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1. **PM Jan Arogya Yojana was launched in line with which Sustainable Development Goal (SDG)?**

- [A] SDG 1
- [B] SDG 3
- [C] SDG 5
- [D] SDG 10

**Correct Answer: B [SDG 3]**

**Notes:**

Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 3 states “Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages”.

The Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana is a key component of Ayushman Bharat Yojna and was launched in 2018. Being the largest health scheme in the world, it aims to provide a health cover of ₹ 5 lakh per family per year to over 10.74 crore poor and vulnerable families. April 30 is celebrated as Ayushman Bharat Diwas.

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2. **Which business major has decided to buy online grocer Big Basket, and has approved CCI's approval?**

- [A] Reliance Industries
- [B] Adani Group
- [C] Tata Group
- [D] Aditya Birla Group

**Correct Answer: C [Tata Group]**

**Notes:**

Tata Group has proposed to purchase online grocer Big Basket and it has received the approval from Competition Commission of India for the acquisition.

Tata Group's digital arm Tata Digital Ltd would acquire Big Basket for a value of Rs.9,500 crore, which is 64.3% of the total share capital of Big Basket.

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3. **As per the recent guidelines of the RBI, what is the tenure for which the financial entities must appoint Statutory Auditors?**

- [A] One year
- [B] Two years
- [C] Three years
- [D] Five years

**Correct Answer: C [Three years]**

**Notes:**

The Reserve Bank of India issued guidelines for appointment of statutory auditors of Commercial Banks (excluding RRBs), UCBs and NBFCs (including HFCs).

Banks and UCBs will be required to take prior approval of RBI for appointment/reappointment of SCAs/SAs, on an annual basis. Entities will have to appoint

the SCAs/SAs for a continuous period of three years, subject to their satisfying the eligibility norms. This will protect the independence of the auditors.

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**4. Ashleigh Barty, who won the Porsche Tennis Grand Prix 2021, belongs to which country?**

- [A] USA
- [B] Canada
- [C] Spain
- [D] Australia

**Correct Answer: D [Australia]**

**Notes:**

Australian ace tennis player Ashleigh Barty has won the single title of Porsche Tennis Grand Prix 2021 held at Stuttgart (Germany).

She became the first Australian to win the tournament's singles title. She has also won the doubles title immediately after the singles tournament, together with Jennifer Brady of USA.

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**5. Operation Samudra Setu-II has been launched by .....?**

- [A] All India Institute of Medical Science
- [B] IIT Bombay
- [C] Indian Navy
- [D] INOX Air Products Ltd

**Correct Answer: C [Indian Navy]**

**Notes:**

The Indian Navy has launched the Operation Samudra Setu-II, under which Indian Naval warships would ship liquid oxygen filled cryogenic containers from foreign nations.

As a part of the operation, two naval ships INS Kolkata and INS Talwar have been deployed to bring oxygen from Bahrain to Mumbai.

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**6. World Tuna Day is observed on May 2 every year. Which SDG calls for sustainable use of Oceans and marine resources?**

- [A] SDG 7
- [B] SDG 9
- [C] SDG 11
- [D] SDG 14

**Correct Answer: D [SDG 14]**

**Notes:**

Tuna and tuna-like species is a significant source of food, due to their nutritional properties, in both developed and developing countries.

Their meat is rich in Omega-3 and it also contains minerals, proteins, and vitamin B12. In 2016, the United Nations General Assembly declared to officially observe World Tuna Day on May 2 every year. Sustainable Development Goal 14 aims to conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources – applies to the global tuna market.

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**7. Who has been appointed as the Acting Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)?**

- [A] S A Bobde
- [B] A K Sikri
- [C] P K Mishra
- [D] P C Pant

**Correct Answer: D [P C Pant]**

**Notes:**

Justice (retired) Prafulla Chandra Pant, who is a member of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), has been appointed its Acting Chairperson with effect from April 25 2021.

Prior to his appointment as NHRC member, he was a Judge of the Supreme Court from 2014 to 2017. He had also held the position of Chief Justice of the High Court of Meghalaya from 2013 to 2014.

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**8. What is the name of the operation launched by the Indian Armed Force, to tackle Covid-19 pandemic?**

- [A] Operation Bharat
- [B] Operation AatmaNirbhar
- [C] Operation CO-JEET
- [D] Operation CO-WIN

**Correct Answer: C [Operation CO-JEET]**

**Notes:**

The Indian armed forces have launched operation “CO-JEET” to support anti-COVID-19 efforts of the country.

It aims to strengthen medical infrastructure and oxygen supply chains and to ensure mental wellbeing of people. The personnel of the Army, the Air Force and the Navy have been engaged to help restore oxygen supply chains, set up COVID beds and provide help to the administration.

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**9. Which body is implementing the ‘Believe in Sports’ campaign?**

- [A] NADA
- [B] WADA

- [C] IOC
- [D] SAI

**Correct Answer: C [IOC]**

**Notes:**

World champion and Olympic silver medallist PV Sindhu and Canada's Michelle Li have been nominated as athlete ambassadors for International Olympic Committee's 'Believe in Sports' campaign.

This duo has also been the global ambassadors for Badminton World Federation's 'i am badminton' campaign.

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**10. The first supply of UCO-based Biodiesel blended Diesel was flagged off recently. What is UCO?**

- [A] Unused Cooking Oil
- [B] Used Cooking Oil
- [C] Unutilised Cooking Oil
- [D] None of the above

**Correct Answer: B [Used Cooking Oil]**

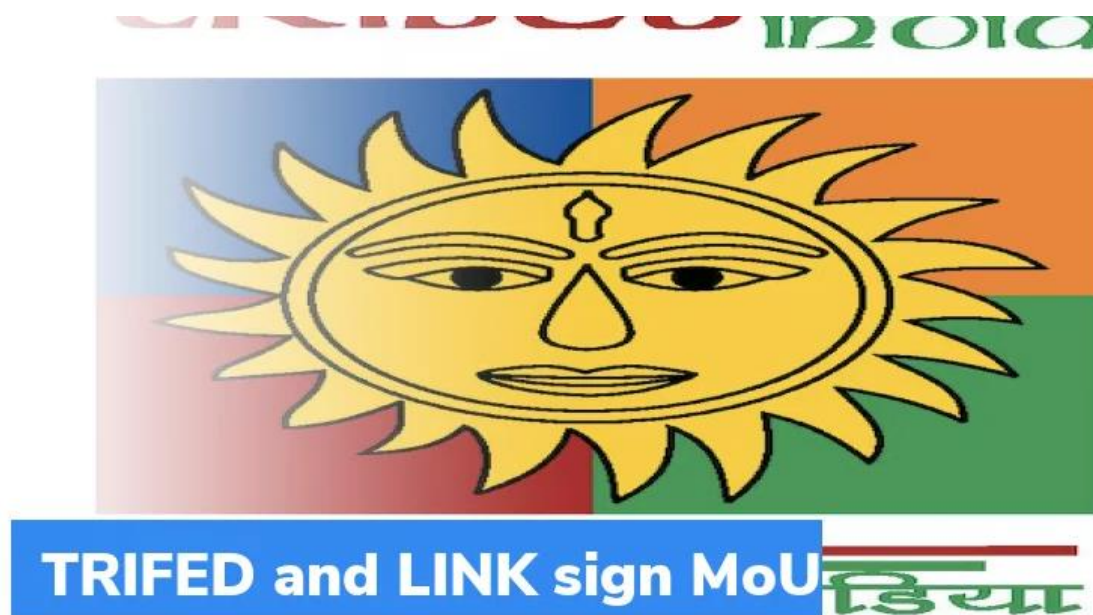
**Notes:**

The First supply of UCO (Used Cooking Oil) based Biodiesel blended Diesel was flagged off recently from Indian Oil's Tikrikalan Terminal, New Delhi.

The flagging off ceremony was presided over by Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas and Steel, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan. Earlier in 2019, petroleum and health ministries had initiated Expressions of Interest for "Procurement of Biodiesel produced from Used Cooking Oil". IOCL has received 51KL of UCO-Biodiesel till March 2021.

## TRIFED's new project for Tribal Households

May 1, 2021



The TRIFED recently signed an agreement with The LINK Fund to work together towards tribal development. TRIFED is Tribal Cooperative Marketing Development Federation of India

### About the Agreement

- Under the agreement, they will work towards tribal employment generation and development. This is to be achieved by providing support to the tribal in increasing value addition to their produce.
- They will also create a women-centres that will promote innovation, infrastructure and entrepreneurship among tribal women.
- Under the agreement TRIFED and LINK will work towards improving the skill training and crafts diversification.

### LINK Fund

- LINK Fund is a philanthropic organisation that aims to end extreme poverty and mitigate the effects of Climate Change. It provides funds to meet the basic needs of the poorest population in the world. Their focus is mainly on India, US, Mali, Indonesia, Mali, Nigeria, Nepal, Mauritania and Senegal.
- The fund addresses basic human needs such as education, food and nutrition, large scale infrastructure and women economic empowerment.

## Recent developments

- In April 2021, TRIFED launched the SANKLAP SE SIDHI. It is a hundred-day drive to activate the Van Dhan Vikas Kendras.
- In April 2021, TRIFED launched the Tribes India contest.
- In March, 2021, TRIFED announced that the Floriculture mission is to be implemented in twenty-one states.
- It is building TRIFOOD parks. TRIFOOD Parks is a joint initiative between the Ministry of Tribal Affairs and Ministry of Food Processing. These parks procure raw materials from the tribal people, process them and help tribal farmers sell for better prices. TRIFED is providing training to the tribal farmer about processing their produce. This will help to increase their income by bringing better prices for their produce.

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## India-Russia 2+2 Dialogue

May 1, 2021



The Prime Minister Narendra Modi and the Russian President Vladimir Putin recently agreed to establish “2+2 Ministerial Dialogue”. The “2+2 Ministerial” dialogue is held between the defence ministers and foreign ministers.

### About 2+2 Dialogue

- India holds similar dialogues with US, Australia and Japan.
- Russia is the first non-QUAD member with which India is to hold the dialogue.
- In 2021, President Vladimir Putin is to visit India to hold the India-Russia bilateral summit. The summit is alternatively held in India and Russia.

## **India-Russia**

- Currently, Russia is the largest Defence Supplier of India. Also, the key defence systems of India such as S-400 are bought from Russia.
- Both the countries are members of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, BRICS.
- Russia supports India for its permanent membership at the United Nations Security Council.
- The countries had earlier set a trade target of reaching 30 billion USD of trade by 2025. The dialogue will help them achieve the target. Previously, the countries agreed to establish the International North-South Transport Corridor, cooperation at the Eurasian Economic Union and Chennai-Vladivostok Maritime Corridor.
- The Astronauts shortlisted for the Human Space Flight Programme of India were trained by Russia.
- The Nuclear Power Plant that is being built in Kudankulam in Tamil Nadu is built with Russian Cooperation.
- India recently approved Russia's Sputnik V. It is the third vaccine to be approved in the country after COVAXIN and COVISHIELD.

### **What agreements govern India-Russia relations?**

In 1971, India and Russia signed the Treaty of Peace and Friendship. This agreement was the manifestation of shared goals between the countries. After the dissolution of Soviet Union in 1991, India and Russia signed the Military-Technical Cooperation Agreement.



## Top 10 Defence Current Affairs Questions – May, 2021

May 23, 2021



1. Defence Ministry has signed a Rs 1,056 crore deal with which company for procurement of 1,300 light combat vehicles?

**Answer:** Mahindra Defence Systems Ltd

2. With reference to Defence, what was 'Vajra', that was seen in news recently?

**Answer:** Offshore patrol vessel

3. Which country's Navy along with Madagascar undertook patrolling of Madagascar's Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)?

**Answer:** India

4. Which armed force has decided to employ retired combat dogs as 'therapy dogs'?

**Answer:** Indo Tibetan Border Police

5. 'VAJRA PRAHAR 2021' is a military exercise held between the special forces of India and which other country?

**Answer:** USA

6. “Shantir Ogroshena -2021” is a joint Military exercise between India and which country?

**Answer:** Bangladesh

7. ‘La Pérouse’ is a Defence Exercise to be conducted by which country?

**Answer:** France

8. Which organisation has developed an Advanced Chaff to safeguard naval ships against missile attack?

**Answer:** DRDO

9. Shantir Ogrosena-2021 is a multinational military exercise held between which two countries?

**Answer:** India- Bangladesh

10. The day on which the Indian Army launched Operation MEGHDOOT is observed as which special Day?

**Answer:** Siachen Day

## Top 10 Reports & Indexes Current Affairs Questions – May, 2021

May 23, 2021



1. Which organisation releases the ‘Global Electric Vehicle Outlook’ report?

**Answer:** International Energy Agency

2. Which organisation has released the ‘Global Forest Goals Report 2021’?

**Answer:** UN ECOSOC

3. Which organization has released the “Estimates of Global E Commerce Report 2019”?

**Answer:** UNCTAD

4. Which organisation has released the State of the World’s Midwifery (SoWMy) 2021, in association with UNFPA and WHO?

**Answer:** International Confederation of Midwives

5. Which organization has produced the “The Global Report on Food Crises2020”?

**Answer:** GNAFC

6. Which institution releases the monthly ‘Food Price Index’?

**Answer:** FAO

7. As per the recent research, which country accounts for more greenhouse gas emissions than all of the world’s developed nations combined?

**Answer:** China

8. Climate & Clean Air Coalition, in association with which organisation has launched the Global Methane Assessment report?

**Answer:** UNEP

9. The report titled “Conflict and Conservation” is released by which organisation?

**Answer:** IUCN

10. Which Indian city won the 32nd rank in the Global Prime Residential Index?

**Answer:** New Delhi

## World No Tobacco Day

May 31, 2021



World No Tobacco Day is being observed on May 31, 2021 under the theme “Commit to Quit”. It is observed since 1987 after member states of World Health Organisation created “World No Tobacco Day” to bring global attention towards tobacco epidemic and associated preventable death.

### Why this day is significant?

- As per lancet study, in some three decades, about 200 million deaths were caused by smoking tobacco use while the annual economic costs because of smoking tobacco use is more than US \$1 trillion.
- Further, one in six non-communicable disease-related deaths is due to smoking tobacco.
- Lancet has identified Tobacco control as a crucial and necessary” part to reach WHO’s global goals of 25 percent reduction in ”premature mortality” from non-communicable diseases by 2025 to comply with UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

- Thus, this day becomes important to raise awareness among people of harmful effects of smoking Tobacco.

### **Top Smoking countries**

10 countries with largest number of tobacco smokers as of 2019 are- China, India, Indonesia, USA, Russia, Bangladesh, Japan, Turkey, Vietnam, and Philippines.

### **What are the concerns?**

According to World Health Organization (WHO), nearly 70 percent of 1.3 billion tobacco users across the world lack access to tools required for quitting Tobacco. This access gap has further exacerbated in 2020 because health workforce are being mobilized to handle covid-19 pandemic’.

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## **Goa launches solar-based electrification programme**

May 31, 2021



Chief Minister of Goa, Pramod Sawant, launched solar-based electrification programme for rural households of state, on the occasion of Goa statehood Day (May 30).

### **About Solar-Based Electrification Programme**

This programme will bring electricity using renewable energy to rural areas in Goa where grid connectivity is not feasible. It was launched with focus on delivering clean, reliable and affordable energy to all. Solar PV-based home lighting systems was inaugurated two days

after agreement was signed between Convergence Energy Services Ltd (CESL) and Goa Energy Development Agency (GEDA).

**How this project is different?**

Electrification project is first off-grid electricity engagement by CESL which will install and maintain the solar PV systems for five years under Remote Village Electrification (RVE) programme. CESL will undertake programme across villages and hamlets in coordination with Gram panchayats.

**About CESL**

CESL is a 100 percent owned subsidiary of EESL. It is a new energy company which focuses on delivering clean, affordable, and reliable energy. It focuses on energy solutions which can be generated with the confluence of renewable energy, electric mobility, and climate change.

**Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL)**

EESL, world's largest public energy service company (ESCO), is owned 100 percent by of Government of India. It is a joint venture of state-owned NTPC Limited, Power Finance Corporation and POWERGRID. It was established under Ministry of Power to facilitate energy efficiency projects.