



# NOV I

- A) Economy
- B) Awards
- C) Sports
- D) Polity
- E) Persons
- F) Others

1. An Indian-origin structural engineer who helped build Europe's tallest building has been invited to Buckingham Palace by Queen Elizabeth II. Name the engineer.

- A) Deepika Khetrapal
- B) Amita Rao
- C) Roma Agrawal
- D) Aarti Saxena

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/nri/nris-in-news/queen-elizabeth-ii-invites-indian-origin-engineer-to-palace/articleshow/49527307.cms>

**BACKGROUND:**

Roma Agrawal, 29, will join a group of other female engineers at a reception being hosted by the 89-year-old monarch to encourage more women to take up the profession.

"We need to break the stereotype of an engineer and show young girls it's a fun career," Agrawal said in advance of the event tomorrow.

The palace has also released a photograph of the then Princess Elizabeth as a driver and mechanic in the Auxiliary Territorial Service during World War II.

**2. Who among the following has won his third F1 world title with victory at US Grand Prix?**

- A) Nico Rosberg
- B) Lewis Hamilton
- C) Sebastian Vettel
- D) Ayrton Senna

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.theguardian.com/sport/2015/oct/25/lewis-hamilton-wins-f1-world-title-third-time-us-grand-prix>**

**BACKGROUND:**

- World champion retains title in Austin after Sebastian Vettel is third
- Hamilton wins after team-mate Nico Rosberg makes late error

After the ecstatic Lewis Hamilton took the chequered flag on Sunday he performed donut spins for the cheering crowd while Daft Punk's "One More Time" blared out from the Mercedes garage. As he crossed the line and had it confirmed that he had equalled his idol Ayrton Senna with his third F1 world title, the 30-year-old said over the car radio: "This is the greatest moment of my life."

A little later, tears mixed with sprayed champagne. Beside Hamilton and his beaten team-mate Nico Rosberg and Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel on the podium there was Sir Elton John. It is not often that he looks upstaged.

This was a chaotic, compelling race. There were two safety cars, two virtual safety cars, crashes and enough all-round action to fill half-a-dozen grand prix weekends. How the Americans loved the show.

Hamilton needed to beat his closest challenger, Vettel, by nine points and Mercedes team-mate Rosberg by two, and he did just that – finishing the race 76 points clear of his nearest rival, with 75 points still available. Rosberg was second and Vettel, who needed to be runner-up if Hamilton won to push the championship into next weekend's race in Mexico, was third.

3. **NDRF, country's elite disaster mitigation combat force, ties up with 30 PSUs to jointly tackle emergencies. Expand the term NDRF.**

- A) National Defense Response Force
- B) North Department of Response Force
- C) National Disaster Response Force
- D) Naval Defense Response Force

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-ndrf-widens-net-ties-up-with-30-psus-to-tackle-disasters-2138389>**

**BACKGROUND:**

The NDRF has tied up with about 30 PSUs in order to develop mutual understanding and enhance capabilities to jointly tackle man-made or natural emergencies.

A coordination meeting in this regard was held recently here between the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) and prominent Public Sector Undertakings like ONGC, GAIL, Air India and those in the mining and shipping and heavy industries sector.

Over 40 senior officials from these PSUs took part in the maiden meeting held here on October 23.

"In order to solemnise the concept of empowerment and capacity building in the respective field of their expertise and geographical locations, we proposed that the force can really contribute in capacity building by strengthening the skills, competencies and abilities of the workforce of the PSUs.

"The effort is to build a good synergy between both the organisations," NDRF Director General O P Singh told PTI.

4. Which among the following artist has been conferred with Hridaynath Mangeshkar Award?

- A) Amitabh Bacchan
- B) Lata Mangeshkar
- C) AR Rahman
- D) Subhash Ghai

**ANS: C**

**Similar Q on the same Background:**

5. How many National Awards have been won by A R Rahman?

- A) 2
- B) 3
- C) 4
- D) 6

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/music/ar-rahman-receives-hridaynath-mangeshkar-award/>

**BACKGROUND:**

Renowned music composer A R Rahman was conferred with Hridaynath Mangeshkar Award here this evening.

Veteran filmmaker Subhash Ghai presented the fifth Hridaynath Mangeshkar Award to Rahman on the 78th birthday of Pandit Hridaynath Mangeshkar, well-known composer and the younger brother of Lata Mangeshkar and Asha Bhosle. "The music of Hridaynath-ji is an inspiration," Rahman said, adding that the Mangeshkar family has been upholding a great musical traditions across generations.

Ghai, who has worked with the 48-year old musician in "Taal", said more than being a celebrity, Rahman is a beautiful soul. "He didn't know Hindi or Punjabi but worked 70 nights on the music of "Taal" and proved he is the best musician. He is not only a big celebrity, he is a beautiful soul," Ghai said.

Hridaynath Mangeshkar said Rahman had made the country proud with his outstanding contribution to music.

Grammy Award winning Hindustani classical musician Vishwa Mohan Bhatt and 2014 Grammy winner Ricky Kej were also present at the event. The first Hridaynath Award was given to Lata Mangeshkar. Asha Bhosle, Amitabh Bachchan and veteran actress Sulochana have also received this award in the past. Rahman won the Oscar for Best Original Score and Best Original Song, sharing it with lyricist Gulzar, for Danny Boyle's "Slumdog Millionaire" in 2009. The composer has also won four National Awards in a career spanning over two decades.

**6. In the recently held elections in Poland which among the following party secured the majority?**

- A) Modern Poland Party
- B) Law and Justice party
- C) Agrarian Party of Poland
- D) People's Party of Poland

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-europe-34631826>

**BACKGROUND:**

Poland's opposition Law and Justice party - conservative and Eurosceptic - has won parliamentary elections.

Preliminary results gave the party 37.6% of the vote, but it was not immediately clear if that would be enough for it to govern alone.

Its leader Jaroslaw Kaczynski claimed victory, and the outgoing Prime Minister, Ewa Kopacz of the centrist Civic Platform, admitted defeat.

Law and Justice (PiS) has strong support in poorer, rural areas.

Civic Platform, the pro-market party that governed for the last eight years, got 24.1% of the vote.

Three other parties also won enough votes to get seats in parliament: a new right-wing party led by rock star Pawel Kukiz with 8.8%; a new pro-business party, Modern Poland, with 7.6%; and the agrarian Polish People's Party with 5.1%.

The election authority is expected to announce how many seats the parties get in parliament on Tuesday.

Exit polls suggested Law and Justice would have a small majority - making it the first time a single party has won enough seats to govern alone since democracy was restored in 1989.

**7. The Reserve Bank has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with which of the following central Bank for exchange of supervisory information?**

- A) National Bank of Singapore
- B) Bangladesh Bank
- C) Bank of England
- D) Federal Reserve

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.newindianexpress.com/business/news/RBI-Bangladesh-Bank-Ink-MoU-on-Information-Exchange/2015/10/26/article3098503.ece>**

**BACKGROUND:**

"The Reserve Bank of India, signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Supervisory Cooperation and Exchange of Supervisory Information with the Bangladesh Bank, Peoples Republic of Bangladesh," RBI said in a release.

RBI has entered into Memorandum of Understanding, Letter for Supervisory Co-operation and Statement of Co-operation with supervisors of a few countries to promote greater cooperation and share supervisory information.

With this, RBI has signed 30 such MoUs, one Letter for Supervisory Cooperation and one Statement of Cooperation, the central bank said in the release.

**8. Recently South Africa hit third highest ODI total to win India series. Which team holds the record of highest run in an innings of One Day Cricket?**

- A) Srilanka (443)
- B) Srilanka (440)
- C) Austrailia (439)

D) South Africa (438)

**ANS: A**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.bbc.com/sport/cricket/34632714>**

**BACKGROUND:**

South Africa posted the joint-third highest total in one-day international history as they beat India by 214 runs in Mumbai to win the series 3-2.

Quinton de Kock (109), Faf du Plessis (133) and skipper AB de Villiers (119) all hit centuries in their 438-4.

Only once before has a team made three centuries in an ODI, also South Africa against West Indies in January.

India were all out for 224 in the 36th over, their second heaviest ODI defeat in terms of runs.

Highest one-day international totals

443-9 (50 overs): Sri Lanka v Netherlands, Amstelveen, 2006

439-2 (50 overs): South Africa v West Indies, Johannesburg, 2015

438-9 (49.5 overs): South Africa v Australia, Johannesburg, 2006

438-4 (50 overs): South Africa v India, Mumbai, 2015

434-4 (50 overs): Australia v South Africa, Johannesburg, 2006

**9. Google's 2-year-old program which aims to change that by transmitting high-speed**

**Internet signals from clusters of balloons floating about 60,000 feet above the Earth.**

**Name the program.**

- A) Project Earth**
- B) Project Loon**
- C) Project Internet.Org**
- D) Project Access**

**ANS: B**

**Q Based on Similar Background:**

**10. Google's Internet-beaming balloons are ready to take off in \_\_\_\_\_ on the next phase of their mission to deliver online access under "Project Loon".**

- A) Syria
- B) Bangladesh
- C) Indonesia
- D) South Africa

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/google-s-project-loon-internet-beaming-balloons-to-take-off-in-indonesia-115102900057\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/google-s-project-loon-internet-beaming-balloons-to-take-off-in-indonesia-115102900057_1.html)

**BACKGROUND:**

The balloons will begin hovering in the stratosphere above Indonesia in an expansion of the project announced yesterday. About 250 million people live on 17,000 islands in that part of Southeast Asia, although only 42 million have Internet access.

Google's 2-year-old program "Project Loon" aims to change that by transmitting high-speed Internet signals from clusters of balloons floating about 60,000 feet above the Earth.

The Indonesian expansion follows extensive testing in New Zealand, Australia and remote areas in California and Brazil. Project Loon started in Google's X lab for off-the-wall projects. The lab is now run by Google's parent company, Alphabet Inc.

**11. Who among the following has been appointed as Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC) chairman?**

- A) Kaushal Srivastava
- B) Deepak Seth

- C) Najib Shah
- D) Arun Puri

**ANS: C**

**Source:**

**[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/najib-shah-appointed-cbec-chairman-115102901384\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ians/najib-shah-appointed-cbec-chairman-115102901384_1.html)**

**BACKGROUND:**

The CBEC, the nodal agency responsible for customs, central excise and service tax, comprises the chairperson and six members.

Najib Shah, a 1979-batch Indian Revenue Service officer, is the new chairman of the Central Board of Excise and Customs (CBEC), an official statement said on Thursday.

The Appointments Committee of the cabinet has approved the appointment of Shah, a CBEC member, said the personnel, public grievances and pensions ministry statement.

He succeeds Kaushal Srivastava who has retired from service.

**12. India recently replaced which country to emerge as Biggest Gold Consumer in World**

**according to a report by Thomson Reuters?**

- A) UAE
- B) USA
- C) Japan
- D) China

**ANS: D**

**SOURCE:**

**[http://www.business-standard.com/article/markets/india-tops-china-becomes-biggest-gold-consumer-115102700944\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/markets/india-tops-china-becomes-biggest-gold-consumer-115102700944_1.html)**

**BACKGROUND:**

India regained its top position from China as the biggest overall consumer of gold in the first nine months of this year with a total consumption of 642 tonnes, a survey said.

China is trailing India by just 63 tonnes, according to the GFMS Gold Survey Q3 2015 Review and Outlook.

In India, jewellery consumption increased by five per cent year-on-year to an estimated 193 tonnes for the quarter ended September in 2015, the highest quarterly consumption since the March quarter of 2011 and the highest third quarter demand since 2008, the report published by Thomson Reuters stated.

The survey said, "Retail investment rose 30 per cent year-on-year to 55 tonnes, the highest since the fourth quarter of 2013." Gains during the quarter were primarily attributed to a fall in domestic prices, which declined to the lowest since August 2011. Prices fell to Rs 25,000 for 10g in India.

**13. Who among the following has been elected as the first woman President of Nepal?**

- A) Devaki Rani
- B) Vidya Devi Bhandari
- C) Janaki Rani
- D) Kul Bahadur Gurung

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.dnaindia.com/world/report-nepal-elects-vidya-devi-bhandari-as-the-first-woman-president-2139551>**

Vidya Devi Bhandari from the ruling CPN-UML was elected as Nepal's first woman President on Wednesday after she defeated her rival from Nepali Congress by more than 100 votes.

Bhandari, 54, the Vice-president of CPN-UML and widow of late general secretary of the party Madan Bhandari, secured 327 votes against 214 votes of her rival Veteran Nepali Congress leader Kul Bahadur Gurung. The new President will succeed incumbent Ram Baran Yadav who was elected as the first President of Nepal in 2008 after the country was declared a Republic.

With the promulgation of the Constitution on September 20, it was required to elect a new President within a month of the commencement of the Parliament session.

**14. Finance Minister Arun Jaitley launches a paperless initiative of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) under which notices to assesses would be sent to their emails, in pilot basis. Name the project.**

- A) e-Prerna
- B) e-Sahyog
- C) e-Help
- D) e-Sahayata

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

**BACKGROUND:**

Arun Jaitley launches e-Sahyog, PAN camps to improve services of income tax department

Finance Minister Arun Jaitley on Tuesday launched eSahyog and Pan camps, initiatives of the Income Tax Department to improve services.

Through eSahyog he launched the paperless initiative of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) under which notices to assesses would be sent to their emails.

The PAN camps are aimed at expanding the coverage of number of people through Permanent Account Number (PAN). Currently there are 23 crore people with PAN card.

The expansion of Number of PAN card holders would help the government implement the budget proposal of mandatory quoting of PAN for cash transaction of Rs 1 lakh.

The tax department has already started a pilot project of using e-mails for sending notices, getting replies as well as carrying out tax assessments in an attempt to make sure taxpayers don't have to visit I-T offices physically in smaller cases.

**15. India finished 9th at recently concluded Nomura Cup. Nomura cup is related to which of the following sport?**

- A) Hockey

- B) Football
- C) Volleyball
- D) Golf

**ANS: D**

**SOURCE:**

**[http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-finishes-9th-at-nomura-cup-aman-grabs-incredible-5th-115102600569\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/pti-stories/india-finishes-9th-at-nomura-cup-aman-grabs-incredible-5th-115102600569_1.html)**

**BACKGROUND:**

Indian team led by Patna's Aman Raj, current leader of the IGU men amateur order of merit, finished 9th on the final day of the Asia-Pacific Amateur Golf Team Championship, Nomura Cup here today.

Raj's four days total of 10-under 278 played a big role in India collecting the team total of one-under 863 (218, 219, 210, 216) while his teammates Samarth Dwivedi, Rahul Ravi and Harimohan Singh, IGU ranked 3rd, 5th and 7th respectively, struggled to put up a low score throughout the week.

The lowest three scores of the four count towards the team total in each round.

The Japanese team edged out Chinese Taipei to win the 27th Nomura Cup title in a nail biting count back finish at the Yas Links Golf Club.

In the individual category, 19-year-old Raj who was the second best finisher at the Asia-Pacific amateur championship last year, kept getting better from first day's tied 9th position and finally grabbed the 5th position after shooting two-under 70 on the final day.

**16. Which of the following country made copying in examinations a crime punishable up to seven years?**

- A) Pakistan
- B) UK
- C) China
- D) USA

ANS: C

SOURCE:

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/international/world-news/china-makes-copying-in-examinations-a-crime/articleshow/49527680.cms>

**BACKGROUND:**

Come next month, students trying to copy in examinations in China will face a jail term of up to seven years as the government has brought about a new law making cheating a crime.

The new law, effective from November 1, will make cheating on major exams in China a crime punishable with a jail sentence.

Parents involved will also be seriously punished, according to the law.

The amended criminal law, which will take effect from November 1, stipulates that those who aid in cheating will be sentenced to three to seven years in prison and face penalties, state-run China Radio International reported.

The law also stipulates that people trying to impersonate during examinations will be detained by police.

In the southern Chinese province of Guangdong, 14 cases related to exam violations were found in the national college entrance exam last July, including nine cases of cheating.

Previously, college students involved in exam-related fraud were only punished by their universities, through warning, disqualification of their degree or dismissal.

Every year, China mobilises its security forces in a big way to prevent copying specially in the nationwide entrance test Gaokao in which nearly 10 million students took part last year.

The entrance determines the future of education and job opportunities of high school students.

Last year, public security departments across the country have pressed in drones and exposed cases of producing, selling and using telecom instruments used for copying.

The Ministry of Education last year warned that cheating students would be stripped of the enrollment qualification for a period ranging from one to three years.

**17. Andhra Pradesh, for development of new capital Amaravati, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with which of the following Asian country?**

- A) China
- B) Singapore
- C) Japan
- D) South Korea

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.financialexpress.com/article/economy/andhra-pradesh-signs-mou-with-japan-for-development-of-amaravati-city/156284/>**

**BACKGROUND:**

Andhra Pradesh, for development of new capital Amaravati, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Japan on Thursday and the latter has assured of lending a helping hand with its experience and technology to make the city a modern marvel.

Andhra Pradesh, for the development of its new capital Amaravati, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Japan on Thursday and the latter has assured of lending a helping hand with its experience and technology to make the city a modern marvel.

Japan Bank for International Cooperation's director general (social infrastructure) Noriko Nasu and Andhra Pradesh's Principal Secretary Finance P.V. Ramesh signed the Amaravati MoU.

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister N. Chandrababu Naidu and Japanese Economy, Trade and Industry Minister Yosuke Takagi were present at the function. Officials said the MoU would facilitate foreign investments and development of infrastructure in Amaravati. The details will be worked out later.

Takagi said his country was ready to lend a helping hand in development of Amaravati with the experience and technology.

"We in Japan from our young days have learnt that this great land of Amaravati was a great seat of learning for Buddhism right from 3rd century BC and here is where the seed of Japanese nation's culture and values have emerged. In our text books we learnt that Nagarjuna visited the city. For me to stand here in great spot today is matter of great pride and honour," he said. Takagi said Amaravati was once again set to become a vibrant centre and great city and "this time in history Japan is here to help a lending hand with experience and technology to contribute to this great city".

The minister said that Japan understands what great effort it takes to make a new city and recalled how from burning fields of World War II, they created a new nation.

**18. Which of the following channel emerges most watched Hindi channel in terms of time spent per viewer?**

- A) Sony
- B) ZEE TV
- C) Color
- D) Doordarshan

**ANS: D**

**SOURCE:**

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/Doordarshan-emerges-most-watched-Hindi-channel/articleshow/49518206.cms>

**BACKGROUND:**

Public broadcaster Doordarshan today claimed that it has emerged as the most watched Hindi channel in terms of time spent per viewer ahead of top general entertainment channels (GECs).

The "monumental development" comes in as Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC) released the much awaited All India viewership data, which includes rural India, for the very first time, a statement released by Doordarshan said.

"DD National, the flagship channel of the network, registered an Average Time Spent of 51 Min per viewer, highest among Hindi GECs, in the week 41 as per BARC ratings," the statement said.

This indicates that after tuning to the channel, viewers preferred to continuously watch it for a longer duration of time rather than frequently switching the channels, as compared to other GECs, it added.

According to the data, the channel's gross viewership in lakhs (GVL) rose from 479.9 lakhs in week 40 to a massive 4040.5 lakh in week 41, it added.

The channel also witnessed a significant rise in ratings and moved up to the 7th position in Hindi Speaking Markets in the week 41, according to the data, the statement said.

Of the total 153.5 million TV households, representing All India and all modes of signal, 77.5 million are urban TV households and 76 million are rural TV households, it added.

**19. BRICS countries recently signed Moscow Declaration for Supporting Multilateral Science Projects. Which of the following country is not the part of BRICS?**

- A) China
- B) Brazil
- C) South Africa
- D) South Korea

**ANS: D**

**Q Based on Similar Background:**

**20. Who is India's Union Minister for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences?**

- A) Mahesh Sharma
- B) Dharmender Pradhan
- C) Harsh Vardhan
- D) Anurag Thakur

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

<http://www.aninews.in/newsdetail2/story239254/brics-nations-sign-039-moscow-declaration-039-for-supporting-multilateral-science-projects.html>

**BACKGROUND:**

The BRICS nations - Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa - have agreed for co-investment of resources for supporting multilateral Research and Development (R&D) Projects in mutually agreed areas.

**Union Minister for Science and Technology and Earth Sciences Harsh Vardhan**, who led the Indian delegation, signed a joint declaration called 'Moscow Declaration' at the third meeting of the BRICS Ministers for Science, Technology and Innovation held in Moscow on October 28.

The declaration reflects BRICS partnership in addressing common global and regional socio-economic challenges, utilising such drivers as science, technology and innovation (STI).

BRICS STI Minister agreed on the collaboration for - (i) cooperation within large research infrastructures, including mega-science projects; coordination of the existing large-scale

national programme of the BRICS countries; (ii) development and implementation of a BRICS Framework Programme for funding multilateral joint research projects, technology commercialisation and innovation; (iii) establishment of BRICS Research and Innovation Networking Platform.

**21. China's first lunar rover Yutu sets record for longest stay (2 years) on Moon. Its**

**operations have streamed live through which of the microblogging site?**

- A) Twitter
- B) Sina Weibo
- C) Tumblr
- D) Posterous

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

**[http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-10/29/content\\_22312473.htm](http://www.chinadaily.com.cn/china/2015-10/29/content_22312473.htm)**

**BACKGROUND:**

China's first lunar rover, Yutu, has been operating on the moon for almost two years, setting the record for the longest stay by a rover, according to a Chinese lunar probe scientist.

Yutu was deployed and landed on the moon via China's Chang'e-3 lunar probe in 2013, staying longer than the Soviet Union's 1970 moon rover Lunokhod 1, which spent 11 months on the moon.

Its operations have streamed live through Sina Weibo, a Chinese microblogging site, and its Weibo account has nearly 600,000 followers.

Yutu experienced a mechanical control abnormality in 2014, but it was revived within a month and, though it is unable to move, it continues to collect data, send and receive signals, and record images and video.

"Human history is relatively short, and people are brimming over with curiosity about the universe," said Ye Peijian, chief scientist with China's Chang'e-3 program. "We have to explore more by going out."

The launch of Dongfanghong-1, China's first satellite, in 1970 made China the fifth country to launch a domestic satellite using a domestic rocket, following the Soviet Union, the United States, France and Japan.

China launched its manned space program in the 1990s and successfully sent Yang Liwei, the country's first astronaut, into orbit on the Shenzhou-5 spacecraft in 2003.

The Chang'e-1 mission in 2007 inaugurated an era of Chinese lunar exploration, followed by Chang'e-2 and Chang'e-3, with the latter marking completion of the second phase of China's lunar program, which includes orbiting, landing and returning to Earth.

Chang'e-3 delivered the rover and a stationary lander to the lunar surface in 2013, making China the third country after the Soviet Union and the United States to carry out such a mission.

Meanwhile, China is planning to be the first country to land a lunar probe on the far side of the moon, or "dark side of the moon," which is never visible to Earth.

The mission will be carried out by Chang'e-4, a backup probe for Chang'e-3, according to Ye.

**22. Who among the following has been elected as President of Tanzania?**

- A) John Magufuli
- B) Michael Mapinduzi
- C) Kitila Mkumbo
- D) Edward Lowassa

**ANS: A**

**SOURCE:**

[http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/30/world/africa/tanzania-presidential-election-john-magufuli.html?\\_r=0](http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/30/world/africa/tanzania-presidential-election-john-magufuli.html?_r=0)

**BACKGROUND:**

John Magufuli, a surprise candidate, trained chemist and government minister appreciated for his corruption-busting tactic of hiding in trucks and popping out at weigh stations to nail crooked police officers, handily won Tanzania's presidential election, the National Electoral Commission announced on Thursday.

Mr. Magufuli, who turned 56 on Thursday, trounced his closest rival, Edward Lowassa, a former prime minister and opposition leader, getting 58 percent of the vote to his 40 percent. Mr. Magufuli's victory extends the rule of the Party of the Revolution, also known as Chama Cha Mapinduzi, or C.C.M., the once-socialist political party that has dominated Tanzania, under one name or another, since independence in the 1960s.

This election is sending signals that it is almost impossible to dislodge C.C.M. from power," said Kitila Mkumbo, an education professor at the University of Dar es Salaam. "It is so much connected to the government, very much connected to people's lives. It's present everywhere."

Historically, Tanzania has been one of the most peaceful and unified African nations, an exception to the bitter ethnic rivalries that dog many of its neighbors. So far, this election has been mostly peaceful. But with the leading opposition party refusing to concede, many people are still worried about protests.

**23. In a bid to give a thrust to the herbal drugs industry which of the following state plans to start production of herbal drugs?**

- A) Madhya Pradesh
- B) Assam
- C) Uttarakhand
- D) Chhattisgarh

**ANS: D**

**SOURCE:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/healthcare/biotech/pharmaceuticals/chhattisgarh-plans-to-start-large-scale-production-of-herbal-drugs/articleshow/49592087.cms>

**BACKGROUND:**

Under its 'Make in Chhattisgarh' vision, the state government is contemplating to start manufacture of Ayurvedic medicines on a large scale.

As per the plan, Ayurvedic drug manufacturers would be invited to set up herbal drug production units in the state, based on public private partnership (PPP) mode.

"Under 'Make in Chhattisgarh' initiative, we are planning to give a boost to the manufacturing of Ayurvedic drugs in Chhattisgarh, which is famous as herbal state with its bountiful natural resources of forests and agricultural fields," Forest Minister Mahesh Gagda told PTI.

The demand for plant-based therapeutics is increasing in national as well as international market as they are natural products, non-narcotic, having no side-effects, easily available at affordable prices and sometimes the only source of healthcare available to the poor, he said.

Besides, in states like Chhattisgarh, it provides the means of livelihood to a large population, specially the tribals who are involved in collection of medicinal plants and fruits.

Therefore, sustainable development of medicinal plants sector could positively contribute towards the overall economy of the state as well as its people, he said.

The Chhattisgarh State Medicinal Plant Board, in its survey, has identified occurrence of around 2,021 medicinal and aromatic plants (MAPs) in the state.

They are mainly found in Abhujmad region, Bailadilla hills, Kanger Reserve and Kurchel valley in Bastar division and in some parts of Surguja division in north Chhattisgarh.

The actively traded MAPs from the state are Bhui Aonla (*Phyllanthus amarus*), Baheda Chhilka (*Terminalia bellerica*), Kalmegh (*Andrographis paniculata*), Safed Musli (*Chlorophytum tuberosum*), Aama Haldi (*Curcuma amada*), Bhelwa Fruit (*Semecarpus anacardium*), Van Tulsi (*Ocimum gratissimum*), Dhawai Phool (*Woofordia fruitcosa*) and about 100 others.

According to the forest department, the production of MAPs is about 87,065 metric tonne in the state but the maximum is being supplied to other states as raw material, Gagda said, adding, the aim is to now utilise the raw materials in the state only for the production of herbal drugs.

Although presently about two dozen products of medicinal plants are being manufactured in the state which are sold through six commercial centres of forest department, it is being done on a very small scale, he said.

Chyawanprash, pickles of Amla, syrup of bhel, triphala churna powder are among the herbal products manufactured by the forest department.

Recently, a team of the forest department and the State Medicinal Plant Board led by Gagda visited Kerala - a leading manufacturer of Ayurvedic drugs in the country - to study the prospects of herbal drug industry in Chhattisgarh.

"About 40 per cent of medicinal aromatic plants (raw materials) from the state are exported to Kerala for manufacturing of drugs. Therefore, a study team visited the southern state to analyse their means of production, processing units and marketing strategy," the minister said.

"We got to know that in Kerala they have shortage of power while land, water and electricity are primary industrial requirements. Our state has these things in abundance, thereby ideal for the expansion of herbal drug industry," he said.

"We have submitted the study report to the Chief Minister and very soon another team of senior officials from the state will visit Kerala to take a final call on the strategy to promote the industry here," he informed.

For the purpose, private drug manufacturers will be invited in the state to take up production of ayurvedic medicines on PPP basis.

**24. Driven by fears that an aging population could jeopardize its economic ascent China**

**lifts 1 child Policy. After a wait of how many years China abolished the one-child policy?**

- A) 20 Years
- B) 28 Years
- C) 32 Years
- D) 36 Years

**ANS: D**

**SOURCE:**

<http://www.nytimes.com/2015/10/30/world/asia/china-end-one-child-policy.html>

**BACKGROUND:**

Driven by fears that an aging population could jeopardize China's economic ascent, the Communist Party leadership ended its decades-old "one child" policy on Thursday, announcing that all married couples would be allowed to have two children.

The decision was a dramatic step away from a core Communist Party position that Deng Xiaoping, the Chinese leader who imposed the policy in the late 1970s, once said was needed to ensure that "the fruits of economic growth are not devoured by population growth."

For China's leaders, the controls were a triumphant demonstration of the party's capacity to reshape even the most intimate dimensions of citizens' lives. But they bred intense resentment over the brutal intrusions involved, including forced abortions and crippling fines, especially in the countryside.

The efforts to limit family size also led to a skewed sex ratio of males to females, because traditional rural families favor boys over girls, sometimes even resorting to infanticide to ensure they have a son.

Thursday's announcement was the highlight of a party meeting at which President Xi Jinping sought to display his control over a flagging economy after a jittery summer of tepid indicators, deepening skepticism about official data and a tumultuous slide in the stock market.

Abolishing the one-child policy would "increase labor supply and ease pressures from an aging population," the National Health and Family Planning Commission, which enforces the policy, said in a statement issued after the party meeting. "This will benefit sustained and healthy economic development," the commission said.

Yet while the decision surprised many experts and ordinary Chinese, some said it was unlikely to ignite either a baby boom or an economic one.

**25. Name the Saudi blogger who was recently awarded Sakharov human rights prize?**

- A) Sultan Ahmedi
- B) Raif Badawi
- C) Imran Tehrir
- D) Izaz Hemtar

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

<http://www.bbc.com/news/world-middle-east-34667260>

**BACKGROUND:**

Saudi blogger Raif Badawi, whose flogging sentence caused an outcry, has been awarded the European Parliament's Sakharov human rights prize.

Parliament President Martin Schulz urged Saudi King Salman "to free him, so he can accept the prize".

Mr Badawi was sentenced to 10 years in jail and 1,000 lashes in Saudi Arabia for "insulting Islam".

Earlier this month he also won the **Pen Pinter Prize** for championing free speech.

The **Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought** has been awarded by the European Parliament since 1988 to individuals or organisations for their contribution to the fight for human rights and democracy.

It is named after the Soviet scientist and dissident Andrei Sakharov.

**Flogging postponed**

Mr Badawi, author of the website Free Saudi Liberals, was convicted of insulting Islam in 2012 and fined £175,000.

He received the first 50 lashes of his sentence in January, but subsequent floggings have been postponed.

In June, Saudi Arabia's Supreme Court upheld the verdict despite a foreign outcry.

"This man, who is an extremely good man, an exemplary man, has had imposed on him one of the most gruesome penalties," Mr Schulz told a packed European Parliament assembly in Strasbourg, France.

**26. In a recently released World Health Organisation's Global Tuberculosis Report 2015 which country recorded largest number of TB cases in 2014?** (India, Indonesia and China had the

largest number of cases at 23%, 10% and 10% respectively of the global total in 2014.)

- A) China
- B) Indonesia
- C) Libya
- D) India

**ANS: D**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.dnaindia.com/india/report-india-recorded-largest-number-of-tb-cases-in-2014-2139762>**

**BACKGROUND:**

India recorded the largest number of Tuberculosis cases in the world last year, according to a report by the **WHO** that said 1.5 million people died in 2014 from the disease which ranks alongside HIV as a leading killer worldwide.

World Health Organisation's Global Tuberculosis Report 2015, released on Wednesday, said that of the 9.6 million new **TB** cases in 2014, 58% were in the South-East Asia and Western Pacific regions. India, Indonesia and **China** had the largest number of cases at 23%, 10% and 10% respectively of the global total in 2014. Nigeria, Pakistan and **South Africa** also had high numbers of TB cases last year.

27. Which Indian movie bagged People's Choice Award at Rome Film Festival? (Pan Nalin is the

Director of the movie)

- A) Titli
- B) Angry Indian Goddesses
- C) Prem Ratan Dhan Payo
- D) Court

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

<http://indianexpress.com/article/entertainment/bollywood/pan-nalins-angry-indian-goddesses-wins-award-at-rome-film-festival/>

**BACKGROUND:**

Pan Nalin's film "Angry Indian Goddesses" bagged an Audience Choice Award at the Rome Film Festival. The filmmaker is elated about the win.

The honour, titled BNL People's Choice Award, is bestowed on a movie which the viewing audience chooses as the best amongst the lot.

"Many will agree that best awards in the world are People's Choice Awards; so here the people of Rome and Italy have voted after filling edge-to-edge five full house shows. What we started in a little village of Goa has gone global beyond all our goals," Nalin said in a statement.

The director, whose film also got an eight-minute-long standing ovation at the festival, is thrilled for his film's cast and crew.

"Above all it's a great sign of inspiration that the international 'janta' (public) is connecting to stories of celebration of Indian womanhood," he added.

28. With which of the following country India, recently inked pacts on energy, culture

exchange? (Sahabat India - The Festival of India was organized in this country earlier this year)

- A) Japan
- B) Indonesia
- C) Uzbekistan
- D) Iran

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

[http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-indonesia-ink-pacts-on-new-and-renewable-energy-cultural-exchange-115110200804\\_1.html](http://www.business-standard.com/article/news-ani/india-indonesia-ink-pacts-on-new-and-renewable-energy-cultural-exchange-115110200804_1.html)

**BACKGROUND:**

India, Indonesia ink pacts on new and renewable energy, cultural exchange

India and Indonesia have signed two agreements on new and renewable sources of energy and cultural exchange.

The agreements were signed in the presence of Vice President M. Hamid Ansari and his Indonesian counterpart Jusuf Kala after their talks in Jakarta.

Addressing the media after the bilateral talks, Vice President Ansari said both sides held discussions on a range of issues, including expanding cooperation in defence, counter terrorism and trade.

Describing Indonesia as a strategic partner, he said both countries are embarking upon a phase of rapid economic progress.

The MoU on New and Renewable Energy sector was signed between Indonesian Water Resources and Mineral Minister and Indian ambassador to Indonesia Gurjit Singh.

"The cooperation is important as both India and Indonesia have committed themselves to reduce carbon emissions by 35 percent and 29 percent respectively by 2030," Vice President Ansari said.

"We celebrate our shared cultural links and today we signed a MoU for Cooperation in Cultural field. We also thank the Government of Indonesia for supporting us in organizing 'Sahabat India - The Festival of India in Indonesia' earlier this year," he added.

**29. Shaktikanta Das, Economic Affairs Secretary, joins SEBI board. Who is the Chairman of**

**SEBI?**

- A) Tapan Ray
- B) U K Sinha
- C) Rohtash Gandhi

D) Manoj Joshi

**ANS: B**

**Q based on similar background**

**30. Where is headquarter of SEBI?**

- A) New Delhi
- B) Mumbai
- C) Kolkata
- D) Bangalore

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

<http://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/policy/economic-affairs-secretary-shaktikanta-das-joins-sebi-board/articleshow/49616364.cms>

**BACKGROUND:**

Economic Affairs Secretary Shaktikanta Das has joined the board of capital markets regulator Sebi.

Das has replaced Manoj Joshi as nominee of the Finance Ministry on Sebi's board. Joshi is currently Joint Secretary (Capital Markets) in the ministry.

Das has also been nominated to the Central Board of Directors of the Reserve Bank.

He is a 1980-batch IAS officer of Tamil Nadu cadre.

Other members on the board are Sebi chairman U K Sinha and the regulator's whole time members -- Rajeev Kumar Agarwal, Prashant Saran and S Raman.

Tapan Ray, secretary at Ministry of Corporate Affairs and R Gandhi, Deputy Governor at Reserve Bank, too are on the board of Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi).

Meanwhile, Sinha's current tenure will end in February, although he is eligible for a one-year extension on age criteria.

31. Sania Mirza, Martina Hingis recently clinched WTA Finals title. This was the \_\_\_\_\_ title of the year of top seeded pair.

- A) 6<sup>th</sup>
- B) 7<sup>th</sup>
- C) 8<sup>th</sup>
- D) 9<sup>th</sup>

ANS: D

SOURCE:

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/tennis/top-stories/Sania-Mirza-Martina-Hingis-clinch-WTA-Finals-doubles-title/articleshow/49616947.cms>

BACKGROUND:

Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis capped off a sensational 2015 season with yet another doubles title. The Indo-Swiss pair brushed aside Spaniards Gabrine Muguruza and Carla Suarez Navarro 6-0, 6-3 to capture the WTA doubles title. The top-seeded pair took a little over an hour to win their ninth title of the year.

- Sania Mirza and Martina Hingis capped off a sensational 2015 season with yet another doubles title
- The Indo-Swiss pair brushed aside Spaniards Gabrine Muguruza and Carla Suarez Navarro 6-0, 6-3
- The top-seeded pair took a little over an hour to win their ninth title of the year

Hingis and Mirza are 9-1 in finals this season, with two Grand Slam titles (Wimbledon, US Open), five WTA Premier titles (BNP Paribas Open - Indian Wells, Miami Open, Family Circle Cup - Charleston, Dongfeng Motor Wuhan Open, China Open - Beijing), and one WTA International title (Guangzhou International Women's Open). They have now stretched their unbeaten streak to 22 matches

**32. In a recent tragic event a Russian plane carrying holiday-makers back crashes in Sinai**

**(Egypt). This plane was coming from which of the following country?**

- A) Egypt
- B) UK
- C) Israel
- D) South Africa

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2015/oct/31/russia-day-mourning-224-dead-plane-crash-egypt>**

**BACKGROUND:**

Soon after the St Petersburg-bound airliner went down in Egypt on Saturday, Russians began reposting social media photographs of happy beachgoers that had suddenly taken on tragic new meaning.

One of them showed Viktoria Sevryukova, 24, who had worked at a St Petersburg restaurant chain, posing in the resort town of Sharm el-Sheikh. Her name was on the list of 224 people who were lost with the plane. Several of her friends reposted the photo with messages of disbelief and grief.

Sevryukova's friend, Yevgenia Beryozina, told the *Observer* that she felt "emptiness" and couldn't believe what had happened. "She was my best friend. She had waited for this trip like I don't know what," Beryozina said. "And now she's gone. Just like that, she's gone."

The Kogalymavia Airbus A321 had been carrying holidaymakers back from the Red Sea resort when it crashed on the Sinai peninsula. It was flying at 31,000ft before air traffic control lost contact with it 23 minutes after takeoff. At least 150 bodies had been recovered, including those of the 17 children on board. Both the Russian and Egyptian authorities said there were no survivors.

The Russian president, Vladimir Putin, expressed his deepest condolences to passengers' relatives and declared a day of mourning for those killed, the Kremlin press service said.

Relatives gathered at a hotel near Pulkovo airport in St Petersburg. Yulia Zaitseva said her friends, newlyweds Elena Rodina and Alexander Krotov, were on board. "We were friends for

20 years," she told AP at the hotel. "To lose such a friend is like having your hand cut off." She said Rodina's parents felt "like their lives are over".

Ella Smirnova, 25, said she was due to meet her parents who were on the flight. "I spoke to them last on the phone when they were already on the plane, and then I heard the news. I will keep hoping until the end that they are alive, but perhaps I will never see them again," she said.

The crash is the latest in a long line of Russian air tragedies. Russia became the most dangerous country for air travel in 2011 after several disastrous crashes, including one that claimed the lives of most of the Yaroslavl Lokomotiv hockey team. Many of the incidents involved ageing aircraft and were blamed on mechanical breakdowns or pilot error. The Russian authorities later began trying to reduce the number of small airlines, which often employ older planes and can lack the maintenance and staffing capabilities of larger companies, in a bid to improve safety.

The Airbus lost in the Sinai crash entered service in 1997 and had been operated by Kogalymavia for four years, Interfax said. Kogalymavia began as a small regional airline in Russia in 1993, but now its 10 aircraft fly mainly to Egypt.

An outpouring of grief could be seen on Russian social networks and at Pulkovo airport yesterday, where friends and relatives had come to greet loved ones who would never arrive. The emergencies' ministry set up a hotline and dispatched psychologists to the airport to help those affected by the tragedy.

**33. According to a recent report, which country has topped the list of World's healthiest**

**countries?** (India ranks 103 in world's healthiest countries' list)

- A) USA
- B) Bhutan
- C) Singapore
- D) Sweden

**ANS: C**

**SOURCE:**

<http://www.dnaindia.com/money/report-india-ranks-103-in-world-s-healthiest-countries-list-singapore-on-top-2140918>

**BACKGROUND:**

According to a recent report, Singapore has topped the list of World's healthiest countries, while India has secured the 103rd position.

The list ranks countries using data from the United Nations, the **World Bank** and the World Health Organisation and the Bloomberg rankings gave each country with a population of 1 million or more a health score and a health-risk score, the Independent reported.

The health score is based on factors such as life expectancy from birth and causes of death, while health-risk is based on factors which could impede health such as the proportion of young people who smoke, the number of people with raised cholesterol and the number of immunisations.

Singapore came top with an overall score of 89.45%, Italy ranked second healthiest with 89.07% and Australia came third with 88.33%.

The UK also failed to reach the top 20, ranking at number 21 with a score of 76.84% per cent, behind Belgium, Ireland and Norway.

India ranked 103rd with an overall score of 22.17%, while Swaziland came last with 0.26%.

The data is a useful guide for policy makers, who might look at the practices of higher-scoring countries to improve their own countries' health scores, as per the World Economic Forum.

The word "healthy", however, is open to interpretation, the WEF stress, saying a ranking defining "healthy" by "quality of life" rather than "life expectancy" might include lower-income countries which report higher levels of life satisfaction.

#### **34. Which team recently won 2015 Rugby World Cup?**

- A) Australia
- B) New Zealand
- C) Italy
- D) China

**ANS: B**

**SOURCE:**

**<http://www.bbc.com/sport/0/rugby-union/34689236>**

**BACKGROUND:**

Rugby World Cup final: Dan Carter stars as New Zealand beat Australia

The Hit looks back at the 2015 Rugby World Cup final as New Zealand's Dan Carter puts in a star performance to help the All Blacks beat Australia 34-17.

Carter scored 19 points, including a crucial drop-goal and a penalty from the halfway line in the second half.

The Hit also looks back at some of the most amusing moments from the tournament, including England's Mike Brown's reaction to losing against Wales and Ireland's Luke Fitzgerald golfing mishap.

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