

Current Affairs and General Knowledge

Starting in April 2020, China amassed a large number of troops and armaments along the disputed Line of Actual Control (LAC) in eastern Ladakh and other areas along the LAC, leading to stand-offs and skirmishes at certain points. The People's Liberation Army (PLA) moved into Indian territory and built fortified structures and defences, changing the status quo on the ground. While there are differences in perception on the alignment of the LAC, over the years both sides concluded a series of agreements to maintain peace and tranquillity on the border, while talks continued to resolve the dispute. Since then, several friction points emerged in eastern Ladakh and both sides initiated diplomatic and military talks aimed at disengagement and de-escalation, with India pushing for the restoration of status quo ante of pre-April. India and China earlier reached an understanding for phased disengagement from all friction points followed by de-escalation from the depth areas along the LAC.

29. Violent clashes between Indian and Chinese army which resulted in death of around 20 Indian soldiers and an unknown number of Chinese soldiers occurred on
- (A) May 5, 2020
 - (B) June 11-12, 2020
 - (C) June 15-16, 2020
 - (D) July 13, 2020

CORRECT OPTION: C

30. Where did the violent clashes between Indian and Chinese soldiers occur which caused casualties on both sides?
- (A) Naku La
 - (B) Dhan Singh Thapa post
 - (C) Galwan Valley
 - (D) Siachin

CORRECT OPTION: C

31. The violent incident leading to death of soldiers took place at
- (A) Patrol Point 13
 - (B) Patrol Point 14
 - (C) Patrol Point 15
 - (D) Patrol Point 16

CORRECT OPTION: B

32. The length of Line of Actual Control of Indo-China Border is

- (A) 2788 km
- (B) 3213 km
- (C) 3317 km
- (D) 3488 km

CORRECT OPTION: D

33. Which of the following was resolved by way of an agreement between India and China in February 2021?

- (A) Chinese side will move back its troops to east of finger 8 and Indian side will move its troops to its permanent base near finger 3.
- (B) Both sides shall demolish structures built after April 2020.
- (C) Moratorium on patrolling in the affected area.
- (D) All of these.

CORRECT OPTION: D

As soon as the coronavirus hit the world, India emphasised the imperative of collaboration to overcome the inimical health and economic impact of the virus. It was with this objective that the Indian government organised a virtual meeting of SAARC leaders on March 15, 2020. In the initial months of the pandemic, India, by virtue of the fact that it is the 'pharmacy of the world', ramped up production of essential medicines like hydroxychloroquine, paracetamol etc. as well as Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) kits, ventilators and masks. In the rapidly evolving global geo-political landscape, the healing and supportive actions by India through supply of Covishield and Covaxin vaccines will have a huge impact in promoting peace, security, cooperation and prosperity in the region and the world. This is all the more commendable when there are only few countries in the world who have thus far been able to successfully manufacture COVID-19 vaccines.

34. The Minister of Health and Family Welfare is

- (A) Shri Mansukh Mandaviya
- (B) Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- (C) Shri Ashwini Kumar Choubey
- (D) Shri Rajnath Singh

CORRECT OPTION: A

35. What is the amount that India has created to contribute in SAARC COVID-19 Emergency Fund?

- (A) \$20 million
- (B) \$10 million
- (C) \$15 million
- (D) \$17 million

CORRECT OPTION: B

36. Which of the following countries were the first to receive supplies of vaccines from India?

- (A) Nepal and Bangladesh
- (B) Bhutan and Myanmar
- (C) Bangladesh and Bhutan
- (D) Bhutan and Maldives

CORRECT OPTION: D

37. Under which of the following initiatives has the Government of India decided to supply vaccines to the foreign countries?
- (A) Vaccine Ujala
 - (B) Vaccine Dosti
 - (C) Vaccine Maitri
 - (D) Vaccine Rishta

CORRECT OPTION: C

38. COVAXIN, India's indigenous COVID-19 vaccine is developed by_____
- (A) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in partnership with Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL)
 - (B) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
 - (C) Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL)
 - (D) Serum Institute of India

CORRECT OPTION: A

There is really nothing new, not already anticipated in a distressed planet since the emergence of human species life nearly two million years ago. So, a long prehistory of inter-faith dialogue entailing the reciprocal relation between religious traditions and the robustness of the very idea of being human and having rights, precedes the recent UN movement of faith for rights (F4R). The F4R framework has finally been affirmed by the United Nations system. The Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OCHR) promoted the Rabat plan of action in 2012. Note that this happened after the end of the Cold War, during globalisation, and soon after 9/11. The plan was a result of a series of expert workshops on the prohibition of incitement to national, racial or religious hatred, underlying "legislative patterns, judicial practices and policies". The UN Human Rights Council is shortly going to discuss further the prohibition of the advocacy of national, racial or religious hatred that constitutes incitement to "discrimination, hostility or violence".

39. When was the first human rights declaration adopted by the United Nations?
- (A) December 10, 1945
 - (B) September 10, 1945
 - (C) December 10, 1948
 - (D) September 10, 1948

CORRECT OPTION: C

40. The United Nations Human Rights Council is a/an _____body within the United Nations System.
- (A) Inter-governmental
 - (B) Non-governmental
 - (C) Quasi-governmental
 - (D) Multi-stakeholder

CORRECT OPTION: A

41. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) and its two Optional Protocols have been adopted under the auspices of the United Nations and are collectively referred to as _____
- (A) Magna Carta Libertatum.
 - (B) International Bill of Human Rights.
 - (C) International Charter of the Rights of the Man and the Citizen.
 - (D) International Charter of Human Rights.

CORRECT OPTION: B

42. The objective of the 'Faith for Rights' (F4R) is to provide space for a cross -disciplinary reflection and action on the deep, and mutually enriching, connections between religions and human rights. Which of the following is not one of the commitments on Faith for Rights (F4R)?
- (A) To prevent the use of the notion of 'State religion' to discriminate against any individual or group.
 - (B) To revisit religious interpretations that appear to perpetuate gender inequality and harmful stereotypes or even condone gender-based violence.
 - (C) To refine the curriculums, teaching materials and textbooks to rectify harmful stereotypes.
 - (D) To promote religious dogmatism.

CORRECT OPTION: D

43. In India, which of the following statutory organisations is responsible for the protection and promotion of human rights?
- (A) National Human Rights Council.
 - (B) National Human Rights Commission.
 - (C) National Human Rights Organisation.
 - (D) Indian Human Rights Council.

CORRECT OPTION: B

UNESCO New Delhi, along with the National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and other partners, organised a hybrid event with school children and teachers to celebrate 'World Water Day 2021'. The event included felicitating the winners of a water conservation awareness programme, and screening of their winning animation short films, according to an official release. UNESCO launched this nation-wide programme for school children in India, in partnership with the National Mission for Clean Ganga, the United Schools Organization (USO), Water Digest and India based global animation major Toonz Media Group. Entitled 'H2Ooooh!-Waterwise program for children of India', this innovative initiative encouraged school students between the age of 6-14 years to submit story ideas for animated short films to raise awareness on water conservation and its sustainable use.

44. World Water Day is observed on
- (A) April 20
 - (B) April 21
 - (C) March 22
 - (D) May 20

CORRECT OPTION: C

45. The theme of World Water Day 2021 was

- (A) Valuing Water
- (B) Conserving Water
- (C) Saving Water
- (D) Drinking Water

CORRECT OPTION: A

46. On the occasion of World Water Day 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched a campaign named

- (A) Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Purify the Rivers.
- (B) Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch the Rain.
- (C) Jal Shakti Abhiyan: No More Water Woes.
- (D) Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Become Water Wise.

CORRECT OPTION: B

47. The National Water Mission (NWM) has been constituted under the National Action Plan for Climate Change (NAPCC) launched by the Prime Minister of India in 2009. Which of the following is not a goal of the NWM?

- (A) Comprehensive water data base in public domain and assessment of the impact of climate change on water resource.
- (B) Promotion of citizen and state actions for water conservation, augmentation and preservation.
- (C) Comprehensive water data base in public domain and assessment of the impact of water resource on climate change.
- (D) Increasing water use efficiency by 20%.

CORRECT OPTION: C

48. In 2019, the Ministry of Jal Shakti was formed after merging the Ministry of Drinking Water and Sanitation and the Ministry of _____

- (A) Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- (B) Ports, Shipping and Waterways.
- (C) Water Conservation and Ganga Rejuvenation.
- (D) Inland Waterways and Ganga Rejuvenation.

CORRECT OPTION: A

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, during his visit to Bangladesh, congratulated the neighbouring country for its 50th year of Independence and said that he too had gone to jail while protesting for Bangladesh's liberation. "I was about 20-22 years old when along with some friends I had protested in favour of Bangladesh during its struggle. I even went to jail. Pakistan's atrocities in Bangladesh are well known...the pictures didn't allow me to sleep," PM Modi said. He also paid respect to the Indian Army who fought for the freedom of Bangladesh and also paid respect to Bangladesh's Father of the Nation, 'Bangabandhu' Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and conferred upon him the Gandhi Peace Prize 2020. "I pay my respects to Bangabandhu. He gave his life for the people of Bangladesh. Bangabandhu Mujibur Rehman was a ray of hope. He made sure that no country could enslave Bangladesh.", PM Modi said.

49. The Gandhi Peace Prize is awarded for

- (A) Non-cooperation against social injustice.
- (B) Humanitarian leadership.
- (C) Social and economic development in villages.
- (D) Social, economic and political transformation through non-violence.

CORRECT OPTION: D

50. The Gandhi Peace Prize was awarded for the first time in the year 1995 to

- (A) Dr. Julius K. Nyerere, former President of Tanzania.
- (B) Archbishop Desmond Tutu, South Africa.
- (C) Dr. John Hume, Ireland.
- (D) Baba Amte (Murlidhar Devidas Amte), India.

CORRECT OPTION: A

51. Which of the following Indian organisations was awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize in 2014?

- (A) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- (B) Bhabha Atomic Research Center (BARC).
- (C) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).
- (D) Radha Soami Satsang Beas (RSSB).

CORRECT OPTION: C

52. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman served as the first _____ of Bangladesh.

- (A) Prime Minister
- (B) President
- (C) Home Minister
- (D) Defence Minister

CORRECT OPTION: B

53. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was assassinated on _____

- (A) August 15, 1960
- (B) November 15, 1975
- (C) August 15, 1975
- (D) November 15, 1960

CORRECT OPTION: C

The search for efficient trade routes and better connectivity has been one of the powerful driving forces of history. It has determined the prospects of many nations, regions and civilizations over time. Today, as the world goes through a fundamental re-balancing, correcting many of the distortions of the past, it is only natural that connectivity should be central to that exercise. Growth in trade, commerce, industrial development and technological advancement has gone hand in hand with ease of connecting. Maritime connectivity, in particular, has played a significant role in creating regional corridors for trade and economic linkages, as indeed for cultural and intellectual exchanges over the centuries. The shift in the fulcrum of global economic growth towards Asia is creating unprecedented opportunities for connectivity in the region. The Government of India, recognising the importance of regional connectivity, made a landmark decision to undertake an overseas port investment in Chabahar.

54. The Chabahar Day was commemorated by the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways in which of the following Summit?

- (A) India Water Impact Summit
- (B) Sustainable Ocean Summit
- (C) World Ocean Summit
- (D) Maritime India Summit

CORRECT OPTION: D

55. Which of the following is correct about the Chabahar Port?

- (A) It is located in south east of Iran in Oman sea.
- (B) It has marine border of more than 300 km.
- (C) Both (A) and (B).
- (D) None of the above.

CORRECT OPTION: C

56. Which of the following statements relate to the Chabahar Port and its impact?

- (A) It is a transit hub to support landlocked countries of Central Asia.
- (B) It will play an important role in international North-South transit Corridor (INSTC).
- (C) It will optimize the logistic cost by bringing in efficiency, and creating a reliable and safe transport corridor.
- (D) All of the above.

CORRECT OPTION: D

57. The Chabahar Port is a result of trilateral agreement between which of the following countries?

- (A) India-Iran-Afghanistan
- (B) India-Iran-Iraq
- (C) Iran-Iraq-Afghanistan
- (D) India-Qatar-Pakistan

CORRECT OPTION: A

58. Which is the Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) incorporated for the development and management of Shahid Behesti Port of Chabahar?

- (A) The Indian Port Rail Corporation
- (B) Western Shipbuilding Private Limited
- (C) India Ports Global Limited
- (D) Karaikal Port Private Limited

CORRECT OPTION: C

India has added Tso Kar Wetland Complex in Ladakh as its 42nd Ramsar site, which is a second one in the Union Territory (UT) of Ladakh. Expressing happiness, Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Prakash Javadekar shared this information in a tweet message. The Tso Kar Basin is a high-altitude wetland complex, consisting of two principal waterbodies, Startsapuk Tso, a freshwater lake of about 438 hectares to the south, and Tso Kar itself, a hypersaline lake of 1800 hectares to the north, situated in the Changthang region of Ladakh, India. It is called Tso Kar, meaning white lake, because of the white salt efflorescence found on the margins due to the evaporation of highly saline water. The Tso Kar Basin is an A1 Category Important Bird Area (IBA) as per Bird Life International and a key staging site in the Central Asian Flyway. The site is also one of the most important breeding areas of the Black-necked Crane (*Grus nigricollis*) in India. This IBA is also the major breeding area for Great Crested Grebe (*Podiceps cristatus*), Bar-headed Geese (*Anser indicus*), Ruddy Shelduck (*Tadorna ferruginea*), Brown-headed Gull (*Larus brunnicephalus*), Lesser Sand-Plover (*Charadrius mongolus*) and many other species.

59. Which of the following sites in India is not included in the Ramsar Wetland List?

- (A) Asan Conservation Reserve, Uttarakhand
- (B) Dal Lake, Jammu and Kashmir
- (C) Kabartal Wetland, Bihar
- (D) Lonar Lake, Maharashtra

CORRECT OPTION: B

60. The World Wetlands Day is celebrated on

- (A) February 15
- (B) February 6
- (C) February 2
- (D) February 28

CORRECT OPTION: C

61. The theme for World Wetlands Day 2021 was

- (A) Wetlands and Climate Change
- (B) Wetlands and Water
- (C) Wetlands and Biodiversity
- (D) Wetlands for our Future: Sustainable Livelihoods

CORRECT OPTION: B

62. The World's largest mangrove forest is located in

- (A) Sundarban Mangrove
- (B) Pichavaram Mangrove
- (C) Florida Mangrove
- (D) Godavari-Krishna Mangroves

CORRECT OPTION: A

63. On the occasion of the World Wetland Day, 2021 and as a part of commitment towards conservation, restoration and management of India's wetlands, establishment of a centre was announced by the name of

- (A) Centre for Wetland and Coastal Management
- (B) Centre for Wildlife Conservation and Management
- (C) Centre for Wildlife Management
- (D) Centre for Wetland Conservation and Management

CORRECT OPTION: D