

GENERAL AWARENESS

Modi Second term

President Ram Nath Kovind invited Narendra Modi to form a new government at the Centre. Exercising powers under Article 75(1) of the Constitution, the President appointed Mr.Modi as Prime Minister and requested him to advise about the names of others to be appointed as members of the Union Council of Ministers.

Amith Sha, the President of BJP stated that 353 Lok Sabha members have extended their support to Mr.Modi to head the government. Earlier the President Ram Nath Kovind dissolved the 16th Lok Sabha. The BJP has won 303 seats surpassing its previous record of 282 in 2014.

Naveen Patnaik again

One of India's most successful chief ministers, Naveen Patnaik, led the Biju Janata Dal (BJD) back to power in Odisha for a fifth consecutive term. In Odisha Assembly, the ruling BJD retained power by winning 112 seats in 146 member assembly. BJP won 23 seats while Congress 9 and CPI (M) and Independent bagged one seat each.

Man Booker International Prize

Jokha Alharthi won the prestigious Man Booker International Prize for 'Celestial Bodies', the story of three sisters in a desert country confronting its slave-owning past and a complex modern world.

She is the first Arabic-language writer to get the prize and the first female writer from Oman to be translated into English. She will split the 50,000 pound (\$64,000) purse with her U.K. based translator, Marilyn Booth.

Dag Hammarskjold Medal

Jitender Kumar is one among the 119 military, police and civilian personnel who will be honoured with a prestigious UN medal this year for courage and sacrifice in the line of duty. He made the supreme sacrifice while serving in the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Central African country of Congo. He will be honoured posthumously with the Dag Hammarskjold Medal on the eve of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers. India is the fourth largest contributor of uniformed personnel to the UN peacekeeping. It currently contributes more than 6,400 military and police personnel to the UN peace operations in various nations.

ADB for Track Electrification

On 23rd May 2019 Asian Development Bank (ADB) said it signed an agreement to provide \$750 million loan to Indian Railway Finance Corporation (IRFC). This would be the largest single non-sovereign loan ever committed by ADB and would fund the Railways Track Electrification Project.

NSG Commandos Summit

The Commandos of the National Security Guard (NSG) scaled the Mount Everest, the world's highest peak, in their maiden attempt. The NSG seven-member team led by Lt Col J P Kumar, successfully unfurled the Indian flag at the 8,848 metre tall peak on 17th May 2019. The team adopted the south eastern approach via South Col in Solukhumbu region of Nepal. The NSG called as the 'black cats', was raised in 1984 as a federal counter-terror and counter-hijack contingency force.

ICC Song released

The International Cricket Council released the official song of the 2019 ICC World Cup. The official

song is titled "Stand By". The song is a collaboration between vocalist Loryn and drum and bass band Rudimental, and will be played in ground and city events across the tournament as the official song to this summer's showpiece event.

Not all animals migrate by choice

On the eve of International Day of Biological Diversity celebrates on 22nd May, the UN Environment India and Wildlife Crime Control Bureau (WCCB) of India launched an awareness campaign 'Not all animals migrate by choice' to be displayed at major airports across the country.

SCO Mass Media Forum

Second Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Mass Media Forum was held at Bishkek in Kyrgyzstan. The Forum aims to strengthen the exchange and cooperation in the field of mass media amongst SCO countries. It was inaugurated by President of Kyrgyz Republic, S. Jeenbeko.

Power change in AP

In Andhra Pradesh, results have been announced for all the 175 assembly constituencies. YSR congress Party (YSRCP) secured 151 seats followed by Telugu Desam Party (TDP) with 23 and Janasena one seat. Jagan Mohan Reddy, the leader of YSRCP met Governor in Hyderabad and handed over the copy of resolution electing him unanimously the leader of the legislature party.

RISAT-2B

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched its earth observation satellite RISAT-2B from Sriharikota. PSLV-C46 carrying RISAT-2B blasted off from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre on 22nd May 2019. 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. RISAT-2B meant for application in fields such as surveillance, agriculture, forestry and disaster management support. It will replace the RISAT-2, which was launched in 2009.

RISAT-2B is having several new features like expanded Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) making it an advanced earth observation satellite, operating in spotlight mode, mode and mosaic mode.

MODEL QUESTIONS

1. Present secretary General of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) is..?
 - 1) Vladimir Norov
 - 2) Patricia Scotland
 - 3) Nicolas Maduro
 - 4) Dr. Yousef bin Ahmad Al- Othaimen
 - 5) Yukiya Amano
2. International Day for Biological Diversity observed on 22nd May 2019 to increase understanding and awareness of biodiversity issues Theme of this year is...?
 - 1) Dedicated to forest biodiversity
 - 2) Biodiversity and poverty alleviation - challenges for sustainable development
 - 3) Biodiversity: Food, Water and Health for All
 - 4) Our Biodiversity, Our Food, Our Health
 - 5) Biodiversity: Life Insurance for our Changing World
3. Governor of Arunachal Pradesh is...?
 - 1) Tathagath Roy
 - 2) B.D.Mishra
 - 3) Ganga Prasad
 - 4) Jagdish Mukhi
 - 5) P.B.Acharya

