



CCE – PDU MAY-2019 CURRENT AFFAIRS & GENERAL KNOWLEDGE

PIB-COMPILATION
Dr. S. Venkata Krishnan



Centre of Continuing Education
Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University
Raisan Village, District-Gandhinagar
Pincode-382 007. Gujarat, INDIA
Phone: +91 79 2327 5276
cce@pdu.ac.in
<https://www.linkedin.com/in/cce-centre-of-continuing-education-pdu-807443164/>
<https://www.facebook.com/CENTREOFCONTINUINGEDUCATIONPDU>



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 Automobile Engineering, Petroleum Exploration, Power, Computer, Information Technology, Space, Public Administration, Foreign Affairs, Indian Economy, Defence/Security, Environment and Sports.

This issue is of five parts:

Part 1: May month NEWS

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

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

Part 4: UPSC Mains Practice Questions based on May PIB News

Part 5 : Index

Special Addition: REFINERIES MAP

All the Best & Regards,
Dr S. Venkata Krishnan

Office:

CCE, 2nd Floor, D-Block
Pandit Deendayal Petroleum University
Gandhinagar, Gujarat Visit: <https://ccepdpdpu.wordpress.com>
Mail: CCE@PDPU.AC.IN
Phone: 079-23275276

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Cover Page Photo: <https://www.boeing.co.in/products-and-services/defense-space-and-security/boeing-defense-space-and-security-in-india/ah-64e-apache.page>

NIFM

National Institute of Financial Management (NIFM), Faridabad training in areas such as expenditure management, budget management, and fiscal responsibility and taxation.

CHANDRAYAAN-2

India's second lunar mission, has three modules namely **ORBITER, LANDER (VIKRAM) & ROVER (PRAGYAN)**. The Orbiter and Lander modules will be interfaced mechanically and stacked together as an integrated module and accommodated inside the GSLV MK-III launch vehicle.

The Rover is housed inside the Lander. After launch into earth bound orbit by GSLV MK-III, the integrated module will reach Moon orbit using Orbiter propulsion module. Subsequently, Lander will separate from the Orbiter and soft land at the predetermined site close to lunar South Pole. Further, the Rover will roll out for carrying out scientific experiments on the lunar surface. Instruments are also mounted on Lander and Orbiter for carrying out scientific experiments.

PRE-EMPTIVE MEASURES

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) initiated series of **PRE-EMPTIVE MEASURES** from first sign of weather disturbance (Cyclone 'FANI') in Bay of Bengal on Apr 23, 2019 and implemented lessons learnt from Cyclone Ockhi to ensure safety of lives at sea.

VARUNA 19.1

Indian and French Navies conduct **VARUNA 19.1** Bilateral Exercise Off Goa coast

ELECTORAL BOND SCHEME 2018

The Government of India has notified the Electoral Bond Scheme 2018 vide Gazette Notification No. 20 dated 02nd January 2018. As per provisions of the Scheme, Electoral Bonds may be purchased by a person (as defined in item No. 2 (d) of Gazette Notification), who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India. A person being an individual can buy Electoral Bonds, either singly or jointly with other individuals. Only the Political Parties registered under Section 29A of the Representation of the People Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and



which secured not less than one per cent of the votes polled in the last General Election to the House of the People or the Legislative Assembly of the State, shall be eligible to receive the Electoral Bonds. The Electoral Bonds shall be encashed by an eligible Political Party only through a Bank account with the Authorized Bank. State Bank of India (SBI) has been authorized to issue and encash Electoral Bonds through its 29 Authorized Branches. The Electoral Bonds shall be valid for fifteen calendar days from the date of issue and no payment shall be made to any payee Political Party if the Electoral Bond is deposited after expiry of the validity period. The Electoral Bond deposited by an eligible Political Party in its account shall be credited on the same day.

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

The International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT), Manesar, located in the northern automotive hub of India, is a leading world class automotive testing, certification and R&D service provider under the aegis of NATRiP (National Automotive Testing and R&D Infrastructure Project), Government of India. The automotive industry is the sunshine industry in India contributing to over 7.5% to country's GDP. Government of India has huge focus to facilitate and grow this industry. Creation of new automotive test centres in the country under NATRIP project, is an important step forward by the Government to support the need of the automotive industry in the backdrop of tightening regulatory framework and technology shift driven by market forces. ICAT is an important element of the automotive sector, with its world-class infrastructure and domain expertise providing services in development, testing, validation and homologation. As India moves towards adopting complete electric mobility by 2030, ICAT's Power Train lab/ COE, EMC lab and Automotive Electrical and Electronics labs have started rendering testing and developmental services in this domain. With Centres of Excellence (CoE) in Component, Powertrain, NVH and Tyre, ICAT intends to eventually transform it into an automotive product development centre.

Automotive electrical and electronics lab (AEEL) - The lab offers services for certification and validation for wide range of E&E components including systems, E-motors, ECUs, Batteries and RFIDS. It also provides consultancy services to the customers for product development and improvements.

Tyre Test Lab (TTL)-Tyre Test Lab is providing services to the tyre industry, vehicle manufactures and Bureau of Indian Standards. ICAT has transformed this lab into centre of

excellence by developing new capabilities including the dual station endurance test rig and tyre rolling resistance test rig.

Passive Safety Lab (PSL) – It is dedicated to support automotive industry for their needs of Crash Testing (Regulatory as well as Developmental), pedestrian protection testing, sled testing and airbag deployment testing of vehicles as per Indian and international regulations. Some of the services offered are frontal impact crash test, side impact crash test, side pole impact, rear impact test, static rollover and pedestrian protection testing. The lab has successfully completed correlation activities with renowned OEMs.

SRI VEDANTA DESIKAN

SRI VEDANTA DESIKAN is one of the most prominent preceptors in the Srivaishnava tradition, Sri Vedanta Desikan's scholarship as truly outstanding and he had authored brilliant poems, prose, drama, epics, commentaries, scientific texts and philosophical treatises in Sanskrit, Tamil, Prakrit and Manipravalam. His magnum opus, the Rahasya Traya Sara, is a masterly treatise on Prapatti or surrendering oneself to the divine. Postage stamp to commemorate the 750th birth anniversary of Sri Vedanta Desikann released.

URBAN TRANSPORT

URBAN TRANSPORT accounts for 25% of the greenhouses gases worldwide. In the recent times, Indian cities have been witnessing an undesirable shift from the use of public transport to private vehicles. The average two-wheeler and car ownership levels in metropolitan cities which were 112 and 14 per 1000 population in 1994 are expected to grow to 393 and 48 respectively by 2021. Transport sector is already the second largest consumer of energy in India. The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) has estimated that India's commercial energy demands and emissions will increase by about 6 to 7 times by 2031-32 from the levels in 2011 unless drastic reform measures are envisioned and implemented dedicatedly.

FANI

Extremely Severe Cyclonic Storm '**FANI**' crossed coast near **Puri**

FIFTEENTH FINANCE COMMISSION

FIFTEENTH FINANCE COMMISSION had constituted an **ADVISORY COUNCIL**. The role and function of the Council is to:

1. To advise the Commission n any issue or subject related to the Terms of Reference (ToR) of the Commission, which may be of relevance.
2. To assist in the preparation of any paper or research study which would enhance the Commission’s understanding on the issue contained in its ToR: and
3. To help in broadening the Commission’s ambit and understanding to seek best national and international practices on matters pertaining to fiscal devolution and improving the quality and reach and enforcement of its recommendations.

VELA

VELA, the fourth **SCORPENE CLASS SUBMARINE** being constructed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited for the Indian Navy, was launched. The contract for the construction and Transfer-of-Technology for six Scorpene class submarines in series, has M/s Naval Group (formerly DCNS) of France as ‘Collaborator’ and are being built by MDL.

INDIA-AFRICA

The Commerce Ministry and Indian High Commissions and Embassies of eleven African countries arranged an interaction over **Digital Video Conference-11 countries (DVC)** over two days with the Indian business community in Africa. India’s total trade with the African region during 2017-18 was USD 62.69 billion (8.15% of India’s total trade with the World). **India’s share** of exports to African countries as a percentage of India’s total exports to the world was of the order of 8.21% in 2017-18. Africa region’s share in India’s total imports from the World accounted for 8.12% in 2017-18.

Today, African countries present immense **opportunities for India** with the world’s largest land mass, 54 countries, a population growing to be almost equivalent to that of India, huge mineral resources, oil wealth, a youthful population, falling poverty levels and increasing consumption patterns. Thus, Africa has a huge demand for new business models for market entry, stable market access, entrepreneurship and investments in transport, telecom, tourism, financial services, real estate and construction.

The **Indian community in Africa** is playing a vital role in all fields like politics, business and education. As per the latest available estimates the current strength of the Indian Diaspora in the African countries is 2.8 million out of those 2.5 million are PIOs and rest 220967 are NRIs. Total overseas Indians are 30.83 million of which 17.83 million are PIOs and 13 million are NRIs. (Ministry of Overseas Indian Affairs, 2016). Indian Diaspora in Africa constitutes 9.11% of the total Diaspora of India. The inherent strength of India in Africa is its rich and vast

Diaspora which has established strong links with the political, economic and social fabric of the African continent.

The major issues highlighted by the Indian Business Community in Africa :

1. Improving the Line of Credit system and developing a facility for an affordable and competitive funding.
2. Setting up of Indian Banks/financial institutions in Africa
3. Enhanced Buyers' Credit facility for promotion of trade between the two regions
4. Reviewing and liberalizing visa policies from both sides
5. Need for direct flights between the India and African countries
6. Exploring the possibility of rupee trade to address the issue of shortage of dollars in region.
7. Creation of common database of buyer-suppliers in the two regions for facilitating matchmaking for enhancement of bilateral trade.
8. Development of a robust trade dispute settlement mechanism
9. More frequent and structured country/sector specific trade exhibitions in Africa
10. Establishment of country chapters of FICCI or CII in Africa
11. Frequent visits of policy makers, chamber of commerce and investors for familiarization with local business and investment regime for informed decisions

BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION (BRO)

BRO is celebrating its 59th Raising Day here today. BRO is a leading road construction agency under the Ministry of Defence with a primary role of providing road connectivity in border areas. The BRO has also constructed roads in friendly foreign countries like **Bhutan, Myanmar, Afghanistan** etc. thus contributing towards our strategic objectives in the region.

INDIA-BANGLADESH: MEDIA CO-OPERATION

Bangladesh Delegation meets I&B Ministry. Co-production of film on the life of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and documentary on Bangladesh Liberation War finalized. Working Agreement on cooperation between AIR and Bangladesh Betar agreed upon – to be operationalized from June, 2019. DD Free Dish to carry Bangladesh TV on its platform.



CENTRAL BOARD OF INDIRECT TAXES AND CUSTOMS (CBIC)

CBIC organized meeting of the Regional Heads of **Customs Administration** of Asia Pacific Region of the World Customs Organisation (WCO) in Kochi. **India** is hosting this meeting in its capacity as **Vice Chair of the Asia Pacific region** that it assumed on 1st July, 2018 for a two-year period. RKC highlighted.

The International Convention on the simplification and harmonization of Customs procedures (as amended), known as the **REVISED KYOTO CONVENTION** is the blueprint for modern and efficient Customs procedures in the 21st century.

RBI

The RBI made a detailed presentation to the Finance Commission, on **STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCES FOR 2019-20**. The key takeaways are:

1. The importance of states in the economy has increased with the shift in composition of government finances.
2. Fiscal deficit of states is budgeted to be lower in 2019-20 BE, but RE and actuals deviate significantly (reflecting poor fiscal marksmanship).
3. Specific factors drive fiscal slippages: these factors include UDAY in the past and farm loan waivers and income support schemes in 2018-19 RE.
4. Outstanding debt as percentage of GDP rising despite moderation in interest payment as percentage of revenue receipts.

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1571737>

GDP ESTIMATES- A CLARIFICATION 8.5.2019

The estimation of GDP in any economy is a complex exercise where several measures and metrics are evolved to better measure the performance of the economy. For the purpose of global standardization and comparability, countries follow the System of National Accounts evolved in the UN after elaborate consultation. The System of National Accounts 2008 (2008 SNA) is the latest version of the international statistical standard for the national accounts, adopted by the United Nations Statistical Commission (UNSC) in 2009 and is an update of the earlier 1993 SNA. The Inter-Secretariat Working Group on National Accounts (ISWGNA) was mandated to develop the 2008 SNA through intense discussions and consultation with member countries. India also participated in the deliberations of the Advisory Expert Group.

The SNA also prescribes that the base year of the estimates may be revised at periodic intervals so that changes in the economic environment, advances in methodological research and the needs of users are appropriately captured.

*With structural changes taking place in the economy, it is necessary to revise the base year of macroeconomic indicators like Gross Domestic Product (GDP), Index of Industrial Production (IIP), Consumer Price Index (CPI) etc, periodically to ensure that indicators remain relevant and reflect the structural changes more realistically.

In India, the Base Year of the GDP Series was revised from 2004-05 to 2011-12 and released on 30 January, 2015 after adaptation of the sources and methods in line with the SNA 2008. The methodology of compilation of macro aggregates is discussed in detail by the Advisory Committee on National Accounts Statistics (ACNAS) comprising experts from academia, National Statistical Commission, Indian Statistical Institute (ISI), Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Ministries of Finance, Corporate Affairs, Agriculture, NITIAayog and selected State Governments.

India has also subscribed to the Special Data Dissemination Standards (SDDS) of International Monetary Fund (IMF) which requires that macro-economic data would be disseminated within the prescribed periodicity and timeliness conforming to the data standards laid down along with information on the detailed statistical practices or metadata.

The detailed Sources and Methods for compilation of the national accounts statistics are placed on the website of MOSPI under the heading “ Changes in Methodology and Data Sources in the New Series of National Accounts, Base Year 2011-12”.

IN SHIPS KOLKATA AND SHAKTI

IN Ships Kolkata and Shakti undertake **Group Sail** with Naval Ships of Japan, Philippines and the USA. The Group Sail was aimed to deepen the existing partnership and foster mutual understanding among participating navies. The ships undertook various exercises en route which included formation manoeuvring, underway replenishment runs, cross-deck flying and exchange of Sea Riders. Both the ships participated in **ADMM-PLUS MS FTX Phase I** exercises also off South Korea with Navies of Brunei, China, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, South Korea and the USA.

Also participated in the annual Singapore India Maritime Bilateral Exercise SIMBEX-2019

THE FUTURE OF CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES

What is the future of Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSSs)? The Central Government spends 3.5 lakh crore rupees per annum on these schemes. Past attempts at rationalizing these schemes have met with modest success. Earlier, the lifecycle of CSSs was coterminous with that of the Five Year Plans; they were hence subject to the mid-term appraisal of the Plan. Now, since there are no Five Year Plans, and hence no mid-term appraisal, the Central Government decided that it will now make the lifecycle of all CSSs coterminous with that of every Finance Commission. This year is the last year of the existing CSSs, before which they will move to the new cycle which will kick in as a result of our recommendations. From the viewpoint of the Central Government and others, this is an excellent opportunity for rationalization and simplification of CSSs. This is one area which is being deliberated upon.

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1571803>

WTO MINISTERIAL MEETING

A WTO Ministerial meeting of developing countries is being hosted by India in New Delhi on 2019. Sixteen developing countries, Six Least Developed Countries (LDC) in the meeting. It is being held at a time when the multilateral rule-based-trading system is facing serious and grave challenges.

In the recent past, there have been increasing unilateral measures and counter measures by members, deadlock in key areas of negotiations and the impasse in the Appellate Body, which threaten the very existence of Dispute Settlement Mechanism of the WTO and impacts the position of the WTO as an effective multilateral organisation. The current situation has given rise to demands from various quarters to reform the WTO. The deliberations will aim at getting a direction on how to constructively engage on various issues in the WTO, both institutional and negotiating, in the run up to the Twelfth Ministerial Conference of the WTO to be held in Kazakhstan in June 2020.

The **MC11 decision** on fisheries subsidies clearly mandates that there should be an appropriate and effective special and differential treatment (S&D) for developing countries. It is important for developing countries including LDCs to collectively work for a fair and equitable agreement on disciplines in fisheries subsidies. This also likely to be discussed.

Issues are likely to be discussed:

1. Finding a solution to the ongoing impasse in the Appellate Body on an urgent basis.
2. Issues of importance and priority for developing countries including LDCs in the reform agenda.
3. How to reinvigorate negotiating agenda on issues of critical importance for developing countries?
4. How to ensure effective S&D for all developing countries including LDCs?

AH-64E (I) - APACHE GUARDIAN HELICOPTER

First AH-64E (I) - Apache Guardian helicopter was formally handed over to the Indian Air Force at **Boeing production facility in Mesa, Arizona, USA**. IAF had signed a contract with US Government and M/s Boeing Ltd in Sep 2015 for 22 Apache helicopters. Selected aircrew and ground crew have undergone training at the training facilities at US Army base **Fort Rucker, Alabama**. These personnel will lead the operationalisation of the Apache fleet in the IAF. The helicopter has been customized to suit IAF's future requirements and would have significant capability in mountainous terrain. The helicopter has the capability to carry out precision attacks at standoff ranges and operate in hostile airspace with threats from ground. The ability of these helicopters, to transmit and receive the battlefield picture, to and from the weapon systems through data networking makes it a **lethal acquisition**. These attack helicopters will provide significant edge in any future joint operations in support of land forces.

ELECTION VISITORS' PROGRAMME

More than 65 Representatives from 20 Election Management Bodies across the World witness 17th Lok Sabha Elections as part of Election Commission's Election Visitors' Programme. The delegation visited **India international Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIDEM)**, the new training and research campus of ECI. Senior officials of the Election Commission made comprehensive presentations to apprise the foreign delegates on the role and responsibilities of the Election Commission of India and various challenges in planning and organizing elections in the world's largest democracy. Presentations regarding political party registrations; preparation of Electoral Rolls and IT initiatives; Electoral Voting Machines and



VVPATs; briefing on Media and Social Media Interaction; Election laws and related matters were made.

GOLDEN JUBILEE -INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH (ICSSR)

Completion of 50 years for any organization is a major landmark, particularly so for ICSSR, which is dealing with complex issues like social, economic and human development.

ABHYAS

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted successful flight test of ABHYAS - High-speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) from Interim Test Range, Chandipur in Odisha

GOODS AND SERVICES TAX PRACTITIONERS (GSTPS)

The National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes and Narcotics (NACIN) has been authorized to conduct an examination for confirmation of enrollment of Goods and Services Tax Practitioners (GSTPs) in terms of the Central Goods and Services Tax Rules, 2017.

SCOUT MASTERS COMPETITION

International Army Scout Masters Competition 2019- Jaisalmer: The event will witness participation of the Mechanised Infantry Scout Teams of eight countries including Russia who is the founding member of this format of International Army Games.

INDIAN NAVY'S SERVICE SELECTION BOARD AT KOLKATA

This is the fifth Service Selection Board of the Indian Navy and caters for selection of both Permanent and Short Service Commission officers. The other Boards are located in Bhopal, Bengaluru, Visakhapatnam and Coimbatore.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

- India is unanimously chosen as co-chair of the Consultative Group (CG) of Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery (GFDRR) for the fiscal year 2020.
- India is not only focusing on reducing mortality from major disasters but also from small or medium, and locally-specific disasters such as heat wave, thunderstorm and lightning. Focussed attention and investments in cyclone risk mitigation has yielded dividends in



funding mechanism, managed by the World Bank, that supports disaster risk management projects worldwide. It is presently working on the ground with over 400 local, national, regional, and international partners and provides knowledge, funding, and technical assistance.

7TH ECONOMIC CENSUS -2019

7th Economic Census -2019 is being conducted by MoSPI to provide disaggregated information on various operational and structural aspects of all establishments in the country. MoSPI has partnered with Common Service Centres, CSC e-Governance Services India Limited, a Special Purpose Vehicle under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology as the implementing agency for 7th EC. An IT based digital platform for data capture, validation, report generation and dissemination will be used in this Economic Census. The fieldwork for the 7th EC will commence in June 2019.

BAN ON LTTE

The Central Government has extended the ban on the Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) for another five years under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 (37 of 1967) with immediate effect.

BIO ORGANS-3D PRINTING

Workshop on Artificial Bio Organs held in Visakhapatnam. The workshop explored 3D printing, an innovative technology that covers all medical disciplines and offers new opportunities in diagnostics and therapy. From diagnostic visualization to surgical planning, patient-specific models provide an added value for patients and physicians.

SPARROW

Project 'SPARROW-CBIC' for online writing of Annual Performance Appraisal Report (APAR) in SPARROW (Smart Performance Appraisal Report Recording Online Window) for Group 'B' and 'C' Officers of Central Board of Indirect Taxes & Customs (CBIC) implemented

RUDRAKSH TREES

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between National Mission for Clean Ganga, HCL Foundation and INTACH for taking up a project of '**Plantation of Rudraksh Trees in Uttarakhand**' as a part of CSR initiative under the 'Namami Gange' Programme.



to ensure self-sufficiency, the pulse requirement in the country is projected to be 32 million tonnes by 2030.

According to Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), pulses are essential crops for a number of reasons. They are packed with nutrients and have high protein content, making them an ideal source of protein particularly in regions where meat and dairy are not physically or economically accessible.

With the problems of malnutrition and micro-nutrient deficiencies affecting sections of our population, pulses can play a significant role in promoting healthy diet. They are low in fat and rich in complex carbohydrates, micro-nutrients, proteins and B vitamins.

As such, pulses are recommended because they lower the risk of cardiovascular diseases and diabetes. Pulses have also been shown to help combat obesity.

Apart from improving soil fertility due to their nitrogen-fixing property, they also contribute towards climate change mitigation by reducing dependence on synthetic fertilizers. Greenhouse gases are released during the manufacturing and application of these fertilizers.

India's major food crops-- rice and wheat--have been heavily incentivized with MSP and given preferential PDS treatment to benefit the Indian poor. Hence, Indian farmers are motivated to grow either these crops or cash crops like cotton and sugarcane. Pulses have been a second choice for the farmers for cultivation.

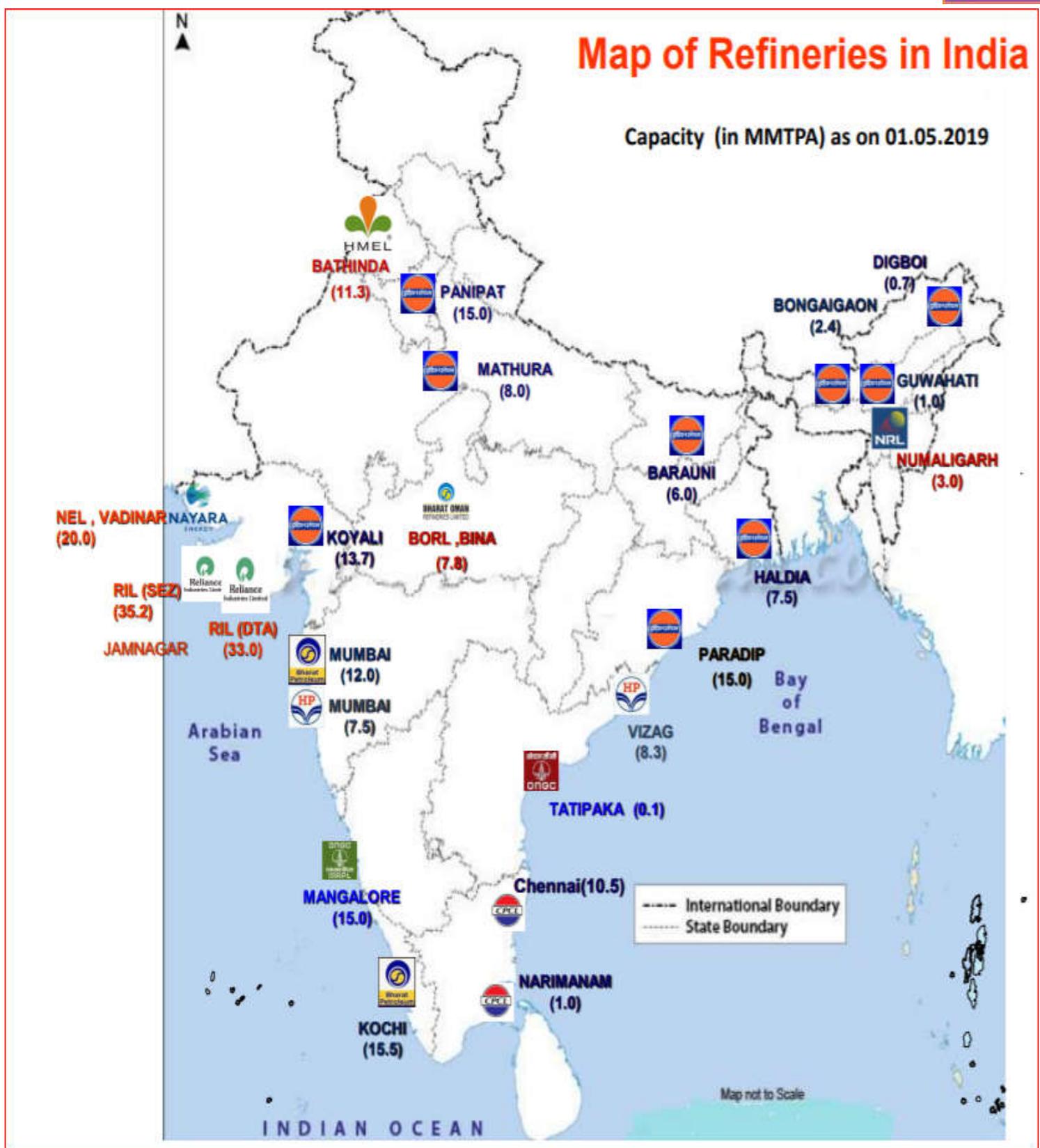
While pulses production has increased in the past few years, there is a need to increase the acreage as well as productivity to achieve self-sufficiency in the coming years. In an effort to make pulses more remunerative and accessible to the consumers, Minimum Support Price (MSP) for all major pulses was introduced

KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA (KVK)

KVKs act as a bridge between scientists, governments, and farmers. The intervention by KVKs, about 80 percent of the farmers have modified their agricultural patterns which were related to the diversification of crops and changes in cropping pattern, seed planting technique, use of fertilizers and pesticides, changes in machinery used and in water use pattern.

Map of Refineries in India

Capacity (in MMTPA) as on 01.05.2019



<http://ppac.org.in/WriteReadData/userfiles/file/RefineriesMap.pdf>



ARTICLE 85 OF THE CONSTITUTION

The Cabinet in its meeting held on 24.05.2019 has advised The President to dissolve the 16th Lok Sabha with immediate effect. The President has accepted the advice of the Cabinet on 24.05.2019 and signed the Order dissolving the 16th Lok Sabha in exercise of the powers conferred upon him by Sub-clause (b) of Clause (2) of Article 85 of the Constitution.

ARTICLE 75 (1) OF THE CONSTITUTION

Exercising powers vested in him under Article 75 (1) of the Constitution of India, the President, Shri Ram Nath Kovind, today appointed Shri Narendra Modi to the office of Prime Minister of India. He requested Shri Modi to:

- i.) advise him about the names of others to be appointed members of the Union Council of Ministers; and
- ii.) indicate the date and time of the swearing-in-ceremony to be held at Rashtrapati Bhavan

SWEARING-IN-CEREMONY of the Prime Minister of India: Dignitaries attended Mohammad Abdul Hamid, the President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh; MrMaithripalaSirisena, the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; MrSooronbaiZheenbekov, the President of Kyrgyz Republic; U Win Myint, the President of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; MrPravind Kumar Jugnauth, the Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius; Mr K.P. Sharma Oli, the Prime Minister of Nepal; DrLotayTshering, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan and MrGrisada Boonrach, Special Envoy of the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Thailand.

PRIME MINISTER'S SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME

First decision of the Prime Minister dedicated to those who protect India. Major changes approved in the 'Prime Minister's Scholarship Scheme' under the National Defence Fund. Rates of Scholarship Enhanced and the scheme to include State Police Personnel who are/were martyred during terror/naxal attacks.

PENSION TO FARMERS

The first Cabinet meeting of the NDA Government offers pension coverage to crores of farmers. This is a Central Sector Scheme-(matching share) beneficiary farmer is required to contribute. A voluntary and contributory pension scheme for all Small and Marginal Farmers (SMF) across the country.



PENSION FOR TRADERS

Cabinet clears pension scheme for traders 3 crore retail traders and shop keepers to benefit from this move. The Government of India will make matching contribution in the subscribers' account.

PM-KISAN SCHEME

PM-KISAN Scheme extension to include all eligible farmer families irrespective of the size of land holdings-The revised Scheme is expected to cover around 14.5 crore beneficiaries-income support of Rs. 6000/-

FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) AND BRUCELLOSIS

A new initiative to control Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis to support the livestock rearing farmers.

The threat of Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) and Brucellosis: These diseases are very common amongst the livestock – cow-bulls, buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs etc.

If a cow/buffalo gets infected with FMD, the milk loss is upto 100% which could last for four to six months. Further, in case of Brucellosis the milk output reduces by 30%, during the entire life cycle of animal. Brucellosis also causes infertility amongst the animals. The infection of brucellosis can also be transmitted to the farm workers and livestock owners. Both the diseases have a direct negative impact on the trade of milk and other livestock products.

In case of FMD, the scheme envisages vaccination coverage to 30 crore bovines (cows-bulls and buffaloes) and 20 crore sheep/goat and 1 crore pigs at six months' interval along with primary vaccination in bovine calves, while the Brucellosis control programme shall extend to cover 100% vaccination coverage of 3.6 crore female calves. The Central Government has decided to now bear the entire cost of the program to ensure complete eradication of these diseases and better livelihood opportunities for all the livestock rearing farmers in the country.

LIBERATION OF ITALY

The contribution of Indian soldiers in the liberation of Italy during the Second World War is well known. Almost 50,000 Indian troops, mostly between the ages of 19 to 22, fought for the 'Liberation of Italy'.

NTTL

In India, three National Tobacco Testing Laboratories (NTTL) which possess world class facilities to analyze various kinds of tobacco products.

PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY

Periodic Labour Force Survey that which will provide quarterly labour and employment data for urban India and annual data for rural India.



ANNUAL SURVEY OF SERVICES SECTOR

Ministry of Statistics & Program Implementation (MoSPI) had decided to undertake an Annual Survey of Services Sector from 2019-20, to study their spatial and temporal characteristics for use in National Accounts estimates.

NATIONAL MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

Established on 15th November 1958 as a Public Sector Undertaking to explore, develop and exploit mineral resources other than fuel oil and atomic minerals, NMDC is engaged in mining of iron ore and diamonds. NMDC is India's single largest iron ore producer, presently producing over 35 million tonnes of iron ore from 3 fully mechanized mines in Chhattisgarh and Karnataka. In acknowledgement of its substantial contribution to the domestic mineral sector in the past six decades, it has been accorded the status of Schedule-A public sector company. In recognition of its consistent performance, the Company was also categorized as a 'Navratna' Public Sector Enterprise in 2008. The company is diversifying into steel making and has undertaken several capital intensive projects to modernize and increase capacities to retain its domestic leadership and is also successful in its overseas ventures.

NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICE (NSO)

The National Statistical Commission, under the Chairpersonship of Dr. C. Rangarajan, had, *inter-alia*, recommended for the creation of National Statistical Office (NSO) to be headed by a National Statistician, with appropriate autonomy and independence for producing Official Statistics as is prevalent in other countries. The Government, while accepting the recommendations, had approved the establishment of NSO to be headed by Chief Statistician of India by merging the then Central Statistical Organisation (CSO) and National Sample Survey Organisation (NSSO) to form the NSO in May, 2005. The NSO was in existence since then to serve as the executive wing of the Government in the field of statistics, and the Chief Statistician of India (CSI) & Secretary was its sole functionary. In the restructuring exercise, the administrative, coordination and planning activities of MoSPI have also been brought into NSO, which continues to be headed by CSI & Secretary, for providing requisite administrative support to the statistical activities of the Ministry of Statistics & Program Implementation (MoSPI)

CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE

Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal Birender Singh Dhanoa received the baton of Chairman, Chiefs of Staff Committee from outgoing Chairman COSC and Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Sunil Lanba



PROF. SAMBHU NATH DE

Though Prof. De's work was highly relevant to our own society, it is ironical that he is not much known in his own country. In the 1950s Prof. Sambhu Nath De, coming out of then prevailing thinking in the cholera scientific circle, blazed a new trail, which not only gave new insight into the mechanism of the disease but also led to the development of various types of antibiotics, cholera vaccination and oral rehydration, to pull back cholera patients from the jaws of death

PADMA AWARDS

The Padma Awards, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, are amongst the highest civilian awards of the country. Instituted in 1954, these Awards are announced on the occasion of the Republic Day every year. The award seeks to recognize 'work of distinction' and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields/disciplines, such as, Art, Literature and Education, Sports, Medicine, Social Work, Science and Engineering, Public Affairs, Civil Service, Trade and Industry etc. All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these Awards. Government servants including those working with PSUs, except Doctors and Scientists, are **not eligible for Padma Awards**.

NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE OF INDIA

National Film Archive of India, the premier organization of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting which is involved in film conservation, preservation and restoration. President of Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences (popularly known as Oscar Academy), e-launched the Hindi translation of an Academy Publication, "Digital Dilemma" by NFAI

AKASH Mk1S

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has successfully test fired AKASH-MK-1S missile from ITR, Chandipur, Odisha. Akash Mk1S is an upgrade of existing AKASH missile with indigenous Seeker. It is a surface to air missile which can neutralize advanced aerial targets. The Akash weapon system has combination of both command guidance and active terminal seeker guidance.

'MISSING MAN' FORMATION

The 'Missing Man' formation is an aerial salute accorded to honour the fallen comrades-in-arms. This is an Arrow Formation, with a gap between two aircraft in the formation depicting the - Missing Man. Air Chief Marshal, Chief of the Air Staff, led a four aircraft, MiG-21 'Missing Man' formation flypast to honour the valour and supreme sacrifice of men killed in action during Operation Safed Sagar at Kargil.



10% OF INDIGENOUS BIO-JET FUEL - AN-32 AIRCRAFT

IAF's formidable workhorse, the Russian made AN-32 aircraft was formally fleet certified to fly on blended aviation fuel containing up to 10% of indigenous bio-jet fuel. The approval certificate was received at the aero-engine test facilities at Chandigarh.

The indigenous bio-jet fuel was first produced by the CSIR-IIP lab at Dehradun in 2013, but could not be tested or certified for commercial use on aircraft due to lack of test facilities in the civil aviation sector. On 27 July, 2018, Chief of the Air Staff had formally announced IAF's intention to permit the use of all its resources for testing and certifying the indigenous fuel. Since then, IAF's flight test crew and engineers have been evaluating the performance of this fuel against international standards. This is a huge step in promoting the 'Make in India' mission as this bio-fuel would be produced from Tree Borne Oils (TBOs) sourced from tribal areas and farmers, augmenting their income substantially.

BRAHMOS SUPERSONIC CRUISE MISSILE

A BrahMos Supersonic Cruise Missile was successfully test-fired by a Unit of Eastern Command, Indian Army from Car Nicobar Islands as part of joint training by Indian Army, Indian Navy and Indian Air Force. The Combat missile was test fired on a specially designed target chosen at a range of 270 Kms, thus validating deep penetration capability by the supersonic cruise missile and accurate engagement of targets in depth.

BrahMos missile has by now established itself as a major 'Force Multiplier' in modern day battlefield with impeccable multi role and multi platform launch capabilities furthering the confidence amongst our troops

INERTIAL GUIDED BOMB

Defence Research and Defence Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested a 500 kg class Inertial Guided Bomb today from Su-30 MKI Aircraft from the Pokhran test range in Rajasthan. The guided bomb achieved the desired range and hit the target with high precision.

JAMAAT-UL-MUJAHIDEEN BANGLADESH

The Central Government has banned the Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh or Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen India or Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Hindustan and all its manifestations under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967 with immediate effect.

SCO MASS MEDIA

The Second Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Mass Media Forum is being held at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. Indian Delegation participated.



INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (IDB)

The United Nations proclaimed May 22nd as the International Day for Biological Diversity (IDB) to improve understanding of issues related to biodiversity and raise awareness regarding the importance of conserving biodiversity, among the world community. The theme of International Day for Biological Diversity this year ‘**Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health**’.

The ‘Global Assessment Report on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services’ released by the Intergovernmental Platform on Biological Diversity and Ecosystem Services (**IPBES**) has underlined that global trends on continuing biodiversity collapse remain alarming due to unsustainable consumption in pursuit of a material-intensive lifestyle. The report also finds that around 1 million animal and plant species are now threatened with extinction, many within decades, more than ever before in human history.

INDIA’S FOREST COVER

India’s forest cover stands at 21% against global standard of 33.3%. India has lost over 1.6 million hectare of tree cover between 2001 and 2018, according to a new study released by the World Resources Institute (WRI).

RADIAL RIB ANTENNA ON RISAT-2B

RISAT-2B launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV)-C46 will be used for surveillance, agriculture, forestry and disaster management support. ISRO deployed the 3.6 metre Radial Rib Antenna on RISAT-2B, a world class technology

RISAT-2B is a radar imaging earth observation satellite weighing about 615 kg. The satellite is intended to provide services in the field of Agriculture, Forestry and Disaster Management.

INTER ARMED FORCES COOPERATION

In an effort to enhance inter Armed Forces Cooperation and utilise each other’s assets for training and sports, the Director Generals of Assam Rifles and Indian Coast Guard (ICG) signed an Affiliation Charter between 3rd (Naga Hills) Battalion of Assam Rifles and Indian Coast Guard Ship ‘Shaurya’.

AIR LAUNCHED BRAHMOS MISSILE

IAF successfully fired the BrahMos air version missile from its frontline Su-30 MKI fighter aircraft. The air launched BrahMos missile is a 2.5 ton supersonic air to surface cruise missile with ranges of close to 300 km, designed and developed by BAPL. The IAF became the first Air Force in the world to have successfully fired an air launched 2.8 Mach surface attack

missile of this category on a sea target. The dedicated and synergetic efforts of the IAF, DRDO, BAPL and HAL have proven the capability of the nation to undertake such complex integrations.

INDO-MYANMAR- CORPAT

The 8th Indo-Myanmar coordinated patrol (IMCOR), at Andaman and Nicobar Command. The CORPAT initiative between the two navies is meant to address issues of terrorism, illegal fishing, drug trafficking, human trafficking, poaching and other illegal activities inimical to interest of both nations. Started in Mar 2013, the CORPAT series has enhanced the mutual understanding and fostered improved professional interaction between the two navies for maritime interoperability.

ENERGY-2018

The High-Level Committee (HLC) constituted by the Government of India to examine the issues relating to preparation of action plan to create synergy among R&D Centres of Oil & Gas PSUs; tax issues and ways to benefit from GST by the Oil & Gas PSUs today submitted its report.

Energy security is a key strategic priority for India. During 2018, India consumed 204.92 MMT petroleum products and 58.64 BCM natural gas whereas the domestic production of crude oil and natural gas has almost stagnated. The import dependency of crude oil and LNG during the year was 82.59% and 45.89% respectively which is likely to increase in days to come. During 2018, petroleum import (₹7028.37 billion) was 23.42% of total gross import (₹30010.2 billion) of the nation. India's projected oil demand is going to grow at CAGR 4% during 2016-2030 against the world average of 1% though the projected oil demand will be much lower as compared to the US and China. India is thus at very precarious situation and to secure its energy needs in sustainable manner, out-of-box solutions are needed. R&D is going to play an important role in the process.

ONGOLE CATTLE BREED

There is neglect of the indigenous Ongole cattle breed and called for protecting and promoting the animal, which has become popular all over the world. Brazil which has imported these cattle and produced hybrid Ongoles was earning huge revenue through export. It is known for its toughness, high milk yield, tolerance to tropical heat and disease resistance.

ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE

In India, illegal trade in wildlife has seen a sharp rise in recent years. Tiger, Pangolin, Star Tortoise and Tokay Gecko featured in the campaign. Campaign launched by Wildlife Crime Control Bureau of India and UN Environment aimed at airports across India.



Check your Awareness

1. On the following, which is having the highest production (Million Tonnes) in the country?

- A. Onion
- B. Potato
- C. Tomato
- D. B&C

2. Cfsa

- 1. India has oil company/ Refinery Production under CPSE
- 2. India has oil company/ Refinery Production under Joint Ventures
- 3. India has oil company/ Refinery Production under Private

Which is correct?

- A. 12
- B. 23
- C. 13
- D. 123

3. Which of the following oil Company is under Joint Ventures?

- 1. BORL
- 2. HMEL
- 3. NEL
- 4. NRL

- A. 12
- B. 23
- C. 123
- D. 1234

Visit the Sites

Transit oriented development (TOD)

http://mohua.gov.in/upload/whatsnew/59a4070e85256Transit_Oriented_Development_Policy.pdf

Value capture finance (VCF)

<http://smartcities.gov.in/upload/5901982d9e461VCFPolicyFrameworkFINAL.pdf>

Sovereign Gold Bond Scheme 2019 -20 Visit:

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572931>

Dr K. Kasturirangan Committee submits the Draft National Education Policy visit:

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1573031>

Periodic Labour Force Survey

<http://www.pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572971>

Finance Commission meets Eminent Economists in Mumbai:

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1571768>

Finance Commission meets Bankers and Financial Institutions in Mumbai:

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1571797>

Finance Commission holds meetings with Finance Ministry:

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572084>

Finance Commission meets with Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572339>

3D bioprinting : <https://www.nature.com/articles/nbt.2958>

<https://www.independent.co.uk/life-style/health-and-families/health-news/3d-bioprinters-could-soon-make-organs-and-human-tissue-good-enough-for-transplant-researchers-say-a6875771.html>

Basel Convention: <http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572102>

Official response from MDWS to recent Reuters story about the Swachh Bharat Mission:

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572155>



Outcome of the WTO Ministerial Meeting of Developing Countries:

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1571987>

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1571972>

‘Not all animals migrate by choice’ campaign launched to raise awareness on illegal wildlife trade

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572277>

Redefined units of measurement

<http://pib.nic.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1572267>

Mains Practice Question & Answers – 2019 [200 to 250 words]

- 1. Enumerate India’s initiatives for disaster risk reduction***
- 2. WTO is in deadlock - why? What are the ways to resolve the same?***
- 3. List the inputs received by the 15th Finance Commission from different institutions***
- 4. What are the major issues faced by the Indian Business Community in Africa?***
- 5. Describe the clarification provided by the government about GDP estimates***
- 6. Explain the outcome & significance of Basel Convention – COP 14 meeting***
- 7. Comment on National Annual Rural Sanitation Survey 2018-19.***
- 8. Why is it important to grow pulses?***
- 9. Explain Foot And Mouth Disease and Brucellosis. Brief the measures against it.***
- 10. Unfortunately, India is not focusing enough attention on our own breed-Comment***
- 11. ‘Not all animals migrate by choice’ - Comment***
- 12. Explain the Structure & functions of the Wildlife Crime Control Bureau.***
- 13. Explain the significance of the redefined units of measurement.***

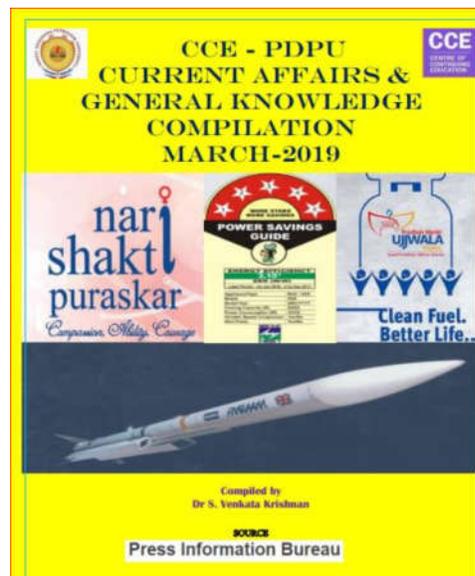
RESULTS OF CCE

- MS. BABITARANI SWAIN [CCE-ROLL NO 16R/CCE/017] HAS SECURED AIR-401 IN THE CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION, 2017
- MR. DEVENKUMAR KESHWALA [CCE-ROLL NO: 40/2014-15] HAS SECURED AIR-702 IN THE CIVIL SERVICES EXAMINATION, 2017
- AIR-81 IN THE INDIAN FOREST SERVICE EXAMINATION-2016
- A CANDIDATE HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED BY THE RESERVE BANK OF INDIA SERVICES BOARD (RBISB) FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF OFFICER IN GRADE 'B' (DR)(OP)-2016. (ROLL NO: 1105000069)
- TWO CANDIDATES QUALIFIED FOR CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES
- ONE OF THE CANDIDATES (ROLL NO: 0398026) QUALIFIED TO APPEAR UPSC (IAS/IPS/IRS...) CIVIL SERVICES INTERVIEW
- 22 CANDIDATES QUALIFIED FOR UPSC CIVIL SERVICE MAINS – 2016 (18 FROM 2016 BATCH & 4 FROM PREVIOUS)
- 4 CANDIDATES QUALIFIED FOR PHYSICAL TEST OF CENTRAL ARMED POLICE FORCES (ASSISTANT COMMANDANTS) EXAM.
- A GIRL ASPIRANT HAS BEEN RECOMMENDED TO AIR FORCE THROUGH AIR FORCE SELECTION BOARD

For UPSC Materials:

<https://ccepdpu.wordpress.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/cce.pdpu.1>



1. NIFM
2. CHANDRAYAAN-2
 - a. ORBITER, LANDER (VIKRAM) & ROVER (PRAGYAN)
3. PRE-EMPTIVE MEASURES
4. VARUNA 19.1
5. ELECTORAL BOND SCHEME 2018
6. AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY
 - a. THE INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY (ICAT)
 - b. AUTOMOTIVE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS LAB
 - c. TYRE TEST LAB
 - d. PASSIVE SAFETY LAB (PSL)
7. SRI VEDANTA DESIKAN
8. URBAN TRANSPORT
9. FANI
 - a. PURI
10. FIFTEENTH FINANCE COMMISSION
 - a. ADVISORY COUNCIL
11. VELA
 - a. SCORPENE CLASS SUBMARINE
12. INDIA-AFRICA
 - a. DIGITAL VIDEO CONFERENCE-11 COUNTRIES (DVC)
 - b. OPPORTUNITIES FOR INDIA
 - c. INDIAN COMMUNITY IN AFRICA
 - d. MAJOR ISSUES HIGHLIGHTED BY THE INDIAN BUSINESS COMMUNITY IN AFRICA
13. BORDER ROADS ORGANISATION
 - a. BHUTAN, MYANMAR, AFGHANISTAN
14. INDIA-BANGLADESH: MEDIA CO-OPERATION
15. INDIA-VIETNAM
 - a. VESAK
 - b. FOURTH D
16. CLIMATE CHANGE AND BUSINESSES
17. CENTRAL BOARD OF INDIRECT TAXES AND CUSTOMS (CBIC)
 - a. REVISED KYOTO CONVENTION
18. RBI
 - a. STATE GOVERNMENT FINANCES FOR 2019-20
19. GDP ESTIMATES- A CLARIFICATION
20. IN SHIPS KOLKATA AND SHAKTI
 - a. GROUP SAIL
 - b. ADMM-PLUS MS FTX PHASE I
21. THE FUTURE OF CENTRALLY SPONSORED SCHEMES
22. WTO MINISTERIAL MEETING
 - a. MC11 DECISION
23. AH-64E (I) - APACHE GUARDIAN HELICOPTER
24. ELECTION VISITORS' PROGRAMME
 - a. INDIA INTERNATIONAL INSTITUTE OF DEMOCRACY AND ELECTION MANAGEMENT (IIDEM)
25. GOLDEN JUBILEE -INDIAN COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE RESEARCH (ICSSR)
26. ABHYAS
27. GOODS AND SERVICES TAX PRACTITIONERS (GSTPS)
28. SCOUT MASTERS COMPETITION
29. INDIAN NAVY'S SERVICE SELECTION BOARD AT KOLKATA
30. DISASTER MANAGEMENT
31. 7TH ECONOMIC CENSUS -2019
32. BAN ON LTTE
33. BIO ORGANS-3D PRINTING
34. SPARROW
35. RUDRAKSH TREES
36. THE LOKPAL
 - a. FOUR JUDICIAL AND FOUR NON-JUDICIAL MEMBER
37. MEDIUM RANGE SURFACE TO AIR MISSILE (MRSAM)
38. INDIA'S PULSE PRODUCTION
39. KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA (KVK)
40. REFINERIES MAP
41. ARTICLE 85 OF THE CONSTITUTION
42. ARTICLE 75 (1) OF THE CONSTITUTION
43. SWEARING-IN-CEREMONY
44. PRIME MINISTER'S SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME
45. PENSION TO FARMERS
46. PENSION FOR TRADERS
47. PM-KISAN SCHEME
48. FOOT AND MOUTH DISEASE (FMD) AND BRUCellosis
49. LIBERATION OF ITALY
50. NTTL
51. PERIODIC LABOUR FORCE SURVEY
52. ANNUAL SURVEY OF SERVICES SECTOR
53. NATIONAL MINERAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
54. NATIONAL STATISTICAL OFFICE (NSO)
55. CHIEFS OF STAFF COMMITTEE
56. PROF. SAMBHU NATH DE
57. PADMA AWARDS
 - a. NOT ELIGIBLE FOR PADMA AWARDS
58. NATIONAL FILM ARCHIVE OF INDIA
59. AKASH MK1S
60. MISSING MAN' FORMATION
61. 10% OF INDIGENOUS BIO-JET FUEL - AN-32 AIRCRAFT
62. BRAHMOS SUPERSONIC CRUISE MISSILE
63. INERTIAL GUIDED BOMB
64. JAMAAT-UL-MUJAHIDEEN BANGLADESH
65. SCO MASS MEDIA
66. INTERNATIONAL DAY FOR BIOLOGICAL DIVERSITY (IDB)
 - a. 'OUR BIODIVERSITY, OUR FOOD, OUR HEALTH'
67. INDIA'S FOREST COVER
68. RADIAL RIB ANTENNA ON RISAT-2B
69. INTER ARMED FORCES COOPERATION
70. AIR LAUNCHED BRAHMOS MISSILE
71. INDO-MYANMAR- CORPAT
72. ENERGY-2018
73. ONGOLE CATTLE BREED



- 74. ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE**
 - a. WILDLIFE CRIME CONTROL BUREAU OF INDIA**
- 75. REDEFINED UNITS OF MEASUREMENT**
- 76. VAYOSHRESHTHA SAMMAN**