Courses

 ACC
 AFCAT
 AIRMEN
 CAPF
 CDS EXAM
 INET OFFICER
 MNS
 MOCK TEST
 NDA EXAM
 PC(SL)
 SCO
 SSB INTERVIEW
 TERRITORIAL ARMY

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DAILY CURRENT AFFAIRS 19 - 20 January 2022

MGR Remembered on His Birth Anniversary

- Maruthur Gopala Ramachandran (17 January 1917 24 December 1987), also popularly known as M.G.R., was an Indian politician, actor, philanthropist, and filmmaker who served as the chief minister of Tamil Nadu from 1977 till his death in 1987.
- He was the founder of AIADMK and mentor of J. Jayalalithaa.
- In 1988, M.G.R. was awarded India's highest civilian honor, Bharat Ratna, posthumously.



@narendramodi

Narendra Modi 🗹

Remembering Bharat Ratna MGR on his birth anniversary. He is widely admired as an effective administrator who placed top priority on social justice and empowerment. His schemes brought a positive change in the lives of the poor. His cinematic brilliance is also widely acclaimed.

First Dose Vaccination Of Over 50% Of Youngsters Between 15-18 Age Group

- The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has lauded the first dose vaccination of over 50% of youngsters between the 15-18 age group.
- In response to a tweet by Union Health Minister, Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, the Prime Minister said.
- "Young and youthful India showing the way!
- This is encouraging news. Let us keep the momentum.
- It is important to vaccinate and observe all COVID-19 related protocols.
 Together, we will fight this pandemic."





National Kala Utsav 2021

- Kala Utsav is an initiative of the Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education (MoE), Government of India, launched in 2015, to promote Arts in Education, by nurturing and showcasing the artistic talent of school students (Secondary level) in the country. The Kala Utsav platform not only provides an opportunity to showcase the hidden talents of the students but also provides a platform for exploring, exchange and experiencing the rich and diverse culture of India.
- The Valedictory Function cum Prize distribution ceremony of Kala Utsav 2021 was held today through live streaming.





India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) Customer Base Crosses 5 Crore Mark

- What was termed as the biggest initiative of financial inclusion in the country by the Prime Minister at its launch, the India Post Payments Bank (IPPB), a 'Digital-First Bank' built on the rails of the wide physical distribution network of India Post under the Ministry of Communication, Government of India, has announced a major milestone since inception towards achieving its financial inclusion goals through digital banking.
- Today, IPPB announced that it has crossed the five-crore customer mark in 3 years of commencement of operations to become one of the fastest-growing digital payments banks in the country.
- IPPB opened up these five crore accounts in digital and paperless mode through its 1.36 lakh Post Offices, out of which 1.20 lakh are in rural areas with the help of about 1.47 lakhs doorstep banking service providers. With this, IPPB has achieved the world's largest digital financial literacy program by building a financially aware and empowered customer base leveraging the strength of 2,80,000 Post Office employees. IPPB has further stated that it has taken digital banking to the grassroots levels through Interoperable Payments and Settlement Systems of NPCI, RBI, and UIDAI offering services in over 13 languages.
- Interestingly, out of the total account holders, around 48% were women account holders, while 52% were male that indicating the Bank's focus on bringing the women customers under the banking network. About 98% of accounts of women were opened at the doorsteps and over 68% of women were availing DBT benefits. In yet another milestone, IPPB revealed that it attracted youths to avail of digital banking services. Over 41% of account holders were in the age group of 18 to 35 years.



Oxfam Report: Inequality Kills

- The Oxfam report titled "inequality kills" was released, the report pointed out a stark income divide worsened by the covid pandemic, globally and in India.
- Key points:
- Magnitude of growing inequities: widening economic, gender, and racial inequalities—as well as the inequality that exists between countries—are tearing our world apart.
- The wealth of the world's 10 richest men has doubled since the pandemic began. The incomes of 99% of humanity are worse off because of covid-19.
- Inequality contributes to the death of at least one person every four seconds. Further Unequal Access to Healthcare, Gender-Based Violence, Poverty-Induced Hunger, Inequality of Climate Change Crisis has added to Human Apathy.

5th Edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha

- The fifth edition of Pariksha Pe Charcha will be held in February. The Pariksha Pe Charcha contest has been launched from 28th December last year till 20th January at the MyGov portal.
- Winners of this contest are likely to be called in person to participate in Pariksha Pe Charcha.
- They may also get an opportunity to interact with Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Teachers can also participate.



EU Parliament's New President

- EU lawmakers have chosen center-right Maltese lawmaker Roberta Metsola, as only the third woman to head the European Parliament, despite controversy over her anti-abortion stance.
- Metsola a member of the largest bloc, the European People's Party won a large majority with 458 votes to become the third woman to head the chamber after a deal between the leading political groupings.
- Elected on the day she turns 43, the politician from the European Union's smallest nation becomes the youngest president ever to run the chamber. She takes over at a time of mourning for the legislature as it marks the sudden death last week of its speaker David Sassoli.
- Metsola was eventually elected as an MEP on her third try, in 2013, on the ticket of Malta's Nationalist Party.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. The term "Inner Six" is related to
- A. G-24 organization
- B. ASEAN
- C. SAARC
- D. European Community Market (EEC) ANSWER: D

2. Currently how many members are in the European Union?

- A. 27
- B. 28
- C. 53

D. 17 ANSWER: A

- 3. Which of the following country is not a member of the EU?
- A. Estonia
- B. Denmark
- C. Switzerland
- D. Malta ANSWER: C

4. Which of the following statement is NOT correct about the EU?

- A. Germany is the founder member of the EU
- B. Croatia is the latest member of the EU.
- C. Among all the members of the EU, Malta has the smallest area
- D. All the member countries of the EU use EURO as the currency of their state. ANSWER: D
- 5. Which of the following 2 countries are not the participants of the eurozone?
- A. Luxembourg, Malta
- B. Denmark and the United Kingdom
- C. Austria, Belgium
- D. Slovenia, Spain ANSWER: B
- 6. Where is the headquarters of the EU?
- A. Belgium
- B. Netherlands
- C. Luxembourg
- D. Greece

ANSWER: A

- 7. With just _____ of the world's population, the EU's trade with the world accounts for 20% of global exports and imports.
- A. 6.9%
- B. 2.5%
- C. 7.8%

D. 10% ANSWER: A

8. Which of the following was/were the objective of the EU?

- A. Establishing an economic and a monetary union
- B. Implementing a common foreign and defense policy
- C. Developing relations in the spheres of' home affairs and justice
- D. All the above **ANSWER: D**

9. Who is the current President of the European Commission?

- A. Jean-Claude Juncker
- B. Herman Van Rompuy
- C. Donald Tusk
- D. Ursula von der Leyen

ANSWER: D

10.Who is the current President of the European Parliament?

- A. Antonio Tajani
- B. Martin Schulz
- C. David Sassoli
- D. Roberta Metsola

ANSWER: D

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