proposed programme budget. The Health Assembly is held annually in Geneva, Switzerland.

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Telangana launches single-woman pension scheme, first in India

On June 4, 2017, Telangana State Government launched single-woman pension scheme across the state, thereby becoming the first state in India to launch such scheme.

- i. Under this scheme, Telangana State Govt. will provide 1,000 financial assistance per month to single women. The beneficiaries would get the pension in their bank accounts every month.
- ii. Officials have identified 108302 beneficiaries in 31 districts.
- iii. This scheme will benefit unmarried women, joginis and divorced women.
- iv. On June 4, 2017, Telangana state ministers and MLAs handed over the pension order to beneficiaries at different functions organised across the state.
- v. Besides, children of single women would be admitted into all Telangana Residential Educational Institutions without having to write an examination or waiting for the lottery system.

Telangana National Parks:

◆ Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park, Mahaveer Harina Vanasthali National Park and Mrugavani National Park.

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Ayurveda specialist appointed special secretary in Ayush

Ayurveda physician 'Vaidya' Rajesh Kotecha has been appointed as special secretary in Ayush Ministry. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Kotecha's appointment for three years on a contract basis, according to an order issued by Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT). Vaidya (physician) Kotecha is the chief consultant of Chakrapani Ayurveda Clinic, Jaipur. The appointment is in line with the Centre's efforts to bring in specialists from the private sector in the government.

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Railways to launch Operation Swarn to revamp Rajdhani, Shatabdi Trains

The Railway Ministry will launch "Operation Swarn" (swarn means gold in Hindi) to improve services in Rajdhani and Shatabdi Express trains. The move has come as a response to repeated complaints of deteriorated services, low quality of food and poor sanitation in these trains.

i. 'Operation Swarn' will be conducted in a phased manner. Under the first phase, the Mumbai-Delhi Rajdhani Express and Mumbai-Ahmedabad Shatabdi Express have been selected for upgradation, for which the work will start from September 2017.

ii. An amount of Rs 50 lakh will be allotted to each Rajdhani and Shatabdi train on various routes for the revamp.

Recent Approvals by Central government – June 22 2017

Union Cabinet has approved Amendment of the bilateral Social Security Agreement (SSA) between India and the Netherlands by incorporating the "Country of Residence" Principle into the agreement.

i. And also approved Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation and the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment of the Kingdom of the Netherlands for bilateral cooperation in the field of water resources management.

ii. Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding between India and Portugal on Cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Governance Reforms

iii. Cabinet approves MoU on cooperation in the textiles, clothing and fashion sectors between India and Australia

iv. Union Cabinet was apprised about a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space between India and Armenia.

v. Cabinet approves Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in Traditional Systems of Medicine and Homoeopathy between India and Sri Lanka

vi. Union Cabinet as approved constitution of an organized Group 'A' Engineering Service, namely Indian Naval Material Management Service (INMMS) and consequent changes in cadre structure of existing Group 'A' cadre of Naval Store Officers of the Indian Navy.

Govt announces 149 new Post Office Passport Kendras in second phase

Sushma Swaraj has announced the opening of 149 new Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs). It will be set up in the second phase.

Key Notes:

i. In the first phase 86 POPSKs were to be set up — 52 of which are now functional.

ii. According to the External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj the government is planning to set up a comprehensive network of Passport Seva Kendras (PSK) across the nation, with major post offices to provide the service.

iii. Apart from centres in the post offices, the government had earlier also announced 16 full-fledged PSKs taking the total number of new centres to the 251.

iv. Earlier it had only 77 PSKs to cater to the whole nation.

v. The government has planned to set a target and decided that no individual should have to travel more than 50 km for a passport.

Indian Agri microbiologist given environment award in Japan

Indian agricultural microbiologist Shrihari Chandraghatgi has been conferred the Ministry of Environment Award for 2017 in Japan for developing cutting edge technologies to address burning environmental problems. Chandraghatgi, who is President and CEO of EcoCycle Corporation, is the first foreigner to be given the Ministry of Environment Award, the highest award in the environmental sector in Japan. The Ministry of Environment Award is the highest honour given in the environmental sector every year jointly by the Ministry of Environment, Japan, National Institute for Environmental Studies (NIES), Japan and The Nikkan Kogyo Shinbun (a media group).

EPFO ties up with Hudco for housing subsidy under PMAY

Retirement fund body Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has signed an MoU with the Housing and Urban Development Corporation (HUDCO) to enable members of its housing scheme to avail subsidy of up to Rs 2.67 lakh for buying affordable homes under the Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana (PMAY). Under the housing scheme, the EPFO allows its subscribers for withdrawing up to 90 per cent of their EPF accumulations to buy homes. The MoU was signed in New Delhi. Now, EPFO members can avail interest subsidy upto two lakh twenty thousand rupees in Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme through HUDCO and National Housing Bank for those members whose annual income is less than the amount specified in Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojna.

Govt clears proposal for setting up new airport in Greater Noida

The government has cleared a proposal for setting up a greenfield airport in Jewar in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Key Points:

- i. It is likely to be operational in the next five to six years.
- ii. The airport will help reduce congestion at the Delhi international airport.
- iii. Civil Aviation Minister Ashok Gajapathi Raju said to a media on 24th of June that “in-principle clearance has been granted” for the airport.
- iv. The Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority has notified 3,000 hectares of land for a world-class international airport.

v. Noida International Airport will cater to 30-50 million passengers per year over the next 10-15 years.

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'International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR)' is celebrated on which date every year?

- 1.15th June
- 2.16th June
- 3.17th June
- 4.18th June
- 5.19th June

Answer & Explanation

Answer –2.16th June

Explanation :

The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR), celebrated on 16 June, is aimed at recognizing the significant financial contribution migrant workers make to the wellbeing of their families back home and to the sustainable development of their countries of origin.

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Which state has announced free education for the transgender community in the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University?

- A. Andhra Pradesh
- B. Telangana
- C. Kerala
- D. Tamil Nadu

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Tamil Nadu Government has announced free education for the transgender community in the Manonmaniam Sundaranar University in Tirunelveli. One seat in every course of all the colleges affiliated to the university has been reserved for the transgenders.

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Which of the following is the top remittance-receiving country in 2016?

- A. Japan

- B. China
- C. India
- D. New Zealand

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Indians working across the globe sent home USD 62.7 billion last year, making India the top remittance-receiving country surpassing China, according to a UN report. The 'One Family at a Time' study by the UN International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) said about 200 million migrants globally sent more than \$445 million in 2016 as remittances to their families, helping to lift millions out of poverty. 80 per cent of remittances are received by 23 countries, led by India, China, the Philippines, Mexico and Pakistan.

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Which State Government has announced free education for the transgender community in all the colleges of state's Manonmaniam Sundaranar University?

- 1. Tamil Nadu
- 2. Kerala
- 3. Karnataka
- 4. Andhra Pradesh
- 5. Telangana

Answer & Explanation

Answer -1. Tamil Nadu

Explanation :

The decision will be implemented from this academic year. One seat in every course of all the colleges affiliated to the university has been reserved for the transgenders. Manonmaniam Sundaranar University is the first in India to offer free education to the transgenders.

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Which company has announced to acquire Whole Foods Market?

- A. Walmart
- B. eBay
- C. Target
- D. Amazon

Answer and Explanation

Ans. D

Amazon has announced that it's buying Whole Foods for just under USD 14 billion. Amazon has agreed to pay USD 42 a share in cash for the organic-food chain, including debt.

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Which country planned to exchange Information Sharing with India regarding black Money in the year 2019?

- A. Brazil
- B. Switzerland
- C. United States of America
- D. Singapore

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

Switzerland signed an automatic exchange of financial account information with India in order to facilitate immediate sharing of details. The 'Joint Declaration' for implementation of Automatic Exchange of Information (AEOI) was signed between India and Switzerland in November 2016.

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The World Twenty20 Championship's seventh edition which was scheduled to be held next year has been postponed to:

- 1.2019
- 2.2020
- 3.2021
- 4.2022
- 5.2023

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 2.2020

Explanation :

The World Twenty20 Championship's seventh edition next year is all set to be scrapped and pushed to 2020 as the top member nations will be busy with bilateral commitments in 2018.

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What is the destination of Indian Warships which are to take part in Bilateral Maritime Exercise?

- A. New Zealand
- B. Canada
- C. Australia
- D. Argentina

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Navies of India and Australia will participate in bilateral maritime exercise AUSINDEX-17 to enhance inter-operability and cooperation between the two forces. Indian naval ships Jyoti, Shivalik and Kamorta are on a port visit to Freemantle, Australia for this purpose.

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Who flaged the Kochi Metro Railway?

- A. Pranab Mukherjee
- B. Rajnath Singh
- C. Narendra Modi
- D. Sushma Swaraj

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday dedicated the first phase of Kochi Metro to the nation. The Kochi Metro will be the first in India to use Communication Based Train Control technology to maximise frequencies and minimise errors. The Kochi Metro Rail Corporation decided to employ transgender people in stations. The project cost an estimated Rs. 5,180 crore.

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Which country has announced online visa applications for Indians from July 1, 2017?

- 1. New Zealand
- 2. Australia
- 3. Canada
- 4. Singapore
- 5. UAE

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 2.Australia

Explanation :

The Australian government announced that Indian nationals can apply for a visitor visa online starting July 1, 2017. Australia's assistant minister for Immigration and Border Protection, Alex Hawke, said the online application option would make applying for the country's visitor visas easier and enhance the experience for Indians.

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Which film star has recently bought a team in South Africa T20 League?

- A. Shilpa Shetty
- B. Abhishek Bachchan
- C. Shahrukh Khan
- D. Salman Khan

Answer and Explanation

Ans C

Shahrukh Khan, who owns a stake in the IPL team Kolkata Knight Riders has been handed the ownership of team of Cape Town. Cricket South Africa launched its new T20 Global League in London, the competition is set to start in November, with the final to be played on December 16

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The Reserve Bank Of India (RBI) initiated the Prompt Corrective Action against this bank activities.

- A. State Bank of India
- B. Dena Bank
- C. Bank of Maharashtra
- D. Corporation Bank

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) initiated prompt corrective action (PCA) on Bank of Maharashtra placing a restriction on the banking activities. This is the sixth bank to be placed under PCA by the RBI, the other 5 banks are Central Bank of India, IDBI Bank, UCO Bank, Dena Bank and Indian Overseas Bank.

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On June 19, 2017, President Pranab Mukherjee received the first copy of book 'Garuda Purana'. This book has been published by:

- 1.All India Siddhraj Trust
- 2.All India Vanraj Trust
- 3.All India Kashiraj Trust
- 4.All India Gokulraj Trust
- 5.All India Shantiraj Trust

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 3.All India Kashiraj Trust

Explanation :

President Pranab Mukerjee appreciated the efforts made by Dr. Anant Narain Singh and All India Kashiraj Trust (which was inaugurated by the first President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad) to preserve and propagate our ancient texts.

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Ram Nath Kovind recently resigned from his post. He was the governor of which state?

- A. Bihar
- B. West Bengal
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. Gujarat

Answer and Explanation

Ans. A

Ram Nath Kovind has resigned from governor's post as BJP yesterday announced his name for the president's post. He was made Governor just before Bihar went to polls in 2015. West Bengal Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi has been given the additional charge of Bihar.

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Which of the following become the first Indian building to get a Trademark recently?

- A. Qutub Minar
- B. Mysore Palace
- C. Golden Temple
- D. Taj Mahal Palace

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

The 114-year old Taj Palace (also referred to as Taj Mahal Palace) in Mumbai became first Indian building to get itself trademarked joining the elite and small club of trademarked properties in the World which includes the Empire State Building in New York, the Eiffel Tower in Paris. It getting a trademark is a unique feature as the registration of an architectural design never been attempted since the Trademark Act came into force in 1999.

Which public sector bank is going to develop as many as 100 digital villages in various States of the country as part of its initiative to promote digital banking among the rural population?

1. Punjab National Bank
2. UCO Bank
3. Vijaya Bank
4. Bank of Baroda
5. Bank of India

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 3. Vijaya Bank

Explanation :

Vijaya Bank executive director B.S. Rama Rao said that Vijaya Bank is the only public sector financial institution to develop digital villages with focus on rural areas and it has already developed five villages including the one in Guntur district.

Which Indian national has joined UN 'Super Dads' Campaign?

- A. MS Dhoni
- B. Sachin Tendulkar
- C. Shahrukh khan
- D. Amitabh Bachchan

Answer and Explanation

Ans. B

Sachin Tendulkar has joined a special UNICEF campaign that highlights the significant role played by fathers in children's early development. David Beckham and Novak Djokovic are also part of this campaign.

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The International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed on _____.

- A. June 5th
- B. June 3rd
- C. June 4th
- D. June 2nd

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN) International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed every year on June 4 to acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse.

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The RBI has lowered the economic growth projection to _____ % for the current financial year from 7.4% earlier

- 1.7.3%
- 2.7.2%
- 3.7.1%
- 4.7.0%
- 5.6.9%

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 1.7.3%

Explanation :

RBI mentioned in the second bi-monthly policy statement that remonetisation would enable pick-up in consumer spending, especially in the cash-intensive segments. Moreover, reductions in banks' lending rates post – demonetisation should support both consumption and investment demand of households and stress-free corporate.

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Archaeologists have found the remains of the Fugan Temple in which country?

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. Malaysia
- D. Thailand

Answer and Explanation

Ans. A

Almost 1,000 years after it was lost, archaeologists have discovered a temple hidden in downtown Chengdu, China. The Fugan temple lasted from the Eastern Jin Dynasty (317-420) to the Southern Song Dynasty (1127-1279).

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Who is the author for the book "The Ministry of Utmost Happiness"?

- A. Kiran Desai
- B. Anita Desai
- C. Shashi Deshpande
- D. Arundhati Roy

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Arundhati Roy is the author of the book "The Ministry of Utmost Happiness". It is a fiction-based novel and will be published by Hamish Hamilton from the United Kingdom and Penguin India.

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What was the theme for 'World Oceans Day' 2017, celebrated on June 8, 2017?

1. Conserving Ocean Ecosystem
2. Economic Virtue of Oceans
3. Protect the Ocean
4. Our Oceans, Our Future
5. Healthy Oceans, Healthy Planet

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 4. Our Oceans, Our Future

Explanation :

World Oceans Day was officially recognized by the United Nations in late 2008. The Ocean Project, working in partnership with the World Ocean Network, Association of Zoos and Aquariums, and many other partners in its network of 2,000 organizations, has been promoting World Oceans Day since 2002.

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World's Highest Rail Track Survey to Commence at Leh

Indian Railways will start the final location survey of the 498 km long Bilaspur-Manali-Leh line at Leh in Jammu and Kashmir this week.

Details about Bilaspur-Manali-Leh line at Leh in Jammu and Kashmir:

- i. The proposed new rail line will connect all important locations between Bilaspur and Leh namely Sunder Nagar Mandi, Manali, Tandi, Keylong, Koksar, Darcha, Upshi and Karu.
 - ii. Coming up at a height of 3,300 metres, the strategically important rail project is touted to become the highest rail track in the world, overtaking China's Qinghai-Tibet Railway.
 - iii. Union Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu will inaugurate the work for the final location survey on June 27, 2017 at an estimated cost of Rs 157.77 crore.
 - iv. survey is funded by the defence ministry and has been entrusted to RITES, a Railways PSU.
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Anish Bhanwala bags gold medal in ISSF Junior Shooting World Championship

Haryana's Anish Bhanwala gave a robust start for the Indian challenge by clinching the 25-metre standard pistol gold with a world junior record in the Junior World Shooting Championship in Suhl, Germany. The 15-year-old Anish shot 579 to win the gold seven points ahead of Florian Peter of Germany. In the process, Anish also bettered the junior world record of 574 set by Denis Koulakov of Russia in Lahti, Finland, in 2002. Anish's score was seven points clear of second-placed German Florian Peter who shot 572, while Ukraine's Pablo Korostylov won the bronze in the event shooting a score of 570.

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India overtakes China to top global retail index: Study

India has surpassed China to secure the top position among 30 developing countries on ease of doing business, according to a study that cited India's rapidly expanding economy, relaxation of FDI rules and a consumption boom as the key drivers. The 2017 Global Retail Development Index (GRDI), now in its 16th edition, ranks the top 30 developing countries for retail investment worldwide and analyses 25 macroeconomic and retail-specific variables. India's rapidly expanding economy easing

of foreign direct investment (FDI) rules and a consumption boom are the key drivers for India's top ranking in the GRDI.

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MoU signed between Central Industrial Security Force & National Skill Development Corporation

The Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) and the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) has signed an MoU on 5th of June.

Key Notes:

i. The MoU aims at assisting retiring, retired, serving low medical category (LMC) CISF personnel to acquire additional skills and facilitate their resettlement through a second career.

ii. The MoU will remain in effect for a period of 5 years starting from 5th June, 2017 till 5th June, 2022, subject to a mid-term review after 3 years.

iii. It will also provide welfare to wards, family members of serving CISF personnel, retired personnel and personnel killed in action.

iv. The MoU provides that CISF, NSDC and NSDF will work together at CISF units all across the country.

v. Under this MoU the Family Welfare Centres are functional and other CISF locations with an objective to impart skill development programs under the Skill India Mission.

vi. Its main purpose is the implementation of CISF Multi Skill Development Institute Projects.

vii. The Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Rajiv Pratap Rudy and the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Kiren Rijiju were also present during the occasion.

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Narendra Modi government to scrap UGC, AICTE soon with HEERA

The University Grants Commission (UGC) and All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE) will soon be a thing of the past as the Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led government at the Centre is planning to replace the two education regulators with a new Higher Education Regulator. This is being done to bring one single education regulator named HEERA in place. Higher Education Empowerment Regulation Agency or HEERA is the name of the new proposed regulator. This new body will be implemented with the aim of eliminating the overlaps in the jurisdiction and also to remove the irrelevant regulatory provisions. The Human Resource and Development Ministry (HRD) is working with the Niti Aayog towards the implementation of this new proposed regulatory body. They are working to bring the technical as well as the non-technical institutions under the same umbrella.

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Rajnath to inaugurate conference on disaster management

Rajnath Singh has inaugurated a two-day national level conference on “Capacity Building of SDRF-2017” on 6th of June, 2017

Key Notes:

- i. The conference was organised by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
- ii. The meeting would hold discussions to develop a synergy and to strengthen the response capabilities of State Disaster Response Forces (SDRF).
- iii. During the conference, various agenda points like streamlining the training process of SDRFs and conducting it in a planned and coordinated manner would be discussed.
- iv. Some more points would also be discussed in the meetings like integrations of operational efforts between NDRF and SDRF, requirement and creation of training infrastructure in each state, creation of a pool of instructors, sharing of best practices, improving response time by SDRF's .

Kerala government implements ‘green protocol’ for weddings

Wedding ceremonies in Kerala are all set to become ‘green’, with the state government coming out with a green protocol to make auspicious occasions more nature-friendly. With the implementation of the protocol, plastic and other non-biodegradable articles including disposable glasses and plates and thermocol decorations will be kept at bay from marriage functions. Instead of this, people would be persuaded to use tumblers, plates and other utensils made of glass and environment-friendly metals.

Centre clears kambala Bill

The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Bill 2017 has cleared by the Union Ministry of Law and Justice on June 8, 2017 .

- i. Now the bill will send it to the President for his assent, said Union Minister of State for Law and Justice P.P. Choudhary.
- ii. The bill was passed by Karnataka Legislative Assembly to exempt kambala and bullock-cart racing from the ambit of the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act, 1960 on February 13, 2017.

Ramkumar Ramanathan lifts ITF men’s Futures tennis title

India’s Ramkumar Ramanathan lifted the ITF (International Tennis Federation) men’s Futures tennis title after outplaying Raymond Sarmiento of the USA in straight sets in Singapore. The top-seeded Indian beat the second seeded player 6-2, 6-2 in the final of the event. It was the first title of the season for Ramkumar. A regular in India’s Davis Cup team, Ramkumar had recently competed in the qualifying event of the French Open but failed to make it to the main round of the Grand Slam tournament.

GST Council constitutes 18 Sectoral Groups for smooth roll-out of GST

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council has announced the setting up of 18 sectoral groups to ensure a smooth roll-out of the GST on 9th of June, 2017

Key Points:

- i. The newly constituted groups will represent various sectors of the economy.
- ii. It will be headed by senior officers of the Centre and the states.
- iii. They will ensure smooth implementation of GST by timely responding to the issues and problems of their respective sectors.
- iv. The officials of these sectoral groups will deal with the issues and the problems of the respective sectors they represent.
- v. This exercise will help in dealing with most of the sectoral problems and issues at the local/regional level.
- vi. The sectors which would be looked into by the group include IT and ITes, textiles, gems and jewellery, food processing, e-commerce, oil and gas, pharma and MSME.

President Pranab Mukherjee launches 'Selfie with Daughter' mobile app

President Pranab Mukherjee today launched the 'Selfie with Daughter' mobile application, aimed at raising awareness about female foeticide and sex selection. The President urged people to take photographs with their daughters and upload them to make the campaign a success. The campaign was started by Sunil Jaglan in June 2015 in village Bibipur in Haryana's Jind district. The former sarpanch had been working in the field of women empowerment and village development. The aim of the campaign is to motivate society to feel proud to be parents of a girl child, which, in turn, will result in improving child sex ratio.

Aadhaar linkage with PAN mandatory, rules Supreme Court

Supreme Court has ruled that it would be mandatory for all Aadhaar holders to link the unique identity number with the PAN for filing income tax returns.

Key Notes:

- i. The Supreme Court on 9th of June confirms the government's decision to link Aadhaar with the permanent account number (PAN) for the filing of income tax returns.
- ii. Supreme court also mentioned that non-compliance with the law will carry no retrospective criminal consequences.

iii. The apex court's ruling makes it mandatory for every Aadhaar holder to link the unique identity number with their PAN for filing income tax returns.

iv. Under the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016, the unique identity number is mandatory only to receive social welfare benefits.

v. According to the provisions of the Finance Act 2017, the Aadhaar number or Aadhaar enrollment number will be mandatory to file income tax returns and to apply for a new PAN.

vi. Aadhaar is also mandatory to obtain or retain PAN.

vii. Permanent account numbers of those without Aadhaar will not be invalidated.

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Indian Army rethinking on Sahayak system, may induct civilians in peace stations

Indian Army is actively considering recruiting civilian staff in peace stations to do away with the colonial-era Sahayak system, in the wake of some army jawans openly voicing their anger against it.

Sahayaks/Buddy System in Indian Army:

i. Sahayaks are soldiers and their duties include protecting the officers, maintaining their weapons and equipment and helping them in carrying out their responsibilities.

ii. In recent months, a number of videos had surfaced where some army jawans were seen voicing their anger over the Sahayak system with some even alleging that they are treated as servants by the officers whom they are attached to.

Replacing Sahayaks with Civilians:

◆ Army officials have said the option of deploying civilian staff at peace stations instead of Sahayaks will help the Army in economising on its man power. However, Sahayaks cannot be replaced in field units.

◆ As of now, Army officials have stated that Sahayaks will continue be deployed in key bases and field areas as they have defined military duties.

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Venkaiah Naidu launches Book on democracy's darkest

Venkaiah Naidu has launched the book which titled 'The Emergency – Indian Democracy's Darkest Hour' a book written by Surya Prakash, chairman of Prasar Bharati. The book was launched at a conference to mark the anniversary of the Emergency and to honor all those who fought for the restoration of democracy in the country in the mid-1970s.

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Election Commission joins hands with Facebook to Launch First Time Nationwide "Voter Registration Reminder"

The Election Commission of India has collaborated with Facebook to launch a 'voter registration reminder' on July 1, 2017.

More Detail about 'voter registration reminder' on Facebook:

- i. A notification of the 'voter registration reminder' will be sent on Facebook on July 1 to people who are eligible to vote.
- ii. The reminder will be sent out in 13 languages – English, Hindi, Gujarati, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Punjabi, Bengali, Urdu, Assamese, Marathi and Oriya.
- iii. By clicking on the 'register now' button, people will be directed to the national voters' services portal (www.nvsp.in) which will guide them through the registration
- iv. Chief Election Commissioner Nasim Zaidi said, this is a step towards fulfilment of the motto of Election Commission 'No Voter to be Left Behind'.
- v. This is the first time Facebook has been used for enrolling new voters across India.

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MSME Ministry launched 'Digital MSME Scheme' & exchanged three MoUs

Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) Minister Mr. Kalraj Mishra has launched the Digital MSME Scheme and also exchanged three MoUs with SAP India, Intel and HMT. The MSME has a total budget of Rs. 85.705 Crore including Government of India's contribution of Rs. 58.105 crore during 2017- 18 to 2019-20.

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SpiceJet becomes world's top airline stock with 124% gain in 2017

Two and a half years after Indian air carrier SpiceJet Ltd was forced to ground its entire fleet on its inability to pay a mere \$2.2 million in fuel bills, the budget airline has become the world's best-performing airline stock – with \$26 billion in plane orders to boot. The company's co-founder and chairman, Ajay Singh, has played the white knight, injecting capital, cutting loss-making routes and aggressively adding capacity in one of the world's fastest growing markets. SpiceJet shares are the best performers on a Bloomberg Intelligence index of airline stocks this year.

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Union Govt appoints Rajesh Shah as NIFT Chief

The Union Government (Ministry of Textiles) has appointed Shri Rajesh V. Shah as Chairperson on the Board of Governors of the National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT). He has replaced Shri Chetan Chauhan as per the provisions of the National Institute of Fashion Technology Act, 2006. Set up in 1986, the institute, which has centres across the country, comes under the Union Ministry of Textiles.

=====

Who has been sworn-in as the new President of Serbia?

- A. Tomislav Nikolić
- B. Vojislav Šešelj
- C. Aleksandar Vucic
- D. Milorad Dodik

Answer and Explanation

Ans. C

Conservative Prime Minister Aleksandar Vucic won Serbia's presidential election on Sunday by a huge margin, confirming his domination of the Balkan country as he pursues a delicate balancing act between Europe and Russia.

=====

Which of the following country placed in top five consumer markets in Asia?

- A. India
- B. Israel
- C. Sriya
- D. Japan

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

India is among the top five consumer markets in Asia offering retailers consumer spending growth of an average of 6.1 per cent over the next five years. China, Sri Lanka, Vietnam, India and Indonesia represent five favourite consumer markets in Asia, offering retailers the strongest consumer spending growth over its forecast period to 2021.

=====

Which platform will be rolled out by Ministry of Civil Aviation to add digital experience for air travellers?

- 1.'DigiYatra'
- 2.'DigiSafar'
- 3.'DigiHumsafar'
- 4.'DigiUdan'
- 5.'DigiAir'

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 1. 'DigiYatra'

Explanation :

'DigiYatra' initiative aims at bringing together entire industry to develop a digital ecosystem that will deliver customers a seamless and paperless service experience at every stage of journey. The platform will help passengers to plan their trips efficiently by identifying price trends and estimate future airfares at the time of ticket booking.

India's first automatic coastal warning for disasters will come up in which state?

- A. West Bengal
- B. Odisha
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Andhra Pradesh

Answer and Explanation

Ans. B

Starting from July, Odisha will commission the ambitious Early Warning Dissemination System (EWDS) and will be able to warn the vast population residing along its 480 km-long coast by pressing a single button from a control room in the State capital in the event of the occurrence of natural disasters like a tsunami or a cyclone.

Sahithi Pingali the name of a 16-year-old schoolgirl from Bengaluru, whose concern and work towards the city's polluted lakes has been given to _____.

- A. A Minor planet
- B. Endangered bird
- C. A lake of Karnataka
- D. None of the above

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

A minor planet somewhere in the Milky Way galaxy, many light years away from Earth, will be called Sahithi Pingali. Sahithi Pingali is a 16-year-old Bengaluru schoolgirl, whose concern and work for the city's polluted lakes have earned her this honour. will be named after her through the Ceres Connection programme run by the MIT Lincoln Laboratory and Society for Science and the Public.

She won three special awards in addition to a second prize in the Earth and Environmental Sciences category at the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair ISEF at Los Angeles.

The Central Council for Research in Yoga & Naturopathy(CCRYN) under the Ministry of AYUSH, Government of India, has initiated a Yoga Awareness Drive through Mascots and Flash Mobs (YogMob) prior to International Yoga Day (21st June) to increase popularity of Yoga especially among the youth. CCRYN was formed in which year?

1.1973

2.1978

3.1983

4.1988

5.1993

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 2.1978

Explanation :

The Human-size Mascots are running the campaign & spreading the message of Yoga Day in Delhi NCR, Lucknow and Haryana from 8th June 2107. FlashMobs of Yoga Dance called YogMob are also being organised at certain crowded places like malls.

In which city is the country's first Public-Private Partnership (PPP) station to be developed?

A. Bhopal

B. Indore

C. Surat

D. Mathura

Answer and Explanation

Ans. A

Habibganj in the suburbs of Bhopal will redefine the concept of a railway station in India. The country's first railway station to be redeveloped as a public-private partnership (PPP), will have amenities like escalators, lifts, parking lot, landscaping, concourse, walkway, travelators, parcel corridor and subways.

New India Assurance Company joint hands with this bank for distribution of insurance products.

- A. Punjab National Bank
- B. Corporation Bank
- C. Bank of Baroda
- D. Canara Bank

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

Canara Bank and the New India Assurance Company have entered into a corporate agency arrangement for distribution of insurance products. This allows to offer non-life insurance products to its customers across metros and tier II and III cities through the bank's extensive network of over 6,000 branches.

=====

The _____ government has notified making Aadhaar card details compulsory for those seeking subsidy on e-rickshaws to prevent duplicity in grant of the financial assistance.

- 1.Kerala
- 2.Delhi
- 3.Rajasthan
- 4.Punjab
- 5.Andhra Pradesh

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 2.Delhi

Explanation :

The registered owners of e-rickshaws in Delhi will be considered for a subsidy of Rs 30,000 after providing their Aadhaar card details. The claims of subsidy will not be considered if the Aadhaar card and registration certificate copies are not submitted by the due date.

=====

PM attends centenary celebrations of Sabarmati Ashram and launches several projects

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was on a two-day visit to Gujarat on 29th and 30th June 2017. He attended following events, during the course of this visit:

- i. Centenary celebrations of Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad on 29th June, 2017.Event to mark the 150th birth anniversary of Shrimad Rajchandraji at Sabarmati Ashram on 29th June, 2017.

ii. Prime Minister Narendra Modi released coins and a stamp on Mahatma Gandhi's spiritual guide, Shrimad Rajchandraji, at the Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. He also inaugurated the filling of Aji Dam near Rajkot under SAUNI Yojana.

iii. On June 30, 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 'Textiles India', country's first-ever mega trade event for the textiles sector in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

Govt launches National Data Repository (NDR) & Open Acreage Licensing Process

Petroleum Minister Dharmendra Pradhan introduced a new oil and gas block licensing policy that is expected to open up 2.8 million square kilometers of sedimentary basins to exploration and production activities. The OALP, a part of the government's Hydrocarbon Exploration and Licensing Policy (HELP), gives exploration companies the option to select the exploration blocks on their own, without having to wait for the formal bid round from the Government. OALP is a fundamental shift and a very transformative step in India's E&P history. This policy reiterates Govt's commitment to reduce administrative & regulatory burden, thus enhancing ease of doing business.

22nd edition of European Union Film Festival begins

The 22nd European Union Film Festival (EUFF) has opened at Siri Fort auditorium on 10th of June, 2017 with the screening of Estonian film Cherry Tobacco.

Key Notes:

- i. The five-day event is being organised by the Delegation of the EU and Embassies of EU Members.
- ii. It is in collaboration with Ministry of Information and Broadcasting.
- iii. Movies from comedy to family drama, romance and adventure are part of EUFF.
- iv. Tomasz Kozlowski, ambassador of European Union to India said it is believed that cinema has a universal appeal and helps to bring people and cultures together.
- v. The festival includes the story of inner struggle of a father, and his complicated relationship with his son; the coming of age of a 17-year-old girl, who has to take decisions that even a grown up woman will find difficult to make.

Adam West, TV's Batman dies at 88

A well known US actor, Adam West died in Los Angeles. He was suffering to leukaemia for some time. He was 88. Adam West rose to prominence in the 1960s for a TV series Batman. First appearing in season two in 2002, he voiced Quahog's eccentric Mayor Adam West, described by series creator Seth MacFarlane as an "alternate universe", satirised version of the actor.

Arunachal wants separate time zone to improve efficiency, work hours

Pema Khandu, the Chief Minister of Arunachal Pradesh, has demanded a separate time zone for Arunachal Pradesh to improve work efficiency and save electricity in the state.

Rationale behind demand for separate time zone:

- i. Pema Khandu has mentioned that people in Arunachal Pradesh wake up as early as 4am (according to Indian Standard Time). Owing to this, several daylight hours are wasted as government offices open only at 10am and closes at 4pm.
- ii. Moreover, a study by Bengaluru-based National Institute of Advanced Studies claimed in a report that such a move could save up to 2.7 billion units of electricity.
- iii. It is to be noted that in March 2017, Gauhati High Court rejected a public interest litigation seeking a separate time zone for the northeast.

=====

Shashikant Kutwal wins gold at world chess championship for differently-abled

Shashikant Kutwal has won the gold medal at the 17th World Individual Chess Championship for differently-abled. The World Chess Championship was held in Slovakia. Shashikant Kutwal is a railway employee with Pune Division.

=====

MHA panel to examine rules on people's movement near Indo-Myanmar border

On June 12, 2017, Union Home Minister, Rajnath Singh decided to set up an expert committee to examine the rules which allows free movement of Indian and Myanmar citizens within 16 kms of the border.

- i. The decision to setup the committee was taken by Rajnath Singh while chairing the meeting of Indo-Myanmar Border States in Aizawl, Mizoram on June 12, 2017.
- ii. The committee will be headed by the special secretary (Internal Security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs.

=====

Nalanda model of water conservation chosen for National Award

A model of water conservation adopted successfully by the authorities in Nalanda district of south-central Bihar, has been selected for the national award for excellence in the Mahatma Gandhi national rural employment guarantee program (MGNREGP), by the ministry of rural development. The award for excellence will be conferred on 'Project Jal Sanchay', the water conservation model developed in chief minister Nitish Kumar's native district, at a function to be organized at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi on June 19.

=====

Nalanda varsity to collaborate with South Korean Institute

The Nalanda University has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with South Korea's Academy of Korean Studies for academic cooperation.

Key Notes:

- i. According to the university officials, Nalanda University Vice Chancellor Professor Sunaina Singh and Professor Shin Jong Won, Vice President Academy of Korean Studies (AKS) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding for academic linkages and collaborations in Patna.
- ii. As per the MoU, the two universities have agreed to enhance the bilateral ties through joint research programme.
- iii. The MoU will be in effect for five years.
- iv. They will exchange of faculty members, mutual sharing of data for academic research, joint teaching, undertake joint research projects and symposiums.

South Korea :

- ◆ Capital: Seoul
- ◆ Currency: South Korean won

Ex-Uttarakhand CM Pokhriyal authors book on Vajpayee 'Yug Purush, Bharat Ratna, Atal Ji'

Former Uttarakhand Chief Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal 'Nishank, has officially handed over the first copy of the 450-page book titled -'Yug Purush, Bharat Ratna, Atal Ji' to the President of India Shri Pranab Mukherjee. However, the book will be launched soon in the market for all.

Which player of the Indian Women's Cricket team made a world record in India's opening match of ICC World Cup with England?

- A. Mithali Raj
- B. Jhulan Goswami
- C. Ekta Bisht
- D. Thirush Kamini

Answer and Explanation

Answer: A

India got their ICC Women's World Cup campaign off to a great start as they defeated hosts England by 35 runs in the opening game of the tournament in Derby. In this match, Mithali Raj, one of India's premier batters in women's cricket smashed yet another fifty and in the process, the third of the

innings, as she set a world record. Her seventh consecutive fifty was the most by any woman player in ODIs.

=====

Who won the Miss World title in BodyBuilding Championship recently?

- A. Bhumika Sharma
- B. Sridevi Varma
- C. Harini Raji
- D. Nithya Shree

Answer: Option A

Explanation:

Bhumika Sharma has become Miss World in bodybuilding championship on 26th of June 2017. Bhumika is from Dehradun and gained maximum points in three categories - individual posing, body posing. She bagged the Miss World title and the gold medal at the world championship.

=====

Which Bollywood Actress has been appointed as ambassador for government's flagship Skill India campaign?

- 1. Deepika Padukone
- 2. Katrina Kaif
- 3. Sonam Kapoor
- 4. Priyanka Chopra
- 5. Alia Bhatt

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 4. Priyanka Chopra

Explanation :

Priyanka will use her celebrity status to motivate youngsters to hone their abilities through a media campaign. Earlier, Indian cricket captain Virat Kohli, batting legend Sachin Tendulkar, Bollywood actors Sidharth Malhotra and Shabana Azmi and singer Mohit Chauhan had also become goodwill ambassador for Skill India.

=====

Which tech giant has been fined a record 2.42 Billion Euros by European Commission?

- A. Facebook
- B. Google
- C. Yahoo
- D. Twitter

Answer and Explanation

Answer: B

European Commission fines Google 2.42 billion Euros for favouring its own search services, Google also faces two separate charges under the region's competition rules related to its mobile software Android, and some advertising products.

Which feature opportunity did Mars Rover finds evidence recently?

- A. Ancient Planet
- B. Ancient Lake
- C. Ancient satellite
- D. Ancient Eroded Valley

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

NASA's Opportunity Mars rover is examining the edge of a crater on the red planet that may once have been a lake of liquid water. It found rocks at the edge of Endeavour Crater that were either transported by a flood or eroded in place by wind. The Opportunity mission has been investigating sites on and near the western rim of Endeavour Crater since 2011.

World's first ATM was set up by which entity?

- 1.Barclays
- 2.American Express
- 3.HSBC
- 4.Goldman Sachs
- 5.J P Morgan

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 1.Barclays

Explanation :

The first ATM was presented by Barclays at their Enfield branch in north London on Jun 27, 1967. The first ATM turned 50 years old on 28th of June. The original cash machine was the brainchild of John Shepherd-Barron, who was commissioned by the bank to create six cash dispensers.

=====

Who is the top seeded tennis player in men's singles in the Wimbledon seedings released by the All England Club?

- A. Novak Djokovic
- B. Rafael Nadal
- C. Andy Murray
- D. Roger Federer

Answer and Explanation

Answer: C

As per seedings, released by the All England Club on Wednesday, three-times champion Novak Djokovic has been bumped up to second seed for next week's Wimbledon championship despite slipping to fourth in the ATP world rankings. Top seed in men's singles will be Andy Murray and Angelique Kerber in the women's singles. Rafael Nadal will be seeded fourth while Federer will be third seed.

=====

Which country citizen becomes the second largest group of migrants living in Australia?

- A. Chine
- B. French
- C. India
- D. Fiji

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Indians have become the second largest group of migrants living in Australia since 2011 at 1,63,000, following people of Chinese origin, according to the latest census data. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) released the latest figures of the country's fast changing population and demographics that has recorded 1.3 million new migrants settled in Australia since 2011 from around 180 countries, including India and China. The census updated the Australian population to 24.4 million people in 2016 from over 21.5 million in 2011.

=====

Union Government has launched a new training programme 'COMMIT' for State Government officials. Abbreviation 'COMMIT' stands for:

1. Comprehensive Online Modified Modules on Induction Training
2. Comprehensive Online Mentoring Modules on Induction Training
3. Compulsory Online Modified Modules on Induction Training
4. Compulsory Online Mentoring Modules on Induction Training
5. Comprehensive Online Management Modules on Induction Training

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 1. Comprehensive Online Modified Modules on Induction Training

Explanation :

On June 29, 2017, Dr. Jitendra Singh – Minister of State for Development of North Eastern Region, Prime Minister's Office, Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, launched a new training programme 'Comprehensive Online Modified Modules on Induction Training (COMMIT)' for State Government officials. The objective of this training programme is to improve the public service delivery mechanism and provide citizen centric administration through capacity building of officials who interact with the citizens on day-to-day basis.

=====

Coca-Cola is downing shutters of its biggest analytics, technical and innovation centre in the country. This centre is in which Indian city?

- A. Hyderabad
- B. New Delhi
- C. Mumbai
- D. Pune

Answer and Explanation

Answer: D Coca-Cola is downing shutters of its biggest analytics, technical and innovation centre in the country, based in Pune, as part of a restructuring undertaken by the beverages maker to become a leaner organisation.

=====

Which is the first state in the Country to Open a Blood Bank for Cattle?

- A. Goa

- B. Kerala
- C. Odisha
- D. Andhra Pradesh

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

Odisha is all set to become the first state in the country to have a blood bank for the cattle. First of its kind blood bank would be established on the premises of OUAT at an estimated cost of Rs. 3.25 crore. The cattle farmers will provide blood voluntarily. The blood bank will also go and collect blood from centres.

On June 30, 2017, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated 'Textiles India – 2017', country's first-ever mega trade event for the textiles sector in:

- 1. Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 2. Kochi, Kerala
- 3. Kolkata, West Bengal
- 4. Gandhinagar, Gujarat
- 5. Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

Answer & Explanation

Answer – 4. Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Explanation :

The event 'Textiles India 2017', organised by the Union Ministry of Textiles, is aimed at showcasing the country as a global sourcing hub and investment destination. The three-day event is expected to see participation from 2500 international buyers, over 1000 international and domestic exhibitors and several top fashion designers.

Which board to launch new housing scheme with 12,000 flats recently?

- A. Housing Board Haryana
- B. Tamil Nadu Housing board
- C. Kendriya Awas Housing Society
- D. Delhi Development Authority (DDA)

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

The Delhi Development Authority (DDA) new housing scheme with 12,000 flats on offer will be launched. For the LIG (Lower Income Group) category, the registration fee will be Rs1 lakh while for Middle Income Group and High Income Group flats, Rs2 lakh will be charged. It has tied up with 10 banks for the sale of application forms and scheme-related transactions.

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