

Week 2 Current Affairs Update

8th - 14th April 2021

EVENTS

NATIONAL

POLICIES & SCHEMES

‘ANAMAYA’



Date: 8th April 2021

The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan and Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda launched ‘Anamaya’.

Key Points:

- ‘Anamaya’ is the Tribal Health Collaborative.
- It is a multi-stakeholder initiative that is supported by Piramal Foundation and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).
- It is launched to boost the nutritional and health status of the tribal communities of India by converging efforts of various Government agencies and organisations.
- Under this ‘Anamaya’ initiative, the ministries will form the National Council on Tribal Health.
- This National Council on Tribal Health Cell will track and monitor the delivery of healthcare facilities upto the tribal community and will thus devise mechanisms to implement the Tribal Health Action Plan.

SARTHAQ INITIATIVE



Date: 10th April 2021

Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched the implementation plan for the SARTHAQ initiative.

Key Points:

- The SARTHAQ signifies ‘Students’ and Teachers’ Holistic Advancement through Quality Education.
- The initiative will help to attain the goals and objectives framed under National Education Policy 2020.
- The SARTHAQ initiative is basically an indicative and suggestive implementation plan for school education as it is framed by keeping in view the concurrent nature of education and adheres to the spirit of federalism.
- It will help students to meet national and global challenges in terms of educational skills. It will also help them to incorporate skills like India’s tradition, culture and value system.
- The SARTHAQ initiative will prove beneficial to stakeholders including 25 crore students, 15 lakh schools, 94 lakh teachers.

AAHAAR KRANTI MISSION



Date: 15th April 2021

The Union Minister, Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan launched the ‘Aahaar Kranti’ Mission.

Key Points:

- The mission will focus on creating awareness about the importance of a nutritious balanced diet and the importance of accessibility to the local fruits and vegetables for good health.
- It will also focus to tackle the problem of hunger and diseases in India.
- The mission is based on the motto of Uttam Aahaar, Uttam Vichar' which means 'Good Diet, Good Cognition'.
- The mission was launched jointly by Pravasi Bharatiya Academic and Scientific Sampark (PRABHASS), Global Indian Scientists and Technocrats' Forum (GIST), Vijnana Bharati (Vibha) and Vigyan Prasar, an autonomous body of the Department of Science and Technology.
- Under this mission, training sessions will be given to the teachers, who will thus pass the importance of nutritious food to the students and their families.

AGRICULTURE

MADHUKRANTI PORTAL AND NAFED'S HONEY CORNERS



Date: 10th April 2021

The Union Agriculture Minister Narendra Singh Tomar launched Madhukranti Portal and NAFED's Honey Corners.

Key Points:

- The portal and honey corners were launched to promote the honey mission of the country.
- Madhukranti Portal is an initiative of the National Bee Board under the National Beekeeping and Honey Mission. The Indian Bank is the technical and banking partner for the development of the portal.
- The portal will allow online registration which will help to trace the source of honey and other beehive products through an online platform. With the help of the portal, quality and the source of adulteration of honey can also be checked.

- The Honey Corners of NAFED (National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation) are special spaces formed for the sale of honey.

SPORTS

KHELO INDIA STATE CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE (KISCE)



Date: 11th April 2021

Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) for rowing.

Key Points:

- It was inaugurated at the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council Water Sports Academy at Nehru Park, Dal Lake, Srinagar.
- Currently, the centre will focus on rowing only and is granted with the funds of Rs 145.16 lakh and an annual recurring grant of Rs 96.17 lakh.
- This is one of the two KISCEs from UT, with the Maulana Azad Stadium for fencing in Jammu being the other.

HEALTHCARE

SCIENTIFIC CONVENTION ON 'HOMOEOPATHY - ROADMAP FOR INTEGRATIVE MEDICINE'



Date: 12th March 2021

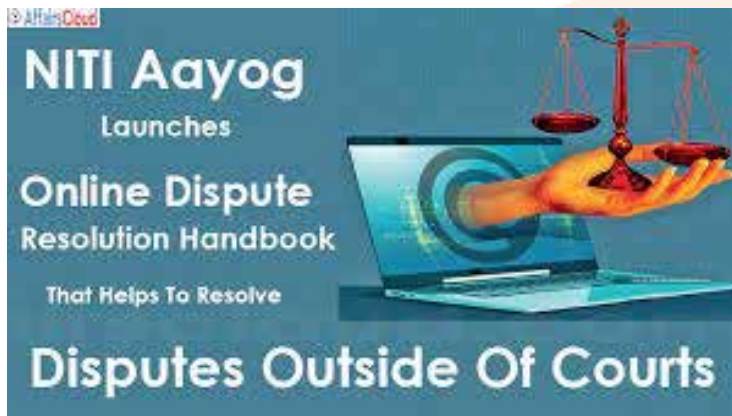
The Scientific Convention on 'Homoeopathy - Roadmap for Integrative Medicine' was held in New Delhi to celebrate the occasion of World Homoeopathy Day.

Key Points:

- The convention also observed the participation of Union Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan.
- It was organised by the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, which is an autonomous apex research organization under the Ministry of AYUSH.
- Minister of State for Defence, Shripad Yesso Naik addressed the convention by highlighting the importance of Homeopathy in controlling epidemics and pandemics.
- Union Minister Dr Harsh Vardhan mentioned the important role played by Homoeopathy to meet the healthcare demands of the country.

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

ONLINE DISPUTE HANDBOOK (ODR)—NITI AAYOG



Date: 13th April 2021

NITI Aayog has launched the first-of-its-kind Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) handbook in India.

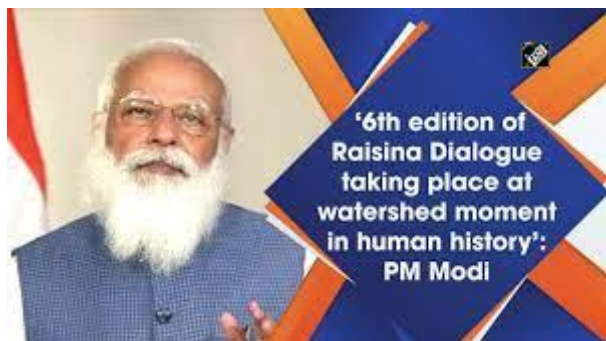
Key Points:

- The handbook was launched in partnership with Agami and Omidyar Network India.
- To launch this handbook, NITI Aayog received support from ICICI Bank, Ashoka Innovators for the Public, Trilegal, Dalberg, Dvara, NIPFP.
- The handbook was released by Justice DY Chandrachud, Supreme Court of India.
- The ODR handbook provides encouragement to business leaders to adopt ODR in India.
- It describes the mechanism and models of ODR which businesses can adopt.

- ODR is the mechanism to resolve the disputes outside courts for small and medium cases by using digital technology platforms and techniques of alternate dispute resolution (ADR) like negotiation, mediation, and arbitration. It helps to resolve disputes efficiently and at a low cost.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

6TH RAISINA DIALOGUE



Date: 14th April 2021

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 6th Raisina Dialogue.

Key Points:

- The Raisina Dialogue is India's flagship conference programme on geopolitics and geoeconomics.
- It is organised by the Ministry of External Affairs and the Observer Research Foundation.
- The theme for 6th Raisina Dialogue: #ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control.
- The inaugural session was virtually attended by President of Rwanda, Paul Kagame and Prime Minister of Denmark, Mette Frederiksen.

AWARDS & HONOURS

LILAVATI AWARDS 2020



Date: 14th April 2021

Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank presented AICTE Lilavati Awards 2020.

Key Points:

- The awards were based on the theme of: Women Empowerment.
- Following is the list of winners in each theme category:
- Women Entrepreneurship Category: SWEAT (Sona Women Entrepreneurship and Training) from Sona College of Technology, TN.
- Self Defense Category: Paritrana from St. Joseph's College of Engineering, TN.
- Literacy Category: Bharatiya Vidyapeeth of the Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development Pune.
- Women's Health Category: WIT Women Health Coalition from Walchand Institute of Technology, Maharashtra.
- Legal Awareness Category: Radiant Seetha from Thiagarajar Polytechnic College.
- Sanitation & Hygiene Category: Smt. Kishoritai Bhoyar College of Pharmacy, Nagpur, Maharashtra.

INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

INDIA- SEYCHELLES HIGH-LEVEL PROGRAMME

India-Seychelles High level event held Virtually



Date: 9th April 2021

India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the high-level programme with Wavel Ramkalwan, the President of Seychelles.

Key Points:

- While addressing the programme, PM Modi highlighted that Seychelles is central to India's vision of 'SAGAR' (Security and Growth for All in the Region).
- He mentioned that India is grateful and honoured for being a partner with Seychelles's development in security capabilities.
- Both the dignitaries jointly inaugurated the new Magistrate Court building

in Seychelles.

- They also inaugurated ten High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDP).
- Also, India handed over a Fast Patrol Vessel (Rs 100 crore) and a Solar Power Plant with a capacity of 1 MW to Seychelles.

CONFERENCES & SUMMITS

2021 BRICS FMS AND GOVERNORS MEETING



Date: 9th April 2021

India hosted BRICS Finance Ministers and Governors meeting 2021 virtually.

Key Points:

- The meeting was chaired by Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman and Governor of RBI, Shaktikanta Das.
- The theme of the meeting: 'BRICS@15: Intra BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation and Consensus'.
- During the meet, the FM and RBI Governor presented the agenda for cooperation in the finance domain.
- The agenda included: (a) Global Economic Outlook and Response to COVID-19 pandemic (b) Activities of New Development Bank (c) BRICS Rapid information security channel and BRICS Bond Fund (d) IMF reforms, Financial Inclusion, Fintech developments (e) Cooperation in custom related issues (f) Digital Technologies in finance.

INDIA-NETHERLAND VIRTUAL SUMMIT 2021



Date: 11th April 2021

The India- Netherland Summit 2021 was held virtually and was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Netherland Mark Rutte.

Key Points:

- The meeting was held to discuss trade, economy, water management, agriculture sector, science and technology, healthcare and space.
- They discussed the issues of climate change, terrorism and Pandemic COVID-19 along with the ways to tackle them.
- The dignitaries agreed to make use of emerging convergences in areas like Indo-Pacific, Resilient Supply Chains and Global Digital Governance.
- They also decided to set up ‘Strategic Partnership on Water’ and ‘Fast Track Mechanism to promote bilateral trade’ in order to boost cooperation between both nations in the water and trade sector.

SECURITY

INDIA CONTRIBUTED USD 500,000 TO THE UN TRUST FUND FOR COUNTER-TERRORISM



Date: 9th April 2021

India announced that it has contributed USD 500,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism.

Key Points:

- This has led to taking India’s contribution to the UN office to combat terrorism to over USD 1 million.
- With this contribution, until now India has contributed USD 1.05 million.
- The office of the UN Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism was set up in 2017.
- The office aims to boost coordination and coherence across the Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities to have a balanced implementation of the four pillars of the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

30TH BASIC MINISTERIAL MEETING ON CLIMATE CHANGE



Date: 11th April 2021

The 30th BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change was hosted by India.

Key Points:

- The meeting was chaired by Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar.
- At the meeting, all the dignitaries agreed to cooperate in the Chilean Presidency of COP 25 and the incoming United Kingdom Presidency of COP 26 for a successful outcome in Glasgow.
- They assured to work jointly with all other Parties for the success of COP 26 in an open, transparent, consensus-based and party-driven manner.
- They also agreed to provide support to developing countries and overcome their challenges and issues.
- The BASIC Nations are taking global efforts to combat climate change and also taking steps to implement their Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs).

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS

SINGAPORE- 1ST NATION TO RATIFY 'RCEP'



Date: 12th April 2021

Singapore announced that it has ratified the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement.

Key Points:

- RCEP is the world's largest free trade agreement, which was led by China.
- By doing so, Singapore has become the first participating country to ratify RCEP.
- This RCEP ratification proves Singapore's strong commitment to strengthening trade and economic linkages with partner nations and will ultimately benefit businesses and the people of the nations.
- For making RCEP in force, at least 6 ASEAN and 3 Non-ASEAN member states are supposed to come into effect.
- If RCEP gets implemented it will become the world's largest free trade agreement and will cover one-third of the world's population and 30% of the world's economy.
- India has opted out of RCEP in 2019.

AWARDS & HONOURS

BAFTA AWARDS 2021



BRITISH ACADEMY
FILM AWARDS

Date: 13th April 2021

The 74th British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA 2021) was held in London in which the nominees attended the awards virtually.

Key Points:

- Following is the list of winners in each category:
- Best Film: Nomadland
- Outstanding British Film: Promising Young Woman
- Best Director: Chloe Zhao, Nomadland
- Best Leading Actress: Frances McDormand, Nomadland
- Best Leading Actor: Sir Anthony Hopkins, The Father
- Best Documentary: My Octopus Teacher
- Best Animated Film: Soul



PEOPLE

NATIONAL

OBITUARY

FATIMA R ZAKARIA



Date: 9th April 2021

Veteran renowned journalist-author Fatima R Zakaria passed away. She was 85.

Key Points:

- She is the former Editor of the Sunday Times, Mumbai.
- She was the chairman of Maulana Azad Educational Trust and Khairul Islam Trust Mumbai.
- Fatima R Zakaria was also the executive vice-chairman of the Board of Governors of the Trust's Institute of Hotel Management.
- In 1983, Fatima Zakaria was awarded the Sarojini Naidu Award for unity in journalism.
- She was also awarded the Padma Shri in 2006 by the Government of India for his remarkable work in the field of literature and education.

SANJAY CHAKRAVARTY



Date: 13th April 2021

Legendary shooting coach Sanjay Chakravarty passed away at 79.

Key Points:

- The Dronacharya awardee renowned rifle shooting coach Sanjay Chakravarty, has passed away due to Covid-related complications. He was 79.
- Chakravarty is credited for mentoring 2012 London Olympic Games bronze medallist Gagan Narang, and Olympians such as Joydeep Karmakar, Suma Shirur and Anjali Bhagwat in his career spanning more than four decades.
- Chakravarty was honoured with the Dronacharya Award in 2017 for his contribution to the discipline.

APPOINTMENTS

SUSHIL CHANDRA



Date: 14th April 2021

Why in news: Appointed as Chief Election Commissioner of India.

Key Points:

- Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra recently took over as the new Chief Election Commissioner of India. He has replaced Sunil Arora.
- Sushil Chandra was appointed as the Election Commissioner along with Ashok Lavasa and Arora in 2019.
- Earlier he had served as the Chairperson of the Central Board of Direct Taxes.
- In 2017, he launched “Operation Clean Money” to curb illegal wealth and black money in the country.

INTERNATIONAL

OBITUARY

PRINCE PHILIP



Date: 10th April 2021

On April 09, 2021, Prince Philip, husband of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom Passed away. He was 99.

Key Points:

- Prince Philip was the longest-serving consort of any British monarch.
- He served 69 years supporting the Queen and retired from the royal service in 2017.
- He was officially known as The Duke of Edinburgh.
- He was a Greek prince and he married Elizabeth in 1947.
- He played a key role in modernising the British monarchy in the post-World War 2 period.

I.A. REHMAN

Date: 13th April 2021

On April 12, 2021, IA Rehman, an iconic Pakistani human rights defender and journalist, has Passed away. He was 90.

Key Points:

- Rehman was born in 1930 in Haryana
- He was the author of three books and advocate of peace between Pakistan and India, the two South Asian nuclear rivals who have fought three wars since 1947.
- He was a founding member of the Pakistan-India People's Forum for Peace and Democracy.
- Rehman became Chief Editor of the Pakistan Times newspaper in 1989.
- He Received Ramon Magsaysay Award for Peace and International Understanding and Nuremberg International Human Rights Award.



ISSUES

NATIONAL

HEALTHCARE

AFRICAN SWINE FEVER



Date: 9th April 2021

Key Highlights:

- An outbreak of suspected African swine fever (ASF) has killed 276 domestic pigs in Lunglei district of Mizoram.
- As a part of the preventive measures, the local authorities have restricted the procurement and supply of pigs from and to the affected area and the district beyond.
- ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever.
- It was first detected in Africa in the 1920s.
- The mortality is close to 100 percent, and since the fever has no cure, the only way to stop it spreading is by culling the animals.
- ASF is not a threat to human beings since it only spreads from animals to other animals.

POLITY & GOVERNANCE

REGISTER OF INDIGENOUS INHABITANTS OF NAGALAND



Date: 14th April 2021

Key Highlights:

- An apex body of Naga tribes has asked the Nagaland government not to be hasty with the exercise to prepare the Register of Indigenous Inhabitants of Nagaland (RIIN), seen as a variant of Assam's National Register of Citizens.
- The Nagaland government has reportedly been trying to revive the RIIN exercise that was launched in July 2019 with the stated objective of preventing outsiders from obtaining fake indigenous certificates for seeking jobs and benefits of government schemes.
- The State government had formed a three-member panel headed by retired bureaucrat Banuo Z. Jamir for "examining and advising" on the implementation of RIIN.
- The State government had tasked the RIIN committee with determining the eligibility criteria to be an indigenous inhabitant, authority to authenticate claims of being indigenous, place of registration as indigenous inhabitant, the basis of claims of being indigenous, and the nature of documents that will be acceptable as proof.

INTERNATIONAL

INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

IRAN NUCLEAR PROGRAMME



Date: 13th April 2021

Key Highlights:

- Iran has started up advanced uranium enrichment centrifuges in a breach of its undertakings under a troubled 2015 nuclear deal, days after the start of talks on rescuing the accord.
- Iran's President Hassan Rouhani inaugurated the three cascades of 164 IR-6 centrifuges, 30 IR-5 and another 30 IR-6 devices at Iran's Natanz uranium enrichment plant.
- Iran's latest move to step up uranium enrichment follows an opening round of talks in Vienna with representatives of the remaining parties to the nuclear deal on bringing the U.S. back into it.

ENVIRONMENT

INDIA'S OBJECTIONS TO NET-ZERO

What is NET - ZERO

What are India's Objection



Date: 12th April 2021

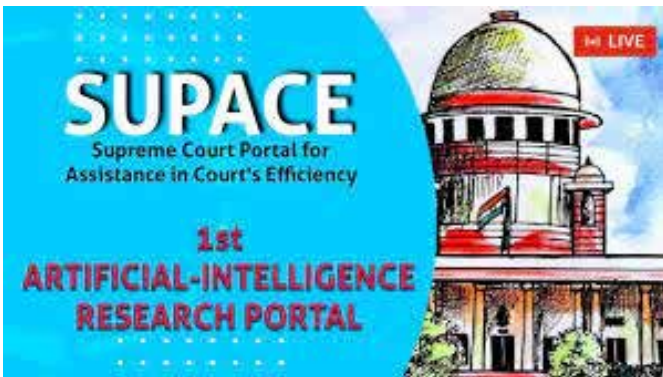
Key Highlights:

- In its bid to reclaim the global climate leadership, the US is widely expected to commit itself to a net-zero emission target for 2050 at the upcoming virtual Climate Leaders' Summit convened by US President Joe Biden.
- Several other countries, including the UK and France, have already enacted laws promising to achieve a net-zero emission scenario by the middle of the century. Even China has promised to go net-zero by 2060.
- Net-zero, which is also referred to as carbon-neutrality, does not mean that a country would bring down its emissions to zero. Rather, net-zero is a state in which a country's emissions are compensated by absorption and removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.
- India, the world's third biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, after the US and China, is the only major player holding out. India is the only one opposing this target because it is likely to be the most impacted by it.



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

SUPACE—SUPREME COURT'S AI PORTAL



Date: 8th April 2021

Key Features:

- The Chief Justice of India S A Bobde, unveiled the Artificial Intelligence (AI) portal of Supreme Court India via video conference.
- The AI portal is named as ‘Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court’s Efficiency (SUPACE)’.
- The AI based portal is a 1st of its kind in the world that will collect relevant facts and laws related to the case.
- This will lead to ease the research process of judges and will also reduce their workload.
- Through this portal, the SC aims to leverage machine learning to handle a large amount of data related to cases.

MANAS APP



Date: 15th April 2021

Key Features:

- The Principal Scientific Advisor K Vijay Raghavan launched the ‘MANAS App’.
- The app is launched to promote mental wellbeing across all age groups in India.
- The app will focus to promote positive mental health in the age group of 15-35 in its initial stage.
- The MANAS signifies ‘Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System’.
- The MANAS app is endorsed as a National Program by the Prime Minister’s Science, Technology and Innovation Advisory Council.
- The app is a scalable, comprehensive, and national digital well-being platform to promote the mental well-being of people.
- In the health and wellness efforts of various government ministries of India, mental health improvement games and tools are integrated into the app.

TRADE & COMMERCE

‘ESANTA’ PLATFORM FOR MARINE PRODUCTS



Date: 14th April 2021

Key Features:

- India’s Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal launched the e-commerce platform ‘eSaNTA’.
- The platform is launched for marine products which will empower aqua farmers to sell their products through this portal.
- The portal will allow farmers to sell their products on the spot and also to conduct forward sales.
- The portal will help to reduce the gap and time required for the transactions and processes between the buyers and the farmers.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

NANOSNIFFER



Date: 10th April 2021

Key Features:

- The Union Education Minister launched NanoSniffer, the world's first Microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD).
- Developed by the NanoSniff Technologies, an IIT Bombay incubated start-up, this home-grown Explosive trace detector device (ETD) can detect explosives in less than 10 seconds.
- It also identifies and categorizes explosives into different classes.
- It detects all classes of military, conventional and homemade explosives.
- NanoSniffer is a 100% Made in India product in terms of R&D and manufacturing.

ECONOMY

'MENTOR CONNECT' PROGRAMME



Date: 13th April 2021

Key Features:

- Amazon India has announced that it will be launching the 'Mentor Connect' programme.
- The 'Mentor Connect' programme will help to accelerate the growth of startups and emerging brand owners which are enrolled under Amazon's Launchpad initiative.
- The start-ups and brand owners will get guidance from venture capital firms, industry experts and Amazon leaders through knowledge sharing sessions, networking events and 1:1 mentorship sessions.
- Also, the winners of the Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship challenge in the upcoming Amazon Smbhav summit can take the benefit of the programme.



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Nurturing Ambitions

Weekly Multiple Choice Questions

8th- 14th April 2020 (WEEK 2)

Level-1

- Ramon Magsaysay Award winner journalist and human rights activist. IA Rehman passed away recently. He belongs to which of the following countries?**
 - Bangladesh
 - Indonesia
 - India
 - Pakistan
- Prince Philip passed away recently. He was the former monarch of which of the following countries?**
 - UK
 - Netherlands
 - Denmark
 - Belgium
- What was the profession of Fatima Rafiq Zakaria, who has passed away recently?**
 - Economist
 - Sportswomen
 - Journalist
 - Singer
- Dronacharya awardee Sanjay Chakravarty, who has passed away recently at 79, was a coach of which game?**
 - Basketball
 - Wrestling
 - Badminton
 - Shooting
- Who among the following was appointed as Chief Election Commissioner of India?**
 - Siddharth Logjam
 - Sushil Chandra
 - Navin Agarwal
 - Rajiv Kumar
- Which of the following organisations is supporting the 'Anamaya' initiative of the ministry of health and family welfare and the ministry of tribal affairs?**
 - Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
 - Flipkart
 - Piramal Foundation
 - Both (a) and (c)
- SARTHAQ initiative was recently launched by the government of India. It is an initiative of which of the following ministries?**
 - Ministry of MSME
 - Ministry of Trade & Commerce
 - Ministry of Education
 - Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- Name the online portal launched recently for the online registration to achieve traceability of Honey and other beehive products on a digital platform.**
 - Rasbhari
 - Shadhkranti
 - Makarand
 - Madhukranti
- In which state/UT, Union Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) for rowing?**
 - Chandigarh
 - Ladakh
 - Jammu and Kashmir
 - Nagaland
- Recently, who among the following organised Scientific Convention on 'Homoeopathy - Roadmap for Integrative Medicine'?**
 - Ministry of Health and Family welfare
 - Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy
 - AIIMS Delhi
 - Nehru Homoeopathic Medical College and Hospital, New Delhi
- Recently, who among the following released an Online Dispute Resolution (ODR) handbook which is made by NITI Aayog?**
 - Justice Ramana
 - PM Narendra Modi
 - Justice DY Chandrachud
 - Amitabh Kant
- The 2021 Raisina Dialogue has been organised in a completely digital format due to COVID-19 pandemic. It is which edition of the annual dialogue?**
 - 5th
 - 6th
 - 7th
 - 4th
- Who among the following launched the 'Aahaar Kranti' Mission?**
 - Prakash Javadekar
 - Vice President Venkaiah Naidu
 - PM Narendra Modi
 - Dr Harsh Vardhan
- Who among the following represented from India at India- Seychelles High-Level Programme?**
 - S. Jaishankar
 - PM Narendra Modi
 - President Ramnath Kovind
 - Rajnath Singh
- Which country hosted BRICS Finance Ministers and Governors meeting 2021?**
 - South Africa
 - Russia
 - Brazil
 - India
- In April 2021, India contributed _____ to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism?**
 - USD 500,000
 - USD 400,000
 - USD 300,000
 - USD 200,000

Level 2

1. Which organisation to launch the 'Mentor Connect' programme?

- (a) Flipkart (b) Amazon India
(c) UNDP India (d) Google

2. The Supreme Court launched its AI portal with the acronym of SUPACE. What does 'A' stand for in this acronym?

- (a) Acknowledge
(b) Advanced
(c) Artificial
(d) Assistance

3. SUPACE is an AI-based portal launched for which organisation?

- (a) Indian Railways
(b) Reserve Bank of India
(c) Supreme Court of India
(d) Securities and Exchange Board of India

4. For which of the following purposes 'eSanta' portal was launched?

- (a) To organise creative online games for children
(b) To have the sale of marine products by aqua farmers
(c) To publish motivational videos for people to tackle this pandemic situation
(d) None of the above

5. Name the mobile app launched for community mental-health well-being of citizens on scalable, secure and digital platforms by the Office of the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India?

- (a) COACH (b) MINDit
(c) MOOD (d) MANAS

6. Consider the following statements regarding NanoSniffer:

1. It is the world's first Microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD).
2. It detects all classes of military, conventional and homemade explosives.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2
(d) Neither 1 nor 2

7. The term 'net-zero' was recently, in the news. It is related to?

- (a) GreenHouse Gas emission
(b) Depletion of groundwater
(c) Iran's uranium enrichment programme
(d) Second wave of Covid-19

8. In April 2021, which of the following states has witnessed an outbreak of suspected African Swine Fever (ASF)?

- (a) Manipur (b) Mizoram
(c) Assam (d) Kerala

9. Consider the following statements regarding the African Swine Fever (ASF):

1. In April 2021, an outbreak of suspected African swine fever (ASF) killed 276 domestic pigs in Kerala.
2. ASF is not a threat to human beings since it only spreads from animals to other animals.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. Recently, which of the following countries has started an advanced uranium enrichment programme in a breach of its undertakings under a troubled 2015 nuclear deal with the US?

- (a) India (b) Iran
(c) Australia (d) Pakistan

11. What is the theme of the 2021 "Raisina Dialogue"?

- (a) #Managing Disruptive Pandemic: Ideas, Institutions and Idioms
(b) #ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control
(c) #New Geometrics | Fluid Partnerships | Uncertain Outcomes
(d) #Navigating the Alpha Century

12. The AICTE Lilavati Awards 2020 were based on which of the following themes?

- (a) Women Empowerment (b) Atma Nirbhar Bharat
(c) Education for all (d) Educate Girl Child

13. Who among the following represented India in India-Netherland Summit 2021?

- (a) S Jaishankar (b) Piyush Goyal
(c) Harsh Vardhan Shringla (d) PM Narendra Modi

14. Which country hosted the 30th BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change?

- (a) India (b) Brazil
(c) China (d) South Africa

15. Which country has become the first country to ratify RCEP?

- (a) Singapore (b) New Zealand
(c) South Korea (d) South Africa

16. Which film won the BAFTA Award 2021 under the best film category?

- (a) Another Round
(b) Promising Young Woman
(c) Soul
(d) Nomadland

Answers and Explanation

8th- 14th April 2020 (WEEK 2)

Level-1

- (d)** On April 12, 2021, IA Rehman, an iconic Pakistani human rights defender and journalist, has Passed away. He was 90. He was the author of three books and advocate of peace between Pakistan and India, the two South Asian nuclear rivals who have fought three wars since 1947.
- (a)** On April 09, 2021, Prince Philip, husband of Queen Elizabeth II of the United Kingdom Passed away. He was 99. Prince Philip was the longest-serving consort of any British monarch. He was officially known as The Duke of Edinburgh.
- (c)** Padma Shri winning renowned journalist, Fatima Rafiq Zakaria, has passed away due to Covid. She was 85. She was also awarded the Padma Shri in 2006 by the Government of India for his remarkable work in the field of literature and education.
- (d)** The Dronacharya awardee renowned rifle shooting coach Sanjay Chakravarty, has passed away due to Covid-related complications. He was 79. Chakravarty was honoured with the Dronacharya Award in 2017 for his contribution to the discipline.
- (b)** Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra recently took over as the new Chief Election Commissioner of India. He has replaced Sunil Arora. Sushil Chandra was appointed as the Election Commissioner along with Ashok Lavasa and Arora in 2019.
- (d)** The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan and Union Minister of Tribal Affairs, Arjun Munda launched 'Anamaya'. 'Anamaya' is the Tribal Health Collaborative. It is a multi-stakeholder initiative that is supported by Piramal Foundation and Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation (BMGF).
- (c)** Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank launched the implementation plan for the SARTHAQ initiative. The SARTHAQ signifies 'Students' and Teachers' Holistic Advancement through Quality Education. The initiative will help to attain the goals and objectives framed under National Education Policy 2020.
- (d)** The Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, Narendra Singh Tomar launched a portal 'Madhukranti' and Honey Corners on April 07, 2021, with the aim to bring an increase in income of farmers, employment generation and increase in exports.
- (c)** Union Sports Minister Kiren Rijiju inaugurated the Khelo India State Centre of Excellence (KISCE) for rowing. It was inaugurated at the Jammu and Kashmir Sports Council Water Sports Academy at Nehru Park, Dal Lake, Srinagar.
- (b)** The Scientific Convention on 'Homoeopathy - Roadmap for Integrative Medicine' was held in New Delhi to celebrate the occasion of World Homoeopathy Day. It was organised by the Central Council for Research in Homoeopathy, which is an autonomous apex research organization under the Ministry of AYUSH.
- (c)** NITI Aayog has launched the first-of-its-kind Online

Dispute Resolution (ODR) handbook in India. The handbook was released by Justice DY Chandrachud, Supreme Court of India. The ODR handbook provides encouragement to business leaders to adopt ODR in India.

- (b)** Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 2021 "Raisina Dialogue", through video-conferencing on April 13, 2021. The Raisina Dialogue 2021 is the sixth edition of the annual dialogue. .
- (d)** The Union Minister, Health and Family Welfare, Dr Harsh Vardhan launched the 'Aahaar Kranti' Mission. The mission will focus on creating awareness about the importance of a nutritious balanced diet and the importance of accessibility to the local fruits and vegetables for good health. It will also focus to tackle the problem of hunger and diseases in India.
- (b)** India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in the high-level programme with Wavel Ramkalwan, the President of Seychelles. While addressing the programme, PM Modi highlighted that Seychelles is central to India's vision of 'SAGAR' (Security and Growth for All in the Region).
- (d)** India hosted BRICS Finance Ministers and Governors meeting 2021 virtually. The meeting was chaired by Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Nirmala Sitharaman and Governor of RBI, Shaktikanta Das. The theme of the meeting: 'BRICS@15: Intra BRICS Cooperation for Continuity, Consolidation and Consensus'.
- (a)** India announced that it has contributed USD 500,000 to the United Nations Trust Fund for Counter-Terrorism. This has led to taking India's contribution to the UN office to combat terrorism to over USD 1 million. With this contribution, until now India has contributed USD 1.05 million.

Level-2

- (b)** Amazon India has announced that it will be launching the 'Mentor Connect' programme. The 'Mentor Connect' programme will help to accelerate the growth of startups and emerging brand owners which are enrolled under Amazon's Launchpad initiative.
- (d)** The Chief Justice of India S A Bobde, unveiled the Artificial Intelligence (AI) portal of Supreme Court India via video conference. The AI portal is named as 'Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court's Efficiency (SUPACE)'.
- (c)** The first-of-its-kind Artificial Intelligence (AI) based portal of the Supreme Court of India called "SUPACE", was unveiled on April 06, 2021 by Chief Justice of India S A Bobde. SUPACE stands for "Supreme Court Portal for Assistance in Court's Efficiency".
- (b)** India's Union Commerce and Industry Minister, Piyush Goyal launched the e-commerce platform 'eSANTA'. The platform is launched for marine products which will empower aqua farmers to sell their products through this portal.
- (d)** The Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, Prof. K Vijay Raghavan launched a mobile app called "MANAS" to cater mental well-being of citizens on scalable,

secure and digital platforms. MANAS stands for Mental Health and Normalcy Augmentation System.

6. (c) The Union Education Minister launched NanoSniffer, the world's first Microsensor based Explosive Trace Detector (ETD). Developed by the NanoSniff Technologies, an IIT Bombay incubated startup, this home-grown Explosive trace detector device (ETD) can detect explosives in less than 10 seconds. It detects all classes of military, conventional and homemade explosives.

7. (a) Net-zero, which is also referred to as carbon-neutrality, does not mean that a country would bring down its emissions to zero. Rather, net-zero is a state in which a country's emissions are compensated by absorption and removal of greenhouse gases from the atmosphere.

8. (b) An outbreak of suspected African swine fever (ASF) has killed 276 domestic pigs in Lunglei district of Mizoram. As a part of the preventive measures, the local authorities have restricted the procurement and supply of pigs from and to the affected area and the district beyond.

9. (b) An outbreak of suspected African swine fever (ASF) has killed 276 domestic pigs in Lunglei district of Mizoram. ASF is a highly contagious and fatal animal disease that infects domestic and wild pigs, typically resulting in an acute form of hemorrhagic fever. ASF is not a threat to human beings since it only spreads from animals to other animals.

10. (b) Iran has started up advanced uranium enrichment centrifuges in a breach of its undertakings under a troubled 2015 nuclear deal, days after the start of talks on rescuing the accord. Iran's latest move to step up uranium enrichment follows an opening round of talks in Vienna with representatives of the remaining parties to the nuclear deal on bringing the U.S. back into it.

11. (b) The theme for the 2021 conference is “#ViralWorld: Outbreaks, Outliers and Out of Control”

12. (a) Union Education Minister, Ramesh Pokhriyal Nishank presented AICTE Lilavati Awards 2020. The awards were based on the theme of: Women Empowerment.

13. (d) The India- Netherland Summit 2021 was held virtually and was chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Netherland Mark Rutte. The meeting was held to discuss trade, economy, water management, agriculture sector, science and technology, healthcare and space.

14. (a) The 30th BASIC (Brazil, South Africa, India and China) Ministerial Meeting on Climate Change was hosted by India. The meeting was chaired by Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar. At the meeting, all the dignitaries agreed to cooperate in the Chilean Presidency of COP 25 and the incoming United Kingdom Presidency of COP 26 for a successful outcome in Glasgow.

15. (a) Singapore announced that it has ratified the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement. RCEP is the world's largest free trade agreement, which was led by China. By doing so, Singapore has become the first participating country to ratify RCEP.

16. (d) The 74th British Academy Film Awards (BAFTA 2021) was held in London in which the nominees attended the awards virtually. Nomadland, the US road movie, won big and bagged four major awards including Best Actress, Best Film, and Best Director.

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Nurturing Ambitions