

## Answers

1) C

Global Himalayan Expedition (GHE) is the one of the world's first organizations using the force of tourism coupled with technology to bring solar energy to these remote communities, as recognized by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC) and the United Nations World Tourism Organisation (UNWTO).

GHE conducts "Impact Expeditions" to remote Himalayan villages and uses a portion of the expedition fee to fund the capital cost of the hardware, transportation, installation and training of village-scale solar micro-grids. The micro-grid infrastructure set up by GHE is owned and operated by the community.

Global Himalayan Expedition (GHE) is among the winners of the 2020 UN Global Climate Action Award for 'Financing for Climate Friendly Investment'.

2) A

The Flag Code of India, 2002 reads that the Flag shall not be used as a drapery in any form whatsoever except in State / Military / Central Paramilitary Forces funerals hereinafter provided. It also says that on the above occasions too, the flag shall be draped over the bier or coffin with the saffron towards the head of the bier or coffin.

The Flag shall not be lowered into the grave or burnt in the pyre. The flag can only be used during a funeral if it is accorded the status of a state funeral.

The state funerals are held when people below pass away. People from police and armed forces. People who are holding or have held office of President, Vice-President, Prime Minister, Cabinet Minister, Chief Minister.

The status of a state funeral can be accorded in case of death of people not belonging to the above-mentioned categories by state government.

Section 2 of Prevention of Insults to National Honour Act says that whoever insults the National Flag or the Indian Constitution shall be punished with imprisonment for a term which may extend to three years, or with fine, or with both.

**3) C**

Monetary policy refers to the actions of a central bank to influence a nation's money supply and economy. Monetary policy is used to influence the employment situation and to manage inflation.

Expansionary monetary policy is when a central bank uses its tools to stimulate the economy. That increases the money supply, lowers interest rates, and increases demand. As higher interest rates lower the money supply thereby decreasing the demand

**4) C**

Software Defined Radio is Radio in which some or all of the physical layer functions are Software Defined. In other words, the software is used to determine the specification of the radio and what it does. If the software within the radio is changed, its performance and function may change.

SDR is a radio communication system which uses software for the modulation and demodulation of radio signals. An SDR performs significant amounts of signal processing in a general-purpose computer, or a reconfigurable piece of digital electronics.

The SDR-Tactical, jointly designed and developed by Defence Electronics Applications Laboratory (DEAL) of Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) through a consortium of domestic agencies and industry, will bring strategic depth to the Armed Forces. The SDR-Tac is a four Channel Multi-mode, Multi Band, 19" Rack mountable, ship borne Software Defined Radio system. It is intended to serve ship-to-ship, ship-to-shore and ship-to-air voice and data communication for network centric operations.

It supports simultaneous operation of all the four channels covering V/UHF and L Band. This SDR system houses multiple types of waveforms for narrow band and wide band applications.

**5) A**

The 1st India-EU High Level Dialogue (HLD), co-chaired by the Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal and the European Union Executive Vice-President & Trade Commissioner Mr. Valdis Dombrovskis, was held on 5th February 2021.

Commitment to the establishment of this Dialogue was a major outcome of the 15th India-EU Leader's Summit held in July 2020, with an objective for a Ministerial level guidance towards the bilateral trade and investment relations.

The “India-EU Strategic Partnership: A Roadmap to 2025” was endorsed as a common roadmap to guide joint action and further strengthen the India-EU Strategic Partnership over the next five years at 15th India-European Union Summit on the 15th July 2020.

**6) A**

India has assisted Afghanistan in construction of Salma Dam, which is a hydroelectric and irrigation dam project located on the Hari River in Chishti Sharif District of Heart.

Recently India and Aghanistan have signed a Memorandum of Understanding [MoU] for the construction of the Lalandar [Shatoot] Dam in Afghanistan. The project is a part of the New Development Partnership between India and Afghanistan.

The Lalander [Shatoot] Dam would meet the safe drinking water needs of Kabul City, provide irrigation water to nearby areas, rehabilitate the existing irrigation and drainage network, aid in flood protection and management efforts in the area, and also provide electricity to the region.

**7) B**

Pong Dam Lake Wildlife Sanctuary is in the State of Himachal Pradesh. Migratory birds census was recently conducted in the sanctuary

The annual bird count has revealed that thousands of migratory birds died at the lake due to an outbreak of bird flu in late December. Bar Headed Geese is a flagship species of the sanctuary.

**8) B**

The River Alaknanda rises at the confluence and fed of Satopath and Bhagirathi Kharak glacier in Uttarakhand and meets the Sarasvati River tributary at Mana, India, 21 km from Tibet. Three km below Mana the Alaknanda flows past the Hindu pilgrimage centre of Badrinath.

There are many operational dams and HE projects in the Alaknanda basin namely Tapovan, Tharali, Vishnuprayag, Srinagar etc.

Various tributaries joining River Alaknanda are: Dhauliganga river at Vishnuprayag, Nandakini River at Nandaprayag, Pindar River at Karnaprayag, Mandakini River at Rudraprayag, and finally it meets Bhagirathi River at Devprayag.

**9) A**

NDEAR will be beneficial for both Centre and States in planning, administering and governing school education as well as to teachers, students and schools for having a seamless digital learning experience.

The institutional structure, governance framework, technology and data of NDEAR will benefit the entire student and teacher community.

#### **10) D**

The World Health Organization (WHO) in December 2020 listed the Comirnaty COVID-19 mRNA vaccine for emergency use, making the Pfizer/ BioNTech vaccine the first to receive emergency validation from WHO since the outbreak began a year ago.

The Comirnaty vaccine requires storage using an ultra-cold chain; it needs to be stored at -60°C to -90°C degrees. This requirement makes the vaccine more challenging to deploy in settings where ultra-cold chain equipment may not be available or reliably accessible.

The COVISHIELD and COVAXIN are the only vaccines that have received authorization from DCGI for emergency use in India.

It has been reported recently that Pfizer has withdrawn its emergency use application in India for want of local trials.

#### **11) B**

The Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is a global partnership that aims to promote the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring sustainable development.

CDRI is a multi-stakeholder global partnership of national governments, UN agencies and programs, multilateral development banks and financing mechanisms, the private sector, and academic and knowledge institutions. At present, it is not an intergovernmental organization, which is an ordinarily treaty-based organization.

The Prime Minister of India launched CDRI during his speech at the UN Climate Action Summit on 23 September 2019. The CDRI Secretariat is based in New Delhi, India.

#### **12) A**

Torres Strait is the passage between the Coral Sea, on the east, and the Arafura Sea, in the western Pacific Ocean. To the north lies New Guinea and to the south Queensland, Australia. It

is about 80 mi (130 km) wide and has many reefs and shoals dangerous to navigation, and its larger islands are inhabited.

**13) A**

The Government of India has launched a multi-ministerial program named as 'GOBARDHAN waste to wealth', under Phase II of the Swachh Bharat Mission Grameen (SBM-G).

The objective of the scheme is to increase rural income, rural jobs and to keep villages clean through solid waste management. The scheme is intended to manage and convert cattle dung and solid waste in farms to compost, bio-slurry, bio-gas and bio-CNG.

The program is being implemented by the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) in collaboration with the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, NDDB and other Ministries.

# Under the Gobar-dhan component, DDWS has included the small holder based Manure Management Model established by NDDB as one of the solid waste management models for implementation across the country wherein bio-degradable waste is envisaged to be managed through composting and bio-gas plants.

**14) D**

The 20th edition of The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI) flagship event, the World Sustainable Development Summit, will be held online from 10th-12th February, 2021.

**15) B**

CHIRAAG – Chhattisgarh Inclusive Rural and Accelerated Agriculture Growth Project will be implemented in the southern tribal-majority region of the state where a large population is undernourished and poor. The project will benefit over 180,000 households from about 1,000 villages in eight districts of Chhattisgarh.

The Government of India, the Government of Chhattisgarh and the World Bank recently signed a \$100 million project to develop sustainable production systems that allow tribal households in remote areas of Chhattisgarh to practice round-the-year production of diversified and nutritious food.

To make agriculture nutrition supportive, the project will implement a series of activities that are climate resilient and profitable. Investments will be made in water-harvesting structures

and irrigation facilities; integrated farming systems blending crops, fishery and livestock production; climate-smart production technologies and practices; developing value chains to ensure that surplus commodities reach profitable markets; and in making nutritious food available to tribal households.

**16) D**

COVID Vaccine Intelligence Network (CoWIN) platform has been developed by MoHFW for real time information of vaccine stocks, their storage temperature and individualized tracking of beneficiaries for COVID-19 vaccine.

This software will assist the program managers across all levels through automated session allocation for pre-registered beneficiaries, their verification and a digital certificate will be generated upon successful completion of the vaccine schedule.

**17) C**

Tehri Dam is a multi-purpose rock and earth-fill embankment dam on the Bhagirathi River near Tehri in Uttarakhand.

Khindsi Lake is a lake near the city of Ramtek in the Nagpur district, Maharashtra.

Irai/Erai Dam is an earthfill and gravity dam on Irai River near Chandrapur and Tadoba Andhari Tiger Project in state of Maharashtra.

**18) C**

Code on Occupational Safety, Health and Working Conditions, 2020 subsumes and replaces 13 labour laws relating to safety, health and working conditions. These laws include: Factories Act, 1948; Mines Act, 1952; Dock Workers Act, 1986; Contract Labour Act, 1970; and Inter-State Migrant Workers Act, 1979.

It empowers the state government to exempt any new factory from the provisions of the Code in order to create more economic activity and employment.

It provides for the establishment of a Social Security Fund for the welfare of unorganised workers. The amount collected from certain penalties under the Code (including the amount collected through compounding) will be credited to the Fund. The government may prescribe other sources as well for transferring money to the Fund.

19) B

20) A

