

**1. Answer – B ) United States****Explanation:**

Air forces of the United States and India will take part in a 12-day joint exercise 'Cope India 2019' (CI19) at two air force stations in West Bengal from December 3 to 14, 2018. The exercise will be held at Air Station Kalaikunda and Air Station Arjan Singh (Panagarh) in West Bengal. This exercise is conducted after a gap of 8 years. The previous edition of this exercise was held in 2010. This is a bilateral US Pacific Air Forces (PACAF) sponsored Field Training Exercise (FTX). This will focus on US-Indian mutual cooperation and building on existing capabilities, aircrew tactics and force employment. Around 200 US Airmen with 15 aircraft from the 18th Wing, Kadena Air Base, Japan and 182nd Airlift Wing, Illinois Air National Guard will participate on behalf of United States.

**2. Answer – B ) Manipur Explanation:**

From 21st November to 30th November, Manipur Tourism Department organized an annual cultural festival known as "Sangai Festival" which was previously known as "Tourism Festival". But in 2010 it was renamed after the State Animal of Manipur Sangai Deer. The Sangai Festival is celebrated to promote Manipur as the World Class tourism destination. The Festival showcases the culture, handloom, handicraft and fine arts, Cuisines and Music, Indigenous sports, Adventure sports as well as the scenic natural beauty of the Manipur. Sangai Festival is celebrated at Keibul Lamjao & Loktak Lake, Hapte Kangjeibung and Bheigyachandra Open Air Theatre, Mapal Kangjeibung and Khuman Lampak, Kangshang, Trade & Permanent Exhibition Centre at Lamboi Khongnangkhang.

**3. Answer – A ) Pune, Maharashtra****Explanation:**

On 29th and 30th November 2018, the Indian Owl Festival, India's first owl fest, was held at Pingori village in Purandar taluka of Pune, Maharashtra. The festival was organised by Ela Foundation. It created awareness on owl conservation and feature art forms like pictures, paintings, lanterns, lamp shades, posters, origami, stitched articles, poems and stories on owls. The festival featured skits and short films on owls. Out of the 262 species of owls that are found in the world, 75 are threatened. As per a report of Traffic India, a wildlife trade monitoring body, and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in 2010, owls were found to be consumed and traded for black magic, street performances, taxidermy, private aviaries/zoos, food, folk medicines, etc. They are protected under the Wildlife (Protection) Act of India.

**4. Answer – D ) Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia****Explanation:**

On 27th November 2018, the 3rd ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations) India Business Summit was organised by the ASEAN India Business Council (AIBC) Malaysian Chapter in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. The Summit consisted of 3 events: ASEAN India Business Conference, ASEAN India Business Excellence Awards and Gala Dinner. It was organized under the guidance of Ministry of International Trade and Industries. The award ceremony was presided by the Malaysian Minister of International Trade and Industry YB Datuk Ignatius Darell Leiking. ASEAN – India Business Summit honours businessmen from the ASEAN and Indian Business community with special achievement awards.

**5.****Answer – C ) eDrishti Explanation:**

On November 29, 2018, the Indian Railways launched a software named- 'eDrishti', that will enable the Union Railway Minister Shri. Piyush Goyal to keep track of punctuality of trains as well as freight and passenger earnings from anywhere in the country. The software has been developed by the Centre for Railway Information System (CRIS). This would enable the railway minister to know the following:

- A day's freight and passenger earnings,
- Freight loading and unloading,
- Punctuality,
- The progress of major projects,
- Public grievances,
- The movement of trains across the country,
- Details of railway stations,
- Video monitoring of the IRCTC kitchens,
- Live status of reserved and unreserved passengers travelling on trains.

The software has also been connected with the base kitchens of the Indian Rail Catering and Tourism Corp (IRCTC).

**6. Answer – B ) Nagaland Explanation:**

The 19th Hornbill Festival 2018 is celebrated from 1st to 10th December 2018 in Nagaland. It is celebrated at the Naga Heritage Village in Kisama, located around 12 kilometers from the capital of the Nagaland, Kohima. The Hornbill Festival is one of the most cherished festivals of Nagaland. It is named after Hornbill, one of the most venerated bird species in the state. The 10-day festival is celebrated annually during the first week of December, i.e. from December 1-10. It is organized by State Tourism and Arts and Culture Department, Government of Nagaland to encourage inter-tribal harmony and promote culture and traditions of the different tribes of the state.

**7. Answer – D ) Odisha Explanation:**

India's first international indigenous film festival will take place in February next year in Odisha. It will be an initiative of activist film collective 'Video Republic'. The three-stop event will kick off in Bhubaneswar on February 19 and 20, moving on to Puri from February 21 to 23 and will eventually culminate in an interaction with the adivasi communities at Niyamgiri. Films made by indigenous people or made by non-indigenous filmmakers in collaboration with the indigenous communities will be shown in the event.

**8. Answer – C ) India Explanation:**

On 30th November 2018, a report by UNICEF (United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund ) which was released ahead of AIDS day estimated that 1,20,000 children and adolescents aged 0-19 were living with HIV in India in 2017, the highest number in South Asia. The report titled 'Children, HIV and AIDS: The World in 2030' warned that around 80 adolescents will be dying of AIDS every day globally by 2030 if progress in preventing transmission is not accelerated. In India, an estimated 120,000 children and adolescents aged 0-19 were living with HIV in 2017. In Pakistan, this number was 5800, followed by Nepal (1,600) and Bangladesh (less than 1,000). In 2017, the estimated number of children under 5 years old newly diagnosed with HIV was 43 per cent lower than the comparable estimate in 2010 a decline greater than the 35 per cent recorded globally. "The report makes it clear, without the shadow of a doubt, that the world is off track when it comes to ending AIDS among children and adolescents by 2030," said UNICEF chief Henrietta Fore.

9.

**Answer – C ) Australia Explanation:**

On November 30, 2018, Australia became the first country in the world to criminalize the act of falsely inducing children into orphanages as a form of slavery. The Modern Slavery Bill was passed by both houses of parliament and under it the new law, so-called "orphanage trafficking" will be treated as a slavery and trafficking offense. Evidence shows that about 80 per cent of these children have family who could care for them if they had the right support.

10.

**Answer – D ) Abhinav Bindra**

**Explanation:**

On November 30, 2018, India's Olympic and world champion shooter Abhinav Bindra was conferred the Blue Cross, the ISSF's highest award at the General Assembly in Munich. He is the first Indian to be awarded the Blue Cross. It was bestowed upon him for his outstanding services as the chairman of the International Shooting Sport Federation's Athletes Committee. Also the committee has brought out a comprehensive Athletes Handbook, for the benefit of shooters around the world. Bindra was succeeded in the post by the American shooter Kimberly Rhode.

11.

**Answer – A ) Salome Zurabishvili**

**Explanation:**

66 Years old Salome Zurabishvili has won Georgia's presidential election, becoming the first woman to hold the office in the country. She will take oath for the office on 16th December 2018. The French-born ex-diplomat, backed by the ruling Georgian Dream party, had taken 59.52 % of the total votes and defeated her rival candidate Grigol Washadze who received 40.5% of the votes. The election was seen as a test of Georgia's democratic credentials as it seeks European Union and NATO membership. She had served as Foreign Minister of Georgia from March 20, 2004 to October 19, 2005 and was previously an ambassador in the French Foreign Service.

**12. Answer – B ) United States**

**Explanation:**

On December 1, 2018, the former United States President George HW Bush passed away at 94. He was the 41st president of the United States and had been in leadership during the end of the Cold War.

13.

**Answer – C ) Ranchi, Jharkhand**

**Explanation:**

On November 29 2018 the two-day Global Agriculture and Food summit had been inaugurated by Union Agriculture Minister Radha Mohan Singh in Tana Bhagat Stadium, Khel Gaon at Ranchi, Jharkhand. Governor of Jharkhand Droupadi Murmu was the chief guest for the closing ceremony on November 30. Nearly 10,000 farmers from the Jharkhand had participated in the Summit. Experts in agriculture, research, educationists in agriculture institutions and universities, companies related to agriculture business were also participated in the summit. Tunisia, China, Israel, Philippines and Mongolia are participating as associated countries in International session. Government of Jharkhand is organizing Agri Trade Exhibition during Global Agriculture and Food Summit 2018 on 29-30th November 2018 at Ranchi.

**14. Answer – A ) United States****Explanation:**

On 1st December 2018, The Special Forces of India and United States completed the final maneuvers of their three-day tactical exercise called 'Vajra Kayaa' which is part of their joint military drill 'Vajra Prahar 2018' in Jaipur. Vajra Kayaa was based on narrative of an imaginary country going into a civil war due to weak democratic structure and which has now been taken over by armed terrorists.

15.

**Answer – D ) Kathmandu, Nepal****Explanation:**

On December 1 2018 two day Asia Pacific Summit-2018 has started in Kathmandu, the capital of Nepal. This summit was organized by South Korea-based Universal Peace Federation and supported by the Government of Nepal. This summit has attended by 1500 participants from 45 countries including India. Focus on various global issues including peace, development, good governance and role of parliamentarians, climate change and role of media. Theme 2018 is "Addressing the Critical Challenges of Our Time: Interdependence, Mutual Prosperity, and Universal Values".

**16. Answer – B ) Raninder Singh****Explanation:**

On 1st December 2018, Raninder Singh became the first Indian to be elected as the vice-president of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF). The elections were held during the General Assembly meeting of ISSF in Munich in which Raninder secured 161 votes to make it to the coveted position. The 51-year-old Raninder is currently the president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI). The NRAI president was also awarded the ISSF diploma of honour gold medal at the General Assembly by the outgoing longest serving president of the ISSF, Olegario Vazquez Rana, who was at the helm for 38 years. Vladimir Lisin, of Russia was elected as the seventh president of ISSF and Alexander Rather was elected as the new secretary general of ISSF in the same General Assembly meeting. Also Indian Shooter and 2008 Olympic gold medalist, Abhinav Bindra was honoured with the prestigious Blue Cross, the highest recognition of the ISSF in the meeting. He is the now the first Indian be conferred with shooting's highest award.

**18. Answer – A ) USD 200 billion****Explanation:**

On 3rd December 2018, the World Bank unveiled USD 200 billion in climate action investment for 2021-25, adding this amounts to a doubling of its current five-year funding. The move coincides with a UN climate summit in Katowice (Poland). The breakdown of 200 billion dollars would comprise approximately 100 billion in direct finance from the World Bank. Around one-third of the remaining funding will come from two World Bank Group agencies with the rest private capital mobilised by the World Bank Group. In the 2018 fiscal year, running from July 2017 to June 2018, the World Bank had committed USD 20.5 billion to climate action, compared with an annual average of USD 13.5 billion for the 2014-2018 period. UN climate summit started on 03rd December 2018 in Katowice (Poland) with a warning that today's generation is the last that can prevent catastrophic global warming, as well as the first to be suffering its impacts. This Climate conference has been called as Paris 2.0. Agreement saw countries commit to limiting global temperature rises to well below two degrees Celsius (3.6 degrees Fahrenheit), and to the safer cap of 1.5C if at all possible.

**19. Answer – A ) 7.2 % Explanation:**

On 03rd December 2018, Moody's expects the real gross domestic product (GDP) in India to grow 7.2 per cent in the year ending March 2019 and 7.4 per cent in the following year. Earlier Moody's Investors service growth prediction for India was 7.5% in 2018-19, 7.5% in 2019-20 released on 23rd August, 2018. This growth is driven by investment growth and strong consumption. Moody's said in its report it has a stable outlook on the Indian

banking system for the next 12-18 months. The stable outlook is based on six parameters — operating environment, asset quality, capital, funding and liquidity, profitability and efficiency, and government support.

## 20. Answer – B ) Pawan Singh

### Explanation:

On 2nd December 2018, Pawan Singh became the first Indian to be elected as one of the 7 members of the Judges Committee of the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF). Pawan Singh is also the Joint Secretary General of National Rifle Association of India (NRAI). He was a former coach of the Indian shooting team. Members of the administrative council of ISSF voted to select the committee, at the elections held at Munich. The Judges Committee consists of: a Chairman and 7 members. It is responsible for the uniform application of shooting rules. It offers guidelines for international judges. It prepares and conducts courses for judges and jury members. It approves applications for judge's licenses' and proposes juries to the executive committee for championships and games. It meets at least once a year and reports to the administrative council.

## 21. Answer – C ) Ullas Narayan

### Explanation:

On 2nd December 2018, Ullas Narayan became the first Indian individual medal winner in an international ultra running event by winning bronze in the 2018 International Association of Ultra Running (IAU) 24 Hour Asia & Oceania Championships in Taipei, Taiwan. Ullas Narayan secured third position as he completed 250 km. He finished behind Japanese runners Yoshihiko Ishikawa (253 km) and Nobuyuki Takahashi (252 km). Indian team, comprising Ullas Narayan (250 km), Sunil Sharma (202 km) and L L Meena (192 km), also won a bronze medal with their combined distance of 644 km. In the team event, Japan won gold with a distance of 756 km and Australia got silver with 684 km.

## 22. Answer – D ) Japan Explanation:

On December 3, 2018, the first 5-day bilateral air exercise "SHINYUU Maitri-18" between India and Japan, commenced at the Air Force station in Agra in northern state of Uttar Pradesh. The theme of the exercise is: 'Joint mobility and humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR) on transport aircraft'. It would be attended by: The Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) from Japan's side and Indian Air Force (IAF) from the Indian side. The JASDF's 'C27 aircraft is participating along with IAFs 'AN-32' and 'C-17'.

## 23. Answer – D ) India Explanation:

The 14th edition of the G20 summit will be held in Japan while Saudi Arabia will host the 15th. India upon attaining 75 years of Independence on 2022 will host the G-20 Summit in 2022, which was previously scheduled to be hosted by Italy. The 2017 edition of G-20 Summit was held in Hamburg, Germany. The Group of Twenty (G20) is a leading forum of the world's major economies that seeks to develop global policies to address challenges. The G20 is made up of 19 countries and the European Union. The 19 countries are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

## 24. Answer – B ) Buenos Aires, Argentina

### Explanation:

On November 30, 2018, the two day 13th G-20 Summit commenced at Buenos Aires in Argentina. It was hosted by President of Argentina, Mr. Mauricio Macri. The theme of the 2018 edition of the Summit was: "Building Consensus for Fair and Sustainable Development". It had 3 sub-themes for the summit. They were:

- The first was 'Putting People First' that focused on the global economy, on the economic outlook or the future of work.
- The second session talks of Building Consensus, a topic of importance at this time certainly, and this will deal with international trade, finance, taxation, sustainable development and climate change and
- The third session is called 'Embracing Opportunities' and these are related to energy, infrastructure, sustainable food security.

## 25. Answer – A ) \$85 million Explanation:

On December 3, 2018, the Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$85 million loan in New Delhi, under the Odisha Skill Development Project to promote skill development in Odisha. This project would also receive a \$2 million technical assistance grant from the Japan Fund for Poverty Reduction, financed by the Government of Japan. It will be administered by ADB. The agreement was signed between:

- Additional Secretary in the Finance Ministry Sameer Kumar Khare and
- Country Director of ADB's India Resident Mission Kenichi Yokoyama.

**26. Answer – D ) Ada Hegerberg****Explanation:**

On 3rd December 2018, an annual football award, 2018 Ballon d'Or Award was announced. Real Madrid's Croatia midfielder Luka Modric was named winner of the 2018 Ballon d'Or. Ada Hegerberg was named as the First Recipient of Ballon d'Or Féminin award 2018. The award functions held in Paris (France). Juventus forward and 2017 winner Ronaldo came second, while Atletico Madrid and France striker Antoine Griezmann came third. Ada Hegerberg of Norway becoming the inaugural recipient of the Ballon d'Or Féminin award was followed by Pernille Harder of Denmark and Dzsenifer Marozsán of Germany. Paris St. Germain's France forward Kylian Mbappe, who also collected the Kopa award for the best under-21 player, was fourth, with Barca forward Messi finishing fifth. The Ballon d'Or is an annual football award presented by France Football. It has been awarded since 1956. The Ballon d'Or Féminin, also known as the Women's Ballon d'Or was also introduced by France Football that honours the best female association football player in the year 2018. 2018 FIFA World Cup held in Russia won by France beating Croatia in the finals. 2022 FIFA World Cup scheduled to take place in Qatar.

**27. Answer – C ) Ajay Narayan Jha****Explanation:**

On 3rd December 2018, Ajay Narayan Jha, the current expenditure secretary, in the Ministry of Finance has been appointed as the new finance secretary, by the Union Government. Ajay Narayan Jha, is a 1982-batch IAS officer of Manipur- Tripura cadre, and has succeeded Hasmukh Adhia who retired on November 30. Prime Minister Narendra Modi-led appointments committee of the Cabinet has cleared Jha's appointment to the post. Jha is an alumnus of St Stephens College. He is also an MPhil in public administration from Delhi University. Besides he is a recipient of World Bank scholarship to pursue masters in economic policy management from McGill University in Canada.

**28. Answer – A ) ExseedSAT 1****Explanation:**

On 3rd December 2018, SpaceX founded by Elon Musk, launched India's first privately built satellite ExseedSAT 1 along with 63 other satellite from 18 countries from the Vandenberg air force base in California, USA. ExseedSAT 1 was built at a cost of Rs. 2 Crore by the Mumbai based Startup Exseedspace. ExseedSAT 1 which weighs around 1 kg is an open radio transponder that works on ham frequencies. The satellite will have a life span of 5 years and it will allow people to receive signals on 145.90 Mhz frequency with the help of a TV tuner.

**29. Answer – 5) None of these; Repo Rate is 6.5 %****Explanation:**

Policy rates as per 5th Bi-Monthly Monetary Policy released by Reserve Bank Of India (RBI), released on 5th December 2018.

Repo Rate	6.5%
Reverse Repo rate	6.25%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) rate	6.75%
Bank Rate	6.75%

Reserve Ratios:

CRR	4%
SLR	19.5%

**30. Answer – C ) Chitra Mudgal****Explanation:**

On December 6, 2018, the Sahitya Akademi announced its annual Sahitya Akademi Awards in 24 languages. It consists of 7 books of poetry, 6 novels, 6 short stories, 3 of literary criticism and 2 of essays.

Language	Title of Work and Genre	Winner
Assamese	Kailoir Dinto Amar Hobo (Poetry)	Sananta Tanti
Bengali	Srikrishner Sesh Kata Din (Story)	Sanjib Chattopadhyay
Bodo	Dwngse Lama (Short Stories)	Rituraj Basumatary
Dogri	Bhagirath (Novel)	Inderjeet Kesar
English	The Blind Lady's Descendants (Novel)	Anees Salim
Gujarati	Vibhajanni Vyatha (Essays)	Sharifa Vijliwala
Hindi	Post Box No-203-Naala Sopara (Novel)	Chitra Mudgal
Kannada	Anushreni Yajamanike (Literary Criticism)	K. G. Nagarajappa
Kashmiri	Aakh (Short Stories)	Mushtaq Ahmad Mushtaq

Konkani	Chitralipi (Poetry)	Paresh Narendra Kamat
Maithili	Parineeta (Short Stories)	Bina Thakur
Malayalam	Gurupournami (Poetry)	S. Ramesan Nair
Manipuri	Ngamkheigee Wangmada (Short Stories)	Budhichandra Heisnamba
Marathi	Sarjanprerana ani Kavitchwashodh (Literary Criticism)	Ma. Su. Patil.

### 31. Answer – B ) Rs 485.38 crore

#### Explanation:

On December 6, 2018, the Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved implementation of Shahpurkandi Dam Project, Punjab on river Ravi. For this, central Assistance of Rs. 485.38 cr (for irrigation component) would be provided over five years from 2018-19 to 2022-23. This will be made through NABARD under existing system for funding of 99 PMKSY-AIBP projects under LTIF. This project would help minimising some of the water of the River Ravi which at present is going waste through the Madhopur Headworks downstream to Pakistan.

### 32. Answer – A ) New Delhi Explanation:

On December 5, 2018, Union Minister for Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation Shri Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 3-day annual India Water Impact Summit 2018 in New Delhi. It concluded on December 7, 2018. It was jointly organized by: The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and The Centre for Ganga River Basin Management and Studies (cGanga). The theme for the 2018 version was: 'Showcasing and Enhancing Impacts of National and International Efforts on Ganga Rejuvenation.'

### 33. Answer – B ) Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE)

#### Explanation:

On December 4, 2018, EAM Sushma Swaraj along with the Foreign Minister of the UAE, Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan co-inaugurated the Gandhi-Zayed Digital Museum in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (UAE). This marked the celebrations of 150 years of Mahatma Gandhi's birth and centenary celebrations of the birth of Shaikh Zayed, founder of the UAE.

35.

#### Answer –A ) India

#### Explanation:

On 08th December 2018, India retain its position as the world's top recipient of remittances this year with its diaspora sending \$80 billion back home, according to World Bank. India is followed by China (\$67 billion), Mexico and the Philippines (\$34 billion each) and Egypt (\$26 billion). The Bank estimates that officially recorded remittances to developing countries will increase by 10.8% to reach \$528 billion in 2018, against a 7.8% growth in 2017. Global remittances, which include flows to high-income countries, are projected to grow by 10.3 per cent to \$689 billion. Bangladesh and Pakistan both experienced strong upticks of 17.9 percent and 6.2 percent in 2018, respectively. For 2019, it is projected that remittances growth for the region will grow to 3.7 percent to \$715 billion. Reducing remittance flows to three per cent by 2030 is a global target under Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 10.7.

### 36. Answer – B ) Amitabh Chaudhry

#### Explanation:

On 08th December 2018, Axis Bank inducted Amitabh Chaudhry as additional director on its board. He will replace incumbent Shikha Sharma whose fourth term has been curtailed by the RBI by nearly two-and-half years. The board also gave its nod for the reappointment of Samir Barua, Som Mittal and Rohit Bhagat as independent directors. Amitabh Chaudhry, the former MD and CEO of HDFC Standard Life Insurance Company, was in September named the MD and CEO of Axis Bank for a period of three years, with effect from January 1, 2019.

### 37. Answer – B ) President Ram Nath Kovind

#### Explanation:

On 8th December 2018, Vice President of India Shri M.Venkaiiah Naidu released two books on the compilation of selected speeches made by the President, Shri Ram Nath Kovind in the first year of assuming the office. The books are titled as, "The Republican Ethic" in English and "Loktantra ke Swar" in Hindi. The occasion was also graced by Union Minister of External Affairs, Smt. Sushma Swaraj and the Minister of Information Broadcasting (IC), Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore along with other senior dignitaries. "The Republican Ethic" is a collection of 95 select speeches in English categorized into eight subgroups — Addressing the Nation, diversity of India, window to the

world, educating India, equipping India, dharma of public service, honoring our sentinels, spirit of the Law & acknowledging excellence. The book “Loktantra ke Swar” – is a collection of 109 speeches in Hindi which talks about different layers and levels of multifaceted largest democracy in the world – India and the building blocks of the book are equality, egalitarianism & education.

### 38. Answer – C ) 2023

#### Explanation:

On December 7, 2018, Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers’ Welfare Shri Radha Mohan Singh announced Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Council’s approval to India’s proposal to observe an International Year of Millets in 2023. This was approved in the 160th session of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Council, being held in Rome. Millets consists of Jowar, Bajra, Ragi and minor millets together termed as nutri-cereals. Earlier, India had observed 2018 as the National Year of Millets, which promoted cultivation and consumption of these nutri-cereals. This decision will thus enhance global awareness to bring back these nutri-cereals to the plate, for food and nutrition security.

39.

Answer – B ) Russia

#### Explanation:

On December 09 2018, the 10th Edition of INDRA NAVY, the bilateral exercise between Indian Navy and Russian Federation Navy (RuFN) started at Vishakhapatnam. The Maritime exercise will conclude on December 16. The Primary aim of the exercise is to increase interoperability amongst the two navies, develop common understanding and procedures for maritime security operations. This Year’s edition of exercise would be held in two phases, The Harbour phase would be held at Visakhapatnam from 9-12 December and the Sea phase would be held from 13-16 December in Bay of Bengal. Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW), Air Defence Drills, Surface firings, Visit Board search and Seizure (VBSS) operations and tactical procedures will be the thrust of exercises at sea. Rear Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Flag Officer Commanding, Eastern Fleet will command the Indian ships at the exercise.

### 40. Answer – B ) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

#### Explanation:

The Beijing Headquartered Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) had approved a \$400 million loan for a Water Sanitation Project in Andhra Pradesh. The Project will be very helpful for women and girls of affected community in Andhra Pradesh and it will reduce the health risks and health expenditure for the people of Andhra Pradesh. India is the second largest shareholder of Asian Infrastructure Development Bank after China. After this Loan the overall loan amount of India from AIIB reached to \$2 Billion spread over nine projects. This loan will strengthen the AIIB’s capacity and loan demand from other states is also expected to increase.

### 41. Answer – C ) AVIAINDRA 2018

#### Explanation:

On December 10, 2018, 11-day long AVIAINDRA 2018, the 2nd edition of exercise between Indian Air Force (IAF) and Russian Federation Aerospace Force (RFSAF), commenced at Air Force Station Jodhpur. It would conclude on 21 December 2018. The exercise would be conducted in 2 phases and is unique in nature, wherein the foreign participant does not bring its air assets. The inaugural IAF-RFSAF Ex AVIAINDRA was conducted in 2014.

42.

Answer – A ) Shi Yomi

#### Explanation:

On December 9, 2018, Arunachal Pradesh got Shi Yomi as its 23rd district after its inauguration by Chief Minister Pema Khandu in presence of Union Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju. The district, consisting of four circles — Mechuka, Pidi, Tato and Monigong — was carved out of West Siang district. This including two other districts- Pakke-Kesang, Lepa Rada– was created after the approval of District Re-Organisation Bill, 2018 on August 29, 2018. The Pakke-Kessang district was carved out of East Kameng district with five administrative units namely Pakke-Kessang, Seijosa, Pijiriang, Passa Valley and Dissing Passo with district headquarters at Lemmi. Lepa Rada was created by bifurcating the Lower Siang district with headquarters at Basar with four administrative units – Tirbin, Basar, Daring and Sago.

43.

Answer – D ) Kanimozhi

#### Explanation:

On 13th December 2018, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) Member of Parliament (MP), Kanimozhi will be awarded as “Best Woman Parliamentarian – Rajya Sabha” by the Vice-President of India, M. Venkaiah Naidu at Dr. Ambedkar International Center in New Delhi. A 10-member board of Jury of eminent personalities headed by Murali Manohar Joshi selected Kanimozhi for the award presented by Lokmat Group of Newspaper. She has been awarded for her outstanding Contribution in Parliament and Strengthening Democratic Values and Principles for Several Decades.

#### 44. Answer – B ) Virat Kohli

##### Explanation:

On 10th December 2018, Indian Skipper Virat Kohli became the first Indian Captain to win a Test in South Africa, England and Australia after defeating Australia by 31 runs in the First Test Match of the Four Match Test Series at Adelaide. Former Indian Captains Rahul Dravid and MS Dhoni won Test matches as Captains in England and South Africa but not in Australia. Out of 43 Tests, India has won 25 Tests in Kohli's Captaincy. After this win India became the Second Asian Country after Pakistan to win the Opening Test of a Series in Australia. The last Test India won in Australia was at the WACA Ground in Perth in 2008 under the Captaincy of Anil Kumble.

#### 45. Answer – B ) Chengdu, China

##### Explanation:

On December 10, 2018, the 14-day 7th Sino-India joint exercise Hand-in-Hand 2018, commenced at Chengdu, China. It will conclude on December 23, 2018. The Indian contingent consists of 11 SHIKKLI led by Col Puneet Pratap Singh Tomar, Commanding Officer, 11 SIKHLI. The Chinese contingent consists of a regiment from Tibetan Military District of People's Liberation Army (PLA) led by Col Zhou Jun. Major General Kuang Dewang, senior representative of joint training from PLA. The aim of the exercise is to build and promote close relations between armies of both the countries. The exercise will involve tactical level operations in an international counter insurgency/ counter terrorism environment under UN mandate.

#### 46. Answer – A ) Asian Development Bank (ADB)

##### Explanation:

On December 11, 2018, Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a loan agreement of 31 million dollars in New Delhi to develop Tourism and boost Jobs in Tamil Nadu. It was signed by: Additional Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Sameer Kumar Khare and Mr. Kenichi Yokoyama, Country Director for ADB in India. This was a tranche 4 loan for Infrastructure Development Investment Program for Tourism (IDIPT) for Tamil Nadu. The total cost of the project is \$44.04 million, of which the Government will provide \$13.04 million. The estimated completion date of the project is June 2020.

#### 47. Answer – A ) Sascha Bajin

##### Explanation:

On December 11, 2018, Sascha Bajin, coach of the world number five Naomi Osaka, became the first-ever recipient of the Women's Tennis Association (WTA) Coach of the Year Award. Under his guidance, Osaka won her career first WTA title at the Paribas Open (Indian Wells) and claimed her maiden Grand Slam title at the US Open after defeating American tennis ace Serena Williams. He also served as a Gold Member of the newly implemented WTA Coach Program.

#### 48. Answer – B ) Shyam Sundar Besra

##### Explanation:

Shri Shyam Sundar Besra, Chief Inspector of Ticket working in Asansol Division of Eastern Railway has been conferred the coveted Sahitya Akademi Award 2018. He has been awarded for his novel “Marom” in Santhali language which is primarily based upon natural, social, economic and political conditions of Santhal Pargana. The novel highlights the situation emerged after the two main industrial development of the Santhal area after Independence i.e Masanjore Dam at Dumka and Railway locomotive workshop at Chittaranjan.

#### 49. Answer – B ) Kaiga Power Station-1, Karnataka

##### Explanation:

On 10th December 2018, Karnataka's Kaiga Power Station-1 has created a world record for the longest uninterrupted operation for 941 days, thereby breaking the earlier record of 940 days by the United Kingdom. Heysham-2 Unit-8 of the U.K. had held the earlier record of the longest uninterrupted operation (940 days) among all nuclear power reactors (of all technologies) in the world. Kaiga Generating Station (KGS-A ) equalled the world record on Sunday and broke it on Monday, thus creating history. While KGS-1 is a Pressurised Heavy Water Reactor (PHWR), Heysham-2 Unit-8 is an Advanced Gas Cooled Reactor (AGR).

**50. Answer – A ) Voyager 2****Explanation:**

On 10th December 2018, NASA's Voyager 2 probe became the second human-made object in history to reach the edge of our solar system i.e., the Interstellar space- the space between the stars. Voyager 2 probe now has exited the heliosphere – the protective bubble of particles and magnetic fields created by the Sun. Its twin, Voyager 1, crossed this boundary in 2012, but Voyager 2 launched 41 years ago in 1977, carries a working instrument that will provide first-of-its-kind observations of the nature of this gateway into interstellar space. Voyager 2 now is slightly more than 18 billion kilometres away from the Earth. Voyager 2 is the only spacecraft to have visited all four gas giant planets — Jupiter, Saturn, Uranus and Neptune and discovered 16 moons, as well as phenomena like Neptune's mysteriously transient Great Dark Spot, the cracks in Europa's ice shell, and ring features at every planet.

**51. Answer – B ) 7.3 %****Explanation:**

On 12th December 2018, Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its supplement report "Asian Development Outlook (2018)" has retained India's FY19 growth forecast at 7.3% and 7.6% in FY20 despite downside risks posed by stress in the non-banking sector, limited fiscal space as well as escalating trade tensions. The country's GDP growth moderated to 7.1 per cent in second quarter of 2018-19 from 8.2 percent in the first quarter, averaging 7.6 per cent growth in the first half. India is maintaining growth momentum on rebounding exports and higher industrial and agricultural output. The slowdown came mainly from weak food prices, dampening rural consumption, higher oil prices delivering a negative shock in the terms of trade, and rising costs for raw materials.

**52. Answer – B ) Shaktikanta Das****Explanation:**

On 11th December 2018, Shaktikanta Das, former Economics Affairs Secretary appointed as 25th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). He succeeded Urjit Patel after he resigned from the post on 10th December 2018. Das is former Economic Affairs Secretary from 2015 to 2017, worked closely with the central bank. He is currently a member of the Finance Commission of India, and the government's representative at the Group of 20 summits. Urjit Patel resigned as the Governor of India's central bank citing personal reasons amid tensions between the government and the RBI over issues related to governance and autonomy of the central bank.

**53. Answer – A ) \$60 million****Explanation:**

On 13th December 2018, the Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a \$60 million loan agreement to reduce floods and the riverbank erosion in flood prone areas along the Brahmaputra river in Assam. The loan is part of the 120 million dollars multi-tranche financing facility (MFF) for the Assam integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management Investment Program approved by ADB in October 2010. The Program will fund a combination of structural and nonstructural measures in the three subproject areas of Palasbari-Gumi, Kaziranga, and Dibrugarh along the Brahmaputra river which include 20 km of riverbank protection works and upgrading of 13 km of flood embankments.

**54. Answer – A ) Manika Batra****Explanation:**

On December 12, 2018, the 2018 International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Star Awards were held at the Grand Hyatt hotel in Incheon, Korea. Manika Batra became the first ever Indian Table Tennis player to be awarded the 'Breakthrough Table Tennis Star' award.

**55. Answer – B ) K. Chandrashekhar Rao****Explanation:**

On 13th December 2018 Telangana Rashtra Samiti (TRS) President K. Chandrashekhar Rao was sworn in as the Chief Minister of Telangana for the second term by Governor E.S.L. Narasimhan at a ceremony held at Raj Bhawan in Hyderabad. Party Member of Legislative Council Mohammed Mehmood Ali, who was deputy chief minister in the previous TRS government, took oath as a minister along with Rao. In the recently concluded assembly election the TRS won 88 seats in the 119-member assembly, defeating the Congress-led 'Praja Kutami'. This was the first Assembly elections in India's youngest state because the last elections were held in united Andhra Pradesh in 2014.

**56. Answer – C ) Russia**

**Explanation:**

On December 11, 2018, Russian state-run atomic energy corporation Rosatom announced commencement of installation of Akademik Lomonosov, the world's first "floating" nuclear power plant (FNPP). It has a capacity of 70MW and is equipped with two reactors of 35MW each. The life span of the project is 40 years, with the possibility of being extended up to 50 years. After the completion of tests in March 2019, in the second half of 2019, the FNPP will be transported to its final destination to the port of Pevek in Russia's extreme north-eastern region of Chukotka. It will then replace the existing Bilibino Nuclear Power Plant and the Chaunskaya coal-fired power plant. It will be used to maintain both uninterrupted power and plentiful desalinated water supply in remote areas. This project will help the grid-isolated Russian Arctic regions.

**58. Answer – B ) Tata Steel Limited****Explanation:**

On 13th December 2018, Tata Steel Limited had been declared as the winner of the Prime Minister's Trophy for the 'Best Performing Integrated Steel Plant' in the country for the performance year 2016-17 making it the fourth consecutive year for Tata Steel being honoured with this coveted award. Along with the trophy a cash award of Rs. 2 crore was also given to the company. Having won the PM's Trophy 11 times and receiving the Certificate for Excellence twice, Tata Steel has been recognized as the best integrated steel plant 13 times, since the inception of this award in 1992-93. The performance of the plants is judged by a Panel of Judges headed by Secretary (Steel) and with members from eminent technologists, management experts, trade union leaders, economists, consumers of iron & steel according to a scheme drawn up by an expert committee.

**59. Answer – C ) Jharkhand Explanation:**

On 13th December 2018, the Union Ministry of Agriculture had selected Jharkhand for "Krishi Karman" award in the rice category. The award which carries a cash prize worth Rs 2 crore and a citation will be given away in February 2019 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. As a gesture of appreciation to the farmers of the state for achieving the milestone, two progressive farmers, i.e. one male and one female, would also be given 'Agriculture Minister's Krishi Karman Award'. Each of the farmers would receive a cash award of Rs 2 lakh along with citation.

**60. Answer – B ) December 14****Explanation:**

**On 14th December 2018, National Energy Conservation Day 2018 was celebrated throughout the country under the aegis of the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under Ministry of Power. The objective to celebrate the National Energy Conservation Day is to drive mass awareness about the importance of energy efficiency and conservation. National Energy Conservation Day' was celebrated for the first time on December 14, 1991 when the National Energy Conservation Awards were given away to industries for reducing energy consumption. The annual awards recognize innovation and achievements in energy conservation by the industries, buildings, zonal railways, state designated agencies; manufacturers of BEE star labeled appliances, electricity distribution companies and municipalities.**

**61. Answer – D ) Jammu and Kashmir****Explanation:**

On 14th December 2018, Jammu and Kashmir became the first state in the country to enact a law banning sexual exploitation of women "by those in positions of authority, having a fiduciary relationship or a public servant". The decision in this regard was taken by Jammu and Kashmir Administrative Council (SAC) headed by Governor Satya Pal Malik by approving the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2018, and the Jammu and Kashmir Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018. The Jammu and Kashmir Criminal Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2018 seeks to amend the Ranbir Penal Code (RPC)-a criminal code, whereby specific offence under section 354 E is being inserted to provide for the offence of 'Sextortion'. 'Sextortion' is a physical or non-physical form to extort sexual favours. People entrusted with power use 'sextortion' in a form of 'corruption'.

**62.****Answer – A ) Vadodara, Gujarat****Explanation:**

On December 15, 2018, Union Railways Minister Piyush Goyal and Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani dedicated the nation's first National Rail and Transportation Institute (NRTI) in Vadodara, Gujarat. It is India's first and world's 3rd railway university after Russia and China. The Vice-Chancellor of the university is Ashwani Lohani who is the Chairman of the Railway Board of India. The Ministry of Railways had sanctioned Rs. 421 crore for the upcoming 5 years for the operation of the project. It has been built on 110 acres of land at Pipaliya village in Waghodiya Taluka, District Vadodara.

**63. Answer – D ) Myanmar Explanation:**

On December 12, 2018, the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind paid his visit to the Advanced Centre for Agricultural Research and Education (ACARE) at the Yezin Agricultural University in Nay Pyi Taw. Here, he dedicated the Advanced Centre for Agricultural Research and Education to the people of Myanmar. It was established under the Bilateral Friendship Project and is funded by Government of India. The programme is run by Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI). The project focuses on genetics, post-harvest technology, participatory knowledge management and capacity building for farmers in Myanmar. He also dedicated a Rice Bio-Park in Yezin Agricultural University to the people of Myanmar. Projects under the park are undertaken by the M.S. Swaminathan Research Foundation, funded by the Ministry of External Affairs. The projects are aimed at ensuring optimal use and value addition of the gamut of bio-sources in a rice farm, including rice straw and rice husk. He also launched a mobile app for farmers in Myanmar.

**64. Answer – B ) Pakistan Explanation:**

On 13th December 2018, The Asian Cricket Council (ACC) awarded the hosting rights of the 2020 Asia cup to the Pakistan Cricket Board (PCB) in a meeting held in Bangladesh Capital Dhaka. Pakistan will host the 2020 Asia cricket cup. The Decision was taken by ACC President Nazmul Hassan Papon but the final venue of the event is still unclear over whether it will be played in UAE or Pakistan.

**65. Answer – B ) Shree Saini****Explanation:**

On December 15, 2018, Indian-American Shree Saini has been crowned Miss India Worldwide 2018 at 27th annual global pageant held in the Fords City of New Jersey. It is Organised by the New York-based India Festival Committee (IFC). Sakshi Sinha from Australia was declared as the first runner up and Anusha Sareen from United Kingdom declared as the second runner up.

**66. Answer – B ) Ashok Amritraj****Explanation:**

On December 14, 2018, Producer Ashok Amritraj was honoured with the French Knight of the National Order of Merit for his contribution to the world of cinema and Indo-French film industry. The award was presented to him at the Closing ceremony of 2 day Indo-French Professional Meeting for the Film and Television Industry held in Mumbai, India. He had Produced Hollywood Films such as Ghost Rider: Spirit of Vengeance with Nicholas Cage and 99 Homes starring Andrew Garfield.

**67. Answer – A ) Ranil Wickremesinghe****Explanation:**

On 16th December 2018, Sri Lanka's ousted Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe was sworn into office again, two months after being removed by the President Maithripala Sirisena, thus bringing an end to weeks-long political crisis in the country. Mr. Wickremesinghe was removed as Prime minister on October 26 and was replaced by Mahinda Rajapaksa who resigned on 15th December after failing to garner majority in Parliament. Mr. Wickremesinghe has been sworn in as Prime minister for the 5th time, creating a record in Sri Lanka. The reinstatement Mr. Wickremesinghe came after the Sri Lanka's Supreme Court ruled that President Sirisena had acted illegally in November by dissolving the Parliament before it completed its four-and-a-half year term, thus rejecting the Sirisena's attempts to hold snap elections in early January. The court later said Mahinda Rajapaksa should not exercise the powers of the office and ordered his resignation, seven weeks after he was appointed as the Prime Minister.

**68. Answer – B ) Virat Kohli Explanation:**

On 16th December 2018, Indian Cricket Team captain Virat Kohli became the second fastest player to score 25 Test Centuries after scoring 123 runs on the third day of Second Test against Australia at Perth. Virat Kohli is only behind of former Australian captain and cricketing legend Sir Don Bradman. Virat Kohli also equalled Sachin Tendulkar's record of 6 Test Centuries in Australia.

**69. Answer – B ) PV Sindhu Explanation:**

World Tour Finals 2018 concluded in Tianhe, Guangzhou, China. It was the final tournament of the 2018 BWF World Tour. It was inaugurated from 12th December 2018. The total Prize of the Championship is \$1,500,000. Rio Olympics Silver medallist PV Sindhu, became the first Indian to win gold in the Badminton World Federation (BWF) World Tour. She defeated Japanese Nozomi Okuhara, to claim the top honours of the season-ending event and her first title of the year. With the win, Sindhu also equalled her head-to-head record with Okuhara to 6-6.

Event	Winner	Runner
Men's Singles	Shi Yuqi(China)	Kento Momota (Japan)
Women's Singles	P. V. Sindhu(India)	Nozomi Okuhara (Japan)
Men's Doubles	Li Junhui and Liu Yuchen(China)	Hiroyuki Endo and Yuta Watanabe(Japan)
Women's Doubles	Misaki Matsutomo and Ayaka Takahashi(Japan)	Lee So-hee and Shin Seung-chan(South Korea)
Mixed Doubles	Wang Yilü and Huang Dongping(China)	Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong(China)

### 70. Answer – D ) Pune District Court

#### Explanation:

On 15th December 2018, Pune District court became the first court in India to allow e-payments of court fee, judicial deposits, fines and penalties, the facility which will be eventually available across all courtrooms in the country to bring transparency to cash transactions. The Pune district court administration is starting the e-payment facility in the Shivajinager district and sessions court. The move in which all the e-payments will be collected at-pay.ecourt.gov.in/epay would also help to end the long queues on court premises to pay cash. The court administration has tied up with State Bank of India (SBI) for the purpose in which civil lawyers and litigants can make payments online round the clock and there will be no additional bank charges for payments up to Rs 2,000. The person making the e-payment will get a unique case number record (CNR) which will remain the same till matter is disposed of. Chief justice of Bombay High Court RK Menon officially inaugurated the E-payment system.

### 71. Answer – B ) Catriona Elisa Gray

#### Explanation:

On December 16 2018, Miss Universe 2018 was held at Muang Thong Thani, Pak Kret, Thailand. The 24-year-old Filipino-Australian beauty Catriona Elisa Gray from Philippines bagged Miss Universe 2018 title. There are totally 93 contestants from various were participated in this contest. She was crowned by Miss Universe 2017 Demi Leigh Nel-Peters of South Africa. Tamaryn Green, a medical student from South Africa became first runner up and Sthefany Guterrez from Venezuela studying to be a lawyer became second runner-up. Spain's Angela Ponce made history as the first transgender woman to compete with other contestant for the title of Miss Universe. India's Nehal Chudasama failed to enter it to the Top 20 of the Miss Universe 2018. This show hosted by Emmy Award-winning Steve Harvey.

### 72. Answer – C ) Sandip Somany

#### Explanation:

On December 17 2018 ,Sanitary ware firm HSIL(Hindustan Sanitaryware and Industries Ltd)'s CMD Sandip Somany has been elected as the new President of FICCI( Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry) for the year 2018-19 during its 91st annual general meeting. Sangita Reddy,a current Joint Managing Director Apollo Hospitals has been elevated as Ficci Senior Vice President for next year, while Uday Shankar , current the Chairman and CEO of Star India and President of 21st Century Fox Asia-Pacific for Asia has joined the chamber as Vice President.

### 73. Answer – A ) Belgium Explanation:

On December 16,2018, Belgium defeated Netherland in Shoot Out Match and won their First Men's Hockey World Cup Championship,which is 14th edition of the Hockey World Cup.This is the third time India is hosting the Men's Hockey world Cup and First time it is held in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.The Championship is held from 28th November 2018.It is organized by International Hockey Federation(FIH). Mascot: Turtle 'Olly' is the official Mascot of the Championship. Belgium won the tournament for the first time after defeating the Netherlands 3-2 in the final on a penalty shoot-out after a 0-0 draw.Australia won the third place by defeating England 8-1.

### 74. Answer – B ) Bihar Explanation:

On 11th December 2018, the traditional delicacy of Nalanda district of Bihar, Silao Khaja which is popular among the tourists visiting Buddhist sites of Rajgir and Nalanda was granted GI tag by Geographical Indications Registry at Chennai. The application to obtain GI Tag was filed by Silao Khaja Audyogik Swavalambi Sahakari Simiti Limited, Bihar. Silao Khaja is a crisp, multi-layered dough sheeted sweet, made up of wheat-flour, sugar, maida, ghee, cardamom and aniseeds as ingredients. Environment factors including local water and climate like high ph levels

along with high Chlorine content of Silao region contribute to the puffiness and crispness of Khaja according to Public Health Division of Government of Bihar.

**75. Answer – A ) An-32 transport aircraft****Explanation:**

On 17th December 2018, the Indian Air Force flown India's first military flight using Blended Bio-Jet Fuel on an An-32 transport aircraft in Chandigarh. The project is a combined effort of IAF, DRDO, Directorate General Aeronautical Quality Assurance (DGAQA) and CSIR-Indian Institute of Petroleum. Air Chief Marshal BS Dhanoa had said the IAF intended to fly the An-32 with 10 per cent biojet fuel on Jan 26, 2019 Republic Day flypast. This fuel is made from Jatropa oil sourced from Chattisgarh Biodiesel Development Authority (CBDA) and then processed at CSIR-IIP, Dehradun. In August 2018, commercial airline Spicejet flew country's first ever bio-jet fuel-powered flight between Dehradun and Delhi.

**76. Answer – C ) Ministry of Commerce and Industry****Explanation:**

On 7th December 2018, the central government set up a new National Medical Devices Promotion Council (NMDPC) to plug loopholes in India's regulatory framework for medical devices to ensure safety of patients, pricing and restrictions on import of pre-owned equipment. The council will operate under Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, and will have 14 members, including representatives from the Health Ministry and Niti Aayog. The NMDPC has also appointed the Association of Indian Medical Device Industry (AiMeD) as a member of the Council. The council is aimed to boost and strengthen the Indian medical devices sector, lead India to an export driven market in order to feature among the top 5 medical devices manufacturing hubs worldwide.

**77. Answer -C ) Asma Jahangir****Explanation:**

On 18th December 2018, UN (United Nations) Human Rights Prize for 2018, which was posthumously awarded to Pakistan's iconic human rights activist and lawyer Asma Jahangir, was received by her daughter, Munizae, at an impressive ceremony in the General Assembly hall of United Nations, in New York. The award and a plaque were handed over to Munizae Jahangir, a journalist and human rights activist herself, by the President of the General Assembly, Maria Fernanda Espinosa. Jahangir was an outspoken critic of Pakistan's powerful military establishment and she fought against religious extremism and for the rights of oppressed minorities in Pakistan. Asma Jahangir was one of the four winners of the award which was announced by the United Nations in October and is given once in every five years since 1968. The three others who received the awards were: Ms. Rebeca Gyumi (Tanzania), Ms. Joenia Wapichana (Brazil) and Front Line Defenders (Irish organization). The award was given at the event organised to commemorate the 70th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, marked annually on December 10.

**78. Answer – A ) V Vaidyanathan****Explanation:**

On 18th December 2018, the Infrastructure Development Finance Company Bank (IDFC Bank) and non-banking financial company Capital First completed their merger process, creating a combined loan asset book of Rs 1.03 lakh crore for the merged entity IDFC First Bank, which will be headquartered in Mumbai. V Vaidyanathan will be the managing director and chief executive officer (MD and CEO) of the merged entity while Rajiv Lall will be the part-time non-executive chairman, subject to Reserve Bank of India approval. The merge entity will serve 7.2 million customers through its 203 bank branches, 129 ATMs, 454 rural business correspondent centres across the country's urban and rural geographies. The merger was announced on January 13, 2018. According to the merger agreement, shareholders will receive 139 shares of IDFC Bank for each 10 shares held of Warburg Pincus-backed Capital First.

**79. Answer – A ) GSAT-7A Explanation:**

On 19th December 2018, Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) launched 2250 kg military communication satellite GSAT-7A from Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. GSAT-7A is the 39th Indian Communication satellite. GSAT-7A is the first satellite built primarily for Indian Air Force to qualitatively unify its assets and improve combined, common intelligence during operation. The Satellite will improve the way Indian Air Force (IAF) interlinks, operates and communicates with its aircrafts during flight with the help of command centres on ground. The satellite will use "Ku band" for superior real time aircraft to aircraft communications. Space Vehicle, GSLV-F11

(Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle) is used to release the satellite to an eventful geostationary orbit about 36000 km from the Earth.

#### 80. Answer – D ) Haryana Explanation:

On 18th December 2018, Haryana government launched a mobile App 'Shiksha Setu' to provide students information on attendance, fee, online admission and scholarships of the government colleges of the state. The App will provides instant updates of the important notices, circulars and other programmes to students and teachers. The App will bring transparency in the department and college administration while ensuring better connectivity between students, parents, teachers and officials

#### 81. Answer – C ) Gujarat Explanation:

On December 20,2018, Gujarat Ranked as Best Performer in first ever States Start-up Ranking 2018 released by Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) at an event in New Delhi. The objective of the exercise was to encourage States and Union Territories to take proactive steps towards strengthening the Start-up ecosystems in their states. A total of 27 States and 3 Union Territories participated in the exercise. States have been recognised as follows:

Category	State
Best Performer	Gujarat
Top Performers	Karnataka, Kerala, Odisha, and Rajasthan
Leaders	Andhra Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Telangana
Aspiring Leaders	Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and West Bengal
Emerging States	Assam, Delhi, Goa, Jammu & Kashmir, Maharashtra, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, and Uttarakhand
Beginners	Chandigarh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Puducherry, Sikkim, and Tripura

#### 82. Answer – A ) 2022, 2030 Explanation:

On December 19, 2018, the NITI Aayog unveiled its comprehensive national Strategy for New India dubbed as 'Strategy for New India @75', defining clear objectives for 2022-23. The document aims for establishing a New India by 2022 and to propel India towards a USD 5 trillion economy by 2030. This was released by the Union Finance Minister Shri Arun Jaitley, in the presence of NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Dr Rajiv Kumar, Members Dr Ramesh Chand and Dr VK Saraswat and CEO Shri Amitabh Kant. Over 800 stakeholders from within the government – central, state and district levels – and about 550 external experts were consulted during the preparation of the document for the past one year.

#### 83. Answer – B ) GAS 2019 Explanation:

On December 19, 2018, the Civil aviation ministry along with the Airport Authority of India (AAI) launched an app named 'GAS 2019'. This app will enable users to interact with the co-delegates and speakers besides providing a platform for networking through personal and group chats. This was launched ahead of the global aviation summit to be held in Mumbai in January 2019. The Global Aviation Summit would take place on January 15-16, 2019 at Mumbai.

#### 84. Answer – A ) Himachal Pradesh

##### Explanation:

On December 21, 2018, the Sustainable Development Goal, SDG India Index: Baseline Report 2018 was released by the NITI Aayog in New Delhi. A composite score was computed between the range of 0-100 for each State and UT based on the 13 selected goals. The higher the score of a State/UT, the greater the distance to target achieved which means if a State/UT achieves a score of 100, it signifies that it has achieved the 2030 national targets. There are 4 categories of the index based on the scores the state/UT has achieved. They are:

- Achiever (100),
- Front Runner (65-99),
- Performer (50-64) and
- Aspirant (0-49).
- Between 42 and 69 for State and
- Between 57 to 68 for Union Territories.

Among the states: Kerala, Himachal Pradesh and Tamil Nadu are at the top of the list and running as 'Front Runners' with the scores of 69 each for Kerala and Himachal Pradesh and 66 for Tamil Nadu.

**85. Answer – C ) December 21****Explanation:**

On 21st December 2018, Winter Solstice which is the shortest day of the year was observed in the Northern Hemisphere whereas the Summer Solstice which is the Longest Day of the year was observed in the Southern Hemisphere. The Summer and Winter Solstices are caused as a result of the tilt of the Earth and its elliptical path around the sun. The Roles are reversed on 21st June when the Northern Hemisphere observes Summer Solstice and Southern Hemisphere observes winter solstice. On this day, celebrations and festivals are held in different countries on the occasion of solstice.

**86. Answer – A ) Dr. Bibek Debroy****Explanation:**

On December 21, 2018, the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) constituted a Logistics Development Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Bibek Debroy, Chairman EAC-PM. Other members of the committee included Secretaries and heads of the concerned departments/ministries such as Revenue, Commerce, Logistics, DIPP, Civil Aviation, Shipping, Road Transport & Highways, Railways, Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) etc. The committee would be working on challenges in logistics development and associated commerce and suggest policy reforms for ease of doing trade in India.

**87. Answer – B ) Hyderabad, Telangana****Explanation:**

On December 22, 2018, Union Minister for Science & Technology, Earth Sciences, Environment and Forests & Climate Change, Dr. Harsh Vardhan inaugurated the newly constructed International Training Centre for Operational Oceanography (ITCOcean) Complex in the INCOIS campus at Hyderabad, Telangana. He dedicated the ITCOcean to the Former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee and named the academic building as Atal Bhavan and the Guest House as Atal Atithi Griha. This UNESCO category 2 centre was established by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Govt. of India earlier in 2013 but it upgraded to assist UNESCO and its Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC). It will help in providing capacity building and training activities in operational oceanography. It will thus benefit the South Asian and African states bordering the Indian Ocean and the small island nations in the Pacific from INCOIS' ocean science and management practices.

**88. Answer – A ) 28 Explanation:**

On December 22, 2018, 31st Meeting of the GST Council under the chairmanship of Finance Minister Shri. Arun Jaitley was held in Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi. There were 34 items in the 28 per cent tax bracket which included luxury and 'sin goods' till now. The GST Council decided to take out 6 items from this list. 28% slab rate will only be applicable to 28 items now.

**89. Answer – D ) Varun Gandhi****Explanation:**

On December 19, 2018, the book "A Rural Manifesto – Realising India's Future through her Villages" authored by BJP MP Varun Gandhi was released in Bengaluru. The book focuses on challenges faced by farmers, labourers, student and teachers in villages across the country.

**90. Answer – D ) December 22****Explanation:**

On 22nd December 2018, India celebrated National Mathematics day honouring the 131st birth anniversary of Great Indian Mathematician Srinivasan Ramanujan. India celebrate 22nd December as National Mathematics day every year. Ramanujan was born in 1887 and compiled nearly 3900 results mostly identities and equations. The Number 1729 is known as Hardy-Ramanujan Number.

**91. Answer -D ) Mamata Banerjee****Explanation:**

On December 22, 2018, the 55th SKOCH Summit was held in Constitution Club of India, New Delhi. Awards were distributed recognizing the efforts and contributions of the different people and states. Following shows the list of awardees:

Category	Awardee
Skoch Golden Jubilee Challenger Award	Commerce and Industry Minister Suresh Prabhu
Skoch Chief Minister of the Year Award	Chief Minister of West Bengal Mamata Banerjee
SKOCH Award for hydel project in Purulia	West Bengal State Electricity Distribution Company

	Limited (WBSEDCL)
SKOCH Sprinter of the Year	Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N Chandrababu Naidu
Skoch IT minister of the Year	Nara Lokesh
SKOCH Governance Person of the Year	K T Rama Rao

**92. Answer – B ) Gurugram, Haryana****Explanation:**

On December 22, 2018, Defence Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman launched the Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) at Information Management and Analysis Centre (IMAC) Gurugram, Haryana. The IFC-IOR is aimed to engage with partner nations to develop maritime domain awareness and share information on vessels of interest in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR). It would also help enhance maritime security and safety. The information exchange at the IFC-IOR would be initially undertaken by virtual means, using telephone calls, faxes, emails and video conferencing over internet. It would undertake conduct of exercises and training capsules in maritime information collation and sharing.

**93. Answer -B ) Gitega Explanation:**

On Dec.22 2018, Burundi confirmed the small central city of Gitega the country's new political capital. The previous capital Bujumbura, on the north-eastern shore of Lake Tanganyika, became a country's economic capital.

**94. Answer – B ) B V P Rao Explanation:**

On 22nd December 2018, B V P Rao was elected as the President of Archery Association of India(AAI),the election was held under the Supervision of former Chief Election Commissioner S. Y. Quraishi. Maha Singh was elected as secretary of Archery Association of India,D K Vidyardhi was elected as the treasurer.Sunil Sharma was elected senior vice-president and Rajendra Singh Tomar and Purnima Mahato will be the vice presidents. BVP Rao earlier served as vice president of the archery association of the northeastern state. He was also earlier associated with Sports Authority of India in various capacities. For the last four years, he served as an Advisor to Telengana government. Vijay Kumar Malhotra has been as the president of Archery Association of India for 40 years from 1973 to 2012,after that he relinquished the position in 2015,he was appointed as the Honorary Life President of AAI meanwhile Shri Tarlochan Singh was appointed as the Acting President of AAI.

**95. Answer – A ) Dipali Borthakur****Explanation:**

On December 21, 2018, 'Nightingale of Assam' singer Dipali Borthakur passed away at 77. She was a Padma Shri recipient in 1998 and was also known as "Asomiya Lata Mangeskar." She was honoured with The Axom Srestho by The Telegraph, Silipi Bota (2010) and Aideu Handique Silpi Award (2012 ) among others.

**96. Answer – B ) Odisha Explanation:**

On December 24, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarked on a one-day visit to the state of Odisha. He inaugurated the Lalitgiri Archaeological Museum. Lalitgiri in Odisha is a famous Buddhist centre of archaeological importance, comprising Stupa, Viharas (monasteries) and images of Lord Buddha.

**97. Answer – B ) Telangana Explanation:**

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated a Centre for Agricultural Research and Training in Telangana on 23rd December 2018 for imparting training to farmers in organic farming using the latest technology. Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC), in collaboration with Eklavya foundation, has set up the Centre as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). Pradhan inaugurated the CSR project for the construction of hostel, classrooms, computer labs and administrative block at the Centre meant to benefit more than 3500 farmers and 200 students and consumers by way of promoting organic farming.

**98. Answer – B ) Patrick Shanahan****Explanation:**

On 23rd December 2018, United States President Donald Trump announced through a tweet that Defence Secretary Jim Mattis will be replaced by his deputy Patrick Shanahan as acting Pentagon chief on January 1, 2019 the date which is two months earlier than planned. Earlier Jim Mattis, had announced his resignation on 21st December 2018 due to strong policy differences with Mr Trump especially on Trump's Syria troop withdrawal move but offered to stay on for two months in order to facilitate a smooth transition. Mr Shanahan, is a former executive at the aerospace giant Boeing, joined the Pentagon in July 2017 after Mr Trump nominated him and was

reportedly a vocal supporter of the president's plan to establish a sixth branch of the armed forces, known as the "space force".

### 99. Answer – A ) Timely Disposal of Consumer Complaints

#### Explanation:

On December 24, 2018, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution celebrated National Consumer Day 2018 with the theme "Timely Disposal of Consumer Complaints" at Kothari Auditorium, DRDO Bhawan in New Delhi. The Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and Commerce & Industry, Shri C. R. Chaudhary presided over the event. Following important announcements were made in the event:

- Government will repeal the Consumer Protection Act 1986 and bring in a new Act covering consumer grievance redressal, streamline functioning of Consumer for a.
- National Consumer Helpline has been revamped and 480 major Companies including several e-commerce platforms have been included.
- Consumer Fora has been strengthened and connected with CONFONET for better computer networking of consumer fora.
- NCDRC on directions of Supreme Court issued new Regulations to make admission or rejection of cases in 21 days and pronounced judgment in 45 days after final hearing.
- New Consumer Protection Bill, 2018 through Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) will be introduced.
- Hon'ble Supreme Court has laid right to speedy justice as a fundamental right of a citizen, implicit in the article 21 of the Constitution of India.

### 100. Answer – B ) Assam Explanation:

On December 25, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's longest rail cum road bridge of 4.94 km Bogibeel bridge, which spans the River Brahmaputra between Dibrugarh and Dhemaji districts of Assam. Till now Vembanad rail bridge in Kerala was dubbed as the longest railway-bridge in India at 4.62 km of length. The 4.94 km structure was built at a cost of Rs. 5900 crores by Indian Railways. It is India's only fully welded bridge for which European codes and welding standards were adhered to for the first time in the country. It is also Asia's 2nd longest rail-and-road connector having a life span of 120 years. It will reduce travel time from Assam to Arunachal Pradesh to four hours and will cut out the detour of over 170 km via Tinsukia. It will also cut down train travel between Delhi and Dibrugarh by three hours. Its initial budget was about Rs. 3,200 crore and had an original planned length of 4.31 km.

### 101. Answer – A ) Katowice, Poland

#### Explanation:

From 2nd December 2018, the 24th meeting of Conference of Parties (COP-24) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) also known as 'Katowice Climate Change Conference' was held at Katowice, Poland with an aim to finalize guidelines for implementation of the Paris Agreement adopted in 2016. The event concludes on 14th December 2018.

### 103. Answer – A ) Real Madrid

#### Explanation:

On 22nd December 2018, European Champion, Real Madrid won third straight FIFA (The Federation Internationale de Football Association) Club World Cup with the win over home team Al-Ain in the final held in Abu Dhabi, UAE (United Arab Emirates). Luka Modric and Sergio Ramos scored for Real Madrid in the final which leads them to victory of 4-1 against home team Al-Ain. Real Madrid have now four FIFA club World Cup titles, one title more than Barcelona. Ballon d'Or award winner, Luka Modric gave his team Real Madrid a lead in the 14th minute of game.

### 104. Answer – 5) None of these; Correct Answer: Atal Bihari Vajpayee Explanation:

On December 25, 2018, the 94th birth anniversary of Former Prime Minister Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee was celebrated as Good Governance Day across the country. The day was established in 2014 to honour the Bharat Ratna by fostering awareness among the people on accountability in Governance and Government.

### 105. Answer – C ) Kuno Explanation:

On December 24, 2018, Kuno, in Madhya Pradesh, was announced to be notified as 'national park'. This move was made after the compliance with the last condition imposed by a Supreme Court was met. This would enable translocation of lions from Gir in Gujarat to Kuno.

### 106. Answer – A ) Rs 5 lakh Explanation:

On December 25, 2018, Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Trivendra Singh Rawat launched the 'Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana' in Dehradun. Under the scheme, each household in the state will be able to avail medical treatment of up to 5 lakh rupees annually. A total of 99 government and 66 private hospitals have been selected under the scheme. Under this, the CM also signed MOUs with private hospitals and also announced availability of free of cost OPD facilities for children and elderly people in the state. It will benefit 23 lakh households and cover 1,350 critical diseases. He also distributed scheme-related golden cards to beneficiaries. He also launched the mobile application and website for 'Atal Ayushman Uttarakhand Yojana'. Additionally, the chief minister also announced that the state's dedicated air ambulance service will be operational from 26 January, 2019.

#### 107. Answer – B ) Thailand Explanation:

On December 25, 2018, Thailand approved the licensed use of marijuana and kratom for medical use and research. It became the first country in Southeast Asia to take such action.

#### 108. Answer – A ) Aie River

##### Explanation:

On December 27, 2018, the 12-day 3rd 'Dwijing Festival' celebrations commenced in the on the banks of the Aie river in Chirang district of Assam. It will continue till January 7, 2019. It will be organised by Assam Tourism and Bodoland Tourism. The festival started as Aie River Festival in 2016-17 to promote river tourism in the rural areas under the Bodoland Territorial Council (BTC). It started under the name of 'AIE RIVER WINTER FESTIVAL'. The name was officially changed to "Dwijing (river bank in Bodo language)" in 2017. The association of the Hagrama Bridge, the longest rural river bridge of the state, with the festival increased its popularity.

#### 109. Answer – A ) Virudhunagar, Tamil Nadu

##### Explanation:

On December 26, 2018, Niti Aayog CEO Amitabh Kant released the Second Delta Ranking of the Aspirational Districts Programme. The ranking shows the incremental progress achieved by 111 aspirational districts (out of 115 during June 1, 2018 to October 31, 2018, across six key development sectors. Three aspirational districts from West Bengal did not participate, while one district of Kerala could not take part because of floods. The 6 developmental sectors are: Health and Nutrition, Education, Agriculture and Water Resources, Financial Inclusion, Skill Development, and Basic Infrastructure. The data has been received from household surveys conducted by NITI Aayog's knowledge partners, namely, TATA Trusts and Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation (IDInsight).

The Most Improved Districts:

Rank	District	State
1	Virudhunagar	Tamil Nadu
2	Nuapada	Odisha
3	Siddharthnagar	Uttar Pradesh
4	Aurangabad	Bihar
5	Koraput	Odisha

#### 110. Answer – A ) Bimal Jalan

##### Explanation:

On 26th December 2018, The Reserve Bank of India, in consultation with the government of India has set up a 6-member committee headed by Former RBI Chief Bimal Jalan to review the economic capital framework of the central bank. The committee will suggest how the central bank should handle its reserves and whether it can transfer its surplus to the government. The six-member panel has former deputy RBI governor Rakesh Mohan as its vice chairman and comprises economic affairs secretary Subhash Chandra Garg, RBI central board members Bharat Doshi and Sudhir Mankad and deputy governor NS Viswanathan. The panel will decide whether RBI is holding provisions, reserves and buffers in surplus of the required levels. It would also propose a suitable profits distribution policy taking into account all the likely situations of the RBI. The committee will also suggest an adequate level of risk provisioning that the RBI needs to maintain. Surplus reserves that are created out of realized gains will also come under the jurisdiction of this committee. The panel will submit its report within a period of 90 days from the date of its first meeting.

#### 111. Answer – B ) Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012

##### Explanation:

On December 28, 2018, the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi approved the proposal for amendment in the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. Amendments were made in Section-4, Section-5, Section-6, Section-9, Section-14, Section-15 and Section-42 of Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, 2012. Amendments in Section-4, Section-5 and Section-6 aims to provide option of stringent punishment, including death penalty, for committing aggravated penetrative

sexual assault crime on a child to protect the children from sexual abuse. Amendments in section-9 to protect children from sexual offences in times of natural calamities and disasters and in cases where children are administered, in any way, any hormone or any chemical substance, to attain early sexual maturity for the purpose of penetrative sexual assault. Amendments of Section-14 and Section-15 aims to address the menace of the child pornography by levying fine further penalizing the perpetrator with jail term or fine or both.

**112. Answer – B ) Rs 1 lakh****Explanation:**

On 25th December 2018, in order to address the country's current account deficit, Nepal imposed a monthly limit on the amount of Indian currency its citizen can spend in India while paying for goods and services. With the approval of new restrictions a Nepali citizen would be unable to spend more than ₹1 lakh per month while paying for goods and services in India. The policy which came into effect from 25th December 2018 will also be applicable to use of prepaid, credit and debit cards of Nepali banks for purchasing done in Indian Markets. However, the latest measure would exempt payment in hospitals and pharmacies in India. The decision was taken to deal with the growing problem of current account deficit and the balance of payment crisis between India and Nepal.

**114. Answer – C ) Luka Modric****Explanation:**

On 27th December 2018, Croatia's captain and Spanish club Real Madrid's midfielder Luka Modric was named the Balkan Athlete of the year beating Men's tennis world number one player Novak Djokovic. The poll to name Balkan Athlete of the year was organized by the Bulgarian News Agency (BTA). Serbian player Novak Djokovic got second position whereas women's number one tennis Romania's Simona Halep got third position in the Balkan's poll.

Luka Modric lead Croatia to the FIFA World cup final and bagged player of the tournament for the FIFA 2018 organized in Russia. Modric had also won the prestigious men's Ballon d'Or award for the first time in December 2018.

**115. Answer – A ) Andry Rajoelina****Explanation:**

On December 27th, 2018, Andry Rajoelina, a former leader of Madagascar has won the country's presidential vote and in the process defeated Marc Ravalomanana, who was another former President of the country. Rajoelina won nearly 56% of the votes and had got 39% of the vote during the first round of the election, whereas, Mr.

Ravalomanana had got 35%. The former president of the country, Henry Rajaonarimampianina was eliminated in the first round of the election as he obtained just 9% of the votes. Both Rajoelina and Ravalomanana are wealthy men and were barred from the 2013 presidential race and had promised to boost the economy of the country. Although, the elections had been beset by allegations of fraud.

**116. Answer – D ) Mumbai****Explanation:**

On December 28, 2018, the President of India, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, inaugurated the 12th Global Healthcare Summit in Mumbai. It was organized by the American Association of Physicians of Indian Origin. In his address he announced that since the launch of Ayushman Bharat in September 2018, 6.5 lakh patients belonging to the deprived families have been hospitalized and over Rs. 850 crore has been spent for their medical treatments.

**118. Answer – B ) Haryana****Explanation:**

On 28th December 2018, the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with the Ministry of Home Affairs has approved the proposals of Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Mizoram, Chhattisgarh, Karnataka and Madhya Pradesh for implementation of Mahila Police Volunteer Scheme (MPVs). The scheme envisages the engagement of Mahila Police Volunteers (MPVs) as a link between police and community and help women in distress with one MPV engaged per Gram Panchayat across the country. Under the scheme, the Mahila Police volunteer is required to mobilize community to form Mahila and Shishu Rakshak Dals (MASRD) to act as community watch groups. The MPV would be given a monthly honorarium of Rs 1,000. The first state to adopt the initiative was Haryana in which the scheme was started at Karnal and Mahendergarh District on a pilot basis under Nirbhaya Fund during the financial year 2016-2017.

**119. Answer – B ) Varanasi****Explanation:**

On December 29, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Varanasi and Ghazipur in Uttar Pradesh for one day. He attended the One District, One Product Regional Summit at Deendayal Hastakala Sankul in Varanasi. Here he laid foundation stone for 14 new development projects worth around 98 crores. Also, in the event, loans worth Rs. 2000 crore were disbursed.

**120. Answer – A ) Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC)**

**Explanation:**

On December 28, 2018, Swachh Surveksahan 2018 award for Best Capital City in the Solid Waste Management was conferred to Greater Hyderabad Municipal Corporation (GHMC). It also ranked 27th in the list of 4041 cities in the Swachh Surveksahan Rankings. This edition of the survey was conducted by a third-party agency, Karvy Group appointed by MoHUA.