

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## World Biofuel day observed

World Bio fuel day observed every year on 10<sup>th</sup> August. The day to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative to conventional fossil fuels and to highlight the various efforts made by the Government in the biofuel sector.

World Biofuel Day programme at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi on 10<sup>th</sup> August, 2018 inaugurated by Prime Minister. The World Biofuel Day is being observed by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas for the last three years in India.

On this occasion, the Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that 12 modern biofuel refineries at the cost of Rs.10,000 crores across the country to be established. He added that it is biofuel produced from crops, can change lives of people in both villages and cities.

On this occasion, he launched web portal PARIVESH (Pro-Active and Responsive facilitation by Interactive, Virtuous and Environmental Single-window Hub), a single window for environmental, wildlife, forest and Coastal Regulation Zone clearances.

The union cabinet approved the National Policy on Biofuels-2018 on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018. The policy has the objective of reaching 20% ethanol-blending and 5% biodiesel-blending by the year 2030. Among other things, the policy expands the scope of feedstock for ethanol production and has provided for incentives for production of advanced biofuels. Speaking on the occasion, Petroleum and Natural Gas Minister Dharmendra Pradhan said, the government has focused on biofuel, as it helps fight climate change and also helps sugarcane farmers to raise their income.

## National Sports University Bill passed in Parliament

Besides the main campus in Manipur, regional centres of the university would also be established in other parts of the country and abroad as well. The Union government signed an agreement with two Australian Universities, University of Canberra and Victoria University to develop curriculum, research facilities and laboratories, etc. for the Sports University.

In this context, it is better to mention that Government of India increased the salary of the national level coaches and 750 players have been selected under the Khelo India initiative and the government would provide them Rs.5 lakh each for the next 8 years to support them.

The government also considering enhancing the National Sports Development Fund so that the sports persons do not face any dearth of funds.

## PV Sindhu won silver medal in BWF World Championships 2018

From 30<sup>th</sup> July to 5<sup>th</sup> August 2018, BWF World Championships 2018 also known as TOTAL BWF World Championships 2018 was held at Nanjing, China.

The event hosted by Nanjing Youth Olympic Games Sports Park with the motto 'Sports of Inspiration, City of sensation'.

The event Mascot was named 'Yu Bao'. Mascot head resembled a badminton shuttlecock and the figure was holding a rocket in hand. Emblem was a personified shuttlecock. It featured Nanjing's 'City Wall' on its headband.

India's PV Sindhu won silver medal in Women's Singles event. Carolina Marin defeated PV Sindhu 21-19, 21-10 in the women's singles finals.

China topped the medals tally with 8 medals (2 Gold, 2 Silver and 4 Bronze) and India remained with fourth position secured only one silver medal in this event.

### BWF Championship 2018-Final Standings

Event	Gold medal	Silver medal
Men's Singles	Kento Momota (Japan)	Shi Yuqi (China)
Women's Singles	Carolina Marin (Spain)	P V Sindhu (India)
Men's Doubles	Li Junhui (China), Liu Yuchen (China)	Takeshi Kamura (Japan), Keigo Sonoda (Japan)
Women's Doubles	Mayu Matsumoto (Japan), Wakana Nagahara (Japan)	Yuki Fukushima (Japan), Sayaka Hirota (Japan)
Mixed Doubles	Zheng Siwei (China), Huang Yaqiong (China)	Wang Yiliu (China), Huang Dongping (China)

### 29<sup>th</sup> GST Council meeting held at New Delhi

Revenue shortfall concerns and issues being faced by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) dominated the 29<sup>th</sup> meeting of the GST Council... In order to address the issues, challenges and concerns of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME), GST Council decided to create a sub-committee under the chairmanship of Union Minister of State Finance Shiv Pratap Shukla. The above decision taken at 29<sup>th</sup> GST Council meeting held at New Delhi on 4<sup>th</sup> August 2018.

West Bengal Finance Minister said that the group of ministers will look into all proposals to give relief to MSMEs with turnover of upto Rs.1.5 crores from the central GST (CGST).

The GST Council also made a proposal to boost digital transactions. The Council approved a proposal of 20% cash back for the GST paid, capped at Rs.100 made through BHIM app, Rupay Debit Card etc. The facility will be accorded for business-to-consumer transactions.

Bihar Deputy Chief Minister Sushil Modi said the revenue impact of the refund for select digital transactions may be around Rs. 980 crore. The revenue department and GST Network (GSTN) will coordinate with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) for the development of software to facilitate the refunds in these digital transactions.

### MODEL QUESTIONS

- Who is the chairman of GST Council?
  - 1) RBI governor
  - 2) Chairman CBDT
  - 3) Finance Minister
  - 4) Chairman SEBI
  - 5) Chief Economic Advisor to Government of India
- Which day celebrated as Goods and Services Tax day (GST day)?
  - 1) 1<sup>st</sup> April
  - 2) 12<sup>th</sup> April
  - 3) 1<sup>st</sup> July
  - 4) 12<sup>th</sup> July
  - 5) 1<sup>st</sup> Jan
- BHIM stands for.....?
  - 1) Bharat Interest for Money
  - 2) Bharat Interface for Money
  - 3) Bharat Interface for Mobile
  - 4) Bharat Interaction for Money
  - 5) Bound Interface for Money

4. On 8<sup>th</sup> August 2018, IMF asked India to consider simpler GST rate structure. Who is the present Managing Director of IMF (International Monetary Fund)?
- 1) Jim Yong Kim                      2) Jin Liqun                      3) K V Kamath                      4) Werner Hoyer
- 5) Christine Lagarde
5. Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) has developed mobile app 'GST Verify' to protect interest of consumers. Who is the new chairman of CBIC?
- 1) Sushil Chandra                      2) Sanjiv Sanyal                      3) S. Ramesh                      4) Ratan P Watal
- 5) A.S.V.R. Guptha
6. National Sports university will be setup in.....?
- 1) Mizoram    2) Arunachal Pradesh
- 3) Tamil nadu    4) Manipur
- 5) Uttar Pradesh
7. Who is the Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of Youth and Sports Affairs?
- 1) Manoj Sinha    2) Raj Kumar Singh
- 3) Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore                      4) Giriraj Singh
- 5) Dr. Jitendra Singh
8. Col. Rajyavardhan Singh Rathore was a silver medalist in 2004 Athens Olympics in.....?
- 1) Gymnastics                      2) Boxing                      3) Shooting                      4) Wrestling
- 5) Badminton
9. Famous boxer is a present nominated member in Rajya sabha, supported the National Sports University bill in Manipur. He /she is.....?
- 1) Mary Com    2) Shiva Thapa
- 3) Vijender Singh    4) Laishram Sarita Devi
- 5) Pinki Rani
10. Highest Award for Sports in India is.....?
- 1) Jnanpith Award    2) Kalidas Samman
- 3) Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna    4) Gavaskar Award
- 5) Dada Saheb Phalke Award
11. World Bio fuel day observed every year on.....?
- 1) 9<sup>th</sup> August                      2) 10<sup>th</sup> July                      3) 10<sup>th</sup> August                      4) 18<sup>th</sup> August
- 5) 10<sup>th</sup> June
12. Union government is targeting 10% ethanol blending in petrol by 2022 and 20 % by ...?
- 1) 2030                      2) 2040                      3) 2045                      4) 2050
- 5) 2055
13. Which state became first state in the country to implement National Policy on Biofuels unveiled by Union Government?
- 1) Madhya Pradesh    2) Jammu and Kashmir
- 3) Rajasthan    4) Andhra Pradesh
- 5) West Bengal

14. In which city, Rajasthan establishes Centre of Excellence to promote research in alternate fuels and energy sources?  
1) Jaipur                      2) Jodhpur                      3) Bharathpur                      4) Udaipur  
5) Mount Abu
15. Rajasthan installed a biodiesel plant of capacity of 8 tonnes a day with the financial assistance of ....?  
1) SBI                      2) World bank                      3) Indian Railways                      4) UAE  
5) Saudi Arabia
16. Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas is.....?  
1) Dharmendra Pradhan                      2) Ananthkumar  
3) Maneka Sanjay Gandhi                      4) Ravi Shankar Prasad  
5) Nitin Jairam Gadkari
17. Prime minister launched a Single-Window Integrated Environmental Management System on the eve of World biofuel day. It is.....?  
1) PARIVESH                      2) SWAYAM                      3) CIPAM                      4) AirSewa  
5) NowCast
18. Who became the first Japanese player to win men badminton singles world title, defeating Shi Yuqi of China in the BWF world championships 2018?  
1) Shi yuqi                      2) Son wan ho                      3) Kento momota                      4) Chou tien chen  
5) Chen long
19. Carolina Marin, who defeated P.V. Sindhu (India) belongs to.....  
1) Portugal                      2) Philippines                      3) Spain                      4) Norway  
5) Sweden
20. The world famous men/women badminton players list given. The wrong combination is....?  
1) Viktor axelsen – Denmark                      2) Tai tzu ying – Taiwan  
3) Vaishnavi reddy Jakka – India                      4) Prannoy HS – India  
5) All of above correct
21. Mascot of BWF World Championship 2018 is .....?  
1) Vinicius                      2) Soohorang                      3) Yu Bao                      4) Barobi  
5) Bhin Bhin

**KEY**

1-3; 2-3; 3-2; 4-5; 5-3; 6-4; 7-3; 8-3; 9-1; 10-3; 11-3; 12-1; 13-3; 14-4; 15-3; 16-1; 17-1; 18-3; 19-3; 20-5; 21-3

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