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Q. The ‘Malala Yousafzai Scholarship Act’ has been passed by which country for the welfare of Pakistani-diaspora female?

A) Russia  
B) Pakistan  
C) India  
D) USA

Answer : D

- U.S. Congress passes ‘Malala Yousafzai Scholarship Act’ for Pakistani women
- The bill requires the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to award at least 50% of scholarships under a Pakistan-based higher education scholarship programme to Pakistani women, from 2020 to 2022, across a range of academic disciplines and in accordance with existing eligibility criteria.

MALALA IN NEWS & FACTS

- "Malala Day" was conferred on 12th July 2013, the 16th birthday of Malala
- Malala Yousufzai from Pakistan
- Malala Yousafzai and Kailash Satyarthi win the 2014 Nobel Peace Prize
- Malala Yousafzai Youngest Nobel Prize winner (Age 17)
UN declares Malala Yousafzai as the most famous teenager of the decade
Malala yousafzai Pens Book
  ❖ “We Are Displaced”
  ❖ 'I Am Malala' autobiography
  ❖ 'Malala's Magic Pencil'
The film 'Gul Makai', based on the life of Malala Yusufzai
  ❖ Film Director : Amjad Khan

Q. Indian Army has inked a contract with which company to procure 12 Fast Patrol Boats for surveillance and patrolling in Pangong Tso lake in Ladakh?

A) Goa Shipyard Limited
B) Cochin Shipyard Limited
C) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
D) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited

Answer : A
  ➢ Indian Army inks pact with Goa Shipyard to get 12 fast patrol boats for Pangong Tso lake in Ladakh

GOA SHIPYARD LIMITED IN NEWS

• Indian Army inks pact with Goa Shipyard to get 12 fast patrol boats
• Indian Coast Guard’s OPV ‘Sujeet’ commissioned in Goa Shipyard Limited
• Raksha Mantri commissions ICGS “Sachet” & two interceptor boats : designed & built indigenously by Goa Shipyard Limited
• Indian Coast Guard Launches Offshore Patrol Vessel ICGS ‘Sarthak’, built by Goa Shipyard Limited
Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL)

- Founded: 1957
- Headquarters: Vasco da Gama, Goa
- CMD: Bharat Bhushan Nagpal

Q. Which organisation has approved USD 100 million loan for India to upgrade power distribution system in Bengaluru city?

A) World Bank
B) New Development Bank
C) Asian Development Bank
D) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)

Answer: C

- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Government of India has signed a $100 million loan on 31st December 2020 to modernise and upgrade the power distribution system in Bengaluru

ADB IN NEWS

- ADB & India sign $231 million loan to enhance power generation capacity in Assam
- ADB announces Rs 2100 crore loan to Tripura for urban & tourism development
- ADB & India sign $300 million loan to upgrade power distribution network in Uttar Pradesh
- ADB launches $9 bn Asia Pacific Vaccine Access Facility (APVAX) for Developing Countries
- ADB Projects GDP of India at -8% in 2020, 8% in 2021
ADB approves USD 2.5 million technical assistance to support advanced biofuel development in India

ADB Approves $190 Million Loan to Upgrade Power Distribution System in Bengaluru

ADB and India sign $50 million loan agreement for West Bengal

ADB released a new book titled ‘Future of Regional Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific’.

ADB sign $132.8 million loan agreement for Meghalaya's Power supply

ADB inks $500 Million Loan agreement with India for Delhi-Meerut RRTS Corridor

ADB and India inks USD 177 million loan for state road improvements in Maharashtra

India and ADB Sign $300 Million Loan to Develop Rajasthan's Secondary Towns

ADB approves USD 1 billion loan for Delhi-Meerut Regional Rapid Transit System

ADB approves grant worth USD 3 million to India to combat COVID-19

Sameer Kumar Khare appointed Executive Director at ADB

ADB appoints Takeo Konishi as Country Director for India

ADB Appoints Ashok Lavasa as New Vice-President

ASIAN DEVELOPMENT BANK (ADB)

❖ Founded : 19 December 1966
❖ HQ : Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
❖ President : Masatsugu Asakawa
❖ Vice President : Ashok Lavasa
❖ Director of ADB for India : Takeo Konishi
❖ Executive Director : Sameer Kumar
❖ Member Countries : 68 (Nuie)
Q. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Justice (CJ) of the Common High Court for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh?

A) Jitendra Kumar Maheshwari
B) Pankaj Mithal
C) S Muralidhar
D) Arup Kumar Singh

Answer : B

- Justice Pankaj Mithal has been appointed as the new Chief Justice (CJ) of the Common High Court for the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh in Jammu
- Chief Justice Mithal replaces Chief Justice Gita Mittal

**NEWLY CHIEF JUSTICE OF HIGH COURT**

- Raghvendra Singh Chauhan, Chief Justice, from Telangana to Uttarakhand
- Arup Kumar Goswami, Chief Justice, from Sikkim to Andhra Pradesh
- Jitendra Kumar Maheshwari, Chief Justice from Andhra Pradesh to Sikkim
- Mohammad Rafiq, Chief Justice, from Orissa to Madhya Pradesh
- Justice S Muralidhar Takes Oath As Chief Justice Of Orissa High Court
- Justice Hima Kohli Takes Oath As Chief Justice Telangana High Court
- Justice Sanjib Banerje Takes Oath As Chief Justice Of Madras High Court
- Justice Pankaj Mithal Takes Oath As Chief Justice Of Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh High Court
IMPORTANT KEY FACTS

- Chief Justice and Judges of the High Courts are to be appointed by the President under clause (1) of Article 217 of the Constitution
- The Governor of the State administers the Oath of office to the High Court Judges
- Justice Leila Seth was the first woman chief justice of a state high court in the country: Himachal Pradesh High court
- Anna Chandy, one of India's first female judges
- Fathima Beevi first female judge of the Supreme Court of India
- Indu Malhotra first female lawyer supreme court in India
- Harilal Jekisundas Kania first Chief Justice of India
- Sharad Arvind Bobde 47th Chief Justice of India
- Judge term length: Mandatory retirement at 65 years of age
- Supreme Court judges: 34 { 33 (Judge) + 1 (Chief Justice of India)

Q. Indian Navy has received the final and 8th ship of the MK IV Landing Craft Utility (LCU) class vessel 'IN LCU L-58' recently. The LCU class vessel has been developed by which company?

A) Cochin Shipyard
B) Goa Shipyard
C) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
D) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers

Answer: D

- Kolkata-based defence PSU, Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), delivered the last ship of the MK IV Landing Craft Utility (LCU) class vessel 'IN LCU L-58' (Yard 2099) to the Indian Navy
IN LCU L-58 is the eighth and final ship in the series of 8 LCUs manufactured by GRSE for the Indian Navy.

Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE)

- Founded: 1884
- Headquarters: Kolkata
- CMD: Vipin Kumar Saxena

Q. Indian soldier Colonel Narendra Kumar, who was popularly known as ‘Bull’ has passed away. He was a veteran ____

A) Sand Artist
B) Mountaineer
C) Cricket Player
D) Architect

Answer: B

- Ace mountaineer Colonel Narendra ‘Bull’ Kumar, who played iconic role to help India secure the Siachen Glacier, has passed away
- He was nickname ‘Bull’ for relentlessly charging into everything he did.
- He is known as ‘Siachen saviour’

Q. Which country has become the first one to roll out low-cost Oxford-AstraZeneca COVID-19 vaccine?

A) UK
B) US
Q. Which state government will launch ‘Kisan Kalyan Mission’ for the farmers?

A) Uttar Pradesh
B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Punjab
D) Haryana

Answer: A

UTTAR PRADESH IN NEWS

- ‘Varasat’ campaign launched in Uttar Pradesh to curb property & land-related disputes in rural areas
- ADB & India sign $300 million loan to upgrade power distribution network in Uttar Pradesh
- Keetham lake also known as Sur Sarovar, in Agra in Uttar Pradesh added to Ramsar sites
- UP Govt to establish anti-human trafficking Police Stations
- Ayodhya Airport to be renamed as Maryada Purushottam Sri Ram Airport
- Yogi Adityanath rings bell at BSE for listing bond of Lucknow Municipal Corporation
- Major Dhyan Chand Vijaypath Yojana
- Navin Rojgar Chhatri Yojana
• Bal Shramik Vidya Yojana
• Mukhyamantri Krishak
• Durghatna Kalyan Yojana
• ‘Team-11’ App
• ‘Pravasi Raahat Mitra’ app
• Ayush Kavach-COVID’ App
• 'Annapurna', Supply Mitra Portal
• 'Kaushal Satrang' programme
• Mission Vriksharopan-2020
• Uttar Pradesh becomes 1st state to geotag community kitchens
• Uttar Pradesh became 1 state to Initiate Pool Testing of COVID-19
• India’s 1st War Memorial for Animals to be set up in Meerut, UP
• Kushinagar Airport in Uttar Pradesh as an International Airport
• Uttar Pradesh govt launches NRI unified porta
• Uttar Pradesh emerges as top destination in 2019 for attracting domestic tourists
• PM lays the foundation stone of rural drinking water supply projects in Vindhyachal region of Uttar Pradesh

Q. The well-preserved remains of Ice Age Woolly Rhino were found in which nation?

A) Russia
B) Antarctica
C) Greece
D) Iceland

Answer : A

➢ Woolly rhino from the Ice Age found in Russia
Well-preserved Ice Age woolly rhino with many organs still intact found in Siberia

Q. Who has been awarded a knighthood in the UK New Years Honours list?

A) Lewis Hamilton
B) Daniel Craig
C) Sean Connery
D) Andy Murray

Answer: A

Lewis Hamilton has been awarded knighthood in the United Kingdom New Year Honours list. The award comes after Hamilton won his seventh world title this year, equaling Michael Schumacher's record.

LEWIS HAMILTON IN NEWS

- Lewis Hamilton knighted in UK Honours list
- Lewis Hamilton has won the BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2020
  - From: Great Britain (UK)
  - Team: Mercedes
  - Bahrain Grand Prix 2020
  - Emilia Romagna Grand Prix 2020
  - Turkish Grand Prix 2020
  - Portuguese Grand Prix 2020
  - Eifel Grand Prix 2020
  - Tuscan Grand Prix 2020
  - Belgian Grand Prix 2020
  - Spanish Grand Prix 2020
  - British Grand Prix 2020
Hungarian Grand Prix 2020
Styrian Grand Prix 2020

- This is the 11th victory for Lewis Hamilton of the season, and 95th F1 win of his career
- Lewis Hamilton breaks Michael Schumacher's win record at the Portuguese Grand Prix

Q. Which of the following automobile company has tied up with Karnataka Bank for vehicle finance?

A) Maruti Suzuki
B) Tata Motors
C) Honda Motors
D) TVS Motors

Answer : B

- Tata Motors on announced its partnership with Karnataka Bank to facilitate retail finance solutions for its customers to boost sales.

TATA MOTORS

- Founded : 1945
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- Chairman : Natarajan Chandrasekaran
- CEO : Guenter Butschek

KARNATAKA BANK IN NEWS

- Karnataka Bank launches CASA ( current account, savings account) campaign
- Karnataka Bank rolls out KBL Micro Mitra for Micro entrepreneurs
Karnataka Bank reappoint Mahabaleshwara M S as MD and CEO for 3 yrs
Karnataka Bank launches web tool (Vasool So-Ft) for NPA recovery process

KARNATAKA BANK

- Founded: 1924
- Headquarters: Mangaluru, Karnataka
- MD & CEO: Mahabaleshwara M. S
- Tagline: Your Family Bank Across India

Q. What was the rank of Mukesh Ambani in Bloomberg Billionaires Index 2021?

A) 9
B) 12
C) 21
D) 8

Answer: B

- Mukesh Ambani ranked 12th in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index 2021
- The net worth of Ambani dropped from 90 billion USD (around Rs. 6.62 lakh crore)

Q. Who has become Asia’s richest person, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index?

A) William Ding
B) Zhong Shanshan
C) Jack Daniels

D) Jack Ma

Answer : B

- Bloomberg Billionaires Index
- Top : Jeff Bezos (190 Billion)
- 2nd : Elon R Musk (170 Billion)
- 3rd : Bill Gates (132 Billion)
- Zhong Shanshan, referred to as “Lone Wolf”, has replaced Ambani as Asia’s richest person, he is one of the fastest in the history to achieve the feat
- Zhong Shanshan is Chinese billionaire whose net worth is 78.2 billion

Q. Which bank has recently launched WhatsApp banking services?

A) Bank of Baroda
B) Punjab National Bank
C) State Bank of India
D) Bank of Maharashtra

Answer : A

BANK OF BARODA IN NEWS

- Bank of Baroda announced the launch of banking services on messaging platform Whatsapp.
- BoB signs MoU with defence forces named “Baroda Military Salary package”
- BoB launches Atmanirbhar Women Gold Scheme at Ramamurthy Nagar branch in Bengaluru
• Bank of Baroda tops EASE 2.0 Index by IBA
• BOB Becomes 3rd Largest Bank As Dena, Vijaya Merger Take Effect
• Bank of Baroda ties up with Toyota Kirloskar Motor
• Bank of Baroda rolls out 'Insta Click Savings Account'

BANK OF BARODA

❖ Founded : 1908
❖ HQ : Varodara, Gujarat
❖ MD & CEO : Sanjiv Chadha
❖ Tagline : India’s International Bank

Q. Which Space Agency has approved two heliophysics missions to explore the Sun and Earth’s Aurora?

A) ISRO
B) NASA
C) CNES
D) JAXA

Answer : B

NASA IN NEWS 2020

• NASA-ESA successfully launches Sentinel-6 Michael Freilich satellite
• NASA lifts off SS Kalpana Chawla cargo spacecraft
• Nokia selected by NASA to build first ever cellular network on the Moon
• NASA to launch rover ‘MARS 2020’ in 2020
• NASA astronauts fly SpaceX spacecraft ‘Dragon’
• Indian-origin girl Vaneeza names NASA’s 1st Mars helicopter as 'Ingenuity'
- NASA renames its WFIRST Telescope after ‘Mother of Hubble’ Nancy Grace Roman
- NASA Astronaut Kathy Sullivan becomes 1st Woman to Reach Deepest Point of Ocean
- Renjith Kumar honoured with “NASA Distinguished Public Service Medal”
- NASA Names Headquarters After ‘Hidden Figure’ Mary W. Jackson
- NASA creates “VITAL” high-pressure ventilator to fight COVID-19
- NASA & ULA launched Mars 2020 Perseverance Rover Mission
- NASA SunRISE Mission to study Giant Solar Particle Storms
- NASA named Mars 2020 rover as “Perseverance”
- NASA to Launch ASTHROS Mission to study Cosmos using football stadium-sized balloon
- SpaceX’s Crew Dragon spacecraft Successfully docks 2 NASA Astronauts at ISS after historic launch
- NASA Decommissions its Spitzer Space Telescope after Over 16 Years in Service

National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

- Founded : 1958
- Headquarters : Washington, D.C
- Motto : For the Benefit of All
- Administrator : Jim Bridenstine

Q. Which country is developing wooden satellites to reduce the space debris?

A) China
B) Russia
C) Japan
A Japanese company and Kyoto University have joined hands to develop world's first satellites made out of wood by 2023.

Wooden satellites would burn up without releasing harmful substances into the atmosphere or raining debris on the ground when they plunge back to Earth.

JAPAN IN NEWS 2020

- Japan targeted to achieve zero carbon emissions by 2050
- Yoshihide Suga to succeed Shinzo Abe as Japan's PM
- Quad Countries’ Foreign Minister Meet held in Tokyo
- Japan’s Naomi Osaka wins 2020 US Open Tennis Tournament
- Naomi Osaka becomes world’s highest-paid female athlete
- Japan commits ODA of Rs 3500 crore to fight COVID-19 in India
- Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 rescheduled to year 2021
- India & Japan signs MoU on Reciprocal Provision of Supplies & Services
- Japan’s longest-serving PM Shinzo Abe resigns
- Canada withdraws from Tokyo 2020 Olympics
- India and Japan conduct PASSEX naval exercise in Indian Ocean Region
- Japan launches new unit for defense in outer space named Space Operations Squadron
- India Ranks 84th in Henley Passport Index 2020; Japan Tops
- PNB Housing Finance ties-up with Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) to raise $75 million
- Thangjam Dhabali Singh conferred ‘Order of Rising Sun’ by Japan
- GOI approves MoU between India, Japan for cooperation in technical textile
- Japan to join ‘Five Eyes’ to check China’s clampdown on Uyghurs
JAPAN

- Capital: Tokyo
- Currency: Yen
- Emperor: Naruhito
- Prime Minister: Yoshihide Suga

Q. International card payment service RuPay partnered with which bank to launch an innovative payment solution for Indian merchants “RuPay PoS” in association with PayNearby?

A) ICICI Bank
B) YES Bank
C) AXIS Bank
D) RBL Bank

Answer: D

- The international card payment service RuPay partnered with RBL Bank to launch an innovative payment solution for Indian merchants “RuPay PoS” in association with PayNearby.
- The announcement for the same was made by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)

RBL BANK IN NEWS

- RBL Bank, ICICI Prudential join hands for Bancassurance partnership
- RBL Bank launches cardless cash withdrawal facility through ATMs via MoBank app

RBL BANK

- Founded: 1943
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Q. The RoDTEP scheme has replaced the popular Merchandise Exports from India Scheme from January 1, 2021. What does ‘R’ stand for in RoDTEP?

A) Regards
B) Reminder
C) Remission
D) Remnant

Answer : C

- The fullform of RoDTEP is ‘Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products’. Hence, R here ‘R’ stands for Remission.
- As per the finance ministry the benefit of Remission of Duties and Taxes on Exported Products (RoDTEP) scheme will be extended to all export goods from January 1, 2021.

Q. Who has released the inaugural issue of the National Police K-9 Journal in New Delhi?

A) Amit Shah
B) Narendra Modi
C) Raj Nath Singh
D) Piyush Goyal

Answer : A
Home Minister Amit Shah has released the inaugural issue of the National Police K-9 Journal in New Delhi.

Q. Which state government has launched a crop relief scheme- Kisan Fasal Rahat Yojana?
A) Bihar  
B) Rajasthan  
C) Jharkhand  
D) Haryana  
Answer: C

Q. Formula One racer Lewis Hamilton belongs to which country?
A) Britain  
B) Finland  
C) Germany  
D) Monaco  
Answer: A

Q. Kalbelia folk songs and dances has been inscribed in the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural. It belongs to which state?
A) Kerala  
B) Bihar  
C) Rajasthan
Q. Balphakram National Park is based in which state?
A) Chandigarh
B) Arunachal Pradesh
C) Meghalaya
D) Karnataka
Answer: C

Q. Where is the headquarters of Transparency International located?
A) Abu Dhabi
B) Geneva
C) Berlin
D) Paris
Answer: C

Q. With which sports is The Durand Cup associated?
A) Hockey
B) Football
C) Polo
D) Car Racing
Answer: B

Q. Who is the incumbent Union Minister in the Ministry of External Affairs?
A) Nitin Jairam Gadkari
B) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar
C) Narendra Singh Tomar
D) Ramesh Pokhriyal ‘Nishank
Answer: B

Q. International Day for Biological Diversity is held annually on_____
A) 28 April
B) 18 March
C) 10 June
D) 22 May
Answer : D

Q. Bansagar Dam in Madhya Pradesh is built across which river?
A) Barna River
B) Chambal River
C) Narmada River
D) Sone River
Answer : D

Q. Which is the oldest dam in India?
A) Mettur Dam
B) Tehri Dam
C) Kallanai Dam
D) Bhavani Sagar dam
Answer : C

Q. Where is Narora Atomic Power Plant located?
A) Bihar