

Solution
Weekly Quiz
(13th June – 19th June)

Answer1 B

- According to the FSSAI, the index is aimed at encouraging states and UTs to improve their performance and work towards establishing a proper food safety ecosystem in their jurisdiction.
- Compliance parameter carries the highest weightage, 30%.
- Tamil Nadu with an overall score of 82 out of 100 has performed the best and been ranked 1st on SFSI 2021-22.
- The Safety Food Security index is released annually for a financial year. For instance, the latest SFSI, released on World Food safety Day, June 7, is for the fiscal 2021-22.
- This is the fourth edition of the SFSI since its inception in 2018-19.

Answer2 D

- Tourism, the development of support infrastructure, and eventual manufacturing of sporting goods used in air sports can lead to “economic multiplier” effects.
- The policy aims to “organise a previously unregulated sector” and could potentially generate annual revenue of Rs 8,000 to Rs 10,000 crore in the near future.

There will be a four-tier governance structure for air sports in India:

1. Air Sports Federation of India (ASFI) as the apex governing body
2. National associations for individual air sports or a set of air sports, as appropriate
3. Regional (e.g. West/ South/ North East etc.) or State and Union Territory level units of the national air sports associations, as appropriate; and
4. District-level air sports associations, as appropriate.

Answer3 D

- Four Holy Relics of Lord Buddha are being taken to Mongolia for an 11-day exposition to coincide with Mongolian Buddha Purnima celebrations.
- In 2015, the Holy Relics were placed under the ‘AA’ category of Antiquities and Art Treasures which should not be ordinarily taken out of the country for exhibition.
- The four relics come from among 22 Buddha relics, currently housed at Delhi’s National Museum. Together, they are known as the ‘Kapilvastu Relics’ since they are from a site in Bihar believed to be the ancient city of Kapilvastu.

- The site was discovered in 1898.

Answer4 D

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs, has accorded its approval for supply of fortified rice throughout the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) under the National Food Security Act (NFSA), Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS), Pradhan Mantri Poshan Shakti Nirman-PM POSHAN [erstwhile Mid-Day Meal Scheme (MDM)] and Other Welfare Schemes (OWS) of Government of India in all States and Union Territories (UTs) by 2024 in a phased manner.

Answer5 D

Various Tenancy Acts

Chota Nagpur Tenancy (CNT) Act, 1908

- The Chota Nagpur Tenancy -CNT Act, 1908, is a land rights legislation that was created to protect the land rights of the tribal population of Jharkhand, instituted by the British.
- A major feature of the CNT Act is that it prohibits the transfer of land to non-tribals to ensure community ownership.
- The areas of North Chota Nagpur, South Chota Nagpur, and Palamau divisions are included in the jurisdiction of the CNT Act.
- It came as a response to the Birsa movement.

Santhal Pargana Act, 1876

- Santhal Pargana Tenancy Act enacted in 1876 had been passed following the Santhal rebellion in 1855 against feudal land tenure systems of the colonial government.
- The 1876 Act prohibits the sale of Adivasi land to non-Adivasis in the Santhal Pargana region along Jharkhand's border with Bengal.

Model Tenancy Act, 2021

- The Model Act requires the landlord and tenant to sign a written agreement that specifies the rent, period of tenancy, and other related terms.
- Security deposit is capped at two months' rent for residential premises and six months' rent for non-residential premises.
- Conditions for eviction of the tenant under the Model Act include (i) refusal to pay agreed-upon rent; (ii) failure to pay rent for more than two months; (iii) occupation of part or whole of premises without written consent; and (iv) misuse of premises despite a written notice.

Answer6 A

Earth's Tectonic Plates

- A tectonic plate, according to the United States Geological Survey, “is a massive, irregularly shaped slab of solid rock”, made up of lithosphere or the earth’s top layer, and they lead to earthquakes and volcanoes.
- Vaalbara is the first supercontinent, that fragmented to form other supercontinents over the years, the last being Pangea, which existed some 335–65 million years ago, and its way to the seven modern continents today.
- The Macquarie microplate is located south of Tasmania and the Capricorn microplate that separates the Indian and Australian plates.
- The plate model can be used to evaluate risks from natural hazards; the province model can be used for further exploration of minerals and the orogeny model for a better understanding of the evolution of the earth.

Answer7 C

Liquidity in the economy

- The first method is called Open Market Operations (OMO).
- When the RBI wants to infuse liquidity, it will buy bonds to that extent and when it pays for these bonds, the liquidity gets infused into the system.
- RBI buys bonds to infuse liquidity and sells bonds to suck out liquidity.
- The second method is through dollar swap auctions.
- As a key monetary system player, RBI reduces key policy interest rates and requirements (Repo, reverse repo, marginal standing facility, CRR, SLR, etc), whose primary goal is to enhance the liquidity level in the system.
- The creation of employment is a step in boosting the economy by infusing liquidity indirectly into the system.

Answer8 B

Press Note 3 (PN 3)

- In India it was introduced in 2020, which required all foreign direct investment (FDI) proposals from an entity based in a country that shares a land border with India, or where the beneficial owner of such FDI is situated in a country that shares a land border with India, both referred to as “restricted entities”, were brought under the government approval route.

Sector and the FDI Limit by Government/Approval Route

- Banking- Public Sector - 20% under Government route.
- Broadcasting Content Services - 49% under the Government route.
- Core Investment Company - 100% under Government route.
- Digital Media - 26% under the Government route.
- Food Products Retail trading - 100% under Government route.

- Mining or separation of mineral of titanium bearing minerals and ores, value addition, and integrated activities - 100% under the Government route.
- Multi Brand Retail Trading - 51% under Government route.
- Print Media (Newspaper publishing, periodicals, and Indian edition of foreign magazines) - 26% under the Government route.
- Print Media (Publication/specialty journals, periodicals, and facsimile editions of foreign newspapers) - 100% under the Government route.
- Satellites – establishments and operations - 100% under the Government route.

Answer9 D

Agnipath Scheme:

- Under the new scheme, around 45,000 to 50,000 soldiers will be recruited annually, and most will leave the service in just four years.
- Of the total annual recruits, only 25 percent will be allowed to continue for another 15 years under permanent commission.
- The new system is only for personnel below officer ranks (those who do not join the forces as commissioned officers).
- Under the Agnipath scheme, aspirants between the ages of 17.5 years and 21 years will be eligible to apply.
- The recruitment standards will remain the same, and recruitment will be done twice a year through rallies.
- Once selected, the aspirants will go through training for six months and then will be deployed for three and a half years.
- At the end of the four-year period, each soldier will get Rs 11.71 lakh as a lump sum amount, which will be tax-free.

Answer10 B

BHAVISHYA Portal

- It is an online Pension Sanction & Payment Tracking System launched by the Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare.
- The aim of this portal is to ensure payment of all retirement dues and delivery of Pension Payment Order (PPO) to retiring employees on the day of retirement itself.
- The system obviates delays in payment of pension by ensuring complete transparency.
- The platform was made mandatory for all central government departments since 01.01.2017.

Answer11 C

- The new Northern Ireland Protocol Bill was unveiled recently by the UK government.

The Northern Ireland Protocol

- After the UK left the European Union, Northern Ireland remained its only constituent that shared a land border with an EU-member, the Republic of Ireland.
- EU and UK having different product standards, checks would be necessary before goods could move from Northern Ireland to Ireland.
- However, the two sides have had a long history of conflict, with a hard-fought peace secured only in 1998 under the Belfast Agreement, also called the Good Friday agreement.
- Fiddling with this border was thus considered too dangerous, and it was decided the checks would be conducted between Northern Ireland and Great Britain.
- This was called the Northern Ireland Protocol.
- Under the protocol, Northern Ireland remains in the EU single market, and trade-and-customs inspections of goods coming from Great Britain take place at its ports along the Irish Sea.

The Northern Ireland Protocol Bill

- The new bill was unveiled by the UK government.
- It has justified itself using the “doctrine of necessity”, claiming that breaking this law was its only way to serve crucial domestic interests.
- The checks have made trade between Great Britain and Northern Ireland cumbersome, with food products, specially, losing out on shelf life while they wait for clearance.
- Some taxation and spending policies of the UK government can’t be implemented in Northern Ireland because of EU rules.

Main features of the bill

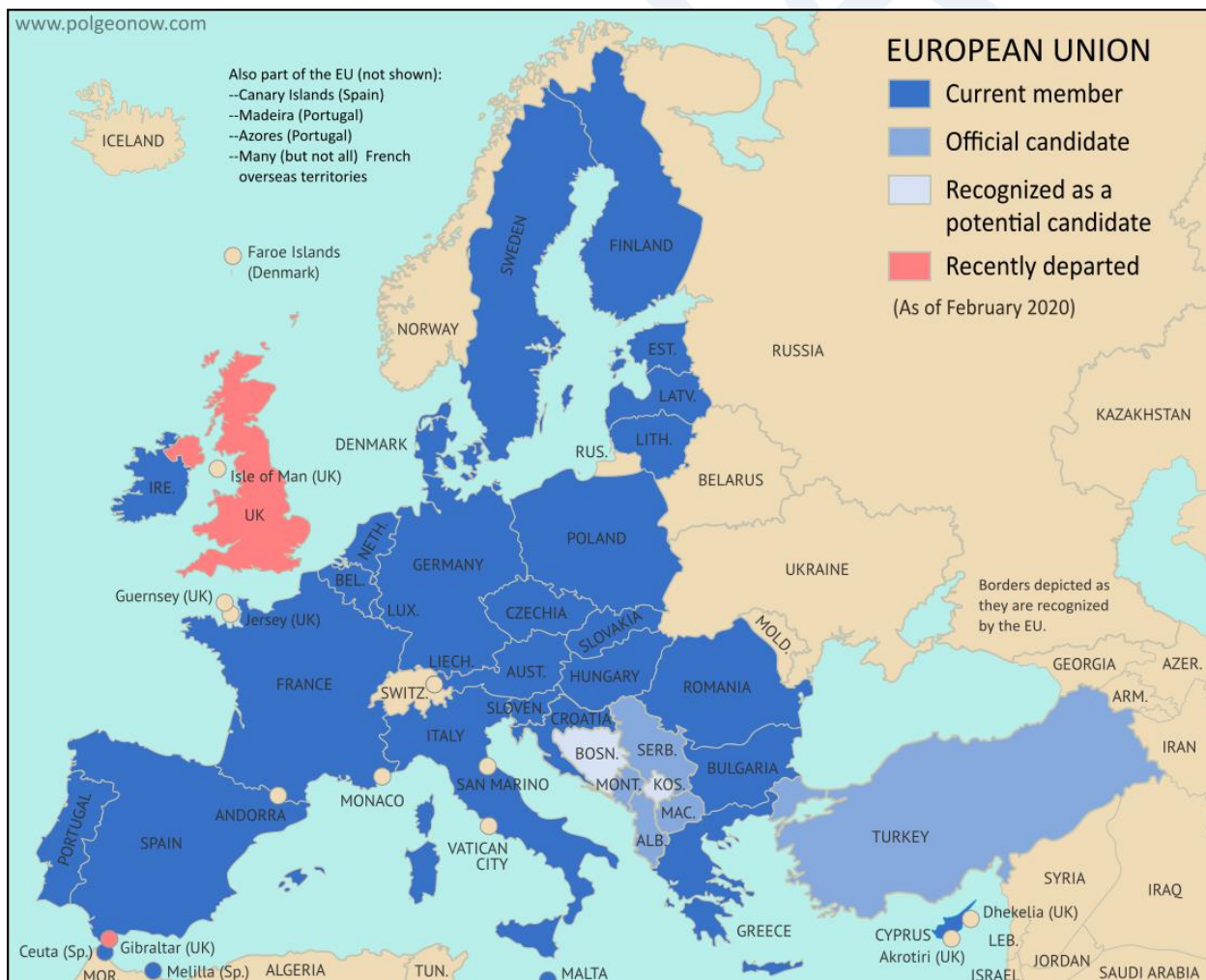
- The bill’s main proposals are that a ‘green lane’ with fewer clearances be created for goods that will remain in Northern Ireland.
- While a more stringent ‘red lane’ looks at goods destined for the EU.
- Spending and tax policies for Northern Ireland be decided only by London.
- Disputes be resolved not through the European Court of Justice, but through independent arbitration and negotiations.
- It also proposes that businesses in Northern Ireland be allowed to choose between UK or EU standards.

Answer12 A

Article 300A (Right to Property)

- It states that no person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law.
- A slew of Supreme Court decisions on Article 300A, including in the Indian Handicrafts Emporium case, has held that right to property was a “constitutional right”.
- Article 300A was inserted shortly after the Emergency through the Constitution (44th Amendment) Act of 1978.
- While it is inherent for a sovereign state to exercise its power of eminent domain over private property, the deprivation of the property should be for a public purpose and was subject to judicial review.
- Mere executive fiats cannot be used to take away a person’s property, the court has held.

Answer13 B



Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS)

- It was launched by the National Statistical Office (NSO), the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, in April 2017.

The objective of PLFS is primarily twofold:

- to estimate the key employment and unemployment indicators (viz. Worker Population Ratio (WPR), Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR), and Unemployment Rate (UR) in the short time interval of three months for the urban areas only in the Current Weekly Status (CWS).
- to estimate employment and unemployment indicators in both 'Usual Status' (ps+ss) and CWS in both rural and urban areas annually.

These indicators and 'Current Weekly Status' are defined as follows:

- Labour Force Participation Rate (LFPR): LFPR is defined as the percentage of persons in the labour force (i.e. working or seeking or available for work) in the population.
- Worker Population Ratio (WPR): WPR is defined as the percentage of employed persons in the population.
- Unemployment Rate (UR): UR is defined as the percentage of persons unemployed among the persons in the labour force.
- Current Weekly Status (CWS): The activity status determined on the basis of a reference period of the last 7 days preceding the date of the survey is known as the current weekly status (CWS) of the person.

Answer14 D

Black Death

- The term Black Death refers to the bubonic plague that spread across Western Asia, Northern Africa, the Middle East, and Europe in 1346-53.
- It was caused by the bacterium *Yersinia pestis* and was spread by fleas that were carried by rodent hosts.
- The microorganism *Y. pestis* spread to human populations, who at some point transmitted it to others either through the vector of a human flea or directly through the respiratory system.
- The onset of symptoms was followed by intense fever and vomiting of blood.
- After the initial infection, most victims died within 2-7 days.

Why it is called black death?

- It is commonly believed that the term Black Death gets its name from the black marks that appeared on some of the plague victims' bodies.

- However, historians argued that this term, which only emerged centuries later, had less to do with the disease's clinical symptoms, and more to do with how European writers from the 19th century onwards understood the epidemic.

How was the origin of the disease identified?

- In the late 19th century, excavations of two Christian cemeteries near Lake Issyk-Kul in Kyrgyzstan unearthed a settlement of a trading community that had been affected by an unknown disease in 1338-1339.
- The researchers found that the strain of *Y. pestis* that caused the epidemic in the settlements near Lake Issyk-Kul was the direct ancestor of the strain that caused the Black Death.

Answer15 C

Cosmic Cannibalism

- Astronomers have observed a dead star ripping up an entire planetary system.
- A star is ending its life so violently that the dead star left behind, called a white dwarf, is disrupting an entire planetary system by sucking in debris from both its inner and outer reaches.
- This cosmic phenomenon is the first time that astronomers have observed it.
- The white dwarf star is consuming the rock-metallic and icy material, both of which are the "ingredients of planets".
- This case of cosmic cannibalism was diagnosed with the help of archival data from the Hubble Space Telescope and other NASA observatories.
- A white dwarf is formed when a low-mass star like our sun exhausts most of its nuclear fuel. It is usually very dense and about the size of a planet.
- These research findings are also interesting because it is such icy objects are credited for crashing into dry rocky planets in the solar system and "irrigating them".
- Such comets and asteroids are believed to have delivered water to Earth billions of years ago, thereby sparking the conditions necessary for life as we know it.
- The makeup of the bodies attracted by the white dwarf implies that such icy reservoirs might be common among planetary systems.
- **Helmi Stream:** a group of stars that originally belonged to a dwarf galaxy that was devoured by the Milky Way in what the astronomers called, an act of galactic cannibalism.