

# ERUDITE

The monthly newsletter of the Quizzing Society

SEPTEMBER EDITION, 2021



- Sher Mohammad Abbas Stanikzai, (born 1963)** is a senior member of the Afghan Taliban and the Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs since 7 September 2021. He was an officer in the Afghan National Army. He studied at the most prestigious military academy the IMA. He defected from the army and joined Islamic movements to fight the Soviets in Afghanistan. He was a deputy cabinet minister in the first Taliban government. He has been a senior member of the Taliban's political office in Doha since it was set up in 2012, and was its head from 2015 to 2020. Stanikzai addressed Afghanistan on national television and radio on August 30, 2021 where he spoke of the Taliban's desire for friendly relations with the United States, NATO and India, further stating that he would not allow Pakistan to use Afghan territory in its cold conflict with India. Stanikzai also spoke of the country's Sikhs and Hindus, stating that they can live peacefully and hoping that those who left will return. On 7 September, Taliban spokesperson Zabihullah Mujahid announced the future Cabinet of Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan; Sher Abbas was appointed as Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.
- Shri Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj, (born 2 July 1983)** is an Indian professional Para-Badminton player currently ranked world No.2 in Men's Singles and an IAS officer of the 2007 batch of Uttar Pradesh cadre. He is India's first-ever IAS officer to win a medal at the Paralympics. On 5th September, shuttler Suhas L Yathiraj scripted history by winning a silver medal at the Tokyo Paralympics with an impaired leg. He also served as the Special Secretary in the planning department of Govt. of U.P. in Lucknow prior to his posting as DM G B Nagar. In his earlier stint he has worked as District Magistrate Prayagraj, Azamgarh, Jaunpur, Sonbhadra, Hathras, and Maharajganj and has also served at many other posts in Govt. of U.P. In December 2016, he became the recipient of Uttar Pradesh's highest civilian honor, the Yash Bharti. He also holds a distinctive record for winning many awards while serving in his official capacity. He has been awarded for his performances by the Governor of Uttar Pradesh for his duties related to elections.



## NEWS HEADLINES

- Virat Kohli, confirmed his decision to step down from the T20I captaincy role after the global T20 spectacle, starting October 17 in the UAE and Oman. Kohli said he took the call after a long deliberation with head coach Ravi Shastri and his vice-captain Rohit Sharma.
- Prime minister Narendra Modi, Vice president M Venkiah Naidu, and Lok Sabha speaker Om Birla on Wednesday jointly launched the 'Sansad TV' channel. The 'Sansad TV' will merge the two parliamentary channels- Lok Sabha TV and Rajya Sabha TV. Retired IAS officer Ravi Kapoor will be the CEO of the news channel.
- China astronauts return after 90 days aboard space station. Chinese astronauts land in the Gobi desert after a 90-day space mission.
- The 36th International Coastal Clean-up Day was celebrated on September 18, 2021, for the tenth consecutive year. Highlights The day was celebrated by the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) at Visakhapatnam.
- On September 17, 2021, two Indian Projects have been selected to get the Environment Prize. Key Points One of the selected projects is- Solar-Powered Ironing Cart project that has been designed by a 14-year-old Tamil Nadu schoolgirl. The second project is- Agricultural Waste Recycling Concept developed by an entrepreneur from Delhi.



solar powered ironing cart



retd. IAS Ravi Kapoor



Launch of Sansad TV



Virat Kohli



China astronauts land in Gobi desert after a 90 day space mission

**FACTS:**

- The tallest man ever recorded was American giant Robert Wadlow (1918-1940), who stood 8 feet 11 inches. Wadlow’s size was the result of an abnormally enlarged pituitary gland.
- Dentistry is the oldest profession in the world. Dentistry goes all way back to when humans first had teeth... well not quite that long. However, one study found evidence of teeth being drilled in skulls that dates from 7,500 to 9,000 years ago. The holes were likely made using a prehistoric bow-drill.
- The coldest temperature ever recorded was -144 degrees Fahrenheit. The temperature was recorded in Antarctica during a span of research between 2004 and 2016. Just a few breaths of air at that temperature would induce hemorrhaging in your lungs and kill you.
- Only two countries use purple in their national flags. The flag of Nicaragua features a rainbow in the center that includes a band of purple, while the flag of Dominica boasts a picture of a sisserou parrot, a bird with purple feathers. These elements make them the only two flags in the world that use the color purple.
- There are 43 countries that still have a royal family. The British royal family may be the most famous royal family on the planet, but there are still plenty of other nobles out there. In total, there are 28 royal families who rule over a total of 43 countries around the world, including Japan, Spain, Swaziland, Bhutan, Thailand, Monaco, Sweden, the Netherlands, and Liechtenstein.

*Did you know?*

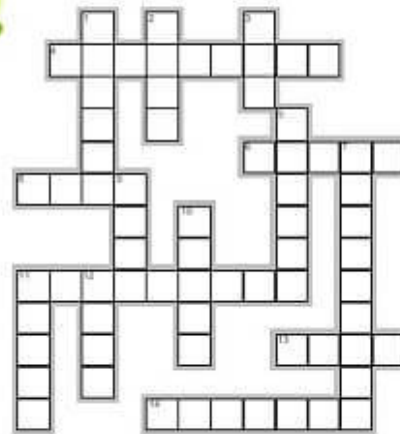
- The fastest gust of wind ever recorded on Earth was 253 miles per hour.
- The best place in the world to see rainbows is in Hawaii.
- Bats are the only mammal that can actually fly.
- Octopuses have three hearts.
- Cows don’t actually have four stomachs; they have one stomach with four compartments.
- There are no muscles in your fingers: Their function is controlled by muscles in your palms and arms.
- The word “strengths” is the longest word in the English language with only one vowel.

**QUIZWORD**

COVID-19 Crossword Puzzle



This COVID-19 crossword will remind you of ways you can protect you and your family from the spread of this disease. If you’ve been paying attention to recent news report, you’re sure to do well on this crossword!



Across:

4. An important warning sign of COVID-19 is difficulty \_\_\_\_\_ or shortness of breath.
6. Do not shake \_\_\_\_\_.
8. \_\_\_\_\_ your hands frequently.
11. Handle food \_\_\_\_\_.
13. Limit \_\_\_\_\_ sharing.
14. If possible, open \_\_\_\_\_ to increase ventilation.

Down:

1. Avoid large \_\_\_\_\_ of people.
2. Try not to touch your \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Limit close contact with others, staying about \_\_\_\_\_ feet apart.
5. Stay home if someone in your \_\_\_\_\_ is sick.
7. Disinfect surfaces like tables, desks and \_\_\_\_\_ regularly.
9. Stay \_\_\_\_\_ if you are feeling sick.
10. Always cover your mouth when you \_\_\_\_\_ or sneeze.
11. People with the COVID-19 virus sometimes feel pain or pressure in the \_\_\_\_\_.
12. If someone in your family is ill, give them their own \_\_\_\_\_, if possible.

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