

Abhyaas News Board ...

For the quintessential test prep student

News of the month

International Yoga Day Celebrated across the world



The 3rd edition of the International Yoga Day was celebrated on 21st June 2017 across the world. Prime Minister Narendra Modi performed yoga in Lucknow along with Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath and 51,000 participants at Ramabhai Ambedkar Sabha Sthal. He urged everyone to make Yoga a part of their life. He said Yoga has connected the world with India. Yoga is about health assurance and it is a medium to achieve wellness. The President inaugurated a mass yoga demonstration at Rashtrapati Bhavan. Yoga was also performed on carriers like INS Vikramaditya, INS Jalashwa and INS Kirch.

Celebrations were seen at New York, UAE, Japanese parliament, Trafalgar Square in London and many other places across the globe.

A total of 22 world records were set during the celebration in Ahmedabad. Some of the records include Longest Yoga Marathon lasting 51 hours, Longest performance of Sheershasan where three workers of Patanjali Yogapeeth, Jaipal, Gopal Dangi and Mohan Shankar Rao Thakrey performed sheershasan in a group for 3 hours 33 minutes and 33 seconds in a single stretch, Longest performance of Sheers Padmasana for 40 minutes, record number of times Surya Namaskar was performed under different categories.

The Editor's Column

Dear Student,

The month of June is the start of academic year for most courses in India. After the summer heat, the refreshing rains have started pouring bringing the temperatures to reasonable levels. It is also the month when the French Open is held at Roland Garros.

Many legends like Justice Bhagwati, Dasari Narayana Rao, C Narayana Reddy, Helmut Kohl are no longer with us. Some interesting changes in the cricket world with Anil Kumble stepping down as head coach and Ramachandra Guha as administrator.

The Presidential election next month is set to turn interesting as the contest narrows down to Ram Nath Kovind and Meira Kumar.

Read on to go through the current affairs for the month of June 2017.

Padma Parupudi

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Persons in News

1. Dasari Narayana Rao a famous filmmaker and former MP died at the age of 75. He holds a coal ministry in Congress regime. He directed many films like *Tata Manavadu* (1972), *Erra Bus* (2014), *Yeh Kaise Insaaf* (1980) and others. He began a newspaper called *Udayam* to counter the effect of *Eenadu*.
2. Molly Peters, the actor who acted in James Bond film *Thunderbell* passed away at the age of 75.
3. Aleksandar Vucic was sworn in as Serbia's New President. Vucic joined the Serbian Radical Party in 1993 and elected to the National Assembly following the 1993 Parliamentary election. He also served as the Minister of Defence in 2012 and Deputy Prime minister of Serbia.
4. Ramachandra Guha, a Historian quits as administrator of BCCI. He was one of the four members of the Committee of Administrators (CoA) appointed by Supreme Court, which is headed by Vinod Rai. The other members include Vikram Limaye and former Indian Women's Cricket captain Diana Edulji. Ramachandra Guha has written books like *India after Gandhi*, *Gandhi before India*, *Democrats and Dissenters* and so on.
5. Leo Varadkar, of Indian origin is becoming Prime minister of Ireland. He is the first gay minister, youngest minister and first homosexual minister in Ireland. He was born to Mumbai born Ashok Varadkar and Irish born Miriam. By profession Leo is a doctor.
6. Ravi Narain former MD and CEO of National Stock Exchange resigned as vice chairman. Before joining NSE he was deputy general manager in IDBI bank. He joined NSE in 1993. He is one of the board members in HDFC Standard Life Insurance, Indostar Capital Finance, PI industries, Crompton Greaves Consumer Electricals. He served NSE from 2000 to March 2013.
7. Roberto De Vincenzo, a golf player died in the age of 94. He won more than 230 tournaments worldwide including eight on the PGA tour, nine European wins, 131 Argentine wins and 1967 Open championship.
8. Joseph Muscat has been elected as a Prime minister for the second time in Malta, a Southern European island country. He began his career as a Financial secretary (1994- 97) in Labour Youth Forum and served as acting chairperson (1997) and other different roles.
9. Sher Bahadur Deuba, a veteran politician elected as a Prime minister of Nepal for the fourth time. He previously served as Prime minister of Nepal from 1995 to 1997, 2001 to 2002 and from 2004 to 2005. Again in 2017 he was re-elected as Prime minister of Nepal.
10. Rohan Bopanna and Gabriela Dabrowski win French open Mixed doubles. By winning the French open title Bopanna has become the fourth Indian to win the coveted title. The three others are Leander Paes, Mahesh Bhupathi and Sania Mirza. The French open is also known as Roland Garros.
11. The President of India launched Selfie with Daughter app. The campaign was started by Sunil Jaglan in 2015 in village Bibipur in Haryana's Jind district. The motto of the app is to spread awareness about female foeticide and sex selection.
12. In the women's category Jelena Ostapenko wins French Open tennis championship defeating Simona Halep of Romania. She is first player of Latvian origin to win this prestigious championship.
13. Rafael Nadal wins French Open tennis championship defeating Stan Wawrinka of Switzerland. Nadal is a Spanish tennis player and regarded as a clay-court player in history. He also called as a "The King of Clay". He has won 15 Grand Slam singles titles along with other trophies.
14. Sudarshan Pattnaik created a Guinness World Record at Puri in Odisha by making World's tallest sandcastle (14.84 meters). He was awarded the Padma Shri by GOI in 2014 and established "The Golden Sand Art Institute".
15. KK Venugopal is the new Attorney General of India after Mukul Rohatgi stepped down from the role.

16. Neeru Chadha, Law expert, has been appointed as a judge of the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) and she is the first Indian woman to serve on the 21- member court. ITLOS is an international organization created by the mandate of the Third United Nations Conference on the Law of the Sea. The tribunal is located at Hamburg, Germany.
17. Israeli author David Grossman has won the Man Booker International Prize for *A Horse Walks into a Bar*, sharing the prize money of 50,000 pounds with translator Jessica Cohen.
18. Margaret Atwood, a Canadian poet will receive lifetime achievement award from world's oldest literary organizations, Pen Center, USA. She is the founder of the Writer's Trust of Canada, a non-profit literary organization that seeks to encourage Canada's writing community.
19. Anil Kumble resigned as Indian cricket coach. He took over the mantle of head coach in July 2016, with the first assignment in the West Indies.
20. Azim Premji, chairman of Wipro is one of the recipients of Carnegie Medal, a prestigious medal in philanthropy for his efforts to reform India's public school system.
21. Rifath Sharook from Tamil Nadu has developed the smallest and lightest satellite which weighs 64 grams. The satellite has been called named as KalamSat after the former President of APJ Abdul Kalam. KalamSat is a 3-D printed satellite.
22. Moushira Khattab, Egyptian ambassador and diplomat has been nominated as the next Director-General of UNESCO. She is also a human rights activist advocating the rights of children and women and the former Chair of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child based at the UN Headquarters in Geneva.
23. Palbinder Kaur Shergil becomes first Sikh woman to be appointed as Judge in Supreme Court of Canada.
24. Srikanth Kidambi wins the Australian Open Super series Title. He is Indian Badminton player and began his sports career by winning the Silver medal in mixed doubles and bronze doubles in 2011 Commonwealth Youth Games.
25. K. Kasturirangan panel frames the National Education Policy. He is an Indian Space research scientist who headed ISRO. He is former Rajya Sabha member.
26. Hoshiar Singh has been appointed as Registrar of Copyrights. The Office of Copyrights, under the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion, is mandated to protect the music and film industry besides addressing its concerns, among others.
27. Eminent poet, litterateur and Jnanpith awardee C. Narayana Reddy, popularly known as CiNaRe, passed away. He was awarded the Padma Shri in 1977 and the Padma Bhushan in 1992. His compilation of poems, titled 'Viswambhara', got him the Jnanpith award in 1988. In 1997, he was nominated as a Member of the Rajya Sabha.
28. Virat Kohli creates record by becoming the fastest batsman to score 8000 runs in ODIs against Bangladesh.
29. Former Chief Justice of India P N Bhagwati, considered a pioneer of judicial activism in the country for introducing the concept of PILs, passed away at the age of 95. He was instrumental in furthering the cause of prisoners when he ruled that they too enjoyed fundamental rights. One of the important judgements pronounced by him was in the Maneka Gandhi passport impounding case in 1978 in which he elaborated the concept of right to life, and ruled that a person's movement cannot be restricted. He had ruled that a person had full right to hold a passport.
30. Former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, the architect of German reunification, passed away in Germany. He was Germany's longest serving post-war chancellor from 1982 to 1998, and a driving force behind the introduction of the euro currency, convincing sceptical Germans to give up their cherished Deutschmark.
31. Ramnath Kovind has been chosen as the NDA candidate for the Presidential elections in India whereas the opposition has chosen Meira Kumar.

Places in News

1. Mr. Narendra Modi and King Felipe VI of Spain met at Zarzuela Palace in Madrid. In this meeting both the countries have signed five MoUs in the field of cooperation in organ transplantation, cyber security, renewable energy, civil aviation and one between India's Foreign Service Institute and Diplomatic Academy of Spain. Also both the countries are working on a system of Zero tolerance to terrorism.
2. Pakistan is building fences on the border of Afghanistan. It starts from Bajur, Mohmand and Khyber tribal regions.
3. Thiruvananthapuram bags the smart city challenge by securing first place. The Smart Cities Mission comes under the Ministry of Urban Development, it is the first time the ministry using the word 'challenge' to select cities for funding using a strategy of area- based development.
4. Uttarakhand and Haryana declared open defecation free status under the Swach Bharat Mission Gramin (SBMG). The other states like Sikkim, Himachal Pradesh and Kerala already declared as Open Defecation Free (OPD). The Swach Bharat Mission began in the year 2014, to achieve universal sanitation and it aims to achieve Swach Bharat Mission by 2019.
5. Habibganj railway station in Bhopal will be the first station in the country to be developed under private partnership. Local company Bansal Group has been given contract to develop the station. This group has been given the responsibility of building, maintaining and operating the station for 8 years.
6. Mumbai's Taj Mahal palace Hotel has acquired an 'image trademark' under the trademark Act of 1999, making it is the 1st building in the country to acquire intellectual property rights protection for its architectural design.
7. The world's oldest mushroom has been discovered in Brazil and hailed as a scientific wonder. The mushroom has been named as Gondwanagaricities Magnificus and belongs to Agaricales order.
8. Odisha is the first state to get coastal warning system. The 122 towers in Odisha get a siren by pressing a single button at a time during natural disasters.
9. The Public Bicycle Sharing (PBS) project was launched in Mysuru. Bike share scheme is a service in which bicycles are made available for shared to individuals on a very short term basis. Bike share began in Europe in 1965. The system is divided into two general categories: community bike programmes and smart bike programmes.

Events of Significance

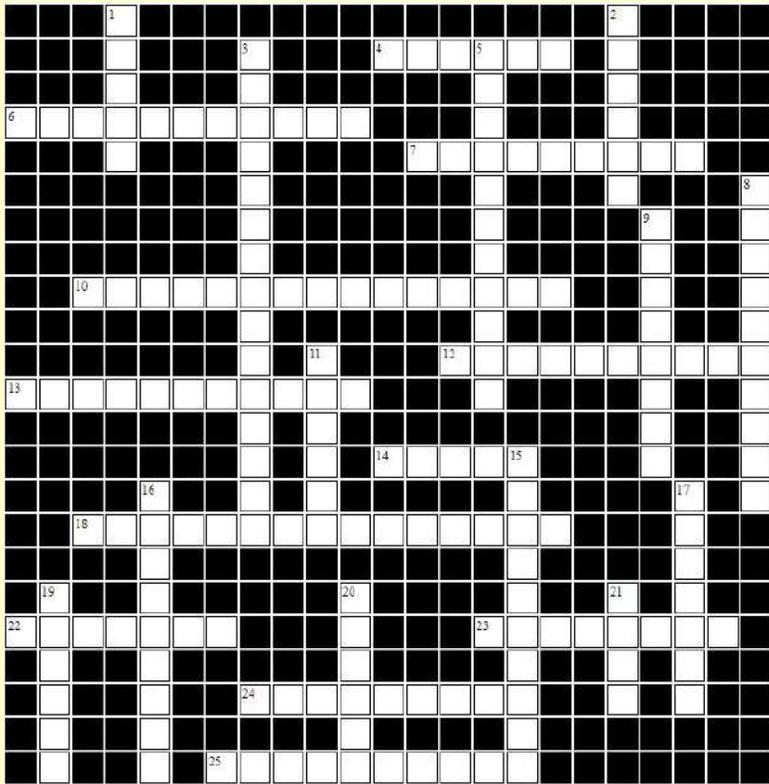
1. The World Bee day is celebrated on May 20. Anton Jansa, a pioneer of modern beekeeping was born on 20 May 1734. It was started by the Slovenian Beekeeper's Association, supported by the Republic of Slovenia and backed by Apimondia the beekeepers umbrella association.
2. US President Donald Trump is likely to withdraw from the Paris Climate Agreement. The Paris Climate Agreement or Paris Climate Accord is an agreement with United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and came into force on 4th November 2016 with 151 countries. The Paris Agreement's central aim is to strengthen the global response to the threat of climate change by maintaining the global temperature rise this century well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius.
3. Russian President Vladimir Putin and Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi met in St. Petersburg to sign nuclear pact which establishes two more nuclear plants in Tamil Nadu. In this meeting both the countries leaders covered issues like terrorism, increasing trade and investment. Both the countries hold the first tri-services exercises called Indra- 2017 along with this they discussed about manufacturing of frigates, adding to the production of Kamov-226 military helicopters.
4. National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has revealed the report on child marriage. Rajasthan has the highest number of cases in child marriage. According to census 2011, Rajasthan child marriage percentage has increased 2.5% of marriage and 4.69% of boys getting married below 21 years of legal age.

5. The Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative (OPHDI) conducted a research by using Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI), which says 31% of children are multidimensional poor in India followed by Nigeria (8%) Ethiopia (7%) and Pakistan (6%). A multidimensional poor means a child is one who lacks at least one –third of ten indicators, grouped into three dimensions of poverty: health, education and standard of living. The health indicators consist of factors such as nutrition, child mortality, and education. The standard of living indicators are access to cooking fuel, improved sanitation, safe drinking water, electricity, flooring and asset ownership.
6. The first development vehicle called Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark (3). GSLV is launched from the Satish Dhawan Space at Sriharikota on 5 June 2017. India has joined the race of US, Russia, Europe, China and Japan in space research.
7. The Gujarat government passed a bill on cow slaughtering after amending the animal protection law. The new law called Gujarat Animal Preservation (GAP) Amendment act 2017, which envisages punishment of life term and up to Rs. Five lakh fine.
8. The Indian army has opened the gates to women in combat role which was meant only for men in earlier days. India has joined the group of Germany, Australia, Canada, the US, Britain, Denmark, Finland, France, Norway, Sweden and Israel in approving women to enrol in combat role. In 2014 India's army had 3% women, the Navy 2.8 % and the Air Force 8.5% women. In 2015, India opened new combat air force roles for women as fighter pilots.
9. India has successfully test –fired an indigenously developed quick reaction surface-to –air short range missile from Chandipur along the Odisha coastal line.
10. The world's speed elevator is going to be installed in China. The speed of elevator is 1,260 meters per minute is going to be installed in skyscraper complex in China. The elevator has developed by Japan's Hitachi Company.
11. Under Atal Pension Yojana (API), Aadhar has become mandatory to get subsidy on Kerosene. API is earlier known as Swavalambam Yojana, is a government backed pension scheme targeted unorganized sector in India.
12. Andhra Pradesh is the first state to announce the use of LED lighting in the country to rural areas under the Government of India's Street Lighting National Project (SLNP). To start with the Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) under the Ministry of Power, Andhra Pradesh is going to provide LED lights to village panchayats.
13. The Anti- Superstition Bill is going to be introduced in Karnataka very soon. In 1989 ANS began to gain importance in Maharashtra. The bill condemns some activities which are dangerous and exploit poor people. Some activities are: to perform karni, Bhanamati, to perform magical rites in the name of supernatural power, to perform Agahori rites, to sacrifice innocent animals for the appeasement of gods or spirits and so on.
14. The UAE, Saudi Arabia, Bahrain, Egypt, Yemen and Libya are going to disconnect their relationship with Qatar. Saudi Arabia has accused Qatar to hold terrorist activities. Egypt has given the statement Qatar has taken step antagonist approach towards their country and others countries has given similar statements towards Qatar.
15. Nepal has signed an agreement with China in hydroelectric plant. Nepal's energy minister Janardhan Sharma with China Gezhouba Group Corporation to build the long-mooted 1,200 megawatt Budhi- Gandaki hydroelectric project.
16. The Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) has registered the child-friendly HIV drug in oral pellet form. It has opened market to Cipla Pharmaceuticals a market leader in HIV segment to the National AIDS Control Programme (NACO).

17. Scientists have found hottest planet located 650 light years from Earth, which is warmer than most stars in the universe and sports giant, glowing gas tail like a comet. The scientists have named as a KELT-9b is hotter than most stars and only 926 degree Celsius cooler than our sun.
18. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the merger between Airtel and Telenor (India) Communications. CCI is a statutory body of the Government of India responsible for enforcing The Competition Act, 2002 throughout India and to prevent activities that have appreciable adverse effect on competition of India.
19. Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Karnataka Amendment) Bill 2017, Kambala bill gets nod from the Union Ministry of Law and Justice. Kambala is an annual buffalo race held in coastal Karnataka. The animal welfare organizations filed a case against the organizers of Kambala.
20. World Health Organization (WHO) revised the antibiotics protocol in three categories: access, watch and reserve- specifying which are to be used for common ailments and which are to be kept for complicated diseases. In access category commonly used antibiotics are put, in watch category slightly more potent drugs have been put and the last category includes potent drugs to be used only as a last resort.
21. India has become full member in Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO). The SCO is a Eurasian political, economic and security organization led by leaders of China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. The Charter was signed in June 2002 and enforced on 19th September 2003. India and Pakistan have joined SCO on 9th June 2017 in Astana, Kazakhstan.
22. The scientists of Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CSIR-CCMB) have developed a novel way to treat fungal keratitis. Keratitis is the inflammation of the eye, which starts with redness and itching and might lead to blindness.
23. The Government of India is soon going to launch Electronic Health Records (EHR) very soon. The health card will be in Digital form and kept in Digital health locker. It will carry patient's information that could be used across all health schemes and facilities.
24. One million dollars fund for BRICS media from Xinhua News Agency. The BRICS media is supported by Xinhua News agency, Brazil's CMA group, Russia's Sputnik News Agency and Radio, The Hindu group of publication from India and South Africa's Independent India.
25. The Defence Research and Development Organization has successfully test fired anti-tank Nag missile in Rajasthan. The Nag missile is one of the five missile developed by DRDO and the Integrated guided missile development programme (IGMDP). It is third generation missile works on the principle of fire and forget and its cost is 3 billion dollars.
26. The Union Cabinet approved the Finance Resolution and Deposit Insurance Bill, 2017 which will provide a comprehensive resolution framework for financial sector entities to deal with bankruptcy situation in banks, insurance companies and others. It provides for a Resolution Corporation to protect the stability and flexibility to the financial system; protecting public funds. Once the bill is enacted it make changes to the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Act, 1961, the transfer of powers and responsibilities to respective Resolution Corporation.
27. China has launched its first X-ray space telescope called as Hard X-ray Modulation Telescope (HXMT) to study black holes, pulsars and gamma-ray bursts.
28. World Ocean Day is celebrated on June 8th. It has been celebrated unofficially since 1992 by Canada's international Centre for Ocean Development (ICOD) and the Ocean Institute of Canada (OIC). It gained recognition by the UN in 2008.
29. Switzerland rectified Automatic Exchange of Financial Account Information (AEOI) with India to facilitate immediate sharing of details on suspected black money. AEOI is an international standard that governs how tax authorities in the participating countries exchange data relating to the bank and safekeeping accounts of taxpayers.

30. India and Afghanistan are ready to operate their first air- freight corridor in couple of days. The first flight will be operated by Ariana Afghan airlines, which is Afghanistan's national carrier.
31. The International Yoga Day was celebrated on June 21. The International day for Yoga was declared by United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 11 December 2014. The idea of international day of yoga was carried by Prime minister of India, Narendra Modi.
32. Kanyashree Prakalpa scheme of West Bengal government to promote girls education bags UN Public Service Forum award. The scheme meant for the poor families in socio-economic background. It helps to develop the status of girls in West Bengal. It promotes education for girls for longer period of time.
33. GSAT-17 will join the line of 17 national communication satellites that are already in orbit. It weighs 3,477 kg spacecraft, it is the heaviest satellite build by the ISRO. GSAT-17 provides a continuity of services of operational satellites.
34. India has been ranked 137th in the Global Peace Index 2017, which ranks 163 independent states and territories according to their level of peacefulness. In Last year's index, India was ranked 141st. Top 10 countries are Iceland, New Zealand, Portugal, Austria, Denmark, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Canada, Switzerland, Ireland.
35. The National Biopharma Mission aimed at accelerating biopharmaceutical development in the country was launched recently. The programme named Innovate in India (i3) will witness an investment of USD 250 million with USD 125 million as a loan from World Bank. It aspires to create an enabling ecosystem to promote entrepreneurship and indigenous manufacturing in the sector.
36. The National Legal Services Authority (NALSA) has launched a Web Application for free Legal Services to prisoners and the Legal Services Management System developed through the NIC. Through the Web Application, the information regarding legal representation of individual prison inmates will be fed by the State Legal Services Authorities and District Legal Services Authorities.

Crossword - 0012



Across

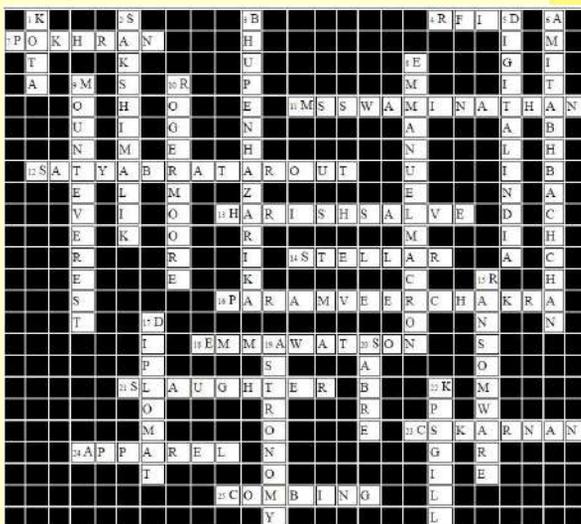
4. Jnanpith Awardee - telugu poet and writer
6. DM or erstwhile official currency of Germany
7. abortion by illegal means
10. Australian open super series 2017 winner in Badminton (2 Words)
12. only Indian cricketer to take all 10 wickets in Test innings (2 Words)
13. King of Clay (2 Words)
14. organization that provides free legal aid to the poor
18. former Prime Minister of Serbia (2 Words)
22. yearned for or desired
23. special court for a specific type of disputes
24. complex network or interconnected system
25. pioneer of judicial activism in India (3 Words)

Down

1. Island country in the middle of the Mediterranean sea
2. Baltic state, home to French Open Women's title holder
3. Eminent historian and writer associated with Cricket (2 Words)
5. acceding to the demands
8. originating locally
9. World's lightest satellite
11. Capital of Spain
15. known as Czar of Indian IT industry (2 Words)
16. Disease causing inflammation of the cornea
17. Annual buffalo race held in coastal Karnataka
19. strong or powerful
20. State that is the 'Utkala' region of India
21. Indian city famous for the Rath Yatra

Note: Solve this crossword and mail your solution with Crossword – 0012 in the subject line to abhyaaslawprep@gmail.com latest by 20th July 2017. First correct solution entry will get a prize.

Key to Crossword - 0011



Note: Good attempt by Poorvi for the crossword. However, it is not entirely correct. Hoping to see more enthusiastic participation this month.