



## Fact Sheet Prep Series Part - 17

### ANSWER KEY WITH EXPLANATION

# CURRENT AFFAIRS

## (PART - III)

#### 1. Ans. c

**Related Information** - It is long-term monitoring project funded by Oracle and facilitated by CAF-India. It will focus on their conservation in the context of climate change with the help of community participation. The Himalayas hold a rich natural heritage with diverse flora and fauna enhancing the beauty of the region. Indian subcontinent is home to nearly 62 species of finches and 50 species of pheasants, with several species listed in 'Globally Threatened' category by IUCN. Both these groups are spread across the Himalayas.

#### 2 Ans. b

**Explan** - The first ever Investors' Summit for the north eastern states was held in Shillong, capital city of Meghalaya. The two-day summit aimed to showcase the region as a global destination for investments. It focussed on manufacturing in textiles and allied sectors of the region as it has huge potential for investments. The event provided platform for bringing in convergence of efforts of various central ministries and states in the region to attract investments. It was attended by all north eastern states, industries from the region and leading investors across the country

#### 3. Ans. a

**Explan** - The day is observed every year on January 30 in the memory of Mahatma Gandhi who attained martyrdom on this day in 1948, to remember his selfless efforts and care for the people affected with Leprosy. Leprosy is a chronic infectious disease caused by Mycobacterium leprae and it usually affects the skin and peripheral nerves. The mode of transmission of leprosy

is still not known. According to WHO, the disease had affected 2,12,000 people globally in 2015. India alone reported 1,27,326 new cases, accounting for 60% of new cases globally. India is among the 22 countries considered as having a "high burden for leprosy" along with high transmission. The other high-burden countries were Brazil and Indonesia.

#### 4. Ans. c

**Explan** - The new ambassadorship will open a new Danish diplomatic line to the United States beyond Washington for tech diplomacy to build ties with some of the world's top tech companies, including Apple, Google, and Microsoft. It may also pave way to lobby digital businesses to invest in Denmark.

#### 5. Ans. b

**Explan** - In the final match, he defeated Spain's Rafael Nadal by 6-4, 3-6, 6-1, 3-6 and 6-3 score. It was his 5th Australian Open title and overall 18th Grand slam title. It was 6-3 head to head record in Grand Slam summit clash between Rafael Nadal and Roger Federer. With this victory, Roger Federer became the only male tennis player who had won five or more titles at in three of the four. He has won 5 Australian Open titles, 7 Wimbledon titles, 5 US Open titles and 1 French Open title.

#### 6. Ans. a

**Explan** - GAAR will not apply on foreign portfolio investor if its jurisdiction is based on non-tax commercial considerations and the main purpose is not to obtain tax benefits. GAAR will not be applicable on compulsorily convertible instruments, bonus issuances or split/consolidation of holdings in respect of investments made



prior to 1 April 2017 in the hands of the same investor. In order to prevent misuse of GAAR provisions by the IT department, adequate safeguards also have been put in place based on which GAAR will be invoked. The proposal to apply GAAR first will be vetted by an officer at the level of the principal commissioner or commissioner of income tax and at the second stage by an approving panel headed by a high court judge.

**7. Ans. b**

**Explan** - TROPEX 17 exercise is aimed at testing combat readiness of the combined fleets of the Indian Navy, and the assets of the Indian Army, Indian Air Force and Indian Coast Guard. It seeks to strengthen inter-operability and joint operations in a complex environment. It assumes special significance in the backdrop of the current security scenario.

**8. Ans. b**

**Explan** - Agni-I is intermediate range nuclear capable surface-to-surface ballistic missile. It is first missile of the Agni series launched in 1983. It was developed by a premier missile development laboratory of DRDO in collaboration with Defence Research Development Laboratory and Research Centre Imarat and integrated by Bharat Dynamics Limited, Hyderabad. The missile already has been inducted into armed forces. It is also claimed to be a part of the India's minimum credible deterrence under No first to use policy.

**9. Ans. a**

**Explan** - António Costa, the Indian origin Prime Minister of Portugal was the chief guest at the 14th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention. The PBD Convention was scheduled to be held from January 7 to 9, 2017 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. Besides, Surinam Vice president Michael Ashwin Satyandre Adhin was to be the Special Guest at the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) to be held in Bengaluru on January 7, 2017.

**10. Ans. c**

**Explan** - India's longest expressway connecting Agra and Lucknow was inaugurated by Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Akhilesh Yadav at Bangarmau in Unnao district of UP. It has been built by the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) in a record time of 23 months. The Agra-Lucknow Expressway is six-lane greenfield expressway having total length of 302-km. It has a design speed of up to 120 kms per hour. It starts from Agra and passes through Firozabad, Mainpuri, Etawah, Auraiya, Kannauj, Hardoi, Unnao, Kanpur to reach Lucknow. It passes through four National Highways, two state highways and five rivers such as Ganga, Yamuna, Sai, Isan, and Kalyani.

**11. Ans. c**

**Extra Information** - It is capable of carrying 500 kg to 1000 kg of conventional as well as nuclear warheads. It is single-stage liquid-fuelled. It has been already inducted

into India's armed forces in 2003.

**12. Ans. d**

**Explan** - Thailand's Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn was presented with the first 'World Sanskrit Award' for her exemplary contribution for the promotion of the language for the year 2015. Besides, American linguist and Indologist Prof. George Cardona were also presented with this award for the year 2016. They were bestowed with the award by Vice President Hamid Ansari at a function held in New Delhi.

**13. Ans. a**

**Explan** - China has launched world's longest super-secure quantum communication line connecting Hefei, capital of Anhui province to Shanghai, the country's financial hub. The 712-km line is part of a 2,000-km Beijing-Shanghai quantum communication.

**14. Ans. c**

**Extra Information** - It will enable the space-to-Earth highly secure hack-proof quantum communication network. Quantum communication uses subatomic particles to securely communicate between two points. These subatomic particles are mainly quantum entanglement of photons.

**15. Ans. c**

**Explan** - TAMRA stands for "Transparency, Auction Monitoring and Resource Augmentation". The Union Minister of State (IC) for Power, Coal, New & Renewable Energy and Mines, Piyush Goyal has recently launched TAMRA mobile application and portal to ensure transparent award of statutory clearances for mining operations. The portal covers block-wise, state-wise and mineral-wise information of the blocks to be auctioned, monitors various statutory clearances, and also highlights the additional resources generated through e-Auction.

**16. Ans. a**

**Explan** - The All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) of Delhi has won the first prize and a cash reward of Rs. 5 crore for maintaining high standards of sanitation and hygiene under the Government of India (GoI)'s Kayakalp awards 2016-17. AIIMS was followed by North Eastern Indira Gandhi Regional Institute of Health and Medical Sciences (NEIGRIHMS) and Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research (PGIMER), Chandigarh. The thrust of Kayakalp is to inculcate culture of cleanliness for gaining the trust and confidence of community in these facilities.

**17. Ans. c**

**Explan** - The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has opened South Asia Training and Technical Assistance Center (SARTTAC) in New Delhi for economic capacity building in South Asia. The center is a collaborative venture between the IMF, the member countries (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Maldives, Nepal, and Sri



Lanka) and development partners. The SARTTAC is IMF's first fully-integrated capacity development center, which has strategic goal to help its member countries strengthen their institutional and human capacity to design and implement macroeconomic and financial policies that promote growth and reduce poverty.

18. Ans. a

**Explan** - It is NASA and not ISRO which has successfully launched constellation of eight mini-satellites as part Cyclone Global Navigation Satellite System (CYGNSS) into space to improve hurricane forecasting. Unlike weather satellites already in orbit, these satellites can peer through rain swirling in a hurricane, all the way into the core or eye.

19. Ans. c

**Extra Information** - It is located about 200 kms north of the Arctic Circle in Sweden. The Arctic ground station is built and run by Chinese Academy of Sciences. It will allow China to collect satellite data anywhere on Earth at speeds that were more than twice as fast as before. It has download speed of 6 Gigabits (billions of bits) per second, fastest in the world. It will also play an important role in China's Gaofen project, a network of observation satellites orbiting Earth to provide global surveillance capabilities which is due to be completed in 2020

20. Ans. c

**Extra Information** - Rio de Janeiro has been accorded this status in recognition of its extraordinary fusion of man-made and natural beauty, soaring granite cliffs, urban rainforest and beaches. It also had hosted 2014 football World Cup and 2016 Summer Olympics

21. Ans. b

**Related Information** - Mahila Police Volunteer is a joint initiative of Union Ministry of Women & Child Development and the Union Ministry of Home Affairs. MPV initiative is a voluntary service under which Mahila Police Volunteers (Gram Sakhi) will be inducted. It aims to bridge gap between Police and Civil society for safety of women. Under it, one MPV is envisaged per Gram Panchayat across the country to provide a link between police and community and facilitate women in distress.

22. Ans. c

**Extra Information** - It discussed several important topics in fields of technology, innovation, health, pharma sector, clean technology, renewable energy, food security, education, skills development and tourism sector.

23. Ans. c

**Explan** - The seventh edition of India, Maldives bilateral EKUVERIN Exercise 2016 began at Kadhdhoo, Laamu

Atoll, Maldives. The aim of 14 day platoon level joint military exercise is to conduct military training between armies of both countries with emphasis on amphibious & counter insurgency, counter terrorism operations.

24. Ans. d

**Extra Information** - Kyrgyzstan is a part of CIS (Commonwealth of Independent States) countries. It is bordered by countries like Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan. India and Kyrgyzstan enjoys strong diplomatic and long economic relationship.

25. Ans. a

26. Ans. b

**Extra Information** - Former Portuguese Prime Minister Antonio Guterres (67) was sworn in as the 9th UN Secretary-General. He was administered the Oath of Office by Peter Thomson, President of UN General Assembly at special plenary meeting. He succeeds Ban Ki-moon and shall have five-year term beginning January 1, 2017. Antonio Guterres was unanimously appointed by the UN General Assembly after the 15-nation UN Security Council had approved him in October 2016.

27. Ans. b

**Explan** - Punjab Government has launched country's first amphibious bus project at the Harike wetland near Amritsar. The first of its kind amphibious bus in India was imported from Swedish automobile company Scania.

28. Ans. a

**Explan** - The objective of the project is to improve health services and also their utilization by communities in targeted locations in Nagaland. The project will directly benefit about 600,000 people in targeted locations at the community and health facility level. It will support and complement existing systems and mechanisms involving communities under the National Health Mission.

29. Ans. c

**Extra Information** - It is banned in over 80 nations due to its 'high toxicity. It is sprayed as pesticide on crops like cotton, fruits, tea, paddy, cashew, tobacco etc. for control of pests in agriculture such as whiteflies, aphids, beetles, worms etc. In case of humans it causes delayed reproductive development, autism, bio-accumulation, endocrine disruption (stunting of hormones), long-range contamination, neurotoxicity, long-range contamination and sensory loss. It blocks the inhibitory receptors of the Central Nervous System, disrupts the ionic channels and destroys the integrity of the nerve cells. The spraying of endsosulfan also destroys biodiversity of the area.

30. Ans. c



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31. Ans. a

32. Ans. c

**Explan** - India's first hill station bicycle path was inaugurated in Darjeeling, West Bengal at an altitude of over 2,000 metres. The 20 km long cycle route runs through thick pine forest and Senchal wildlife sanctuary, one of India's oldest nature reserves. The route starts from near Jorebunglow, south of Darjeeling and ends at a small local First Hill Station Bicycle Patheco-village resort in Chatakpur.

33. Ans. b

**Explan** - The system will be based on the older Barak system of Israel, which is in use in India. It will be manufactured in India and will have an 80% indigenous content. India and Israel are also in an advanced stage of negotiations for the purchase of two more long-range Phalcon AWACS.

34. Ans. c

**Extra Information** - These exoplanets are orbiting dwarf star named Trappist-1, which at 39 light years away. They could have some liquid water and maybe supporting life.

35. Ans. c

**Explan** - The Union Government has launched Bharat QR code, a quick response (QR) code to enable digital payments without card swiping machines. It works as common interface for the MasterCard/Visa/RuPay platforms and also facilitate acceptance of Aadhaar-enabled payments and Unified Payments Interface (UPI). It enables person to make payments to retailers without using the merchant's ID or number. It eliminated need of using card swiping machines making digital payments.

36. Ans. d

**Extra Information** - Besides, minister also launched some cyber security tools. They are USB Pratirodh: It is a desktop security solution to protect from USB mass storage device threats. AppSamvid: It is a desktop solution to protect systems by allowing installation of genuine applications through white listing. It helps in preventing threats from malicious applications. M-Kavach: It is an indigenously developed mobile application to address the security threats in mobiles.

37. Ans. a

**Explan** - The Resource Kit has been developed by United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Population Foundation of India (PFI). The kit comprises (i) Activity Book, (ii) Bhranti-Kranti Game (iii) Question-Answer Book and (iv) Peer Educator Diary. It has been designed to present the Peer Educators with key information on adolescent health, which would then enable them to communicate the same and help the adolescents at the

grass root/village level'. In addition, the mobile app 'Saathiya Salah' acts as cost-effective information platform for the adolescents. It also has feature of toll-free Saathiya Helpline which will act as an e-counselor.

38. Ans. b

**Explan** - The World Day of Social Justice is observed every year on February 20 to recognize the need to promote efforts to tackle issues such as poverty, exclusion and unemployment. To mark this occasion, UN and International Labour Office had organised several organisations to spread importance of social justice for people.

39. Ans. c

**Extra Information** - Earlier, graphene was produced in a highly-controlled environment with explosive compressed gases that required long hours of operation at high temperatures and extensive vacuum processing. This production process was costly and was major roadblock in its commercialisation. Graphene is a carbon material that is one atom thick. It is the world's strongest and lightest known material derived from carbon.

40. Ans. a

**Explan** - India's vaccine regulatory body NRAI (National Regulatory Authority of India) was given the maximum ratings by the World Health Organisation (WHO) for vaccine regulations. The assessment was done in respect of 9 different functionalities by a WHO team comprising lead experts in different areas from WHO Headquarters Geneva, WHO India Country Office, experts from several countries. Based on it, NRAI was declared functional with a maturity level of 4 which is highest level as per currently evolved definitions in respect of 5 functions, and maturity level 3 in respect of 4 functions.

41. Ans. c

**Extra Information** - The International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) is an international organisation which conducts agricultural research for rural development, headquartered in Patancheru (Hyderabad, Telangana, India) with several regional centers. It was founded in 1972 by a consortium of organisations convened by the Ford and the Rockefeller foundations. Its charter was signed by the FAO and the UNDP. Since its inception, host country India has granted a special status to ICRISAT as a UN Organization operating in the Indian Territory making it eligible for special immunities and tax privileges.

42. Ans. d

**Related Information** - In India, women made up 11.8% of the Lok Sabha where 64 were elected to the 542-member house and 11% of the Rajya Sabha with 27 of the 245 members. India ranked 88 in the number of women Ministers with five or 18.5% in the cabinet.



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Rwanda ranked first in the number of women parliamentarians with 61.3% in the lower house, followed by Bolivia with 53.1% and Cuba 48.9%. In South Asia, Nepal ranked 48 with 29.6% of the lower house seats held by women; Pakistan ranked 89 with 20.6% (but with no Ministers); Bangladesh was 91st with 20.3%, and Sri Lanka lagged at 179th place with 5.8%. Bulgaria, France and Nicaragua tied for the first rank for the number of women ministers with 52.9% each.

**43. Ans. b**

**Explan** - In India, air quality parameters are mostly measured in industrial and residential areas, however, data for air quality of pristine atmosphere is not available in India. NPL's station will contribute to fill this important gap. The data generated by pristine station at Palampur will act as background data for the measured pollution at various cities in the country. The NPL's station will also serve as a base station for inter-comparison of air quality monitoring equipment being used in India to improve quality of monitored data in India.

**44. Ans. b**

**Explan** - Central Railway zone of Indian Railway has unveiled India's first air-conditioned rail ambulance. The four-coach AC ambulance will be stationed at Kaylan (Maharashtra). It is modified version of AC coaches used for passenger services. This rail ambulance can carry and treat 50 patients at one time. It also has in house operation theatre to carry out minor surgeries and provide immediate relief. It will be mainly used during train accidents as it can carry accident victims to hospital in a short time. However, in normal times, it will be used for providing medical facilities in large congregations.

**45. Ans. c**

**46. Ans. b**

**Explan** - Iran successfully tested a ballistic missile Hormuz-2. Hormuz-2 is a naval strike ballistic missile intended to hit moving targets at sea with high precision. It has a range of nearly 300 kilometers. It is similar in appearance to the anti-ship Khalij-e-Fars (Persian Gulf) ballistic missile. Earlier, Iran successfully tested the S-300 surface-to-air missile defence system purchased from Russia.

**47. Ans. a**

**Explan** - International Cricket Council (ICC) has appointed Indian cricketer Sachin Tendulkar as the official ambassador of Women's Cricket World Cup 2017. The tournament will host 28 matches at five different venues with the final at Lord's Stadium.

**48. Ans. d**

**Related Information** - Customer can use this service by first linking his bank account to the Aadhaar number. To make a payment, customer just has to select the bank's name and enter the Aadhaar number. The fingerprint will serve as the password to authenticate the transaction.

**49. Ans. b**

**Explan** - The 13th edition of Economic Co-operation Organisation (ECO) summit was held in Islamabad, Pakistan. The purpose of the summit is to increase cooperation in areas such as trade, tourism, energy, economic growth and productivity. The ECO is a Eurasian political and economic intergovernmental organization formed in 1985 by Pakistan, Iran and Turkey. It now also includes Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Azerbaijan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan.

**50. Ans. c**

**Extra Information** - It can assimilate knowledge from thousands of sources and provide answers in simple language in less than 0.4 seconds. Since its launch Eva has answered over 1 lakh queries from thousands of customers from 17 countries across the world. The system becomes smarter as it learns through its customer interactions.

**Director : Ms. Akhtar J. Khan**

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