

# GENERAL AWARENESS

## National Maritime Day

National Maritime Day is celebrated on April 5<sup>th</sup> every year. The saga of India shipping first started on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1919, when the SS Loyalty, the first ship of The Scindia Steam Navigation Company Ltd travelled from Mumbai to the United Kingdom.

The National Maritime Day was first celebrated on April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1964. The theme of the National Maritime Day 2019 celebrations is "Indian Ocean-An Ocean of opportunity".

The main propose to celebrate the day to illustrate the awareness in supporting intercontinental commerce and the global economy as the most well-organized, safe and sound, environmentally responsive approach of transporting goods from one corner to another corner of the world.

## IAIARD

India inks an agreement with a development bank for setting up India-Africa Institute of Agriculture & Rural Development (IAIARD) in Malawi.

In this context, the Ministry of External Affairs said it has signed MoU with National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development Consultancy Service, NABCONS for setting up the Institute. The agreement is a part of India's efforts to enhance capacity in the areas of agro-financing and entrepreneurship development for African countries.

This institute will be the first of its kind developed in an African country by India.

## G 7 Summit

On 6<sup>th</sup> April 2019, the Foreign ministers from the world's seven most developed nations urged a greater role for women in solving conflicts, saying that peace settlements with female involvement were more likely to endure.

G7 ministers, at their meeting in the northern French resort of Dinard to prepare a summit meeting under French presidency in August 2019, also called on greater mobilisation worldwide to "prevent sexual and gender-based violence in conflict".

G7 ministers said they committed to deepen coordination among members of the group to "enhance our rapid response support to survivors and victims".

## New World Bank President

David Malpass, a top U.S. Treasury official in Trump administration, was on April 5<sup>th</sup> unanimously selected as the new President of the World Bank. Malpass, a loyalist of President Donald Trump, succeeds Jim Yong-kim.

Malpass was a senior economic adviser to the U.S. President during his 2016 election campaign.

He was an international economist and founder of a macroeconomics research firm based in New York City.

## Sahulat

Sahulat a mobile app aimed to facilitate voting by elders was launched in Jammu and Kashmir's Rajouri district was launched.

This is the Android-based application to reach out to the voters who are 90 years old or above.

Rajouri district, which is part of the Jammu parliamentary constituency goes to polls along with Baramulla constituency in the first phase on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The voters can request for the facilities like the provision of wheelchair, vehicle for transportation and any helper who will assist them during casting of vote.

### **MPI**

India reduced its poverty rate sharply from 55 % to 28 % in 10 years between 2005-06 and 2015-16, according to a new version of the global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI).

The MPI developed by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHI). It says that in India, a total of 271 million (27.10 crore) people moved out of poverty during these ten years.

MPI measures acute poverty and people experiencing multiple deprivations, for example, those who are both undernourished and do not have safe drinking water, adequate sanitation and clean fuel. These indicators are set to minimum international agreed standards in basic functioning.

### **Pravasi Bharatiya Samman**

RUJ Group's founder and chairman Rajendra Kumar Joshi was awarded with the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award in Switzerland.

Joshi, who is a scientist of Indian origin and based in Switzerland, has set up Bhartiya Skill Development University in Jaipur to bring Swiss system of skill development to the country. The award was presented to him for his achievements in the field of science, education and medicine.

The Embassy of India on behalf of the President of India Ram Nath Kovind handed over a commendation letter and a medal to Joshi at his residence in Switzerland.

### **Global health award**

Vikram Patel was awarded with 2019 John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award for his world-leading research in global mental health, generating knowledge on the burden and determinants of mental health problems in low-and-middle-income countries.

The John Dirks Canada Gairdner Global Health Award recognizes a contribution to health in the developing world. Laureates receive a \$100,000 cash honorarium.

Each year, seven Canada Gairdner Awards are presented to honour the world's most significant biomedical and global health researchers.

### **Ambassoder for Elections in J&K**

Advocate-turned-fashion model Sana Dua will be the brand ambassador for the Lok Sabha elections in Jammu and Kashmir.

She is the first runner-up of Femina Miss India 2017 contest; she had also participated in Miss United Continents 2017, and ended up among the top ten.

### **Azali Assoumani**

Comoros President Azali Assoumani was re-elected recently.

The Comoros is a volcanic archipelago off Africa's east coast, in the warm Indian Ocean waters of the Mozambique Channel.

## EMISAT

India's Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C45) successfully launched EMISAT and 28 international customer satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota.

PSLV-C45 lifted and injected India's EMISAT into a 748 km sun-synchronous polar orbit.

EMISAT is intended for electromagnetic spectrum measurement.

28 international customer satellites are from four countries, namely, Lithuania (2), Spain (1), Switzerland (1) and USA (24). These foreign satellites were launched as part of commercial arrangements.

## MODEL QUESTIONS

- India-African Union signed MoU on strengthening cooperation in healthcare sector. Who was elected as the chairman of African Union recently?
  - 1) Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan
  - 2) Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani
  - 3) King Abdullah
  - 4) Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi
  - 5) Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah
- Who took charge as ICC (International Cricket Council) CEO on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2019 ?
  - 1) Jacques Rogge
  - 2) Gianni Infantino
  - 3) Manu Sawhney
  - 4) Sebastian Coe
  - 5) Vladimir Lisin
- Deadline to link PAN with Aadhaar extended till ..
  - 1) 31<sup>st</sup> January 2020
  - 2) 31<sup>st</sup> July 2019
  - 3) 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019
  - 4) 30<sup>th</sup> September 2019
  - 5) 31<sup>st</sup> March 2020
- "Condor de Los Andes en el Grado de Gran Collar", the highest honour of which nation conferred on the president of India Ramnath Kovind recently?
  - 1) Chile
  - 2) Croatia
  - 3) Bolivia
  - 4) South Africa
  - 5) Panama
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cut its repo rate under liquidity adjustment facility (LAF), or the rate at which it lends to banks, by 25 basis points to ..
  - 1) 19.25%
  - 2) 4.00%
  - 3) 5.75%
  - 4) 6.25%
  - 5) 6%
- Who Won Bahrain Grand Prix 2019?
  - 1) Valtteri Viktor Bottas
  - 2) Charles Leclerc
  - 3) Lewis Hamilton
  - 4) Max Verstappen
  - 5) Sebastian Vettel

7. Which Social media site launched two new tools called “Candidate Connect” and “Share You Voted” to boost electoral process?
- 1) Twitter                      2) WhatsApp                      3) Facebook                      4) LinkedIn  
5) Tumblr
8. Which nation has conferred the prestigious Zayed Medal on Prime Minister Modi, role in consolidating the long-standing friendship and joint strategic cooperation between the two countries?
- 1) Saudi Arabia                      2) Kuwait                      3) UAE                      4) Iraq  
5) Bangladesh
9. Abdelaziz Bouteflika who was in power for the last 20 years resigned after prolonged weeks of mass protest as the president of...
- 1) Algeria                      2) Tunisia                      3) Slovakia                      4) Comoros  
5) UAE
10. Which nation approved sale of 24 MH 60 Romeo Seahawk helicopters to India?
- 1) Russia                      2) Israel                      3) USA                      4) Italy  
5) Germany

**KEY**

1-4; 2-3; 3-4; 4-3; 5-5; 6-3; 7-3; 8-3; 9-1; 10-3.

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