

Current Affairs Questions & Answers

1. On April 1, 2018, United States and _____ kicked off the annual military exercise 'Foil Eagle drill'?

1. Phillipines
2. France
3. Russia
4. South Korea
5. None of these

Answer - 4. South Korea

Explanation:

On April 1, 2018, United States and South Korea kicked off the annual military exercise 'Foil Eagle drill'. Nearly

11500 American and 290000 South Korean troops will be participating in a month-long a series of field training

exercises to be held under 'Foil Eagle drill'. Earlier, the drill was to be held in February 2018. However, it was

delayed in order to avoid a clash with Winter Olympic Games 2018 in Pyeongchang, South Korea. This edition of

'Foil Eagle drill' will be a low-key event, featuring fewer strategic weapons, as North Korea has proposed to hold

summits with the South Korea and US, which has in turn eased the tension and diplomatic rhetoric on Korean

peninsula

2. As per information shared by Indian Cellular Association (ICA), which country has become the second

largest mobile phone producer in the world after China?

1. US
2. South Korea
3. India
4. Japan
5. None of these

Answer - 3. India

Explanation:

As per information shared by Indian Cellular Association (ICA) with Telecom Minister Manoj Sinha and IT Minister

Ravi Shankar Prasad, India is now the second largest mobile phone producer in the world after China. ICA's claim

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was based on data available from market research firm IHS, China's National Bureau of Statistics and Vietnam General Statistics Office. With 11 million units produced in 2017, India replaced Vietnam as the second largest producer of mobile phones in 2017. It is to be noted that annual production of mobile phones in India in 2014 was just 3 million units. On account of rise in domestic production, imports of the devices in India also reduced to less than half in 2017-18. Fast Track Task Force (FTTF), a body under Union Ministry of Electronics and IT, has set target to achieve around 500 million mobile phone production in India by 2019.

3. Which state government has launched the "Rupashree" scheme aimed at providing marriage assistance to girls coming from economically weaker families?

1. Gujarat
2. West Bengal
3. Tamil Nadu
4. Maharashtra
5. None of these

Answer - 2. West Bengal

Explanation:

West Bengal State Government has rolled out Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee's dream project "Rupashree" scheme aimed at providing marriage assistance to girls coming from economically weaker families. This scheme was announced by West Bengal Finance Minister Amit Mitra while presenting the state budget for 2018-19. To avail financial assistance under this scheme, a woman has to fill the application form before her marriage and submit it to the Block Development Officer (BDO) or Municipality Office. Post submission of the form, amount of Rs 25000 will be credited to her bank account before her marriage. Only those women, whose annual family income is up to Rs 1.5 lakh are eligible for this scheme. Besides, women must be a permanent resident of West Bengal and

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must have attained 18 years age at the time of their marriages. There is no minimum educational qualification to apply for this scheme. Budgetary allocation for this scheme is Rs 1500 crore and is expected to benefit around six lakh women every year.

4. What is the rank obtained by the Indian startup ecosystem among 125 countries, during 2017, as per the report released by StartupBlink?

- 1.35
- 2.37
- 3.45
- 4.15
- 5. None of these

Answer - 2.37

Explanation:

According to a report released by StartupBlink, the Indian startup ecosystem, during 2017, ranked at number 37 out of 125 countries. StartupBlink is a global map and directory of startups, coworking spaces, accelerators, investors and reporters. StartupBlink report includes a global ranking index which has been compiled by measuring startup ecosystem strength and activity in 125 countries and 900 cities. The rankings have been compiled in association with ANSYS Startup Program and are based on thousands of data points gathered since 2014, including data collected by StartupBlink's representatives in more than 70 chapters around the world.

Entrepreneurs can refer the rankings to determine if a particular city has suitable business environment and resources needed to support their goals. India's 37th rank outlines that there is still much to be done in terms of ease of doing business, startup policies and easing tax compliance. Besides, Indian startup ecosystem is also yet to see major exits, which is considered as an important indicator of maturity of a startup ecosystem. In global ranking

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of cities, Bengaluru, New Delhi, and Mumbai are the top three Indian cities that have featured in the list. United States (US) has topped the global ranking index of countries, followed by United Kingdom (UK) and Canada.

Among Asian Countries, Singapore (at 10th spot) has attained the highest ranking. Four African nations that have featured in the list are South Africa (38th), followed by Kenya (53rd), Egypt (54th) and Nigeria (57th).

Global Startup Ecosystem Ranking 2017 – Top 5:

- United States
- United Kingdom
- Canada
- Israel
- Germany

5. Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Indian Government have signed an agreement to provide a loan of 8,082 million Japanese Yen (Rs 500 crore) for installation of intelligent transport systems in _____?

1. Hyderabad
2. New Delhi
3. Chennai
4. Bengaluru
5. None of these

Answer - 3. Chennai

Explanation:

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and Indian Government have signed an agreement to provide a loan of 8,082 million Japanese Yen (Rs 500 crore) for installation of intelligent transport systems in Chennai. As per the agreement, the project is aimed to develop an efficient traffic system in Chennai Metropolitan area by installing Intelligent Transport Systems to reduce traffic congestion and increase economic growth. Once the

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project is completed, queues at main intersections in Chennai will be reduced. Official Development Assistance (ODA) is provided at an interest rate of 1.5 per cent for the project activities and 0.01 per cent for consulting service. The repayment period is 30 years. The Official Development Assistance loan agreement was signed by Ambassador of India to Japan, Sujan R Chinoy and JICA, Senior Vice-President, Junichi Yamada at the Iikura House of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Tokyo. Executing agency of the project is Chennai Smart City Ltd. The project will be executed on the existing road network in Chennai.

6. Name the Indian who has become Asia's third-richest man and has secured 19th rank in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index as of 2nd April 2018?

1. Shiv Nadar
2. Mukesh Ambani
3. Lakshmi Mittal
4. Azim Premji
5. None of these

Answer - 2. Mukesh Ambani

Explanation:

Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries, owning a fortune of \$38 billion, is Asia's third-richest man and has secured 19th rank in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index as of 2nd April 2018. In total, 24 Indians have found a place in the Bloomberg Billionaires Index top 500 list. Jeff Bezos has secured the top position globally with a net worth of \$121 billion. He is followed by Bill Gates at the second spot with a net worth of \$90.4 billion. The third position is occupied by Warren Buffett with \$85.5 billion net worth. Jack Ma, Executive Chairman of Alibaba Group, is Asia's richest person with \$47.2 billion net worth. He is followed by Pony Ma, Tencent co-founder and CEO, with \$41.1 billion net worth.

Indians who feature in Bloomberg Billionaires top 100 index:

Mukesh Ambani, Chairman of Reliance Industries - 19th spot with \$38 billion net worth

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Lakshmi Mittal, chairman of ArcelorMittal - 54th spot with \$18.5 billion net worth

Pallonji Mistry - 65th position, with \$16.8 billion net worth

Azim Premji, Chairman of Wipro - 71st position with \$16.2 billion net worth

Shiv Nadar, founder of HCL Technologies - 86th spot with \$14.5 billion net worth

7. Which state won the 72nd Santosh Trophy (Football) at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata, West Bengal, on 1st April 2018?

1. West Bengal
2. Kerala
3. Manipur
4. Arunachal Pradesh
5. None of these

Answer - 2. Kerala

Explanation:

On 1st April 2018, Kerala defeated West Bengal and won its sixth title in the 72nd Santosh Trophy (Football) at the Salt Lake Stadium in Kolkata, West Bengal. Kerala beat West Bengal 4-2 in the finals of the 72nd Santosh Trophy.

Kerala had last won Santosh Trophy in 2005. West Bengal had won Santosh Trophy title 32 times. Both the teams were locked 2-2 after extra time. Two saves by Kerala goalkeeper Midhun V. in the penalty shootout made Kerala beat West Bengal 4-2.

8. Which airport was awarded the cleanest airport in India award at the 23rd annual day function of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in New Delhi on 1st April 2018?

1. Bangalore International Airport
2. Mangalore International Airport
3. Chatrapathi Shivaji International Airport
4. Indra Gandhi International Airport
5. None of these

Answer - 2. Mangalore International Airport

Explanation:

Mangalore International Airport has been named the cleanest airport in India. Mangalore Airport director V V Rao

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received the award at the 23rd annual day function of the Airports Authority of India (AAI) in New Delhi on 1st April 2018. AAI conducted a survey in 53 Indian airports. Mangaluru airport was selected as the cleanest airport in India. AAI officials had inspected the airport terminal, parking area, toilets, commercial stalls, road leading to the airport and customer lounge. Cleanliness management at the Mangaluru airport is handled by Durga Facility Management Services Private Limited.

9. Indian Table Tennis player Sathiyar Gnansekaran has reached his career-best ranking of ____ in the latest International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) rankings?

- 1.46
- 2.42
- 3.45
- 4.48
- 5. None of these

Answer - 1.46

Explanation:

Indian Table Tennis player Sathiyar Gnansekaran has reached his career-best ranking of 46 in the latest International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) rankings. Gnansekaran performance has been on an upward trajectory since past six months as he won gold in the ITTF Challenge - Spanish Open in November 2017 and reached the pre-quarterfinals of the Qatar Open in March 2018. Veteran Table Tennis player Achanta Sharath Kamal has registered a phenomenal jump of 22 places to be at 48 in the latest ITTF Ranking. Soumyajit Ghosh (70), Harmeet Desai (74), Anthony Amalraj (83) and Sanil Shetty (84) are the other Indian Table Tennis players in top

100. Among Indian Woman Table Tennis Players, Manika Batra continues to rank highest at 58, followed by Mouma Das at 88.

10. Health Minister of which state launched Mother's Absolute Affection (MAA) programme with an aim to promote breastfeeding on March 4, 2018?

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- 1.Arunachal Pradesh
- 2.Tamil Nadu
- 3.Himachal Pradesh
- 4.Madhya Pradesh
- 5.None of these

Answer - 3.Himachal Pradesh

Explanation:

On March 4, 2018, Himachal Pradesh Health Minister Vipin Parmar launched Mother's Absolute Affection (MAA) programme with an aim to promote breastfeeding. Objective of MAA programme is to create awareness among masses about the importance of breastfeeding. Besides community awareness generation, other components of MAA programme are strengthening inter-personal communication through ASHA workers, skilled support for breastfeeding at delivery points in public health facilities and work places. Breastfeeding helps in reducing the incidence of infant mortality and early childhood mortality and provides complete nutrition to a child.