Q. The Government of India has approved ‘Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme’ (SISFS) to fund startups. How much amount has been allocated to the scheme?

A) Rs 450 crore  
B) Rs 716 crore  
C) Rs 945 crore  
D) Rs 870 crore

Answer: C

- The Central Government has approved ‘Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme’ (SISFS) on January 29, 2021.
- Total Corpus: Rs 945 crore

Q. When is the World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (World NTD Day) observed?

A) January 30  
B) January 29  
C) January 28  
D) January 27
The second World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (World NTD Day) is being observed on January 30, 2021 to celebrate the achievements made towards control of the world’s NTDs.

**Important Dates in the Month of January 2021:**

- 1 January – English New Year, Army Medical Corps Establishment Day, Global Family Day
- 4 January – World Braille Day
- 6 January – World War Orphans Day, National Technology Day
- 8 January – African National Congress Foundation Day
- 9 January – Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (NRI Day)
- 10 January – World Laughter Day, World Hindi Day
- 11 January – Death anniversary of Lal Bahadur Shastri, National Human Trafficking Awareness Day
- 12 January – National Youth Day (Birth of Swami Vivekanand), National Vision Board Day
- 13 January – Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti
- 14 January – Lohri
- 15 January – Indian Army Day, Pongal, Makar Sankranti, Wikipedia Day
- 23 January – Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose’s birth anniversary
- 26 January – Republic Day (India), Australia Day
- 27 January – Family Literacy Day, International Holocaust Remembrance Day (International Day of Commemoration)
- 28 January – Birth anniversary of Lala Lajpat Rai
- 30 January – Mahatma Gandhi’s Martyrdom Day (Martyr’s Day)
- Last Sunday of January – World Leprosy Eradication Day
Q. The Government of India has inked ‘Year of the Environment’ partnership with which country for the year 2021?

A) Russia
B) France
C) Japan
D) Germany

Answer: B

- The Union Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change Prakash Javadekar launched the Indo-French Year of the Environment, along with Barbara Pompili, the French Minister for Ecological Transition in New Delhi.

France in News:

- Prakash Javadekar Launches 2021 as Indo-French Year of the Environment
- Indo-French Air Exercise ‘Ex-Desert Knight 21’ Begins in Jodhpur in Rajasthan
- France hosts 4th One Planet Summit in cooperation with UN and World Bank
- France inducted as the latest and 23rd member of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)
- Former French President Valéry Giscard d’Estaing passes away
- YES Bank launches ‘SMS Pay’ on POS Terminals in Partnership with French company ‘Worldline’
- France to boost India’s COVID-19 response with 200-million-euros
- Jean Castex appointed as Prime Minister of France
• India & France re-elected as President and Co-President of International Solar Alliance (ISA)
• Rafael Nadal (Men's Single) and Iga Swiatek (Women's Single) wins French Open 2020
• Indo-French to launch constellation of maritime surveillance satellites to trace illegal oil spillage in IOR
• Tour de France postponed due to Coronavirus Pandemic
• India overtakes UK and France to become 5th largest economy
• India-France-Australia holds first-ever Trilateral Dialogue on Indo-Pacific
• France will train Indian flight surgeons for Gaganyaan mission
• Edouard Philippe resigns as Prime Minister of France
• Emmanuelle Charpentier of France and Jennifer Doudna of the U.S. who won the 2020 Nobel Chemistry Prize
• Varuna Naval exercise India and France
• Garuda Air exercise India and France
• Shakti Army exercise India and France
• Educational Scientific & Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) HA: Paris, France
• Organisation for Economic Cooperation & Development (OECD) HQ: Paris, France
• International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) HQ: Paris, France

About France:

❖ Capital: Paris
❖ President: Emmanuel Macron
❖ Prime Minister: Jean Castex
❖ Currency: Euro (€)
Q. The mobile app ‘Krishi Sakha’ has been launched by which insurance firm?

A) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance

B) HDFC ERGO General Insurance

C) ICICI Lombard General Insurance

D) Bharti AXA General Insurance

Answer:D

**Bharti AXA General Insurance in News:**

- Bharti AXA General Insurance launches ‘Krishi Sakha’ App for farmers
- Bharti AXA General Insurance launches ‘Bohot Zaroori Hai’ campaign for farmers in Maharashtra and Karnataka
- IRDAI gives in-principle approval for Bharti AXA-ICICI Lombard merger deal
- Bharti AXA General uses WhatsApp to deliver policy and renewal documents

**About Bharti AXA General Insurance:**

- Industry: Financial services
- Founded: 2008
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- (MD & CEO): Sanjeev Srinivasan
- **Share:** Bharti Enterprises (51%) Axa Business Group (49%)

Q. What is the validity period of ‘Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme’ (SISFS)?

A) 3 years
B) 2 years
C) 5 years
D) 10 years

Answer: C

- Five years (2021-25).
- The scheme will become operational from April 1, 2021.

Q. Technology giant Microsoft has recently opened its new India Development Center (IDC) facility in which of these cities?

A) Noida
B) Mumbai
C) Surat
D) Faridabad

Answer: A

- Microsoft has launched its new India Development Center (IDC) facility in Noida, Uttar Pradesh on 28 January 2021.
- IDC NCR is the third development center of Microsoft in India after Bengaluru and Hyderabad.

Microsoft in News:

- Microsoft launches its new Taj Mahal inspired Engineering Hub in NCR
- DGT inks pact with MICROSOFT and NASSCOM FOUNDATION for digital skilling of ITI Students through Bharatskills Portal
- Microsoft Collaborates with NSDC to empower women in India with digital skills
Microsoft & AICTE collaborate to empower students and educators in next-gen technologies

About Microsoft:

- CEO of Microsoft: Satya Nadella.
- Microsoft Founded: April 4, 1975;
- Headquarters of Microsoft: Washington, United States.

Q. The India-Japan Act East Forum (AEF) 2020 was which edition of the annual forum?

A) 7th
B) 5th
C) 2nd
D) 10th

Answer:B

- The fifth joint meeting of the India-Japan Act East Forum (AEF) was held on 28 January 2021 in New Delhi.
- The meeting was co-chaired by Foreign Secretary Shri Harsh Vardhan Shringla, and Suzuki Satoshi, Ambassador of Japan to India.

JAPAN IN NEWS

- India and Japan inks MoC to promote movement of skilled workers from India to Japan
- Japan Government Commits Rs 2,113 crore to support India's Covid-19 relief effort
- India and Japan inks MoU to enhance cooperation in ICT
- India Ranks 85th in Henley Passport Index 2021; Japan Tops
- Japan to launch the first wood-based satellite by 2023
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
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

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

Q. Giuseppe Conte has recently resigned as the Prime Minister of which country?

A) France
B) Mexico
C) Canada

D) Italy

**Answer:** D

- Italian Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte has resigned from his post, after losing majority support from his coalition government over his handling of the coronavirus pandemic.

**About Italy:**

- President of Italy: Sergio Mattarella.
- Prime Minister of Italy: Giuseppe Conte.
- Capital of Italy: Rome; Currency of Italy: Euro.

**Q. The India-Japan Act East Forum (AEF) 2020 was co-chaired by Foreign Secretary of India and Ambassador of Japan to India. Who is the current Foreign Secretary of India?**

A) Harsh Vardhan Shringla

B) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

C) Raveesh Kumar

D) Syed Akbaruddin

**Answer:** A

**Q. The ‘Start-up India Seed Fund Scheme’ (SISFS) will be implemented by which organisation?**

A) NPCI

B) FICCI

C) DPIIT
D) RBI

Answer: C

- Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DIIT).
- Founded: 1995
- Organization: Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- Chair Person Dr. Guruprasad Mohapatra

### STATIC GK BASED CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQ

#### Q. The UNESCO World Heritage Site “Valley of Flowers National Park” is located in which state?

A) Sikkim
B) Uttarakhand
C) Assam
D) Himachal Pradesh

**Answer:** B

#### Q. Who is the author of the book “Dharma: Decoding the Epics for A Meaningful Life”?

A) Amish Tripathi
B) Chetan Bhagat
C) Kiran Desai
D) Vikram Seth

**Answer:** A

#### Q. Where is the headquarters of the “International Organization of Securities Commissions” (IOSCO) located?

A) Geneva, Switzerland
B) Paris, France
C) London, United Kingdom
D) Madrid, Spain

**Answer:** D

#### Q. What is the capital and currency of Uganda?

A) Kampala & Shilling
B) Helsinki & Franc
C) Libreville & Euro
D) Suva & Dollar

**Answer:** A
Q. In which part of India is the “Somnath Temple” located?
A) Haryana
B) Madhya Pradesh
C) Gujarat
D) Jammu & Kashmir
Answer: C

Q. The headquarters of “All India Chess Federation” (AICF) is situated in _______.
A) Hyderabad
B) Indore
C) Mumbai
D) Chennai
Answer: D

Q. Keetham lake is situated in which Indian state?
A) Chhattisgarh
B) Uttar Pradesh
C) Karnataka
D) Jharkhand

Q. Where in India is the “International Cherry Blossom Festival” hosted?
A) Odisha
B) Manipur
C) Meghalaya
D) Goa
Answer: C

Q. In which state is the “Ganga Avalokan Museum” located?
A) Uttarakhand
B) Kerala
C) Gujarat
D) Uttar Pradesh
Answer: A

Q. With which sports is the Fed Cup related?
A) Golf
B) Badminton
C) Hockey
D) Tennis
Answer: D