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**ANSWER Key at the END of Explanation**

- 1) Which state has shown the maximum increase in forest cover (3810 sq. km.) in 2011-2013 according to the India State of Forest Report 2013 released in New Delhi on July 8, 2014?
  - a) Bihar
  - b) Jharkhand
  - c) Uttaranchal
  - d) West Bengal
  - e) Uttar Pradesh
- The Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Environment, Forests & Climate Change Prakash Javadekar released the biennial report "India State of Forest Report (ISFR)" in New Delhi on July 8, 2014. The India State of Forest Report 2013 is 13th report in the series. The report contains information on forest cover, tree cover mangroves cover and growing stock inside and outside the forest areas. Highlights are as follows:
  - The total forest and tree cover of the country is 78.92 million hectare which is **24.01** percent of the geographical area of the country. As compared to the assessment of 2011, there is an increase of 5871 sq km in the forest cover of the country. The majority of the increase in the forest cover has been observed in open forest category mainly outside forest areas. The maximum increase in forest cover has been observed in West Bengal (3810 sq. km.) followed by Odisha (1444 sq. km.) and Kerala (622sq km).
  - Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover of 77,522 sq. km. in terms of area in the country followed by Arunachal Pradesh with forest cover of 67,321 sq. km. In terms of percentage of forest cover with respect to total geographical area, Mizoram, with 90.38 percent, had the highest forest cover in terms of percentage of forest cover to Geographical area followed by Lakshadweep with 84.56 percent. The present assessment also reveals that 15 States/UTs had above 33 percent of the geographical area under forest cover. Out of these States and UTs, eight states namely Mizoram, Lakshadweep, A&N Island, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura had more than 75 percent forest cover while 7 States – Goa, Sikkim, Kerala, Uttarakhand, Dadra & Nagar Haveli, Chhattisgarh and Assam had forest cover between 33% to 75%.

- Forest Survey of India (FSI) has been assessing the forest and tree resources of our country on a biennial basis since 1987. The results of the assessment have been published in its biennial report “India State of Forest Report (ISFR)”. (D)

**( Please answer the few Qns Below – Answer can be found in the above Passage )**

- 2) What is the total area under forest and tree cover in the country according to the India State of Forest Report 2013 released in New Delhi on July 8, 2014?**
  - a) 68 million hectare
  - b) 78 million hectare
  - c) 88 million hectare
  - d) 98 million hectare
  - e) 108 million hectare
- 3) The total forest and tree cover of the country is \_\_\_\_\_ of the geographical area according to the India State of Forest Report 2013 released in New Delhi on July 8, 2014.**
  - a) 20 percent
  - b) 24 percent
  - c) 28 percent
  - d) 32 percent
  - e) 36 percent
- 4) Which state has the maximum forest cover (77,522 sq. km.) in the country according to the India State of Forest Report 2013 released in New Delhi on July 8, 2014?**
  - a) Madhya Pradesh
  - b) Andhra Pradesh
  - c) Chhattisgarh
  - d) Maharashtra
  - e) Karnataka
- 5) Which state had the highest percentage (90.38 percent) of its geographical area covered under forest cover according to the India State of Forest Report 2013 released in New Delhi on July 8, 2014?**
  - a) Meghalaya
  - b) Nagaland
  - c) Mizoram
  - d) Manipur
  - e) Assam
- 6) The list of Top500 list of world’s fastest supercomputers was released at the International Supercomputing Conference in Germany in June 2014. India’s fastest supercomputer is installed at:**
  - a) CSIR Fourth Paradigm Institute
  - b) Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre
  - c) Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
  - d) Center for Development of Advanced Computing
  - e) National Center for Medium Range Weather Forecasting

China’s Tianhe-2 (capable of sustained computing of **33.86 petaflops** per second) has been named the world’s fastest computer for the third year in a row at the International Supercomputing Conference in Leipzig, Germany on June 26, 2014.

The Tianhe-2 is installed at the National Super Computer Center in Guangzhou. Its predecessor, the Tianhe-1A, held the top spot on the Top500 supercomputer list in 2010. Tianhe-2 is followed by Titan at Oak Ridge National Laboratory (USA), Sequoia (USA), K Computer (Japan) and Mira (USA) in top 5.

Of the 500 systems on the list, 37 offer performances above the 1 petaflops range, nearly all of them use multicore processors, and 85% of them are running Intel processors. As for the systems themselves, 36 percent are built by HP and 33 percent by IBM. Cray builds 10percent.

Overall, the United States has by far the most supercomputers out of the top 500 systems, with China in a distant second; the UK, France and Germany lag far behind.

India has just nine supercomputers in the Top500 list. 52<sup>nd</sup> ranked iDataPlex at the Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology in Pune is the fastest supercomputer installed in India. PARAM Yuva – II at the Center for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in Pune is 101<sup>st</sup>. Cluster Platform at Indian Institute of Technology – Kanpur is 119<sup>th</sup>. Cluster Platform at CSIR Fourth Paradigm Institute (CSIR-4PI) in Bangalore is 123<sup>rd</sup>. iDataPlex at National Center for Medium Range Weather Forecasting is 132<sup>nd</sup>. SAGA at Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation, is 280<sup>th</sup>. Three supercomputers are in the private sector. (C)

7) The Centre decided to extend the deadline for implementation of the National Food Security Act by States/UTs on June 26, 2014. Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- I. Non-Antyodaya households will be entitled to a maximum of 30 kg foodgrains per month
  - II. Households covered under Antyodaya Anna Yojana will be entitled to a maximum of 35 kg foodgrains per month
  - III. The price of foodgrains will be the same for AAY and Non-Antyodaya Anna Yojana households
- a) I only
  - b) I & II only
  - c) II & III only
  - d) III & I only
  - e) I, II & III

- With 25 states and UTs yet to roll out the National Food Security Act, the Centre on June 26, 2014 gave three more months to them for implementing the landmark Act.
- “The food security law came into force on July 5, 2013. As per the law, state governments were to implement the law within 365 days (by July 4, 2014). Twenty states and five union territories have not implemented the food law so far. So we have decided to extend the deadline by 3 months,” said Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution Ram Vilas Paswan.
- Only 5 states have so far fully implemented the Food Security Act and another 6 have rolled out it partially. The Centre would continue to provide foodgrains allocated to these states.
- In September 2013, Parliament passed the Food Security Act that gave legal entitlement to highly subsidised foodgrains to two-thirds of the country’s population. The ordinance was, however, issued in July 2013.
- Haryana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra, have fully implemented the Act; while Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Chandigarh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar have done it partially.
- **Non-Antyodaya Anna Yojana households:** Each eligible person would get 5 kg of foodgrains. Rice, wheat and coarse grains will be priced at Rs 3, Rs 2 and Rs. 1 per kg respectively. A maximum of five members (25 kg) of a household will be considered. **Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households:** The existing Antyodaya Anna Yojana (AAY) households will continue to receive 35 kg of foodgrains per family a month. The price of foodgrains will be the same for AAY and Non-Antyodaya Anna Yojana households. (C)

8) The Supreme Court asked the Centre to bring wages under MGNREGS on par with minimum wages prevailing in states in July 2014. This was in response to an appeal filed by the Centre against a \_\_\_\_ High Court order which had held the wage under the scheme cannot be less than the minimum wage.

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Andhra Pradesh
- c) Chhattisgarh
- d) Maharashtra
- e) Karnataka

The Supreme Court on July 11, 2014 asked the Centre to bring wages under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) on par with minimum wages prevailing in different states. The Court directed the Centre that wage under the scheme cannot be less than the minimum wage fixed by the state government for agricultural labourers. The Centre submitted that it has already issued notification in this

regard to bring the wage on par with minimum wage fixed by the state governments. The bench was hearing an appeal filed by the Centre against a Karnataka High Court order which had September 23, 2011 held the wage under the scheme cannot be less than the minimum wage. The wage rate under the central job scheme, which varied between Rs 118 and Rs 181 from state to state, was less than the notified minimum daily pay in six states. But in 14 states the wages under rural job scheme was higher than the minimum wage. (E)

**9)** The Law Commission has asked to the government to consider increase in the retirement age of judges of lower courts to 62 in its report “Manpower Planning in Judiciary: A Blue Print” that was submitted to Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad in July 2014. Who is the Chairman of the Law Commission of India?

- a) Justice D. K. Jain
- b) Justice A. P. Shah
- c) Justice D. A. Desai
- d) Justice P. V. Reddi
- e) Justice M. P. Thakkar

The Law Commission on July 4, 2014 recommended setting up of additional courts, increasing retirement age of subordinate court judges and recruitment of new judges as some of the steps needed to deal with the perennial problem of delays and pendency of cases plaguing the judicial system in its report titled “Manpower Planning in Judiciary: A Blue Print” that was submitted to Law Minister Ravi Shankar Prasad by its Chairman, Justice (retd.) A. P. Shah. Recommendations of the commission’s report include: – “Urgent measures” are needed to increase the strength of judges in High Courts and subordinate courts and need to set up timeframe to dispose of cases. – The government should consider increasing the retirement age of judges of lower courts to 62, bringing it on par with judges of the 24 High Courts. (B)

**10)** A committee, set up to look into the concerns of people from the Northeast living in different parts of the country, has recommended legal measures to ensure their safety and security in its report submitted in July 2014. Who among the following is the Chairperson of the committee?

- a) Tape Bagra
- b) HWT Syeim
- c) MP Bezbaruah
- d) Luizinho Faleiro
- e) Allen Temshi Jamir

A committee, set up to look into the concerns of people from the Northeast living in different parts of the country, has recommended legal measures to ensure their safety and security from any assault on them. The M P Bezbaruah committee submitted its report to Minister of State for Home Kiren Rijiju in New Delhi on July 11, 2014.

The Committee was constituted in February, 2014 to look into the various concerns of persons hailing from the North Eastern states who are living in different parts of the country, especially the Metropolitan areas, and to suggest suitable remedial measures which could be taken by the government.

The Terms of Reference of the Committee were: (1) to examine the various kinds of concerns, including the concerns regarding security, of the persons hailing from the North Eastern states (2) to examine the causes behind the attacks/violence and discrimination against the people from the North-Eastern states (3) to suggest measures to be taken by the government to address these concerns (4) to suggest legal remedies to address these concerns. (C)

**11)** INS Kamorta formally joined the Indian Navy in on July 12, 2014. It has been constructed by which of the following?

- a) Cochin Shipyard
- b) Bharati Shipyard
- c) Mazagaon Docks
- d) Pipavav Shipyard
- e) Garden Reach Shipbuilders

India's first indigenously-built anti-submarine warfare (ASW) corvette INS Kamorta will be handed over to the Indian Navy in Kolkata on July 12, 2014. The super-sophisticated front line warship has been built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (GRSE). INS Kamorta is first in its class of four ASW corvettes being built by GRSE under Project-28 for the Navy. It is the first warship manufactured in India with indigenously developed special grade high-tensile steel produced by state-owned Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL). Armed with stealth features, it is the first warship equipped with the new trainable chaff launcher - Kavach. (E)

**12)** The BrahMos supersonic cruise missile was successfully test-fired from Chandipur-on-Sea off Odisha coast on July 8, 2014. Which of the following statements about BrahMos is/are correct?

- I. It cannot carry nuclear warheads
  - II. It has a range of 500 km
  - III. It travels at a speed faster than the speed of sound
- a) I only
  - b) I and II only
  - c) II and III only
  - d) III and I only
  - e) I, II and III

India on July 8, 2014 successfully test-fired the 290 km-range BrahMos supersonic cruise missile from Chandipur-on-Sea off Odisha coast. The missile, which is capable of carrying a conventional warhead of 300 kg, was test-fired from a mobile launcher from the Integrated Test Range (ITR). The missile is developed by the Indo-Russian joint venture BrahMos Aerospace and has a top speed of Mach 2.8. BrahMos, one of the fastest cruise missiles in the world and can be launched from ships, aircrafts and submarines. (D)

**13)** What was the theme of the World Population Day observed on July 11, 2014?

- a) Being Young is Tough
- b) Investing in Young People
- c) Fight Poverty: Educate Girls
- d) Be Counted: Say What You Need
- e) Universal Access to Reproductive Health Services

The World Population Day was observed on July 11, 2014. 'Investing in Young People' was the theme for 2014. As the world population edged to 7 billion people in 2011 (up from 2.5 billion in 1950), it has had profound implications for development. A world of 7 billion is both a challenge and an opportunity with implications on sustainability, urbanization, access to health services and youth empowerment. India is yet to achieve the much-awaited goal of reaching the total fertility rate (TFR) of 2.1 per cent. The TFR (the average number of children born to a woman) has declined from 3.6 in 1991 to 2.4 in 2012, said Union Health Minister Harsh Vardhan in Parliament. While 23 states and UTs have already achieved the target of total fertility rate (TFR) of 2.1 per cent, states like Uttar Pradesh and Bihar with large population base still have TFR of 3.3 and 3.5 per cent respectively. As per World Population Prospects: The 2012 Revision, the population of India is likely to be around 162 crores exceeding that of China (138 crores) by 2050. (B)

**14)** Who among the following was the first lawyer to have been appointed as Supreme Court judge without having served in the lower courts?

- a) S. C. Roy
- b) S. M. Sikri
- c) Kuldeep Singh
- d) R. F. Nariman
- e) N Santosh Hegde

Senior advocate Uday U Lalit was on July 11, 2014 recommended by the Supreme Court collegium to be a judge on its bench. A file containing the recommendation of the collegium headed by Chief Justice of India R M Lodha for elevation of Lalit has been sent to the Law Ministry. The noted lawyer's name has been recommended after another senior advocate Gopal Subramaniam had opted out of being considered for the post following a controversy after the new government sent back his name for reconsideration.

58-year-old Lalit has appeared in several high-profile cases involving actor Salman Khan in the black buck poaching incident, for former Punjab Chief Minister Amarinder Singh in a corruption case and former Gujarat Minister Amit Shah in the Sohrabuddin fake encounter case and for the then Army Chief V K Singh in the case relating to his date of birth.

Lalit would be the sixth person to be appointed directly from the bar to the bench in the Supreme Court. S M Sikri was the first advocate to be directly elevated as a judge of the Supreme Court in 1964. He went on to become the Chief Justice of India on January 22, 1971 and retired on April 25, 1973. Till date, he remains the only one among the advocates-appointed-judges to become the CJI. Other senior advocates who became Judges of the Supreme Court are - S C Roy, Kuldip Singh and N Santosh Hegde. The last among the list is R F Nariman, who took oath as Judge of SC on July 7. (B)

**15) Who among the following women layers was appointed Additional Solicitor-General by the government in July 2014?**

- a) Flavia Agnes
- b) Pinky Anand
- c) Sheela Murthy
- d) Pramila Nesargi
- e) Alamjeet Kaur Chauhan

Senior Advocate Pinky Anand has been appointed Additional Solicitor-General in the Supreme Court and she assumed office on July 10, 2014. She is the second woman lawyer to be appointed ASG after senior advocate Indira Jaising demitted office following the change of government at the Centre. Anand is an expert in the field of Constitutional Law, Property, Private International Law, Family Law, Environmental and Corporate Law with over 25 years of experience. (B)

**16) A laboratory of the Indian Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), DARE stands for: Defence \_\_\_\_\_ Research Establishment (DARE).**

- a) Area
- b) Atomic
- c) Avionics
- d) Auxiliary
- e) Armaments

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) on July 8, 2014 said J Manjula has been appointed as the director of Defence Avionics Research Establishment (DARE) in Bangalore. (C)

**17) Justices Arun Mishra, Adarsh Kumar Goel and Rohinton F Nariman assumed charge as Supreme Court judges on July 7, 2014, taking the apex court's strength to 27. What is the sanctioned strength of judges in the Supreme Court including the CJI?**

- a) 29
- b) 31
- c) 33
- d) 35
- e) 37

Justices Arun Mishra, Adarsh Kumar Goel and Rohinton F Nariman assumed charge as Supreme Court judges on July 7, 2014, taking the apex court's strength to 27, including Chief Justice R M Lodha. Justices Mishra, 59, and Goel, 61, were the Chief Justices of the Calcutta High Court and the Orissa High Court respectively. 58-year-old Justice Nariman, who was a senior advocate and in the panel recommended by the Supreme Court collegium, has been elevated as an apex court judge from the bar. The three judges were elevated to apex court and were administered the oath of office by CJI Lodha. The sanctioned strength of judges in the apex court is 31, including the CJI. (B)

**18)** Goa Governor B.V. Wanchoo was questioned by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in connection with AgustaWestland VVIP Chopper scam in July 2014. Which of the following was headed by him before he became Governor?

- a) Intelligence Bureau
- b) Border Security Force
- c) National Security Guard
- d) Special Protection Group
- e) Central Bureau of Investigation

After West Bengal Governor M.K. Narayanan and Goa Governor B.V. Wanchoo, the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) on July 9, 2014 questioned Andhra Pradesh Governor E S L Narasimhan in connection with AgustaWestland VVIP Chopper scam. Narasimhan was the Intelligence Bureau (IB) chief when the deal was signed. He is said to be a part of the meeting where the technical specifications for the helicopters were modified so as to enable AgustaWestland to qualify for the bidding. Before Narasimhan, Narayanan and Wanchoo were questioned as witnesses in the case. Narayanan was national security advisor at the time while Wanchoo was the chief of the Special Protection Group (SPG). Both Narayanan and Wanchoo had resigned as governors after being questioned by the CBI. Earlier in 2014, India had cancelled the 3600 crore rupees deal with AgustaWestland for the supply of 12 AW101 helicopters. (D)

**19)** Which of the following conferred its Fellowship for lifetime achievement to Zohra Sehgal who died at the age of 102 in July 2014?

- a) Sahitya Akademi
- b) Lalit Kala Akademi
- c) Sangeet Natak Akademi
- d) None of the above

Actress Zohra Sehgal died in New Delhi on July 10, 2014 at the age of 102. Born on April 27, 1912, Zohra began her career as a dancer with Uday Shankar in 1935 and performed across the world. She married scientist, painter and dancer Kameshwar Sehgal in August 1942. Considered the doyenne of Indian theatre, Sehgal acted with Indian People's Theatre Association (IPTA) and Prithviraj Kapoor's Prithvi Theatre for fourteen years. After her husband's death in 1952, Sehgal first moved to Delhi and then to London on a drama scholarship in 1962, where she appeared in many TV productions including "The Jewel in the Crown", "Tandoori Nights" and "My Beautiful Laundrette". Awards & honours: Sehgal was awarded the Padma Shri in 1998, Kalidas Samman in 2001 and the Fellowship of Sangeet Natak Akademi in 2004. She received the Padma Vibhushan in 2010. (C)

**20)** The 19<sup>th</sup> Major Economies Forum on \_\_\_\_\_ was organised in Paris, France on July 11-12, 2014.

- a) Ecology and Environment
- b) Science and Technology
- c) Trade and Commerce
- d) Health and Nutrition
- e) Energy and Climate

The 19th Major Economies Forum on Energy and Climate was organised in Paris, France on July 11-12, 2014. This forum is a platform for dialogue and political impetus bringing together the main greenhouse gas emitting countries. France will host the 2015 Paris Climate Conference which is expected to adopt an international agreement aimed at limiting temperature increases to less than 2°C. The discussions at the Forum focussed on finding ways to reducing emissions and facilitate climate financing. The Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Prakash Javadekar emphasised that India was concerned that despite being launched in 2009-10, the Green Climate Fund still has empty coffers. The capitalization of the Green Climate Fund should be facilitated majorly by public financing in grant terms. The Minister indicated that the probability of many developing countries submitting their INDCs (Intended Nationally Determined Contributions) to the 2015 universal climate agreement will be very low if the developed countries do not commit substantial amount of climate finance upfront. (E)

- 21)** Which of the following has increased allocation for its Chevening scholarships given to Indian students in July 2014?
- a) UK
  - b) USA
  - c) France
  - d) Canada
  - e) Australia

Over the next two years, India will see a fourfold increase in the budget for the prestigious Chevening scholarships. The new allocation — raised from £600,000 to £2.4 million — will take the total number of scholarships awarded to Indians to 150 by 2015-16. This was announced by Minister of State in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office Hugo in London on July 8, 2014 during an event to mark 30 years of the U.K.'s prestigious scholarship programme. Funded by the U.K.'s Foreign and Commonwealth office and its partners, the Chevening Fellowships Programme is designed for "outstanding graduates with the potential to be leaders to pursue one-year Master's degrees in any subject and at any of the U.K.'s leading universities". (A)

- 22)** Which of the following was asked to vacate its government-provided accommodation in New Delhi by the External Affairs Ministry in July 2014?
- a) UNICEF
  - b) UNHCR
  - c) UNAIDS
  - d) UNMOGIP
  - e) Greenpeace

India on July 8, 2014 said that the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) has been asked to vacate its government-provided accommodation in New Delhi. A communication has been sent to the United Nations that UNMOGIP has "outlived" its relevance, said the external affairs ministry. Ministry spokesperson Syed Akbaruddin added that the government has decided that the UNMOGIP would no longer be given accommodation free of cost. The UNMOGIP, established under a UN Security Council Resolution to supervise the ceasefire line established under the Karachi agreement of July 1949, is currently stationed in a 7,000 sq feet bungalow in New Delhi. (D)

- 23)** George Osborne called on the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 7, 2014. He is the British counterpart of which of the following Indian cabinet ministers?
- a) Smriti Irani
  - b) Arun Jaitley
  - c) Nitin Gadkari
  - d) Rajnath Singh
  - e) Sushma Swaraj

British Foreign Secretary William Hague and Chancellor of Exchequer George Osborne called on the Prime Minister Narendra Modi on July 7, 2014. They conveyed British Prime Minister David Cameron's felicitations to the Prime Minister and extended his invitation to Modi for a visit to UK. (B)

- 24)** Which is the most populous city in the world according to the World Urbanisation Prospects report released by the UN in July 2014?
- a) Tokyo
  - b) London
  - c) Shanghai
  - d) Sao Paulo
  - e) New Delhi

Delhi, currently the world's second most populous city after Tokyo, is expected to retain the spot till at least 2030, according to a UN report. According to the Population Division of the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Delhi's population -- presently pegged at 25 million by the UN report -- is projected to reach 36 million by 2030. The 2014 revision of the World Urbanisation Prospects report, released on July 10, 2014, found



that the world's largest city is Tokyo with 38 million inhabitants and its population is expected to decline to 37 million by 2030. Still Tokyo will remain at the top. Shanghai with 23 million inhabitants retains the third spot. Mexico City, Mumbai and Sao Paulo, each with 21 million inhabitants, followed by Osaka with just over 20 million people have found place in the top five spots.(A)

**25) Which SAARC country won a maritime boundary dispute case against India at the Permanent Court of Arbitration at Hague in Netherlands and got 19,467 sq km out of total 25,602 sq km disputed area in July 2014?**

- a) Sri Lanka
- b) Pakistan
- c) Maldives
- d) Myanmar
- e) Bangladesh

The Permanent Court of Arbitration at Hague in Netherlands has awarded Bangladesh 19,467 sq km out of total 25,602 sq km disputed area with India in the Bay of Bengal. "The Arbitration Tribunal for Delimitation of Maritime Boundary between Bangladesh and India, established under Annex VII of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), rendered its award on July 7, 2014. (E)

**26) India has signed an Audiovisual Coproduction Treaty with which of the following during the New Delhi visit of Minister Chris Alexander in July 2014?**

- a) UK
- b) USA
- c) France
- d) Canada
- e) Australia

To further strengthen the bilateral ties, Canada and India have signed an audio-visual co-production treaty that aims to create jobs in both countries and boost tourism. The treaty came into force on July 1, 2014. "Celebrating the Canada-India Audiovisual Coproduction Treaty, we look forward to a deeper level of engagement between our respective audiovisual sectors, greater cultural and economic benefits to both countries and increased access to audiences worldwide," Canada's Citizenship and Immigration Minister Chris Alexander said in Mumbai on July 9, 2014. (D)

**27) Who among the following is Indian counterpart of Sri Lanka's Gamini Lakshman Peiris, who came on an official visit to India in July 2014?**

- a) Smriti Irani
- b) Arun Jaitley
- c) Nitin Gadkari
- d) Rajnath Singh
- e) Sushma Swaraj

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) on July 11, 2014 said that Sri Lanka Foreign Minister Prof. G. L. Peiris had extended an invitation to External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj to visit Sri Lanka in his meeting with her in New Delhi, which covered substantive issues concerning both India and Sri Lanka. Swaraj thanked him for adopting a fast tracked approach towards repatriation of Indian fishermen who were taken into custody by Sri Lanka. The Sri Lanka Foreign minister also met Andhra Chief Minister on July 10 regarding investment of approx 1 billion dollars for a Garment city in Visakhapatnam.(E)

**28) T. P. Seetharam was appointed as India's Permanent Representative to the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) in July 2014. IRENA is based at:**

- a) Doha
- b) Ajman
- c) Fujairah
- d) Dubai
- e) Abu Dhabi

India's ambassador to the UAE T P Seetharam was on July 7, 2014 appointed as the country's permanent representative to the Abu Dhabi-based International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA). The move makes India 19th member of IRENA to designate a permanent representative to the inter-governmental organisation. "India attaches great importance to the renewable energy sector and believes that only through a collaborative approach the goal of sustainable energy future can be realised. The accreditation of IRENA marks a significant step in this direction," Indian Embassy in Abu Dhabi said. IRENA is an inter-governmental organisation that supports countries in their transition to a sustainable energy future and serves as the principal platform for international cooperation. It promotes the widespread adoption and sustainable use of all forms of renewable energy in the pursuit of sustainable development. (E)

**29)** Padma Shri awardee Dr Madan Lal Madhu, who passed away on July 7, 2014 at the age of 88, was a scholar acclaimed for translating \_\_\_\_\_ books into Hindi.

- a) Arabic
- b) Spanish
- c) French
- d) Russian
- e) Portuguese

Renowned scholar Dr Madan Lal Madhu, who translated several Russian classics into Hindi, passed away in Moscow on July 7, 2014 at the age of 88. A Padma Shri awardee, Madhu lived in Moscow for past six decades and was recognised for his contribution to promotion of Indo-Russian cultural ties. Madhu was awarded Friendship Order and the Pushkin Gold Medal by the Russian government for his contribution in the field of literature. He had translated more than 100 Russian books into Hindi which include "War and Peace" and "Anna Karenina" by Leo Tolstoy, works of Alexander Pushkin, Anton Chekhov, Fyodor Dostoyevsky and Vladimir Mayakovsky. (D)

**30)** Padma Shri awardee Granville Austin, who passed away on July 6, 2014 at the age of 87, was known for his books on Indian \_\_\_\_\_.

- a) Music
- b) Wildlife
- c) Railways
- d) Medicine
- e) Constitution

Granville Austin, an eminent biographer of India's Constitution and a Padma Shri awardee, passed away in Washington at the age of 87 on July 6, 2014. Austin, author of two celebrated political histories of the Indian Constitution -- 'The Indian Constitution: A Cornerstone of A Nation' and 'Working A Democratic Republic: The Indian Experience', was awarded Padma Shri, the fourth highest civilian award in India, in 2011. Austin worked as a journalist/photographer and later served with the US Information Service, Department of State, Department of Health, Education and Welfare, and on the staff of a US Senator. (E)

**31)** What was the military operation launched by Israel to stop rocket attacks from the Gaza Strip in Palestine in July 2014 named?

- a) Protective Dome
- b) Protective Apex
- c) Protective Edge
- d) Protective Shield
- e) Protective Cover

Israeli Defence Forces (IDF) on July 8, 2014 launched a new military operation dubbed "Protective Edge" to stop rocket attacks from the Gaza Strip in Palestine against Israel. Israel announced that the attack began with aerial and naval artillery strikes against 50 targets of the Islamists in Gaza, including rocket launchers, tunnels, arsenals and training centres. The Israeli army said about 200 rockets had been fired from Gaza since June 12, when Israel began a massive search for three Jewish seminary students who went missing in the West Bank and were found murdered recently. Israel blamed the kidnappings on Hamas, which has denied any role in the deaths, and arrested 500 people, most of them linked to the Islamist movement during the search. (C)

**32)** Who among the following was appointed as the new Special Envoy tasked with seeking a peaceful resolution of the ongoing conflict in Syria by the UN in July 2014?

- a) John Guidetti
- b) Akira Corassani
- c) Thomas Di Leva
- d) Staffan de Mistura
- e) Sebastian Ingrosso

United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon on July 10, 2014 announced that he has appointed veteran diplomat Staffan de Mistura as the new Special Envoy tasked with seeking a peaceful resolution of the ongoing conflict in Syria. Mistura, who has served as the head of the UN missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, will take on the peace-facilitation role previously held by Lakhdar Brahimi, who resigned in May, and before that by Kofi Annan. "The Special Envoy will provide good offices aimed at bringing an end to all violence and human rights violations, and promoting a peaceful solution to the Syrian crisis," said the UN chief. Ban also announced that, after consulting with Secretary-General Nabil Elaraby of the League of Arab States, he is appointing Ramzy Ezzeldin Ramzy as the Deputy Special Envoy for Syria. The conflict in Syria, which began in March 2011, has led to well over 150,000 deaths, and more than 680,000 people have been injured. More than 9.3 million people are in need of assistance inside Syria, including at least 6.5 million who are internally displaced. (D)

**33)** Eduard Shevardnadze, who died on July 7, 2014 at 86, was the former President of which country?

- a) Belarus
- b) Georgia
- c) Armenia
- d) Ukraine
- e) Lithuania

Former Georgian president and Soviet foreign minister Eduard Shevardnadze, a key figure in the "perestroika" reforms in the Soviet Union, died on July 7, 2014 at 86 in Tbilisi. The former leader, who retired from politics in 2003, was the main supporter of the reforms passed between 1985 and 1991 by the last leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev. Shevardnadze resigned from his post as foreign minister of the Soviet Union in 1990. He returned to Georgia in 1992 after it separated from the Soviet Union to be appointed president of the state council, the highest office in the country, and three years later he was elected president, winning a second term in 2000 with an absolute majority. Shevardnadze, who steered his country out of a civil war, was toppled in 2003 in the Rose Revolution sparked by opposition allegations of fraud in legislative elections. (B)

**34)** Nikhil Srivastava was presented the 2014 George Polya Prize in July 2014 for achievements in which of the following subjects?

- a) Physics
- b) Economics
- c) Philosophy
- d) Mathematics
- e) Biotechnology

Nikhil Srivastava, a young Indian mathematician, on July 10, 2014 became the first joint winner of the prestigious 2014 George Polya Prize for finding a solution to a problem that had eluded mathematicians for more than half a century. Srivastava was part of a three member team which found a solution to the Kadison-Singer conjecture that pertains to the mathematical foundations of quantum mechanics. The Kadison-Singer conjecture was first proposed by Richard Kadison and Isadore Singer in 1959. The Prize was presented to Srivastava and his colleagues Adam W Marcus and Daniel A Spielman. Established in 1969, George Polya Prize is given every two years. Polya (1887-1985), a Hungarian mathematician, is credited with fundamental advances in combinatorics, numerical analysis, number theory and probability theory. (D)

**35)** The government will provide finance to 5 lakh joint farming groups of "Bhoomi Heen Kisan" (landless farmers) through \_\_\_\_\_ in the current financial year according to the Union Budget 2014-15 presented on July 10, 2014.

- a) NHB
- b) IDFC
- c) SIDBI
- d) HUDCO
- e) NABARD

The Union Budget 2014-15 was presented by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in the Lok Sabha on July 10, 2014. As a very large number of landless farmers are unable to provide land title as guarantee, institutional finance is denied to them and they become vulnerable to money lenders' usurious lending. The Finance Minister has proposed to provide finance to 5 lakh joint farming groups of "Bhoomi Heen Kisan" (landless farmers) through NABARD in the current financial year. (E)

**36)** The government will establish two more institutions of excellence on the lines of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) in Assam and \_\_\_\_\_ with an initial sum of Rs 100 crore in the current financial year according to the Union Budget 2014-15 presented on July 10, 2014.

- a) West Bengal
- b) Bihar
- c) Jharkhand
- d) Madhya Pradesh
- e) Chhattisgarh

The Union Budget 2014-15 was presented by Finance Minister Arun Jaitley in the Lok Sabha on July 10, 2014. On the lines of Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), the government will establish two more such institutions of excellence in Assam and Jharkhand with an initial sum of Rs 100 crore in the current financial year. Also an amount of Rs 100 crore has been earmarked for setting up an "Agri-Tech Infrastructure Fund." (C)

**37)** Which was the newspaper published by 'The Associated Journals' – a company owned by the Congress party in news in June 2014 over a lawsuit filed in Delhi Court?

- a) New India
- b) The Nation
- c) The Pioneer
- d) The Patriot
- e) National Herald

Congress President Sonia Gandhi and Vice President Rahul Gandhi were on June 26, 2014 summoned by a court in New Delhi as accused in a criminal complaint lodged by BJP leader Subramanian Swamy for alleged cheating and misappropriation of funds in acquiring ownership of now-defunct daily National Herald. The Metropolitan Magistrate issued summons to Sonia Gandhi, Rahul Gandhi and others, who were Directors of Young Indian Ltd (YI), a company that was incorporated in 2010 and which took over the "debt" of Associated Journals Ltd (AJL), the publisher of National Herald. Swamy had accused Sonia and Rahul Gandhi and others of conspiring to cheat and misappropriate funds by just paying Rs.50 lakh by which YI obtained the right to recover Rs.90.25 crore which the AJL had owed to the Congress party. (E)

**38)** Several states have demanded drastic changes in the new Land Acquisition Act at a meeting of State Revenue Ministers' chaired by Union Rural Development Minister Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi on June 27, 2014. The Act requires mandatory consent of at least \_\_\_\_\_ locals for acquiring land for private companies

- a) 60 per cent
- b) 65 per cent
- c) 70 per cent
- d) 75 per cent
- e) 80 per cent

- Most of the states on June 27, 2014 came out openly against the new Land Acquisition Act, complaining that it had hurt the process of acquiring land for infrastructure projects and demanded “drastic changes” in certain provisions of the farmer-friendly law.
- At a meeting of State Revenue Ministers’ chaired by Union Rural Development Minister Nitin Gadkari in New Delhi, the states including Congress-ruled Haryana objected to provisions for mandatory consent of at least 70 per cent locals for acquiring land for public-private-partnership (PPP) projects and 80 per cent for acquiring land for private companies.
- The states also opposed provisions for Social Impact Assessment (SIA) study, which is made mandatory in all land acquisitions, saying that it was “time consuming and leading to cost escalation in small projects”.
- The common refrain of most of the states was that certain provisions of the law, enacted during the tenure of previous UPA government, were posing a major hindrance in acquiring land for infrastructure and industrial projects. (E)

**39)** 38th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee organised in Doha in June 2014. Who will host the 39th session in June–July?

- Bonn
- Berlin
- Hamburg
- Hanover
- Frankfurt

- 38th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee was organised in Doha (Qatar) from June 16 to 25, 2014.
- During its ten-day meeting, the Committee added a total of 26 new sites – 21 Cultural, 4 Natural & 1 Mixed – to the List to bring the number of World Heritage Sites to 1007, in 161 countries.
- The Great Himalayan National Park (GHNP) in the Kullu District of Himachal Pradesh and Rani-ki-Vav (the Queen’s Stepwell) at Patan, Gujarat are the two Indian properties among the 26 sites inscribed in Doha.
- The inclusions of the 1000th site – Okavango Delta in Botswana – and Pyu Ancient Cities – Myanmar’s first property on the World Heritage List, were among the highlights of the 38th session.
- The 39th session of the Committee will take place in Bonn, Germany, from 28 June to 8 July, 2015.
- India now has 33 properties on the World Heritage List. **CULTURAL (27):** Agra Fort (1983); Ajanta Caves (1983); Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi (1989); Champaner-Pavagadh Archaeological Park (2004); Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus) (2004); Churches and Convents of Goa (1986); Elephanta Caves (1987); Ellora Caves (1983); Fatehpur Sikri (1986); Great Living Chola Temples (1987); Group of Monuments at Hampi (1986); Group of Monuments at Mahabalipuram (1984); Group of Monuments at Pattadakal (1987); Hill Forts of Rajasthan (2013); Humayun’s Tomb, Delhi (1993); Khajuraho Group of Monuments (1986); Mahabodhi Temple Complex at Bodhi Gaya (2002); Mountain Railways of India (1999); Qutb Minar and its Monuments, Delhi (1993); Red Fort Complex (2007); Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka (2003); Sun Temple, Konârak (1984); Taj Mahal (1983); The Jantar Mantar, Jaipur (2010); Rajasthan Hill Forts (2013); Rani-ki-Vav, Patan (2014); Great Himalayan National Park (2014) **NATURAL (6):** Kaziranga National Park (1985); Keoladeo National Park (1985); Manas Wildlife Sanctuary (1985); Nanda Devi and Valley of Flowers National Parks (1988); Sundarbans National Park (1987); Western Ghats (2012). (A)

**40)** The first UN \_\_\_\_\_ Assembly (UNEA) was convened in Nairobi from 23 to 27 June 2014.

- Education
- Engineering
- Environment
- Empowerment
- Entrepreneurship

The First UN Environment Assembly (UNEA) was convened in Nairobi, Kenya, from 23 to 27 June 2014. This marks a historic milestone in the 43-year history of UN Environment Programme (UNEP). It was attended by high-level delegations from over 160 UN Member and Observer States. UNEA is the newly constituted forum for decision making on environment that is tasked to chart a new course in the way the international community addresses environmental sustainability challenges. International environmental crime and terrorism ranked high on the UNEA’s agenda. Illegal timber and products of wildlife crime such as elephant ivory and rhino horn are smuggled through the same routes as illegal weapons. (C)

**41)** Who among the following is the Indian counterpart of Bangladesh Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali?

- a) Arun Jaitley
- b) Nitin Gadkari
- c) Smriti Irani
- d) Sushma Swaraj
- e) Dharmendra Pradhan

India on June 26 eased visa norms and agreed to supply more power to Bangladesh as part of decisions to scale up bilateral ties during the Dhaka visit of External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj. Bangladeshi nationals below 13 and above 65 years of age would be eligible for five-year multiple entry visas as against the current period of one year. Swaraj held comprehensive discussions with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Foreign Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali on matters like security, trade, border issues and counter-terrorism. Sharing of Teesta river water and the Land Boundary Agreement (LBA) which was agreed upon by the previous UPA government were high on Bangladesh's agenda during the talks. Swaraj confirmed India's willingness to increase the frequency of the Maitree Express (Dhaka-Kolkata Express) train between the two countries. (D)

**42)** Which of the following has ranked India as the fourth most favoured destination after China, USA and Indonesia in its World Investment Report 2014 released in July 2014?

- a) WB
- b) IMF
- c) WTO
- d) WEF
- e) UNCTAD

India has slipped by one notch to the fourth most favoured investment destination in 2014 in the latest ranking by transnational corporations released by UN agency UNCTAD in its World Investment Report 2014 released on June 24. China has retained its top position as the world's most attractive investment destination followed by the US and Indonesia at second and third places respectively. FDI inflows into India grew by 17 per cent to USD 28 billion in 2013 and the country ranked 14th among the top 20 global economies. (E)

**43)** India decided to ratify an additional protocol agreement with the IAEA on June 23. The objective is to enhance transparency of nuclear infrastructure and pave way for larger imports of nuclear technology for civilian uses such as power generation. What is India's annual nuclear power generation capacity?

- a) 2,780 MW
- b) 4,780 MW
- c) 6,780 MW
- d) 8,780 MW
- e) 10,780 MW

India on June 23, 2014 said it has decided to ratify an additional protocol agreement with the IAEA, which will enhance transparency of its nuclear infrastructure and pave way for larger imports of nuclear technology for civilian uses such as power generation. India currently operates 20 reactors at six sites with a capacity of 4,780 MW, or 2 percent of its total power capacity, according to NPCIL (Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited). After the U.S.-India nuclear deal was signed, the IAEA in 2009 had approved the Additional Protocol, which was intended to clear the way for the NSG (Nuclear Suppliers Group) to grant India a waiver to trade with other countries in the civilian nuclear field. Ratification is seen as a step towards separating civilian and military nuclear operations. The additional protocol will cover facilities which are monitored by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). (B)

**44)** Guinness World Records on June 21, 2014 certified a new record of "most people reading aloud simultaneously at a single location" at a temple in \_\_\_\_\_ on February 2, 2014.

- a) Goa
- b) Bihar
- c) Kerala
- d) Gujarat
- e) Haryana

Mass recital of 'Njanappana', a devotional poem written by the 16th century Malayalam poet Poonthanam, has found place in the Guinness Book of World Records. The event, attended by a total of 46,660, was organised by

the state chapter of the Art of Living Foundation in front of the well-known “Vadakkunnathan” Temple in Thrissur district earlier this year. According to the website of the Guinness World Records on June 21, 2014, “the most people reading aloud simultaneously at a single location is 46,660 and was organised by the Art Of Living Foundation (India) at the Vadakkunnathan Temple in Thrissur on February 2, 2014.” (C)

**45)** The Encyclopedia of India-China \_\_\_\_\_ Contacts was released in June 2014.

- a) Trade
- b) Literary
- c) Cultural
- d) Diplomatic
- e) Historical

India and China released the first encyclopedia on their cultural contacts during the five day visit of Vice President M H Ansari to China that concluded on June 30. The idea of encyclopedia of India-China Cultural Contacts traces back the centuries old civilisation links that started with the visit of Huen Tsang to India in the 7th century to bring Buddhist scriptures to China. According to the scholars of India’s Institute of Chinese Studies, which handled the project from the Indian side, the encyclopedia was expected to provide a much-needed boost to the effort to build popular consciousness and confidence in the shared cultural experience of India and China. (C)

**46)** The Reserve Bank of India on June 24, 2014 decided to allow which of the following to act as business correspondents (BCs) of banks?

- a) Chit funds
- b) Insurance companies
- c) Financial Institutions
- d) Deposit taking NBFCs
- e) Non-deposit taking NBFCs

- The Reserve Bank of India on June 24, 2014 permitted non-banking finance companies to act as business correspondents (BCs) of banks, allowing them to offer limited services with the aim of spreading financial inclusion.
- It has been decided that banks will be permitted to engage non-deposit taking NBFCs (NBFCs-ND) as BCs. So far, NBFCs could not be appointed as BCs, which provide limited services on behalf of banks in unbanked areas.
- There should be a contractual arrangement between a bank and an NBFC-ND to ensure that possible conflicts of interest are taken care of.
- To provide operational flexibility to banks and in view of technological developments in the sector, the distance criteria for BCs have been removed. (E)

**47)** Which Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) received Navratna status in June 2014?

- a) SJVN Limited
- b) MOIL Limited
- c) Engineers India Limited
- d) Shipping Corporation of India Limited
- e) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited

Engineers India Ltd was on June 24, 2014 conferred the coveted ‘Navratna’ status, which would give the state-owned firm more financial and operational autonomy. The status has been granted to the CPSE (Central Public Sector Enterprise) subsequent to the fulfilment of the criteria prescribed by Department of Public Enterprises. The upgraded status will provide the company with “enhanced operational and financial autonomy to work in domestic and overseas markets,” it said.

EIL has emerged as one of India’s leading engineering consultancy and EPC companies with a diverse portfolio of projects in hydrocarbon, petrochemical, mining & metallurgy, fertiliser, power and infrastructure sectors. In recent times, the company has expanded its operations internationally and is providing a wide range of engineering consultancy services on various international projects in the Middle East, Africa and South East Asia.

**Maharatna CPSEs:** Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited, Coal India Limited, GAIL (India) Limited, Indian Oil Corporation Limited, NTPC Limited, Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited, Steel Authority of India Limited

**Navratna CPSEs:** Bharat Electronics Limited, Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited, Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited, National Aluminium Company Limited, NMDC Limited, Neyveli Lignite Corporation Limited, Oil India Limited, Power Finance Corporation Limited, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited, Rural Electrification Corporation Limited, Shipping Corporation of India Limited, Engineers India Ltd. (C)

**48)** The Union government on June 25, 2014 announced an increase in the minimum support prices (MSP) of kharif crops for 2014-15 (July-June) in line with recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). Which of the following is not covered in Kharif?

- a) Jowar
- b) Wheat
- c) Paddy
- d) Cotton
- e) Groundnut

The Union government on June 25, 2014 announced an increase in the minimum support prices (MSP) of kharif crops for 2014-15 (July-June) in line with recommendations of the Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices (CACP). The prices, announced by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), will be effective from October 1. The crops covered are: Paddy, Jowar, Bajra, Maize, Ragi, Tur (Arhar), Moong, Urad, Groundnut, Soyabean, Sunflower Seed, Sesamum, Nigerseed and Cotton. (B)

**49)** Who is the Director General of the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) set up by the government to independently assess the effectiveness of government programmes and institutional policies?

- a) Rahul Shanghvi
- b) Ajay Chhibber
- c) Rakesh Sood
- d) Shyam Bhatt
- e) Dilip Bhatia

Amid a debate over relevance of Planning Commission, the Independent Evaluation Office (IEO) on June 23 said it was acting as a "control commission" and should be replaced by a 'reforms and solution body'. The IEO, which was set up by the government in November 2010, is independently assessing the effectiveness of government programmes and institutional policies. IEO's Director General Ajay Chhibber said that the opaqueness in the functioning of the Planning Commission is a matter of concern considering its role as a major allocator of resources to states and central ministries. He said Planning Commission's role as an allocator of resources to the States should be taken up by the Finance Commission and the allocation of resources amongst the Central Ministries should be carried out by the Finance Ministry. (B)

**50)** The government on June 25, 2014 extended by another six months till December 2014 the excise duty cuts on \_\_\_\_\_ announced in the interim budget 2014-15.

- a) Cement
- b) Garments
- c) Automobiles
- d) Laptops and PCs
- e) Refined petroleum products

The government on June 25, 2014 extended by another six months till December the cut in excise duty levied on the automobile industry. The automobile industry has witnessed diminishing sales in passenger and commercial variants due to high fuel and interest costs coupled with an overall economic slowdown. In the interim budget 2014-15, the government had reduced central excise duty on small cars, scooters/two-wheelers from 12 to 8 percent. It had also reduced the duty from 30 percent to 24 percent on SUVs (sports utility vehicles), and medium segment sedans from 27-24 percent to 24-20 percent, respectively. (C)

**51)** Who among the following was selected as the next Director General of the Hyderabad-based International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) in June 2014?

- a) Yogendra Alagh
- b) Juan Somavia
- c) Luc Cortebeeck
- d) George McGovern



e) David Bergvinson

f) David Bergvinson was on June 27, 2014 selected as the next Director General of the Hyderabad-based International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT). ICRISAT conducts agricultural research for development in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa. The governing board has appointed him as the head of ICRISAT for a five-year term, effective from 2015. He succeeds the current director general, William Dar, who has served the institute since 1999. (E)

**52)** The 35th edition of the National Games will be held in \_\_\_\_\_ from January 31 to February 14, 2015 in various venues across seven districts.

- a) Goa
- b) Kerala
- c) Delhi
- d) Gujarat
- e) Haryana

The 35th edition of the National Games will be held in Kerala from January 31 to February 14, 2015 in various venues across seven districts. Starting the countdown, dates of the biggest national sporting event were announced by Indian Olympic Association president N Ramachandran in the presence of Union Minister of state for Sports and Youth Affairs Sarbananda Sonowal at a colourful function in the Assembly complex in Thiruvananthapuram on June 26, 2014. (B)

**53)** Which state announced 33 per cent reservation for women in the police force in June 2014?

- a) Goa
- b) Kerala
- c) Delhi
- d) Gujarat
- e) Haryana

In a pioneering move, Gujarat Chief Minister Anandiben Patel on June 25, 2014 announced 33 per cent reservation for women in the police force. According to the state Director General of Police Gujarat will be the first state in India to implement 33 per cent reservation for women in the police force. The sanctioned posts in Gujarat Police are around 60,000, around 10,000 more than its present strength. There are around 2500 policewomen in the State at present. If the government manages to fill all 33 per cent posts for women against the sanctioned strength, the State would have around 19,800 women in the force. (D)

**54)** Who among the following was appointed President of the ICC at its Annual Conference in Melbourne in June 2014?

- a) Colin Firth
- b) N. Srinivasan
- c) David Morgan
- d) Mustafa Kamal
- e) Randy Newman

BCCI President-in-exile N. Srinivasan was on June 26, 2014 formally appointed the first Chairman of the ICC at its Annual Conference in Melbourne. Srinivasan was elected the Chairman despite being barred by the Supreme Court of India from carrying out his duties as BCCI President due to ongoing investigations into the match-fixing allegations relating to the 2013 edition of the IPL. However, after the Apex court refused to stop his nomination to the ICC position, decks were cleared for his anointment to the newly-created post. The Annual Conference also saw Mustafa Kamal of Bangladesh become the 11th president of the ICC. Alan Isaac is the outgoing ICC President. (D)

**55)** Who among the following became the oldest player to play in a FIFA World Cup match at 43 years and 3 days in Brazil in June 2014?

- a) Fredy Guarín
- b) Carlos Bacca
- c) David Ospina
- d) Faryd Mondragón
- e) Juan Fernando Quintero

Colombia goalkeeper Faryd Mondragon became the oldest footballer ever to play in a World Cup, coming on in the last few minutes in a cameo appearance in the match played in Cuiaba on June 24, 2014. With his side leading 3-1 against Japan and virtually certain of their third straight victory in Group C, the veteran was introduced by coach Jose Pekerman in the 85th minute. At 43 years and three days old he surpassed the record of Cameroon's Roger Milla, who played in a World Cup at 42 years and 39 days. Meanwhile Germany's Miroslav Klose walked into the World Cup 'Hall of Fame' with record-equalling 15th goal bringing him at par with Ronaldo of Brazil. (D)

**56) Who among the following won the Formula 1 Austrian Grand Prix on June 22, 2014?**

- a) Mark Webber
- b) Jenson Button
- c) Nico Rosberg
- d) Sebastian Vettel
- e) Lewis Hamilton

Mercedes driver Nico Rosberg won the Austrian Grand Prix at Spielberg on June 22, 2014 followed by his teammate Lewis Hamilton in second position while Williams' driver Valtteri Bottas was in third place. Sergio Perez of Force India finished sixth. The season's eighth race saw Mercedes extend their lead in the constructors' standings to 301 points, with Red Bull trailing in a distant second place with 143 points. (C)

**57) Which among the following won the '2014 Global Economy Prize' of the Kiel Institute, Germany in June 2014?**

- a) Shikha Sharma
- b) Chanda Kochhar
- c) Chitra Ramakrishna
- d) Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw
- e) Arundhati Bhattacharya

Bangalore-based Biotech company Biocon on June 23 said its Chairperson and Managing Director Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw has been awarded the Kiel Institute's '2014 Global Economy Prize' for Business. She was honoured at the institute's 100th anniversary celebrations at Kiel in Germany. This year's winners are - Politics: Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, President of Liberia; Economic Sciences: Prof Richard H Thaler, the University of Chicago; Business: Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw. (D)

**58) Who among the following Indians is in the Forbes list of 'Heroes of Philanthropy in Asia Pacific' released in Singapore in June 2014?**

- a) Adi Godrej
- b) Ajay Piramal
- c) Naveen Jindal
- d) Harsh Goenka
- e) Gautam Adani

The Forbes list of 'Heroes of Philanthropy in Asia Pacific' was released in Singapore on June 27, 2014. Four Indians – Desh Bandhu Gupta of pharmaceutical company Lupin, Ashish Dhawan, founder of NGO Central Square Foundation, Rohini Nilekani, founder of NGO Arghyam and Ajay Piramal of Piramal Healthcare– have made it to the list. (B)