

1) Answer – D) South Korea Explanation: On April 1, 2018, United States and South Korea kicked off the annual military exercise 'Foal Eagle drill'. Nearly 11500 American and 290000 South Korean troops will be participating in a month-long a series of field training exercises to be held under 'Foal Eagle drill'. Earlier, the drill was to be held in February 2018. However, it was delayed in order to avoid a clash with Winter Olympic Games 2018 in Pyeongchang, South Korea. This edition of 'Foal Eagle drill' will be a low-key event, featuring fewer strategic weapons, as North Korea has proposed to hold summits with the South Korea and US, which has in turn eased the tension and diplomatic rhetoric on Korean peninsula

2) Answer – C) India Explanation: As per information shared by Indian Cellular Association (ICA) with Telecom Minister Manoj Sinha and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad, India is now the second largest mobile phone producer in the world after China. ICA's claim was based on data available from market research firm IHS, China's National Bureau of Statistics and Vietnam General Statistics Office. With 11 million units produced in 2017, India replaced Vietnam as the second largest producer of mobile phones in 2017. It is to be noted that annual production of mobile phones in India in 2014 was just 3 million units. On account of rise in domestic production, imports of the devices in India also reduced to less than half in 2017-18. Fast Track Task Force (FTTF), a body under Union Ministry of Electronics and IT, has set target to achieve around 500 million mobile phone production in India by 2019.

3) Answer – B) West Bengal Explanation: West Bengal State Government has rolled out Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's dream project "Rupashree" scheme aimed at providing marriage assistance to girls coming from economically weaker families. This scheme was announced by West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra while presenting the state budget for 2018-19. To avail financial assistance under this scheme, a woman has to fill the application form before her marriage and submit it to the Block Development Officer (BDO) or Municipality Office. Post submission of the form, amount of Rs 25000 will be credited to her bank account before her marriage. Only those women, whose annual family income is up to Rs 1.5 lakh are eligible for this scheme. Besides, women must be a permanent resident of West Bengal and must have attained 18 years age at the time of their marriages. There is no minimum educational qualification to apply for this scheme. Budgetary allocation for this scheme is Rs 1500 crore and is expected to benefit around six lakh women every year.

4) Answer – B) 37 Explanation: According to a report released by StartupBlink, the Indian startup ecosystem, during 2017, ranked at number 37 out of 125 countries. StartupBlink is a global map and directory of startups, coworking spaces, accelerators, investors and reporters.

StartupBlink report includes a global ranking index which has been compiled by measuring startup ecosystem strength and activity in 125 countries and 900 cities. The rankings have been compiled in association with ANSYS Startup Program and are based on thousands of data points gathered since 2014, including data collected by StartupBlink's representatives in more than 70 chapters around the world. Entrepreneurs can refer the rankings to determine if a particular city has suitable business environment and resources needed to support their goals. India's 37th rank outlines that there is still much to be done in terms of ease of doing business, startup policies and easing tax compliance. Besides, Indian startup ecosystem is also yet to see major exits, which is considered as an important indicator of maturity of a startup ecosystem. In global ranking of cities, Bengaluru, New Delhi, and Mumbai are the top three Indian cities that have featured in the list. United States (US) has topped the global ranking index of countries, followed by United Kingdom (UK) and Canada. Among Asian Countries, Singapore (at 10th spot) has attained the highest ranking. Four African nations that have featured in the list are South Africa (38th), followed by Kenya (53rd), Egypt (54th) and Nigeria (57th). **Global Startup Ecosystem Ranking 2017 – Top 5:**

- United States
- United Kingdom
- Canada
- Israel
- Germany

5) Answer – C) Chennai Explanation: Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Indian Government have signed an agreement to provide a loan of 8,082 million Japanese Yen (Rs 500 crore) for installation of intelligent transport systems in Chennai. As per the agreement, the project is aimed to develop an efficient traffic system in Chennai Metropolitan area by installing Intelligent Transport Systems to reduce traffic congestion and increase economic growth. Once the project is completed, queues at main intersections in Chennai will be reduced. Official Development Assistance (ODA) is provided at an interest rate of 1.5 per cent for the project activities and 0.01 per cent for consulting service. The repayment period is 30 years. The Official Development Assistance loan agreement was signed by Ambassador of India to Japan, Sujan R Chinoy and JICA, Senior Vice-President, Junichi Yamada at the Iikura House of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo. Executing agency of the project is Chennai Smart City Ltd. The project will be executed on the existing road network in Chennai.

6) Answer – B) Mukesh Ambani Explanation: Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries, owning a fortune of \$38 billion, is Asia's third-richest man and has secured 19th rank in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index as of 2nd April 2018. In total, 24

Indians have found a place in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index top 500 list. Jeff Bezos has secured the top position globally with a net worth of \$121 billion. He is followed by Bill Gates at the second spot with a net worth of \$90.4 billion. The third position is occupied by Warren Buffett with \$85.5 billion net worth. Jack Ma, Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group, is Asia's richest person with \$47.2 billion net worth. He is followed by Pony Ma, Tencent co-founder and CEO, with \$41.1 billion net worth. Indians who feature in Bloomberg Billionaires top 100 index: Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries - 19th spot with \$38 billion net worth Lakshmi Mittal, chairman of ArcelorMittal - 54th spot with \$18.5 billion net worth Pallonji Mistry - 65th position, with \$16.8 billion net worth Azim Premji, Chairman of Wipro - 71st position with \$16.2 billion net worth Shiv Nadar, founder of HCL Technologies - 86th spot with \$14.5 billion net worth

7) Answer – B) Kerala Explanation: On 1st April 2018, Kerala defeated West Bengal and won its sixth title in the 72nd Santosh Trophy (Football) at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata, West Bengal. Kerala beat West Bengal 4-2 in the finals of the 72nd Santosh Trophy. Kerala had last won Santosh Trophy in 2005. West Bengal had won Santosh Trophy title 32 times. Both the teams were locked 2-2 after extra time. Two saves by Kerala goalkeeper Midhun V. in the penalty shootout made Kerala beat West Bengal 4-2.

8) Answer – B) Mangalore International Airport Explanation:

Mangalore International Airport has been named the cleanest airport in India. Mangalore Airport director V V Rao received the award at the 23rd annual day function of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in New Delhi on 1st April 2018. AAI conducted a survey in 53 Indian airports. Mangaluru airport was selected as the cleanest airport in India. AAI officials had inspected the airport terminal, parking area, toilets, commercial stalls, road leading to the airport and customer lounge. Cleanliness management at the Mangaluru airport is handled by Durga Facility Management Services Private Limited.

9) Answer – A) 46 Explanation: Indian Table Tennis player Sathiyam Gnansekaran has reached his career-best ranking of 46 in the latest International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) rankings. Gnansekaran performance has been on an upward trajectory since past six months as he won gold in the ITTF Challenge - Spanish Open in November 2017 and reached the pre-quarterfinals of the Qatar Open in March 2018. Veteran Table Tennis player Achanta Sharath Kamal has registered a phenomenal jump of 22 places to be at 48 in the latest ITTF Ranking. Soumyajit Ghosh (70), Harmeet Desai (74), Anthony Amalraj (83) and Sanil Shetty (84) are the other Indian Table Tennis players in top 100. Among Indian Woman Table Tennis Players,

Manika Batra continues to rank highest at 58, followed by Mouma Das at 88.

10) Answer – C) Himachal Pradesh Explanation: On March 4, 2018, Himachal Pradesh Health Minister Vipin Parmar launched Mother's Absolute Affection (MAA) programme with an aim to promote breastfeeding. Objective of MAA programme is to create awareness among masses about the importance of breastfeeding. Besides community awareness generation, other components of MAA programme are strengthening inter-personal communication through ASHA workers, skilled support for breastfeeding at delivery points in public health facilities and work places. Breastfeeding helps in reducing the incidence of infant mortality and early childhood mortality and provides complete nutrition to a child.

11) Answer – A) State Bank of India (SBI) Explanation: Jio Payments Bank Limited has commenced operations as a payments bank with effect from April 3, 2018. Jio Payments Bank is a 70:30 joint venture between Mukesh Ambani-led Reliance Industries and the State Bank of India (SBI). H. Srikrishnan, who was earlier with HDFC Bank and Yes Bank, has been appointed as MD and CEO of Jio Payments Bank. Payment Bank are special category banks, which have been approved by Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to promote financial inclusion. It undertakes restricted banking activities. Currently it is permitted to accept deposits up to Rs. 1 lakh and is not permitted to offer loans. In November 2016, Airtel Payment Bank became the first entity to commence operations as Payments Bank. Paytm Payments Bank and Fino Payments Bank commenced operations in 2017. India Post Payments Bank, which also got a license for a payment bank is yet to start its full-fledged operations in a formal way.

12) Answer – B) SoftBank Explanation: SoftBank Group Corp of Japan has planned to launch a \$930 million Indian joint solar energy venture with GCL System Integration Technology Co, a Chinese firm, as part of its India solar investment roadmap. This joint venture will work on photovoltaic technology that is used in solar panels. Technology support will be provided by GCL and SoftBank will help in obtaining land and regulatory approvals. In 2015, SoftBank said that it would invest up to \$20 billion along with Foxconn Technology and Bharti Enterprises in solar projects in India with an aim to attain a capacity up to 20 gigawatts (GW). The joint venture between SoftBank and GCL will have a capacity of 4GW. It will be implemented in two 2GW phases. SoftBank will own 60 percent of the joint venture's shares and GCL will own 40 percent. The project will be funded by SoftBank's Vision Fund.

13) Answer – B) Himanta Biswa Sarma Explanation: On 3rd April 2018, Himanta Biswa Sarma was elected

as the President of the Badminton Association of India (BAI) for the next 4 years. Himanta Biswa Sarma is a Cabinet Minister in Assam. He took charge as the interim President of BAI in 2017 following the death of former BAI president Akhilesh Das Gupta. He was elected as president of the BAI unopposed at its annual general body meeting and election in Goa on 3rd April 2018. Former Tamil Nadu Badminton Association president and Lok Sabha MP from Dharmapuri constituency, Dr. Anbumani Ramadoss was elected as the treasurer uncontested. Ajay Singhania of Haryana Badminton Association was elected as General Secretary of BAI. Maharashtra Badminton Association President, Arun Lakhani, was elected as the Senior Vice-President unopposed. Omar Rashid, Secretary of Assam Badminton Association was elected unopposed as the Secretary (events).

14) Answer – B) Burn Standard Company Limited

Explanation: Cabinet approves closure of loss making Burn Standard Company Limited - a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE). Burn Standard Company Limited is a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under Union Ministry of Railways. The decision for closure has been taken on account of poor financial performance of the company for more than 10 years, despite financial assistance and other support provided by Government. Indian Government will provide one-time grant of Rs. 417.10 crore to Burn Standard Company Limited for severance package of employees and for clearing the current liabilities.

15) Answer – A) Competition Commission of India (CCI)

Explanation: Union Cabinet has approved rightsizing the Competition Commission of India (CCI) from One Chairperson and Six Members (totalling seven) to One Chairperson and Three Members (totalling four). Presently CCI has a Chairperson and four Members. Rightsizing will be executed by not filling existing vacancies of two Members and one more additional vacancy, which is expected in September, 2018. This decision of rightsizing is in line with Governments objective of "Minimum Government - Maximum Governance".

16) Answer – C) Delhi

Explanation: On April 5, 2018, Union Civil Aviation Minister Suresh Prabhu inaugurated first flight from Delhi to Pathankot (in Punjab), at a ceremony held at the Indira Gandhi International Airport in Delhi. Pathankot airport has been opened by the Airports Authority of India (AAI) to improve regional connectivity as per the UDAN ('Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik') Scheme. It is the 21st airport in India, which has become operational for passengers. Civil Aviation Ministry launched Regional Connectivity Scheme 'UDAN' ('Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik') in October 2016. It aims at making flying a reality for common people residing in Tier-II and Tier-III towns by providing air connectivity to currently

underserved and unserved airports. This scheme is implemented by Airports Authority of India (AAI).

17) Answer – A) India **Explanation:** India has surpassed Japan and has become the world's second largest producer of crude steel in February 2018, according to Steel Users Federation of India (SUFI). China is the current largest producer of crude steel in the world. It contributes to more than 50% of steel production in the world. India's crude steel production was up 4.4% with 93.11 million tonnes (MT) from April 2017 to February 2018, compared to April 2016 to February 2017. India has surpassed Japan and has become the second largest producer of crude steel in the world. Nikunj Turakhia, president of SUFI said that, India's growth in steel production is due to the policies introduced by the government. According to the World Steel Association, India produced 8.4 MT of crude steel in February 2018, which is 3.4% more than February 2017.

18) Answer – B) Julius Maada Bio

Explanation: On 5th April 2018, Julius Maada Bio was elected the new President of Sierra Leone. On 5th April 2018, National Electoral Commission of Sierra Leone announced that Julius Maada Bio won the presidential elections with 51.8 percent votes. He belongs to the Sierra Leone People's Party (SLPP). He defeated Samura Kamara. Samura Kamara was the candidate of All People's Congress, which is the ruling party. The presidential elections were conducted on 31st March 2018. Julius Maada Bio succeeds Ernest Bai Koroma. Julius Maada Bio ruled Sierra Leone as the military head in 1996, along with former foreign affairs minister Kamara. Julius Maada Bio took oath as the new President of Sierra Leone on 5th April 2018.

19) Answer – B) Football player

Explanation: On 4th April 2018, Ray Wilkins, ex-England midfielder, passed away after suffering from a cardiac arrest, at St George's Hospital in Tooting, south-west London. Ray Wilkins was 61 years old. He had played 84 times for England from 1976 to 1986. He also served as a captain for 10 games. His nickname was "Butch." He played for teams like Manchester United, Chelsea and AC Milan. He won the FA Cup in 1983 and the Scottish league title in 1989. He ended his club career in 1997. Later, he served as a commentator on British TV and radio.

20) Answer – C)Unlocking Transparency by Third Party Assessment of Mined Coal

Explanation: On April 5, 2018, Union Minister for Railways and Coal, Piyush Goyal launched UTTAM App for Coal Quality Monitoring. Abbreviation UTTAM stands for 'Unlocking Transparency by Third Party Assessment of Mined Coal'. UTTAM App has been developed by Union Ministry of Coal and Coal India Limited (CIL) for all citizens and coal consumers to monitor the process of Third Party Sampling of coal across CIL

subsidiaries. It has been designed with an aim to make the citizens, a stakeholder in coal governance and ensure accountability, transparency, effectiveness and efficiency in coal ecosystem.

21) Answer – A) Baku, Azerbaijan Explanation:

On April 4, 2018, Union External Affairs Minister, Sushma Swaraj embarked on a three-day official visit to Azerbaijan's capital city Baku to participate in Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) Ministerial Conference. NAM Mid-Term Ministerial Conference was held in Baku on 5th and 6th April 2018. Theme of this conference was "Promoting international peace and security for sustainable development". Before the conference, on April 4, 2018, Ms. Sushma Swaraj held bilateral consultations with her Azerbaijani counterpart Elmar Mammadyarov and discussed bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest. Ms. Swaraj also called on Azerbaijan President Ilham Aliyev and First Vice-President Mehriban Aliyeva. This was the first-ever bilateral visit of an Indian External Affairs Minister to Azerbaijan.

22) Answer – B) Bijapur, Chhattisgarh Explanation:

Union Ministry of Tribal affairs has approved establishment of the first multipurpose "Van Dhan Vikas Kendra" in Bijapur District of Chhattisgarh for value addition of Forest Produce. Van Dhan Vikas Kendra will be an important part of Central Government's scheme of "Mechanism for marketing of Minor Forest Produce (MFP) through Minimum Support price (MSP) and development of Value chain for MFP". This scheme is for socio economic development of tribals living in forests, for whom, collecting Minor Forest Produce (MFP) is a major source of livelihood. The first "Van Dhan Vikas Kendra" in Bijapur District of Chhattisgarh will provide skill upgradation and capacity building training and will have primary processing and value addition facility. Initially, this Kendra will have processing facility for Tamarind brick making, Mahua flower storage facility and chironjee cleaning and packaging.

23) Answer – A) ICICI Bank Explanation: On April 6, 2018, global financial messaging cooperative, SWIFT (Society for World Interbank Financial Telecommunication System platform) announced that ICICI Bank has become its first Indian client to go live with an improved cross-border payments service. The improved cross-border payments service which is being referred to is the gpi (Global Payment Innovation) Tracker, which has been extended to cover all payment instructions sent across the SWIFT network. SWIFT's gpi tracker enables real-time payments tracking across correspondent banks and has a facility to track the payments instructions across the correspondent banks globally. At a later stage, SWIFT is also planning to add another feature that has an ability to stop and recall payment in case of a fraud or when a duplicate payment has been sent erroneously.

24) Answer – A) HCL Technologies Explanation:

HCL Technologies has acquired C3i Solutions for USD 60 million, in a move to enhance HCL's growth in life sciences and consumer services. C3i Solutions is a wholly owned, independently operated subsidiary of Merck & Co, which is known as MSD outside the US and Canada. It offers multi-channel customer engagement services for life sciences and consumer packaged goods (CPG) industries. C3i's expertise in the clinical, pharmacovigilance, and pharma sales support domains will help HCL offer more patient-centric services and enhanced services to its life sciences customers. HCL Technologies will acquire 100 % stock of Telerx Marketing that operates as C3i Solutions, through HCL's step down subsidiary - HCL America Inc.

25) Answer – B) Pakistan and China Explanation:

From 10th to 23rd April, 2018, Indian Air Force (IAF) will conduct exercise 'Gagan Shakti, 2018', its biggest ever combat exercise along Pakistan and China borders. The exercise will be conducted in day and night mode, with the enemy encompassing China border in the Northern areas and along Pakistan border in the Western areas. IAF will mobilise more than 1100 combat, transport and rotary wing (helicopter) aircraft for Exercise Gaganshakti 2018. Indigenous Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Tejas will be taking part in the exercise for the first time. Besides, Indian Navy's Maritime Combat Aircraft MiG 29s will also take part. Nearly 300 officers and more than 15000 airmen have been mobilised for this exercise. Exercise Gaganshakti 2018 will showcase Indian Air Force's (IAF's) offensive as well as defensive capabilities.

26) Answer – B) Indian Railway Explanation:

Indian Railway has inducted three '09-3X Dynamic Tamping Express machines', the state of the art integrated track maintenance machines. '09-3X- Dynamic Tamping Express' is an integrated machine that carries out multiple functions viz. measures pre & post track geometry, corrects the track to required geometry, can tamp three sleepers simultaneously, stabilize and measure post tamping track parameters under load to ensure quality of work done. So far, each of these functions were being carried out by different machines. Each new 09-3X- Dynamic Tamping Express machine costs about Rs. 27 Crore. 42 more such machines will be inducted in Indian Railway maintenance fleet over next three years. A new 3D state-of-the-art tamping simulator has been installed and commissioned at Indian Railway Track Machine Training Centre Allahabad (IRTMTC) for practical hands-on training to operate such advanced track maintenance machines. Such advanced technology simulator is presently available only in five countries including India.

27) Answer – A) Karnal, Haryana Explanation:

Central Government's 'Gobardhan Yojna', a scheme for managing and converting cattle dung and solid waste into manure and biogas, will be launched nationally from Karnal, Haryana on April 30, 2018. Word 'Gobar' in 'Gobardhan Yojna' is to be referred as abbreviation of Galvanising Organic Bio Agro Resources. This scheme was announced by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley while presenting Union Budget 2018. Under this scheme, bio-gas plants will be set up at individual or community level and also at the level of Self Help Groups and NGOs like Gaushalas. Funds required to set up bio-gas plants will be provided by central and state governments in the ratio of 60:40. Generating energy by converting cattle dung and solid agricultural waste into compost and biogas will also ensure cleanliness in villages. Government has set a target to cover nearly 700 districts under the scheme during 2018-19.

28) Answer – **A) World Bank Explanation:** On 6th April 2018, Government of India, Government of Maharashtra and the World Bank signed a US\$ 420 million project to benefit Small and Marginal farmers in the Marathwada and Vidarbha regions of Maharashtra. This project will help to increase climate resilient practices in agriculture and to make farming a profitable activity. This project will benefit more than 7 million people over an area of 3.0 million ha. It will cover 5,142 villages in the 15 most climate vulnerable districts of the region. The \$420 million loan provided by the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) has a grace period of 6 years. Its maturity period is 24 years. The Agreements for the Maharashtra Project for Climate Resilient Agriculture were signed by Sameer Kumar Khare, Joint Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, on behalf of the Indian government. Bijay Kumar, Additional Chief Secretary, Agriculture Department signed on behalf of Maharashtra government. Junaid Ahmad, Country Director, World Bank, India, signed on behalf of the World Bank. This project will be implemented in rural areas that are mainly dependent on rain-fed agriculture.

29) Answer – **A) Gross Domestic Product (GDP) Explanation:** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to use Gross Domestic Product (GDP) instead of Gross Value Added (GVA) to measure economic activity in India. Viral Acharya, deputy governor of RBI said that, this change has been done to confirm with international practice and for ease of comparison. Worldwide, the performance of economies is measured in terms of GDP. Multilateral institutions, international analysts and investors also follow this approach. GVA gives the picture of the state of economic activity from the producers' side or the supply side. GDP provides the picture from the consumers' side or the demand side. The Central Statistical Office has been employing GDP as the main tool to measure economic activity since January 2015.

30) Answer – **A) Leander Paes Explanation:** On 7th April 2018, Leander Paes won Davis Cup and secured his 43rd doubles win of his career in the competition, in Tianjin, China. India's Leander Paes and Rohan Bopanna pair defeated China's Gong Mao Xin and Zhang Ze 5-7, 7-6, 7-6 in the second round of the zonal Davis Cup tie. Leander Paes has won his 43rd Davis Cup doubles match. He has broken the 46-year-old record of Italian player Nicola Pietrangeli and become the Davis Cup's most successful doubles player.

31) Answer – **A) Arun III Explanation:** On April 7, 2018, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Nepal Prime Minister K.P. Sharma Oli met in New Delhi and held discussion to expand bilateral ties in developmental cooperation, agriculture, trade & investment, energy, connectivity & people-to-people contacts. Both the Prime Ministers jointly pushed a button to virtually lay the foundation stone of the 900 MW Arun III hydroelectric project, for which Indian Government will provide USD 1.5 billion. This project will be built by Sutlej Jal Vikas Nigam.

32) Answer – **A) Rs 3.24 billion Explanation:** On April 7, 2018, Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepal counterpart K P Sharma Oli launched the ground-breaking ceremony of Rs 3.24 billion India-Nepal petroleum products pipeline from Motihari to Amlekhgunj. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in this regard was signed in August 2015 between Indian Oil Corporation and Nepal Oil Corporation. The 69-km-long pipeline (32.7 km of pipeline in the Indian Territory and 36.2 km in Nepal territory) is the first international cross-country petroleum pipeline project in India. A 10.75-inch diameter cross-country pipeline will be laid from Motihari in Bihar to Amlekhganj in Nepal.

33) Answer – **B) Bihar Explanation:** On April 10, 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled India's first 12000 horsepower electric locomotive from Bihar's Madhepura locomotive factory. This locomotive, which is so far India's most powerful locomotive has been developed at Madhepura's Electric Locomotive Factory and is the first big Make-in-India project completed by Alstom of France. It has a hauling capacity of 6000 tonnes and can attain maximum speed of 120 km/hr. Railway officials have confirmed that it will be used to transport coal and iron ore.

34) Answer – **A) Indore, Madhya Pradesh Explanation:** Eighth 'Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific' was held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh from 10th – 12th April, 2018. 3R stands for – Reduce, Reuse and Recycle. During the course of this event, participants engaged in high-level discussions on policies, shared useful information and committed to support implementation of 3R projects in member countries. Theme of this event was 'Achieving Clean

Water, Clean Land and Clean Air through 3R and Resource Efficiency - A 21st-Century Vision for Asia-Pacific Communities'. The Eighth Regional 3R Forum in Asia and the Pacific was hosted by Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, and co-organised by Environment Ministry of Japan, and the United Nations Centre for Regional Development of the Division for Sustainable Development/United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs. 500 delegates, including 40 mayors of cities from around the world and mayors of more than 100 cities across India participated in this event. The event concluded with the signing and adoption of 'Indore 3R Declaration on Achieving Clean Water, Clean Land and Clean Air' in cities.

35) Answer – **A) Siliguri Explanation:** On April 9, 2018, India and Bangladesh signed six pacts including one for the construction of a 129.5 km-long oil pipeline between Siliguri and Parbatipur. India-Bangladesh Friendship pipeline between Siliguri (on Indian side) & Parbatipur (on Bangladesh's side) is aimed at transporting 1 million tonnes diesel per annum from India to Bangladesh. Other pacts include, an MoU on cooperation between Prasar Bharati and Bangladesh Betar, agreement between Department of Atomic Energy, India and Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission and an MoU for setting up an Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) Urdu Chair in Dhaka University. Other two MoUs were pertaining to projects for setting up language labs in 500 schools in Bangladesh and upgrade different roads in Rangpur city. All these MoUs were signed during the course of India's Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale's visit to Dhaka, Bangladesh.

36) Answer – **C) Manu Bhaker Explanation:** Indian shooter Manu Bhaker has been named the brand ambassador of Haryana's Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccination campaign. This campaign will be launched by Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal Khattar on 25th April 2017. Vaccination for around 85 lakh children aged between nine months and 15 years will be done in this campaign. This campaign will continue for 5-6 weeks. Decision regarding this was taken in a meeting of State Level Steering Committee for Measles Rubella Campaign chaired by Chief Secretary, D S Dhesi. As part of this campaign, immunisation will be done in 22,626 government and private schools, 25,771 Anganwadi centres, construction sites, brick kilns, poultry farms, other high risk zones and urban areas.

37) Answer – **B) Ban Ki-moon Explanation:** On 9th April 2018, former UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon was elected chairman of the Boao Forum for Asia. Ban Ki-moon replaces Japan's Yasuo Fukuda. His appointment took place at the annual session of the forum named the "Asian Davos". The annual session takes place between 8th and 11th April 2018. Also, former governor of the People's Bank of China Zhou

Xiaochuan was appointed vice-chairman of Boao Forum for Asia. Over 2,000 political and economic leaders, including heads of large multinational firms, take part in this annual session.

38) Answer – **C) Rishad Premji Explanation:** On 10th April 2018, Nasscom (National Association of Software and Services Companies) announced that it has appointed Rishad Premji as its chairman for 2018-19. Rishad Premji is Wipro's Chief Strategy Officer and Board member. Also, Keshav Muruges, CEO of WNS Group, has been appointed the vice chairman for 2018-19. Rishad Premji has been a member of Nasscom's Executive Council. He was the vice chairman of Nasscom for 2017-18. Rishad Premji replaces Raman Roy, Chairman and Managing Director of Quattro Global Services.

39) Answer – **C) IRNSS-II Explanation:** On April 12, 2018, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the IRNSS-II navigation satellite aboard the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)-C41. PSLV-C4 carrying IRNSS-II was launched from Satish Dhawan Space Centre located at Sriharikota in Andhra Pradesh. IRNSS-II is part of Indian satellite navigation system 'Navigation with Indian Constellation' (NavIC) that was earlier known as Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS). NavIC is an independent regional navigation satellite system designed to provide position information in the Indian region and 1500 km around the Indian mainland. It is being referred to as Indian 'GPS'. Till now, 52 Indian satellites and 237 customer satellites from abroad have been successfully launched aboard PSLV.

40) Answer – **B) 130 Explanation:** India has ranked 130th out of 180 countries on 2018 Index of Economic Freedom published by the Heritage Foundation, an American think-tank. Economic Freedom in the context of this index, refers to a free society, wherein individuals are free to work, produce, consume and invest in any way they please and governments allows free movement of labour, capital, and goods. Index of Economic Freedom is an annual index and ranking which was first created in 1995. The economic freedom is measured by assessing the countries of on 12 quantitative and qualitative factors placed under four broad categories/pillars of economic freedom viz. Rule of Law (property rights, government integrity, judicial effectiveness), Government Size (government spending, tax burden, fiscal health), Regulatory Efficiency (business freedom, labour freedom, monetary freedom) Open Markets (trade freedom, investment freedom, financial freedom). Data considered for 2018 Index of Economic Freedom covers the second half of 2016 through the first half of 2017. Highlights of 2018 Index of Economic Freedom: India's 130th rank on 2018 Index of Economic Freedom marks a jump of 13 spots as compared to 143rd rank in 2017. For 2018 edition, India's economic freedom score was 54.5, registering an

improvement of 1.9 points as compared to previous year. The year-on-year improvement has been largely attributed to business freedom, judicial effectiveness, government integrity and fiscal health. India ranked 30th among the 43 countries in the Asia-Pacific region and its overall score was below the regional and world averages. Heritage Foundation has outlined that India is perceived to be moving into an open-market economy. Despite of high economic growth, corruption, a restrictive and burdensome regulatory environment, underdeveloped infrastructure and poor financial and budget management continue to undermine overall development. Among India's prominent neighbours, China ranked 110th while Pakistan ranked 131st. Hong Kong topped the index with Economic Freedom Score of 90.2. 2018 Index of Economic Freedom – Top 10: Hong Kong Singapore New Zealand Switzerland Australia

41) Answer – **B) Madhya Pradesh Explanation:** The Board of Directors of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) have approved USD \$ 140-Million loan to improve the rural road connectivity and management for residents in Madhya Pradesh, India, at a Meeting held recently in Beijing, China. Nearly, 1.5 Million rural people of Madhya Pradesh will be benefited from improved livelihoods, education and mobility offered through this project. This project is co-financed by the World Bank. It aims to improve the rural road connectivity and management for residents of nearly 5,640 villages. Activities planned under this project are: Upgrading the gravel surfaced roads to a sealed surface standard Creating additional linkages to villages with potential for high growth Improving institutional capacity through implementing/upgrading a rural road asset management system and strengthening design and research and quality assurance capacity of the implementation agency Developing road safety management capacity with road accident data management system and piloting a comprehensive road safety program Supporting design, implementation and management AIIB Director General of Investment Operations SupeeTeravaninthorn said that this Project will ensure sustainable and safe last-mile connectivity to small villages and enhance mobility of rural Madhya Pradesh. He added that the project will improve economic development in Madhya Pradesh and enhance the livelihoods of especially rural women and girls.

42) Answer – **A) Bhanu Pratap Sharma Explanation:** On 12th April 2018, former DoPT (Department of Personnel and Training) Secretary Bhanu Pratap Sharma was appointed the Chairman of Banks Board Bureau (BBB) by the government. Bhanu Pratap Sharma succeeds Vinod Rai. Vinod Rai was appointed as the first chairman of BBB for a period of two years. Financial Services Secretary Rajiv Kumar said that, Bhanu Pratap Sharma will be given the same mandate as that of Vinod Rai. Bhanu Pratap Sharma has been appointed for a two year term. Other members of the

BBB are: Vedika Bhandarkar (former MD Credit Suisse India) P Pradeep Kumar (former MD SBI) Pradip P Shah (founder MD Crisil)

43) Answer – **C) Kathmandu, Nepal Explanation:** The first international conference on 'Water, Environment and Climate Change: Knowledge Sharing and Partnership' began in Kathmandu, Nepal on April 10, 2018. The three day – conference was inaugurated by Vice President of Nepal Nanda Bahadur Pun. The conference has been organised by Department of Water Supply and Sewerage under Government of Nepal in association with the Society of Public Health Engineers Nepal and Nepal Engineers Association. Objective of this conference is to bring together professionals, researchers, academicians, entrepreneurs, government and non-government institutions to discuss and deliberate on challenges, opportunities and strategies related to water and environmental issues. More than 100 international participants from 20 countries including India are participating in this conference.

44) Answer – **C) Project Dhoop Explanation:** On 9th April 2018, Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) launched 'Project Dhoop', an initiative to shift the school assembly time to noon to make sure maximum absorption of Vitamin D in students through natural sunlight. Project Dhoop was launched at National Bal Bhavan in New Delhi. FSSAI CEO Pawan Agarwal said that, all schools in India have been asked to conduct daily assembly between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. He said that, concerns of parents regarding noon assembly will be addressed properly. He added that taking fortified foods (with +F symbol) was a simple and inexpensive way to correct micronutrient deficiencies. This initiative has been conceptualised by McCannHealth. It is supported by Kquality (Ltd).

45) Answer – **B) Gujarat Explanation:** Gujarat is to set up India's largest 5,000MW solar park in Dholera Special Investment Region (DSIR). On 10th April 2018, Gujarat state government offered its in-principle approval to the project. It will be established on 11,000 hectares of land along the Gulf of Khambhat in the Dholera Special Investment Region (DSIR). The construction of this solar park will attract an investment of Rs 25,000 crore and provide employment for more than 20,000 people. Gujarat Power Corporation Ltd (GPCL), Gujarat Urja Vikas Nigam Ltd (GUVNL) and Gujarat Electric Transmission Corporation (GETCO) along with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) and the Central Transmission Unit (CTU) are involved in implementing the project. Gujarat state government has also planned to set up a 200MW wind park in DSIR. It would attract additional investment of Rs 1,400 crore.

46) Answer – **D) 7.3, 7.6 Explanation:** On 11th April 2018, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) stated that the Indian economy would expand by 7.3 % in fiscal

year (FY) 2018 and 7.6 % in the next fiscal year. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) said that, this growth will be facilitated by various growth-oriented policy measures. In ADB's Asian Development Outlook (ADO) 2018 report, it stated that the reduction in growth to 6.6 % in FY2017 was partially due to demonetization. Also, issues related to Goods and Services Tax (GST) disturbed operations of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and exporters. ADO stated that, in the upcoming months, growth will improve with the support of various measures like improving farmers' purchasing power, higher procurement prices, agriculture market reforms, and investments in irrigation and logistics. It said that investment revival would continue, but at a modest rate. Also, ADB projected inflation to increase up to 4.6 % in FY2018 and 5 % percent in FY2019 supported by further strengthening of global commodity prices and domestic demand. It said that improved growth in advanced economies will help exports to improve in a healthy rate. Also, imports are expected to increase due to higher commodity prices and increase in domestic demand. The current account deficit would widen to 2.2 percent of GDP in FY2018 and 2.4 percent of GDP in FY2019. It also said that, current account deficit is expected to be financed by capital flows.

47) Answer – **A) India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT)**

Explanation: On 11th April 2018, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) signed an agreement for its first international project as part of the India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT) Trilateral Highway. NHAI has signed an agreement with Punj Lloyd Ltd - Varaha Infra Ltd joint venture for upgradation of Yagyi - Kalewa section in Myanmar to Two Lane with Earthen Shoulder. India, Thailand and Myanmar are working on the 1,400 km long highway. The highway will enhance trade, business, health, education and tourism ties between the three countries. The project is funded by Ministry of External Affairs, India. It will be executed on EPC (engineering, procurement and construction) method. The estimated cost for the project is Rs 1,177 crore. Union Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari recently said that the IMT Trilateral Highway would become operational by December 2019. Work planned under the project are: 3 new major bridges, repair and strengthening of 4 existing major bridges, 2 new minor bridges, reconstruction of 6 existing minor bridges, repair and strengthening of 9 existing minor bridges, reconstruction of 226 existing culverts, 20 bus bays and passenger shelters and 1 rest area.

48) Answer – **A) Liberalised Remittance Scheme**

Explanation: On April 12, 2018, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued a notification aimed at tightening reporting norms for the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS). Under LRS, all resident Indian individuals, including minors, are allowed to freely remit abroad, up to USD 250000 per financial year for any permissible current or capital account transaction or a combination

of both. LRS scheme was introduced on February 4, 2004. At that time the limit was just USD 25000. However it was revised in a phased manner in line with prevailing macro and micro economic conditions and now stands at USD 250000 per financial year. Individuals can avail foreign exchange for this purposes within the limit of USD 250000 only, from Authorised Dealers/Banks. However, till now, Authorised Dealers/Banks permitted LRS transactions solely on the declaration made by the remitter and thus monitoring of adherence to the limit was confined to obtaining such a declaration without independent verification. With a view to improve monitoring and also to ensure adherence to LRS limits, RBI has directed Authorised Dealers (ADs)/Banks to put in place a daily reporting system listing out all transactions undertaken by individuals under LRS. These reports will be accessible to all the other ADs.

49) Answer – **A) Rs 300 billion** **Explanation:** The government has raised the authorised capital of NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) by 6 times to Rs 300 billion, aimed to increase its lending to the rural economy, as a part of the initiative to double farmers' income by 2022. A notification regarding this was released by the Finance Ministry on 10th April 2018. A bill in this regard was approved by Parliament at the start of this year. The increased authorised capital will enable NABARD to perform the commitments it has undertaken, especially with respect to Long Term Irrigation Fund and on-lending to cooperative banks. Also, it will help NABARD to expand its business and activities, resulting in promotion of integrated rural development, prosperity of rural areas and generation of more employment.

50) Answer – **A) Sampanna Ramesh Shelar**

Explanation: Sampanna Ramesh Shelar, a 17-year-old swimmer from Pune has set a world record to double cross the Bangla Channel. Water stretch from Saint Martin's Island Jetty to Teknaf in Bangladesh is known as the Bangla Channel. Sampanna Ramesh Shelar has become the first person to double cross (swim to and fro) the Bangla Channel. Sampanna Ramesh Shelar accomplished this feat on April 13, 2018 by completing the journey of 32.2 kilometers in 9 hours and 10 minutes.

51) Answer – **A) 7.3, 7.5** **Explanation:** As per World

Bank's bi-annual South Asia Economic Focus report released on April 15, 2018, Indian economy has recovered from the adverse impacts of demonetisation (in November 2016) and roll out of Goods and Services Tax (in July 2017). Owing to recovery from above stated events, Indian economy is projected to grow by 7.3% in 2018 and 7.5% in 2019. Indian recovery will again make South Asia region, the world's fastest growing region. South Asian region as a whole is projected to grow at 6.9% in 2018 and 7.1% in 2019.

However, the report cautioned that despite growth, India was not creating enough jobs. As per the report, India must create 8.1 million jobs a year to maintain its employment rate.

52) Answer – **B)Fengyun-II 09 Explanation:** On 16th April 2018, China authorities said that, China will launch Fengyun-II 09 satellite, a new meteorological satellite, in 2018 to enhance its weather forecasting capabilities. The Fengyun-II 09 satellite is the last in the Fengyun-II series. It will collect meteorological, maritime, and hydrological data to help weather forecast in China and neighbouring regions. The satellite will be launched from Xichang Satellite Launch Centre in Sichuan Province of China. The Fengyun satellites are a series of remote-sensing meteorological satellites developed by China. Fengyun-I and Fengyun-III are polar orbiting weather satellites. Fengyun-II and Fengyun-IV function in geostationary orbit.

53) Answer – **B)Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) Explanation:** A MoU was signed between the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM), India, and the Groupement des Industries Françaises Aéronautiques et Spatiales (GIFAS), France, to promote a sustainable framework for present and future partnerships and cooperative actions between the French aerospace industry and the Indian defence industry. The MoU was signed during a major industrial mission in India in the aerospace and defence sector, which was organised by GIFAS with the support of SIDM from 16th April to 19th April 2018. The MoU was signed by Pierre Bourlot, managing director of GIFAS and Lt Gen Subrata Saha, director general of SIDM. This agreement will work on expanding trade, through better economic and industrial cooperation between France and India and towards export customers. It will enable implementation of various measures to promote a mutually beneficial cooperation in aerospace and defence manufacturing, research and technology, human capital, engineering services, systems integration. The cooperation will focus on five axes of common interest. They are: • The development of business opportunities between members of GIFAS and SIDM • Training and human capital development • Research and technology • Aerospace Industry Policy and Business Environment • International Trade Issues

54) Answer – **A)Bhaktapur, Nepal Explanation:** Bisket Jatra celebration began in Bhaktapur, Nepal on April 14, 2018. Bisket Jatra is a nine-day festival, celebrated annually to welcome the spring and the Nepalese New Year. The Jatra begins four days before the start of new year. It is believed that the festival started during Malla dynasty, that ruled Kathmandu from 1201–1769 AD. As a part of celebration, people of upper and lower part of Bhaktapur engage in a tug of

war to pull a three-storey chariot of Lord Bhairavanath on their side. This is the main attraction of Bisket Jatra.

55) Answer – **B)Share the Dream Explanation: Motto:**The official motto for the 2018 Commonwealth Games was “Share the Dream”. It was chosen to highlight the dreams and experience at the games that were shared by participants of the games, ranging from athletes to volunteers and the host country Australia to the world including the Commonwealth nations. **Emblem:**The emblem of the 2018 Commonwealth Games was a silhouette of the skyline and landscape of Gold Coast, the host city of the games. **Mascot:** Borobi was named as the mascot of the 2018 Commonwealth Games in 2016. Borobi is a blue koala, with indigenous markings on its body. The term “borobi” means koala in the Yugambeh language, spoken by the indigenous Yugambeh people of the Gold Coast and surrounding areas.

56) Answer – **A)Kendrick Lamar**

57) Answer – **B)Yuki Bhambri Explanation:** On 16th April 2018, Yuki Bhambri entered into the top-100 ATP men’s singles ranking with a rank of rank 83, for the first time since February 2016. Yuki Bhambri has improved 22 places and has reached rank 83, which is considered his career best. This is the best rank an Indian has obtained in ATP singles ranking, after Somdev Devvarman reached rank 62 in 2011. Ramkumar Ramanathan has reached his career-best rank of 116. He was Yuki Bhambri’s Davis cup teammate. Sumit Nagal has been ranked 215. He is followed by Prajnesh Gunneswaran at 266 and Arjun Kadhe at 394. Divij Sharan has improved to rank 41. Leander Paes has secured 49th position. Rohan Bopanna is at rank 19. Ankita Raina has secured 194th rank. Karman Kaur Thandi is at 268th rank. Sania Mirza remains at 24th rank in the women’s ranking.

58) Answer – **B)DARPAN-PLI Explanation:** On April 17, 2018, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Communications, Manoj Sinha launched DARPAN-PLI App, which will help in collection of premium for Postal Life Insurance (PLI) and Rural Postal Life Insurance (RPLI) policies at Branch Post Offices anywhere in India. In context of this news, DARPAN refers to DIGITAL ADVANCEMENT OF RURAL POST OFFICE FOR A NEW INDIA (DARPAN) Project, a project launched by Department of Posts as a part of its IT Modernisation plan, aimed at connecting all 1.29 lakh Rural Branch Post Offices in the country, to enable them to do online Postal and Financial Transactions. The DARPAN-PLI App will not only help in collection of premium for PLI and RPLI policies at Branch Post Offices, but will also enable indexing of maturity claims in respect of PLI and RPLI policies at Branch Post Office itself. This app is a part of Department of Posts endeavour to go digital which will help in providing better

59) Answer – **D)6 Explanation:** On April 16, 2018, India won six elections to UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) bodies. By winning these elections, India won places on the executive boards of four UN bodies, three commissions and a committee. In election for the Non-Governmental Organisations (NGO) Committee, within the Asia-Pacific group, India got the highest number of votes (46). The NGO committee scrutinises the NGOs applying for consultative status with ECOSOC. It is an important body as it has the power to recommend or block them. India will serve a four-year term on this committee starting January 2019. Through another single election, India made its way to the executive boards of the UN Development Programme (UNDP), the UN Population Fund (UNFPA) and the UN Office for Project Services (UNOPS) for a three-year terms from January 2019.

60) Answer – **D)State Bank of India Explanation:** On April 16, 2018, market capitalisation of Kotak Mahindra Bank, for the first time surpassed that of State Bank of India. Market value of a company's outstanding shares is referred to as market capitalisation (m-cap). It is calculated by multiplying the current market value of company's share with total outstanding shares. At the end of the trading day on April 16, 2018, Kotak Mahindra Bank's market capitalisation rose to Rs 2.23 lakh crore compared with SBI's market cap of Rs 2.22 lakh crore. On account of this surge, Kotak Mahindra Bank has become the second-most valuable bank in India after HDFC Bank. Among all Indian banks, HDFC Bank has the highest market capitalisation of Rs 5.03 lakh crore.

61) Answer – **B)Barbara Bush Explanation:** On 17th April 2018, Barbara Bush, the Former First Lady of the United States, passed away due to ill health at her home in Houston, United States. Barbara Bush was 92 years old. She had been suffering from chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and congestive heart failure in the past few years. She was the wife of former US President George Herbert Walker Bush, and the mother of George Walker Bush, who is also a former US President. She was the First Lady of the United States from 1989 to 1993. She was the Second Lady of the United States from 1981 to 1989. She had worked towards attaining universal literacy. She founded the Barbara Bush Foundation for Family Literacy.

62) Answer - **2.Heritage for Generations Explanation:** On 18th April 2018, World Heritage Day also known as International Day For Monuments and Sites was celebrated all over the world. World Heritage Day, also known as the International Day for Monuments and Sites, is celebrated every year on 18th April since 1982. The International Day for Monuments and Sites was proposed by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) on 18th April 1982. It was approved by the General Assembly of UNESCO in

1983. This day is celebrated to create awareness on the cultural heritage of humanity, their vulnerability and efforts needed to protect and conserve them. India has 36 world heritage sites approved by the UNESCO. This is the sixth highest in the world. Italy has the most number of heritage sites in the world with 53 sites. It is followed by China with 52 sites. Theme for World Heritage Day 2018: Heritage for Generations.

63) Answer – **B)2019 Explanation:** On 16th April 2018, the Union Rural Development Ministry said that, the government has advanced the target year for completion of phase one of rural road scheme PMGSY (Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana) to 2019 from 2022. The Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojana (PMGSY) was launched in 2000. It has provided connectivity to 1.52 lakh habitations (85.37 % out of the total 1.78 lakh eligible habitations). The Union Rural Development Ministry said that due to the need and urgency of rural roads for national development the target date for completion of PMGSY-I has been preponed from 2022 to 2019. To meet this target, the government has sanctioned the order for construction of roads to connect 1.66 lakh habitations (which is 93 % out of the target of 1.78 lakh eligible habitations). Less than 1 % of the eligible habitations remain to be sanctioned for new connectivity. Through this programme, over 5.50 lakh km of roads have been constructed.

64) Answer - **D.Gujarat Explanation:** On 16th April 2018, Gujarat Chief Minister Vijay Rupani launched 'Pocket Cop' project to improve crime detection rate in the state, in Gandhinagar, Gujarat. Under the Pocket Cop project, smartphones having data of people with a criminal background will be given to 4,900 police personnel. The personnel include investigating officers, in-charges of police stations, those placed in PCR (Police Control Room) vans and working in passport verification. Some police personnel were handed the smartphones at the event held in Gandhinagar. The smartphone will contain four different applications for passport verification, tracing criminals, finding missing persons and for stolen vehicles. A trial was launched in Gandhinagar and Ahmedabad districts earlier. After its success it has been launched for the whole state now. Vijay Rupani said that, all districts of Gujarat will be soon brought under CCTV surveillance for better crime detection.

65) Answer – **C)Assam Explanation:** On 18th April 2018, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu launched 'Atal Amrit Abhiyan', a health scheme of Assam government that provides free medical care of up to Rs 2 lakh for every person from Below Poverty Line (BPL) and Above Poverty Line (APL) families. Atal Amrit Abhiyan will cover 92 % of the Assam's population with annual income below Rs 5 lakh. Assam state government has allocated Rs 400 crore for the scheme in the financial year 2018-19. The scheme has been

named after former Indian prime minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee. Venkaiah Naidu said that, the National Family Health Survey-IV has poor infrastructure due to shortage of manpower, especially doctors.

66) Answer – **B)10 Explanation:** India was ranked 10th on a new Commonwealth Innovation Index. First three rankers are UK, Singapore and Canada. The index was launched as part of a new Commonwealth Innovation Hub on the sidelines of the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in partnership with the United Nations World Intellectual Property Organisation (WIPO) and its annual Global Innovation Index (GII). The sixty percent of Commonwealth 2018 participants were under 30 with a lot of talent and innovation and with this new digital platform. The Global Innovation Fund (GIF) will work as the delivery partner to host a new Commonwealth Innovation Fund (CIF). The GIF will manage the fund and its investments, which will be targeted at innovative projects across Commonwealth countries that "save and improve lives". The target size of the new fund, with financial commitments from member-countries, is expected to be 25 million pounds of initial funds to prove the new model.

67) Answer – **A)Kamao Explanation:** AU Small Finance Bank has decided to improve its business through crowd-sourcing, involving not only employees but also customers and non-customers using the mobile app named 'Kamao' (earn). AU Small Finance Bank has planned to encourage stakeholders to refer prospective customers, who want to open deposit accounts or get loans, on the app and win rewards. The app is currently undergoing beta (field) testing. If an employee, customer or non-customer give leads (prospective customer's name, contact details, and banking requirements) they will be rewarded. The sales team will work on the lead, and if it converts into business, the person who referred the prospective customer, will get a reward. The status of the lead given will be updated in the app. In case of employees, the bonus is linked to generation of leads. The app will be launched in six months.

68) Answer – **B)5 Explanation:** Indian Badminton player Kidambi Srikanth has lost his World No. 1 rank and has dropped four places to fifth in latest men's singles rankings released by the Badminton World Federation (BWF) on April 19, 2018. BWF system considers the 10 best results in the past 52 weeks. Drop in Srikanth's rank was due to Singapore Open Superseries (April 2017) points being removed from his total in accordance with the 52 week rule. Srikanth reached the finals of Singapore Open Superseries and had got a whopping 7800 points for the same. India's B Sai Praneeth, the winner of Singapore Open Superseries too dropped down by four spots to 19th due to the same reason. India's HS Prannoy, who did not participate at the Singapore Open in 2017, rose to 10th in the current

world rankings. Sameer Verma (31st) and Parupalli Kashyap (37th) are the other Indians who featured in top 50 of men's singles ranking. Denmark's Viktor Axelsen has reclaimed the No. 1 spot in men's singles ranking. In women's singles ranking, India's PV Sindhu and Saina Nehwal retained their positions at third and the 12th rank respectively. Japan's Akane Yamaguchi has dethroned Taiwan's Tai Tzu Ying to become the new World No. 1 in women's singles ranking.

69) Answer – **A)Daniel Ricciardo Explanation:** Red Bull's Daniel Ricciardo celebrated his 6th career win after he won 2018 Chinese Grand Prix. Defending world champion Lewis Hamilton crossed the line fifth behind Verstappen but was promoted to fourth after the Dutchman's penalty was applied. Top three in 2018 Chinese Grand Prix are 1. Daniel Ricciardo - Red Bull 2 Valtteri Bottas - Mercedes 3 Kimi Raikkonen – Ferrari

70) Answer – **B) Ahmedabad, Gujarat Explanation:** On 19th April 2018, the 2-day Regional Conference on "Urban Development: Technological Solutions and Governance Challenges" began in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. The Conference is a lead-up event to the 3rd Annual Meeting of AIIB that would be held on 25th and 26th June 2018 in Mumbai.

71) Answer – **A) USD 5 million Explanation:** India is among four countries to pool into the USD 5 million 'Commonwealth Small States Trade Finance Facility' which will enable small states to obtain easier access to international trade finance to diversify their economies and achieve the sustainable development goals. The fund was announced at the 25th Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) in London, UK.

72) Answer – **D) Washington D.C, United states Explanation:** On 19th April 2018, the first meeting of the BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors was held in the sidelines of the IMF/World Bank Spring Meetings in Washington D.C., United States. Subhash Chandra Garg, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs (EA) represented Ministry of Finance, India, in the meeting.

73) Answer – **C) 6th Explanation:** India has been declared as the 6th largest economy in the world with a GDP of 2.6 trillion in 2017, according to the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (WEO) for April 2018. India has replaced France on the 6th position. United States of America, China, Japan, Germany, and the United Kingdom are ahead of India in the ranking. **India has improved from 6.7 % in 2017 to 7.8 % in 2018.**

74) Answer – **D)None of these Explanation:** On 17th April 2018, **Federation of Indian Chambers of**

Commerce and Industry (FICCI) informed that, it has appointed **Dilip Chenoy** as its new **Secretary General**. Dilip Chenoy replaces Sanjaya Baru as the Secretary General of FICCI. Sanjaya Baru had decided to step down from his position.

75) Answer – **B) Indian Animation Expert Explanation:** On 17th April 2018, Indian animation expert Bhimsain Khurana passed away at a hospital in Mumbai while undergoing dialysis. Bhimsain Khurana was 82 years old. His first animation short film was “The Climb”. He won the Silver Hugo Award in the Chicago Film Festival for that movie.

76) Answer – **A) e-Vidhan Explanation:** On April 20, 2018, Union Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs, Statistics and Programme Implementation, Vijay Goel inaugurated the new office of Central Project Monitoring Unit for the e-Vidhan project of the Government at the Parliament House Annexe. e-Vidhan, a part of Central Government’s Digital India Programme, is a mission mode project to digitize and make the functioning of State Legislatures in India paperless.

77) Answer – **D) Viral hepatitis Explanation:** Shri. Jagat Prakash Nadda, Union health minister has decided to roll out 'Integrated initiative for prevention & control of viral hepatitis' with a budget of Rs 517.39 crore for three year. This initiative for prevention and control of viral hepatitis has roll out under National Health Mission (NHM). This initiative addresses with the various aspects such as surveillance, awareness generation, immunization, safe blood, and injection safety infection control, diagnosis of viral hepatitis, capacity building, research and monitoring to combat the disease.

78) Answer – **A) Shrimant Jha Explanation:** On April 2018, Differently-abled Indian arm wrestler Shrimant Jha won a bronze medal at the Asian Armwrestling Championship, which is being held from April 16 to April 22 in Kazakhstan. The 25-year-old, resident of Naxal-hit Chhattisgarh finished behind Tajikistan's Firuz and Magolia's Munkhbold to settle for the bronze in the 80kg senior category.

79) Answer – **C) 7.4 % Explanation:** Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Urjit Patel has stated that India’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to grow at 7.4% in 2018-19. Mr. Patel gave this statement while addressing the International Monetary Finance Committee in Washington D.C, US on April 21, 2018. He stated that global demand has been improving, which should encourage exports and boost fresh investments in 2018-19. According to Mr. Urjit Patel, Gross fiscal deficit (GFD) of the Central Government is budgeted at 3.3 per cent in 2018-19. He outlined that although GDP growth in 2017-18 moderated to 6.6 percent as compared to 7.1 percent in 2016-17, there

was a strong rebound in the second half of 2017-18 on the back of a turnaround in investment demand.

80) Answer – **B) Shooting Explanation:** On April 19 2018, Indian Olympics Association President Narinder Batra calls for boycotting the 2022 Commonwealth Games over the absence of shooting from the event's roster are going a "bit too extreme". The Birmingham Organising Committee has decided to exclude shooting from the 2022 Games. National Rifle Association of India (NRAI) president Raninder Singh had called for the 2022 Games' boycott if shooting was not reinstated at the next CWG. In the recent Gold Coast Common Wealth Games, India has bagged 16 medals includes seven gold Medals. Shooting has been played in every edition since Kingston 1966, except once in Edinburgh in 1970 at CWG.

81) Answer – **B) Diu Smart City Explanation:** Diu Smart City has become the first city in India to function on 100% renewable energy during daytime. Diu was importing 73% of its power from Gujarat until 2017. Diu has now adopted a two-pronged approach. According to that, a 9 MW solar park has been set up in 50 hectares and solar panels have been installed on the roof tops on 79 government buildings accounting to 1.3 MW power generation annually. In a move to further increase the solar capacity, Diu provides a subsidy of Rs 10,000-50,000 for its residents to install 1-5KW roof top solar panels. Diu is saving nearly 13,000 tonnes of carbon emissions annually. Due to low-cost solar energy, power tariffs have been reduced in residential category by 10% in 2017 and 15% in 2018.

82) Answer – **B) Taniya Sanyal Explanation:** Taniya Sanyal from Kolkata has become the first woman firefighter appointed by Airports Authority of India (AAI). Taniya Sanyal, who has done masters in Botany, has been appointed for AAI’s eastern region airports. Post completion of training at Kolkata firefighting centre, she may be posted at any of the eastern region airports that include Kolkata, Patna, Bhubaneswar, Raipur, Gaya and Ranchi. As having fire service is a mandatory condition for planes to land anywhere, AAI currently has 3310 fire fighters posted at different airports across India. Physical standards for selection of male firefighters is minimum height of about 1.6 metres and minimum weight of 50 kg. In order to recruit women, AAI relaxed these physical standards norm. However, the work description for male as well as female firefighters remains the same.

83) Answer - **1.USD 13 billion Explanation:** On 21st April 2018, the World Bank Group approved USD 13 billion increase in paid-in capital, as part of a series of internal reforms. The package approved by the Development Committee of the Board of Governors consists of USD 7.5 billion paid-in capital for International Bank for Reconstruction and

Development (IBRD) and USD 5.5 billion paid-in capital for International Finance Commission (IFC), through both general and selective capital increases. It also includes a USD 52.6 billion callable capital increase for the IBRD. The boost in capital will be supported by various internal measures like operational changes and effectiveness reforms, loan pricing measures, and other policy steps. Following this decision, the combined financing arms of the World Bank Group are expected to reach an average annual capacity of nearly USD 100 billion between fiscal 2019 and fiscal 2030.

84) Answer – **B) 24 Explanation:** Richest Indian, Mukesh Ambani and human rights lawyer Indira Jaising have featured in Fortune magazine's 2018 ranking of the 50 Greatest Leaders. Mukesh Ambani has ranked 24th on the list. Launch of Reliance Jio ushered in a new era of affordable mobile data for the Indian masses. This phenomenon, referred to as 'Jiofication' radically altered the telecom industry landscape, as older operators were compelled to reduce prices. Indira Jaising, the lawyer who has dedicated her life to battling injustice ranked at 20th. Ms Jaising has fought on behalf of victims of 1984 Bhopal Gas disaster and has played instrumental role in drafting India's first domestic violence law. Architect Balkrishna Doshi (43rd rank) is another Indian who has made it to the list along with Mukesh Ambani and Indira Jaising.

85) Answer – **B) Madhya Pradesh Explanation:** On April 24, 2018, on the occasion of National Panchayati Raj Day, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Madhya Pradesh's Mandla district and launched the Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan at Ram Nagar. Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA) is aimed at helping Panchayati Raj Institutions (PRIs) to develop governance capabilities to deliver on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through inclusive local governance with focus on optimum utilisation of available resources. The programme seeks to identify and plug critical gaps that hinder the success of panchayats and also envisages stepping up initiatives for e-governance under the e-Panchayat Mission Mode Project. At Ram Nagar, PM Modi first inaugurated Aadi Mahotsava, a three-day program on the conservation of ancient Tribal culture and heritage. Later, he unveiled a road map for overall development of tribals during the next five years. The roadmap includes utilisation of Rs. 2 lakh crore funds for development of areas under tribal panchayats. During the course of this visit, PM Modi also unveiled a plaque to mark the laying of foundation stone of an LPG bottling plant of Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) at Maneri.

86) Answer – **B) Nagaland Explanation:** On 24th April 2018, an official announcement stated that, foreign tourists, except those from Pakistan, China and Afghanistan, will now be allowed to visit Nagaland,

Mizoram and Manipur. The Home Ministry has decided to relax the Protected Area Permit (PAP) regime from Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur for five years with effect from 1st April 2018. As per the Foreigners (Protected Areas) Order, 1958, all areas falling between the Inner line and the International Border of some states were declared as protected areas. Currently, the protected areas include whole of Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland and Sikkim, parts of Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Jammu and Kashmir. Still Citizens from Pakistan, China and Afghanistan are banned from all PAP areas, including Nagaland, Mizoram and Manipur. According to a circular released on 30th December 2010 by the government, Manipur, Mizoram and Nagaland were excluded from the protected area regime initially for a period of one year from 1st January 2011, subject to certain conditions. According to the guidelines, a foreign national is not normally allowed to visit a protected or restricted area. He/She will be allowed only if the government is satisfied that there are extraordinary reasons to justify his or her visit. Every foreigner, except a citizen of Bhutan, who wishes to enter a protected or restricted area, should obtain a special permit from an authority having the power to issue such permits.

87) Answer – **C) 12 Explanation:** 8th South Asian Judo Championship was held in Lalitpur near Kathmandu, Nepal from 21st- 23rd April, 2018. Total 102 players from six countries – India, Nepal, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka and Bhutan – competed in this Championship. The 13-player Indian contingent won 10 golds and three bronze medals in individual categories. All seven Indian women Judokas who competed won gold medals: Likmabam Shushila Devi (48kg), Thoudam Kalpana Devi (52Kg), Angom Anita Chanu (57Kg), Huidrom Sunibala Devi (63Kg), Garima Chaudhary (70Kg), Chongtham Jina Devi (78Kg) and Tulika Maan (78kg). Among Indian men Judokas, Vijay Kumar Yadav (60Kg), Ajay Yadav (73Kg) and Divesh (81Kg) won Gold while Ankit Bisht (66kg), Jobandeep Singh (90kg) and Udayvir Singh (100kg) bagged the bronze medals. Besides, India also clinched the title of team champion in men's team category and women's team category and thereby topped the Medals tally with a total of 12 Gold medals and three Bronze medals. 9th South Asian Judo Championship will be held in Bangladesh in 2020.

88) Answer – **D) Meghalaya Explanation:** The Meghalaya government has launched 'Mission Lakadong' to achieve a five-fold increase in the production of Lakadong turmeric, an organic variety of turmeric grown in Meghalaya, to at least 50,000 metric tonne per year in the next 5 years. On 24th April 2018, Meghalaya governor Ganga Prasad launched 'Mission Lakadong'. This mission will be implemented by the directorate of horticulture, the Community and Rural Development department, the Forest department, the

North Eastern Hill University and the Meghalaya Institute of Entrepreneurship under the direct supervision of the Governor's secretariat. Objective of 'Mission Lakadong' is to improve the livelihood and income of farmers involved in Lakadong turmeric cultivation. The mission also aims to more than double the crop area from the current 2,577 hectare to 6,070 hectare over the next 5 years. Jaintia Hills District is home to Lakadong turmeric. Lakadong turmeric has the highest curcumin content, as per a study by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research. The productivity of Lakadong turmeric will also be improved from 6 MT per hectare to 8 MT per hectare area with the introduction of the advanced technologies of plant propagation and post harvest technology induction.

89) Answer – **A) Kerala Explanation:** A two-day coastal security exercise 'Sagar Kavach' began on April 24, 2018 along Kerala shores. Exercise 'Sagar Kavach' is being conducted to strengthen and assess the loopholes in the coastal security mechanism along Kerala shores. Along with Coastal Police and Marine Enforcement wing, Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy is also participating in Exercise 'Sagar Kavach'. 10 ships of Indian Coast Guard, three ships of Indian navy, four fishing boats, and 20 coastal police stations from Vizhinjam to Kasaragod are among those taking part in this exercise. It is to be noted that Exercise 'Sagar Kavach' is held twice a year.

90) Answer – **A) \$125 million Explanation:** On April 24, 2018, India signed a loan agreement with World Bank for IBRD credit of \$125 million for the "Innovate in India for Inclusiveness Project". International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) is a member institution of World Bank Group. Objective of "Innovate in India for Inclusiveness Project" is to encourage indigenous innovation, facilitate local product development and accelerate commercialization process in the sphere of affordable and innovative healthcare products. The project would support public, private and the academic institutions to overcome the key market failures by bridging critical skill and infrastructure gaps and thereby nurture an innovative biopharmaceutical and medical devices industry in India. Term of IBRD \$125 million credit will be 19 years with a grace period of 5 years.

91) Answer – **B) Jeremy Lalrinnunga Explanation:** India's Jeremy Lalrinnunga (56 kg) won a silver and a bronze medal and broke two national records at the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championship at Urgench, Uzbekistan. Jeremy Lalrinnunga gave his best total of 250 kg and won the silver in youth section and a bronze medal in the junior section. He is 15 years old. He made national records in youth boys and junior men

with 250 kg lift. India's Sidhant Gogoi won a bronze medal with a lift of 243 kg in youth boys section. Jhilli Dalabehera (48 kg) won silver medal in junior women after lifting 166 kg (73+93), Sneha Soren (48 kg) lifted 145 kg (63+82) and won bronze medal in Youth Girls. Jacob Vanlalthuanga won a bronze medal in the 62kg youth boys with a total lift of 239 kg (108 kg (Silver medal) in Snatch + 131 kg in Clean and Jerk).

92) Answer – **B) Uttar Pradesh Explanation:** While releasing the commemorative postage stamp, PM Modi mentioned about Mr. Bahuguna's contributions in the education sector and development in the hilly areas of India. Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna was the 9th Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh. He held office from November 8, 1973 to November 29, 1975.

93) Answer – **C) 138 Explanation:** India's 138th rank in the 2018 'World Press Freedom Index' marks a drop of two places as compared to 136th rank in 2017. Killing of journalist-activist Gauri Lankesh, who was shot down outside her house in Bengaluru in September 2017 has been cited as the main reason behind India's low ranking on the index. Besides, hate crime has been identified as another issue plaguing India. Among world's major powers, Russia retained its position at 148th rank while US slipped to 45th as compared to 43rd rank in 2017. China too retained its spot at 176th. Among India's neighbouring countries, Bhutan (94th), Nepal (106th) and Sri Lanka (131st) rank ahead of India. Myanmar, Pakistan and Bangladesh rank 137th, 139th and 146th respectively. Norway topped the index for second consecutive year, while North Korea at 180th spot remained the most repressive country. **2018 'World Press Freedom Index' – Top 3 Countries: Rank - Country 1st - Norway 2nd - Sweden 3rd – Netherlands**

94) Answer – **B) Indu Malhotra Explanation:** Indu Malhotra will be the first woman judge to be appointed as Supreme Court judge directly from the bar. She is 61 years old. She will be the seventh woman to become a Supreme Court judge. Previously, Justices M. Fathima Beevi, Sujata Manohar, Ruma Pal, Ranjana Desai, Gyan Sudha Misra and R. Banumathi, held the post of Supreme Court judge.

95) Answer – **C) Manipur Explanation:** The festival commemorates the significance of Manipur's state flower, the Shirui Lily. *Lilium Mackliniae* Sealy (locally known as Shirui Lily or Kashongwon) was discovered in 1946 by Frank Kingdom Ward, a botanist from United Kingdom. This flower is found only in Manipur's Shirui Kashong Peak. Shirui Lily Festival 2018 is the second edition of this festival. It is sponsored by the Manipur State Department of Tourism

to spread awareness about conservation of the endangered Shirui Lily and promote the district of Ukhrul as a tourist destination in Manipur. Traditional dances, indigenous games and sports competitions like the Shirui Lily Grand Prix and cultural performances by various cultural troupes from across the state will be the key attractions of this five-day festival.

96) Answer – C) Macquarie Explanation: The agreement has been signed with Macquarie for the first set of highway projects worth USD 1.5 billion. This is one of the highest FDI (Foreign Direct Investment) in highways. Macquarie had won the first set of 9 highway projects under toll-operate-transfer (TOT) model last month. This will bring Rs 10,500 crore cash to NHAI's account under the first tranche of monetisation initiative. NHAI's expectations was Rs 6,258 crore and the winning bid was for Rs 9,681.5 crore. The total funds that will accumulate in government account will be Rs 10,500 crore.

97) Answer – B) Sitanshu Yashaschandra Explanation: The selection for this award is done by a high level named 'Chayan Parishad' (selection committee). It is presided by former secretary general of Lok Sabha, Subhash C Kashyap. This award was instituted in 1991. It recognises outstanding literary work every year written in any Indian language and published in the last 10 years. The 'Vakhar' (poetry) by Sitanshu Yashaschandra was published in 2009. Sitanshu Yashaschandra was born in 1941 in Bhuj. He has written 10 books of plays and three books of criticism. He has received Sahitya Akademi Award, Kabir Samman and Padma Shri etc. The Saraswati Samman award carries a cash prize of Rs 15 lakhs, a citation and a plaque.

98) Answer – B) Pawan Kumar Chamling Explanation: Jyoti Basu was Chief Minister of West Bengal for 23 years from 21st June 1977 till 6th November 2000. Pawan Kumar Chamling became Chief Minister of Sikkim on 12th December 1994. He completed his 24th year as Sikkim Chief Minister on 29th April 2018. He entered politics in 1973. He became a member of the Legislative Assembly in 1985. He founded Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF) in 1993. He formed the state government in 1994. He is also a poet with pen name 'Kiran'. He received Bhanu Puraskar award in 2010.

99) Answer – B) Sanjeev Nautiyal Explanation: Padmaja Chunduru, who was in charge of digital banking and new businesses will now be in charge of

SBI's global treasury operations while C Venkat Nageswar, who was in charge of global treasury operations will be the new MD & CEO of SBI Capital Markets. PN Prasad, who was heading mid corporate group will be the chief risk officer while DA Tambe will be the new chief information officer. Among other important reassignments, Arijit Basu, who was earlier heading SBI Life, will now head corporate accounts group while Sanjeev Nautiyal has been appointed as CEO of SBI Life.

100) Answer – B) Russia Explanation: This multi nation exercise will be conducted under the framework of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO). The exercise has been named 'Peace Mission 2018' and almost all SCO member countries including China will be a part of this exercise. Objective of conducting 'Peace Mission 2018' is to enhance counter-terror cooperation among the eight SCO member countries. India's participation in this military drill was confirmed by Union Defence Minister Nirmala Sitharaman during the recent SCO Defence Ministers' meeting in Beijing, China.

