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CCE - PDPU CURRENT AFFAIRS & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE COMPILATION MARCH-2019



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SOURCE

Press Information Bureau

Dear All,

This compilation will not help only for competitive examinations like UPSC and State Public Service Commission Examinations but, also in updating in many fields like Petroleum Exploration, Power, Computer, Information Technology, Space, Public Administration, Foreign Affairs, Indian Economy, Defence/Security and Sports. This issue is of three parts:

Part 1: Important Events as information

Part 2: Q& A - You can check your awareness

Part 3: You can visit - Some sites related to new developments

All the Best & Regards,
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KEY CONCEPTS/KEY TERMS IN THIS ISSUE

- | | |
|---|---|
| ✓ 100 th ship | ✓ CURIE |
| ✓ 18 Unicorns | ✓ DCIL |
| ✓ 1 st ever conversion of diesel locos into electric locos | ✓ Dr AP J Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha |
| ✓ 2012=100 | ✓ e-ArogyaBharati |
| ✓ 2015 Paris Agreement | ✓ Elector-Gender Ratio |
| ✓ 631 | ✓ <i>Engine of New India</i> |
| ✓ 958 | ✓ E-VBAB Network Project |
| ✓ AFINDEX-19 | ✓ e-VidyaBharati |
| ✓ AL NAGAH | ✓ Exit poll |
| ✓ AMRAAM | ✓ FMBAP |
| ✓ ASHA-India | ✓ Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) |
| ✓ Base Erosion and Profit Shifting | ✓ Global Disability Conference |
| ✓ BOLD-QIT | ✓ Global Mobility Summit |
| ✓ Bolivia | ✓ Green-shoe option |
| ✓ Bonn Challenge | ✓ GRSE Ltd |
| ✓ Bundelkhand region | ✓ Guided Pinaka |
| ✓ Business Responsibility Reports | ✓ Guinea |
| ✓ Centrally Sponsored Schemes | ✓ IDAI |
| ✓ Centre for Disability Sports | ✓ Government of India Dated Securities |
| ✓ Chenab | ✓ India Cooling Action |
| ✓ Chinook | ✓ India-Africa economic partnership |
| ✓ CIBMS | ✓ Indian coffee |
| ✓ Civil Service Council of Mongolia | ✓ Indian Ocean Naval Symposium |
| ✓ Combat Management System | ✓ India's pharma exports |
| ✓ Construction Technology Year | ✓ India-UK Cancer Research |
| ✓ Cooperative sector | ✓ IND-INDO CORPAT |
| ✓ Croatia | ✓ Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD) |
| | ✓ Indradhanush |

- ✓ Indus Water Treaty 1960
- ✓ Informal sector
- ✓ Institute of Archaeology
- ✓ Kalashnikov assault
- ✓ Khurja Super Thermal Power Plant
- ✓ KIRAN
- ✓ Kiru Hydro Electric
- ✓ KONKAN
- ✓ KUSUM
- ✓ Lighthouse projects
- ✓ Mission Shakti
- ✓ Mitra Shakti-VI
- ✓ MPATGM
- ✓ Nari Shakti Puraskar
- ✓ National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey
- ✓ National Common Mobility Card (NCCM)
- ✓ National Grassroots Innovation
- ✓ National Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct
- ✓ National Innovation Foundation
- ✓ National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation
- ✓ National Institute of Unani Medicine
- ✓ National Knowledge Network
- ✓ National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage
- ✓ National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP)
- ✓ News Broadcasting Standards Authority
- ✓ Nice Agreement
- ✓ Nitrogen
- ✓ OPEC
- ✓ Opinion poll
- ✓ Pancheshwar Multipurpose
- ✓ Paraguay and Costa Rica
- ✓ PM-STIAC
- ✓ PM-SYM Yojana
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Housing for All (Urban)
- ✓ Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana
- ✓ Prayagraj Kumbh Mela
- ✓ Professor Lal
- ✓ Regional Comprehensive Partnership (RCEP)
- ✓ Locarno Agreement
- ✓ Lokpal
- ✓ Longest route train
- ✓ Low Earth Orbit
- ✓ **India Urban Observatory**
- ✓ Mandechhu Hydro Electric Project
- ✓ March 8
- ✓ Mechanism for mid-term correction
- ✓ MERCOSUR
- ✓ SAGAR
- ✓ Sampriti – 2019
- ✓ Saudi Arabia
- ✓ Sea Vigil
- ✓ Sendai
- ✓ Sindhu Sadhana
- ✓ Sindhu Sankalp
- ✓ Single-use Plastics
- ✓ Specified agriculture products
- ✓ St. Louis encephalitis
- ✓ Star Labelling Programs
- ✓ Strategic Disinvestment
- ✓ Supercritical Technology
- ✓ Sustainable Nitrogen Management
- ✓ Swachh Survekshan 2019 Awards
- ✓ Tata
- ✓ Teesta Stage-VI HE Project
- ✓ Tema-Akosombo railway line
- ✓ The Buxar TPP
- ✓ The Surat Metro Rail Project
- ✓ Transport and Marketing Assistance
- ✓ TROPEX 2019
- ✓ Unorganized Sector workers
- ✓ Vande Bharat Express
- ✓ Vienna Agreement
- ✓ Voluntary Code of Ethics
- ✓ Water Aerodromes
- ✓ West Coast Refinery
- ✓ West Nile Fever (WNF)
- ✓ World Records -3 Sectors - Prayagraj
- ✓ YUVIKA

Part 1 - Current Affairs and related General Knowledge

1. Foundation stone for **National Institute of Unani Medicine** at Ghaziabad
2. First indigenous semi high speed train **Vande Bharat Express** between Delhi and Varanasi launched. **Vande Bharat Express - India's first high-tech, energy-efficient, self-propelled train.**
3. Make in India: Diesel Locomotive Works (DLW) in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh completed world's **1st ever conversion of diesel locos into electric locos**
4. Railways and coal together are the **Engine of New India**
5. Cambodia hosted 7th RCEP Inter-Sessional Ministerial Meeting: The **Regional Comprehensive Partnership (RCEP)** is a proposed Free Trade Agreement (FTA) between sixteen countries namely 10 countries of ASEAN (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Lao, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and Vietnam) and their six FTA partners (also known as AFP's or ASEAN FTA Partners) namely Australia, China, India, Japan, Korea and New Zealand.
6. Affordable Sustainable Housing Accelerators- India (**ASHA-India**) initiative.
7. Setting up of **Centre for Disability Sports** at Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh
8. Period from April 2019 to March 2020 will be observed as the **Construction Technology Year**
9. The idea of an **Indo-Pacific Regional Dialogue (IPRD)** was first conceptualised and conducted in 2018, as the apex level conference of the Indian Navy, organised by the National Maritime Foundation as the Navy's Knowledge Partner.
10. **Bundelkhand region:** Uttar Pradesh
11. Vice President Shri M. Venkaiah Naidu becomes the first high level dignitary to visit **Paraguay and Costa Rica**
12. The Joint Venture Indo-Russian Rifles Pvt. Ltd. at Amethi: for **Kalashnikov assault** rifles of the newest 200 series Production
13. **Prayagraj Kumbh Mela 2019** has been placed in the Guinness **World Records in three sectors.** It includes largest traffic and crowd management plan, the biggest painting exercise of public sites under paint my city scheme and biggest sanitation and waste disposal mechanism
14. India-Bangladesh Joint Military Exercise **Sampriti – 2019**
15. **National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation** at Sehore, Madhya Pradesh
16. **PM-SYM Yojana** to the forty two crore strong **unorganized sector workers** in the country. The scheme will assure a monthly pension of Rs.3000 for the enrolled unorganized sector workers during

their old age. It is for the first time since independence that such a scheme is envisaged for the crores of workers engaged in the **informal sector**

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567494>

17. “**Transport and Marketing Assistance**” (TMA) for specified agriculture products scheme aims to provide assistance for the international component of freight and marketing of agricultural produce which is likely to mitigate disadvantage of higher cost of transportation of export of **specified agriculture products** due to trans-shipment and to promote brand recognition for Indian agricultural products in the specified overseas market
18. **Swachh Survekshan 2019 Awards**: Chhattisgarh has also emerged India’s top performer among states, followed by Jharkhand and Maharashtra

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567704>
<http://pibphoto.nic.in/documents/rlink/2019/mar/p20193602.pdf>
19. The **National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey** (NARSS) 2018-19, conducted by an Independent Verification Agency (IVA) under the World Bank support project to the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G), has found that 96.5% of the households in rural India who have access to a toilet use it
20. Tactical action by India’s Su-30 aircraft, in response to **AMRAAM** (Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile) launch by Pakistan
21. Government of India and World Bank Sign \$250 Million Agreement for the **National Rural Economic Transformation Project (NRETP)** to boost Rural Incomes across 13 States in India
22. International Women’s Day, which is observed every year on **March 8**
23. Vice President visited the Latin American Country and applauded **Paraguay**’s decision to join the International Solar Alliance soon, an initiative by India and France, aimed at combating the threats of climate change and global warming.
24. “**National Mission on Transformative Mobility and Battery Storage**” with an Inter-Ministerial Steering Committee will be chaired by CEO NITI Aayog.
25. During the **Global Mobility Summit** held in September 2018, Prime Minister had outlined the vision for the future of mobility in India based on **7 C’s** which are Common, Connected, Convenient, Congestion-free, Charged, Clean and Cutting-edge mobility.
26. The Union Cabinet has approved Amendment to the Article 3 of the Agreement between India and Bhutan regarding **Mandechhu Hydro Electric Project** (MHEP) in order to extend the loan repayment tenure by two years from fifteen (15) to seventeen (17) years
27. The Scheme “**FMBAP**” has been framed by merging the components of two continuing XII Plan schemes titled “Flood Management Programme (FMP)” and “River Management Activities and Works related to Border Areas (RMBA)”. The aim of the Scheme is to assist the State Governments to provide

reasonable degree of protection against floods in critical areas by adopting optimum combination of structural and non-structural measures and enhancing capabilities of State / Central Government officials in related fields. The Scheme also includes survey and investigations, preparation of DPR etc. of water resources projects on the common rivers with neighbouring countries like **Pancheshwar Multipurpose** Project, Saptakosi-Sun Kosi Projects in Nepal which would benefit both countries.

28. MoU between Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) and **Civil Service Council of Mongolia (CSCM)**
29. **Khurja Super Thermal Power Plant (STPP)** in Uttar Pradesh will be implemented by THDC India Limited, a Mini Ratna CPSU under the Ministry of Power, Government of India. The Khurja STPP will be based on **Supercritical Technology**
30. **The Buxar TPP** in Bihar implemented by SJVN Thermal Private Ltd., a wholly owned subsidiary of SJVN Ltd., a Mini Ratna CPSU under Ministry of Power, Government of India. The Buxar TPP will be based on Supercritical Technology
31. **Teesta Stage-VI HE Project** is a Run of River (RoR) Scheme in Sikkim to utilize the power potential of Teesta River Basin in cascade manner
32. **Kiru Hydro Electric (HE) Project (624 MW)** by M/s **Chenab** Valley Power Projects Private Limited (M/s CVPPPL) in Jammu & Kashmir. Kiru HE Project is envisaged as a Run of River (RoR) Scheme, designed complying with the requirements of Indus Water Treaty 1960
33. The **India-UK Cancer Research** Initiative is a collaborative 5-year bilateral research initiative by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science & Technology, India and Cancer Research UK (CRUK) that will focus on affordable approaches to cancer. Both CRUK and DBT will invest £5 million
34. Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya **Institute of Archaeology** at Greater Noida
35. India Cooling Action Plan Launched : The **India Cooling Action** seeks to (i) reduce cooling demand across sectors by 20% to 25% by 2037-38, (ii) reduce refrigerant demand by 25% to 30% by 2037-38, (iii) Reduce cooling energy requirements by 25% to 40% by 2037-38, (iv) recognize “cooling and related areas” as a thrust area of research under national S&T Programme, (v) training and certification of 100,000 servicing sector technicians by 2022-23, synergizing with Skill India Mission. These actions will have significant climate benefits.
36. Top five states in terms of **Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana** PMUY beneficiaries are as follows: Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan. Under the scheme, deposit free LPG connection is provided to a poor household and the connection is released in the name of an adult woman. At the world's highest Indane LPG bottling plant situated at 11,800 ft. in Phey Village of Ladakh district, it is women power that is playing a key role in the running of the plant. The plant is operated by 11 courageous Indian Oil women in very harsh weather conditions.
37. Aligning ‘Nari Shakti’ to the frontiers of Science and Technology: 2 Programs: **CURIE** (Consolidation of University Research for Innovation and Excellence in Women Universities, **KIRAN** (Knowledge Involvement in Research Advancement through Nurturing)

38. The Government had accorded approval for **Strategic Disinvestment** of 100% GOI shares in **DCIL** in favour of consortium of 4 ports, namely, Visakhapatnam Port Trust, Paradip Port Trust, Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust and Deendayal Port Trust (formely known as Knadla Port Trust)
39. **Nari Shakti Puraskar**: The highest civilian honour for women in India. The Ministry of Women and Child Development confers Nari Shakti Puraskar on women and institutions in recognition of their relentless service towards the cause of women empowerment and social welfare.

Click here for the details of awardees:

<http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/WCD%20Citation%20Book%202018%20-%20Book.pdf>

40. Mission **Indradhanush** to accelerate our goal to achieve more than 90% full immunization coverage. Strengthening of immunization programme has contributed significantly to the decline of Infant Mortality Rate from 39 in 2014 to 32 per 1000 live births in 2017
41. Government of India has approved **the Surat Metro Rail Project** having two Metro Rail Corridors. The project will be financed mainly through equity from GoI and Government of Gujarat on 50:50 basis and loan from bilateral/ multilateral agencies.
42. **Mains: India Urban Observatory: India Urban Observatory** recognizes the value of enhancing engagement among all stakeholders of the ‘quadruple-helix’ model. This model includes Government, citizens, academia, and industry.
<http://www.pib.nic.in/Pressreleaseshare.aspx?PRID=1568433>
43. **Saudi Arabia** is the second largest supplier of crude and LPG to India
44. India today boasts of **18 Unicorns**, companies valued at more than 1 Billion USD. 1200 start-ups and 8 Unicorns have joined the club in 2018, the highest ever, in just one year. What is amazing is that more than 40% of the new start-ups are being formed outside the metro regions i.e. in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, including Vishakhapatnam. Another distinguishing feature of this aspect has been the rise in the number of women entrepreneurs in these start-ups, to 14% from 10% over the previous two years.
45. Community Radio Stations Across the Country Assure to contribute their Best for Voter Education & Awareness; ECI collaborates with Indian Railways for Voter Awareness Campaign
46. **100th ship** delivered by the DPSU in Kolkata. **GRSE Ltd**
47. Indian Navy's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) efforts in Mozambique, operations at Port Beira. Indian Navy - first Responder to Cyclone '**IDAI**' in Mozambique
48. Internet and Mobile Association of India (**IAMAI**) has also developed a “**Voluntary Code of Ethics**” for all the participating social media platforms to ensure free, fair & ethical usage of their platforms to maintain integrity of electoral process during the general elections to the Lok Sabha 2019 and Legislative Assemblies of four states and the bye-elections being held simultaneously.

49. GI Certification for five varieties of Indian coffee

50. The **Nice Agreement** concerning the International classification of Goods and Services for the purposes of registration of marks; The **Vienna Agreement** establishing an International Classification of the figurative elements of marks; The **Locarno Agreement** establishing an International classification for industrial designs

51. The **Combat Management System (CMS)** for the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC) developed with M/s **Tata** Power Strategic Engineering Division (TPSED), in collaboration with Weapon and Electronics System Engineering Establishment (WESEE) and M/s MARS, Russia

52. The **Bonn Challenge** is a global effort to restore 150 million hectares of the world's degraded and deforested lands by 2020 and 350 million hectares by 2030

53. First-ever visit of a head of state from India to **Croatia**. Croatia's progress to a stable and prosperous democracy is indeed inspirational. Your journey as a member of the European Union, a key global partner for India, heralds a new beginning for you and we wish you well. All of us would do well with a stronger Europe, one that should continue to anchor a multi-polar world uplifting multilateralism, strengthening global governance and ensuring adherence to international laws and regulations. Many here would know of the flourishing mercantile connect between Dubrovnik and Goa that existed in the 16th century. Over 1000 Croatian traders lived in Goa shipping merchandise across continents and oceans. The church of Saint Blaise in Goa, a replica of the original in Dubrovnik, stands testimony to their enterprise and prosperity

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569684>

54. The successful conduct of **Mission Shakti** today has made India the fourth nation in the world, with the capability to successfully target satellites through an Anti-Satellite Missile. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) today successfully conducted an Anti-Satellite (A-SAT) missile test 'Mission Shakti' from the **Dr AP J Abdul Kalam Island in Odisha**. DRDO-developed Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) Interceptor Missile successfully engaged an Indian orbiting target satellite in **Low Earth Orbit (LEO)**

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569576>

55. Institutions like IFFCO, KRIBHCO, and AMUL are the big success stories in the cooperative sector

56. The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has launched a special programme for School Children called "Young Scientist Programme" "YUva Vigyani KAryakram" **YUVIKA**

57. The IAF formally inducted the CH 47 F (I)- **Chinook** heavy lift helicopters into its inventory at Air Force Station Chandigarh. IAF had signed a contract with M/s Boeing Ltd in September 2015 for 15 Chinook helicopters.

58. Third edition of joint military training exercise between Indian Army and Royal Oman Army, Exercise **AL NAGAH**

59. Two dedicated ocean-going vessels, RV **Sindhu Sankalp** and RV **Sindhu Sadhana** are managed by CSIR-NIO
60. The President of India administered the Oath of Office to Shri Justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose as Chairperson, **Lokpal**
61. Africa-India Field Training Exercise-2019 (**AFINDEX-19**): 17 African nations+ observers from three African nations
62. Indo-Sri Lanka Joint Exercise **Mitra Shakti-VI**
63. India-Ghana: Collaborative project **Tema-Akosombo railway line**
64. As part of India's reachout to Africa, MEA signed an agreement with the Telecommunications Consultants India Ltd. (TCIL) to establish a pan-African e-network between the two nations. This project, called the **e-VidyaBharati** and **e-ArogyaBharati** Network Project. **E-VBAB Network Project** is primarily a technological upgrade and extension of the Pan-African e-Network Project
<https://mea.gov.in/press-releases.htm?dtl/30373/Signing+of+Agreement+between+MEA+and+TCIL+for+the+eVBAB+Network+Project>
65. India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (**IND-INDO CORPAT**) commenced at Port Blair, Andaman & Nicobar Islands: It is part of the Indian Government's vision of **SAGAR** (Security and Growth for All in the Region), the Indian Navy has also been involved in assisting countries in the Indian Ocean Region with EEZ Surveillance, Search and Rescue, and other capacity-building and capability-enhancement activities
66. **Bolivia**: The first ever State Visit from India to Bolivia, 60% of Bolivian gold is exported to India, vast Lithium deposits in Bolivia, Bi-Oceanic Railway project
67. India is among the top trading partners of **Guinea**
68. The Annual Integrated Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise - in short **TROPEX** - the largest maritime exercise of the Indian Navy was conducted in the month of February in the Arabian Sea and North Indian Ocean. As a prelude to TROPEX, the largest coastal defence exercise ever codenamed '**Sea Vigil**' was conducted on 22 and 23 Jan 19 with participation of all coastal states and union territories along with all maritime stake holders.
69. **Sendai** Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction
70. India piloted resolutions on two important global environment issues relating to **Single-use Plastics** and **Sustainable Nitrogen management** at the fourth session of United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) which was held in Nairobi. UNEA adopted both the resolutions with consensus. The global nitrogen use efficiency is low, resulting in pollution by reactive **nitrogen** which threatens human health, eco system services, contributes to climate change and stratospheric ozone depletion.

71. Festival of Innovation and Entrepreneurship and presentation of 10th Biennial **National Grassroots Innovation** Awards: 1st outside Rashtrapati Bhavan - Gandhinagar, Gujarat
72. Elector/Population Ratio is **631** currently and Gender Ratio is **958**
73. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test fired indigenously developed, low weight, fire and forget Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (**MPATGM**)
74. Indo-Bangladesh joint Military Exercise **Sampriti – 2019**
75. Ministry of Corporate Affairs has revised the National Voluntary Guidelines on Social, Environmental and Economic Responsibilities of Business, 2011 (NVGs) and formulated the **National Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct** (NGRBC). The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) through its 'Listing Regulations' in 2012 mandated the top 100 listed entities by market capitalisation to file **Business Responsibility Reports** (BRRs) from an environmental, social and governance perspective. This was extended to top 500 companies in FY 2015-16.
<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568750>
76. **Global Disability Conference** is going to be held in Argentina in June 2019
77. Kautilya's dictum "Treasury is the basis of Power"
78. **Guided Pinaka** developed by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) was successfully test fired at Pokhran ranges
79. Consumer Price Index Numbers on Base **2012=100** for Rural, Urban and Combined
80. The constitution of the Indo-UK Defence Consultative Group (DCG) and the Military Sub Group (MSG) in 1995, a two-tier structure of cooperation was established to progress various areas of defence cooperation. Indian Navy and Royal Navy are partners in the **Indian Ocean Naval Symposium** (IONS), a Maritime Cooperation construct conceptualised and pioneered by Indian Navy in 2008. Bilateral naval exercise **KONKAN**. Royal Navy Submarine Rescue Facility at Glasgow.
81. **India-Africa economic partnership** increased in bilateral trade between India and Africa by nearly 22% from last year touching USD 62.66 billion in the year 2017-18. 14th CII-EXIM Bank Conclave on India-Africa Project Partnerships concluded in New Delhi (since its inception in 2005).
<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568509>
82. India extended **National Knowledge Network** to Bangladesh
83. In the **2015 Paris Agreement**, India made an ambitious commitment that by 2030 about 40 per cent of the nation's installed energy capacity would be from 'non-fossil fuel' sources.

PART 2: CHECK YOUR CURRENT AFFAIRS AND RELATED GENERAL KNOWLEDGE QUESTIONS

1. Consider the following statements about **Lighthouse projects**

1. This project is within the framework of **Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana-Housing for All (Urban)**
2. Global technology providers will be invited to plan and construct light house projects
3. Lighthouse projects will be used as an **'open laboratory' for live demonstration** and will receive due attention from academia, practitioners, policy makers and media

Which is/are correct?

- A. 1, 2 B. 2, 3 C. 1, 3 D. 1, 2, 3

2. Which is/are correct about **National Common Mobility Card (NCMC)**?

1. It is an indigenous Automatic Fare Collection System based on One Nation One Card Model
2. These are bank issued cards on Debit/Credit/Prepaid card product platform.
3. The customer may use this single card for payments across all segments including metro, bus, suburban railways, toll, parking, smart city and retail
4. Ministry of Railways, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways & Ministry of Shipping came out with the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) Program

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567345>

- A. 1, 2, 3 B. 3, 4 C. 1, 2, 3, 4 D. None of the above

3. Which is/are correct?

- A. GSP benefits are envisaged to be non-reciprocal and non-discriminatory benefits extended by developed countries to developing countries
- B. United States of America has given a 60-day withdrawal notice to India on the **Generalized System of Preferences (GSP)** benefits extended by US
- C. Both A & B
- D. None

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567445>

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com/opinion/columns/ajay-srivastav/much-ado-about-just-a-little-something/article26514253.ece>

4. Which one of the following is not part of nine national missions guided by the Prime Minister Science, Technology & Innovation Advisory Council (**PM-STIAC**)?

- A. Natural Language Translation
- B. Quantum Frontier
- C. Artificial Intelligence
- D. Outer Planets Exploration

<http://pibphoto.nic.in/documents/rlink/2019/mar/p20193601.pdf>

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567633>

5.

ASSERTION-A: Near Dhubri, the **BOLD-QIT** (Border Electronically Dominated QRT Interception Technique) under Comprehensive Integrated Border Management System (**CIBMS**) has inaugurated

REASON-R: Border guarding near Dhubri where River Brahmaputra enters into Bangladesh is a challenging task

- A. A & R are correct; R is correct explanation for A
- B. A & R are correct; But, R is not-correct explanation for A
- C. A is Correct; But not R
- D. R is Correct; But not A

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1567516>

6. Which project is designed complying with the requirements of **Indus Water Treaty 1960**?

- 1. Khurja Super Thermal Power Plant TPP
- 2. Kiru Hydro Electric Project
- 3. Teesta Stage-VI HE Project
- 4. The Buxar TPP

- A. 2 Only B. 2, 3 C. 3 Only D. 1, 2, 3, 4

7. Locations for possible/identified for starting of **water aerodromes**: Which is/are correctly matched [Dam - Location]?

- 1. Dharoj Dam - Gujarat
- 2. Nagarjuna Sagar - Maharashtra
- 3. Shatrunjay Dam - Rajasthan
- 4. Tehri Dam – Himachal Pradesh

- A. 1 B. 1, 2 C. 1, 2, 3 D. 1, 2, 3, 4

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/aai-identifies-20-locations-for-the-development-of-water-aerodromes-118112200841_1.html

8. Exports of goods in 2018-19 registered a 9.06 per cent growth to hit a new high of

- A. \$231 billion B. \$331 billion C. \$431 billion D. \$531 billion

9.

ASSERTION-A: The **Star Labelling Programs** formulated by Bureau of Energy Efficiency to cover the Microwave Ovens and Washing Machines (with revised parameters) in the country

REASON-R: The size of Indian Microwave Oven market and the size of Indian Washing Machine market are projected to grow by a growth in urbanization

- A. A & R are correct; R is correct explanation for A
- B. A & R are correct; But, R is not-correct explanation for A
- C. A is Correct; But not R
- D. R is Correct; But not A

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568321>

10. A new term has emerged in the world of crude oil price analysis; “OPEC+”. “+” consisting of ten additional oil-producing nations, the largest three being:
- A. Russia, Mexico and Indonesia
 - B. Russia, Mexico and Kazakhstan
 - C. Russia, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates
 - D. Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela

11. Which one of the following is correct about **West Coast Refinery** and Petrochemical Project in Maharashtra?

- A. It will be the largest greenfield refinery in the world
- B. It will be the first Joint Venture Saudi investment proposals in the Indian oil and gas sector
- C. Both
- D. None

<http://openmarkets.cmegroup.com/14902/why-the-in-opec-matters-to-oil-markets>

12. Which train covering **longest route**?

- A. Kerala Express
- B. Himsagar Express
- C. Howrah Express
- D. Guwahati Express

13. Karnataka is known for

- 1. Araku Valley Arabica coffee
- 2. Bababudangiris Arabica coffee
- 3. Chikmagalur Arabica coffee
- 4. Coorg Arabica coffee
- 5. Wayanaad Robusta coffee

- A. 1, 2, 3
- B. 2, 3, 4
- C. 3, 4, 5
- D. 1, 2,3, 4,5\

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569831>

14. Which Private defence firm has been the part of development of the **Combat Management System (CMS)** for the Indigenous Aircraft Carrier (IAC)?

- A. Bharat Forge Ltd (BFL)
- B. Larsen and Toubro Ltd (L&T)
- C. Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL)
- D. Tata group

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569852>

<https://www.livemint.com/Industry/9bLrUF2aBV4cFI6Mhu6C4J/Private-defence-firms-keen-on-Make-in-India.html>

15. Four Indian companies figure among the world’s top 100 arms producers. On the following which is the top in list?

- A. Indian Ordnance Factories
- B. Hindustan Aeronautics
- C. Bharat Electronics
- D. Bharat Dynamics

16. Which one of the following is correct about **Green-shoe option**?
1. It is a clause contained in the underwriting agreement of an IPO
 2. This option permits the underwriters to buy up to an additional 15% of the shares at the offer price if public demand for the shares exceeds expectations
 3. For the investors an IPO with green shoe option ensures that after listing the share price will not fall below its offer price
 4. **In Government of India Dated Securities**, Government of India reserves the right to exercise the green-shoe option
- A. 1, 2, 3 B. 2, 3, 4 C. 1, 3, 4 D. 1, 2, 3, 4

<https://www.financialexpress.com/market/ipos-from-what-is-greenshoe-option-to-how-it-helps-investors-take-a-brief-look-at-critical-points/828323/>
<https://books.google.co.in/books?id=6VyCPLTTilQC&pg=PA215&dq=green-shoe+option&hl=en&sa=X&ved=0ahUKEwi76Iyf3PvhAhXm7XMBHblaD9IQ6AEILTAB#v=onepage&q=green-shoe%20option&f=false>
<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569863>

17. Which one of the following statements is **not** correct?
- A. At the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of Parties (CoP) in Paris, the government of India made a Bonn Challenge pledge
 - B. Bonn Challenge is a commitment to achieve 50% of electricity through renewable resources by 2050
 - C. India was the first of all **Bonn Challenge** countries to develop a progress report
 - D. None of the above

<https://www.iucn.org/news/india/201808/india-first-all-bonn-challenge-countries-develop-progress-report>

18. Which one of the following statement/s is/are correct?
- A. Finance Commission as envisaged in the Constitution does not prohibit its continuous functioning except that it has to be re-constituted before the expiry of every 5 years
 - B. There is a no recourse **mechanism for mid-term correction** based on latest available data on the awards of the Finance Commission
 - C. Both A & B
 - D. None

19. Which one of the following are **Centrally Sponsored Schemes**?

1. Crop Insurance Scheme
2. Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Gram Jyoti Yojna
3. Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana
4. Swachh Bharat Mission

A. 1, 2 B. 3, 4 C. 1, 2, 3 D. 1, 2, 3, 4

<https://gandarbhal.nic.in/service/centrally-sponsored-schemes/>

20. **Mission Shakti** is special for some reason/s. Which of the following statement/s is/are correct?

1. India is only the 4th country to acquire such a specialised & modern capability.
2. Entire effort is indigenous
3. Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) developed this Anti-satellite mission and was successfully test fired from Pokhran ranges

A. 1 B. 2 C. 1, 2 D. 1, 2, 3

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569547>

21. Which one of the following statement/s is/are correct?

- A. The Representation of the People Act, 1951 prohibits conduct of **Exit poll** and dissemination of its results during the period the hour fixed for commencement of poll in the first phase and half an hour after the time fixed for close of poll for the last phase in all the States
- B. The Representation of the People Act, 1951, prohibits results of any **opinion poll** or any other poll survey in any electronic media during the period of 48 hours ending with the hour fixed for conclusion of poll in each of the phases in the respective polling area
- C. Both A & B
- D. None

<http://pib.nic.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=189673>

22. Which one of the following statement/s is/are correct?

1. The News Broadcasters Association (NBA) represents only the private television news & current affairs broadcasters
2. **News Broadcasting Standards Authority** is an independent body set up by the News Broadcasters Association
3. Any poll violation by NBSA member broadcasters will be reported to the News Broadcasting Standards Authority (NBSA) by the Election Commission

A. 2 B. 3 C. 2, 3 D. 1, 2, 3

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569343>

23. Which one of the following statement/s is/are correct about **Base Erosion and Profit Shifting** (BEPS)?

1. It refers to tax avoidance strategies that exploit gaps and mismatches in tax rules to artificially shift profits to low or no-tax locations
2. Under the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework on BEPS, over 125 countries and jurisdictions are collaborating to implement the BEPS measures and tackle BEPS
3. India is negotiating to join Base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) project

A. 1, 2 B. 2, 3 C. 1, 3 D. 1, 2, 3

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569599>

<https://www.oecd.org/tax/beps/>

24. **Professor Lal's** Kalibangan excavations reveal

1. The earliest agricultural field
2. The earliest earthquake anywhere in the world
3. A prosperous city of the Harappan Civilization

A. 1, 3 B. 2, 3 C. 3 D. 1, 2, 3

25. Consider the following statements about **West Nile Fever (WNF)**

1. Kerala has been advised to follow the National Vector Borne Disease Control Program (NVBDCP) guidelines of personal protective measures
2. West Nile Fever is a mosquito borne zoonotic disease caused by a flavivirus -West Nile Virus (WNV)
3. This virus is related to viruses that cause Japanese Encephalitis, yellow fever and **St. Louis encephalitis**
4. Human-to-human transmission highly possible

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1569120>

Which is correct?

- A. 1 B. 1, 2, 3 C. 2, 3, 4 D. 1, 2, 3, 4

26. What is **TROPEX 2019**?

- A. It was undertaken to examine the conduct of exercise and to assess operational readiness of the Indian Navy
- B. It was undertaken to examine the conduct of exercise and to assess operational readiness of the Indian Army
- C. It was undertaken to examine the conduct of exercise and to assess operational readiness of the Indian Air Force
- D. It was undertaken to examine the conduct of exercise and to assess operational readiness of the CAPF

27. Consider the following statements about Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthaan Mahabhiyan (KUSUM) Scheme (**KUSUM**) - Which is **not** correct?

- A. Installation of grid-connected solar power plants each of Capacity up to 2 MW in the rural areas
- B. Installation of standalone off-grid solar water pumps to fulfill irrigation needs of farmers not connected to grid
- C. Solarisation of existing grid-connected agriculture pumps to make farmers independent of grid supply and also enable them to sell surplus solar power generated to DISCOM and get extra income
- D. None of the above

28. Consider the following statements about **India's pharma exports**

1. India is exporting to over 200 countries and the major market is the EU
2. India is the largest provider of generic drugs globally
3. 80 per cent of the anti-retroviral drugs used worldwide to combat AIDS are supplied by Indian pharma companies
4. 65 per cent of the WHO's demand for DPT and BCG vaccines and 90 per cent measles vaccine are supplied by India

Which is correct?

- A. 1, 2 B. 3, 4 C. 2, 3, 4 D. 1, 2, 3, 4

29. Consider the following statements about the **National Innovation Foundation (NIF)** - India

- A. It was set up in 2000 with the assistance of Department of Science and Technology, Government of India.
- B. It is India's national initiative to strengthen the grassroots technological innovations and outstanding traditional knowledge
- C. Both A & B
- D. None

30. Consider the following statements about **Elector-Gender Ratio**

1. Elector/Population Ratio is lesser than Elector-Gender Ratio
2. In some states, Elector-Gender Ratio is more than 1000
3. Puducherry is having highest Elector-Gender Ratio

[http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/1Electoral%20Roll%20Data%20for%202019%20\(Based%20on%20Formats%201-8\)%20\(1\).pdf](http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/1Electoral%20Roll%20Data%20for%202019%20(Based%20on%20Formats%201-8)%20(1).pdf)

Which is correct?

- A. 1, 2 B. 2, 3 C. 1, 2, 3 D. None of the above

31. Which is correct?

- A. The **Nice Agreement** concerning International Classification of the figurative elements of marks
- B. The **Vienna Agreement** establishing an International classification of Goods and Services for the purposes of registration of marks
- C. The **Locarno Agreement** establishing an International classification for industrial designs
- D. All the above

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568709>

32. Paraguay and Costa Rica are in

- A. Africa
- B. Central America & South America respectively
- C. South America & Africa respectively
- D. South America & Central America respectively

33. **MERCOSUR** regional arrangement in

- A. Africa B. Middle East C. North America D. South America

EXPLANATION

1. The six States are Gujarat, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Tripura, & Uttar Pradesh that have competed with a total of 14 States/UTs in a competitive mode and won the opportunity to build the Light House Project.

2. The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA) came out with the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) Program

5. Border area in Dhubri where River Brahmaputra enters into Bangladesh consists of vast char lands and innumerable river channels thus making border guarding in this area a challenging task especially during rainy season

7. Shatrunjay Dam – Gujarat; Tehri Dam in Uttarakhand and Nagarjuna Sagar in Telangana

9. The size of Indian Microwave Oven market stood at 1.21 million units in year FY 2017-18 and is projected to grow at a Compound Annual Growth Rate (CAGR) of around 2% and the size of Indian Washing Machine

market stood at 6.1 million units in year FY 2017-18 and is projected to grow at a CAGR of around 8% fuelled by a growth in urbanization

23. India is an active participant Base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) project

28. India is exporting to over 200 countries and the major market is the USA

Q. No.	Ans.	Q. No.	Ans.	Q. No.	Ans.	Q. No.	Ans.	Q. No.	Ans.
1	D	8	B	15	A	22	D	29	C
2	A	9	A	16	D	23	A	30	C
3	C	10	B	17	B	24	D	31	C
4	D	11	C	18	C	25	B	32	D
5	A	12	B	19	B	26	A	33	D
6	A	13	B	20	C	27	D		
7	A	14	D	21	C	28	C		

PART III: SITE/PAGE TO VISIT

<https://artsandculture.google.com/exhibit/QQLyzPzKbMIEKg>

President of India presents Padma Awards:
<http://164.100.117.97/WriteReadData/userfiles/List%20of%20awardees%20-%20Copy%203.pdf>

Mains: Women & Skill India Mission:

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568343>

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568138>

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1568230>