

# GENERAL AWARENESS

## SCO Summit

Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for united efforts from the global community to eliminate the terrorism from its root.

In his address at the summit of eight-nation Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), he called for 'International Conference against Terrorism'. He said that nations supporting, promoting and funding terrorism should be held responsible and made accountable for their actions.

The member states of SCO supported the view of Modi. They also reiterated their intention to focus on expanding and deepening cooperation in trade, finance, investment, transport, energy, agriculture, innovation and cutting-edge technology.

On 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the Bishkek Declaration released. In the declaration, the member states urged the international community to strengthen global cooperation in efforts against terrorism without politicization and double standards

On 14<sup>th</sup> June 2019, the PM Narendra Modi and Kyrgyzstan President Jeenbekov inaugurated Indian-Kyrgyz Business forum at Bishkek.

## India-Kyrgyz Business Forum

Both leaders prepared 5 year road map to increase the bilateral trade and urged the business communities from both countries to explore the untapped potential in various fields.

Addressing the India-Kyrgyz Business Forum, the Prime Minister said that India and Kyrgyzstan have given the final shape to the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement (DTAA) and the bilateral investment treaty, which would help in creating a proper atmosphere for the bilateral trade.

Modi also announced USD 200 million Line Of Credit (LOC) for Kyrgyzstan after wide-ranging talks including one to eliminate double taxation.

## Kassym-Jomart Tokayev

Kassym-Jomart Tokayev took oath as the new President of Kazakhstan on 13<sup>th</sup> June 2019. He was Acting President, following the surprise resignation of Nursultan Nazarbayev in March this year. He took the oath of office during a ceremony at the Palace of Independence in the capital, Nur-Sultan. Kassym Tokayev got more than 70 percent of the votes in the early presidential election.

## G20 FM meet

The meeting of Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors of G20 countries concluded in the Japanese city of Fukuoka. Finance chiefs of major economies debated over how to revise tax systems to ensure big companies pay their fair share and support economies as global growth slows.

The aim is to prevent tax evasion and to modernize policies, as financial markets and businesses have been transformed by technology.

Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs participated in the meeting. Subhash C. Garg, Finance Secretary & Secretary Economic Affairs and Dr. Viral Acharya, Deputy Governor of RBI were accompanied her.

She noted the urgency to fix the issue of determining right nexus and profit allocation solution for taxing the profits made by digital economy companies.

## ESI contribution reduced

Union government reduced the contribution under the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Act to 4%

from 6.5%. The decision expected to increase the take home salary of workers as well as reduce the financial burden of employers. The decision will benefit 36 million workers and 1.28 million employers. This includes a reduction of 1.5% in employers' contribution to 3.25% from 4.75% and 1% reduction in employees' contribution to 0.75% from 1.75%.

### Nal Se Jal

With more than 80% rural households yet to get piped water supply, the government on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019, announced to roll out a new mission to ensure "Nal se Jal" (water from the tap) for each house in villages in the next 5 years.

The union Jal Shakti minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat said the Jal Jeevan Mission will be launched to cover 14 crore households.

### Green Mizoram Day

Green Mizoram Day was celebrated throughout the state of Mizoram on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2019, with distribution and planting trees and taking pledge to work for green environment and maintaining ecological balance. The state has been celebrating the day for the last 20 years.

### India's own space station PIB

India is planning to launch its own space station. ISRO chief K Sivan said that the ambitious project enable the agency to send more humans to space when executed.

He added that India will not join the International Space Station. The mission will also be an extension of the Gaganyaan project implying that there will be several phases to the human space mission project.

The weight of the space station is likely to be 20 tonnes.

After Chandrayaan Mission 2, ISRO will launch another mission to the Sun by launching Aditya-L1 in the first half of 2020, Sivan said.

A space station is a spacecraft capable of supporting crew members, designed to remain in space for an extended period of time and for other spacecraft to dock.

### French Open

Rafael Nadal of Spain lifted the French Open Men's Singles title for the 12<sup>th</sup> time. He defeated Dominic Thiem of Austria.

Ashleigh Barty (Australia) smashed Marketa Vondrousova (Czech Republic) to clinch the French Women singles title. In men doubles, Kevin Krawietz and Andreas Mies (both belong to Germany) knocked down Jeremy Chardy and Fabrice Martin (both belong to France). Timea Babos of Hungary and Kristina Mladenovic of France defeated Duan Yingying of China and Zheng Saisai of China in women doubles.

### MODEL QUESTIONS

1. Union Minister of state (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Labour and Employment is..?
  - 1) Santosh Kumar Gangwar
  - 2) Rao Inderjit Singh
  - 3) Shripad Yesso Naik
  - 4) Jitendra Singh
  - 5) Kiren Rijju
2. G-20 Ministerial meeting on Trade and Digital Economy held at...?
  - 1) Beijing, China
  - 2) Tsukuba, Japan
  - 3) New Delhi, India
  - 4) Moscow, Russia
  - 5) New York, USA

3. Nripendra Misra was re-appointed as Principal Secretary to...
- 1) President of India  
2) Vice-President of India  
3) Niti Aayog  
4) Prime Minister of India  
5) Lok Sabha Speaker
4. Who was appointed as the Leader of Rajya Sabha?
- 1) Nirmala Sitharaman  
2) Piyush Goyal  
3) Thawarchand Gehlot  
4) Dharmendra Pradhan  
5) Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi
5. Farmers will have to contribute ..... rupees per month under the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Pension Yojana that seeks to provide a minimum fixed monthly pension of 3,000 rupees on the attainment of 60 years.
- 1) 100  
2) 200  
3) 150  
4) 75  
5) 10
6. India's first Dinosaur-Museum-cum-Park was inaugurated in the Mahisagar district of..?
- 1) Andhra Pradesh  
2) Manipur  
3) Telangana  
4) Gujarat  
5) Uttar Pradesh
7. Which country's Civil Services Commission signed MOU with India's National Center for Good Governance (NCGG) for imparting training to 1000 of its civil servants over the next 5 years?
- 1) Uzbekistan  
2) China  
3) Maldives  
4) Myanmar  
5) Mauritius
8. Election Commission of India given the National Party status to which North East India Party recently?
- 1) Naga People's Front  
2) Sikkim Democratic Front  
3) Asom Gana Parishad  
4) Bodoland People's Front  
5) National People's Party
9. Annual festival of Kheer Bhawani Mela on Zeasht Ashtami celebrated in the state of..?
- 1) Jammu and Kashmir  
2) Odisha  
3) Maharashtra  
4) Sikkim  
5) Arunachal Pradesh
10. World Day against Child Labour observed on...?
- 1) 1<sup>st</sup> June  
2) 5<sup>th</sup> June  
3) 12<sup>th</sup> June  
4) 14<sup>th</sup> November  
5) 24<sup>th</sup> January
11. Who among the following was appointed as the interim Central Vigilance Commissioner recently?
- 1) K.K.Venu Gopal  
2) A.K.Mathur  
3) Sharad Kumar  
4) Rajiv Meharshi  
5) Ranjan Gagoi

**KEY**

1-1; 2-2; 3-4; 4-3; 5-1; 6-4; 7-3; 8-5; 9-1; 10-3; 11-3.

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