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Dear Students

We are sharing for readers of www.dailygk.in GK and Banking Booster-2 for IBPS PO mains and other Upcoming Exams. This booster is very useful for upcoming Exams as it is prepared by research team of AAA-Bright Academy. This Booster includes Current Affairs from 25th Sept. to 24th Oct. In the end of this Booster we are providing Objective Current Affairs and Banking Questions. So dear Readers Revise your Current Affairs from this Booster and Best of Luck for Upcoming Exams.

NATIONAL

SC DECLARED NATIONAL JUDICIAL APPOINTMENTS COMMISSION UNCONSTITUTIONAL

The five-judge Constitutional Bench of Supreme Court (SC) in a collective order in October 2015 ruled that **99th Constitutional Amendment Act** and the **National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC) Act, 2014** is unconstitutional and void.

It also upheld the **Collegium system** that existed before the NJAC as operative. Collegium System was established by the SC in 1993 for the appointment of judges to the higher judiciary.

B. S. BASWAN COMMITTEE

Union Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions in September revealed that an expert committee was constituted to revisit the civil services examination pattern. The seven member committee was constituted in August 2015 and is headed by B. S. Baswan.

Terms

To evaluate the effectiveness of the existing scheme of the civil services examination in selecting suitable candidates keeping in view various factors such as inclusiveness, fair mix of candidates from different disciplines, etc.

To examine the plan of the examination and suggest suitable changes to all the three stages of the

To suggest suitable eligibility criteria for candidates appearing at the examination with special reference to minimum and maximum age limits, number of attempts; to review the eligibility criteria for candidates, who have already been selected to different services.

GOOGLE WILL PROVIDE FREE WI-FI AT 400 RAILWAY STATIONS

Internet search engine giant Google in September 2015 announced its tie-up with Indian Railways that will provide free Wi-Fi facilities to 400 stations. The Wi-Fi facilities will be provided under **Project Nilgiri**.

The plan will initially start with 100 busiest railway stations. The Access & Energy team of Google together with Indian Railways and Rail Tel, which provides Internet services as Rail Wire via its extensive fiber network

ALL-INDIA GOVT WHIPS CONFERENCE

17th All-India Government Whips Conference was held in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh in September 2015. The conference was inaugurated by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu, while the Union Minister for Parliamentary Affairs M. Venkaiah Naidu presided over it.

The two-day conference was attended by 179 Whips from various state assemblies, legislative councils and the two houses of Parliament.

FOUR BRAND AMBASSADORS FOR DIGITAL INDIA PROGRAMME

Union Government in September 2015 announced that four brand ambassadors for Digital India programme were appointed. The services of these Brand Ambassadors will be used for generating mass awareness for the programme for a period of one year since their nomination.

List of Brand Ambassadors

Satwat Jagwani, All India IIT-JEE —Advanced Topper -2015 (Student)

Krati Tiwari, All India IIT-JEE —Advanced Girl Topper -2015 (Student)

Ankit Fadia, Author & Ethical Hacker

Pranav Mistry, Samsung USA (Computer Scientist & Author of 6th Sense)

GREEN HIGHWAYS POLICY LAUNCHED

Union Minister of Road Transport & Highways and Shipping Nitin Gadkari in September 2015 launched Green Highways (Plantation, Transplantation, Beautification and Maintenance) Policy, 2015. The policy that seeks to promote green covers along National Highway corridors

was launched at the National Conference in New Delhi.

Main Highlights

The Green Highway Policy will make it compulsory for road developers to set aside 1 percent of the Total Project Cost (TPC) for Highway Plantation and Maintenance.

The scheme will supposedly spend 1000 crore rupees for trees plantation along National Highways in the fiscal year 2015-16.

ACCESSIBLE INDIA CAMPAIGN LAUNCHED

Social justice and empowerment minister Thaawar Chand Gehlot in September 2015 launched the Accessible India Campaign (Sugamya Bharat Abhiyan) that focuses on building accessible government buildings for persons with disabilities (PwDs). The campaign was initiated by the government to increase the accessibility of the physical environment in the country.

Highlights

The department has planned to make public buildings in 50 cities of the country.

Motorized tricycles costing about 45000 rupees each for which the centre will give 30000 rupees subsidy each will be provided to people with 70-90% disability.

MID-DAY MEAL RULES NOTIFIED

The Union Government in September 2015 notified Mid Day Meal Rules, 2015 under the **National Food Security Act, 2013** (NFSA, 2013) that contains provisions related to welfare schemes including Mid Day Meal Scheme. Every child within the age group of six to fourteen years studying in classes I to VIII who is enroll and attend the school, shall be provided hot cooked meal having nutritional standards of 450 calories and 12 gm of protein for primary and 700 calories and 20 gm protein for upper primary free of charge every day except on school holidays.

ODISHA LAUNCHED CITIZEN PORTAL TO LAUNCH POLICE COMPLAINTS

Chief Minister of Odisha Naveen Patnaikin October 2015 launched a Citizen Portal, which enables the citizens to lodge their complaints online to the state police through internet. The facility will allow citizens to access information, request for different police services and complaints. They can also get a copy of FIR.

CENTRAL GOVERNMENT LAUNCHED KISAN PROJECT AND HAILSTORM APP FOR CROP DAMAGE

The Union Government in October 2015 unveiled KISAN Project [C(K)rop Insurance using Space technology And geoinformatics of Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare. The project will use satellite and drone-based imaging and other geospatial technology to get timely and precise data on crop yields. The pilot study will be carried out in one district each of Haryana, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra during Kharif season of 2015 and two districts each of these states during Rabi season of 2015-2016.

INDIA, GERMANY SIGNED 18 MOUS

India and Germany in October 2015 signed 18 MoUs in various sector including renewable energy, skill development and culture. The MoUs were signed at the end of third Indo-German Inter-governmental Consultations in New Delhi. The meeting was co-chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and German Chancellor Angela Merkel co-chaired the meeting.

SECOND PHASE OF MISSION INDRADHANUSH LAUNCHED IN 352 DISTRICTS

The Union Government in October 2015 launched second phase of the immunization programme, Mission Indradhanush, focusing on 352 districts. The second phase of the programme aims at achieving more than 90 per cent full immunization in the country by 2020. The mission targets to cover all children below 2 years of age and pregnant women with full immunization against seven vaccine preventable diseases.

First phase of Mission Indradhanush

The Union Government launched Mission Indradhanush on 25 December 2014 to immunize all children against seven vaccine preventable diseases namely diphtheria, whooping cough (Pertussis), tetanus, polio, tuberculosis, measles and hepatitis B by 2020.

INDIA, GERMANY SIGNED 125 MILLION EUROS LOAN AGREEMENT

Government of India and Federal Republic of Germany (KFW) in October 2015 signed two loan agreements worth 125 million Euros for financing two projects **under the Green Energy Corridor programme**. These two projects are in Himachal Pradesh and Andhra Pradesh. Germany will fund 57 million Euros for projects in Himachal Pradesh and 68 million Euros for Andhra Pradesh.

What is Green Energy Corridor programme?

Green Energy Corridor programme seeks to facilitate the flow of renewable energy into the national grid. In other words, it is aimed at synchronising electricity produced from renewable sources, such as solar and wind, with conventional power stations in the grid.

2016 PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIVAS (PBD) CONFERENCE TO BE HELD IN NEW DELHI

The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Conference 2016 will be held in New Delhi from 8 January to 10 January 2016. The PBD Conference 2016 will be organised with an objective for developing a new paradigm for engagement with the Diaspora over the next decade. The Union Government also announced that it will organise the 9th Regional Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (RPBD) at Los Angeles California, USA on the 14 November and 15 November 2015.

ACHARY PANEL RECOMMENDED 400% HIKE IN BASIC SALARY OF DELHI MLAS

A three-member committee chaired by PDT Achary, former Secretary General of the Lok Sabha, in October 2015 submitted its report on MLAs' salary packages to Delhi Assembly Speaker Ram Niwas Goel. The commission favoured 400 percent hike in the basic salary of the MLAs of Delhi, that is, from 12000 rupees to 50000 rupees per month. Overall, the hike recommended has been 138 percent.

ANIL BAIJAL PANEL SUGGESTED UNIFORM TAX TREATMENT FOR CSR WORKS

Union Government appointed committee chaired by Anil Bajjal, former Union Home Secretary, in October 2015 submitted its report on how to improve monitoring of CSR spending to government. The panel was set up by the Union Corporate Affairs Ministry to suggest steps to improve monitoring of CSR spending. The panel in its report recommended uniform tax treatment for all CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) activities under Companies Act 2013 and leniency towards non-compliant companies in the first 2 to 3 years of the law.

PROTOCOL ON DOUBLE TAXATION AVOIDANCE WITH ISRAEL AND VIETNAM APPROVED

The Union Cabinet in October 2015 approved the Protocol between India and Israel and between Indian and Vietnam for avoidance of double taxation and for prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income and on capital. The Protocol with both the countries provides for internationally accepted standards for effective exchange of information on tax matters including bank information and information without domestic tax interest.

FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION IN BLUE ECONOMY BETWEEN INDIA AND SEYCHELLES APPROVED

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 gave its ex-post facto approval to the protocol for cooperation in the field of blue economy.

India and Seychelles signed the protocol to this effect on 26 August 2015 during the **visit of the President of Seychelles James Michel to India**.

The cooperation will enhance India's strategic cooperation in the field of blue economy; commercial benefits from export of human resources, expertise and technology and it will increase India's access to ocean-based resources in cooperation with Seychelles.

What is Blue Economy?

The **Blue Economy** is a developing world initiative pioneered by SIDS (Small Island Developing States) but relevant to all coastal states and countries with an interest in waters beyond national jurisdiction.

It conceptualises oceans as “Development Spaces” where spatial planning integrates conservation, sustainable use, oil and mineral wealth extraction, bio-prospecting, sustainable energy production and marine transport.

3-NEW ALL INDIA INSTITUTES OF MEDICAL SCIENCES (AIIMS)

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 approved the setting up of three new All India Institutes of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) under Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojna (PMSSY). These three new AIIMS will come up at Nagpur in Maharashtra, at Manglagiri in Andhra Pradesh and at Kalyani in West Bengal.

OPERATION VALSALYA TO TRACK MISSING CHILDREN

The Kerala government in October 2015 launched the Operation Valsalya project to trace, rescue and reunite the missing children with their family. This ambitious programme is envisaged to be implemented on the lines of the much acclaimed **Operation Smile** project in Ghaziabad.

ARTICLE 370 IS BEYOND AMENDMENT, REPEAL OR ABROGATION: J&K HIGH COURT

Jammu and Kashmir High Court in October 2015 ruled that the provisions under Article 370 are beyond amendment, repeal or abrogation. It said that granting special status to the state has assumed place of permanence in the Constitution. Court also said that **Article 35A** gives protection to existing laws in force in the State. The division bench of Justice Hasnain Masoodi and Justice Janak Raj Kotwal ruled in a 60-page judgement that the **Article 370** though titled as Temporary Provision and included in Para XXI titled Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions has assumed place of permanence in the Constitution.

GREEN INDIAN MISSION PLANS APPROVED

National Executive Council (NEC) of the National Mission for a Green India (GIM) in October 2015 approved the Perspective Plans & Annual Plan of Operations (APOs) submitted by four States, namely Mizoram, Manipur, Jharkhand and Kerala. This will help in reducing pressure on forests, gaining carbon benefits, along with health and other associated benefits.

Highlights of the mission

The plans have been approved with a total financial outlay of 90202.68 lakh rupees for a period of 5 to 10 years.

APOs of 11195.32 lakh rupees have been also approved for financial year 2015-16.

ENVIRONMENT COMPENSATION CHARGE ON COMMERCIAL VEHICLES ENTERING DELHI: SC

The Supreme Court (SC) of India in October 2015 imposed an **Environment Compensation Charge (ECC)** on commercial vehicles entering Delhi, in addition to the toll tax. The court also directed the Delhi government to issue appropriate notification in this regard. This ECC will be enforced for four months on a trial or experimental basis from 1 November 2015 and will end on 29 February 2016. The charges would be payable at the rate of 700 rupees for light duty vehicles and two-axle vehicles and would be 1300 rupees for three-axle and above.

BILL BANVAO, INAAM PAO SCHEME BY DELHI GOVERNMENT

The Delhi Government in October 2015 launched **Bill Banvao, Inaam Pao** scheme to encourage people to receive or demand proper bills for purchases. Citizens will be eligible for the scheme only on a bill or cash memo/retail invoice of not less than 100 rupees for purchases made from a registered dealer in Delhi. The maximum prize to be given under the scheme is 50000 rupees.

DRDO MISSILE COMPLEX RENAMED AS DR APJ ABDUL KALAM MISSILE COMPLEX

The country's prestigious DRDO Missile Complex in Hyderabad was in October 2015 renamed as Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex by Defence Minister Manohar Parrikar during an event at Research Centre Imarat on the occasion of the 84th Birth Anniversary of Dr Kalam, the Missile Man.

MOBILE APP MSEHAT FOR HEALTH WORKERS

Uttar Pradesh government in October 2015 launched the mobile app **mSehat** for health workers to record maternal and infant data in real-time. The application was developed by Kellton Tech, a company that was selected as the technology partner for the initiative by State Innovations in Family Planning Services Agency (SIFPSA). The application is aimed at improving the infant mortality rate outcomes.

MOU BETWEEN ITA IN TAIPEI AND TECC IN INDIA

The Union Cabinet in October 2015 approved the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the India-Taipei Association (ITA) in Taipei and Taipei Economic and Cultural Center (TECC) in India. The memorandum was signed for the cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).

SCIENCE EXPRESS CLIMATE ACTION SPECIAL TRAIN

The Union Government in October 2015 flagged off the Science Express Climate Action Special (SECAS) from Safderjung Railway Station in New Delhi. The train is a unique collaborative initiative of Department of Science & Technology, Ministry of Environment, Forest & Climate Change (MoEFCC), and Ministry of Railway.

Highlights of SECAS

The initiative seeks to sensitise the citizens on how Climate Change can be combated through mitigation and adaptation.

It will also put forth India's action and the role of civil society in combating Climate Change.

As per the plan, the train will travel across the country for about 7 months. It will halt at around 64 stations in 20 states and will cover about 18000 kilometres.

40 educators have also been deployed to inform around 60 lakh people about climate change issues and how it can be tackled at individual level.

SC ALLOWED USE OF AADHAR CARD ON VOLUNTARY BASIS

The Supreme Court in October 2015 allowed the use of Aadhaar cards for all central and state schemes, including Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MNREGA), Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana and employee provident fund and pension schemes, on voluntary basis.

After the concession, the citizens can avail benefits under welfare schemes. Also, the absence of an Aadhaar card will not disallow people from benefiting from these schemes.

Pre-conditions set by Supreme Court

The government cannot force citizens to enrol for the card.

The government cannot make it a criterion for benefits under various schemes.

The order was passed by a Constitution Bench of five judges, Justices M Y Eqbal, C Nagappan, Arun Mishra and Amitava Roy. The bench was headed by Chief Justice HL Dattu.

CENTRAL VICTIM COMPENSATION FUND SET UP

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs in October 2015 introduced a scheme called **Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF)** with an initial amount of 200 crore rupees. The scheme aims at enabling support to victims of various attacks, such as rape, acid attacks, human trafficking and women killed or injured in the cross border firing.

14708 VILLAGES DECLARED DROUGHT-HIT IN MAHARASHTRA

Government of Maharashtra in October 2015 declared 14708 out of 40053 villages as drought-hit where the monsoon rainfall was deficient by over 50 percent. As a relief measure to farmers in the drought-hit villages, the government announced several steps including waiver of land revenue and electricity charges among others. Also, Maharashtra also became the second state in the country as Karnataka declared 27 out of 30 districts as drought-hit in August 2015.

GOVERNMENT MODIFIED NATIONAL BLOOD POLICY

Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare in October 2015 modified National Blood Policy, 2002 to identify two major initiatives towards better utilisation of blood and blood components. These initiatives were recommended by the National Blood Transfusion Council (NBTC).

The **first** is permitting the transfer of blood from one blood bank to another in case of shortage.

The **second** is fixing an exchange value for surplus plasma available at some blood banks in the country. The exchange value is fixed at 1600 rupees per litre.

AMENDMENTS TO PAYMENT OF BONUS ACT 1965 APPROVED

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 approved amendment in the Payment of Bonus Act 1965 for the Industrial workers.

The bonus ceiling under the legislation was increased from 3500 rupees to 7000 rupees per month. The wage ceiling for getting bonus has also been increased from existing 10000 rupees per month to 21000 rupees per month.

The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 is the principal act for the payment of bonus to the employees which was formed with an objective for rewarding employees for their good work for the organization.

CENTRAL PRESS ACCREDITATION COMMITTEE RECONSTITUTED

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in October 2015 reconstituted the Central Press Accreditation Committee (CPAC) that issues **Press Information Bureau (PIB)** cards to journalists.

Post reconstitution, PIB director general **Frank Noronha** will be the ex-officio chairman of the committee.

UNION GOVERNMENT CLEARED FIRST BATCH OF AMRUT PROJECTS

The Union Ministry of Urban Development in October 2015 gave its nod to the first batch of state level Action Plans under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). The approved Action Plans have a total of 143 projects in 89 AMRUT cities in Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat and Rajasthan.

The State Annual Action Plans (SAAP) worth 2786.28 crore rupees were cleared by inter-ministerial Apex Committee of AMRUT for 89 cities in the three states.

DEFENCE MINISTRY APPROVED INDUCTION OF WOMEN AS IAF FIGHTER PILOTS

Ministry of Defence in October 2015 approved the induction of women into the combat stream of Indian Air Force (IAF). This approval clears the path for women to fly warplanes for the first time.

As per the decision, first batch of women pilots will be selected from the batch which is presently undergoing flying training at the Air Force Academy. They will be commissioned into the IAF in June 2016.

PM NARENDRA MODI LAID FOUNDATION STONE OF AMARAVATI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 laid foundation stone of the new capital city of Andhra Pradesh-Amaravati-at Uddandayauruni Palem village. The village is located 19 kilometer away from Vijayawada in Krishna District on the banks of River Krishna and is one of the three villages where the seed capital will come up. The other two seed villages are-Lingayapalem and Thallayapalem.

INDIA, JORDAN INKED SIX MOUS TO ENHANCE COOPERATION

India and Jordan in October 2015 inked six Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) in various fields in Amman. The MoUs were signed as part of the President Pranab Mukherjee's state visit to Jordan. Mukherjee visited the country on the invitation of His Majesty King Abdullah-II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

List of agreements/MoUs

Agreement on Maritime Transport

MoU on exchange of information on structure and content of training programmes for diplomats:

MoU on Cooperation in the field of IT & Electronics

Cultural Exchange Programme for 2015-17

MoU for Cooperation in the fields of Standardization and Conformity Assessment

Cooperation Agreement between Jordan News Agency [Petra] and Press Trust of India [PTI]

POSTAL STAMP ON DR BR AMBEDKAR RELEASED

Union Communications and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad in September 2015 released a commemorative postal stamp on Dr Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar. The government is celebrating 125th birth anniversary of Dr. Ambedkar in the year 2015. The Prime Minister Narendra Modi in July 2015 chaired the first meeting of the National Committee on Nationwide Celebration of 125th Birth Anniversary of Dr. B.R. Ambedkar. Dr. Ambedkar was posthumously given the highest civilian award of India Bharat Ratna in 1990. He died in 1956.

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

ASSEMBLY OF YOUTH DIGITAL INSTALLATION AT THE UN

A digital installation named as **Assembly of Youth** was unveiled in September 2015 at the United Nations headquarters in New York, the USA. It was developed for UNICEF by Google. It was unveiled by UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador David Beckham, UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.

Features of Assembly

It harnesses mobile technology and social media to deliver personal messages from children and young people across the globe directly to world leaders.

The messages will inform and sensitize world leaders and motivate them to take appropriate action to transform the lives of millions of most disadvantaged children and young people.

Data is also derived from outreach to children and young people across UNICEF social media channels.

CONFERENCE ON RELEVANCE OF BHAGVAD GITA

The first conference on the contemporary relevance of the Bhagvad Gita was held in September 2015 in London, United Kingdom. The conference was organised by Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) and High Commission of India. It was organised in collaboration with the Department of the Study of Religions at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS), University of London.

Bhagavad Gita is one of the holy books which tell us the narrative framework of a dialogue between Pandava Prince Arjuna and his guide and charioteer Krishna.

Bhagavad Gita consists of 700 slokas.

LEADERS' SUMMIT ON PEACEKEEPING

Leaders' Summit on Peacekeeping was held in September 2015 at the UN headquarters in New York, the USA. It was held on the margins of the annual high-level debate of the General Assembly. Besides the UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, it was attended by leaders of more than 50 countries including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the president of USA Barack Obama. The high-level summit reviewed the ongoing operations of 125000 strong UN Peacekeeping force and announced commitments to modernize the force.

About United Nations Peacekeeping

It helps countries torn by conflict create the conditions for lasting peace.

It was founded in 1948 and operates under the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations.

It is comprised of 125000 civilian, police and military personnel with contributions coming from over 120 countries.

India is the largest contributor to the mission with 7794 military and police personnel on the ground

GLOBAL COMPETITIVENESS REPORT 2015-2016

World Economic Forum (WEF) in September 2015 released the Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) 2015-2016. The report assesses the competitiveness landscape of 140 economies, providing insight into the drivers of their productivity and prosperity and it remains the most comprehensive assessment of national competitiveness worldwide. **Switzerland top the ranking**

Report says that after five years of decline, **India** was able to jump 16 ranks and was positioned at the **55th place**.

India remains one of the least **digitally connected countries in the world (120th, up one)**.

INDIA TO CHAIR G20 IN 2018

India is set to be the G20 Chair in 2018, and [New Delhi](#) will host the prestigious annual G20 summit. This decision was taken by G20 forum earlier in September 2015 which was chaired by Turkey. Turkey will hand over the Chair for the next year i.e. 2016 to China following which Germany will in 2017 and then the Chair will pass on to India for 2018. India recently announced the appointment of NITI Aayog Vice-Chairman Arvind Panagariya as G20 Sherpa.

GLOBAL STATUS REPORT ON ROAD SAFETY BY WHO

World Health Organization (WHO) in October 2015 released the Global status report on road safety 2015. The report reflects information from 180 countries and indicates that worldwide the total number of road traffic deaths has gone up to 1.25 million per year.

NAWAZ SHARIF PROPOSED 4-POINT PEACE INITIATIVE WITH INDIA

Pakistan's Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in September 2015, during his speech at the United Nations General Assembly, proposed 4-point Peace Initiative with India aimed at defining the relationship between the Asian countries as one of cooperation, not of confrontation.

4-point Peace Initiative

1. Pakistan and India should formalize and respect the 2003 understanding for a complete ceasefire on the Line of Control in Kashmir. .
2. Pakistan and India shall reaffirm that they will not resort to the use or the threat of use of force under any circumstances.
3. Steps need to be taken to demilitarize Kashmir.
4. Both the nations should agree to an unconditional mutual withdrawal from Siachen Glacier, the world's highest battleground.

MALAYSIA ORDERED SHUT DOWN OF SCHOOLS DUE TO CHOKING SMOG

Malaysian authorities in October 2015 ordered shut down of most of the country's schools for two days because of possible health risks posed by the thick haze from Indonesian forest fires. The handful schools which were excluded from the order are located in outlying areas of the country.

WORLD BANK RELEASED GLOBAL POVERTY PROJECTIONS FOR 2015

World Bank in October 2015 released global poverty projections for the year 2015. As per the projections, the number of people living in extreme poverty around the world is likely to fall to under 10 percent of the global population in 2015.

The projections were based on the **updated poverty line of 1.90 US dollars per day** on the 2011 Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) exchange rates basis.

Highlights of poverty projections

Sustained reduction in poverty, began in 1990, is moving the world closer to the historic goal of ending poverty by 2030. Global poverty will have fallen from 902 million people or 12.8 per cent of the global population in 2012 to 702 million people or 9.6 per cent of the global population in 2015.

In 1990, East Asia accounted for half of the global poor, whereas some 15 percent lived in in Sub-Saharan Africa; by 2015 Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for half of the global poor, with some 12 percent living in East Asia.

CALIFORNIA SIGNED RIGHT TO DIE BILL FOR TERMINALLY ILL PEOPLE INTO A LAW

California in October 2015 allowed terminally ill patients to legally end their lives under a doctor's supervision after state governor Jerry Brown

signed the bill into law. With this signing of the bill, California became the fifth state in United States to allow terminally ill patients to legally end their lives.

The other four states that allow such assisted suicides to terminally ill people are Oregon, Washington, Vermont and Montana.

US, JAPAN AND 10 OTHER COUNTRIES SIGNED AGREEMENT

The United States (US), Japan and 10 other Pacific Rim countries in October 2015 signed the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement to lower trade barriers, bolster worker protections and set standards for a raft of other industries. The TPP is designed to facilitate trade among the US and a host of other countries scattered across both sides of the Pacific Ocean.

The 10 other countries of the Pacific Rim which signed the agreement are Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore and Vietnam. China, the world's second-largest economy, is not part of the agreement. This TPP agreement encompassing nearly 40 percent of the world economy will now have to be ratified by the lawmakers of each country.

What will TPP do?

It cuts trade tariffs and sets common standards in trade for 12 Pacific-rim countries, including the US and Japan. The partnership eliminates more than 18000 taxes that various countries put on made-in-America goods; this will level the playing field for farmers, ranchers and manufacturers.

ISLAMIC STATE DESTROYED ARCH OF TRIUMPH IN PALMYRA

Terror outfit ISIS in October 2015 destroyed the 2000-year-old Arch of Triumph in the ancient Syrian city of Palmyra. ISIS militants seized control of Palmyra, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and the surrounding area from Syrian government forces in May 2015.

WWF REPORT HIDDEN HIMALAYAS: ASIA'S WONDERLAND RELEASED

World Wide Fund (WWF) on the day of World Habitat Day, that is, 5 October 2015 released Hidden Himalayas: Asia's Wonderland report. The Eastern Himalayas spans Bhutan, the north-eastern Indian states of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Sikkim, North Bengal, the trans-boundary landscape of Terai Arc,

far north of Myanmar, Nepal and southern Tibet.

According to the report, 211 new species like sneezing monkey, walking fish and jewel-like snake, were discovered in the Eastern Himalayas region between 2009 and 2014. On an average 34 new species were discovered annually for the past six years.

AMRITA SHER-GIL SELF-PORTRAIT SOLD FOR 17 CRORE

An untitled self-portrait of renowned modernist painter Amrita Sher-Gil was sold for around 17 crore rupees in London at an auction by international auction house Sotheby's in October 2015.

The eminent painter had created the self-portrait in 1931 and gave it to French artist Boris Taslitzky.

Amrita Sher-Gil, also known as **India's Frida Kahlo**, was born to a Punjabi Sikh father and a Hungarian Jewish mother on 30 January 1913 in Budapest, Hungary.

FORBES ASIA'S RICHEST FAMILIES LIST RELEASED

Forbes in October 2015 released the inaugural list of Forbes' 50 richest families in Asia. The list was topped by Lee (Byung-Chull) family of South Korea with 26.6 billion dollar. Ambani family of Reliance Group was ranked at 3rd position. India with 14 in the list has the most spots from any jurisdiction.

WIPRO AND FIRST BOOK TO PROVIDE 35000 NEW BOOKS TO KIDS IN NEED IN 5 CITIES IN U.S. & CANADA

India's leading information technology company Wipro Ltd. and First Book, a non-profit social enterprise, in October 2015 entered into a partnership to provide new books to children in need across five cities in the USA and Canada. It was launched in alignment with the initiative of **the**

science & technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) Education initiative of the US Department of Education.

INDIA, ECUADOR TO ESTABLISH ECUADOR JOINT ECONOMIC AND TRADE COMMITTEE

India and South American nation Ecuador have signed an agreement to set up a Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) to strengthen the trade relations between the countries. It was signed by Mentor Villagomez, Ecuadorian Ambassador to India and Rita Teotia, Commerce Secretary during the meeting between delegations of both countries.

INDIA SIGNED CONTRACT FOR MICROLIGHT AIRCRAFTS WITH SLOVENIAN FIRM PIPISTREL

India in October 2015 signed a deal, worth 105.5 crore rupees, with Pipistrel, a Slovenian firm, for **194** micro-light aircraft to be used by Indian Air Force, the Navy and the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

The contract has been signed with the firm for **Virus SW 80/100**. However, the Indian version of the aircraft will be renamed as **Garud**.

WORLD BANK GROUP AND IMF ANNUAL MEETINGS IN PERU

Annual meetings of the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund were held in October 2015 in the Peruvian capital Lima.

The meetings saw the attendance of central bankers, finance ministers and development and private senior executives and academics from the member countries of both the World Bank Group and the IMF.

The Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in his capacity as India's Governor on Board of Governors of IMF and the World Bank led the Indian delegation that included RBI Governor Raghuram Rajan and Chief Economic Advisor Arvind Subramanian among others.

Key issues of discussions during the Fund-Bank meeting were

The Role of World Bank and the IMF to support the 2030 agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
Shareholding review of the World Bank and changes in the financing structure of International Development Agency (IDA)
The stalemate in the implementation of the 2010 IMF quota and governance reforms

IRAN'S PARLIAMENT GIVES PRELIMINARY APPROVAL FOR NUCLEAR DEAL

Iran's parliament has given its preliminary backing by approval of a bill that allows the government to implement a historic nuclear deal reached with world powers. Under the bill, the Iranian government will be authorized to withdraw from implementation of the deal if the other side fails to lift sanctions against Iran. The bill also says that International inspectors would have only limited access to military sites.

INDIA MOZAMBIQUE MOU FOR COOPERATION IN RENEWABLE ENERGY

The Union Government in October 2015 approved a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, India and Mozambique.

The agreement was inked between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Government of India and the Ministry of Mineral Resources and Energy, Government of Mozambique in New Delhi.

IRAN'S PARLIAMENT APPROVED VIENNA AGREEMENT ON IRAN NUCLEAR PROGRAMME

Majlis, Iran's parliament, in October 2015 approved the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPA) or Vienna agreement paving the way for implementation of the historic nuclear agreement.

Ending a 12-year stand-off, the agreement was signed by Iran and P5+1 countries comprising of the United States, the United Kingdom (UK), Russia, China, France and Germany in July 2015 on the Iran nuclear programme.

While on one hand, the agreement gives Iran to develop its nuclear programme for peaceful purposes, on the other hand it lifts the economic sanctions on Iran.

PORTUGAL BECAME THE FIRST EUROPEAN COUNTRY TO SIGN THE MOU ON ESTABLISHMENT OF NALANDA UNIVERSITY

Portugal in October 2015 became the first European country to sign the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the establishment of Nalanda University. With this, Portugal became the 17th country overall and the fourth outside the East Asia Summit to do so. The revived university is located at Rajgir in Nalanda District in Bihar.

PRESIDENT PRANAB MUKHERJEE 3-NATION TOUR TO JORDAN, PALESTINE AND ISRAEL

President Pranab Mukherjee in October 2015 concluded his 3-nation tour to Jordan, Palestine and Israel. During visit President Pranab signed various agreement and MoUs with three nations to boost the bilateral ties.

During his visit, he also met the leaders of the three nations namely President and Prime Minister of Israel Reuven Rivlin and Benjamin Netanyahu respectively, His Majesty King Abdullah-II Ibn Al Hussein of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, President and Prime Minister of Palestine Mahmoud Abbas and Rami Hamdallah respectively.

Major Highlights Of The Visit

President invited Israel to participate in the transformation of India and sought Israel's participation in Digital India programme. **He was conferred honorary doctorate by Hebrew University in Jerusalem, University of Jordan and Al-Quds University, Palestine.**

A road and a roundabout in Ramallah, Palestine named after India as Sharia-e-Al-hind (India road) and Midan-e-Al-hind (India roundabout) were inaugurated.

President inaugurated a street named after Mahatma Gandhi in Amman, Jordan.

Six agreements/MoUs signed with Jordan on trade and economic, and investment cooperation

India gave 5 million US dollars grant to Palestine as Budgetary assistance

Ten agreements/MoUs including **Double Taxation Avoidance & Cultural Exchange signed with Israel**

CHINA, INDONESIA SIGNED \$ 5.5 BILLION DEAL TO BUILD HIGH-SPEED RAILWAY IN INDONESIA

China and Indonesia in October 2015 signed a 5.5 billion US dollars deal to build the first high-speed railway in Indonesia following the victory of Beijing in winning the construction project by beating Tokyo.

The project will be implemented by state-owned China Railway International and a consortium of Indonesian state companies.

PAKISTAN, RUSSIA SIGNED AGREEMENT TO BUILD 1100 KM GAS PIPELINE

Pakistan and Russia in October 2015 signed an agreement to build a 1100-km gas pipeline stretching from Karachi on Arabian Sea to the eastern city of Lahore. In this project, Russia will invest 2 billion US dollars and it will be built by Russian company RT Global Resources, a subsidiary of Russian state corporation Rostec. The pipeline is expected to get completed by December 2017.

TYPHOON KOPPU IN PHILIPPINES

Powerful Typhoon Koppu hit the northern Philippines in October. Typhoon Koppu has unleashed landslides and floods across a wide area of the Philippines on Sunday, forcing thousands to flee.

UNESCO GENDER AND EDUCATION FOR ALL REPORT

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in October 2015 released a report entitled **Gender and Education for All (EFA) 2000-2015: Achievements and Challenges.**

Highlights of the report

Although the goal of gender parity has not been met by all, progress towards gender parity is one of the biggest education success stories since

2000.

The number of countries that have achieved the goal of gender parity in both primary and secondary education has risen from 36 to 62 since 2000. 62 million girls are still denied their basic right to education, the number of out-of-school girls has declined by 52 million in the last 15 years.

Report with respect to India

In India, gender gaps in primary and lower secondary education have closed due to adoption of multiple strategies that include free textbooks for girls, back-to-school camps and bridging courses, recruitment of female teachers, and national programmes to increase demand for schooling among rural and disadvantaged girls among others.

GLOBAL MATERNAL NEWBORN HEALTH CONFERENCE - MEXICO

The Global Maternal Newborn Health Conference 2015 was held in the Mexico City. It was a technical meeting focused on accelerating progress towards effective and sustainable coverage of maternal and newborn interventions at scale. It was attended by technical implementers, policymakers, researchers and practitioners from over 50 countries including India.

INDIA AND MALDIVES TREATY ON MUTUAL LEGAL ASSISTANCE

The Union Cabinet in October 2015 gave its approval for signing of a **Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT)** in Criminal Matters between India and the Maldives. The treaty aims to boost the efficiency of both the countries in investigation and prosecution of crime, through cooperation and mutual legal assistance in terrorism, transnational crime and criminal matters.

A mutual legal assistance treaty (MLAT) is an agreement between two or more countries for the purpose of gathering and exchanging information in an effort to enforce public laws or criminal laws.

INDIA AND EGYPT AGREEMENT ON MARITIME TRANSPORT

The Union Cabinet in October 2015 gave its nod to sign an agreement between India and Egypt on Maritime Transport.

Highlights

It will help both the nations to encourage and facilitate the development of their maritime relationship.

It will help both the nations to cooperate in the task of enhancing and stimulating steady growth of maritime traffic.

Both the nations will exchange and train staff and students from various maritime establishments.

UN REPORT ON WORLD'S WOMEN 2015: TRENDS AND STATISTICS

The Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations on in October 2015 released a report entitled The World's Women 2015: Trends and Statistics.

The report provides an update of the statistics and indicators on the situation of women and men around the world covering gender-specific information on eight key areas—population and families, health, education, work, power and decision-making, violence against women, environment and poverty.

There are about 62 million more men than women worldwide. In younger age groups, men outnumber women; in older age groups, women outnumber men.

Child marriage has declined; still, almost half of women aged 20 to 24 in Southern Asia and two fifths in sub-Saharan Africa marry before age 18.

Life expectancy over the past 20 years has risen for both sexes—reaching 72 years for women and 68 years for men in 2010–2015. The gender gap tends to widen as life expectancy increases.

Key findings for India.

In absolute terms, India is home to largest **surplus of men** in the world with 43 million, next only to China that has 52 million surplus men.

India has the lowest sex ratio in **under-5 mortality** with a ratio of 93 that is 93 boys die before age 5 for 100 girls that die by that age .

India alone accounted for 21 per cent of all under-5 deaths in 2013.

India accounts for one third of the global total of **child marriages**.

India, along with Nepal, stands as an example to showcase greater participation by **women in forest governance**.

BRITAIN SIGNED AGREEMENTS WITH CHINA FOR BUILDING THREE NUCLEAR PLANTS

Chinese President Xi Jinping and British Prime Minister David Cameron in October 2015 signed Strategic Investment Agreements at a UK-China Business Summit at Mansion House in London during the official visit of Xi Jinping. Under the agreement, China will help the UK in building three nuclear plants including Hinkley Point C nuclear plant, which will be the first since 1980s.

HURRICANE PATRICIA STRUCK MEXICO'S

Hurricane Patricia, one of the most powerful storms on record, struck Mexico's Pacific coast in October 2015. The hurricane carrying destructive winds with a speed of 165mph forced thousands to flee homes and beach front resorts.

PERSONS IN NEWS

ASHISH BAHUGUNA

Ashish Bahuguna, the Chairman of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), in October 2015 was given an additional charge of Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of FSSAI. The decision was taken following the shift of Yudhvir Singh Malik to NITI Aayog as an Additional Secretary in September 2015.

ANGELA MERKEL

German Chancellor Angela Merkel visited India in October 2015. Prime Minister Modi and Chancellor Merkel held discussions on a wide range of issues of mutual interest, including deepening bilateral engagement in defence, security, education, renewable energy, skill development and agriculture.

Important events held during Merkel's stay in India are

Indo-German Summit 2015 was held in Bengaluru.

Indo-German Joint Statement on Climate Change and Energy Technology Cooperation was released.
3rd Indo German Inter-Governmental Consultations take place in New Delhi.

18MoUs/Agreements were inked between the two countries.

The two countries signed deals worth 2.25 billion dollars on German investment in developing India's clean energy corridors and solar energy industry.

Germany returned a 10th century Durga idol which had gone missing from a temple in Kashmir over two decades back to India.

ALEXANDER LUKASHENKO

Alexander Lukashenkoin October 2015 won Belarusian presidential elections .With this, the 61-year-old, who has governed the former Soviet republic almost unchallenged for 21 years, will be in power for the fifth time.

A.R. RAHMAN

Oscar-winning composer AR Rahman in October 2015 named as the Cultural Ambassador of Seychelles for his contribution in enhancing the country's Art and Culture Development. One of the most globally popular Indian music icons, Rahman has won two Academy Awards, two Grammy Awards, a BAFTA Award and a Golden Globe, besides national recognition in his illustrious career.

AHMED ADEEB

Vice President of Maldives Ahmed Adeeb was arrested in October 2015 at the airport when he returned from an official visit to China. Police said that Adeeb was arrested on suspicion of links to a blast on the Presidential boat that occurred in September 2015.

ASHOK ALEXANDER SRIDHARAN

Indian-origin Ashok-Alexander Sridharan in October 2015 sworn in as the mayor of Bonn in Germany. Bonn is the 18th most populated city in Germany and the provisional capital of erstwhile West Germany. With this win, Sridharan became the first Person of Indian Origin (PIO) to be elected as the mayor of a major city in the country. Further, he also became the city's first mayor from an immigrant background.

DEE PATEL

Prince Charles of Britain in September 2015 awarded Indo-British van driver Dee Patel with the Pride of Britain Award. Patel had risked his life to save others. The Pride of Britain Awards was founded by Peter Willis in 1999. It is an annual award ceremony which takes place in the United Kingdom. The award is given to British people who have shown immense bravery in the hours of crisis.

HOESUNG LEE

Hoesung Lee, a Korean professor of economics of climate change, energy and sustainable development, was in October 2015 elected as the Head of the Inter-governmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) at its 42nd session in Dubrovnik, Croatia. He succeeded RK Pachauri of India, who stepped down in February 2015 after a female researcher accused him of sexual harassment.

JIOJI KONROTE

Fiji's Parliament in October 2015 elected the Minister for Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations, Jioji Konrote, as the country's next President. Konrote, popularly known as **George Konrote**, is a retired major general who joined the Republic of Fiji Military Forces in 1966.

JUSTIN TRUDEAU

Canada's Liberal Party leader Justin Trudeau was in October 2015 elected as the Prime Minister of Canada after his Liberal Party won 189 seats, a majority of Parliament's 338 seats. The Conservative Party was next with 97 seats. Justin Trudeau at 43 years of age became the second youngest Prime Minister in Canadian history.

KARTIK CHANDRAN

Kartik Chandran, an Indian-American associate professor of earth and environmental engineering at Columbia Engineering, in September 2015 was named a 2015 MacArthur Fellow. He was also given a genius grant of 625000 US dollars for working on a novel solution to the world's need for food, clean water and energy.

KP SHARMA OLI

Veteran communist (Unified Marxist Leninist) leader KP Sharma Oli in October 2015 was elected as the Prime Minister of Nepal. He is the country's first Prime Minister under the newly introduced constitutional system. He defeated incumbent Prime Minister Sushil Koirala of the Nepali Congress.

ONSARI GHARTI MAGAR

Unified Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) candidate Onsari Gharti Magar was in October 2015 unanimously elected as the House speaker of Nepal. With this, Onsari Gharti became the first female Speaker in the parliamentary history of Nepal. Rastriya Prajatantra Party's Nepal lawmaker Ganga Prasad Yadav was elected as the Deputy Speaker.

RATAN TATA

The city of Coventry in October 2015 honoured Ratan Tata, chairman Emeritus of Tata sons, with its highest award in recognition of his contributions to the West Midlands region of central England.

The leading Indian industrialist took oath as an Honorary Freeman of the City of Coventry. Since 1914, only 13 people have been conferred with the honour.

SHIVINDER MOHAN SINGH

Shivinder Mohan Singh in September 2015 resigned as the executive vice-chairman of Fortis Healthcare Limited. Fortis is a New Delhi based hospital chain. He resigned from the position as he decided to take up full-time sewa at the Radha Soami SC Vatsang Beas (RSSB), a philosophical organisation spread over 90 countries worldwide. Shivinder, along with his elder brother Malvinder Mohan Singh, runs 55 hospitals under the Fortis brand across India NB.

SHASHANK MANOHAR

Shashank Manohar in October 2015 was elected President of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI). He was elected unopposed during a special general meeting called by the BCCI following the demise of Jagmohan Dalmiya Manohar, who has also served as the 29th President of the board from 2008 to 2011, will remain at the helm for two years. He is also referred to as **Mr. Clean**.

URVASHI RAUTELA

Model-actress Urvashi Rautela in October 2015 was crowned as Yamaha Fascino Miss Diva 2015 at an event in Mumbai. With this, she became India's representative for the Miss Universe pageant.

About Miss Diva pageant

A part of Femina Miss India pageant, Miss Diva competition chooses India's representatives for Miss Universe and other pageants after Miss Universe Organization awarded back the franchise to Bennett, Coleman & Co. Ltd.

ZK CHOCKALINGAM

Noted criminologist K Chockalingam was in October 2015 conferred with the prestigious Paul H Appleby Award given by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA). He was awarded for his distinguished services to public administration and IIPA. He is the founder and president of Indian Society of Victimology since 1992.

PERSON APPOINTED

ALKESH SHARMA

IAS officer Alkesh Sharma was in October 2015 appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor Development Corporation (DMICDC).

About Delhi Mumbai Industrial Corridor

Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor is a mega infra-structure project of 90 billion US dollars with the financial & technical aids from Japan, covering an overall length of 1483 KMs between Delhi and Mumbai.

This Multi-modal High Axle Load Dedicated Freight Corridor (DFC) will pass through the six States that is Uttar Pradesh, NCR of Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujarat and Maharashtra with end terminals at Dadri in the National Capital Region of Delhi and Jawaharlal Nehru Port near Mumbai.

ANUP VIKAL

E-commerce firm Snapdeal in October 2015 appointed Anup Vikal as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO).

Vikal replaced Aakash Moondhra, who had quit the company in October 2015. Before joining Snapdeal, Vikal was working as the CFO of Aircel since January 2013.

ALOK RAWAT

Former Water Resources Secretary Alok Rawat in October 2015 was appointed as the first male member of the National Commission for Women (NCW). His appointment filled the fourth seat in the five-member body.

About National Commission for Women (NCW)

The National Commission for Women (NCW) is a statutory body of the Government of India, generally concerned with advising the government on all policy matters affecting women. It was set up in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 (Act No. 20 of 1990 of GoI).

BAICHUNG BHUTIA

All India Football Federation (AIFF) in October 2015 appointed the former India Football captain Baichung Bhutia as the advisor for overall issues of the game and the Federation. Bhutia is already the chairman of the AIFF's technical committee. **Praful Patel is currently the president of the Federation.**

JAYANT PRASAD

Former Indian ambassador to Nepal Jayant Prasad was in September 2015 appointed as the Director General of Institute of Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA), the prestigious New Delhi-based think tank on strategic affairs.

About IDSA

- IDSA was established in New Delhi on 11 November 1965 as an autonomous body to promote national and international security through generation and dissemination of knowledge on defence and security-related issues.
- It is funded by the Indian Ministry of Defence and functions autonomously.

JUSTICE VAIPHEI

The President of India Pranab Mukherjee in October 2015 appointed Justice Tinlianthang Vaiphei, senior-most Judge of Gauhati High Court, as the acting Chief Justice for the Gauhati High Court. The President appointed Vaiphei by exercising the powers conferred by article 223 of the Constitution of India.

JACK DORSEY

Popular micro-blogging site Twitter in October 2015 announced Jack Dorsey as its permanent Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The appointment of Dorsey, who is also the CEO of mobile payments company Square, marks his second stretch as Twitter's CEO. He will handle both the jobs at once.

KUNDHAVI KADIRESAN

An Indian national, Kundhavi Kadiresan was in October 2015 appointed as the Assistant Director of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific. She was appointed at the post by FAO Director General José Graziano da Silva.

KUNDHAVI KADIRESAN

Indian national, Kundhavi Kadiresan has been appointed as the Assistant Director-General of the UN's Food and Agriculture Organization and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific. She was appointed at the post by FAO Director General Jose Graziano da Silva and will replace Hiroyuki Konum who retired from FAO earlier in 2015.

N VENUGOPALA RAO

Reliance Power in October 2015 appointed N Venugopala Rao as its Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with immediate effect. Reliance Power Limited, a part of the Reliance Anil Dhirubhai Ambani Group, was founded in 2007 and is headquartered in Navi Mumbai.

OMID KORDESTANI

Former Google adviser Omid Kordestani was in October 2015 appointed as Executive Chairman of Twitter. He succeeded Jack Dorsey, who stepped down as Executive Chairman to take up the post of Chief Executive Officer of Twitter.

PS JAYAKUMAR

PS Jayakumar in October 2015 took over the charge of Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of state-owned Bank of Baroda.

The alleged BoB scam

In the first week of October 2015, allegedly 6172 crore rupees were remitted from Bank of Baroda to Hong Kong. The amount was shown as payments for non-existent imports like cashew, pulses and rice. The amount was allegedly deposited in 59 accounts in cash as advance for imports that never existed.

RANGANATH D MAVINAKERE

Indian IT giant, Infosys, in October 2015 appointed Ranganath Dwarakanath Mavinakere as its Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The appointment came after the resignation of Rajiv Bansal from the post.

SEKHAR BASU

Sekhar Basu was in October 2015 appointed as the chairman of Atomic Energy Commission (AEC). By virtue of this position, he will also occupy the office of secretary, Department of Atomic Energy (DAE).

He will succeed RK Sinha. Basu is presently the director of Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), Mumbai.

SHARAD MEHROTRA

Telenor India, earlier known as Uninor, in October 2015 appointed Sharad Mehrotra as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO). The appointment came after the position was vacated by Vivek Sood who has been promoted to the positions of Executive Vice President and Chief Marketing Officer (CMO).

Telenor India is an Indian mobile network operator based in Gurgaon, Haryana.

SRIRAM VENKATARAMAN

India's e-commerce giant, Flipkart, in October 2015 appointed Sriram Venkataraman as the new Chief Finance Officer (CFO) for its commerce platform (CP). The homegrown online marketplace also appointed Pramod Jain as Vice President and Head of Taxation.

TAPAN RAY

Corporate Affairs Secretary Tapan Ray was in October 2015 appointed to the Board of capital market regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI). Ray succeeded Anjuly Chib Duggal on the SEBI board.

VK MALHOTRA

The Union Government in October 2015 named veteran sports administrator Vijay Kumar Malhotra as the President of the All India Council of Sports. His position will be in the rank of Minister of State. The council also includes former sportspersons, including PT Usha, Limba Ram, N Kunjarani Devi, IM Vijayan, Baichung Bhutia and P Gopichand.

About All India Council of Sports

The Government of India on 24 July 2015 constituted the All India Council of Sports as an advisory body for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

PERSON DIED

EDIDA NAGESWARA RAO

Noted Telugu film producer Edida Nageswara Rao died of the old-age-related illness in October 2015 at a private hospital in Hyderabad. Rao, the producer of 10 Telugu movies is known for his landmark films like Shankar abharanam (1979), Sagar asangamam (1983) and Swatimutyam (1986). His films helped him to garner four national awards as well as Nandi awards.

FILM-MAKER K.S.L. SWAMY

Veteran filmmaker Kikkeri Shamanna Lakshminarasimha Swamy, popularly known as KSL Swamy, died in October 2015. The multifaceted personality was also a playback singer, producer and actor. Swamy's 1989 film **Jamboo Savari** won the **National Film Award for Best Children's Film** at the 37th National Film Awards.

HENNING MANKELL

Renowned and best seller Swedish crime writer Henning Mankell died in October 2015 in Gothenburg, Sweden. He was best known for creating his most famous character, Swedish police inspector Kurt Wallander, on whom he based a series of mystery novels between 1991 and 2009. He introduced Wallander in 1997 in his famous novel, Faceless Killers.

NATESAN RAMANI

Renowned Carnatic flautist Natesan Ramani died of cancer in October 2015 in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

He was known for introducing the long flute in Carnatic music and had developed his own inimitable style in the field of flute music especially on Venu flute.

RAVINDRA JAIN

Renowned music director and lyricist Ravindra Jain passed away in October 2015. He has composed music for almost 150 movies apart from working with Sagar Films for their television series.

His famous songs are Geet Gaata Chal, Chor Machaye Shor, Chitchor, Nadiyake Paar, Ram Teri Ganga Maili, Ankhion Ke Jharokhon Se, Do Jasoos and Henna. He has also been conferred with various awards for his work including Filmfare Award for Best Music for Ram Teri Ganga Maili (1985), Lata Mangeskar Lifetime Achievement Award of Maharashtra Government and Padmashri in 2015.

SYED ZAHOR QASIM

Renowned marine biologist Syed Zahoor Qasim died recently. He is considered as the founder of Polar Biology in India and was part of the first Indian expedition to Antarctica in 1981-82. He was also a member of Planning Commission (1991-96) and served as the vice-chancellor of the Jamia Millia Islamia University in New Delhi.

AWARD & HONOURS

SASTRA RAMANUJAN PRIZE

Mathematician Jacob Tsimmerman of the University of Toronto, Canada in September 2015 was chosen for the prestigious 2015 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize. Tsimmerman is currently working as an Assistant Professor in the University of Toronto. He primarily conducts research in Number Theory. Ramanujan Prize was founded by Shanmugha Arts, Science, Technology & Research Academy (SASTRA) University in 2005 after the name of the genius mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan. The age limit for the prize is 32 years as Ramanujan died at 32.

SHANTI SWARUP BHATNAGAR PRIZE

CSIR in September 2015 announced Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar (SSB) Prize for Science and Technology 2015 for eleven scientists in recognition of

their work.

The selected awardees in different fields are

Biological Sciences: Dr. Balasubramanian Gopaland Dr Rajeev Kumar Varshney

Chemical Sciences: Dr D Srinivasa Reddy and Dr. Pradyut Ghosh

Earth, Atmosphere, Ocean and Planetary Sciences: Dr. Jyotiranjana Srichandan Ray

Engineering Sciences: Dr. Yogesh Moreshwar Joshi

Mathematical Sciences: Dr K Sandeep and Dr. Ritabrata Munshi

Medical Sciences: Dr. Vidita Ashok Vaidya

Physical Sciences: Dr. Bedangadas Mohanty Dr. Mandar Madhukar Deshmukh

FORBES INDIA LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Forbes India Leadership Awards-2015 was presented in September 2015 in Mumbai.

List of winners of Forbes India Leadership Awards-2015

Outstanding Start-up for the Year: Bhavish Aggarwal and Ankit Bhati of Ola

Nextgen Entrepreneur for the Year: Siddhartha Lal of Eicher Motors Ltd

Entrepreneur with Social Impact: Samit Ghosh, Ujjivan Financial Services Pvt. Ltd

Conscious Capitalist Company for the year: Godrej Consumer Products Ltd and Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Ltd (Amul).

Best CEO – Multinational Company: Uday Shankar, Star India Pvt. Ltd

Best CEO - Public Sector: Arundhati Bhattacharya, State Bank of India

Best CEO - Private Sector: CP Gurnani, Tech Mahindra Ltd

Lifetime Achievement Award for the Year: RC Bhargava of Maruti Suzuki India Ltd

Entrepreneur for the Year: Uday Kotak of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd

About Forbes India Leadership Awards

These awards were instituted in 2011 by the American business Magazine-Forbes.

Its objective is to recognize and honour outstanding entrepreneurs in the country.

Every year, awards will be to individuals and organizations in nine categories.

LAUREATES OF 2015 RIGHT LIVELIHOOD AWARDS

Laureates of 2015 Right Livelihood Awards were announced in October 2015. Tony de Brum & the People of the Marshall Islands, Sheila Watt-Cloutier (Canada), Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera (Uganda) and Gino Strada & his organisation 'Emergency' (Italy) were chosen for the prestigious award that is also known as Alternative Nobel Prize.

About Right Livelihood Award

It was established in 1980 by German-Swedish philanthropist Jakob von Uexkull, and is presented annually in early December in Swedish Parliament.

The award was given to honour and support those offering practical and exemplary answers to the most urgent challenges facing us today.

NOBEL PRIZE 2015**MEDICINE**

William C Campbell (Ireland)

Satoshi Omura (Japan)

You you Tu (China)

For their **discoveries concerning a novel therapy against infections caused by roundworm parasites** and Youyou Tu's discoveries concerning a novel therapy against Malaria.

PHYSICS

Takaaki Kajita, Japan

Arthur B. McDonald, Canada

For their **discovery of neutrino oscillations**, which shows that neutrinos have mass.

Takaaki Kajita belongs to the University of Tokyo while McDonald is from Queen's University, Canada.

CHEMISTRY

Tomas Lindahl, UK

Paul Modrich, USA

Aziz Sancar, USA

For having mapped how **cells repair damaged DNA and safeguard the genetic information** at a molecular level. Their work provided fundamental knowledge of how a living cell functions and how it is used for the development of new cancer treatments.

PEACE**National Dialogue Quartet of TUNESIA**

It was awarded for its decisive contribution to the building of a pluralistic democracy in Tunisia in the wake of Jasmine revolution of 2011. The first Nobel Peace Prize was awarded jointly in 1901 to Jean Henry Dunant, founder of International Committee of Red Cross and French peace activist and economist Frederic Passy.

About Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet

The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet comprised four key organizations in Tunisian civil society. These are:

The Tunisian General Labour Union

The Tunisian Confederation of Industry, Trade and Handicrafts

The Tunisian Human Rights League

The Tunisian Order of Lawyers

LITERATURE**Svetlana Alexievich, BELARUS**

The Swedish Academy has selected Svetlana "for her polyphonic writings, a monument to suffering and courage in our time". She is the first writer from Belarus to receive the award. Alexievich's work, chronicles the lives of Soviet women during World War Two as well as the consequences of the 1986 nuclear disaster in Chernobyl and the Soviet military adventure in Afghanistan.

Angus Deaton, EDINBURGH

He was awarded for his analysis of consumption, poverty, and welfare. The key to his work is measuring how public behaviour changes if, say, the government raises the VAT rate on food.

The Nobel Prize in Economics is officially known as Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel. It was established in 1968 and was not part of the original group of five awards established by the will of the Swedish inventor Alfred Nobel in 1895.

SKOCH AWARD

The Tiruchirapalli City Municipal Corporation in third week of September 2015 was awarded with Skoch Smart Governance Award for Achieving Operational Excellence in Waste Transportation using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) based solutions. The award was given by Skoch, a Gurgaon-based group that deals with social issues. The city corporation used radio frequency identification system (RFID) for effective solid waste management in the city.

About Radio Frequency Identification System (RFID)

Radio-frequency identification (RFID) is the wireless use of electromagnetic fields to transfer data to automatically identify and track tags attached to objects. The tags carry electronically stored information.

JAGRAN FILM FESTIVAL

Veteran Bollywood actor Shashi Kapoor was in October 2015 honoured with the Lifetime Achievement award during the closing ceremony of the 6th Jagran Film Festival in Mumbai.

List of winners at the Jagran Fest includes

Best Director: Shoojit Sircar for his film Piku

Best Feature Film: Kaushik Ganguly's Bengali film Chotoder Chobi

Best Actor (male): Dulal Sarkar for an outstanding performance in Chotoder Chobi

Best Actor (female): Bhumi Pednekar for her portrayal of Sandhya in Dum Laga Ke Haisha

Best Singer Female: Jyoti Nooran for Tanu Weds Manu Returns

Best Singer Male: Sukhwinder for Haider

INDIAN FIRM NUALGI WON POPU AWARD AT CLIMATE CoLab OF MIT

Nualgi, an Indian company with entirely Indian technology in the field of nano biotechnology, in October 2015 won the Popular Choice Awards at the Climate CoLab of Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), Cambridge. With this, Nualgi became the first Indian company to win the annual MIT contest.

Nualgi contains trace, special and appropriate nutrients that can deliver in a biologically available form.

What is MIT's Climate CoLab?

MIT's Climate CoLab initiative is a budding community of 50000 people from around the globe, who work together online through a series of interrelated contests focused on different aspects of the climate change problem.

2015 PEN PINTER PRIZE

Saudi blogger and activist Raif Badawi and British poet and critic James Fenton were in October 2015 awarded with the 2015 PEN Pinter Prize. Badawi was named as the 2015 International Writer of Courage by Fenton himself during a public event held at the British Library in London.

HRIDAYNATH MANGESKAR AWARD

A R Rehman was in October 2015 chosen for the 2015 Hridaynath Mangeskar Award. The Academy award winning music composer and singer was chosen by the Hridayesh Art for his contribution to the Indian music in his career spanning over two decades.

About Hridaynath Mangeskar Award

It was instituted by Hridayesh Art, a Mumbai- based socio-cultural organisation in honour of music composer and singer Hridaynath Mangeskar.

J.C. DANIEL AWARD

Renowned Malayalam filmmaker I.V. Sasi in October 2015 was awarded with the prestigious J.C. Daniel Award for the year 2014 for his contributions towards the Malayalam entertainment industry.

He is mostly known for his South Indian films.

He started his directorial career officially with his first film **Ulsavam**.

2015 MAN BOOKER PRIZE

Jamaican writer Marlon James in October 2015 won the 2015 Man Booker Prize for Fiction **for his novel A Brief History of Seven Killings**. With this, James became the first Jamaican author to win the prize in its 47-years of history.

The shortlisted authors are :-

1. Marlon James (Jamaica) "A Brief History of Seven Killings"
2. Tom McCarthy (UK), "Satin Island"
3. Chigozie Obioma (Nigeria), "The Fishermen"
4. **Sunjeev Sahota (UK based Indian origin), "The Year of the Runaways"**
5. Anne Tyler (US), "A Spool of Blue Thread"
6. Hanya Yanagihara (US), "A Little Life"

About Man Booker Prize

First awarded in 1969, the Man Booker Prize is recognised as the leading award for high quality literary fiction written in English. The award promotes the finest in fiction by rewarding the very best book of the year. The prize is the world's most important literary award and has the power to transform the fortunes of authors and publishers.

'FINANCE MINISTER OF THE YEAR, ASIA' BY EMERGING MARKETS

Union Finance Minister Arun Jaitley was chosen as 'Finance Minister of the Year, Asia' by London-based publication Emerging Markets in October 2015. Apart from this, Atiur Rahman, the Governor of Bangladesh Bank was named as the Central Bank Governor of the Year, Asia 2015.

PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL FOR PROMOTING PEACE

Tibetan Prime Minister Lobsang Sangay in October 2015 was awarded with the prestigious Presidential Medal by Salisbury University in Maryland, US for promoting peace and understanding.

PM Sangay dedicated the medal to the sufferings of the Tibetan people and the non-violent Tibetan movement to reinstate freedom and dignity inside Tibet.

HARVARD HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Kailash Satyarthi, who won the Nobel Peace Prize last year has been selected for the prestigious Harvard Humanitarian of the Year Award. Harvard Humanitarian of the Year Award is given to an individual whose works and deeds have served to improve the quality of lives and have inspired us to greater heights.

ABOUT KAILASH SATYARTHI

Kailash Satyarthi was born on 11 January 1954 in the Vidisha district of Madhya Pradesh.

In 1980, he gave up his career as a teacher and founded the **Bachpan Bachao Andolan** in 1980 and has acted to protect the rights of more than 83,000 children from 144 countries

HARVARD UNIVERSITY'S HUMANITARIAN OF THE YEAR AWARD

Nobel Peace Prize winner of 2014 Kailash Satyarthi was in October 2015 conferred with the **2015 Humanitarian of the Year Award**. The award is given annually by the Harvard Foundation for Intercultural and Race Relations of the Harvard University.

He was awarded for his continuing contribution to the cause of child rights and abolition of child slavery.

LONDON FILM FEST

Indian short film "**An Old Dog's Diary**", directed by Shai Heredia and Shumona Goel, has won the best short film award at the 2015 **London Film Festival (LFF)**. "An Old Dog's Diary" is a 11 -minute-long film that reveals the cultural conditions of Indian avant-garde painter Francis Newton Souza's work and its institutionalization by assembling the puzzle-piece evocations of his portrait.

CONFUCIUS PEACE PRIZE

Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe was in October 2015 awarded with the 2015 Confucius Peace Prize by China for supposedly injecting fresh energy into the global quest for harmony. **The Prize is dubbed as Chinese equivalent of the Nobel Peace Prize.**

Mugabe is the founding leader of Zimbabwe and has ruled the country since it gained independence in 1980 from United Kingdom. He was elected as Prime Minister in 1980 and served in that office till 1987. He became Zimbabwe's first President in December 1987 and since then he is serving in the office.

About Confucius Peace Prize

The prize was established in 2010 by China's Communist Government after it was angered by Nobel Peace Prize being awarded to imprisoned Chinese dissident Liu Xiaobo.

It is bestowed for promotion of world peace from the 21st-century interpretation of Confucianism i.e. universal harmony in the world.

Previous Recipients of the award are Vladimir Putin (2011), Kofi Annan and Yuan Longping (2012) and Fidel Castro (2014).

IMPORTANT DAYS

27 SEPTEMBER- WORLD TOURISM DAY

World Tourism Day was observed across the world on 27 September 2015. **The theme** of the World Tourism Day 2015 is **One Billion Tourists, One Billion Opportunities**. The theme wants you to talk Tourism and help to raise awareness of its impact on countries and communities around the world.

29 SEPTEMBER: WORLD HEART DAY

The World Heart Day was celebrated on 29 September 2015 across the world **with theme creating heart-healthy environments**. The purpose of the day is to ensure people participation across the globe in the world's biggest intervention against cardiovascular disease (CVD).

World Heart Day was founded in 2000 to inform people around the globe that heart disease and stroke are the world's leading causes of death, claiming 17.3 million lives annually.

30 SEPTEMBER: INTERNATIONAL TRANSLATION DAY

The International Translation Day was observed across the world on 30 September 2015 with the **theme The Changing Face of Translation and Interpreting**. Established by the International Federation of Translators (FIT), the annual celebration of the International Translation Day is an opportunity to pay tribute to the work of translators.

1 OCTOBER -INTERNATIONAL DAY OF OLDER PERSONS

The International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) was on 1 October 2015 observed across the world with the **theme Sustainability and Age**

Inclusiveness in the Urban Environment. The 2015 IDOP celebration demonstrated that an age inclusive agenda is crucial to promote equity, welfare and prosperity for all. The migration of people worldwide to cities is happening at a record pace with 6 out of every 10 people in the world expected to reside in urban areas by 2030. It means that the number of people over 60 living in cities may grow to over 900 million by 2050. A recent report by United Nations Population Fund and Help Age International revealed that India has around 100 million elderly at present and the number is expected to increase to 323 million, constituting 20 percent of the total population by 2050.

1-OCTOBER- WORLD VEGETARIAN DAY

World Vegetarian Day was observed on 1 October 2015. The day was established as an annual celebration to promote the joy, compassion and life-enhancing possibilities of vegetarianism.

It brings awareness to the ethical, environmental, health and humanitarian benefits of a vegetarian lifestyle. The day was originated by the North American Vegetarian Society in 1977 and endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union in 1978.

2 OCTOBER: NATIONAL ANTI-DRUG ADDICTION DAY

The National Anti-Drug Addiction Day was observed on 2 October 2015 across the country. It was observed to mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi who condemned the use of drugs. The aim of the day is to make India free from drug and to preserve the talent. As per the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB), while the year 2012 saw 10796 drug-related cases, it was increased to 12818 in 2013.

OCTOBER 2: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF NON-VIOLENCE

The International Day of Non-Violence was observed on 2 October 2015 across the world. It was celebrated to mark the birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi, a pioneer of the philosophy and strategy of non-violence. The International Day of Non-Violence was created by the United Nations by a resolution of the General Assembly on 15 June 2007.

FIRST MONDAY OF OCTOBER: WORLD HABITAT DAY

The World Habitat Day was on 5 October 2015 observed across the world with the theme **Public Spaces for All**. The 2015 World Habitat Day campaign aims to recognize the challenges and issues around Public Spaces. The origin of World Habitat Day dates back to 17 December 1985, when the UN General Assembly designated the first Monday of October of every year as World Habitat Day through its resolution. It was first celebrated in 1986.

8 OCTOBER: INDIAN AIR FORCE DAY

The Air Force Day 2015 was on 8 October 2015 observed across India. This is the 83rd celebration of the Day that began in 1932. The Air Force Day was officially celebrated for the first time on 8 October in the year 1932 as an auxiliary air force of Indian Empire. The day was observed to increase the awareness about the importance of Indian air force in any organization of the national security by both officially and publicly.

8 OCTOBER: WORLD SIGHT DAY

World Sight Day (WSD) was observed on 8 October 2015 with theme Eye care for all. The global event is observed to draw attention on blindness and vision impairment. The Day is an annual day of awareness held on the second Thursday of October, to focus global attention on blindness and vision impairment.

The day was originally initiated by the **Sight First Campaign** of Lions Club International Foundation in 2000. WSD is co-ordinated by International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) under the **VISION 2020 Global Initiative**.

8-OCTOBER- AIR FORCE DAY

The Indian Air Force (IAF) celebrated its 83rd anniversary on 8 October, 2015 with a large parade and air display at the Hindon air base near Delhi. The major take away from the celebrations was the announcement of a planned inclusion of women pilots in the fighter squadrons. Chief of Air Staff,

Air Chief Marshal Arup Raha, announced that women pilots will soon fly fighter jets of the Indian Air Force.

9 OCTOBER: WORLD POST DAY

World Post Day was observed globally on 9 October 2015 with the theme Posts claim their place in the changing communication landscape. The day marks the date of establishment of Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland.

World Post Day celebrations in India

In India, the day is celebrated as a part of the National Postal Week and it continues till 15 October. This week is observed in different forms and they are

11 October – Savings Bank Day

12 October – Mail Day

13 October – Philately Day

14 October – Postal Life Insurance Day

15 October – Business Development Day

About World Post Day

The day is observed annually on the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in 1874 in the Swiss Capital, Bern. Universal Postal Union Congress held in Tokyo, Japan in 1969 declared a day to be observed as the World Post Day. Since that declaration, the day is being observed and celebrated in different countries across the world.

9 OCTOBER: WORLD EGG DAY

20th World Egg Day was observed on 9 October 2015 across the world. The Day is a unique opportunity to help raise awareness of the benefits of eggs and is celebrated in countries all around the world.

Countries all around the world celebrate the day by highlighting the benefits of eggs. World Egg Day was established at the **International Egg Commission (IEC)** Vienna 1996 conference when it was decided to celebrate World Egg Day on the second Friday in October each year. The **National Egg Co-ordination Committee (NECC)** is conducting several programmes to promote awareness about the nutritional value of the egg as part of the World Egg Day campaign.

India is the third largest egg producer in the world after China and USA. The Per Capita Egg consumption in Andhra Pradesh is 99 eggs per year against the national average of 68 eggs and the recommendation of National Nutrition Council is of 180 eggs per head per annum.

OCTOBER 11: INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE GIRL CHILD

The Fourth International Day of the Girl Child (IDGC) was observed across the world in October 2015 with the theme **The Power of Adolescent Girl: Vision for 2030.**

About International Day of the Girl Child

It was created by the United Nations through a resolution in 2011.

Its objective is to promote the rights of girls and address the unique challenges they face.

16 OCTOBER-WORLD FOOD DAY

World Food Day was celebrated on 16 October to mark the date of the founding of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations in 1945. **The theme for this year's World Food Day is "Social Protection and Agriculture: Breaking the Cycle of Rural Poverty"**

17 OCTOBER: INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR THE ERADICATION OF POVERTY

The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty was observed globally on 17 October 2015 with the theme **Building a sustainable future: Coming together to end poverty and discrimination.**

The 2015 observance of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is a special one, as it comes on the heels of the **adoption of transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.**

20 OCTOBER: WORLD STATISTICS DAY

The World Statistics Day was observed across the world on 20 October 2015 with the theme **Better Data, Better Lives**. This year celebrations mark the second observance of the World Statistics Day.

The year 2015 marks the bicentenary of the birth of **George Boole**, whose work on the application of the principles of logic as a form of algebra underpins modern computer science.

21 OCTOBER-GLOBAL IODINE DEFICIENCY DISORDERS PREVENTION DAY

Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Prevention Day was observed on 21 October 2015 across the world to create awareness of the need to prevent iodine deficiency. Iodine deficiency can lead to enlargement of the thyroid, hypothyroidism and mental retardation in infants and children whose mothers were iodine deficient during pregnancy.

NOVEMBER 26- CONSTITUTION DAY

Constitution Day or (Samvidhan Divas) will be celebrated on November 26 with an aim to spread awareness of Indian Constitution and its architecture Dr B R Ambedkar. Education about India's Constitution will be taught in schools on November 26.

It should be noted that "The Constitution of India" was adopted by the Constituent Assembly on 26 November 1949, which came into force on 26 January 1950. Dr. Bhim Rao Ramji Ambedkar is regarded as the father of the Indian Constitution.

BOOKS IN NEWS

HUNGRY BENGAL: WAR, FAMINE, RIOTS AND THE END OF EMPIRE: JANAM MUKHERJEE

The book Hungry Bengal highlights the tumultuous period in the history of Bengal before the independence and after partition of India. It says that Bengal represented both as a major front in the Indian struggle against colonial rule, as well as a crucial front in the British/American conflict with Japan during World War II.

RULED OR MISRULED: STORY AND DESTINY OF BIHAR: SANTOSH SINGH

The book titled Ruled or Misruled: Story and Destiny of Bihar authored by the Assistant Editor of the Indian Express' Santosh Singh was released in last week of September 2015.

The book Ruled or Misruled offers a 360 degree journey of Bihar politics since Independence, especially since the Congress' downfall in 1990. The book also narrates the stories of repair, hope and construction under Nitish Kumar, disillusionment and new political realignment after the 2013 NDA split. It highlights the coming together of Nitish and Lalu after two.

THE CLINTONS' WAR ON WOMEN: ROGER STONE AND ROBERT MORROW

The book titled The Clintons' War on Women authored by Roger Stone and Robert Morrow was in news in first week of October 2015. It came into news as it claims that Hillary Clinton who is running for the US President as an advocate of women and girls is in actual volatile and prone to violent outbursts that terrorize even her own husband.

THE COURAGE TO ACT - A MEMOIR OF A CRISIS AND ITS AFTERMATH: BEN S. BERNANKE

The book titled The Courage to Act - A Memoir of a Crisis and Its Aftermath authored by Ben S. Bernanke was released in the first week of October 2015. The author through the book has questioned the inflation targeting policy followed by Federal Reserve even during the recession and in turn has proposed the adoption Nominal Gross Domestic Product (NGDP) policy to better deal with recessions like 2008 Financial Crisis.

DREAMING BIG: MY JOURNEY TO CONNECT INDIA BY SAM PITRODA

The book *Dreaming Big: My Journey to Connect India* was launched on 19 October 2015. It is the auto biography of Sam Pitroda written with the help of David Chanoff, an American author. The book describes the journey of Satanarayan Gangaram Pitroda, considered as the **'father of Indian telecom revolution'**.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

LONG MARCH-11 SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHED

China in September 2015 successfully launched a new model of carrier rocket the Long March-11 from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Centre in the north-western province of Gansu. The Long March 11 launch is the 211th of China's Long March series. The launch of Long March-11 was China's eighth launch in 2015.

ASTROSAT LAUNCHED

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) in September 2015 launched India's first dedicated satellite for astronomy research, named ASTROSAT. The satellite was launched from the first launch pad of Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh by Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C30). ASTROSAT is India's first dedicated multi wavelength space observatory.

INS KOCHI

Union Defence Minister Manohar Parikkar in September 2015 dedicated the INS Kochi at the Naval Dockyard in Mumbai. It is the largest warship built so far in India weighing over 7500 tonnes.

Features of INS Kochi

It incorporates an array of state-of-the-art weapons and sensors including long-range surface-to-surface BrahMos missile.

It is the second in the Indian Navy, next to INS Kolkata, to have Multi-Function Surveillance and Threat Alert Radar (MF-STAR) to provide target data to Long Range Surface to Air Missile system (LR-SAM).

It is equipped to operate two Sea King or Chetakhelicopters.

DRDO INAUGURATED WORLD'S HIGHEST RESEARCH CENTRE IN LADAKH

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in October 2015 inaugurated an Extreme Altitude Research Centre at Chang La, Ladakh in Jammu and Kashmir at 17600 feet above mean sea level. It is the world's highest terrestrial research and development centre. It is situated 75 km off Leh town towards Pangong Lake. The centre will serve as a natural cold storage for preserving rare and endangered medicinal plants for generations.

About Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR)

Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR), formerly known as Field Research Laboratory, is one of the laboratories of DRDO. It was established in 1962. The lab is the brainchild of India's first Prime

Minister Jawaharlal Nehru. DIHAR is situated in Leh at an altitude of 3500 meter above mean sea level. The lab specialises in cold arid agro-animal technology in the world.

CORPAT BETWEEN INDIA AND INDONESIA

26th edition of the Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) between India and Indonesia held in October 2015 in the Andaman Sea. 18-day long CORPAT also includes first ever bilateral exercise between the two nations.

About CORPAT

The two navies have been carrying out Coordinated Patrolling (CORPAT) along the International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) twice a year since 2002 with the aim of keeping this vital part of the Indian Ocean Region safe and secure for commercial shipping and international trade.

INS ASTRADHARANI COMMISSIONED

The Indian Navy IN October 2015 commissioned the first indigenously-designed and built torpedo launch and recovery vessel INS Astradharani at the Naval Base in Visakhapatnam. The ship was collaboratively designed by Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) of DRDO, Shoft Shipyard and IIT Kharagpur.

About INS Astradharini

INS Astradharani will be used to carry out the technical trials of underwater weapons and systems developed by NSTL.

The ship has a complement of two officers and 27 sailors and can carry 13 scientists.

With all modern amenities that warships have.

With a length of 50 m, the vessel can undertake multiple trials during a single sortie and is fully equipped

MOBILE APP 'ASCMEI.T' TO HELP PEOPLE WITH AUTISM

British researchers in October 2015 developed a new mobile app named ASCmel. T that will help people with autism in the development of new technologies for their own use. The app enables people with Autism Spectrum Conditions as well as families, teachers, professionals and anyone who supports someone with autism to share their ideas on what kind of new technology would be of best help.

'HAND-IN-HAND'- INDIA AND CHINA JOINT MILITARY EXERCISE

India and China jointly conduct combined military training exercise Hand-in-Hand in October 2015 at Kunming Military Academy, Yunnan, China. This is the fifth exercise of the series, which started in 2007.

INDIA-SRI LANKA JOINT EXERCISE 'MITRA SHAKTI-2015'

The third India-Sri Lanka joint training exercise, named Mitra Shakti-2015, ended in October 2015 at Aundh Military Camp, Pune.

INDIA, US AND JAPAN BEGAN FIVE-DAY MALABAR EXERCISE 2015

The Navies of India, United States and Japan in October 2015 conducted five-day Malabar exercise 2015 on the Eastern Coast in which several warships, aircraft carriers and fast attack submarine will be participating. Malabar 2015 is a latest in the continuing series of exercises conducted to advance multi-national maritime relationships and mutual security issues.

NATO LAUNCHED MILITARY EXERCISE TRIDENT JUNCTURE IN ITALY

North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies and partner nations in October 2015 launched the Alliance's Trident Juncture military exercise at the Trapani air force base in Italy The Trident juncture is the largest NATO exercise for over a decade and will increase readiness and ability to work together.

SPORTS

JAPANESE GRAND PRIX

Lewis Hamilton Lewis Hamilton of Britain and Mercedes racing driver in September 2015 won the 2015 Formula 1 Japanese Grand Prix title. It was Hamilton's third victory in Japan having won the titles in 2007 and 2014. It was also the eighth title in the 2015 season for Hamilton as he won the titles in Australia, China, Bahrain, Canada, the UK, Belgium and Italy.

GHANGZHOU OPEN WOMEN'S DOUBLES TITLE

Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis in September 2015 won the Guangzhou Open title of tennis. The top-seeded Indo-Swiss pair defeated the Chinese pair of XuShilin and You Xiaodi. It was Sania's seventh title of the 2015 season and sixth with Hingis.

HEENA SINDHU

Indian pistol shooter Heena Sindhu in September 2015 won the gold medal in women's 10 meter air pistol event at the 8th Asian Air Gun

Championships in New Delhi. Heena is India's first pistol shooter to be ranked number one in the world. India won an impressive haul of 17 medals, including six gold medals to finish as toppers in the continental event.

ICC WOMEN'S TEAM RANKINGS LAUNCHED

The International Cricket Council (ICC) in October 2015 launched the official ICC Women's Team Rankings, which incorporate results in all three formats of the game into one rankings system. The innovative new system treats results from Test, ODI and T20I cricket equally.

Australia was ranked number one following its success in the ICC Women's World Cup 2013 in India and the ICC Women's World Twenty20 2014 in Bangladesh. **Indian women's cricket team** was ranked at **fourth place** in the list.

FIBA ASIAN BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

China in October 2015 won the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) Asia Championship by defeating the Philippines by 78-67 in the final. The victory has won the nation a direct qualification for the 2016 Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

WUHAN TENNIS OPEN

Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis in October 2015 won the women's doubles title of Wuhan Tennis Open. The top-seeded Indo-Swiss pair defeated Romanian team of Irina-Camelia Begu and Monica Niculescu 6-2, 6-3 in the title clash. With this win, the Indo-Swiss pair won their seventh WTA doubles titles together in the year 2015.

ASIA'S PREMIER MOUNTAIN BIKING RACE

Luis Leao Pinto of Portugal in October 2015 won Asia's premier mountain biking race and got the crown of 'King of the Himalaya' for the second time. He took time of 27:29:22 in the 600 km long 7 stages biking race that ended in capital Shimla of Himachal Pradesh.

FIDE WORLD CHESS CUP

Russia's Sergey Karjakin in October 2015 emerged victorious in the 2015 FIDE World Chess Cup beating Peter Svidler by 6-4 in the final. It was held in Azerbaijan's capital, Baku, from 10 September 2015 to 5 October 2015. Sergey Karjakin is World No. 11 in FIDE World Rankings that governs international chess competition.

WOMEN'S EUROPEAN VOLLEYBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Russia in October 2015 won the Women's European Volleyball Championship title. In the final played at the Sport paleis Ahoy Arena in Rotterdam, Russia defeated Netherlands. This was the 19th title for Russia.

CYCLIST TAIWAN CYCLING CHAMPIONSHIP

Indian cyclist Deborah He rold in the first week of October 2015 bagged one gold, three silver and one bronze medal at the 2015 Taiwan Cup held at the Hsin Chu Velodrome, Hsin-Chu city in Taiwan. With this, she became the first ever Indian cyclist to win in women's elite section.

NCC NATIONAL GAMES

The National Cadet Corps-National Games 2015 held in October in Delhi. Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Chandigarh NCC Directorates won the **Raksha Mantri Overall Champions** trophy.

About NCC National Games -2015

The NCC National Games holds its origin in 1997 when they were held as a part of the NCC Golden Jubilee Celebrations. Later, it was decided to conduct different games on the regional levels.

Since 2013, the NCC National Games are being conducted in a centralized format at Delhi. NCC adopted its motto **Unity & Discipline** on 23 December 1957.

BEIGHTON CUP OF HOCKEY

Punjab National Bank (PNB) in October 2015 claimed the Beighton Cup hockey tournament at the Sports Authority of India (SAI) ground in Kolkata.

PNB defeated Indian Oil Corporation (IOC).

About Beighton Cup

Beighton Cup, one of the oldest field hockey tournaments, was instituted in 1895.

It is organised by Bengal Hockey Association and is held on Astro Turf (artificial grass) at Sports Authority of India in Kolkata.

CHINA OPEN TENNIS

Novak Djokovic in October 2015 won the China Open Men's Singles title by defeating Rafael Nadal of Spain. Spain's Garbine Muguruza captured the China Open women's singles title by defeating Switzerland's Timea Bacsinszky.

Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis won women's doubles title defeating Chinese Taipei pair of Hao-Ching Chan and Yung-Jan Chan. With this win, the Indo-Swiss pair won their eighth WTA doubles titles together in the year 2015. The other seven titles are Indian Wells, Miami, Charleston, Wimbledon, US Open, Guangzhou and Wuhan.

DUTCH OPEN BADMINTON TITLE

Ajay Jayaram of India in October 2015 won Dutch Open Men's Singles badminton title defeating Estonia's Raul at Almere in Netherlands.

RUSSIAN GRAND PRIX

Lewis Hamilton of Britain and Mercedes racing driver in October 2015 won the 2015 Formula 1 Russian Grand Prix title. He defended the title at the final race held at Sochi Autodrom in Sochi, Russia.

INDIA WON MEN'S HOCKEY TEST SERIES AGAINST NEW ZEALAND BY 2-1

India in October 2015 won the four-match Men's Hockey Test series against New Zealand 2-1 at Christchurch.

ASIAN BODY BUILDING CHAMPIONSHIP

Indian female bodybuilder Shweta Rathore in first week of October 2015 won a silver medal in the 49th Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Championship, held in Uzbekistan. With this, she became the first ever Indian female bodybuilder to win a medal at a continental level tournament.

ZAHEER KHAN RETIRED

Zaheer Khan, one of India's finest pacers, in October 2015 retired from all forms of international and first-class Cricket. However, he will continue to play in IPL for one more season.

Zaheer, with 311 wickets, is the fourth highest Indian wicket-taker in Tests behind Anil Kumble (619), Kapil Dev (434) and Harbhajan Singh (417). He was also the third highest wicket-taker in international cricket among left-arm pacers.

VIETNAM OPEN TENNIS TROPHY

India's tennis player Saketh Myneni in October 2015 won the Vietnam Open tennis trophy in the men's singles category. In the title clash, he defeated Australia's Jordan Thompson.

SULTAN OF JOHOR CUP HOCKEY CUP

Great Britain in October 2015 defeated Indian junior men's hockey team and captured Sultan of Johor Cup (SOJC).

Best Player: Harjeet Singh of India

About Sultan of Johor Cup

Sultan of Johor Cup (SOJ Cup) is an annual international under-21 field hockey tournament held in Malaysia. It is the only invitational junior hockey competition played at international level.

SHANGHAI ROLEX MASTERS TENNIS TITLE

World Number 1 ranking Novak Djokovic in October 2015 won the 2015 Shanghai Rolex Masters tennis title defeating Jo-Wilfried Tsonga in Shanghai, China.

DENMARK OPEN BADMINTON OPEN

Li Xuerui defeated PV Sindhu in October 2015 to win the 2015 Denmark badminton open women's singles final. For Sindhu, it was her maiden super series final. **The Denmark Open, or formerly known as Danish Open**, is an annual badminton tournament organized by Danmarks Badminton Forbund.

FIFA SUSPENDED KUWAIT FOOTBALL ASSOCIATION

Zurich-based Federation International de Football Association (FIFA) in October 2015 suspended Kuwait Football Association (KFA) with immediate effect.

It was banned because of interference of the government officials in the running of the sports by the KFA.

The suspension will be lifted only when the KFA and its members (the clubs) are able to carry out their activities and obligations independently.

VIRENDER SEHWAG ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Virender Sehwag has announced his retirement from international cricket. Sehwag played his first One Day International in 1999 and joined the Indian Test team in 2001. He is the only Indian to be honoured as the Wisden Leading Cricketer in the World for his performance in 2008 and subsequently becoming the first player of any nationality to retain the award for 2009.

Test Career

Sehwag played 104 Tests scoring 8586 runs at an impressive average of 49.34, hitting 23 centuries and 32 half-centuries. Sehwag is the only Indian batsman to score a triple-century in Tests, and he did it twice.

ODI Career

In 251 ODIs, he accumulated 8273 runs at an average of 35.05 and scored 15 hundreds apart from Hitting 38 fifties. He has second highest ODI score of 219 after Rohit Sharma.

AB DE VILLIERS

Tyre manufacturing giant MRF Limited in October 2015 named South African batsman AB de Villiers as its brand ambassador. As per company norms, the association is for a period of three years.

AB de Villiers, the ODI captain of South Africa team, in his new role will endorse the company's products and services through advertising campaigns and other such promotional programmes during the term of the agreement.

ALL INDIA COUNCIL OF SPORTS CONSTITUTED

Union Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in October 2015 constituted All India Council of Sports to advise the ministry on matters relating to the promotion and development of sports and games in the country. It will be headed by **Prof V K Malhotra**.

FIRST WORLD INDIGENOUS GAMES

First World Indigenous Games started in Brazil in October 2015 in the northern Brazilian city of Palmas.

The games are a multi-sport event involving indigenous athletes has around 2000 athletes participating from many indigenous ethnic groups and 30 countries like Ethiopia, Mongolia, Brazil, Australia, Russia, the Philippines, Ethiopia and New Zealand.

SAINA NEHWAL LOST WORLD NO. 1 RANKING TO CAROLINA MARIN

Ace Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal in October 2015 lost her World No. 1 ranking to All England and World champion Carolina Marin of Spain. She lost her rank after making early exits from Japan Open and Denmark Open.

JACQUES KALLIS

Former South African all-rounder Jacques Kallis was in October 2015 appointed as the Head Coach of the Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) team. He succeeds Trevor Bayliss, who was appointed as the Head Coach of England earlier in 2015. Kallis will be assisted by another legend Pakistan's Wasim Akram, who has been serving as the team's Bowling Coach for the past few seasons.

ANIL KUMBLE

Former Indian captain and leg spinner Anil Kumble in October 2015 was named as the brand ambassador of the Raipur Rangers — one of the franchises of Champions Tennis League (CTL).

Raipur Rangers is co-owned by Abhishek Mishra and Chinmay Tiwari and will comprise players like Thomas Muster, Alize Cornet and Ramanathan Ramkumar.

SOUTH AFRICA WON T-20 SERIES AGAINST INDIA 2-0

South Africa in October 2015 won the three-match T-20 International series against India 2-0. The third and the final match of the series was abandoned without a ball being bowled because of a wet outfield.

Player of the series - JP Duminy (South Africa)

BANKING**UCO BANK REGISTERED HIGHEST INCREASE IN GROSS NPA's**

UCO Bank in October 2015 registered the highest increase in gross Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in percentage terms against total loans in the 2014-15 fiscal year. With this, UCO Bank became the worst performer among the other public sector banks. The Gross NPA to gross advances ratio of UCO Bank increased to 8.05 percent at the end of March 2015 from 4.47 percent, accretion of 3.58 on an annual basis. The UCO Bank was followed by Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) and Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) with their gross NPA rising to 8.30 percent and 6.18 percent respectively at the end of March 2015.

About Non Performing Assets

Banks usually classify any commercial loans as Non-Performing Assets which are overdue for more than 90 days and any consumer loans which are overdue for more than 180 days. More generally, NPA are those assets that are not producing any income.

FOURTH BI-MONTHLY MONETARY POLICY STATEMENT 2015-16

Fourth bi-monthly monetary policy statement 2015-16 was announced in September 2015 by Raghuram Rajan, the Governor of Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

The monetary policy cut the **repo rate**, the rate at which RBI lends to commercial bank, by 0.50 percent from 7.25 percent to **6.75 percent**. As a result, the **reverse repo rate**, the rate at which RBI borrows from commercial banks, stands adjusted to **5.75 percent**, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate and the **Bank Rate to 7.75 per cent**. The **cash reserve ratio (CRR)** of scheduled banks was kept unchanged at **4 percent** of net demand and time liabilities (NDTL).

ICICI BANK LAUNCHED MVISA-BASED MOBILE PAYMENT SERVICE

ICICI Bank in October 2015 launched a mobile payment service based on mVisa. The service enables customers to make electronic payments from their smart phones at traditional stores, e-commerce sites, deliveries made at home, radio taxi and utility bills among others.

RBI FORMED FINANCIAL INCLUSION FUND WITH 2000 CRORE RUPEES CORPUS

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in October 2015 formed a single Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF) with a corpus of 2000 crore rupees. The fund was formed by merging the Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF) and Financial Inclusion Technology Fund (FITF). The new FIF will be administered by the reconstituted Advisory Board constituted by Union Government and will be maintained by NABARD.

Objective of Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF)

To support developmental and promotional activities with a view to securing greater financial inclusion

The development and promotional activities include creation of FI infrastructure across the country, capacity building of stakeholders, creation of awareness to address demand side issues, enhanced investment in Green Information and Communication Technology (ICT) solution and increased technological absorption capacity of financial service providers/users.

Purposes of Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF)

Support for funding the setting up and operational cost for running Financial Inclusion & Literacy Centers in sync with the objective of Union Government for setting up Financial Literacy Centers up to the block level under the Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY).

Setting up of Standard Interactive Financial Literacy Kiosks in Gram Panchayats and any other financial literacy efforts under taken by banks in excluded areas

Support to NABARD & Banks for running of Business & Skill Development Centers including R-SETIs

PM NARENDRA MODI INAUGURATED IDFC BANK

Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 inaugurated the IDFC Bank in New Delhi.

IDFC Bank Limited, which started its operations on 1 October 2015, is an Indian Banking company with headquarters in Mumbai that forms a part of IDFC, an integrated infrastructure finance company.

IDFC Bank was granted a universal banking license in July 2015 by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

IDFC was incorporated on 30 January 1997.

RBI MOU WITH CENTRAL BANK OF UAE FOR SUPERVISORY INFORMATION EXCHANGE

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Central Bank of UAE, United Arab Emirates on Supervisory Cooperation and Exchange of Supervisory Information.

RBI DIRECTIONS ON GOLD MONETISATION SCHEME 2015

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in October 2015 issued a Direction to all Scheduled Commercial Banks (excluding Regional Rural Banks) on implementation of the Gold Monetisation Scheme, 2015 notified by the Union Government. The RBI issued the direction to banks in exercise of powers conferred on it under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

The GMS 2015 will replace the existing Gold Deposit Scheme, 1999.

Directions on implementation of GMS 2015

The deposits outstanding under the Gold Deposit Scheme will be allowed to run till maturity unless the depositors prematurely withdraw them.

The minimum deposit at any one time shall be raw gold (bars, coins, jewellery excluding stones and other metals) equivalent to 30 grams of gold of 995 fineness.

There is no maximum limit for deposit under the scheme.

The deposit certificates will be issued by banks in equivalence of 995 fineness of gold.

The principal and interest of the deposit under the scheme will be denominated in gold.

There will be provision for premature withdrawal subject to a minimum lock-in period and penalty to be determined by individual banks.

Interest on deposits will start accruing from the date of conversion of gold deposited into tradable gold bars after refinement or 30 days after the receipt of gold at the CPTC or the bank's designated branch.

Utilisation of Gold mobilised under GMS

The designated banks may sell or lend the gold accepted under STBD to MMTC for minting India Gold Coins (IGC) and to jewellers, or sell it to other designated banks participating in GMS. The gold deposited will be auctioned by MMTC or any other agency authorised by the Central Government and the sale proceeds will be credited to the Union Government's account with the Reserve Bank.

RBI RELAXED NORMS OF FPI INVESTMENT IN GOVERNMENT SECURITIES

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in October 2015 relaxed the norms of Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs) of government debt and also announced higher investment limits in rupee terms in government securities with a view to bring in an additional 1.2 lakh crore rupees by March 2018.

RBI Directions

The limit will be increased from 1.53 lakh crore rupees to 1.7 lakh crore rupees from 12 October and it will be 1.86 lakh crore rupees from 1 January 2016.

Those Central Government securities in which aggregate investment by FPIs exceeds the prescribed threshold of 20% will be put in a negative investment list.

The RBI fixed the FPI investment limits in rupee terms and raised the limits in phases to reach 5 percent of the outstanding stock by March 2018.

BUSINESS & ECONOMY

EU IMPOSED ANTI-DUMPING DUTY ON INDIAN WATER AND SEWAGE PIPES

The European Union (EU) in September 2015 imposed a provisional anti-dumping duty of up to 31.2 percent on imports of water and sewage pipes made of ductile cast iron from India for six months to protect its industry.

The European Commission in its anti-dumping probe has concluded that the material injury to the Union industry was caused by the dumped imports from India.

WORLD BANK REPORT ON URBANISATION

Leveraging Urbanisation World Bank in September 2015 released a report entitled Leveraging Urbanisation in South Asia: Managing Spatial Transformation for Prosperity and Livability.

The report provided original empirical and diagnostic analysis of urbanization and related economic trends in the South Asia region.

Highlights

South Asia's urban population grew by 130 million between 2001 and 2011-it is more than the entire population of Japan- and is poised to grow by almost 250 million by 2030.

Manufacturing and services account for more than 80 percent of the region's GDP.

INDIA SIGNED LOAN AGREEMENT WITH ADB

India in September 2015 signed a 123.51 million US dollar loan agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) to upgrade tourism infrastructure and services in Punjab, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh.

The loan will be used for development and conservation of the places of tourist attractions.

This is the third tranche loan agreement and it is a part of the 250 million US dollar multi-tranche financing facility named **Infrastructure Development Investment Program for Tourism** that was approved by ADB in 2010.

WIPRO SELECTED AS MEMBER OF SUSTAINABILITY WORLD INDEX

A leading global information technology, consulting and business process services company, Wipro Limited in September 2015 was selected as member of the global Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) - 2015 for the sixth consecutive year. A total of 317 companies were selected as the DJSI World constituents for the year 2015-16 out of 1845 companies that were assessed from around the world. The Dow Jones Sustainability

Indices (DJSI) was launched in September 1999. DJSI evaluates the sustainability performance of the largest 2500 companies listed on the Dow Jones Global Total Stock Market Index.

INDIA MOST-FAVOURABLE DESTINATION FOR FDI

London-based business daily Financial Times (FT) in September 2015 released Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) data for the period January – June of 2015. India in the first half of 2015 surpassed China to emerge as the most-favoured destination for FDI. India received 31 billion dollar of foreign capital inflows through FDI during January-June. India and China are followed by the US with 27 billion dollars at third place.

GROWTH OF EIGHT CORE SECTORS INCREASED BY 2.6 PERCENT IN AUGUST 2015

The Index of Eight Core Industries with base year 2004-05 was released in September 2015 by the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP) under Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

As per official figures growth of eight core sectors grew by 2.6 percent in August 2015, as compared to the August 2014. The combined Index of Eight Core Industries stands at 169.6 in August 2015.

IMF RELEASED WORLD ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

International Monetary Fund (IMF) in October 2015 released World Economic Outlook (WEO) October 2015 Update titled **Adjusting to Lower Commodity Prices**.

Global Outlook for 2015-16

India's growth is expected to strengthen from 7.3 percent 2015 and last year to 7.5 percent in 2016.

Global growth is projected to decline from 3.4 percent in 2014 to 3.1 percent in 2015, before picking up to 3.6 percent in 2016. The decline in growth in 2015 reflects a further slowdown in emerging markets, partially offset by a modest pickup in activity in advanced economies—particularly in the euro area.

Among emerging market and developing economies, growth in countries in economic distress in 2015 including Brazil, Russia, and some countries in Latin America and in the Middle East, while remaining weak or negative, is projected to be higher than in 2015. **Domestic demand in India is projected to remain strong.**

Inflation is projected to decline in 2015 in advanced economies, reflecting primarily the impact of lower oil prices. Growth in India is expected to rise above the rates in other major emerging market economies. India's growth is expected to strengthen from 7.3 percent 2015 and last year to 7.5 percent in 2016.

INDIA'S GDP TO GROW AT 7.5 PERCENT IN 2015: UNCTAD

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development in October 2015 (UNCTAD) projected that India's gross domestic product (GDP) is expected to grow at 7.5 per cent in 2015 as compared to China's 6.9. As per the report, the growth rate for world in 2015 is expected to remain more or less unchanged from last year, at 2.5 per cent.

FUTURE GROUP TIED-UP WITH BABA RAMDEV'S PATANJALI AYURVED

Retail major Future Group in October 2015 tied-up with Baba Ramdev-promoted Patanjali Ayurved to sell the Patanjali's FMCG products on its stores with plans for joint manufacturing in future.

With this partnership, Patanjali's FMCG products including staples, nutrition, hair care, skin care, dental care and toiletries will now onwards be also sold on Future Group's Big Bazaar, KB's and Easy Day outlets across India. Kishore Biyani-led Future Group expects sales from Patanjali to the tune of 1000 crore rupees in the next 20 months. The Future Group stores chain is spread across 240 cities and receives 35 crore footfalls a year.

TATA HOUSING TIED-UP WITH FACEBOOK TO SELL ITS AFFORDABLE HOMES ONLINE

Real estate developer Tata Housing in October 2015 tied-up with social networking firm Facebook to sell its affordable homes online. For this

purpose, Tata Housing launched the new campaign titled **Social sell** on Facebook.

DELL INC ACQUIRED EMC CORPORATION

Dell Inc and EMC Corporation in October 2015 signed a definitive agreement under which Dell, together with its owners will acquire EMC Corporation, while maintaining VMware as a publicly-traded company. This will be the biggest tech deal in history with a 67 billion US dollars acquisition of EMC Corp by Dell.

TRAI MADE MANDATORY FOR TELECOM OPERATORS TO COMPENSATE FOR CALL DROPS FROM 1 JANUARY 2016

Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in October 2015 made it mandatory for mobile service providers (MSPs) to compensate consumers call drops with effect from 1 January 2016. TRAI has raised the penalty on telecom operators for poor mobile service quality including call drops from Rs 50,000 at present to Rs. 1 lakh for first violation, Rs. 1.5 lakh for second violation, Rs. 2 lakh thereafter.

What has been mandated to MSPs?

Credit the account of the calling consumer by one rupee. However, such credit in the account of the calling consumer will be limited to three dropped calls in a day.

Send a message through SMS/USSD to the calling consumer within four hours of the occurrence of call drop and details of the amount credited into his account.

In case of post-paid consumers provide the detail of the credit in the next bill.

MALAYSIA TO INVEST \$ 30 BILLION FOR URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

The Construction Industry Development Board (CIDB) of Malaysia in October 2015 proposed to invest 30 billion US dollars in urban development and housing projects in India. The redevelopment of New Delhi Railway Station adjoining area as a mini-smart city is proposed to be taken up with an investment of about 24 billion US dollars. CIDB also proposed to take up a Green City Project at Garhmukteshwar in Uttar Pradesh involving housing and Ganga cleaning projects with an investment of about 4 billion US dollars.

ADITYA BIRLA GROUP LAUNCHED ONLINE FASHION STORE ABOF.COM

The Aditya Birla Group in October 2015 launched a new online fashion store Abof.com with an aim to tap a boom in e-commerce. The portal www.abof.com will offer shoppers brands from both the Aditya Birla Group and other companies.

Abof (all about fashion) is a one-stop fashion portal for apparel, footwear and accessories for men and women.

FISCAL BALANCE REPORT AUGUST 2015: CGA

The Controller-General of Accounts (CGA) in the second week of October 2015 announced that India's fiscal balance turned from deficit to surplus for the first time in 8 years. Fiscal deficit-difference between revenue and expenditure excluding borrowings- for August 2015 was pegged at - 15808 crore rupees that indicates surplus of revenues over expenditure.

GOVERNMENT INCREASED IMPORT DUTY ON WHEAT TO 25%

Union Government in October 2015 raised the basic customs duty on wheat to 25 percent from 10 percent. This increase will be valid till 31 March 2016.

INFOSYS TO ACQUIRE NOAH CONSULTING

India's second largest information technology (IT) services company, Infosys has announced the acquisition of US-based Noah Consulting firm for USD 70 million (Rs. 454 crores) in a cash deal.

RELIANCE CAPITAL TO ACQUIRE GOLDMAN SACHS MUTUAL FUNDS BUSINESS IN INDIA

Reliance Capital Asset Management (RCAM), a part of Anil Ambani led Reliance Capital, in October 2015 signed definitive agreements (DA) to

acquire Goldman Sachs Asset Management's (GSAM) onshore business in India.

WESTERN DIGITAL TO BUY SANDISK

Western Digital Corporation in October 2015 announced that it entered into a definitive agreement with SanDisk Corporation to buy it for 19 billion US dollar. Both the Multi National Corporations (MNCs) are based in the USA. SanDisk is a Fortune 500 and company and is a global leader in flash storage solutions.

RESULTS SPEAK LOUDER THAN WORDS

CLEAN SWEEP BY AAA BRIGHT ACADEMY

STUDENTS WITH R.K. MAHAJAN (DIRECTOR, AAA BRIGHT ACADEMY)

IBPS-PO-PRE-2015



यूजीसी नेट में शहर के होनहार छाए

107 ने जेआरएफ और 320 ने नेट क्लीयर किया



कोमलदीप
(जेआरएफ सोशियोलॉजी)



किरण
(नेट गांधीयन स्टडीज)



सुमनप्रीत कौर
(नेट इकोनामिक्स)



जसप्रीत कौर
(जेआरएफ मैनेजमेंट)



वेरी (नेट इकोनामिक्स)

● सुमित सिंह श्योराण

चंडीगढ़। देशभर के कालेज और यूनिवर्सिटी में लेक्चर बनने के लिए अनिवार्य जून 2011 में आयोजित यूजीसी-नेट (नैशनल एलिजबिलिटी टेस्ट) रिजल्ट में ट्राइसिटी के होनहारों ने फिर से बाजी मारी है। यूजीसी की ओर से घोषित रिजल्ट में पंजाब यूनिवर्सिटी सेंटर से नेट में अपीयर होने वाले

नेट में मैनेजमेंट के स्टूडेंट्स का दबदबा

यूजीसी नेट क्लीयर करने वालों में मैनेजमेंट के 76, कामर्स के 74, पंजाबी के 58, इकोनामिक्स के 13, अंग्रेजी के 5 स्टूडेंट शामिल हैं। जेआरएफ क्लीयर करने वालों में कामर्स के 28, एजुकेशन के 23, मैनेजमेंट के 17, पंजाबी के 14 और इकोनामिक्स और अंग्रेजी संकाय के एक-एक स्टूडेंट ने जेआरएफ क्लीयर किया है। उधर दिसंबर 2010 में हुए यूजीसी में कुल 664 स्टूडेंट ने नेट-जेआरएफ क्लीयर किया था। इसमें 174 स्टूडेंट ने जेआरएफ और 490 ने नेट क्लीयर किया था। यह रिजल्ट देश में सबसे बेहतर रहा था।

427 युवाओं ने नेट और जेआरएफ क्लीयर किया है। ट्राइसिटी के 107 युवाओं ने जेआरएफ (जूनियर

रिसर्च फेलो) और 320 ने नेट क्लीयर किया है। जून में करीब 12 हजार स्टूडेंट

यूजीसी-नेट में अपीयर हुए थे। जून 2011 नेट का पास प्रतिशत 3.6 रहा है जो पिछले साल दिसंबर के



यूजीसी नेट क्लीयर करने वाली छात्राएं सेक्टर-15 स्थित ब्राइट एकेडमी के डायरेक्टर आरके महाजन और शिक्षक संजय चरखवाल के साथ।

रिजल्ट (5.53) से 1.9 फीसदी कम है। सेक्टर-15 स्थित यूजीसी नेट कॉम्पिंग सेंटर ब्राइट एकेडमी के डायरेक्टर आरके महाजन ने बताया कि उनके इंस्टीट्यूट से 37 स्टूडेंट ने विभिन्न संकायों में नेट और जेआरएफ क्लीयर किया है।

महाजन के अनुसार इस बार भी नेट क्लीयर करने वालों में मैनेजमेंट स्टूडेंट ही आगे रहे हैं। देशभर से 3392 ने जेआरएफ और 8504 ने नेट क्लीयर किया है।

पिछले दस सालों से जून के नेट का रिजल्ट दिसंबर से कम ही रहा है लेकिन देश में ओवरऑल रिजल्ट इस बार भी चंडीगढ़ का ही बेहतर रहा है। अगला यूजीसी नेट 24 दिसंबर को होने जा रहा है।

आरके महाजन (डायरेक्टर ब्राइट एकेडमी, सेक्टर-15 चंडीगढ़)

BANKING AWARENESS

1. **Hannover Re has decided to offer reinsurance cover for Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY). This world's third-largest reinsurer is based in**
 - a) France
 - b) Spain
 - c) Sweden
 - d) Germany
 - e) None of these
2. **RBI's open market operation transactions are carried out with a view to regulate**
 - a) Liquidity in the economy
 - b) Prices of essential commodities
 - c) Inflation
 - d) Borrowing power of the banks
 - e) All the above
3. **What is an Indian Depository Receipt?**
 - a) A deposit account with a Public Sector Bank
 - b) A depository account with, any of the Depositories in India
 - c) An instrument in the form of depository receipt created by an Indian depository against underlying equity shares of the issuing company
 - d) An instrument in the form of deposit receipt issued by Indian depositories
 - e) None of these
4. **Capital Market Regulator is**
 - a) RBI
 - b) IRDA
 - c) NSE
 - d) BSE
 - e) SEBI
5. **What is Call Money?**
 - a) Money borrowed or lent for a day or overnight
 - b) Money borrowed for more than one day but up to 3 days
 - c) Money borrowed for more than one day but up to 7 days

- d) Money borrowed for more than one day but up to 14 days
e) None of these
6. Which of the following is the regulator of the credit rating agencies in India?
- a) RBI
b) SBI
c) SIDBI
d) SEBI
e) None of these
7. Expand the term IFRS
- a) International Financial Reporting Standard
b) International Financial Reporting System
c) Indian Financial Reporting Standard
d) Indian Financial Reporting System
e) Indian Financial Report & Survey
8. Ultimate controller of Bank Deposits is?
- a) RBI
b) Finance Secretary
c) Ministry of Finance
d) Controller of Deposits
e) SEBI
9. Which among the following accounts fetch the highest rate of interest?
- a) Savings deposit
b) Recurring deposit
c) Fixed deposit
d) Current account deposit
e) 1 & 4
10. Fixed deposits can have.....
- a) Nomination facility.
b) Nomination facility with the permission of Bank Chairman.
c) Nomination facility by taking special permission from bank.
d) Nomination facility on the day of closing.

- e) Nomination facility with the permission of person who introduced him to open account.
11. Which of the following terms NOT used in banking/finance related matters?
- a) Discount Rate
 - b) Letter of credit
 - c) Fasting Rate
 - d) Exchange rate
 - e) Base rate
12. Who penned down 'Sleeping on Jupiter' which is shortlisted for Man Booker Prize?
- a) Amish Tripathi
 - b) Salman Rushdie
 - c) Arundhati Roy
 - d) Anuradha Roy
 - e) None of these
13. The Vice President of India Shri M. Hamid Ansari released a book entitled Locale, Everyday Islam and Modernity authored by.....
- a) Arundhati Roy
 - b) Shri M. Raisur Rahman
 - c) Fatima Bhutto
 - d) Taslima Nasreen
 - e) None of these
14. Who has been appointed recently as a independent director by Infrastructure financing firm IDFC?
- a) Dr. Rajiv B. Lall
 - b) Ms. Snehlata Shrivastava
 - c) TM Bhasin
 - d) Vinod Rai
 - e) None of these
15. Who has been appointed the President of Japan's telecommunications giant SoftBank Corp that paid the “rising star” a whopping US\$135 million for the financial year 2014?
- a) Francisco D'Souza
 - b) Sundar Pichai
 - c) Nikesh Arora

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- d) Surya Mohapatra
e) None of these
16. **Export-Import (Exim) Bank has extended a line of credit of \$268.35 million to which country?**
a) Nigeria
b) Tanzania
c) Egypt
d) Syria
e) None of these
17. **Euro 2016 football championship will be played in?**
a) Poland
b) France
c) Ukraine
d) Spain
e) Germany
18. **Who took over as the new Director General of the Sports Authority of India (SAI) in March 2015?**
a) Ajit Sharan
b) Injeti Srinivas
c) N.K. Sahoo
d) R.C. Lodha
e) None of these
19. **The principal financial institution for the promotion, financing and development of the MSME sector in India is?**
a) NABARD
b) DICGC
c) SIDBI
d) EXIM Bank
e) RBI
20. **Angel Investor provides.....**
a) Financial backing to start the business.
b) Working capital.
c) Lending at the time of urgency.

- d) Bank guarantee to continue the business.
- e) None

21. RBI revised premature deposit rules of which type of accounts?

- a) Kiddy accounts
- b) Current accounts
- c) Large value fixed deposit accounts
- d) Dollar savings accounts
- e) Big size savings accounts

22. The Money market include.....

- a) Treasury bills
- b) Cash Management bills
- c) Commercial papers
- d) Bankers acceptance
- e) All of above

23. FPO means?

- a) Follow on Public Offer
- b) First Public Offer
- c) Follow on Private Offer
- d) Firm on Public Offer
- e) Follow on Public Operations

24. The market which expects the prices of shares go up in the market is called.....

- a) Depressed market
- b) Duck market
- c) Fundamental market
- d) Bear market
- e) Bull market

25) Who took charge as India's 1st cyber security chief under the Prime Minister's Office in April 2015?

- a) Ramesh Negi
- b) Ram Sewak Sharma
- c) Nasim Zaidi
- d) Gulshan Rai

- e) None of these
26. Who of the following was elected the Prime Minister of Finland?
- a) Juha Sipila
b) Alexander Stubb
c) Timo Soini
d) David Cameron
e) None of these
27. Omar Hassan al-Bashir was re-elected the President of which of the following countries?
- a) Kazakhstan
b) Sudan
c) Vietnam
d) Guyana
e) None of these.
28. United Nations (UN) observed World Book and Copyright Day across the world on which of the following dates?
- a) 21 April
b) 23 April
c) 29 April
d) 2 May
e) None of these.
29. The RBI has said that banks will now report past dues and levy any late payment charges on credit card holders only if the payment has been due for more than
- a) two days
b) three days
c) five days
d) ten days
e) 15 days
30. The countdown to the first-ever niche banking license award process has began as the external advisory committee headed by _____ has given its report to the RBI.
- a) Nachiket Mor
b) R Gandhi
c) Urjit Patel

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- d) Bimal Jalan
e) Usha Thorat
31. The Centre has done away with sub-limits for foreign investments in Indian companies. Which of the following will NOT be considered a foreign investment in an Indian firm?
- a) Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPIs)
b) Non-Resident Indians (NRIs)
c) Qualified Foreign Investors (QFIs)
d) Depository Receipts (DRs)
e) None of these
32. The Heritage City Development and Augmentation Yojana (HRIDAY), which seeks to preserve and rejuvenate the rich cultural heritage of the country in the selected 12 cities, does not cover
- a) Amaravati
b) Vellankini
c) Kanchipuram
d) Madurai
e) Ajmer
33. Which of the following is not a tool in the hands of RBI to control the inflationary pressure in the country?
- a) Bank Rate (BR)
b) Special Drawing Rights (SDR)
c) Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)
d) Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)
e) None of these
34. Which of the following tool is used frequently by the RBI to control credit and monetary situations of the markets in the country?
- a) Cash Reserve Ratio
b) Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS)
c) Balance of Trade
d) Forward Trade Agreements
e) Electronic Clearing Service
35. Present minimum & maximum limit for RTGS transactions is ____.
- a) Rs.50000, Rs 200000
b) Rs. 1 lac, No Limit

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- c) Rs. 2 lac, Rs 5 lac
- d) Rs.5 lac, Rs 10 lac
- e) Rs. 2 lac, No Limit

36. The maximum amount of the total revenue earned by the government of India comes from-

- a) Income Tax
- b) Customs Duty
- c) Excise Duty
- d) VAT
- e) Corporate Tax

37. Which of the following is not a function of commercial bank?

- a) Providing project finance
- b) Selling mutual funds
- c) Deciding policy rates like CRR, Repo rates/SLR etc.
- d) Settlement of payments on behalf of the customers
- e) Providing services such as locker facilities, remittances etc...

38. Expand the term FRBM?

- a) Financial Responsibility and Business management
- b) Fiscal Responsibility and Business management
- c) Financial Responsibility and Budget Management
- d) Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management
- e) Formal Responsibility and Business Management

39. Land Development Banks form a part of the?

- a) Commercial Banks
- b) Industrial Development Bank of India
- c) Food Corporation of India
- d) Co-operative Credit Structure
- e) None of these

40. What is the full form of 'FINO', a term we see frequently in financial newspapers?

- a) Financial Investment Network and Operations
- b) Farmer's Investment in National Organization
- c) Farmers Inclusion News and Operations

- d) Financial Inclusion Network and Operations
e) None of these
41. **With an aim to provide better services to the debit card holders, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed all commercial and public sector banks to introduce new Automated Teller Machines (ATM) that can deliver lower denomination notes such as?**
- a) Rs 10
b) 20
c) 50.
d) None of the above
e) All the above
42. **Which of the following banks is limited to the needs of agriculture and rural finance?**
- a) RBI
b) SBI
c) IFC
d) NABARD
e) Axis Bank
43. **The Haryana govt has appointed who among the following as its brand ambassador for the 'Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao' campaign to promote the cause of the girl child?**
- a) Kareena Kapoor
b) Parineeti Chopra
c) Deepika Padukone
d) Priyanka Chopra
e) Madhuri Dixit
44. **RBI launched Inflation Indexed Bonds (IIBs) to stop away investors from gold to paper-based savings instruments. What is the maturity period these bonds?**
- a) 5 years
b) 10 years
c) 6 years
d) 7 years
e) None of these
45. **The Capital Account Convertibility of the Indian rupee refers to:**
- a) That the Indian rupee can be exchanged for the US dollar for international trade in goods and service

- b) That the Indian rupee can be exchanged for any major currency for the purpose of trading financial assets
- c) That the Indian rupee can be exchanged by the authorized dealer for travel purpose
- d) That the Indian rupee can be exchanged for any major currency for the purpose of trade in goods and services
- e) None of the above

46. Fiscal Responsibility and Budget Management Act (FRBM) concerns:

- I. Fiscal Deficit
 - II. Balance of Payment
 - III. Revenue Deficit
- a) Only I
 - b) Only II
 - c) I & II
 - d) I & III
 - e) All of these

47. Which of the following instruments of credit control adopted by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) does not fall within 'general' or 'quantitative' methods of credit control?

- a) Stipulation of certain minimum margin in respect of advance against specified commodities
- b) Open market operations
- c) Bank rate
- d) Variable reserve requirement
- e) None of these

48. Accounts are allowed to be operator by cheques in respect of ____.

- a) Both savings bank accounts and fixed deposit accounts
- b) Savings bank accounts and current accounts
- c) Both savings bank accounts and loan accounts
- d) Both savings bank accounts and cash accounts only
- e) Both Current accounts and fixed deposit accounts

49. Largest shareholder (in percentage shareholding) of a nationalized bank is ____.

- a) RBI,
- b) NABARD
- c) LIC,
- d) Govt. of India,

e) IBA

50. ALM Stands for:

- a) Asset Liability Maturity
- b) Asset Liability Mismatch,
- c) Asset Liability Manpower
- d) Asset Liability Maintenance
- e) Asset Liability Management

51. The lowering of Bank Rate by the Reserve Bank of India leads to

- a) More liquidity in the market,
- b) Less liquidity in the market
- c) No change in the liquidity in the market,
- d) Mobilization of more deposits by commercial banks
- e) none of the above

52. The rate of interest on Savings Bank Account is decided by

- a) RBI
- b) Indian Banks Association
- c) Government of India
- d) the concerned bank
- e) Banking Codes and Standards Board of India

53. Who sets up the Bench Mark Interest Rate for Germany?

- a) German Central Bank
- b) Deutsche Bundes Bank
- c) European Central Bank (ECB)
- d) Deutsche Bank
- e) None of the above

54. What is India's Apex Direct Tax body?

- a) CBDT
- b) GAAR
- c) IT Department
- d) RBI
- e) None of the above

55. In India, Scheduled Commercial Banks are those Banks included?
- a) In the 2nd Schedule of RBI Act 1934
 - b) In the 2nd Schedule of BR Act 1949
 - c) In the 2nd Schedule of NI Act 1881
 - d) In the 2nd Schedule of Companies Act 1956
 - e) None of the above
56. Which of the following is NOT considered a money market instrument?
- a) Treasury Bills
 - b) Repurchase Agreement
 - c) Commercial Paper
 - d) Certificate of Deposit
 - e) Shares and Bonds
57. Which of the following is necessary while opening deposit accounts in banks?
- a) Will
 - b) Registration
 - c) Nomination
 - d) Indemnity
 - e) Guarantee
58. Which of the following is not a banking term?
- a) Letter of credit
 - b) MIBOR
 - c) Factoring services
 - d) Entry load
 - e) None of these
59. The Reverse Mortgage scheme is launched to give benefit to which of the following groups of society?
- a) Persons below 60 yrs
 - b) Senior Citizens
 - c) Unemployed youth
 - d) Orphans
 - e) All of these
60. As per the RBI Guidelines, on which of the following days RTGS facility will not operate?

- a) 1st Monday of the month
b) 2nd Saturday of the month
c) 4th Saturday of the month
d) Only A and C
e) Only B and C
61. **The Centre has allowed road developers to completely exit BOT projects two years after completion and invest the funds for certain purposes. The term BOT stands for**
- a) Build-Organise-Transfer
b) Build-Operate-Terminate
c) Build-Operate-Transfer
d) Bear-Operate-Transfer
e) None of these
62. **Indian women's hockey team has qualified for the 2016 Rio Olympics after a gap of 36 years. Who is the present captain of women's hockey team?**
- a) Mamta Kharab
b) Ritu Rani
c) Vandana Kataria
d) Rani Rampal
e) Sushila Chanu
63. **A scheduled bank must be:**
- a) Company incorporated by any law in force in any place in India.
b) An institution notified by GOI.
c) A company as defined by Companies Act, 2013.
d) All of the Above
e) None of These
64. **Which of the following statements is incorrect regarding RTGS system?**
- a) The transactions take place in real time
b) The system operates on DNS (Deferred Net Settlement) basis
c) The minimum amount that can be remitted is Rs. 2 lakh
d) Service charges for RTGS transactions vary from one bank to another
e) Only b and c

65. In TRIPS, what does 'I' stand for?
- a) Intellectual
 - b) Information
 - c) Indian
 - d) Infra
 - e) None of these
66. RBI is lender of last resort which reveals:
- a) RBI advances money to public whenever there is any emergency
 - b) Commercial banks give fund to the RBI
 - c) RBI advances necessary credit against eligible securities to financial institutions
 - d) All of the above
 - e) None of the above
67. Which of the following entities did not get the licence to run Payment Bank :
- a) Aditya Birla Nuvo Limited
 - b) Sun Pharma
 - c) Fino PayTech Limited
 - d) Videocon d2h
 - e) Cholamandalam Distribution Services Limited
68. RBI has lifted a ban on carrying Indian bank notes of Rs 1,000 and 500 denominations to and from Nepal and Bhutan. RBI has put a limit on carrying such notes at Rs. _____ per person?
- a) 10000
 - b) 15000
 - c) 25000
 - d) 20000
 - e) 30000
69. 10-second paperless instant loan Scheme for its existing customers and Project Tatkal home loans application process within 10 days are launch by which of these banks respectively:
- a) ICICI and HDFC
 - b) SBI and ICICI
 - c) BOI and SBI
 - d) HDFC and SBI

- e) BOI and ICICI
70. The proposed National Investment and Infrastructure Fund (NIIF) entity will be headquartered in
- a) Mumbai
 - b) New Delhi
 - c) Bengaluru
 - d) Hyderabad
 - e) Pune
71. Narendra Modi is the first Indian Prime Minister to visit the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in the last _____ years recently.
- a) 21
 - b) 24
 - c) 28
 - d) 34
 - e) 42
72. Which of the following airports in India has become the world's first airport to operate on solar power?
- a) Mangaluru International Airport
 - b) Cochin International Airport
 - c) Jaipur International Airport
 - d) Srinagar International Airport
 - e) Indira Gandhi International Airport
73. The National Sports Day in India is celebrated on _____ every year in honour of Indian hockey legend Dhyan Chand on his birthday.
- a) 27 Aug
 - b) 29 Aug
 - c) 30 Aug
 - d) 31 Aug
 - e) 1 Sep
74. The Vice President of India M Hamid Ansari released a book entitled 'Locale, Everyday Islam and Modernity' recently. The book has been authored by:
- a) Mufti Mohammad Sayeed
 - b) Syed Ahmed
 - c) MJ Akbar

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- d) M Raisur Rahman
- e) None of these

75. The discounting rate at which RBI borrows government securities from commercial banks is known as

- a) Bank Rate
- b) Reverse Repo
- c) Deposit Rate
- d) Base Rate
- e) None of these

76. Two parallel transverse lines on the face of the cheque is called as crossing and when a name of a bank is included between the two lines, it is called as:

- a) General crossing
- b) special crossing
- c) double crossing
- d) bank crossing
- e) none of the above

77. The objectives of forming SHG is

- I. to build mutual trust and confidence between the bankers and the rural poor people
 - II. to encourage banking activities, both on the thrift as well as credit sides, in a segment of the population that the formal financial institutions usually find difficult to cover.
 - III. to meet the needs of the poor by combining the flexibility, sensitivity and responsiveness of the informal credit system with the strength of technical and administrative capabilities and financial resources of the formal credit institutions.
- a) i only
 - b) i and ii
 - c) i and iii
 - d) ii and iii
 - e) i, ii and iii

78. The term 'BSR' refers to

- a) Bank's selling Rate
- b) Basic Statistical Returns
- c) Annual returns submitted by banks to RBI in respect to priority sector advances
- d) Quarterly statements of advance to agriculture

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- e) None of the above

79. What does FSDC stand for?

- a) Financial Security and Development Council
- b) Financial Stability and Development Council
- c) Fiscal Security and Development Council
- d) Fiscal Stability and Development Council
- e) None of these

80. Smart card

- a) has an embedded circuit with micro processor chip embedded in it so that it could perform calculations maintain records and act as electronic pursue
- b) has built in facility for protection against fraudulent operations
- c) can either be rechargeable or exchangeable
- d) All
- e) None

81. Which of the following fall under the qualitative method of credit control adopted by RBI?

- a) Selective credit control
- b) Moral suasion
- c) Credit authorization scheme
- d) all
- e) none

82. Which of the following is NOT a source of funds of a commercial bank?

- a) Capital
- b) Borrowings from RBI
- c) Call money
- d) Deposits
- e) Cash reserves with RBI

83. The Banking Ombudsman

- a) is in charge of bank loan for buses,
- b) fixes the rates of interest for loans
- c) resolves complaints of customers
- d) issues licences for new bank branches

- e) is the head of all nationalized banks

84. The main objective of Land Development Bank is:

- a) Providing investment credit for agriculture.
- b) Providing crop loans to the farmers.
- c) Developing allied activities in rural and semi-urban areas.
- d) Creating good social relations in the residents of rural and semi-urban areas.
- e) None of the above

85. The Reserve Bank of India has decided to help banks, as a temporary measure, by providing additional liquidity support under LAF. What is the full form of LAF?

- a) Loan Adjustment Fund
- b) Liquidity Adjustment Facility
- c) Long Awaited Funds
- d) Loan Against Funds
- e) None of these

86. The term 'Moral suasion' refers to

- a) The banker's duty of secrecy as regards the affairs and accounts of his customers
- b) Moral duty of a borrower to deal with only one bank
- c) The advice given by Reserve bank to banks/financial institutions in the matter of their lending and other operations with the objective that they might implement or follow
- d) All
- e) None

87. Where the signature of the drawer of a cheque is not genuine, such a cheque is called

- a) post dated cheque
- b) stale cheque
- c) forged cheque
- d) all
- e) none

88. Truncation of cheques means

- a) scanning of the cheques and transmission of electronic image instead of physical cheque in the clearing cycle
- b) debiting of drawer's account through internet
- c) Both of the above

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d) none of the above

e) (a) or (b)

89. What do you mean by Priority sector?

a) Priority sector means a group of activities which are to be financed on the priority

b) A group of borrowers, from whom, recovery to be made on priority basis

c) A group of peoples, whose accounts to be opened on priority

d) all

e) none

90. The term 'ways and means' advances refer to

a) the temporary advance made to the government by its bankers to bridge the internal between expenditure and the flow of receipts of revenue

b) the advance given by the banks to the poorest of the society

c) lending made under PMRY scheme

d) All

e) None

91. National housing banks is wholly owned by:

a) RBI

b) Housing development finance corporation LTD.

c) Housing development boards of various states

d) All

e) none

92. Cash reserve ratio is maintained in the form of

a) government securities

b) balance with RBI

c) balance with state bank of India

d) all

e) none

93. Which of the following would fall under the category of retail banking?

a) Home Loans

b) Credit Cards

c) Personal Loans

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- d) Car Loans
- e) All of these

94. Which of the following statements are correct about money market?

- a) The money market consists of financial institutions and dealers in money or credit who wish to either borrow or lend
- b) money market participants borrow and lend for short periods of time from several days to just under a year
- c) The core of the money market consists of banks bills, commercial paper, repurchase agreements, certificate of deposits and similar instruments
- d) all of the above
- e) none of the above

95. Who can issue commercial paper ?

- a) corporate
- b) Primary Dealers
- c) All-India Financial Institutions that have been permitted to raise short-term resources under the umbrella limit fixed by Reserve Bank of India
- d) all of the above

96. Securities that have already been issued are traded in the

- a) primary market
- b) secondary market
- c) tertiary market
- d) global market
- e) regional market

97. Name the Indian Wrestler who won Gold Medal in the 50 kg freestyle category at the World Cadet Championship held in Sarajevo, Bosnia:

- a) Ravinder Singh
- b) Bajrang
- c) Yogeshwar Dutt
- d) Anil
- e) Sushil Kumar

98. Which state government has inaugurated the one stop centre 'Sakhi', which will play a role in helping the women in distress:

- a) Chattishgarh
- b) Haryana

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- c) Odisha
- d) Maharashtra

99. Insurance cover for bank deposits in our country is provided by:

- a) SBI
- b) Government of India
- c) GIC
- d) LIC
- e) DICGC

100. Secondary market consists of

- a) all the stock exchanges (including Over the Counter Exchange of India and National Stock Exchange)
- b) Brokers, sub-brokers, share transfer agents
- c) Depositories/custodians, Depository Participants (Dps), financiers and investors
- d) all of the above
- e) none of these

ANSWERS

- | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| 1. D | 21. C | 41. E | 61. C | 81. D |
| 2. E | 22. E | 42. D | 62. B | 82. E |
| 3. C | 23. A | 43. B | 63. D | 83. C |
| 4. E | 24. E | 44. B | 64. B | 84. A |
| 5. A | 25. D | 45. B | 65. A | 85. B |
| 6. D | 26. A | 46. A | 66. A | 86. C |
| 7. A | 27. B | 47. A | 67. D | 87. C |
| 8. A | 28. B | 48. B | 68. C | 88. A |
| 9. C | 29. B | 49. D | 69. D | 89. A |
| 10. A | 30. A | 50. E | 70. A | 90. A |
| 11. C | 31. E | 51. A | 71. D | 91. A |
| 12. D | 32. D | 52. D | 72. B | 92. B |
| 13. B | 33. B | 53. C | 73. B | 93. E |
| 14. E | 34. A | 54. A | 74. D | 94. D |
| 15. C | 35. E | 55. A | 75. A | 95. D |
| 16. B | 36. E | 56. E | 76. B | 96. B |
| 17. B | 37. C | 57. C | 77. C | 97. D |
| 18. B | 38. D | 58. E | 78. B | 98. B |
| 19. C | 39. D | 59. B | 79. B | 99. E |
| 20. A | 40. A | 60. E | 80. D | 100. D |

OBJECTIVE QUESTIONS OCTOBER

1. **Former Indian Cricket captain Sourav Ganguly was in September 2015 appointed as the President of**
 - a) Cricket Association of Bihar
 - b) Cricket Association of Kolkata
 - c) Cricket Association of Odisha
 - d) Cricket Association of Bengal
2. **Forbes in September 2015 released list of India's 100 Richest People. Who of the following is the Youngest Entrant in the list?**
 - a) Binny Bansal
 - b) Sachin Bansal
 - c) Sameer Gehlaut
 - d) Ranjan Pai
3. **Forbes in September 2015 released list of India's 100 Richest People. Who of the following is the richest Indian in the list?**
 - a) Mukesh Ambani
 - b) Anil Ambani
 - c) Dilip Shanghvi
 - d) Azim Premji
4. **Which country in September 2015 announced a package of 70 million US dollar to tackle rising domestic violence in the country?**
 - a) Ireland
 - b) Australia
 - c) Brazil
 - d) Germany
5. **Who was in September 2015 appointed as the Sherpa for the 2015 G-20 Summit scheduled to be held in Antalya, Turkey?**
 - a) Ramesh Chand
 - b) Suresh Prabhu
 - c) Arvind Panagariya
 - d) Nitin Gadkari
6. **Which state government in September 2015 launched a mobile application to tackle disasters in the state?**
 - a) Uttarakhand
 - b) Arunachal Pradesh
 - c) Himachal Pradesh
 - d) Assam
7. **Union Home Minister Rajnath Singh in September 2015 released a graphic booklet depicting the valour and sacrifice of the CRPF personnel in which battle of the 1965 Indo-Pak War?**
 - a) Battle of Sardar Post
 - b) Battle of Asal Uttar
 - c) Battle of Lahore
 - d) Battle of Adampur
8. **Name the chairman of the Commission constituted by the Uttar Pradesh government to probe the 2013 Muzaffarnagar riots which submitted its report in September 2015.**
 - a) Justice (retd.) Vishnu Sahai
 - b) Justice (retd) NL Ganguly
 - c) Justice (retd) Krishna Narayan
 - d) Justice (retd) Brij Pal Singh
9. **Google in September 2015 announced to tie up with Indian Railways to provide free Wi-Fi hotspots at various stations in the country. In this context, consider the following statements:**
 - I. The Wi-Fi connections will be provided at 400 major stations.
 - II. These Wi-Fi connections will be provided under the Nilgiri Project.

Which is/are correct?

 - a) Only I
 - b) Only II
 - c) Both I and II
 - d) Neither I nor II
10. **Who won the 2015 SASTRA Ramanujan Prize announced in September 2015?**
 - a) Peter Scholze
 - b) Jacob Tsimerman
 - c) Akshay Venkatesh
 - d) James Maynard
11. **Which ethnic minority community of Nepal is protesting for amendments in newly formed constitution of Nepal adopted in September 2015?**
 - a) Madhesi
 - b) Khas-Chhetri
 - c) Tamang
 - d) Newars
12. **What is the title of Manipur Governor Syed Ahmed's autobiography who died in 27 September 2015?**
 - a) An Indian Pilgrim
 - b) Pagdandi se Shahar Tak
 - c) Living Shadows
 - d) Atmakatha
13. **Who of the following in September 2015 won the Guangzhou Open women's doubles title of tennis?**
 - a) Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis
 - b) Xu Shilin and You Xiaodi
 - c) Casey Dellacqua and Yaroslava Shvedova
 - d) Flavia Pennetta and Roberta Vinci
14. **World Tourism Day was observed across the world in September 2015 was observed with theme**
 - a) Tourism & Sustainable Energy: Powering Sustainable Development
 - b) One Billion Tourists, One Billion Opportunities
 - c) Tourism and Community Development
 - d) Tourism's power to change lives
15. **The CSIR Award for S&T Innovations for Rural Development (CAIRD) 2014 was conferred on which of the following in September 2015?**

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- a) National Metallurgical Laboratory, Jamshedpur
b) CSIR-CSMCRI, Bhavnagar
c) CSIR-CIMAP, Lucknow
d) Defence Institute of High Altitude Research (DIHAR),
Leh Ladakh
16. **Name India's first dedicated satellite for astronomy research that was launched by ISRO in September 2015 from Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh by Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C30).**
a) ASTROSAT b) LAPAN-A2
c) LEMUR nano d) LAXPC
17. **The Supreme Court (SC) of India in September 2015 directed the Union Government and a state government to grant citizenship to Chakma-Hajong refugees within three months. The direction was given to which of the followings state?**
a) Assam b) West Bengal
c) Manipur d) Arunachal Pradesh
18. **Under whose chairmanship an expert committee was formed by the Union Government, as announced in the fourth week of September 2015, to revisit the exam pattern of civil services examination?**
a) B S Baswan b) B N Nawalawala
c) Dr Hari Pratap Gautam d) Dr Anil Sahasrabudhe
19. **Who in September 2015 won the 2015 Japanese Grand Prix title of Formula One?**
a) Lewis Hamilton b) Nico Rosberg
c) Sebastian Vettel d) Nico Hulkenberg
20. **Who in September 2015 won the IBSF World Billiards Championship 2015 in time format?**
a) Peter Gilchrist b) Pankaj Advani
c) Manish Jain d) Aditya Mehta
21. **Which multilateral organization in September 2015 released a report entitled Leveraging Urbanisation in South Asia?**
a) World Bank
b) International Monetary Fund
c) Asian Development Bank
d) World Trade Organisation
22. **Minister of Railways Suresh Prabhakar Prabhu in September 2015 launched Indian Railway Knowledge Portal for dissemination of detailed information on Indian Railways. The portal is the initiative of**
a) National Informatics Centre (NIC)
b) Centre for Railway Information Systems (CRIS)
c) Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi
d) National Academy of Indian Railways, Vadodara
23. **Reliance Defence Limited (RDL) in September 2015 signed a strategic pact with which international company for collaboration defence equipment?**
a) Boeing, the US
b) Emirates Defence Industries Company (EDIC), UAE
c) Firearm Manufacturers, Germany
d) Advanced Electronics Company Limited (AECL), Saudi Arabia
24. **Maharashtra Government in September 2015 declared which year as Visit Maharashtra Year?**
a) 2015 b) 2016
c) 2017 d) 2018
25. **Which state's high court admitted a plea in September 2015 challenging the constitutional validity of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution?**
a) Tamil Nadu b) Delhi
c) Jammu & Kashmir d) Uttar Pradesh
26. **Which Indian company in September 2015 was selected as member of the global Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) - 2015 for the sixth consecutive year?**
a) Infosys
b) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
c) Wipro Limited
d) Reliance Communications
27. **Indian Government in September 2015 launched the 1st Indo-Africa ICT Expo in which city?**
a) Addis Ababa b) Nairobi
c) New Delhi d) Vishakhapatnam
28. **Who of the following was given the additional charge as Governor of Manipur by President Pranab Mukherjee in September 2015?**
a) V. Shanmuganathan b) Tathagata Roy
c) Ram Nath Kovind d) Krishan Kant Paul
29. **What is the theme of the World Heart Day that was observed in September 2015?**
a) Creating Heart-Healthy Environments
b) Healthy Heart, Healthy Lives
c) Put your heart into it!
d) Heart Choices NOT Hard Choices
30. **India in September 2015 signed a 123.51 million US dollar loan agreement with which institution to upgrade**

- tourism infrastructure and services in Punjab, Uttarakhand and Himachal Pradesh?**
- World Bank
 - United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
 - Asian Development Bank (ADB)
 - Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA)
- 31. Which famous personality in September 2015 was roped in to lend his/her voice to 'Swachh Bharat' anthem?**
- Amitabh Bachchan
 - Sachin Tendulkar
 - Salman Khan
 - Lata Mangeskar
- 32. Name the author of the book titled Hungry Bengal: War, Famine, Riots and the End of Empire that was in news in September 2015.**
- Naina Lal Kidwai
 - Tarun Khanna
 - Janam Mukherjee
 - Sebastian Ortiz
- 33. 17th All-India Government Whips Conference was held in September 2015 in**
- Vijaywada
 - Visakhapatnam
 - Hyderabad
 - Jaipur
- 34. The first-ever US-India-Japan Trilateral Ministerial dialogue was held in September 2015 in**
- New York
 - Washington DC
 - Tokyo
 - New Delhi
- 35. As per RBI's fourth Bi-monthly Monetary Policy Statement 2015-16 released in September 2015, the repo rate was decreased by how many basis points?**
- 25 basis points
 - 50 basis points
 - 75 basis points
 - 100 basis points
- 36. Name the indigenously built largest warship that was commissioned in Mumbai in September 2015.**
- INS Chakra
 - INS Sindhughosh
 - INS Kochi
 - INS Viraat
- 37. He was appointed as one of the four brand ambassadors of the Digital India Programme in July 2015. Name him.**
- Ankit Fadia
 - Rahul Tyagi
 - Trishneet Arora
 - Vivek Ramachandran
- 38. What is the rank of India among the 140 economies on the Global Competitiveness Report 2015-16 that was released by the World Economic Forum (WEF) in September 2015?**
- 45
 - 55
 - 57
 - 71
- 39. The International Translation Day was observed across the world in September 2015. What was the theme of the day?**
- Language Rights: Essential to All Human Rights
 - Beyond Linguistic Barriers - A United World
 - Translation as Intercultural Communication
 - The Changing Face of Translation and Interpreting
- 40. Who was appointed as the Director General of Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (IDSA) in September 2015?**
- Piyush Jain
 - Jayant Prasad
 - Sushant Aggrawal
 - Arvind Sinha
- 41. Consider the following statements regarding National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) that was unveiled in September 2015:**
- The framework is presently available for engineering and management institutions only.
 - The framework was drafted by a core committee headed by Surendra Prasad, Chairman, National Board of Accreditation.
- Which of the following statement is/are correct?
- Only I
 - Only II
 - Both I and II
 - Neither I nor II
- 42. Which organisation was appointed as the official marketing partner for 2nd Indian Badminton League 2016 in September 2015?**
- HTC Sports Pvt Ltd
 - Victoria Sports Co
 - SportsLine India
 - Sportzlive
- 43. Which state of the United States (US) in September 2015 pledged to help India in reducing air pollution?**
- Louisiana
 - California
 - New York
 - Florida
- 44. Which of the following women's cricket team was ranked at the top position in the list ICC Women's Team Rankings, which was officially launched by International Cricket Council (ICC) in October 2015?**
- India
 - Australia
 - South Africa
 - New Zealand
- 45. World Vegetarian Day was observed across the world on**
- 29 September
 - 30 September
 - 1 October
 - 2 October
- 46. Flag of which country was raised for the first time at United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York in September 2015?**
- Palestinian
 - Vatican

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- c) North Korea d) Syria
47. **The Global Competitiveness Report (GCR) 2015-2016 was released in September 2015. Consider the following statements in this context:**
 I. The report assessed the competitiveness landscape of 140 economies
 II. It was released by World Bank
 III. Switzerland topped the list with 5.76 points
 Which is/are correct?
 a) I and II b) II and III
 c) I and III d) All of the above
48. **Union Communications and IT Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad in September 2015 released a commemorative postal stamp on**
 a) Deendayal Upadhyaya
 b) Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar
 c) Dashrath Manjhi
 d) Ashoka
49. **Name the Indian pistol shooter who in September 2015 won the gold medal in women's 10 meter air pistol event at the 8th Asian Air Gun Championships in New Delhi.**
 a) Shweta Singh b) Heena Sidhu
 c) Yashaswini Singh Deshpande d) Harshada Nithave
50. **Which one of the following does not form the part of 4-point Peace Initiative with India that was proposed by Prime Minister of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif in September 2015?**
 a) Complete Demilitarization of Kashmir
 b) No use of threat or force in any circumstance
 c) Mutual withdrawal of forces from Siachen Glacier
 d) Grant autonomy to Kashmir
51. **Consider the statements related to the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology announced in September 2015**
 I. The annual prizes are awarded by DRDO to its scientists
 II. It is presented in seven categories
 III. In 2015, 11 scientists were given prizes under various categories
 Which of them is/are true?
 a) I and II b) II and III
 c) I and III d) All of the above
52. **By what percent domestic natural gas price was reduced by the Union Government in September 2015**
 a) 16 percent b) 17 percent c) 18 percent d) 19 percent
53. **Which country in September 2015 launched a new generation satellite for its navigation system called BeiDou Navigation system?**
 a) China b) Japan
 c) Taiwan d) Philippines
54. **Which country's parliament gave assent to its president in September 2015 to send its troops to Syria?**
 a) USA b) Russia
 c) Japan d) China
55. **Google briefed Prime Minister Narendra Modi about the Project Loon during his visit to the Google headquarters in the Silicon Valley in September 2015. . In this context, consider the following statements:**
 I. Project Loon started its experimental pilot project in New Zealand in 2013.
 II. Loon uses high-altitude balloons placed in the stratosphere at an altitude of about 32 km to produce an aerial wireless network.
 Which is/are correct?
 a) Only I b) Only II
 c) Both I and II d) Neither I nor II
56. **UK city of Coventry honoured which leading Indian industrialist with its highest award Honorary Freeman in October 2015?**
 a) Anil Ambani b) Ratan Tata
 c) Azim Premji d) Sunil Bharti Mittal
57. **Which one of the following was not one among the scientists conferred with Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine-2015 in October 2015?**
 a) William C Campbell (Ireland)
 b) Youyou Tu (China)
 c) Satoshi Omura (Japan)
 d) None of them
58. **Who was elected as the president of Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in October 2015 after the demise of Jagmohan Dalmiya?**
 a) Shashank Manohar b) Sunil Gavaskar
 c) N Srinivasan d) Sharad Pawar
59. **Which political party-led coalition in October 2015 won the general elections to the parliament of Portugal?**
 a) CDS – People's Party
 b) Social Democratic Party
 c) Portuguese Communist Party

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- d) The Greens
60. Consider the following statements related to poverty projections released by the World Bank in October 2015
- International poverty line was increased to 2.90 US dollars per day per person
 - The extreme poverty at the global level will fall to under 10 percent by the end of 2015
- Which is/are true?
- Only I
 - Only II
 - Both I and II
 - None of them
61. The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) in October 2015 inaugurated an Extreme Altitude Research Centre at Chang La, Ladakh in Jammu and Kashmir. In this context, consider the following statements:
- It is the world's highest terrestrial research and development centre.
 - The centre will serve as a natural cold storage for preserving rare and endangered medical plants for generations.
- Which is/are correct?
- Only I
 - Only II
 - Both I and II
 - Neither I nor II
62. Which state government launched a Citizen Portal in October 2015 that will allow the citizen to register their complaints online to police?
- Maharashtra
 - Gujarat
 - Delhi
 - Odisha
63. Name the scientist who recently won the DRDO's Lifetime Achievement Award for the year 2014.
- O R Nandagopan
 - VS Arunachalam
 - AS Manoharan
 - S Christopher
64. Name the scientist who was awarded with the DRDO's Scientist of the Year Award for the year 2014 recently.
- O R Nandagopan
 - VS Arunachalam
 - AS Manoharan
 - K Seetharama Bhat
65. According to the data released by the International Cotton Advisory Committee, which country has become the largest cotton producer of the world in the season ended in September 2015?
- China
 - Egypt
 - India
 - The United States
66. Which country won the International Basketball Federation (FIBA) Asia Championship in October 2015?
- China
 - The Philippines
 - India
 - South Korea
67. Name the country that in October 2015 ordered shut down of most of the country's schools for two days because of possible health risks posed by the thick haze from Indonesian forest fires.
- Indonesia
 - Singapore
 - Malaysia
 - Myanmar
68. Who of the following in October 2015 won the Wuhan Open women's doubles title of tennis?
- Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis
 - Irina-Camelia Begu and Monica Niculescu
 - Casey Dellacqua and Yaroslava Shvedova
 - Flavia Pennetta and Roberta Vinci
69. Iraq Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi in October 2015 declared Baghdad's heavily fortified Green Zone open to the public for the first time in 12 years. What is Green Zone in this context?
- An environmental park in Baghdad
 - A no-war zone in Baghdad
 - Home to government buildings and foreign embassies
 - A war museum depicting Iraq since 1990
70. Who won the 2015 Nobel Prize in Physics for discovery of neutrinos oscillations in October 2015?
- Isamu Akasaki, Hiroshi Amano and Shuji Nakamura
 - Andre Geim and Konstantin Novoselov
 - Takaaki Kajita and Arthur B. McDonald
 - Willard S. Boyle and George E. Smith
71. Name the Bollywood actor who in October 2015 was awarded with the Lifetime Achievement Award of the 6th Jagran Film Festival in Mumbai.
- Amitabh Bachchan
 - Shashi Kapoor
 - Dharmendra
 - Waheeda Rehman
72. Terror outfit ISIS in October 2015 destroyed the 2000-year-old Arch of Triumph situated in
- Damascus, Syria
 - Palmyra, Syria
 - Baghdad, Iraq
 - Mosul, Iraq
73. The United States (US), Japan and 10 other Pacific Rim countries in October 2015 signed the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement. Who among the following countries is not part of the group?
- Australia
 - Brunei
 - Canada
 - China
74. The Union Government in October 2015 launched

- second phase of the immunisation programme, Mission Indradhanush in how many districts?**
- a) 352 districts b) 201 districts
c) 320 districts d) 605 districts
- 75. Which one of the following is not one of the agreements/memorandum of understandings (MoUs) that was signed in October 2015 during the visit of German Chancellor Angela Merkel to India?**
- a) Cooperation in Agriculture Studies
b) Cooperation in Food Safety
c) Cooperation in Field of Railways
d) Cooperation in Wind Energy
- 76. What is the name of the project that was unveiled by the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation & Farmers' Welfare in October 2015 to get timely and precise data on crop yields?**
- a) Project FARMER b) Project KISAN
c) Project KRISHI d) Project UTPAD
- 77. Consider the following statements about Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement that was signed in October 2015:**
- I. It sets the standards to protect digital freedom, by preserving the free flow of information across borders.
II. It includes the first-ever measures to ensure that state-owned enterprises compete on a commercial basis.
Which is/are correct?
- a) Only I b) Only II
c) Both I and II d) Neither I nor II
- 78. Consider the following statements about second phase of Mission Indradhanush that was launched in October 2015:**
- I. It aims at achieving more than 90 per cent full immunization in the country by 2025.
II. It will cover 279 mid priority districts, 33 from the North East states and 40 districts from phase one.
Which is/are correct?
- a) Only I b) Only II
c) Both I and II d) Neither I nor II
- 79. Who was appointed as permanent CEO of Twitter in October 2015?**
- a) Jack Dorsey b) Noah Glass
c) Biz Stone d) Evan Williams
- 80. Who of the following is the author of the book, Ruled or Misruled: Story and Destiny of Bihar that was released in last week of September 2015?**
- a) Amiya Chandra b) Santosh Singh
c) Janam Mukherjee d) Naina Lal Kidwai
- 81. To help patients and pregnant women from inaccessible areas to reach nearest hospital, the state government of Odisha in September 2015 launched new healthcare programme name it?**
- a) Amo doli programme b) Janani Suraksha
c) Matru Sewa Sutra d) Sewamaya
- 82. Name the US state that in October 2015 allowed terminally ill patients to legally end their lives under a doctor's supervision.**
- a) California b) Oregon
c) Washington d) Vermont
- 83. Who were jointly awarded with the 2015 Nobel Prize in Chemistry in October 2015?**
- a) Eric Betzig, Stefan W. Hell and William E. Moerner
b) Richard F. Heck, Ei-ichi Negishi and Akira Suzuki
c) Tomas Lindahl, Paul Modrich and Aziz Sancar
d) Aaron Ciechanover, Avram Herskho and Irwin Rose
- 84. Cricket All Star event with three exhibition T20 matches will be played by teams led by Sachin Tendulkar and Shane Warne in October 2015 in**
- a) India
b) United Arab Emirates (UAE)
c) United States of America (USA)
d) England
- 85. International Monetary Fund (IMF) in October 2015 released World Economic Outlook (WEO) October 2015 Update. Consider the following statements:**
- I. India's growth is expected to strengthen from 7.3 percent in 2015 and to 7.8 percent in 2016.
II. Global growth is projected to decline from 3.4 percent in 2014 to 3.1 percent in 2015, before picking up to 3.6 percent in 2016
Which is/are correct?
- a) Only I b) Only II
c) Both I and II d) Neither I nor II
- 86. The 2015 Nobel Prize in Chemistry that was announced in October 2015 was given for**
- a) The discovery of quasicrystals
b) Studies of G-protein-coupled receptors
c) Studies of the structure and function of the ribosome

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- d) Mechanistic studies of DNA repair
87. **Who among the following US Fed Reserve Chairmen authored the book *The Courage to Act* that was in news recently?**
a) Alan Greenspan b) Ben Bernanke
c) Paul Volcker d) Janet Yellen
88. **Which is the world's fourth most-used payment currency as per a report published by Society for Worldwide Interbank Financial Telecommunications (SWIFT) on 6 October 2015?**
a) Indian Rupee b) Japanese Yen
c) Chinese Yuan d) Pound Sterling
89. **government-appointed high level panel in October 2015 recommended uniform tax treatment for all CSR activities carried out under the new Companies Act, 2013. The committee was headed by**
a) Deepak Parekh b) Anil Bajjal
c) Ratan Tata d) Ramesh Chand
90. **India, the World Bank's largest borrower, objected to the multilateral funding agency's proposed Environmental Social Framework (ESF) in October 2015. Consider the following statements with regard to ESF:**
I. It makes obligatory on countries to get the consent of people affected by the projects concerned.
II. Acceptance of the ESF would make the financing of coal-fired power plants difficult in India.
Which is/are correct?
a) Only I b) Only II
c) Both I and II d) Neither I nor II
91. **The three-member committee that in October 2015 in its report recommended 400 percent hike in the basic salary of the MLAs of Delhi was headed by?**
a) KV Prasad b) Balraj Malik
c) PDT Achary d) None of the above
92. **Who of the following is the author of the book, *The Clintons' War on Women* that will be released in October 2015?**
a) Roger Stone and Robert Morrow
b) Arthur B McDonald and Takaaki Kajita
c) William C Campbell and Satoshi Omura
d) Henry M Paulson and Roger Stone
93. **The Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Conference 2016 will be held from 8 January to January 2016 in**
a) Hyderabad b) New Delhi
- c) Ahmadabad d) Bhopal
94. **What was the title of the International Monetary Fund's World Economic Outlook (WEO) October 2015 Update that was released in October 2015?**
a) Uneven Growth: Short-term and Long-term Factors
b) Slower Growth in Emerging Markets
c) Adjusting to Lower Commodity Prices
d) Making International Financial Architecture Work
95. **How many new species have been discovered in the Eastern Himalayan region between 2009 and 2015 as per the report *Hidden Himalayas: Asia's Wonderland* released in October 2015?**
a) 133 b) 211
c) 224 d) 113
96. **India and Germany in October 2015 signed 125 million euros loan agreement to fund two projects in which states under Green Energy Corridor programme?**
a) Uttarakhand & Himachal Pradesh
b) Himachal Pradesh & Punjab
c) Andhra Pradesh & Tamil Nadu
d) Himachal Pradesh & Andhra Pradesh
97. **Consider the following statements about Green Energy Corridor programme that was in news in October 2015:**
I. It seeks to facilitate the flow of renewable energy into the national grid.
II. It was prepared by POWERGRID Corporation of India Limited in 2012.
III. Germany in April 2013 committed to provide developmental assistance of 1 billion euro for the programme.
Which is/are correct?
a) I and II b) II and III
c) I and III d) All of the above
98. **Who was awarded with the 2015 Nobel Prize in Literature in October 2015 for her polyphonic writings, a monument to suffering and courage in our time?**
a) Svetlana Alexievich b) Mo Yan
c) Mario Vargas Llosa d) Herta Muller
99. **Name the Bollywood actor who in October 2015 was named as the tourism ambassador of New Zealand for India by the Tourism New Zealand.**
a) Varun Dhawan b) Saif Ali Khan
c) Sidharth Malhotra d) Farhan Akhtar
100. **Consider the following statements related to Trade and**

Development Report 2015 that was released by UNCTAD in October 2015

I. It projected that the global economy will grow at 2.5 per cent in 2015

II. India's GDP is expected to grow at 9.5 per cent in 2015

III. It strongly suggested for reforming global financial institutions to augment development

Which of them is/are true?

- a) I and II b) II and III
c) I and III d) All of them

101. Name the National Watershed Management Project assisted by the World Bank, the implementation of which was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) in October 2015.

- a) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayi Yojana (PMKSY)
b) Neeranchal
c) Jal Sanrakshan Abhiyaan
d) Har Khet ko Pani

102. Who in October 2015 was elected as elected as the Head of the Inter-governmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) at its 42nd session in Dubrovnik, Croatia?

- a) Jean-Pascale van Ypersele, Belgium
b) Thomas Stocker, Switzerland
c) Hoesung Lee, South Korea
d) Chris Field, USA

103. Which country in October 2015 won the 29th edition of the Women's European Volleyball Championship played at Rotterdam, The Netherlands?

- a) Belgium b) The Netherlands
c) Serbia d) Russia

104. The US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) in October 2015 approved the drug Keytruda to treat

- a) Lung cancer b) Bone Cancer
c) Brain Tumour d) Breast Cancer

105. The Union Cabinet in October 2015 approved the construction of National War Memorial and a National War Museum at which place?

- a) Gateway of India, Maharashtra
b) India Gate, Delhi
c) Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
d) Laungewala, Rajasthan

106. Union Cabinet in October 2015 approved the formation of which Group A service

- a) Indian Skill Development Service
b) Indian Agriculture Services
c) Indian Environmental Services
d) Indian Judicial Services

107. The United Nations in October 2015 launched the Revised Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners. These Rules have been dubbed as

- a) Mahatma Gandhi Rules
b) Leo Tolstoy Rules
c) Martin Luther King Jr. Rules
d) Nelson Mandela Rules

108. National Green Tribunal (NGT) in October 2015 directed all commercial vehicles, including trucks, entering Delhi to pay an environmental compensation charge in addition to the toll tax. Which one of the following pair has not been matched correctly?

Vehicle	Tax (in rupees)
I. Two-axle vehicles	700
II. Three-axle vehicle	1000
III. Four-axle vehicle	500

Select the correct code

- a) I and II b) II and III
c) I and III d) None of the above

109. Which state government in October 2015 banned the sale of mawa sweets in the state?

- a) Maharashtra b) Delhi
c) Rajasthan d) Madhya Pradesh

110. Name the winner of the 2015 Nobel Peace Prize that was announced in October 2015.

- a) Angela Merkel
b) Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet
c) Pope Francis
d) International Campaign to Ban Landmines

111. The first BRICS Ministerial meeting on Migration was held in October 2015 in

- a) Beijing b) Sochi
c) Lima d) Durban

112. Which leading Indian company in October 2015 entered into an agreement with First Book, a non-profit social enterprise to distribute 35000 books in five cities across

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North America?

- a) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- b) NASSCOM
- c) Infosys
- d) Wipro

113. The researchers of which country in October 2015 developed a new mobile app named ASCmel.T to help people with Autism?

- a) Australia b) Canada
- c) Britain d) Germany

114. V20 Group was launched in Lima, Peru in October 2015. Consider the following statements in this context:

- I. V20 Group Finance Ministers inaugural meeting was chaired by the Philippines
- II. India is one of the members of V20 Group
- III. The Group aims to pool resources for their fight against the impact of global warming

Which is/are correct?

- a) I and II b) II and III
- c) I and III d) All of the above

115. Who among the following Indian musicians was named as the Cultural Ambassador of Seychelles in October 2015?

- a) Ilaiyaraja b) Ravindra Jain
- c) Yuvan Shankar Raja d) AR Rehman

116. Name the famous painter of India whose untitled self-portrait was sold for around 17 crore rupees in London at an auction in October 2015.

- a) Gagendranath Tagore b) Prodosh Das Gupta
- c) Amrita Sher-Gil d) Nasreen Mohamedi

117. Who topped the list of 50 Richest Families of Asia that was released by Forbes in October 2015?

- a) Ambani family of India
- b) Lees of Samsung Group of South Korea
- c) Chearavanont family of Thailand
- d) Tsai family of Taiwan

118. Expert Appraisal Committee (EAC) of the Union Ministry of Environment & Forest (MoEF) in October 2015 gave a green signal to import coal with higher ash content of up to

- a) 12 percent b) 25 percent
- c) 30 percent d) 10 percent

119. Who among the following was in October 2015 chosen for the 2015 Hridaynath Mangeshkar Award?

- a) Lata Mangeshkar b) Amitabh Bachchan
- c) Sulochana Tai d) AR Rehman

120. Who resigned as the Prime Minister of Nepal in October 2015?

- a) Sushil Koirala b) Baburam Bhattarai
- c) Madhav Kumar Nepal d) Prachanda

121. Which of the following states in October 2015 decided to establish India's first Dolphin Community Reserve?

- a) Uttar Pradesh b) Bihar
- c) Assam d) West Bengal

122. Name the Carnatic flautist who died in October 2015 in Chennai?

- a) Natesan Ramani b) U Srinivas
- c) MS Gopalakrishnan d) N Rajam

123. Baba Ramdev's Patanjali Ayurved in October 2015 tied-up with which group to sell its products on their retail stores?

- a) Reliance Group b) Future Group
- c) MORE Group d) 24/7 Stores

124. Who was appointed to the Board of Securities and Exchange Board of India in October 2015?

- a) Tapan Ray b) Anjuly Chib Duggal
- c) Prabhjot Singh d) Prakash Gadia

125. Name the music composer who died in October 2015 and was known for famous songs like Geet Gaata Chal, Ram Teri Ganga Maili and Chor Machaye Shor?

- a) Aadesh Shrivastava b) Ravindra Jain
- c) MS Viswanathan d) U Shrinivas

126. Which of the following states in October 2015 launched e-

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Pragati project to facilitate e-governance?

- a) Kerala b) Telangana
 c) Karnataka d) Andhra Pradesh

127. Identify the eminent scientist who was appointed as the chairman of Atomic Energy Commission in October 2015

- a) Sekhar Basu b) Anil Kakodkar
 c) R K Sinha d) Srikumar Banerjee

128. ICICI Bank in October 2015 launched which service to enable customers to make electronic payments from their smartphones at traditional stores and e-commerce sites?

- a) mVisa based Mobile Payment Service
 b) Star mPay Service
 c) PayZippy Payment Service
 d) PayZapp mPayment Service

129. Which state launched the Operation Valsalya project to track missing children in October 2015?

- a) Uttar Pradesh b) Rajasthan
 c) Kerala d) Tamil Nadu

130. With which of the following South American nations, India signed a protocol to Protocol to set up a Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO) in October 2015

- a) Brazil b) Ecuador
 c) Argentina d) Peru

131. Who was resigned as the CEO of National Skill Development Corporation in October 2015?

- a) Atul Bhatnagar b) Chandrajit Banerjee
 c) Dilip Chenoy d) Subramaniam Ramadorai

132. Who of the following was in October 2015 was elected as the Prime Minister of Nepal?

- a) KP Sharma Oli b) Sushil Koirala
 c) Ram Baran Yadav d) Baburam Bhattarai

133. Who was elected as Fiji's President by its parliament in October 2015?

- a) Ratu Epeli Ganilau b) Jioji Konrote
 c) Voreqe Bainimarama d) Matai Akauolu

134. Who won the 2015 Nobel Prize in Economics announced in October 2015 for his research on consumption, poverty and welfare?

- a) Svetlana Alexiyevich b) Tomas Lindahl
 c) Arthur B. McDonald d) Angus Deaton

135. Who among the following won 2015 Formula 1 Russian Grand Prix title in October 2015?

- a) Lewis Hamilton b) Sergio Perez
 c) Sebastian Vettel d) Nico Rosberg

136. Identify the theme of International Day of the Girl Child observed in October 2015.

- a) Ending Child Marriage
 b) Innovating for Girl's Education
 c) Empowering Adolescent Girls: Ending the Cycle of Violence
 d) The Power of Adolescent Girl: Vision for 2030

137. Who won the 2015 China Open Men's Singles title in October 2015?

- a) Rafael Nadal b) Andy Murray
 c) Novak Djokovic d) Andy Murray

138. Identify the Indian shuttler who defended his Dutch Open Men's Singles title in October 2015.

- a) Chetan Anand b) Ajay Jayaram
 c) P Kashyap d) Aditya Joshi

139. Who won the China Open women's singles title in October 2015?

- a) Timea Bacsinszky b) Garbine Muguruza
 c) Venus Williams d) Sloane Stephens

140. Name the housing mission launched by the Odisha Government in October 2015 to provide affordable houses to urban poor.

- a) Housing for All by 2022 b) Abaas
 c) Naveen Awaas Yojana d) Giriraj Puram Awasiya Yojna

141. Which team won the Beighton Cup hockey tournament held in Kolkata in October 2015?

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- a) Indian Oil Corporation
b) Punjab National Bank
c) Central Industrial Security Force
d) Army XI
- 142. Who of the following in October 2015 won the China Open women's doubles title of tennis?**
a) Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis
b) Irina-Camelia Begu and Monica Niculescu
c) Casey Dellacqua and Yaroslava Shvedova
d) Hao-Ching Chan and Yung-Jan Chan
- 143. India in October 2015 won the four-match Men's Hockey Test series 2-1 against**
a) Australia b) Japan
c) New Zealand d) Pakistan
- 144. President Pranab Mukherjee in October 2015 inaugurated a street named after Mahatma Gandhi in which of the following country?**
a) Lebanon b) Jordan
c) Egypt d) Yemen
- 145. NASA in October 2015 released a report outlining plans for establishing permanent settlements on which extra-terrestrial objects?**
a) Moon b) Titan
c) Mars d) Pluto
- 146. Which one of the following is not one of the agreements signed between India and Jordan in October 2015?**
a) Cultural Exchange Programme for 2015-17
b) Agreement on Maritime Transport
c) MoU on Cooperation in the field of IT & Electronics
d) MoU on Cooperation in Space
- 147. President Pranab Mukherjee is on a three nation visit in October 2015. Which of the following countries is not among them?**
a) Yemen b) Jordan
c) Palestine d) Israel
- 148. The President of the African Development Bank (AfDB), Akinwumi Adesina, in October 2015 announced that the AfDB would nearly triple its annual climate financing to reach what amount by 2020?**
a) 3 billion dollar b) 4 billion dollar
c) 5 billion dollar d) 6 billion dollar
- 149. Fifth joint military exercise between India and China that started at Kunming Military Academy, Yunnan Province, China in October 2015 is**
a) Hand-in-Hand 2015 b) Mitra Shakti-2015
c) AUSINDEX-15 d) ECUVERIN 2015
- 150. Third India-Sri Lanka joint training exercise that culminated in October 2015 at Aundh Military Camp, Pune was**
a) Hand-in-Hand 2015 b) Mitra Shakti-2015
c) AUSINDEX-15 d) ECUVERIN 2015
- 151. Supreme Court (SC) in October 2015 asked the Union Government to take a quick decision on a Uniform Civil Code to end confusion over personal laws. Uniform Civil Code is mentioned in which Article of Constitution of India?**
a) Article 26 b) Article 44
c) Article 51 (1) d) Article 236
- 152. India in October 2015 granted a cheque of 5 million US dollars to which country as a budgetary support?**
a) Jordan b) Palestine
c) Syria d) Russia
- 153. Indian Navy in October 2015 celebrated the Birth Centenary of which naval officer?**
a) Admiral SM Nanda b) Admiral DK Joshi
c) Admiral Arun Prakash d) Admiral Nirmal Kumar Verma
- 154. Which state government in October 2015 proposed a 15375 crore rupees comprehensive action plan to ensure basic infrastructure in 31 cities under AMRUT in the next five years?**
a) Tamil Nadu b) Orissa

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- c) Rajasthan d) Gujarat
- 155. Which Indian filmmaker was awarded with the J.C. Daniel Award for the year 2014 in October 2015?**
- a) I.V. Sasi b) Madhu Kaithapram
c) K.K. Rajeev d) Jayan K. Cheriam
- 156. India signed a contract for 194 micro-light aircraft in October 2015 with which Solvenian firm?**
- a) Pipistrel b) Lockheed Martin
c) BAE Systems d) Raytheon
- 157. Who was appointed as the Chief Financial Officer of Infosys after the resignation of Rajiv Bansal in October 2015?**
- a) Ranganath Dwarakanath Mavinakere
b) Kevin P D'sa
c) Ashok Bhandari
d) Ganesh Murthi
- 158. The Supreme Court (SC) of India in October 2015 imposed an Environment Compensation Charge (ECC) on commercial vehicles entering Delhi, in addition to the toll tax. The ECC will be enforced for from four months on a trial basis from**
- a) 15 October 2015 b) 31 October 2015
c) 1 November 2015 d) 1 December 2015
- 159. Name the Indian female bodybuilder who in October 2015 won a silver medal at the 49th Asian Bodybuilding and Physique Championship, held in Uzbekistan?**
- a) Rebita Kongbrailaptan b) Shweta Rathore
c) Sibalika Saha d) Ashwini Waskar
- 160. Scientists at the Botanical Survey of India (BSI) discovered a new species of banana, named Musa Indandamanensis, from the tropical rain forest of**
- a) Nicobar b) Andaman
c) Lakshadweep d) Kerala
- 161. President Pranab Mukherjee visited Palestine in October 2015. Consider the statements in context of Mukherjee's visit to Palestine.**
- I. Mukherjee is the second Indian head to visit Palestine after Giani Zail Singh.
- II. President was conferred with Honorary Doctorate by Al-Quds University, Palestine.
- III. Sharia-e-Al-hind (India road) and Midan-e-Al-hind (India roundabout) inaugurated
- Which is/are correct?
- a) I and II b) II and III
c) I and III d) I, II and III
- 162. Who was named as the Finance Minister of the Year, Asia 2015 by the London-based publication Emerging Markets in October 2015?**
- a) Arun Jaitley, India
b) Korn Chatikavanji, Thailand
c) Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Singapore
d) Atiur Rahman, Bangladesh
- 163. Who was designated with the UNESCO Artist for Peace in October 2015?**
- a) Sayon Camara b) Celine Dion
c) Han Meilin d) Gilberto Gil
- 164. Etihad Airways in October 2015 signed an information technology deal worth 700 million US dollars with which American multinational technology and consulting corporation?**
- a) Accenture b) Alliance Consulting
c) IBM d) Cognizant
- 165. Who was elected as the President of Association of Unified Telecom Service Providers of India (AUSPI) in October 2015?**
- a) Sunil Batra b) Arun Kumar Singh
c) Alkesh Sharma d) Amit Mathur
- 166. Bill Banvao, Inaam Pao scheme was launched in October 2015 in which state to encourage people to receive or demand proper bills for purchases?**
- a) Madhya Pradesh b) Delhi
c) Maharashtra d) Haryana

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- 167. Who was elected as the President of Belarus for the fifth time in October 2015?**
- a) Alexander Lukashenko b) Tatiana Karatkevich
c) Sergei Gaidukevich d) Nikolai Ulakhovich
- 168. Who was named as the Central Bank Governor of the Year, Asia 2015 by the London-based publication Emerging Markets in October 2015?**
- a) Raghuram Rajan, India
b) Atiur Rahman, Bangladesh
c) Korn Chatikavanji, Thailand
d) Tharman Shanmugaratnam, Singapore
- 169. Name the Jamaican writer who in October 2015 won the 2015 Man Booker Prize for Fiction for his novel A Brief History of Seven Killings.**
- a) Marlon James b) Kei Miller
c) Colin Channer d) Jean D'Costa
- 170. Who was appointed as Executive Chairman of Twitter in October 2015?**
- a) Jack Dorsey b) Omid Kordestani
c) Eric E Schmidt d) Sergey Brin
- 171. Dell Inc in October 2015 acquired which company for 67 billion US dollars?**
- a) VMware Inc b) EMC Corporation
c) SoftTree Inc d) MSD Partners Ltd
- 172. Name the naval exercise that began in October 2015 between the Navies of India, United States and Japan?**
- a) Hand-in-Hand Exercise 2015
b) Malabar Exercise 2015
c) Mitra Shakti Exercise 2015
d) Varuna Naval Exercise 2015
- 173. Real estate developer Tata Housing in October 2015 tied-up with which online platform to sell its affordable homes online?**
- a) Snapdeal b) Housing.com
c) Twitter d) Facebook
- 174. Who of the following was in October 2015 appointed as the Assistant Director of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific?**
- a) Jose Graziano da Silva b) Hiroyuki Konuma
c) Ertharin Cousin d) Kundhavi Kadiresan
- 175. India and Israel in October 2015 signed two agreements to enhance bilateral cooperation.**
- Consider the following statements in context to the agreements
- I. The agreements were inked during President Pranab Mukherjee visit to Israel
II. A cultural exchange programme for 2015-2020 was inked
III. The amendment to the protocol on Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement was inked
- Which is/are correct?
- a) Only I b) Only II and III
c) Only I and III d) I, II and III
- 176. China in October 2015 operationalised a hydropower station on the Brahmaputra River in Tibet Autonomous Region (TAR). Name it.**
- a) Zam hydropower station
b) Bihai Power Plant
c) Jixi Pumped Storage Power Station
d) Shisanling Pumped Storage Power Station
- 177. Name the first European country that in October 2015 signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the establishment of Nalanda University.**
- a) Portugal b) Brazil
c) England d) France
- 178. Name the mobile app launched by the Uttar Pradesh Government for health workers to record maternal and infant data in real-time?**
- a) mSehat b) Medic Mobile
c) mHealth d) Msakhi
- 179. The five-judge Constitutional Bench of Supreme Court**

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(SC) in a collective order in October 2015 ruled that 99th Constitutional Amendment Act is unconstitutional and void. The Act relates to

- a) Formation of National Tax Tribunal (NTT)
- b) Constitution of National Judicial Appointments Commission (NJAC)
- c) Formation of Tribal Councils in Schedule VI States
- d) Formation of Equal Opportunity Commission

180. World Food Day was observed across the world in October 2015 with the theme

- a) Food Comes First
- b) Fighting Hunger and Malnutrition
- c) Family Farming: Feeding the world, caring for the earth
- d) Social Protection and Agriculture

181. Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) in October 2015 made it mandatory for mobile service providers (MSPs) to compensate consumers call drops with effect from

- a) 1 January 2016
- b) 1 November 2015
- c) 1 December 2016
- d) 1 January 2015

182. Which country in October 2015 signed a peace deal, called National Ceasefire Agreement (NCA), with eight armed ethnic rebel groups of the country?

- a) Thailand
- b) Myanmar
- c) Turkey
- d) Sudan

183. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in October 2015 formed a single Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF) with a corpus of

- a) 2000 crore rupees
- b) 1000 crore rupees
- c) 5000 crore rupees
- d) 2500 crore rupees

184. Australian government in October 2015 approved which controversial coal mine project backed by the Adani Group?

- a) North Antelope Rochelle
- b) Black Thunder
- c) Carmichael
- d) Mt Arthur

185. India and Israel in October 2015 inked ten Memoranda of Understandings (MoUs) in various fields during visit of

President Pranab Mukherjee's state to Israel. Consider the following statements in this context.

- I. Mukherjee is the first ever President of India to visit Israel
- II. India established diplomatic relations with Israel in 1992

Which is/are correct?

- a) Only I
- b) Only II
- c) Both I and II
- d) Neither I nor II

186. Zaheer Khan who in October 2015 retired from all forms of international Cricket, was the second-most successful Indian bowler in Test cricket behind

- a) Kapil Dev
- b) Anil Kumble
- c) Harbhajan Singh
- d) Javagal Srinath

187. The birthplace of former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam in October 2015 was included as 498th town under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT). Name Dr. Kalam's birthplace.

- a) Kumarakom
- b) Munnar
- c) Varkala
- d) Rameswaram

188. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs in October 2015 introduced a scheme called Central Victim Compensation Fund (CVCF) with an initial amount of

- a) 300 crore rupees
- b) 400 crore rupees
- c) 200 crore rupees
- d) 100 crore rupees

189. Which one of the following is/are the purposes of Financial Inclusion Fund (FIF) that was formed by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in October 2015?

- a) Support for funding the setting up and operational cost for running Financial Inclusion & Literacy Centers under Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)
- b) Setting up of Standard Interactive Financial Literacy Kiosks in Gram Panchayats
- c) Support to NABARD & Banks for running of Business & Skill Development Centers including R-SETIs
- d) All of the above

190. International Religious Freedom Report 2014 that was released in October 2015 is released by

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- a) Amnesty International
 b) UN Commission on Human Rights
 c) US State Department
 d) Carnegie Endowment
- 191. Name the online fashion store that was launched by the Aditya Birla Group in October 2015?**
- a) Showpo.com b) asos.com
 c) Abof.com d) nastygal.com
- 192. Indonesia in October 2015 signed a 5.5 billion US dollars deal to build the first high-speed railways with which country?**
- a) Japan b) China
 c) United States d) Russia
- 193. The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty is celebrated annually on which date?**
- a) 16 October b) 17 October
 c) 18 October d) 19 October
- 194. The International Day for the Eradication of Poverty was observed globally in October 2015. What was the theme of the day?**
- a) Building a sustainable future: Coming together to end poverty and discrimination
 b) Leave no one behind: think, decide and act together against extreme poverty
 c) Ending the Violence of Extreme Poverty: Promoting Empowerment and Building Peace
 d) From Poverty to Sustainability: People at the Centre of Inclusive Development
- 195. Who was elected as the first female House speaker of Nepal in October 2015?**
- a) Anuradha Thapa b) Bidya Devi Bhandari
 c) Onsari Gharti Magar d) Ganga Prasad Yadav
- 196. Name the Former Maharashtra Minister and senior Congress leader who was the Member of Parliament twice from Sangli Lok Sabha and died in October 2015?**
- a) Madan Vishwanath Patil b) Vasantdada Patil
 c) Krishna Desai d) Nana Patil
- 197. Pakistan in October 2015 signed an agreement to build a 1100-km gas pipeline with which country?**
- a) India b) Japan
 c) China d) Russia
- 198. Name the Former Chief of the Naval Staff who died in October 2015 and was known for commanding INS Trishul and the Aircraft Carrier INS Vikrant?**
- a) Admiral Sardarilal Mathradas Nanda
 b) Admiral RH Tahiliani
 c) Admiral Adhar Kumar Chatterji
 d) Admiral Rustom K Ghandhi
- 199. Name the NRI journalist who was in October 2015 honoured with a Lifetime Achievement award by the Asian Cricket Awards in London?**
- a) Mihir Bose b) Rajiv Saxena
 c) Sushil Arya d) Kapil Khurana
- 200. Dropbox, the popular cloud storage company, in October 2015 launched which document collaboration tool?**
- a) Paper b) Format Copy
 c) JoinX d) CombineC
- 201. What was the theme of Global Handwashing Day that was celebrated on 15 October 2015?**
- a) Raise a hand for hygiene
 b) Clean hands save lives
 c) Save Your Life: Clean Hands
 d) Choose Handwashing Choose health
- 202. The World Food Week was Celebrated during period in October 2015?**
- a) 9 October- 14 October
 b) 10 October- 15 October
 c) 11 October- 17 October
 d) 12 October- 16 October
- 203. Which country in October 2015 proposed to invest 30 billion US dollars for urban development and housing**

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projects in India?

- a) China b) Malaysia
c) Japan d) Russia

204. The Haryana Government in October 2015 approved which scheme to empower women in distress?

- a) Nai Roshni b) Swabhiman
c) Sukanya Samridhi Yojana d) Swadhar Greh

205. Who among the following countries was not elected as one of the non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in October 2015?

- a) Uruguay b) Ukraine
c) Japan d) Malaysia

206. Who authored the book titled Smita Patil: A Brief Incandescence, which was released in October 2015?

- a) Shashi Deshpande b) Sarojini Sahoo
c) Maithili Rao d) Kiran Desai

207. Who was appointed as the Advisor of All India Football Federation (AIFF) in October 2015?

- a) Sunil Chhetri b) Peter Thangaraj
c) Jarnail Singh Dhillon d) Baichung Bhutia

208. Who won the Sultan of Johor Cup hockey tournament in October 2015?

- a) Great Britain b) India
c) Malaysia d) Argentina

209. Identify the Indian shuttler who finished runners-up at the Denmark Open Badminton tournament in October 2015.

- a) PV Sindhu b) Saina Nehwal
c) Jwala Gutta d) Ashwini Ponnappa

210. Who among the following won the men's singles title of the Shanghai Open tennis tournament in October 2015?

- a) Jo-Wilfried Tsonga, France
b) Novak Djokovic, Serbia
c) Roger Federer, Switzerland
d) Rafael Nadal, Spain

211. Identify the Indian tennis player who won the men's singles title of the Vietnam Open in October 2015.

- a) Sanam Singh b) Somdev Devvarman
c) Saketh Myneni d) Yuki Bhambri

212. Which state government in October 2015 decided to set up village-level Social Audit Committees?

- a) Maharashtra b) Haryana
c) Rajasthan d) Tamil Nadu

213. The telecom subscriber base touched what level in August 2015 in the country?

- a) 101 crore b) 102 crore
c) 103 crore d) 104 crore

214. Who was appointed as the Special Representative for the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Head of the UN Mission in the country, known as MONUSCO by the UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon in October 2015?

- a) Thomas Perreillo b) Maman S. Sidikou
c) Kofi Annan d) Gamini Lakshman Peiris

215. What is the theme of World Statistics Day that was observed globally in October 2015?

- a) Better Data, Better Lives
b) Statistics for Better Lives
c) Lets Improve Statistics
d) Statistics and Sustainable Development

216. In which country does the second-hand smoke causes more than 1 lakh deaths annually as per a study of World Health Organisation (WHO) in October 2015?

- a) China b) India
c) Bangladesh d) Brazil

217. Name the military exercise launched by North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies and partner nations in October 2015 at the Trapani air force base in Italy.

- a) Able Archer 83 b) Exercise Grand Slam
c) Loyal Arrow d) Trident Juncture

218. Union Government in October 2015 raised the basic customs duty on wheat from 10 percent to

- a) 15 percent b) 20 percent
c) 22 percent d) 25 percent

219. According to a report of Moody's on global green bond market in October 2015, which of the following countries will be the prominent driver of issuance of such bonds in Asia in coming years?

- a) India and China b) China and Japan
c) India and Singapore d) Singapore and Japan

220. World Health Organization (WHO) in October 2015 released the Global status report on road safety 2015. Consider the statement in relation to the report:

- I. The report reflects information from 180 countries
- II. Worldwide the total number of road traffic deaths has gone up to 1.50 million per year.
- III. In the last three years, 79 countries have seen a

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decrease in the absolute number of fatalities while
68 countries have seen an increase

Which of the followings statements is/are true?

- a) I and II b) II and III
c) I and III d) I, II and III

221. Who was crowned as Miss Diva 2015 in October 2015 at the event held in Mumbai?

- a) Urvashia Rautela b) Natasha Assadi
c) Naveli Deshmukh d) Asha Bhat

222. Who was appointed as the President of the All India Council of Sports in October 2015?

- a) Suresh Kalmadi b) Vijay Kumar Malhotra
c) Sachin Tendulkar d) Krishna Malhotra

223. Railway Minister Suresh Prabhu announced in October 2015 that a tunnel technology institute will be established in Goa. In this context, consider the following statements:

- I. The institute will be established by the Konkan Railways.
II. The institute will be named after former Railway Minister George Fernandes.

Which is/are correct?

- a) Only I b) Only II
c) Both I and II d) Neither I nor II

224. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated which bank in October 2015 in New Delhi?

- a) Bandhan Bank b) IDFC Bank
c) Dhanlaxmi Bank d) Lakshmi Vilas Bank

225. The Union Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) extended the validity of Environment Clearance (EC) from 5 years to

- a) 8 years b) 10 years
c) 7 years d) 6 years

226. The Reserve Bank of India in October 2015 signed the MoU on Supervisory Cooperation and Exchange of Supervisory Information with which central bank?

- a) Central Bank of Nepal
b) European Central Bank
c) Central Bank of UAE
d) Central Bank of England

227. Which party won the 2015 Canadian federal election in October 2015?

- a) Conservative Party b) Liberal Party
c) New Democratic Party d) Bloc Quebecois

228. Who became the Prime Minister of Canada in October 2015 after winning the 2015 Canadian federal election?

- a) Joe Clark b) Stephen Harper
c) Justin Trudeau d) Mario Beaulieu

229. Which country topped the Global Pension Index with the score of 81.7 as per the 2015 Melbourne Mercer Global Pension Index report that was released on 19 October 2015?

- a) Australia b) Denmark
c) Netherlands d) Mexico

230. Indian cricketer Virender Shewag in October 2015 retired from all forms of international cricket and Indian Premier League (IPL) to play in 2016 Masters Champions League T20 tournament. The tournament will be played in

- a) Dubai b) Melbourne
c) Lords d) Wankhede

231. Tyre manufacturing giant MRF Limited in October 2015 named a South African cricketer as its brand ambassador. Name him.

- a) Hashim Amla b) AB de Villiers
c) Dale Steyn d) Faf du Plessis

232. Name the noted criminologist who was in fourth week of October 2015 conferred with the prestigious Paul H Appleby Award given by the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA).

- a) Svetlana Alexievich b) IV Sasi
c) Zenia Bhungara d) K Chockalingam

233. The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 approved amendment to the Payment of Bonus Act, 1965 hiking the bonus of industrial workers to

- a) 6000 rupees per month
b) 10000 rupees per month
c) 7000 rupees per month
d) 9000 rupees per month

234. Who was appointed by the President of India as the acting Chief Justice for the Gauhati High Court in October 2015?

- a) Justice Karanam Sreedhar Rao
b) Justice Tinlianhang Vaiphei
c) Arup Kumar Goswami
d) Ujjal Bhuyan

235. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting in October

2015 reconstituted the Central Press Accreditation Committee (CPAC). In this context, consider the following statements:

- I. The Central Press Accreditation Committee issues Press Information Bureau (PIB) cards to journalists.
II. PIB director general Frank Noronha is the ex-officio chairman of the committee.

Which is/are correct?

- a) Only I b) Only II
c) Both I and II d) Neither I nor II

236. Who was appointed as the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of e-commerce firm Snapdeal in October 2015?

- a) Aakash Moondhra b) Anup Vikal
c) Amit Choudhary d) Vivek Patankar

237. Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders (IDD) Prevention Day was observed on which date?

- a) 20 October 2015 b) 21 October 2015
c) 19 October 2015 d) 18 October 2015

238. The Union Cabinet of India in October 2015 approved an agreement on maritime transports with which country?

- a) Brazil b) China
c) Indonesia d) Egypt

239. The Union Cabinet of India in October 2015 approved a Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty in Criminal Matters with which country?

- a) Maldives b) China
c) Indonesia d) Egypt

240. UN released The World's Women 2015: Trends and Statistics report in October 2015 covering eight critical areas as identified by the Beijing Declaration of 1995. Identify which is not one of them.

- a) Population and Families
b) Power and Decision-making
c) Financial Inclusion
d) Violence against Women

241. Identify the author who wrote the book Dreaming Big: My Journey to Connect India that was launched in October 2015

- a) Jairam Ramesh b) Maithili Rao
c) Janam Mukherjee d) Sam Pitroda

242. Identify the UN body that released The World's Women 2015: Trends and Statistics report in October 2015.

- a) UN Women
b) Department of Economic and Social Affairs

- c) World Health Organisation
d) None of them

243. In which city the Global Maternal Newborn Health Conference was held between 18 October and 21 October 2015?

- a) Mexico City b) New Delhi
c) Washington DC d) London

244. First World Indigenous Games started in October 2015 in which of the following country?

- a) Brazil b) Russia
c) Philippines d) Ethiopia

245. Ace Indian shuttler Saina Nehwal in October 2015 lost her World No.1 ranking to All England and World champion of Spain. Name her.

- a) Wang Shixian b) Carolina Marin
c) Li Xuerui d) Wang Yihan

246. Team of Ecuadoran and international scientists has identified a new species of giant tortoise, on the Galapagos Islands in Pacific. Name it.

- a) Chelonoidis donfaustoi
b) Puntius Dolichopterus
c) Vellithumpa
d) Eriocaulon manoharanii

247. Who won the 2015 Confucius Peace Prize given by China in October 2015?

- a) Vladimir Putin b) Kofi Annan
c) Yuan Longping d) Robert Mugabe

248. Prime Minister Narendra Modi in October 2015 laid the foundation stone of Shri Venkateswara Mobile and Electronics Manufacturing Hub in which state?

- a) Andhra Pradesh b) Tamil Nadu
c) Telangana d) Orissa

249. Who was appointed as the Head Coach of Kolkata Knight Riders in October 2015?

- a) Trevor Bayliss b) Jacques Kallis
c) Wasim Akram d) Shoeb Akhtar

250. Consider the following statement regarding directions on implementation of Gold Monetisation Scheme 2015 that were issued by RBI in October 2015.

- I. The deposits outstanding under the Gold Deposit Scheme will be allowed to run till maturity unless the depositors prematurely withdraw them.
II. There is a maximum limit of 30 grams of gold for deposit under the scheme.

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Which of the following statement(s) is/are correct?

- a) Only I b) Only II
 c) Both I and II d) None of the above

251. Britain in October 2015 signed Strategic Investment Agreements for building three nuclear plants with which Asian country?

- a) Pakistan b) India
 c) Japan d) China

252. Which country in October 2015 declared that it will permanently station a military unit in the Arctic by 2018?

- a) Russia b) Finland
 c) Sweden d) Norway

253. Name the first male member of the National Commission for Women (NCW) who was appointed in October 2015.

- a) Alok Rawat b) Alok Sharma
 c) Rahul Yadav d) Arun Singh

254. Identify the honorary member of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in India who died in October 2015.

- a) Ashwini Kumar b) Syed Zahoor Kasim
 c) Hariram Tahiliani d) Natesan Ramani

255. Consider the following statements with respect to Pakistan Nuclear Forces, 2015 report that was released by Bulletin of Atomic Scientists (journal) in October 2015:

- I. Pakistan has a nuclear weapons stockpile of 110 to 130 warheads, an increase from an estimated 90 to 110 warheads in 2011
 II. At the current rate of growth, Pakistan will become the world's fifth largest nuclear weapon state by 2025

Which of them is/are true?

- a) Only I b) Only II
 c) Both of them d) None of them

256. Identify the Bollywood actor. He bought a franchise in the UAE-based Masters Champions League of cricket in October 2015

- a) Salman Khan b) Sanjay Dutt
 c) Aamir Khan d) Shah Rukh Khan

257. PM Narendra Modi released a book entitled 'Warriors Remembered' on the occasion of Police Commemoration Day in October 2015. The book commemorates the sacrifices of which of the following

paramilitary organisations?

- a) Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF)
 b) Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)
 c) Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP)
 d) Border Security Force (BSF)

258. Identify the Indian-origin politician who was sworn in as the mayor of Bonn in Germany in October 2015

- a) Shiv Pande b) Harbhajan Kaur
 c) Ashok-Alexander Sridharan d) Shriti Vadera

259. Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 22 October 2015 laid the foundation stone of Amaravati, the new capital of Andhra Pradesh. The proposed city is located on which river?

- a) Godavari b) Tungabhadra
 c) Vamsadhara d) Krishna

260. Identify the multilateral agency that released the World Energy Outlook Special Report 2015: Energy and Climate Change in October 2015

- a) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
 b) World Bank
 c) International Energy Agency (IEA)
 d) World Economic Forum (WEF)

261. Two Indian mountaineers in third week of October 2015 named an unnamed peak in Himachal's Spiti Valley as Mount Kalam, in honour of former President of India, Dr. Abdul Kalam. The peak is located near which of the following Himalayan glacier?

- a) Thajwas b) Bara-Sigri
 c) Gangotri d) Kolahoi

262. Which of the following Hurricane struck Mexico's Pacific coast in October 2015?

- a) Arthur b) Wilma
 c) Allen d) Patricia

263. Ministry of Defence in October 2015 approved the induction of women into the combat stream of Indian Air Force (IAF). According to the decision, first women pilots will be commissioned on the job in

- a) December 2015 b) January 2016
 c) June 2016 d) November 2016

264. Name the Vice President of Maldives who was arrested in October 2015 on suspicion of links to a blast on the Presidential boat that occurred in September 2015.

- a) Yameen Abdul Gayoom

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- b) Ahmed Adeeb
c) Umar Naseer
d) Mohamed Jameel Ahmed

265. Name the leading mobile payment and e-commerce platform that in October 2015 has tied up with Bank of

Maharashtra to offer mobile wallet top up facility through bank ATMs.

- a) Paytm
c) LoopPay
b) Google Wallet
d) Shopnix

ANSWER

- | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 1) B | 46) A | 91) C | 136) D | 181) A | 226) C |
| 2) A | 47) C | 92) A | 137) C | 182) B | 227) B |
| 3) A | 48) B | 93) B | 138) B | 183) A | 228) C |
| 4) B | 49) B | 94) C | 139) B | 184) C | 229) B |
| 5) C | 50) D | 95) B | 140) B | 185) C | 230) A |
| 6) D | 51) B | 96) D | 141) B | 186) A | 231) B |
| 7) A | 52) C | 97) D | 142) A | 187) D | 232) D |
| 8) A | 53) A | 98) A | 143) C | 188) C | 233) C |
| 9) C | 54) B | 99) C | 144) A | 189) D | 234) A |
| 10) B | 55) C | 100) C | 145) D | 190) C | 235) C |
| 11) A | 56) B | 101) B | 146) A | 191) A | 236) B |
| 12) B | 57) D | 102) C | 147) A | 192) B | 237) B |
| 13) A | 58) A | 103) D | 148) C | 193) B | 238) D |
| 14) B | 59) B | 104) A | 149) A | 194) A | 239) A |
| 15) C | 60) B | 105) B | 150) B | 195) C | 240) C |
| 16) A | 61) C | 106) A | 151) B | 196) A | 241) D |
| 17) D | 62) D | 107) D | 152) B | 197) D | 242) B |
| 18) A | 63) B | 108) D | 153) D | 198) B | 243) A |
| 19) A | 64) A | 109) C | 154) A | 199) A | 244) A |
| 20) B | 65) C | 110) B | 155) A | 200) A | 245) B |
| 21) A | 66) A | 111) B | 156) A | 201) A | 246) A |
| 22) D | 67) C | 112) D | 157) A | 202) D | 247) C |
| 23) B | 68) A | 113) C | 158) C | 203) B | 248) A |
| 24) C | 69) C | 114) C | 159) B | 204) D | 249) B |
| 25) B | 70) C | 115) D | 160) B | 205) D | 250) A |
| 26) C | 71) B | 116) D | 161) B | 206) C | 251) D |
| 27) B | 72) B | 117) B | 162) A | 207) D | 252) A |
| 28) A | 73) D | 118) B | 163) C | 208) A | 253) A |
| 29) A | 74) A | 119) D | 164) D | 209) A | 254) A |
| 30) C | 75) D | 120) D | 165) B | 210) B | 255) C |
| 31) B | 76) B | 121) D | 166) A | 211) C | 256) B |
| 32) C | 77) C | 122) A | 167) B | 212) B | 257) A |
| 33) B | 78) B | 123) B | 168) A | 213) A | 258) C |
| 34) A | 79) A | 124) A | 169) A | 214) B | 259) D |
| 35) B | 80) B | 125) B | 170) B | 215) A | 260) C |
| 36) C | 81) A | 126) D | 171) B | 216) A | 261) B |
| 37) A | 82) A | 127) D | 172) B | 217) B | 262) D |
| 38) B | 83) C | 128) A | 173) D | 218) D | 263) C |
| 39) D | 84) C | 129) C | 174) D | 219) A | 264) B |
| 40) B | 85) B | 130) B | 175) A | 220) C | 265) A |
| 41) C | 86) D | 131) C | 176) A | 221) A | |
| 42) D | 87) B | 132) A | 177) A | 222) B | |
| 43) B | 88) C | 133) B | 178) A | 223) C | |
| 44) B | 89) B | 134) A | 179) B | 224) B | |
| 45) C | 90) C | 135) A | 180) D | 225) C | |

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पांच स्टूडेंट से शुरुआत, अब चला रहे 12 सेंटर

आरके महाजन ने 27 साल की उम्र में शुरु कर दी थी कोचिंग एकेडमी

सुमित सिंह श्योराण

चंडीगढ़। बचपन में स्कूली पढ़ाई गांव के सरकारी स्कूल से हिंदी माध्यम से हासिल की। लेकिन, अच्छी नौकरी की चाहत उन्हें चंडीगढ़ शहर में ले आई। शुरुआत में अंग्रेजी पर अच्छी पकड़ नहीं होने के कारण यूनिवर्सिटी में पढ़ते हुए काफी दिक्कतें आईं। लेकिन, बुलंद

अब तक पांच हजाए स्टूडेंट को दिखा चुके हैं नई राह एए-बाइड एकेडमी के हैं डायरेक्टर

तक की चाह रखने वाला शख्स आज हजारों को कैरियर की नई राह दिखा रहा है। चंडीगढ़ के सेक्टर-15 स्थित एए-बाइड एकेडमी के डायरेक्टर आरके महाजन ऐसे ही खास प्रतिभाशाली लोगों

70 किलोमीटर का सफर तय कर जाते थे पढ़ने

आरके महाजन का जन्म हिमाचल के कांगड़ा स्थित हरीपुर गुलेर गांव में हुआ। महाजन के स्व. पिता सुरेशचंद्र सरकारी कर्मचारी और स्व. मां ऊषा जेबूटी टीचर थीं। शुरु से ही पढ़ाई में तेज रमन गांव के स्कूल से 12वीं नॉन मेडिकल में पास होने वाले एकमात्र छात्र थे। ग्रेजुएशन की पढ़ाई के लिए हर रोज 70 किलोमीटर का सफर कर धर्मशाला स्थित गवर्नमेंट कालेज में जाते थे। उन्होंने बताया कि चंडीगढ़ की चमक उन्हें पंजाब यूनिवर्सिटी में खींच लाई। स्टैटेस्टिक विभाग से एमएससी करने वाले महाजन ने बताया कि स्कूली स्तर पर हिंदी मीडियम से पढ़ाई के कारण उन्हें शुरुआत में काफी दिक्कतें आईं। पढ़ते हुए डिक्शनरी साथ रखनी पड़ती थी। एमएससी करने के बाद दोस्तों की सलाह पर बैंक पीओ की तैयारी शुरू की। करीब एक साल की कड़ी मेहनत के बाद महाजन का 4-5 बैंक में सिलेक्शन हो गया। लेकिन, अब उन्होंने सरकारी नौकरी की जगह खुद का इंस्टीट्यूट स्थापित करने का फैसला लिया। 5 स्टूडेंट से बीएड की कोचिंग देने वाले महाजन के ट्राइसिटी और साथ लगते राज्यों में 12 कोचिंग इंस्टीट्यूट चल रहे हैं। जहां पर टीचिंग, एसएससी और यूजीसी नेट की बेहतरीन कोचिंग दी जाती है। उन्होंने कहा कि उनके पास 100 से अधिक लोगों के फ्रेंचाइजी लेने के ऑफर आए हैं। लेकिन, वह क्वालिटी एजुकेशन के मामले में कोई समझौता करने को तैयार नहीं।



आरके महाजन

में शुमार हैं। महाजन ने पिछले 12 सालों में विभिन्न प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं के तहत 5 हजार से अधिक युवाओं को अपने पैरों पर खड़ा किया है।

नई सोच-24

अमर उजाला

28 मई 2014

गरीबों को निशुल्क कोचिंग

महाजन हर साल आर्थिक तौर पर गरीब विद्यार्थियों की पढ़ाई का पूरा खर्च उठाते हैं। लड़कियों के लिए खास स्कॉलरशिप दी जाती है। साल में 4-5 लाख रुपये स्कॉलरशिप पर खर्च करते हैं। विभिन्न प्रतियोगी परीक्षाओं में अव्वल आने वालों को भी सम्मानित किया जाता है। महाजन का कहना है कि आज के युवाओं को सही समय पर सही मार्गदर्शन की जरूरत है, लेकिन उन्हें यह नहीं मिल पाता।

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