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Current Affairs PDF

1. Who among the following has inaugurated Mega Dairy at Mandya in Karnataka recently?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने हाल ही में कर्नाटक के मांड्या में मेगा डेयरी का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Hardeep Singh Puri / हरदीप सिंह पुरी
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. e

Sol. Amit Shah inaugurated Mega Dairy at Mandya, Karnataka

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated Mega Dairy at Mandya in Karnataka.

The mega-dairy inaugurated at a cost of Rs 260 crore would process 10 lakh liters of milk per day and will have the capacity to increase it up to 14 lakh liters per day.

Currently, there are 15,210 village-level cooperative dairies in Karnataka, in which about 26.22 lakh farmers deliver their milk daily and through 16 district-level dairies, Rs 28 crore is deposited into the accounts of 26 lakh farmers every day.

The Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) will get all technical support and cooperation from Amul.

The National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) and the Ministry of Cooperation will establish a primary dairy in every panchayat of the country in the next three years.

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

- Amit Shah launched the **Prahari app** of the Border Security Force
- Amit Shah inaugurated and laid the **foundation stone of 4 projects worth over Rs 6,600 cr** in Faridabad
- Amit Shah inaugurated **Dairy Cooperative Conclave** in Gangtok, Sikkim
- Amit Shah inaugurated **SP conference** at Dergaon in Assam
- Amit Shah lays foundation stone of **new terminal building of Gwalior airport**
- Amit Shah launched **first Hindi version of MBBS course books** in Bhopal

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually flagged off Vande Bharat Express from Howrah Railway Station connecting Howrah to which station?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने हावड़ा रेलवे स्टेशन से हावड़ा को किस स्टेशन से जोड़ने वाली वंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस को वर्चुअली हरी झंडी दिखाई?

(a) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
(b) Kishanganj / किशनगंज
(c) Katihar / कटिहार
(d) Kamakhya / कामाख्या
(e) New Jalpaiguri / न्यू जलपाईगुड़ी

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi flagged off West Bengal's first Vande Bharata Express train

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually flagged off Vande Bharat Express from Howrah Railway Station connecting Howrah to New Jalpaiguri.

It is the first Vande Bharat Express to operate in West Bengal and on the Eastern parts of the country. Also, it is the seventh Vande Bharat train by Indian Railways in the country.

Covering a distance of 564 km in 7.45 hours, this train will save three hours in travel time as compared to other trains on the route.

He also inaugurated the Joka-Taratala Stretch of the Joka-Esplanade Metro Project (Purple Line) of Kolkata Metro.

Recent Inauguration by PM Modi

- PM Modi flagged off **6th Vande Bharat train** in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated **4th Vande Bharat Express** in Himachal Pradesh
- PM Modi participated in the historic programme marking '**Veer Bal Diwas' in** Delhi
- PM Modi addressed **75th Amrut Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul Rajkot Sansthan**
- PM Modi inaugurated projects worth **Rs 6,800 crore in Tripura, Meghalaya**
- PM Modi launched projects worth **Rs 75,000 cr in Maharashtra**

3. According to the Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation, India's first underwater metro service, the East-West Metro Corridor project is expected to be completed by which date?

भारत की पहली अंडरवाटर मेट्रो सेवा, कोलकाता मेट्रो रेल कॉर्पोरेशन के अनुसार, ईस्ट-वेस्ट मेट्रो कॉरिडोर परियोजना किस तारीख तक पूरी होने की उम्मीद है?

(a) July 2023 / जुलाई 2023
(b) December 2023 / दिसंबर 2023
(c) March 2024 / मार्च 2024
(d) September 2024 / सितंबर 2024
(e) December 2024 / दिसंबर 2024

Ans. b

Sol. India's first underwater metro to become operation by December 2023

According to the Kolkata Metro Rail Corporation, India's first underwater metro service, the East-West Metro Corridor project is expected to be completed by December 2023.

The East-West corridor of the Kolkata Metro is 15 Km-long and spans from Salt Lake Stadium to Howrah.

This metro line between Salt Lake Sector-5 to Salt Lake Stadium has Karunamayi, Central Park, City Center, and Bengal Chemical metro stations.

It costs about ₹120 crore per kilometre to build the tunnel but the manufacturing cost of the tunnel underwater, which is deep in the Hooghly river costs increased to around 157 crores by per kilometre.

First metro in India, Kolkata Metro which started its operation 24 October 1984 between Dum Dam to Tollygunge. It was started with the help of the Soviet Union.

Largest metro rail in operation in India, Delhi Metro (390.14 km). It started operation on 24 December 2002.

Smallest Metro- Ahmedabad metro (6 km)

The metro rail systems in operation in India are in the cities of Ahmedabad, Bengaluru, Chennai, Delhi, Gurugram, Hyderabad, Jaipur, Kanpur, Kolkata, Kochi, Lucknow, Mumbai, Nagpur, Noida, and Pune.

4. Who has inaugurated the Rs 300 crore Angul-Balram rail line connecting Odisha's Talcher Coalfield recently?

हाल ही में ओडिशा के तलचर कोलफील्ड को जोड़ने वाली 300 करोड़ रुपये की अंगुल-बलराम रेल लाइन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

(a) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Pralhad Joshi / प्रल्हाद जोशी
(d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. c

Sol. Pralhad Joshi inaugurated Rs 300 crore Angul-Balram rail line in Odisha

Coal Minister Pralhad Joshi inaugurated the Rs 300 crore Angul-Balram rail line connecting Odisha's Talcher Coalfield.

The 14-km-long Angul-Balram rail link is the first phase of a total 68-km inner corridor connecting Angul with Putugadia, Jarapada, and Tentuloi, which will cater to coal mines of Talcher coalfields.

The project was constructed by Mahanadi Coal Railway Ltd, a joint venture entity of MCL, IRCON International Ltd, and IDCO, an industrial infrastructure development agency of the Odisha government.

The internal corridor is being implemented by Mahanadi Coal Railway Ltd (MCRL) in two phases.

In phase two, the Balram-Putugadia-Jarapada-Tentuloi rail link would be completed.

The project is likely to enable Mahanadi Coalfields Ltd (MCL) to increase its daily dispatch of coal by around 40,000 tonnes.

Recent Inauguration by Union Ministers

- Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated 'Baji Rout National Football Tournament in Dhenkanal in Odisha.
- Ashwini Vaishnaw launched 'Stay Safe Online' Campaign
- Ashwini Vaishnaw launched Entrepreneurship Cell at C-DOT Campus, Delhi
- Ashwini Vaishnaw announced new train 'Kashi Tamil Sangamam'
- Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the Sports Science Centre in Udupi, Karnataka.

5. Which ministry has launched Prajjwala Challenge to transform the rural economy?

ग्रामीण अर्थव्यवस्था को बदलने के लिए किस मंत्रालय ने प्रज्ज्वला चैलेंज लॉन्च किया है?

(a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare / स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय

(b) Ministry of Environment and Forests / पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय

(c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs / आवास और शहरी मामलों के मंत्रालय

(d) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy / नवीन और नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा मंत्रालय

(e) Ministry of Rural Development / ग्रामीण विकास मंत्रालय

Ans. e

Sol. Ministry of Rural Development launched Prajjwala Challenge

Rural Development Ministry has launched Prajjwala Challenge inviting ideas, solutions, and actions to transform the rural economy.

It was launched under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).

It is one of the platforms where ideas are invited from individuals, Social Enterprises, Start Up, Private Sector, Community Based organizations, Incubation centres, and Investors having the potential to transform the rural economy.

Focus areas under challenge are Inclusive Growth, Value Chain Interventions, and Enhanced Women Entrepreneurship.

The top 5 ideas will be rewarded with Rs 2 Lakh each.

6. Non-banking financial company Shriram Finance Ltd. has secured a $100 million loan from which of the following organizations?
गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनी श्रीराम फाइनेंस लिमिटेड ने निम्नलिखित में से किस संगठन से $100 मिलियन का ऋण प्राप्त किया है?
(a) World Bank / विश्व बैंक
(b) AIIB / एआईआईबी
(c) ADB / एशियाई विकास बैंक
(d) NDB / एनडीबी
(e) IMF / अंतर्राष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष
Ans. c
Sol. Asian Development Bank provides $100 million loans to Shriram Finance Limited
Non-banking financial company Shriram Finance Ltd. has secured long-term funding of $100 million from Asian Development Bank (ADB) to finance its purchase of new and used vehicles across India.
The loan amount will be used by Shriram Finance to provide loans to customers to buy new or used BS VI-compliant vehicles and electric vehicles", besides providing financial support to women entrepreneurs and under-developed states.
Shriram Finance Limited is the largest retail NBFC in India. It was formed after the merger of mainly Shriram City Union Finance and Shriram Transport Finance.
Headquarters - Chennai
MD & CEO - Y S Chakravarti
About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masatsugu Asakawa
- **Vice President** - Ashok Lavasa
- **Director of ADB for India** - Takeo Konishi
- **Executive Director** - Sameer Kumar Khare
- **Member Counrtries -** 68 (Nuie)
- Asian Development Bank provides $100 million loans to Shriram Finance Limited
- ADB approved $125 million loan to improve Urban Services in Tamil Nadu
- ADB approved USD 350 million loan to Maharashtra for road connectivity
- ADB approved USD 96 million loan to HP for safe drinking water project
- ADB approves $112 million loan to establish Assam Skill University.
- ADB approves $150 million loan for urban poor housing project in Tamil Nadu.

7. The government has increased interest rates on various small savings schemes for the fourth quarter of the current Financial Year starting from 1st January 2023. The interest rate on Kisan Vikas Patra has increased to how much percent from 7 percent?

सरकार ने 1 जनवरी 2023 से शुरू होने वाले चालू वित्त वर्ष की चौथी तिमाही के लिए विभिन्न छोटी बचत योजनाओं पर ब्याज दरों में वृद्धि की है। किसान विकास पत्र पर ब्याज दर 7 प्रतिशत से बढ़कर कितने प्रतिशत हो गई है?

(a) 7.1 percent
(b) 7.2 percent
(c) 7.3 percent
(d) 7.4 percent
(e) 7.5 percent

Ans. b

Sol. Government hikes interest rates on small savings schemes

Government has increased interest rates on various small savings schemes for the fourth quarter of the current Financial Year starting from 1st January 2023.

The interest rate of five year National Saving Certificate has been increased to 7 percent from 6.8 percent.

The interest rate on the senior citizen saving scheme increased to 8 percent from 7.6 percent. The Monthly Income Account Saving has also been increased to 7.1 percent from 6.7 percent.

The interest rate on Kisan Vikas Patra will now be 7.2 percent and will mature in 120 months.

The interest rate of small savings deposit of one year time period has been increased to 6.6 percent from 5.5 percent.

However, the interest rate on the Public Provident Fund scheme, Sukanya Samriddhi Account Scheme, and Saving Deposit have been kept unchanged.

8. Who has been appointed as the Chairman-Cum-Managing Director of the public sector enterprise MOIL Limited?
सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के उद्यम MOIL लिमिटेड के अध्यक्ष-सह-प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Pradeep Kharola / प्रदीप खरोला
(b) Ajit Kumar Saxena / अजीत कुमार सक्सेना
(c) R Venkataramani / आर वेंकटरमणि
(d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
(e) Harish Salve / हरीश साल्वे

Ans. b

Sol. Ajit Kumar Saxena appointed as Chairman & MD of MOIL

Ajit Kumar Saxena has been appointed as the Chairman-Cum-Managing Director of the public sector enterprise MOIL Limited.

Prior to this assignment, Shri Saxena held the position of director (Operations) at RINL-Vishakhapatnam Steel Plant.

He started his career as a management trainee (Technical) in Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL) in 1986 and thereafter, held various positions during his long tenure in SAIL such as chief general manager, Mills, IISCO, Burnpur, and general manager, Bhilai Steel Plant, etc.

About MOIL

- MOIL is one of the largest manganese ore producers of the country.
- MOIL is a Schedule "A" Miniratna Category-I Company under the Union Ministry of Steel.
- It was originally incorporated as Manganese Ore (India) Limited in 1962 and its name was changed to MOIL Limited during 2010-11.
- The company operates 11 manganese ore mines in India. It has 7 mines located in the Nagpur and Bhandara districts of Maharashtra and four in the Balaghat district of Madhya Pradesh.

Recent Appointment

- Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner - Praveen K Srivastava
- Engineer-in-Chief of Army - LG Arvind Walia
- Chairman of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) - Santosh Kumar Yadav
- CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) - Ganji Kamala Vardhana Rao
- Chief advisor to the Gujarat CM - Hasmukh Adhia appointed as
- Chairman of Railway Board - Anil Kumar Lahoti (replace Vinay Kumar Tripathi)

9. Who has been appointed as the head of the new Economic Advisory Council of Maharashtra?

महाराष्ट्र की नई आर्थिक सलाहकार परिषद के प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
(b) Ajay Bhadoo / अजय भादू
(c) N Chandrasekaran / एन चंद्रशेखरन
(d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
(e) Harish Salve / हरीश साल्वे

Ans. c

Sol. N Chandrasekaran appointed as head of Maharashtra government advisory council

The Maharashtra government has appointed Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran as the head of the new Economic Advisory Council of Maharashtra.

This was announced by deputy chief minister Devendra Fadnavis in the state Legislative Council in Nagpur.

The Maharashtra government has set up the Economic Advisory Council, to make Maharashtra a trillion-dollar economy.

The new advisory council will function as a private research organization that will focus on issues related to agriculture, banking, engineering, and education, among others.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has set a target of India becoming a $5 trillion economy by 2024-25.

Recent Appointment

- Captain of Indian team at the FIH men's world cup 2023 - Harmanpreet Singh
- CEO of Air India Express - Aloke Singh
- Chairperson of New Delhi International Arbitration Centre (NDIAC) – Former SC Justice Hemant Gupta
- Chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) - Dinesh Kumar Shukla
- CEO of the Brisbane 2032 Olympic and Paralympic Games - Cindy Hook
- First black president in Harvard University - Claudine Gay

10. Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Limited?

बॉम्बे स्टॉक एक्सचेंज (बीएसई) लिमिटेड के प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Sundararaman Ramamurthy / सुंदररमन राममूर्ति
(b) Baskar Babu Ramachandran / बस्कर बाबू रामचंद्रन
(c) Vivek Joshi / विवेक जोशी
(d) Shamsher Singh / शमशेर सिंह
(e) Sushmita Shukla / सुष्मिता शुक्ला

Ans. a

Sol. Sundararaman Ramamurthy appointed as MD & CEO of BSE

Sundararaman Ramamurthy has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) **of Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) Limited**

He has been appointed for a five-year term with effect from January 4.

In November, BSE received consent from regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) to appoint Ramamurthy as MD and CEO of the exchange.

The position has been vacant since July when the then MD and CEO Ashishkumar Chauhan resigned from the post to join the National Stock Exchange (NSE). He was appointed as MD and CEO of NSE, in late July.

Sundararaman Ramamurthy has over 20 years of work experience in the National Stock Exchange of India Limited (NSE) as a senior member of its team since its inception.

- MD & CEO of Suryoday Small Finance Bank - Baskar Babu Ramachandran (re-appointement)
- MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank - P N Vasudevan
- MD and CEO of SBI Funds - Shamsher Singh
- First VP & COO of Federal Reserve Bank of New York - Sushmita Shukla
- Director on RBI's central board - Vivek Joshi

11. Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been appointed as Managing Director and CEO of which of the following bank?

अजय कुमार श्रीवास्तव को निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक और सीईओ के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Punjab & Sind Bank / पंजाब एंड सिंध बैंक

(b) Indian Overseas Bank / इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक

(c) Union Bank of India / यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया

(d) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक

(e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Ans. b

Sol. Ajay Kumar Srivastava appointed as MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank

Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been appointed as Managing Director and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank.

Prior to taking up the new role, Srivastava was serving as an executive director in the bank.

He replaced Partha Pratim Sengupta whose tenure ended on 31 December 2022.

He started his banking career as a probationary officer in 1991 with Allahabad Bank where he worked in various capacities in different parts of the country.

Recent Appointment in Banking Sector

- Chairman of Punjab National Bank (PNB) - AK Goel (reappointment)
- Chairman of SBI - Dinesh Khara (reappointment)
- MD & CEO of Bank of Maharashtra - A S Rajeev (reappointment)
- Deputy Chairman of Mashreq Bank - Madhav Nair (reappointment)
- Additional and Independent Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank - C S Rajan

12. Who has won India's first-ever Silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan?

अल्माटी, कजाकिस्तान में FIDE वर्ल्ड ब्लिट्ज शतरंज चैंपियनशिप में भारत का पहला रजत पदक किसने जीता है?

(a) Vaishali Rameshbabu / वैशाली रमेशबाबू

(b) Koneru Humpy / कोनेरू हम्पी

(c) Harika Dronavalli / हरिका द्रोणावल्ली

(d) Tania Sachdev / तानिया सचदेव

(e) Hou Yifan / हौ यिफ़ान

Ans. b

Sol. Koneru Humpy won Silver at the World Chess Blitz Championship

Former world rapid champion Koneru Humpy has won India's first-ever Silver medal in the FIDE World Blitz Chess Championships in Almaty, Kazakhstan.

Humpy defeated China's Zhongyi Tan to win Silver in the 17th and final round.

Fourth-seeded Humpy scored an impressive 12.5 points, just half a point behind the gold medal winner Bibisara Balabayeva of Kazakhstan.

Humpy is the second Indian to win a medal at World Blitz, after Viswanathan Anand.

13. Which state has clinched the title by defeating Odisha 6-5 in the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's Under-18 qualifier title in Bhubaneswar?

किस राज्य ने भुवनेश्वर में खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स 2022 मेन्स अंडर-18 क्वालीफायर खिताब में ओडिशा को 6-5 से हराकर खिताब जीता है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Ans. e

Sol. Hockey Madhya Pradesh clinched Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's U-18 title

In hockey, Madhya Pradesh clinched the title by defeating Odisha 6-5 in the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Men's Under-18 qualifier title in Bhubaneswar.

Jamir Mohammad was the star of the final, scoring a hat-trick, while Ali Ahmed, Mohammad Zaid Khan, and Captain Ankit Pal scored one goal each for Madhya Pradesh.

Haryana claimed third place in the competition with a win against Jharkhand 2-0 in the 3rd and 4th place clash. Amandeep and Roshan scored goals for Haryana.

With this, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Haryana, and Jharkhand have qualified for the Khelo India Youth Games to be held in Madhya Pradesh next year.

14. Which state has won the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Women's Under 18 Qualifiers after defeating Madhya Pradesh 2-0 in the final at Bhubaneswar?

भुवनेश्वर में फाइनल में मध्य प्रदेश को 2-0 से हराकर किस राज्य ने खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स 2022 महिला अंडर 18 क्वालीफायर जीता है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Punjab / पंजाब

(e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. e

Sol. Hockey Haryana Women's U-18 team won Khelo India Youth Games 2022

Hockey Haryana's women's team has won the Khelo India Youth Games 2022 Women's Under 18 Qualifiers after defeating Madhya Pradesh 2-0 in the final at Bhubaneswar.

In the final match, Pooja and Gurmail Kaur scored a goal each for Haryana to end the contest in their favour.

Odisha stepped up to claim third place after beating Hockey Jharkhand 2-1 in the 3rd and 4th place encounter.

Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Jharkhand have qualified for the Khelo India Youth Games to be held in Madhya Pradesh next year.

15. Who has been nominated for the ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year 2022?

ICC मेन्स T20I क्रिकेटर ऑफ द ईयर 2022 के लिए किसे नामांकित किया गया है?

(a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
(b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
(c) KL Rahul / केएल राहुल
(d) Dinesh Karthik / दिनेश कार्तिक
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. e

Sol. Mandhana & Suryakumar nominated for the ICC T20 cricketer of the year award 2022

The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced the shortlisted cricket players for its year-end awards.

Four players are shortlisted in the men's and women's category for its various annual awards taking into account the performance of the players in the calendar year.

ICC Men's Cricketer of the Year 2022 for overall performer (Tests, ODIs, and T20Is)

- Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- Ben Stokes (England)
- Sikandar Raza (Zimbabwe)
- Tim Southee (New Zealand)

ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year 2022 for overall performer (Tests, ODIs, and T20Is)

- Nat Sciver (England)
- Smriti Mandhana (India)
- Amelia Kerr (New Zealand)
- Beth Mooney (Australia)

ICC Men's Test Cricketer of the Year 2022

- Ben Stokes (England)
- Jonny Bairstow (England)
- Usman Khawaja (Australia)
- Kagiso Rabada (South Africa)

ICC Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year 2022

- Babar Azam (Pakisatan)
- Adam Zampa (Australia)
- Sikandar Raza (Zimbabwe)
- Shai Hope (West Indies)

ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year 2022

- Shabnim Ismail (Pakisatan)

- Amelia Kerr (New Zealand)
- Nat Sciver (England)
- Alyssa Healy (Australia)

ICC Men's T20I Cricketer of the Year 2022

- Suryakumar Yadav (India)
- Sikandar Raza (Zimbabwe)
- Sam Curran (England)
- Mohammad Rizwan (Pakistan)

ICC Women's T20I Cricketer of the Year 2022

- Smriti Mandhana (India)
- Nida Dar (Pakistan)
- Sophie Devine (New Zealand)
- Tahlia McGrath (Australia)

ICC Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year 2022

- Marco Jansen (South Africa)
- Ibrahim Zadran (Afghanistan)
- Finn Allen (New Zealand)
- Arshdeep Singh (India)

ICC Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year 2022

- Renuka Singh (India)
- Darcie Brown (Australia)
- Alice Capsey (England)
- Yastika Bhatia (India)

About International Cricket Council (ICC)

- **Formation -** 15 June 1909
- **Headquarters** - Dubai, UAE
- **Chairman -** Greg Barclay (New Zealand)
- **Deputy Chairman -** Imran Khwaja (Singapore)
- **CEO** - Geoff Allardice (Australia)
- **General Manager –** Wasim Khan
- **Membership** - 108 members

16. The year 2023 is being observed all over the world as International Year of the _____.

वर्ष 2023 को पूरी दुनिया में _____ के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वर्ष के रूप में मनाया जा रहा है।

(a) Barley / जौ
(b) Rice / चावल
(c) Wheat / गेहूं
(d) Maize / मक्का
(e) Millets / बाजरा

Ans. e

Sol. International Year of Millets (IYM) 2023 kick starts on 1 Jan 2023

The year 2023 is being observed all over the world as the International Year of the millets.

The Government of India aims to make the International Year of the millets a 'People's Movement' and position India as the 'Global Hub for Millets'.

The proposal was accepted and passed by the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly in 2021 and 2023 was declared as the International Year of Millets.

Central Ministries, States and Indian embassies allocated a focused month in 2023 to carry out various activities for the promotion of the International Year of Millets and increase awareness about the benefits of millets.

January 2023 is the focused month for the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs and the States of Chhattisgarh, Mizoram, and Rajasthan for conducting events and activities.

The Ministry has planned 15 activities over 15 days in January which include engaging sports persons, nutritionists and fitness experts through video messages, and conducting webinars on millets with leading nutritionists, dieticians, and elite athletes.

India is the largest producer of millets in the world. 'Millets' were among the first crops to be domesticated in India.

The PM of India has also shared his vision to make IYM 2023 a 'People's Movement' alongside positioning India as the 'Global Hub for Millets.

17. Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at which state recently?

केंद्रीय गृह और सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने हाल ही में किस राज्य में केंद्रीय जासूस प्रशिक्षण संस्थान (CDTI) की आधारशिला रखी है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Karnataka / कर्नाटक
(e) Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़

Ans. d

Sol. Amit Shah lays the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) in Karnataka

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka.

He also inaugurated the residential and administrative complexes of the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP).

The residential complexes of ITBP inaugurated by Shri Amit Shah include Residential Quarters, Joint Building, Barracks for 120 Jawans, Staff Officers' Mess and Officers' Mess.

This will be the 6th CDTI of the Bureau of Police Research & Development under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs in the country.

The Devanahalli center of CDTI will serve the forensic needs of the neighbouring States of Karnataka, Maharashtra, Goa and the Union Territory of Daman-Diu.

About Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI)

- There are five functioning Central Detective Training Institutes (CDTI) in the country under the Bureau of Police Research & Development.
- The first CDTI was set up in Calcutta in 1958. Others are at Hyderabad, Chandigarh, Jaipur, and Ghaziabad.
- The objective of the CDIT is to provide training to the police personnel up to the Deputy SSP rank.
- The main objective of the in-service training is to improve the standard of crime investigation in this country by familiarizing Police Investigation Officers with the various developments in Forensic Science.

18. Which armed force has celebrated 'Jashn-e-Chillai-Kalan' with students in Srinagar?

किस सशस्त्र बल ने श्रीनगर में छात्रों के साथ 'जश्न-ए-चिल्लई कलां' मनाया है?

(a) BSF

(b) CISF

(c) CRPF

(d) ITBP

(e) Assam Refiles

Ans. c

Sol. CRPF celebrated Jashn-e-Chillai-Kalan' with students in Srinagar

CRPF celebrated 'Jashn-e-Chillai-Kalan' with students in Srinagar.

Chillai-Kalan is the harshest winter period in Kashmir for a period of 40 days starting from 21st December to 29th January every year.

Many activities such as Badminton, debate, drawing, singing, etc. were organized in the school.

The program gives them an environment to participate and learn new things. Through these programmes, people of the area and forces develop good and healthy relationships.

19. India and which country have signed a number of agreements in various areas including on Defence and Military Cooperation between the two countries?

भारत और किस देश ने दोनों देशों के बीच रक्षा और सैन्य सहयोग सहित विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में कई समझौतों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Cyprus / साइप्रस
(b) Ghana / घाना
(c) Sudan / सूडान
(d) Austria / ऑस्ट्रिया
(e) Oman / ओमान

Ans. a

Sol. India & Cyprus sign agreement on defence and military cooperation

India and Cyprus have signed a number of agreements in various areas including on Defence and Military Cooperation between the two countries.

A Letter of Intent on Migration and Mobility Partnership was also signed to provide a common framework of arrangement and cooperation to facilitate the mobility of students, academics, business people and professionals.

During his three-day visit to Cyprus, Dr Jaishankar will call on the President of the House of Representatives Annita Demetriou.

In the second leg of his visit to Austria, Dr. Jaishankar will meet the Austrian Federal Minister for European and International Affairs Alexander Schallenberg.

According to the External Affairs Ministry, this will be the first External Affairs Minister-level visit from India to Austria in the last 27 years.

About Cyprus

- Capital - Nicosia
- Currency - Euro
- President - Nicos Anastasiades

Recent MoUs

- India and Germany signed Migration and Mobility Agreement
- India & EU signed an agreement for climate, quantum tech
- India signed an agreement with Netherlands to formalize bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism
- India signed an MoU with Japan to advance scientific cooperation for Indian Ayurveda
- India signed 4 MoUs with Cambodia in the areas of culture, wildlife, health

20. Which of the following company through its subsidiary will complete the acquisition of Ford India's manufacturing plant in Sanand?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी कंपनी अपनी सहायक कंपनी के माध्यम से साणंद में फोर्ड इंडिया के विनिर्माण संयंत्र का अधिग्रहण पूरा करेगी?

(a) Blue Energy Motors / ब्लू एनर्जी मोटर्स
(b) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd / महिंद्रा एंड महिंद्रा लिमिटेड
(c) Suzuki Motor Corporation / सुजुकी मोटर कॉर्पोरेशन
(d) Mercedes-Benz / मर्सिडीज बेंज
(e) Tata Motors Ltd / टाटा मोटर्स लिमिटेड

Ans. e

Sol. Tata Motors to complete acquisition of Ford India's manufacturing Plant in Jan

Tata Motors to complete the acquisition of Ford India's manufacturing plant at Sanand through its subsidiary on 10th January 2023. The subsidiary, Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Limited (TPEML), on August 2022, announced that would acquire Ford India Pvt Ltd's (FIPL) Sanand plant in Gujarat for ₹725.7 crore.

The acquisition included the entire land and buildings; the vehicle manufacturing plant along with machinery and equipment and transfer of all eligible employees of FIPL's vehicle manufacturing operations at Sanand.

21. Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the first phase of the New Zuari Bridge in which state?

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने किस राज्य में न्यू जुआरी ब्रिज के पहले चरण का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Goa / गोवा

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Ans. a

Sol. India's second longest cable-stayed eight-lane Zuari Bridge opens in Goa

Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the first phase of the New Zuari Bridge across River Zuari connecting Bambolim in North Goa to Verna junction in South Goa.

Located on NH-17/NH-66 on the Panjim-Mangalore section in the state of Goa, the bridge will reduce the travel time between North and South Goa by minimizing the traffic blockades between the Bambolim-Agasaim-Cortalim-Sancoale to Verna Junction.

Nitin Gadkari in News

- Nitin Gadkari launched Surety Bond Insurance product from Bajaj Allianz
- Nitin Gadkari launched Toyota **pilot project on Flex-Fuel Strong Hybrid EV.**
- Nitin Gadkari **inaugurated 13 road projects worth Rs 5315 crore** in Madhya Pradesh
- Nitin Gadkari announced new projects of 1.6 lakh crores rupees in the North-East India region.

22. According to Reporters without Borders (RSF), a total of 1,668 journalists have been killed worldwide in connection with their work of journalism over the past two decades (2003–2022). Which of the following country has the highest death tolls?

रिपोर्टर्स विदाउट बॉर्डर्स (RSF) के अनुसार, पिछले दो दशकों (2003-2022) में पत्रकारिता के अपने काम के सिलसिले में दुनिया भर में कुल 1,668 पत्रकार मारे गए हैं। निम्नलिखित में से किस देश में मृत्यु दर सबसे अधिक है?

(a) Iran / ईरान
(b) Somalia / सोमालिया
(c) Myanmar / म्यांमार
(d) Syria / सीरिया
(e) Afghanistan / अफगानिस्तान

Ans. d

Sol. 1668 Journalists killed in the last 20 years: Reporters without Borders

According to Reporters without Borders (RSF), a total of 1,668 journalists have been killed worldwide in connection with their work of journalism over the past two decades (2003–2022), due to murders, contract killings, ambushes, war zone deaths, and fatal injuries.

The report says that on average every year 80 journalists lost their lives. The total killed since 2000 is 1,787.

The annual death tolls peaked in 2012 and 2013 with 144 and 142 journalists killed, respectively.

These peaks, due in large measure to the war in Syria, were followed by a gradual fall and then historically low figures from 2019 onwards.

During the past two decades, 80% of media fatalities have occurred in 15 countries. The two countries with the highest death tolls are Iraq and Syria, with a combined total of 578 journalists killed in the past 20 years, or more than a third of the worldwide total. They are followed by Afghanistan, Yemen, and Palestine. Africa has not been spared, with Somalia coming next.

23. India has assumed the presidency of the plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement for how many years from 1 January 2023?

भारत ने 1 जनवरी 2023 से कितने वर्षों के लिए वासेनार व्यवस्था के पूर्ण अधिवेशन की अध्यक्षता ग्रहण की है?

(a) One Year / एक वर्ष
(b) Two Year / दो वर्ष
(c) Three Year / तीन वर्ष
(d) Four Year / चार वर्ष
(e) Five Year / पांच वर्ष

Ans. a

Sol. India assumes the charge of the Wassenaar Arrangement

India has assumed the chairmanship of the plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement for one year on 1st January 2023.

At the 26th annual plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement, Eoin O'Leary (Ireland's ambassador) has handed over the chairmanship to Jaideep Mazumdar (India's ambassador).

Jaideep Mazumdar is the permanent representative to the UN and international organizations in Vienna.

India joined the Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) on 08 December 2017 as its 42nd Participating State.

About Wassenaar Arrangement

- The Wassenaar Arrangement was established in July 1996 at Wassenaar, Netherlands. It is a voluntary export control regime of 42 member countries. The member countries exchange information on transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies.
- The main aim of the Wassenaar agreement is to discourage its member countries from exporting conventional weapons and dual-use goods and technologies to countries which are a threat to global peace.

24. Which of the following has launched Utkarsh 2.0, the second phase of the central bank's medium-term strategy for strengthening regulatory and supervisory mechanisms?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने नियामक और पर्यवेक्षी तंत्र को मजबूत करने के लिए केंद्रीय बैंक की मध्यम अवधि की रणनीति का दूसरा चरण उत्कर्ष 2.0 लॉन्च किया है?

(a) NABARD / नाबार्ड
(b) RBI / आरबीआई
(c) PFRDA / पीएफआरडीए
(d) SEBI / सेबी
(e) SIDBI / सिडबी

Ans. b

Sol. RBI launched Utkarsh 2.0 for the period 2023-2025

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has launched Utkarsh 2.0, the second phase of the central bank's medium-term strategy for strengthening regulatory and supervisory mechanisms.

Utkarsh 2.0 harnesses the strengths of Utkarsh 2022 by retaining the six Vision statements as well as Core Purpose, Values, and Mission statement.

The first strategy framework (Utkarsh 2022) covering the period 2019-2022 was launched in July 2019. It became a medium-term strategy document guiding the Bank's progress toward the realization of the identified milestones.

The six vision statements are -

1. Excellence in the performance of its statutory and other functions
2. Strengthened trust of citizens and institutions in the RBI
3. Enhanced relevance and significance in national and global roles
4. Transparent, accountable and ethics-driven internal governance
5. Best-in-class and environment-friendly digital and physical infrastructure
6. Innovative, dynamic and skilled human resources will guide the strategy.

- **Founded** - 1 April 1935
- **RBI Nationalized** - 1 January 1949
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **RBI set up -** Hilton Young Commission
- **1st Governor -** Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)
- **1st Indian Governor -** CD Deshmukh
- **25th Governor** - Shaktikanta Das
- **RBI Deputy Governor** (4) - 1. Tavarna Rabi Sankar
  2. Mukesh Kumar Jain
  3. Michael D Patra
  4. M Rajeshwar Rao

25. Who has been appointed as the Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF)?

सीमा सुरक्षा बल (BSF) के महानिदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Anish Dayal Singh / अनीश दयाल सिंह
(b) Sujoy Lal Thaosen / सुजॉय लाल थाउसेन
(c) M A Ganapathy / एम ए गणपति
(d) Umesh Mishra / उमेश मिश्रा
(e) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal / सुबोध कुमार जायसवाल

Ans. b

Sol. CRPF Director-General Sujoy Thaosen takes additional charge of BSF

The Government of India has given the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) Director General Sujoy Lal Thaosen the additional charge as Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF).

He succeeds BSF Director General Pankaj Kumar Singh.

Thaosen is a 1988 batch officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre and he will hold the 'additional charge' of BSF DG till the appointment of a regular DG of BSF or until further orders.

The about 2.65-lakh-personnel-strong BSF guards more than 6,300 kilometres of the Indian boundary with Pakistan and Bangladesh, apart from rendering a variety of roles in the country's internal security domain.

Appointment in Defence Sector

- Director General of Police of Rajasthan - Umesh Mishra
- Director General of CISF - Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- Director General of ITBP - Anish Dayal Singh
- Director General of CRPF - Sujoy Lal Thaosen
- Director General of NSG - M A Ganapathy
- Director General of Indian Coast Guard - Virender Singh Pathania
- Director General of Indian Army - General Manoj Pande
- Director General of NCC - Lt. Gen. Gurbirpal Singh
- Director General of Indian Air Force - Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- Director General of Indian Navy - Admiral R. Hari Kumar

26. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)?

परमाणु ऊर्जा नियामक बोर्ड (एईआरबी) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Pradeep Kharola / प्रदीप खरोला
(b) Aryama Sundaram / आर्यमा सुंदरम
(c) R Venkataramani / आर वेंकटरमणि
(d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
(e) Dinesh Kumar Shukla / दिनेश कुमार शुक्ला

Ans. e

Sol. Dinesh Shukla appointed as Chairman of Atomic Energy Regulatory Board

Former Executive Director of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) & Distinguished Scientist, Dinesh Kumar Shukla has been appointed as the Chairman of AERB.

He has been appointed on this post for a period of three years.

Dinesh Kumar Shukla is an internationally acclaimed expert in the field of Nuclear Safety.

The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board was constituted on November 15, 1983, by the President of India by exercising the powers conferred by the Atomic Energy Act, 1962 to carry out certain regulatory and safety functions under the Act.

The regulatory authority of AERB is derived from the rules and notifications promulgated under the Atomic Energy Act and the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

The Mission of the AERB is to ensure the use of ionizing radiation and nuclear energy in India does not cause undue risk to the health of people and the environment.

- Head of Maharashtra government advisory council - N Chandrasekaran
- Chairman & MD of MOIL - Ajit Kumar Saxena
- Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner - Praveen K Srivastava
- Engineer-in-Chief of Army - LG Arvind Walia
- Chairman of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) - Santosh Kumar Yadav
- CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) - Ganji Kamala Vardhana Rao

27. Who has assumed command of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command recently?

हाल ही में भारतीय वायु सेना की पश्चिमी वायु कमान की कमान किसने संभाली है?

(a) Rajesh Talwar / राजेश तलवार

(b) Alok Chakrawal / आलोक चक्रावली

(c) Ramesh Kandula / रमेश कंडुला

(d) Pankaj Mohan Sinha / पंकज मोहन सिन्हा

(e) Brijesh Gupta / ब्रजेश गुप्ता

Ans. d

Sol. Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha assumes command of the IAF Western Command

Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha has assumed command of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command. Pankaj Mohan Sinha succeeds Air Marshal S Prabhakaran who superannuated on 31 December 2022 after putting in more than 39 years of distinguished service in the IAF.

The Air Marshal is a graduate of the National Defence Academy, Pune, and was commissioned into the IAF as a fighter pilot in June 1985. He is an alumnus of the prestigious Defence Services Staff College, Wellington.

28. Who has joined the Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr on a two-and-a-half-year contract?
ढाई साल के अनुबंध पर सऊदी अरब के क्लब अल नस्र में कौन शामिल हुआ है?

(a) Cristiano Ronaldo / क्रिस्टियानो रोनाल्डो
(b) Lionel Messi / लियोनेल मेसी
(c) Kylian Mbappé / किलियन एम्बाप्पे
(d) Marcus Rashford / मार्कस रैशफोर्ड
(e) Mohamed Salah / मोहम्मद सलाह

Ans. a

Sol. Cristiano Ronaldo joined Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr

Portugal team captain Cristiano Ronaldo has joined Saudi Arabian club Al Nassr on a two-and-a-half-year contract.

The 37-year-old Ronaldo signed the deal, which is believed to be worth more than 200 million euros, which will continue till June 2025.

Ronaldo will move to Saudi Arabia after a stellar spell at Spanish club Real Madrid from 2009 to 2018, winning two La Liga titles, two Spanish Cups, four Champions League titles, and three Club World Cups.

29. Global Family Day is celebrated every year on which day?

वैश्विक परिवार दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 1 January / 1 जनवरी

(b) 2 January / 2 जनवरी

(c) 3 January / 3 जनवरी

(d) 4 January / 4 जनवरी

(e) 5 January / 5 जनवरी

Ans. a

Sol. 1 January - Global Family Day

Global Family Day is celebrated every year on January 1.

Objective - To share positivity and strive for peace.

The day creates a sense of unity, community and brotherhood across nations and cultures through the idea of families.

It was 1999 when members of the United Nations were invited to organize a celebration of Global Family Day on January 1, as mentioned in the book 'One Day in Peace.

While the annual celebrations of Global Family Day did not begin on January 1, 2000, as mentioned in Silverstein's novel, it began a year later and has continued ever since.

30. Former Pope Benedict ____ passed away recently in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican.

पूर्व पोप बेनेडिक्ट ____ का हाल ही में वेटिकन में मैटर एक्लेसिया मठ में निधन हो गया।

(a) XV

(b) XVI

(c) XVII

(d) XVIII

(e) XIV

Ans. b

Sol. Former Pope Benedict XVI passed away

Former Pope Benedict XVI passed away recently in the Mater Ecclesiae Monastery in the Vatican.

He was 95 years old.

The head of the Catholic Church, former Pope Benedict, was the first pope in 600 years to resign. He resigned in 2013 and was replaced by the present pope Francis.

Pope Benedict was the first German to become pope in 1000 years. He was the head of Vatican City from 19 April 2005 until his resignation on 28 February 2013.

He was born as Joseph Aloisius Ratzinger on April 16, 1927, in the southern German village of Marktl, close to Austria.

31. Which of the following state chief minister has inaugurated Indian Library Congress recently?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री ने हाल ही में भारतीय पुस्तकालय कांग्रेस का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Gujarat / गुजरात
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. e

Sol. Kerala CM inaugurated Indian Library Congress in Kannur, Kerala

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has inaugurated Indian Library Congress at the Collectorate Ground in Kannur, Kerala. The People's Mission for Social Development and Library Council organized the event in association with Kannur University. The program was presided over by Dr. V Shivdan, and Higher Education Minister Dr. R Bindu announced 100 new libraries to be dedicated to the Kannur district.

Representatives from Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Bihar, and other states and foreign countries are participating in the Indian Library Congress.

About Kerala

- **Capital –** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister** – Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor –** Arif Mohammad Khan

32. The government of India has launched the 'SMART' programme to boost R&D in Ayurveda. What does the S stand for in SMART?

भारत सरकार ने आयुर्वेद में अनुसंधान एवं विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 'स्मार्ट' कार्यक्रम शुरू किया है। SMART में S का क्या अर्थ है?

(a) Smart
(b) Science
(c) Scope
(d) System
(e) Small

Ans. c

Sol. 'SMART' programme launched to boost R&D in Ayurveda

Government of India has launched the 'SMART' (Scope for Mainstreaming Ayurveda Research in Teaching Professionals) programme.

Objective - To boost scientific research in priority healthcare research areas through Ayurveda colleges and hospitals.

The SMART program has been jointly launched by the Indian System of Medicine (NCISM) and the Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences (CCRAS). Both Institutions come under the Union Ministry of Ayush.

The 'SMART' program will have a deep longterm rejuvenating impact on research in the field of Ayurveda and it will be a great service to the nation.

33. Recently, India signed an agreement with which of the following country for migration and mobility?

हाल ही में, भारत ने प्रवासन और गतिशीलता के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किस देश के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(b) Russia / रूस
(c) Japan / जापान
(d) USA / यूएसए
(e) Austria / ऑस्ट्रिया

Ans. e

Sol. India signed an agreement with Austria for migration and mobility

India and Austria have signed five agreements and two of them are in the interest of the Indian community living in Austria.

The two agreements would be in the interest of the Indian community.

There is an agreement on 'Migration and Mobility' for people who want to work in Austria and who want to come to India for business, or who come here as students and professionals.

Another agreement is on the 'Working Holiday' program that will enable Indian students in Austria to work for 6 months.

This is the first India-Austria EAM-level visit in the last 27 years which is taking place in 2023 against the backdrop of 75 years of diplomatic relations.

About Austria

- Capital- Vienna
- Currency- Euro
- President - Alexander Van der Bellen

Recent MoUs

- India & Cyprus sign agreement on defence and military cooperation
- India and Germany signed Migration and Mobility Agreement
- India & EU signed an agreement for climate, quantum tech
- India signed an agreement with Netherlands to formalize bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism
- India signed an MoU with Japan to advance scientific cooperation for Indian Ayurveda
- India signed 4 MoUs with Cambodia in the areas of culture, wildlife, health
- Maldives signed an MoU with India for Hanimaadhoo International Airport Development Projects
- India signed an agreement with Armenia to export missiles, rockets & ammunition

34. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has launched 'Mission 929' in which of the following state?

भारत के चुनाव आयोग (ECI) ने निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य में 'मिशन 929' लॉन्च किया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. a

Sol. Election Commission's launched 'Mission-929' to take voter turnout in Tripura to over 90

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has started 'Mission 929' in Tripura.

It will focus on 929 polling booths across Tripura with a target to increase the voter turnout to 92 percent in the next assembly elections.

These booths recorded a voter turnout of less than 89 percent, which was the average across 3,328 booths in the 2018 assembly polls.

To turn around the relatively low voting percentage in these booths, the EC has launched 'Mission-929'. Apart from an awareness campaign, poll officials will visit senior citizens and persons with disability, and appeal them to cast their votes.

The EC is also working on 'Mission Zero Poll Violence' to make the assembly elections peaceful.

About Election Commissioner of India (ECI)

- Founded - 25 January 1950
- 25 January - Voter's Day
- HQ - New Delhi
- 1st Chief - Sukumar Sen
- 1st Women Chief - V.S. Ramadevi
- 25th Chief - Rajiv Kumar
- Commissioner - Anup Chandra Pandey & Arun Goel
- Tenure - 6/65yrs

35. According to the Coffee Board of India, the total export of coffee from India rose by how much percent to 4 lakh tonnes in 2022?

भारतीय कॉफी बोर्ड के अनुसार, 2022 में भारत से कॉफी का कुल निर्यात कितने प्रतिशत बढ़कर 4 लाख टन हो गया है?

(a) 1.50 %
(b) 1.66 %
(c) 2.66 %
(d) 3.50 %
(e) 4.66 %

Ans. b

Sol. Coffee export increased by 1.66 % to 4 lakh tonne in 2022: Coffee Board of India

According to the Coffee Board of India, the total export of coffee from India rose by 1.66 percent to 4 lakh tonnes in 2022 mainly due to the increase in instant coffee exports and re-exports.

The total export in 2021 was at 3.93 lakh tonnes.

In value terms, coffee export was higher at Rs 8,762.47 crore in 2022 as against Rs 6,984.67 crore in the previous year.

Italy, Germany and Russia are the major export destinations for the Indian coffee.

India exports both Robusta and Arabica varieties of coffee and also instant coffee.

According to the Board's the export of Robusta coffee declined marginally to 2, 20,974 tonnes in 2022 from 2, 20,997 tonnes in the previous year.

Similarly, export of Arabica fell 11.43 per cent to 44,542 tonnes from 50,292 tonnes.

36. According to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), India's unemployment rate in December 2022 has been increased to a 16-month high at how much percent from 8% in November 2022?

सेंटर फॉर मॉनिटरिंग इंडियन इकोनॉमी (CMIE) के अनुसार, दिसंबर 2022 में भारत की बेरोजगारी दर नवंबर 2022 में 8% से बढ़कर 16 महीने के उच्च स्तर पर कितने प्रतिशत हो गई है?

(a) 8.10%
(b) 8.20%
(c) 8.30%
(d) 8.40%
(e) 8.50%

Ans. c

Sol. India's unemployment rate rises at 8.30% in Dec 2022

According to the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE), India's unemployment rate in December 2022 has increased to a 16-month high at 8.30% from 8% in November 2022.

The urban unemployment rate has increased to 10.09% in December from 8.96% in the previous month, while the rural unemployment rate slipped to 7.44% from 7.55%.

The employment rate has increased in December to 37.1%, which again is the highest since January 2022.

The unemployment rate had declined to 7.2% in the July-September quarter compared to 7.6% in the previous quarter, according to separate quarterly data compiled by state run National Statistical Office (NSO) and released in November.

In December, the unemployment rate rose to 37.4% in the northern state of Haryana, followed by 28.5% in Rajasthan and 20.8% in Delhi.

37. Who has inaugurated the 108th Indian Science Congress through video conferencing?

वीडियो कॉन्फ्रेंसिंग के माध्यम से 108वीं भारतीय विज्ञान कांग्रेस का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

(c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह

(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु

(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated 108th Indian Science Congress

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 108th Indian Science Congress through video conferencing.

The focal theme of this year's ISC is "Science and Technology for Sustainable Development with Women Empowerment".

The first session of Congress was held in 1914.

The 108th annual session of ISC held at Rashtrasant Tukadoji Maharaj Nagpur University, Maharashtra which is also celebrating its centenary this year.

The technical sessions of the 108th Indian Science Congress have been divided into 14 sections.

Recent Inauguration by PM Modi

- PM Modi flagged off West Bengal's first Vande Bharata Express train (7th)
- PM Modi flagged off **6th Vande Bharat train** in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated **4th Vande Bharat Express** in Himachal Pradesh
- PM Modi participated in the historic programme marking 'Veer Bal Diwas' in Delhi
- PM Modi addressed **75th Amrut Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul Rajkot Sansthan**

38. Who has inaugurated the Incubation Centre at the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) in New Delhi?
नई दिल्ली में राष्ट्रीय अनुसंधान विकास निगम (NRDC) में ऊष्मायन केंद्र का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Nitin Gadkari / नितिन गडकरी
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. c

Sol. Jitendra Singh inaugurated Incubation Centre at NRDC

Union Minister for Science and Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh has inaugurated the Incubation Centre at the National Research Development Corporation (NRDC) in New Delhi to provide multi-prong support to StartUps.

NRDC has created incubating start-ups facility and is also promoting beneficial schemes to provide support in terms of funding, mentoring, IP assistance and other allied services to the Startups.

NRDC was established in 1953 with headquarters in Delhi.

Recent Inauguration by Jitendra Singh

- Jitendra Singh launched revamped probity portal **'e-HRM 2.0**
- Jitendra Singh announced '**One Week One Lab'** campaign
- Jitendra Singh launched portal for **PM's Excellence Awards**
- Jitendra Singh inaugurated a **conference on women's leadership**
- Jitendra Singh inaugurated **'Prashasan Gaon ki Ore'** campaign

39. Which of the following state government has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) amounting to Rs 2,275 crore to strengthen and improve power distribution efficiency in the north-eastern state?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य सरकार ने उत्तर-पूर्वी राज्य में बिजली वितरण दक्षता को मजबूत करने और सुधारने के लिए एशियाई विकास बैंक (एडीबी) के साथ 2,275 करोड़ रुपये के समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. a

Sol. Tripura signed agreement with ADB to improve Power Distribution Network

The Tripura government has signed an agreement with Asian Development Bank (ADB) amounting to Rs 2,275 crore to strengthen and improve power distribution efficiency in the north-eastern state

Of the Rs 2,275 crore fund, the central government will repay Rs 1,820 crore while the state is supposed to provide Rs 455 crore.

The project will be implemented in the next three years.

At present, gas based Rukhia power project produces 66 MW power and its installed capacity will be doubled by modernizing the plant.

The Dumbur hydropower project's capacity will be increased from 5 MW to 10 MW. The externally aided project will benefit five to six lakh consumers and it will also generate 6,000 to 6,500 direct jobs in different levels.

40. How much amount of gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue has collected by the government during December 2022?

दिसंबर 2022 के दौरान सरकार द्वारा सकल माल और सेवा कर (GST) राजस्व की कितनी राशि एकत्र की गई है?

(a) ₹1.29 lakh.
(b) ₹1.39 lakh.
(c) ₹1.49 lakh.
(d) ₹1.59 lakh.
(e) ₹1.69 lakh.

Ans. c

Sol. Gross GST collection in December goes up by 15%

The gross Goods and Services Tax (GST) revenue collected in December 2022 is ₹1.49 lakh.

The GST revenues are 15 percent higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year.

The gross GST revenue collected during December 2022 is ₹1,49,507 crore, of which CGST is ₹26,711 crore, SGST is ₹33,357 crore, IGST is ₹78,434 crore (including ₹40,263 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is ₹11,005 crore (including ₹850 crore collected on import of goods).

The monthly GST revenues more than ₹1.4 lakh crore for 10 straight months in a row.

The government has settled ₹36,669 crore to CGST and ₹31,094 crore to SGST from IGST as regular settlement.

The total revenue of Centre and the States after regular settlements in the month of December 2022 is ₹63,380 crore for CGST and ₹64,451 crore for SGST.

GST Collection of Previous Months in 2022

- January 2022- 1,40,986 crore
- February 2022– 1,33,026 crore
- March 2022 – 1,42,095 crore
- April 2022– 1,67,540 crore
- May 2022– 1,40,885 crore
- June 2022– 1,44,616 crore
- July 2022– 1,48,995 crore
- August 2022 - 1,43,612 crore
- September 2022- 1,47,686 crore
- October 2022- 1,51,718 crore
- November 2022 - 1,45,867 crore
- December 2022- 1,49,507 crore

41. SBI Cards has partnered with which of the following bank to launch co-brand credit cards for the bank's customers?

SBI कार्ड ने बैंक के ग्राहकों के लिए सह-ब्रांड क्रेडिट कार्ड लॉन्च करने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

(a) Punjab & Sind Bank / पंजाब एंड सिंध बैंक

(b) Indian Overseas Bank / इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक

(c) Union Bank of India / यूनियन बैंक ऑफ इंडिया

(d) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक

(e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. SBI Card partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to launch co-brand credit cards

SBI Cards has partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to launch co-brand credit cards for the bank's customers.

The new three card variants are - PSB SBI Card ELITE, PSB SBI Card PRIME, and PSB SimplySAVE SBI Card.

These variants have been launched to cater to the spending needs of the customers of Punjab & Sind Bank, across mass, mass premium and premium segments.

PSB SBI Card ELITE and PSB SBI Card PRIME have been designed to offer lifestyle privileges and best-in-class experience to premium and mass premium customers, respectively.

PSB SimplySAVE SBI Card offers rewarding experience to value conscious customers through accelerated rewards and benefits on their spending.

SBI Cards and Payment Services is a non-banking financial company that offers extensive credit card portfolio to individual cardholders and corporate clients.

About Punjab & Sind Bank

- Founded - 24 June 1908
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- MD & CEO - Swarup Kumar Saha
- Executive Director - Kollegal V Raghavendra
- Tagline - Where Service is a Way of Life

Recent MoUs signed in Banking Sector

- Bandhan Bank signed MoU with Defence Ministry for defence pensioners
- AU Small Finance Bank partnered with ICICI Lombard for bancassurance
- Spice Money partnered with Axis Bank for financial inclusion in rural India
- YES Bank partnered with Turtlefin to create tech platform 'EasyNsure'
- Tata Power Solar Systems partnered with Union Bank of India to help MSME sector
- Federal Bank partnered with JCB India to finance heavy equipment buyers

42. The Defense Ministry has initiated the process to procure 100 more K-9 Vajra self-propelled howitzers, which are made in India by _____ using technology transferred from South Korean defence major Hanwha Defence.

रक्षा मंत्रालय ने 100 और K-9 वजरा स्व-चालित होवित्जर खरीदने की प्रक्रिया शुरू की है, जो भारत में _____ द्वारा दक्षिण कोरियाई रक्षा प्रमुख हनवा डिफेंस से हस्तांतरित प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग करके बनाई गई हैं।

(a) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड

(b) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited / भारत हेवी इलेक्ट्रिकल्स लिमिटेड

(c) Hindustan Unilever Limited / हिंदुस्तान यूनिलीवर लिमिटेड

(d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स

(e) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) / लार्सन एंड टुब्रो (एल एंड टी)

Ans. e

Sol. Government starts process to buy 100 more K9-Vajras

The Defense Ministry has initiated the process to procure 100 more K-9 Vajra self-propelled howitzers, which are made in India by Larsen & Toubro (L&T) using technology transferred from South Korean defence major Hanwha Defence.

The K-9 Vajra is a 155 mm, 52-calibre tracked self-propelled howitzer built by L&T with technology transferred from South Korean defence major Hanwha Defence based on its K-9 Thunder.

The 100th gun was delivered to the Army in February 2021, the contract for which was signed in May 2017.

The contract also involved the maintenance transfer of technology to an Army base workshop to support the howitzers throughout their operational life cycle.

The K-9 Vajra was mainly bought for use in deserts, but the standoff prompted them to be deployed in the mountains as well.

43. Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) foundation day is celebrated every year on which day?
रक्षा अनुसंधान एवं विकास संगठन (DRDO) का स्थापना दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 1 January / 1 जनवरी
(b) 2 January / 2 जनवरी
(c) 3 January / 3 जनवरी
(d) 4 January / 4 जनवरी
(e) 5 January / 5 जनवरी

Ans. a

Sol. 1 January 2023 - 65th foundation day of DRDO

Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) celebrated its 65th foundation day on 1st January 2023.

It is a premier defence research and development agency under the Ministry of Defence, Government of India.

It is working on several cutting-edge military technology areas, including aeronautics, armaments, combat vehicles, electronics, instrumentation, engineering systems, missiles, materials, naval systems, advanced computing, simulation, cyber, hypersonic technology, quantum computing, and communications.

The DRDO was formed in 1958 from the amalgamation of the then-already functioning Technical Development Establishment (TDEs) of the Indian Army and the Directorate of Technical Development & Production (DTDP) with the Defence Science Organisation (DSO).

DRDO was then a small organization with 10 establishments or laboratories. Over the years, it has grown multi-directionally in terms of the variety of subject disciplines, number of laboratories, achievements, and stature.

44. R Krishnakumar passed away recently at the age of 84. He was the former director of which company?

आर कृष्णकुमार का हाल ही में 84 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस कंपनी के पूर्व निदेशक थे?

(a) Adani Group / अदानी ग्रुप

(b) Tata Sons / टाटा संस

(c) Reliance Industries Limited / रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड

(d) Infosys Technologies / इंफोसिस टेक्नोलॉजीज

(e) Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd / महिंद्रा एंड महिंद्रा लिमिटेड

Ans. b

Sol. Tata group veteran R Krishnakumar passes away

Tata Group veteran and former Tata Sons director R Krishnakumar passed away recently at the age of 84.

He started working for Tata Administrative Services in 1963 and joined Tata Global Beverages in 1965.

He had also worked through Tata Global Beverages' transformation into Tata Tea and became VP of South India Plantations in 1982.

He was honoured with India's fourth highest civilian honour, Padma Shri in 2009 for contributions to the country's trade and business.

45. Dr. Manjula Subramaniam passed away recently at the age of 74. She was the first woman chief secretary of which state?

डॉ मंजुला सुब्रमण्यम का हाल ही में 74 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस राज्य की पहली महिला मुख्य सचिव थीं?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Gujarat / गुजरात
(d) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
(e) Punjab / पंजाब

Ans. c

Sol. Gujarat's first woman chief secretary Manjula Subramaniam passes away

The first woman chief secretary of Gujarat, Dr. Manjula Subramaniam passed away recently in Vadodara. She was 74.

A Gujarat-cadre officer of the 1972 batch, Subramaniam was appointed as the first woman chief secretary of Gujarat in 2007. Narendra Modi was the Chief Minister of Gujarat then.

After retirement, she was appointed as chief vigilance commissioner of Gujarat.

She was also part of the Sabarmati Riverfront Development Corporation.

46. Who has become the first woman army officer to get operationally deployed on the Siachen Glacier, the world's highest battlefield?

दुनिया के सबसे ऊंचे युद्धक्षेत्र सियाचिन ग्लेशियर पर सक्रिय रूप से तैनात होने वाली पहली महिला सेना अधिकारी कौन बनी हैं?

(a) Bhawana Kanth / भावना कंठ
(b) Shiva Chauhan / शिव चौहान
(c) Zoya Agarwal / जोया अग्रवाल
(d) Avani Chaturvedi / अवनी चतुर्वेदी
(e) Shivangi Singh / शिवांगी सिंह

Ans. b

Sol. Shiva Chauhan becomes the first women officer to be operationally deployed in Siachen

Captain Shiva Chauhan has become the first woman army officer to get operationally deployed on the Siachen Glacier, the world's highest battlefield.

The officer has deployed at the Kumar post, located at an altitude of around 15,600 feet in Siachen for a period of three months after she underwent rigorous training.

Earlier, women officers were posted to Siachen base camp, located at about 9,000 feet, as part of their regular postings along with the unit.

Captain Chouhan will be leading the team of Sappers entrusted with the task of carrying out various combat engineering assignments.

The officer underwent rigorous training at the Siachen Battle School where she trained alongside the officers and men of the Indian Army.

The training included endurance training, ice wall climbing, avalanche and crevasse rescue and survival drills.

47. Who among the following has inaugurated Samvidhan Udyan at Raj Bhavan in Jaipur, Rajsthan?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने जयपुर, राजस्थान में राजभवन में संविधान उद्यान का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

(c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह

(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु

(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. d

Sol. President Murmu inaugurated Samvidhan Udyan in Jaipur

President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated Samvidhan Udyan at Raj Bhavan in Jaipur**, Rajsthan.**

The President also inaugurated the Transmission System for Solar Energy Zones in Rajasthan and lay the foundation stone for one thousand Mega Watt Bikaner Solar Power Project virtually.

She also launched a National Campaign on 'RISE-Rising India through Spiritual Empowerment', organized by Brahma Kumaris.

Murmu also inaugurated the 18th National Scout-Guide Jamboree, at Rohat in Pali district Rajasthan.

Over 35,000 scouts - guides from all over the country will participate in this mega-event scheduled to be held from the 4th to the 10th of January. Rajasthan is hosting it after 66 years.

President Murmu in News

- President Droupadi Murmu lays foundation stone for PRASHAD project in Telangana
- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated project worth Rs 43.08 cr at Srisailam Temple
- President Droupadi Murmu launched startup platform 'herSTART' for women entrepreneurs
- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated projects in Gujarat worth 1,330 crore
- President Droupadi Murmu flags off two train services in Northeast
- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated 'PARAM KAMRUPA' Supercomputer facility and a high-power active and passive component laboratory of SAMEER at Indian Institute of Technology, Guwahati.
- President Murmu addressed women's self-help groups conference in Bhopal

48. Who will flag off the world's longest luxury river cruise - 'Ganga Vilas' - from Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi to Dibrugarh in Assam on January 13?
13 जनवरी को उत्तर प्रदेश के वाराणसी से असम के डिब्रूगढ़ तक दुनिया के सबसे लंबे लक्ज़री रिवर क्रूज़ - 'गंगा विलास' को कौन झंडी दिखाकर रवाना करेगा?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
(c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु
(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi to launch world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Assam

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will flag off the world's longest luxury river cruise - 'Ganga Vilas' - from Uttar Pradesh's Varanasi to Dibrugarh in Assam on January 13.

The cruise will cover 3,200 kilometres in 50 days.

Passing through the rivers of India and Bangladesh, the cruise will be covering 27 different river systems and will stop at over 50 tourist sites, including world heritage.

This will be the largest river journey by a single river ship in the world and would put both India and Bangladesh on the river cruise map of the world.

The Ganga Vilas cruise, which will start from Varanasi, will pass through prominent cities like Kolkata and Dhaka before reaching Bogibeel in Dibrugarh district of Assam on March 1.

The river cruise will be operated by private players Antara Luxury River Cruises and JM Baxi River Cruises along with the governmental partnership from the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI).

The luxury river cruise vessel, Ganga Vilas, have 18 cabins/suites and all other associated facilities.

Recent Inauguration by PM Modi

- PM Modi flagged off **West Bengal's first Vande Bharata** Express train (7th)
- PM Modi flagged off **6th Vande Bharat train** in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated **4th Vande Bharat Express** in Himachal Pradesh
- PM Modi participated in the historic programme marking **'Veer Bal Diwas'** in Delhi
- PM Modi addressed **75th Amrut Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul Rajkot Sansthan**
- PM Modi inaugurated **projects worth Rs 6,800 crore** in Tripura, Meghalaya

49. Which of the following state has launched two programme named 'Didir Suraksha Kawach' and 'Didir Doot', ahead of the 2023 panchayat polls?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने 2023 के पंचायत चुनावों से पहले 'दीदीर सुरक्षा कवच' और 'दीदिर दूत' नाम से दो कार्यक्रम शुरू किए हैं?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़

Ans. b

Sol. Mamata Banerjee launched new campaign 'Didir Suraksha Kavach'

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has launched two programme named 'Didir Suraksha Kawach' and 'Didir Doot', ahead of the 2023 panchayat polls.

Around 3.5 lakh party workers will reach out to 10 crore people of the state. It is being done so that no one is left out.

The programme will focus on 15 state government schemes, covering various sectors such as food, housing, health, education, social security, income and employment.

'Didir Doot', a mobile application has also been developed for people to register their problems.

The party will start the campaign on January 11 and will continue with it for 60 days.

About West Bengal

- **Capital –** Kolkata
- **Chief Minister** – Mamata Banerjee
- **Governor –** C V Ananda Bose

50. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the 100 metre-Siyom Bridge in which of the following state recently?

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने हाल ही में निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य में 100 मीटर-सियोम ब्रिज का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. d

Sol. Rajnath Singh inaugurated steel arch Siyom Bridge in Arunachal Pradesh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has inaugurated the 100 metre-Siyom Bridge in Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh. It is a state-of-the-art Class 70 steel arch superstructure bridge.

He also inaugurated 27 other infrastructure projects in Arunachal Pradesh.

All these projects have been prepared at a cost of Rs. 724 crore in seven border states and union territories.

He also inaugurated three VSAT-based telemedicine nodes in Ladakh and Mizoram.

The Siyom Bridge is one of the 28 projects completed by the Border Roads Organisation at a cost of Rs 724 crore to strengthen border infrastructure.

Of the 28 projects inaugurated by the Defence Minister, eight are in Ladakh, five in Arunachal Pradesh, four in Jammu and Kashmir, three each in Sikkim, Punjab and Uttarakhand and two in Rajasthan.

In addition, three telemedicine nodes were inaugurated, two in Ladakh and one in Mizoram.

About Arunachal Pradesh

- **Capital –** Itanagar
- **Chief Minister** – Pema Khandu
- **Governor –** B. D. Mishra

Recent Inauguration by Union Ministers

- Dr. Virendra Kumar has inaugurated the **SHILP SAMAGAM-2022** in New Delhi.
- G Kishan Reddy inaugurated the 11th edition of the **Manipur Sangai Festival.**
- G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the **sixth edition of Ganga Utsav 2022** in New Delhi.
- Rajnath Singh launched '**Maa Bharati Ke Sapoot'** website
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated **'Ayush Utsav'** in Kashmir

51. Which of the following state has celebrated the Imoinu Eratpa festival?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने हाल ही में इमोइनु इरत्पा उत्सव मनाया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. d

Sol. Manipur celebrated Imoinu Eratpa festival

The Meetei community of Manipur celebrates Imoinu Eratpa every year and they regard the Imoinu goddess as a goddess of wealth and prosperity.

As part of the celebration, people offer different dishes to Imoinu goddess and prayers will be held.

Moreover, the candle lighting in street and public places as part of the celebration has also become a face of the celebration these days.

They regard the Imoinu goddess as a goddess of wealth and prosperity. She is also associated as one of the incarnations of the goddess Leimarel Sidabi.

This festival falls on the twelfth lunar day of Wakching month of Meitei calendar (falls either in December or January according to the Gregorian calendar).

This year the festival is fall on January 3, 2023.

About Manipur

- **Capital** – Imphal
- **Chief Minister** – N. Biren Singh
- **Governor -** La Ganesan

Festivals of Manipur

- Sangai Festival
- Amur Falcon Festival
- Lai Haraoba Festival
- Manipur Sangai Festival
- Lui Ngai Ni Festival
- Ningol Chakouba Festival
- Kachai Lemon Festival
- Shirui Lily Festival

52. Which country has become the first country in Asia and second in the world to launch Hydrogen powered urban trains?
कौन सा देश हाइड्रोजन संचालित शहरी ट्रेनों को लॉन्च करने वाला एशिया का पहला और दुनिया का दूसरा देश बन गया है?
(a) Saudi Arabia / सऊदी अरब
(b) China / चीन
(c) Russia / रूस
(d) India / भारत
(e) Japan / जापान
Ans. b
Sol. China becomes the first country in Asia to launch Hydrogen powered Train
China has become the first country in Asia and second in the world to launch Hydrogen powered urban trains.
Germany was the first country to introduce hydrogen-powered trains in September 2022.
The hydrogen train gets a top speed of 160 km/h, and the operational range without refueling is 600 km.
The German Coradia iLint serial train developed by French company Alstom has set a record 1175 Km range without refueling.
As per Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw, India will most likely get its first-ever indigenous Hydrogen trains by December 2023.
As per the minister, like Vande Bharat Express, the Indian Railways is working on the new environment-friendly trains and the engineers are designing it.
The design process is already going on and we should be able to roll out the first hydrogen train in the country by December 2023.
The hydrogen train in Germany has been made by France's rail transport company Alstom. Fuel cells have been installed in this train, which generates energy by mixing hydrogen with oxygen and in return, only water and steam are emitted. This eco-friendly train can travel up to 1000 kilometres in one go and its maximum speed is 140 km/h.
China began manufacturing hydrogen trams in 2010.

About China

- **Capital –** Beijing
- **Currency –** Yuan
- **President -** Xi Jinping

53. Who has assumed the charge as the Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU)?

एशियन पैसिफिक पोस्टल यूनियन (APPU) के महासचिव के रूप में किसने पदभार ग्रहण किया है?

(a) Dr. V. G. Somani / डॉ. वी. जी. सोमानी

(b) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy / डॉ. एस ईश्वरा रेड्डी

(c) Dr. P.B.N. Prasad / डॉ. पी.बी.एन. प्रसाद

(d) Dr. Vinay Prakash Singh / डॉ विनय प्रकाश सिंह

(e) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma / डॉ. रविकांत शर्मा

Ans. d

Sol. India takes over leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union

India will take over the leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) having its Headquarters in Bangkok, Thailand from this month.

Dr. Vinay Prakash Singh assumed the charge as the Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) on 1 January 2023. This is the first time that an Indian is leading an international organization in the postal sector. Dr. Singh will remain in office for 4 years.

About APPU

Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) is an intergovernmental organization of 32 member countries of the Asian-Pacific region. APPU is the only Restricted Union of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in the region, which is a specialized agency of the United Nations.

The goal of APPU is to extend, facilitate and improve postal relations between member countries and to promote cooperation in the field of postal services.

54. Folk singer Maithili Thakur has been appointed as the state icon for which of the following state by the Election Commission?

लोक गायिका मैथिली ठाकुर को चुनाव आयोग द्वारा निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य के लिए स्टेट आइकन के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) Jharkhand / झारखंड
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Bihar / बिहार
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. d

Sol. Election Commission appointed Maithili Thakur as Bihar's state icon

Folk singer Maithili Thakur has been appointed as the state icon for Bihar by the Election Commission.

She will create awareness among the voters for their participation in the electoral process.

Thakur was recently selected for the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar of the Sangeet Natak Akademi for her contribution to the folk music of Bihar for 2021.

Maithili, born in Bihar's Madhubani district, along with her two brothers, were trained by their grandfather and father in folk, Hindustani classical music, harmonium, and tabla.

About Bihar

- **Capital –** Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar
- **Governor –** Phagu Chauhan

55. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bank of Singapore?

बैंक ऑफ सिंगापुर के नए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Marcus Lim / मार्कस लिम

(b) Piyush Gupta / पीयूष गुप्ता

(c) Jason Moo / जेसन मू

(d) Bahren Shaari / बहरीन शारी

(e) Shah Jahan / शाह जहाँ

Ans. c

Sol. Jason Moo appointed as CEO of Bank of Singapore

Jason Moo has been appointed as new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Bank of Singapore effective from 6 March 2023.

Moo will replace Vincent Choo, a board member who assumed the role of interim CEO on January 1 following the retirement of ex-CEO Bahren Shaari on December 31.

He has more than 25 years of experience in private banking, wealth management, and capital markets.

He has also worked at Goldman Sachs and Julius Baer.

Recent Appointment in Banking Sector

- MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank - Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- MD & CEO of BSE - Sundararaman Ramamurthy
- MD & CEO of Suryoday Small Finance Bank - Baskar Babu Ramachandran (re-appointement)
- MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank - P N Vasudevan
- MD and CEO of SBI Funds - Shamsher Singh
- First VP & COO of Federal Reserve Bank of New York - Sushmita Shukla

56. Which IIT has collaborated with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to develop Advanced Defence Technologies?

उन्नत रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकी विकसित करने के लिए किस IIT ने रक्षा अनुसंधान और विकास संगठन (DRDO) के साथ सहयोग किया है?

(a) IIT Guwahati/ आईआईटी गुवाहाटी

(b) IIT Delhi / आईआईटी दिल्ली

(c) IIT Madras / आईआईटी मद्रास

(d) IIT Kanpur / आईआईटी कानपुर

(e) IIT Roorkee / आईआईटी रुड़की

Ans. c

Sol. IIT-M collaborated with DRDO to develop defence technology

IIT Madras Centre of Excellence (CoE) has collaborated with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to develop Advanced Defence Technologies.

Both DRDO and IIT Madras are working together on Advanced Defence Technologies including Combat Vehicle Technologies.

It is an important milestone in bringing together the Academia, Industry and DRDO to collaborate and develop Atmanirbhar technologies for critical needs of our country.

Specifically, this will provide a first-of-its-kind opportunity for Startups and MSMEs to participate in this critical Nation Building activity.

IIT Madras CoE- 'DRDO Industry Academia- Ramanujan Centre of Excellence' (DIA-RCoE) will be conducting a directed research process to meet the national defence and security needs of the nation.

About Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

- **Founded** - 1 January 1958
- **Headquarters -** New Delhi
- **Motto -** "Strength's Origin is in Knowledge"
- **Chairman -** Dr. Samir V Kamat

57. Who has become India's 78th Grandmaster in MPL 59th National Senior Chess Championship in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में एमपीएल 59वीं राष्ट्रीय सीनियर शतरंज चैंपियनशिप में भारत के 78वें ग्रैंडमास्टर कौन बने हैं?

(a) R Praggnanandhaa / आर प्रज्ञानानंद

(b) Aravindh Chithambaram / अरविंद चितंबरम

(c) Koustav Chatterjee / कौस्तव चटर्जी

(d) Abhijeet Gupta / अभिजीत गुप्ता

(e) Jaykumar Sammed / जयकुमार सम्मेद

Ans. c

Sol. Koustav Chatterjee becomes 78th Grandmaster of India

19-year-old Koustav Chatterjee became India's 78th Grandmaster in MPL 59th National Senior Chess Championship in New Delhi.

He is also the tenth GM from West Bengal.

Koustav earned his first GM norm in October 2021 at a Grandmasters' chess tournament in Bangladesh.

He crossed FIDE rating 2500 in August. Koustav is in the joint-lead with GM Abhijeet Gupta at the National Senior Chess Championship with a score of 8/10 after 10 rounds.

GRAND MASTERS OF INDIA (Chess)

- 77th - Aditya Mittal (Maharashtra)
- 76th – Pranav Anand (Karnataka)
- 75th - V. Pranav (Tamil Nadu)
- 74th - Rahul Shrivastava P (Telangana)
- 73rd - Bharath Subramanian (Tamil Nadu)
- 72nd - Mitrabha Guha (West Bengal)
- 71st - Sankalp Gupta (Maharstra)
- 70th - Raja Ritwik (Telangana)

58. World Braille Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व ब्रेल दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 1 January / 1 जनवरी
(b) 2 January / 2 जनवरी
(c) 3 January / 3 जनवरी
(d) 4 January / 4 जनवरी
(e) 5 January / 5 जनवरी

Ans. d

Sol. 4 January - World Braille Day

World Braille Day is celebrated every year on 4 January around the world and it also marks the birth anniversary of Braille's inventor Louis Braille.

Objective - To promote awareness about Braille and the contributions of Louis Braille.

The United Nations has been commemorating the day since 2019.

Louis Braille was born on January 4, 1809. He lost his vision at an early age following an accident. An educator for the visually impaired, Braille developed his eponymous writing and reading system in order to help others.

His writing system used six tactile dots in order to represent alphabetic, numerical, musical, mathematical, and scientific symbols. He had received a scholarship to the National Institute for Blind Children, where he taught later.

59. Sumitra Sen passed away recently at the age of 89. Who was she?

सुमित्रा सेन का हाल ही में 89 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थीं?

(a) Writer / लेखक

(b) Politician / राजनेता

(c) Singer / गायक

(d) Journalist /पत्रकार

(e) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता

Ans. c

Sol. Sangeet exponent Sumitra Sen passes away

Noted Rabindra Sangeet exponent, Sumitra Sen has passed away at the age of 89.

She will be remembered for her rendition of songs like Jokhon Porbe Na Mor, Sokhi Vabona Kahare Bole, and Mone Ki Dwidha.

She was honoured with the Sangeet Mahasamman award by West Bengal government in 2012.

Rabindra Sangeet also known as Tagore Songs, are songs from the Indian subcontinent written and composed by the Bengali polymath Rabindranath.

60. President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the 18th National Scout and Guide Jamboree, at Rohat in the Pali district of Rajasthan. What is the theme of the 18th National Scout and Guide Jamboree?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने राजस्थान के पाली जिले के रोहट में 18वें राष्ट्रीय स्काउट और गाइड जम्बूरी का उद्घाटन किया। 18वें राष्ट्रीय स्काउट और गाइड जम्बूरी का विषय क्या है?

(a) Progress with Guide
(b) Progress with India
(c) Progress with Peace
(d) Encourage the Scout
(e) Progress with Scout

Ans. c

Sol. President Murmu inaugurated the 18th National Jamboree of the Bharat Scouts and Guides in Rajasthan

President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the 18th National Scout and Guide Jamboree, at Rohat in the Pali district of Rajasthan.

Rajasthan is hosting Jamboree after 66 years.

Theme of the 18th National Scout and Guide Jamboree: Progress with Peace.

Over 35,000 scouts and guides from all over the country will participate in this 7-day mega-event.

A smart jamboree village has been set up with all the facilities on a two hundred twenty hectare area at Nimblee village 3500 tents have been erected at the venue.

The first National Scout and Guide Jamboree was held in Andhra Pradesh in 1951. The 17th Jamboree was held in Mysuru, Karnataka in December 2016 -January 2017.

Recent Inauguration by President Murmu

- President Droupadi Murmu lays foundation stone for PRASHAD project in Telangana
- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated project worth Rs 43.08 cr at Srisailam Temple
- President Droupadi Murmu launched startup platform 'herSTART' for women entrepreneurs
- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated projects in Gujarat worth 1,330 crore
- President Droupadi Murmu flags off two train services in Northeast

61. The Union Government has approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission with an initial outlay of how many rupees?
केंद्र सरकार ने कितने रुपये के प्रारंभिक परिव्यय के साथ राष्ट्रीय हरित हाइड्रोजन मिशन को मंजूरी दी है?

(a) 15,744 crore
(b) 16,744 crore
(c) 18,744 crore
(d) 19,744 crore
(e) 20,744 crore

Ans. d

Sol. Government approved National Green Hydrogen Mission

The Union Government has approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission with an initial outlay of 19,744 crore rupees.

The Mission aims to make India a Global Hub for the production, utilization, and export of Green Hydrogen.

This Mission will play an important role in dealing with climate change. India will be the global hub of Green Hydrogen.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi had announced the launch of the National Hydrogen Mission during his Independence Day speech on the 15th of August 2021.

He said, 50 lakh tonnes of green hydrogen will be produced per year, with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 Giga Watt.

The targets by 2030 are likely to bring in over 8 lakh crore rupees investments and create over 6 lakh jobs.

The Mission will help save one lakh crore rupees in the import of fossil fuels. Through this mission, 50 million metric tonnes of carbon emissions will be averted annually.

62. The second phase of the Sari Festival "VIRAASAT"- Celebrating 75 handwoven Saris of India begins at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi. This phase is being organized by which ministry?

साड़ी महोत्सव "विरासत" का दूसरा चरण - भारत की 75 हाथ से बुनी साड़ियों का उत्सव हथकरघा हाट, जनपथ, नई दिल्ली में शुरू हुआ। यह चरण किस मंत्रालय द्वारा आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

(a) Ministry of Culture / संस्कृति मंत्रालय
(b) Ministry of Environment and Forests / पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय
(c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs / आवास और शहरी मामलों के मंत्रालय
(d) Ministry of Education / शिक्षा मंत्रालय
(e) Ministry of Textiles / कपड़ा मंत्रालय

Ans. e

Sol. 2nd Phase of Sari Festival "VIRAASAT" begins in New Delhi

The second phase of the Sari Festival "VIRAASAT" is celebrating 75 handwoven Saris of India in New Delhi.

This phase is being organized by the Ministry of Textiles from 3rd to 17th January 2023 at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi.

The second phase, having 90 participants from different parts of the country, will bring participation of famous handcrafted varieties of Saris like Tie and Dye, Chikan embroidered Saris, Hand Block Saris, Kalamkari printed Saris, Ajrakh, Kantha and Phulkari.

The first phase of "VIRAASAT"- started on the 16th and concluded on 30th of last month.

A social media campaign has also been launched under a common hashtag #MySariMyPride to support the Indian handloom weavers.

63. Which state government has signed an MoU with six UAE-based companies worth Rs 18,590 crore ahead of the Global Investors Summit?

किस राज्य सरकार ने ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टर्स समिट से पहले 18,590 करोड़ रुपये की छह यूएई-आधारित कंपनियों के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. a

Sol. UP government signed MoU with UAE-based companies worth Rs 18,590 crore

Uttar Pradesh government has signed MoU with six UAE-based companies worth Rs 18,590 crore ahead of the Global Investors Summit to be held in Lucknow in February 2023.

This agreement will help in the creation of over 20,000 new employment opportunities.

The two companies, Astha Green Energy Venture and Shree Siddharth Infratech and Services will invest in renewable energy worth Rs 4480 and Rs 8000 crore respectively to create 2560 and 4800 new jobs.

Lulu Group will invest Rs 4500 crore in retail and food processing sectors, creating 10000 jobs. While Sobha Realty will invest Rs 100 crore in education and CSR. This will provide employment to 250 people.

Ahead of the Global Investors Summit, which will take place in February, eight teams of the Uttar Pradesh government visited 16 countries, receiving investment proposals totalling more than Rs 7.12 lakh crore.

The largest share of investment proposals worth Rs 4 lakh crore has been received from the United Kingdom (UK) and the United States of America (USA).

About Uttar Pradesh

- **Capital** - Lucknow
- **Chief Minister** – Yogi Adityanath
- **Governor -** Anandiben Patel

Recent MoUs Signed by State Government

- Meghalaya signed MoU with Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for MSME borrowers
- Haryana government signed an MoU with Dubai for economic cooperation
- Haryana government has launched Nirogi Haryana project
- Finland partnered with Kerala government to replicate Little KITEs model
- IRCTC signed an agreement with Chhattisgarh toursim board to promote tourist spots of state

64. The Gaan Ngai festival of the Zeliangrong community has been celebrated in which state?

जेलियांग्रोंग समुदाय का गान नगाई उत्सव किस राज्य में मनाया गया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. d

Sol. Gaan Ngai festival celebrated in Manipur

The Gaan Ngai festival of the Zeliangrong community has celebrated in Manipur.

The Gaan Ngai festival is one of Manipur's major festivals, which is celebrated every year after harvesting.

This festival also marks the end of the year when the farmers have stored their foodgrain in their ganeries.

During the festival, the Zeliarong community shows their gratitude by offering to the almighty a good harvest and praying for a better and prosperous life in the coming year.

It is a custom to produce new fire by rubbing dry wood and split bamboo pieces and distributing them to every household on the day of the festival to mark the beginning of the New Year.

The Zeliangrong community comprises Rongmei, Liangmei, and Zeme tribes.

About Manipur

- **Capital** – Imphal
- **Chief Minister** – N. Biren Singh
- **Governor -** La Ganesan

Festivals of Manipur

- Imoinu Eratpa festival
- Sangai Festival
- Amur Falcon Festival
- Lai Haraoba Festival
- Manipur Sangai Festival
- Lui Ngai Ni Festival
- Ningol Chakouba Festival
- Kachai Lemon Festival
- Shirui Lily Festival

65. The government of India has constituted 17 member High Powered Committee (HPC) to protect Ladakh culture, language & employment under the Chairmanship of _____.

भारत सरकार ने _____ की अध्यक्षता में लद्दाख संस्कृति, भाषा और रोजगार की रक्षा के लिए 17 सदस्यीय उच्चाधिकार प्राप्त समिति (एचपीसी) का गठन किया है।

(a) Nityanand Rai / नित्यानंद राय
(b) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(c) Sanjay Agrawal / संजय अग्रवाल
(d) M S Sahoo / एम एस साहू
(e) Chandra Prakash Goyal / चंद्र प्रकाश गोयल

Ans. a

Sol. Government formed Committee to protect Ladakh culture, language & employment

The government of India has constituted 17 member High Powered Committee (HPC) under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai.

Objective - To ensure the protection of land and employment for the people of Ladakh.

The committee includes Ladakh LG, RK Mathur; MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal; Chairmans of Leh and Kargil Hill councils, representatives of Apex Body Leh, Kargil Democratic Alliance, and nominee officials of the Home ministry.

Recent Committee

- CJI constituted committee to conduct accessibility audit of SC premises - SC Judge S Ravindra Bhat.
- Centre constituted a panel for Higher Educational Institutions - Dr K. Radhakrishnan
- Government formed 5-member committee to review pharma marketing practices – V K Paul
- SEBI reconstituted 21 members Market Data Advisory Committee (MDAC) - M S Sahoo
- SEBI restructured Secondary Market Advisory Committee (SMAC)- Gurumoorthy Mahalingam
- SC appointed panel for recovery of money from NSEL defaulters- Pradeep Nandrajog

66. Which state government has launched the Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights scheme (Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu Adhikar Yojana)?
किस राज्य सरकार ने मुख्यमंत्री आवासीय भूमि अधिकार योजना (मुख्यमंत्री आवास भू अधिकार योजना) शुरू की है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
(b) Gujarat / गुजरात
(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Ans. e

Sol. Madhya Pradesh government launched Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights Scheme

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched the Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights scheme (Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu Adhikar Yojana) in a programme organized at the Bagaj Mata temple complex in Tikamgarh district.

The objective of this scheme is to provide free plots to the poor living in rural areas for building their houses.

Under the scheme, plots worth about 129 crore rupees were distributed to 10 thousand 918 families of Tikamgarh district.

The land will be given completely free of cost and along with the plot, the benefits of all other schemes will also be provided.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

Recent Scheme/Campaign launched by Madhya Pradesh government

- Ladli Laxmi 2.0
- Launchpad Scheme
- Pankh abhiyan
- Sickle Cell Mission
- Mukhyamantri Awasiya Bhu-dhikar Yojana
- Mukhyamantri Ration Aapke Dwar Yojna
- Mukhya Mantri Udyam Kranti Yojana
- Urja Saksharta Abhiyan
- Ladli Laxmi scheme-2.0
- Madhya Pradesh "Startup Policy and Implementation Plan – 2022

67. Who has chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi?
नई दिल्ली में नेहरू मेमोरियल म्यूजियम एंड लाइब्रेरी सोसाइटी की वार्षिक आम बैठक की अध्यक्षता किसने की?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
(c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु
(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi presides over annual general meeting of Nehru Memorial Museum and Library society

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi.

He underlined the need to widen the scope of research on modern Indian history by involving individuals and institutions to create awareness about the country's past.

He also emphasized the need for institutions in the country, in general, to create their well-audited and researched recorded memory for the benefit of the present as well as future generations.

The PM mentioned that the 200th birth anniversary of Swami Dayanand Saraswati, the founder of Arya Samaj, is in 2024.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi to launch **world's longest river cruise** from Varanasi to Assam
- PM Modi flagged off **West Bengal's first Vande Bharata** Express train (7th)
- PM Modi flagged off **6th Vande Bharat train** in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated **4th Vande Bharat Express** in Himachal Pradesh
- PM Modi participated in the historic programme marking '**Veer Bal Diwas**' in Delhi
- PM Modi addressed **75th Amrut Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul Rajkot Sansthan**

68. India has signed various loan agreements with which of the following organization to boost the infrastructure sector in the country recently?
भारत ने हाल ही में देश में बुनियादी ढांचा क्षेत्र को बढ़ावा देने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किस संगठन के साथ विभिन्न ऋण समझौतों पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?
(a) International Monetary Fund / अंतरराष्ट्रीय मुद्रा कोष
(b) Asian Development Bank / एशियाई विकास बैंक
(c) New Development Bank / न्यू डेवलपमेंट बैंक
(d) African Development Bank / अफ्रीकी विकास बैंक
(e) World Bank / विश्व बैंक
Ans. b
Sol. Government signed agreement with ADB to boost infrastructure sector in India
India has signed various loan agreements with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to boost the infrastructure sector in the country.
A loan agreement was signed worth 350 million US dollars to improve connectivity in Maharashtra.
The government also signed an agreement worth 300 million US dollars to upgrade over 300 Km of State highways and district roads in Assam.
A 220 million dollar loan agreement has signed to improve energy security, quality of supply, efficiency, and resilience of the power sector in Tripura.
A loan agreement worth 350 million US dollars was signed to build new lines and improve the connectivity of the metro rail system in Chennai.

About Asian Development Bank (ADB)

- **Founded** - 19 December 1966
- **Headquarters** - Mandaluyong, Metro Manila, Philippines
- **President** - Masatsugu Asakawa
- **Vice President** - Ashok Lavasa
- **Director of ADB for India** - Takeo Konishi
- **Executive Director** - Sameer Kumar Khare
- **Member Countries -** 68 (Nuie)

Recent Loan approved by ADB

- ADB provides $100 million loans to Shriram Finance Limited
- ADB approved $125 million loan to improve Urban Services in Tamil Nadu
- ADB approved USD 350 million loan to Maharashtra for road connectivity
- ADB approved USD 96 million loan to HP for safe drinking water project
- ADB approves $112 million loan to establish Assam Skill University.
- ADB approves $150 million loan for urban poor housing project in Tamil Nadu.

69. Which of the following bank has partnered with Microsoft in the next phase of its digital transformation recently?
निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने हाल ही में अपने डिजिटल परिवर्तन के अगले चरण में माइक्रोसॉफ्ट के साथ भागीदारी की है?

(a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
(c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
(e) IDFC First Bank / आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक

Ans. d

Sol. HDFC Bank partnered with Microsoft for digital transformation

The private sector lender HDFC Bank has partnered with Microsoft in the next phase of its digital transformation.

Objective - To unlock business value by transforming the application portfolio, modernizing the data landscape, and securing the enterprise with Microsoft Cloud.

The bank, as a part of its 'future ready' strategy, is developing in-house intellectual properties (IP) as well as partnering with several companies, including fintechs, to co-create technology IPs.

The bank has leveraged Microsoft Azure to consolidate and modernize its enterprise data landscape by Federated Data Lake.

About HDFC Bank

- **Founded** – August 1994
- **Founder -** Hasmukhbhai Parekh
- **Headquarters -** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **MD & CEO** - Sashidhar Jagdishan
- **Tagline** - We understand your world

Recent MoU Signed in Banking Sector

- SBI Card partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to launch co-brand credit cards
- Bandhan Bank signed MoU with Defence Ministry for defence pensioners
- AU Small Finance Bank partnered with ICICI Lombard for bancassurance
- Spice Money partnered with Axis Bank for financial inclusion in rural India
- YES Bank partnered with Turtlefin to create tech platform 'EasyNsure'

70. Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited has signed a corporate agency agreement with which company to offer Niva Bupa's select range of indemnity plans to its growing range of existing and past customers?

Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited ने किस कंपनी के साथ Niva Bupa के मौजूदा और पिछले ग्राहकों की बढ़ती रेंज के लिए क्षतिपूर्ति योजनाओं की चुनिंदा रेंज की पेशकश करने के लिए एक कॉर्पोरेट एजेंसी समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Bajaj Allianz Insurance / बजाज आलियांज इंश्योरेंस

(b) Bharti AXA Insurance / भारती एक्सा इंश्योरेंस

(c) Cholamandalam MS Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस इंश्योरेंस

(d) Go Digit Insurance / गो डिजिट इंश्योरेंस

(e) Sundaram Finance Limited / सुंदरम फाइनेंस लिमिटेड

Ans. e

Sol. Niva Bupa and Sundaram Finance signed corporate agency agreement

Niva Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited (formerly known as Max Bupa Health Insurance Company Limited) has signed a corporate agency agreement with Sundaram Finance Limited

Objective - To offer Niva Bupa's select range of indemnity plans to its growing range of existing and past customers.

This partnership can provide an opportunity to Sundaram Finance customers to secure themselves and their families against medical expenditures related to Covid-19 or any other critical illnesses.

The plan will provide peace of mind to customers to tide through any medical emergencies.

Sundaram Finance will use its strong network of over 640 branches across the country to reach out to customers as part of this partnership.

Sundaram Finance Limited MD -Rajiv Lochan

Niva Bupa Health Insurance MD & CEO - Krishnan Ramachandran

Recent MoU Signed in Banking Sector

- Tata Power Solar Systems partnered with Union Bank of India to help MSME sector
- Federal Bank partnered with JCB India to finance heavy equipment buyers
- IFSCA signed MoU with the Reserve Bank of India for collaboration in the field of regulation
- NIIFL signed an agreement with JBIC to boost Japanese investments in India
- SIDBI signed an MoU with Bureau of Energy Efficiency to finance green MSMEs

71. Bandhan Bank has launched its 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign. Who is the brand ambassador of this campaign?
बंधन बैंक ने अपना 'जहां बंधन, वाहन ट्रस्ट' अभियान शुरू किया है। इस अभियान का ब्रांड एंबेसडर कौन है?

(a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
(b) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
(c) Sourav Ganguly / सौरव गांगुली
(d) MS Dhoni / एमएस धोनी
(e) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना

Ans. c

Sol. Bandhan Bank launched 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign

Bandhan Bank has launched its 'Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust' campaign featuring cricketer Sourav Ganguly as its brand ambassador.

This is the first time that Bandhan Bank has appointed a pan-India brand ambassador.

The campaign was conceptualized by Leo Burnett Orchard, which was brought in as the bank's creative agency in August 2022.

The marketing campaign will be visible across TV, print, out-of-home (OOH), cinema, and digital media.

Bandhan Bank, in the last seven years, has established its presence in 34 states and union territories and has more than 2.77 crore customers.

About Bandhan Bank

- **Founded -** 2001
- **Founder -** Chandra Shekhar Ghosh
- **Headquarters** - Kolkata
- **MD & CEO -** Chandra Shekhar Ghosh
- **Chairperson** - Anup Kumar Sinha

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Anushka Sharma - Puma India
- Deepika Padukone - American furniture retailer Pottery Barn
- Virat Kohli - Wearables martwatch leader Noise
- Prasoon Joshi - Uttarakhand State
- Janhvi Kapoor - Marico's Saffola Fittify
- Deepa Malik - Ambassador of Nikshay Mitra (TB Campaign)

72. Who has been appointed as interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of BharatPe?

BharatPe के अंतरिम मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (CEO) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Jayanti Prasad / जयंती प्रसाद
(b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
(c) Nalin Negi / नलिन नेगी
(d) Rajarshi Gupta / राजर्षि गुप्ता
(e) Seif Ahmed / सैफ अहमद

Ans. c

Sol. Nalin Negi appointed as interim CEO of BharatPe

Fintech unicorn BharatPe has appointed current Chief Financial Officer (CFO) Nalin Negi as the interim Chief Executive Officer (CEO). He has replaced Suhail Sameer, who stepped down from the position.

Sameer's exit comes at a time when he has come under personal attacks on social media by Grover, who responded to civil and criminal suits alleging fraud filed by BharatPe.

He joined BharatPe in August 2020 as president.

Negi, who comes with over 28 years of experience, has previously worked at GE Capital and SBI Card. He was the CFO of SBI Card for over ten years.

Recent Appointment in Banking Sector

- CEO of Bank of Singapore - Jason Moo
- MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank - Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- MD & CEO of BSE - Sundararaman Ramamurthy
- MD & CEO of Suryoday Small Finance Bank - Baskar Babu Ramachandran (re-appointement)
- MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank - P N Vasudevan
- MD and CEO of SBI Funds - Shamsher Singh

73. Which state has won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission, a 5T initiative of the state?

किस राज्य ने राज्य की 5टी पहल जागा मिशन के लिए यूएन-हैबिटेट वर्ल्ड हैबिटेट अवार्ड्स 2023 जीता है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha won World Habitat Award 2023

Odisha has won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission, a 5T initiative of the state.

The Jaga mission is the land titling and slum upgrading program that aims at empowering the lives of slum dwellers.

The Government of Odisha has set itself the ambitious target of becoming the first slum-free state in India and is leading the Jaga Mission programme to upgrade all of the state's 2,919 slums.

The initiative in the last five years, 1,75,000 families have been granted land tenure security.

100 percent of households in 2,724 slums have been provided with pipe water connections, 707 slums have transformed fully into liveable habitats, 100 percent of households in 666 slums have individual toilets, and 8 cities have become slum-free.

In 2019, Odisha's Jaga mission received World Habitat Awards for its success in providing land tenure security to slum dwellers.

About Odisha

- **Capital –** Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Naveen Patnaik
- **Governor –** Ganeshi Lal

Recent Awards

- ICC emerging Men's player of the year award 2022 - Arshdeep Singh
- ICC emerging Men's player of the year award 2022 - Renuka Singh & Yastika Bhatia
- Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 - IIT Madras
- Atal Samman Award - Prabhu Chandra Mishra
- First KR Gouri Amma national award - Aleida Guevara
- BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2022 award - Beth Mead (England)

74. Who is the author of the book titled 'Ambedkar: A Life'?

'अंबेडकर: ए लाइफ' नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

(a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन
(b) Arvind Subramanian / अरविंद सुब्रमण्यम
(c) Shashi Tharoor / शशि थरूर
(d) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत
(e) Pulapre Balakrishnan / पुलाप्रे बालकृष्णन

Ans. c

Sol. A book titled 'Ambedkar: A Life', authored by Shashi Tharoor

A book titled 'Ambedkar: A Life', authored by Shashi Tharoor has been launched at the Kitaab Kolkata event.

The event was organized by Prabha Khaitan Foundation (PKF) at the ITC Sonar presented by Shree Cement.

The event was attended by bibliophiles young and old, members of Ehsaas Women and FICCI FLO.

The biography of Babasaheb Bhimrao Ramji Ambedkar is neither the first one nor the last, but Shashi Tharoor's meticulously-researched work adds a new perspective to one of India's most revered icons and an intellectual giant.

In Tharoor's own words, "Dr. Ambedkar's greatness cannot be reduced to any one of (his) accomplishments, because all were equally extraordinary."

Other notable books of Shashi Tharoor - India: From Midnight to the Millennium (1997), Riot: A Love Story(2001), Why I Am A Hindu (2018), The Paradoxical Prime Minister (2018)

Recent Book

- Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond - C. Rangarajan
- The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage - Ranjit B Rai and Aritra Banerjee
- Fit At Any Age – Launched Retd. Air Marshal PV Iyer
- Miracles of Face Yoga - Mansi Gulati
- India: The Mother of Democracy - Prepared and published by ICHR & launched by Dharmendra Pradhan
- Now You Breathe - Rakhi Kapoor
- The World: A Family History - Simon Sebag
- Nuclearization of Asia - French author Rene Naba
- The Last Heroes - P Sainath
- Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan - Jiwesh Nandan

75. Which of the following Union Territories will host the first G-20 meeting on January 31?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा केंद्र शासित प्रदेश 31 जनवरी को पहली G-20 बैठक की मेजबानी करेगा?

(a) Delhi / दिल्ली

(b) Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़

(c) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर

(d) Ladakh / लद्दाख

(e) Puducherry / पुदुचेरी

Ans. e

Sol. First G-20 meeting to take place in Puducherry on Jan 31

Puducherry Lieutenant Governor Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan said that the first G-20 meeting will be held in Puducherry on January 31.

The Lt Governor released stickers, badges, and posters with the G20 logo and also inaugurated a selfie booth in the presence of Puducherry Chief Minister N Rangasamy at an event.

Representatives of different countries will participate in the meeting and many important decisions will be taken.

These programs will be organized in different parts of the country in different segments. Kolkata will host the first meeting on the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion.

76. Which railway station has been awarded a 5- star 'Eat Right Station' certification by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for providing quality and nutritious food to passengers recently?

किस रेलवे स्टेशन को हाल ही में यात्रियों को गुणवत्तापूर्ण और पौष्टिक भोजन प्रदान करने के लिए भारतीय खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक प्राधिकरण (FSSAI) द्वारा 5-स्टार 'ईट राइट स्टेशन' प्रमाणन से सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Dehradun Railway Station / देहरादून रेलवे स्टेशन

(b) Lucknow Charbagh Railway Station / लखनऊ चारबाग रेलवे स्टेशन

(c) Indore Junction Railway Station / इंदौर जंक्शन रेलवे स्टेशन

(d) Varanasi Cantt / वाराणसी कैंट

(e) New Delhi Railway Station / नई दिल्ली रेलवे स्टेशन

Ans. d

Sol. Varanasi Cantt Railway Station awarded 'Eat Right Station' with a certification by FSSAI

The Varanasi Cantt railway station has been awarded a 5- star 'Eat Right Station' certification by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for providing quality and nutritious food to passengers.

The "Eat Right Station" certification is awarded by Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to the railway stations that set benchmarks (as per the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006) in providing safe and wholesome food to passengers.

FSSAI is an autonomous statutory body established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The stations are awarded a certificate following the completion of an FSSAI-empanelled third-party audit.

The 5-star rating indicates full compliance by the station to ensure safe and hygienic food is available to passengers.

The other railway stations with this certification include Anand Vihar Terminal Railway Station (Delhi), Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (Mumbai), Mumbai Central Railway Station (Mumbai), Vadodara Railway Station, Chandigarh Railway Station.

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been set up under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- Founded - 5 September 2008
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Under - Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- Chairperson - Rita Teaotia

77. In which of the following city the 36th Strategic Dialogue between India and France has been held?

भारत और फ्रांस के बीच निम्नलिखित में से किस शहर में 36वीं सामरिक वार्ता आयोजित की गई है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Chennai / चेन्नई

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. India & France hold 36th Strategic Dialogue in New Delhi

India and France held the 36th Strategic Dialogue in New Delhi.

The two sides discussed a wide range of bilateral and global issues.

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval led the Indian delegation while the French delegation was led by Emmanuel Bonne, Diplomatic Advisor to the French President.

The last edition of the Strategic Dialogue was to be held in Paris in November 2021.

During the 36th Strategic Dialogue, both sides also agreed to deepen the most significant three pillars of the India-France strategic partnership, including defence to counter-terrorism, civilian nuclear energy, space, and cybersecurity.

About France

- Capital- Paris
- President- Emmanuel Macron
- Prime Minister- Elisabeth Borne
- Official language- French

78. Who has chaired the third meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Skill Development Mission in New Delhi?
नई दिल्ली में राष्ट्रीय कौशल विकास मिशन की संचालन समिति की तीसरी बैठक की अध्यक्षता किसने की?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Smriti Irani / स्मृति ईरानी
(d) Dharmendra Pradhan / धर्मेंद्र प्रधान
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. d

Sol. Dharmendra Pradhan chaired the 3rd meeting of the steering committee of National Skill Development Mission

Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan has chaired the third meeting of the Steering Committee of the National Skill Development Mission in New Delhi.

The progress made in the skill development efforts and the road map ahead were discussed in the meeting.

The minister also discussed various issues such as convergence of skill development schemes, skill gap analysis and skill mapping, connecting Indian youth to global opportunities, developing a curriculum to reflect emerging trends, etc.

About National Skill Development Mission

- It was launched in 2015 to provide a strong institutional framework to implement skill development efforts across the country and provide training to one crore youth every year.
- Aim - To provide a strong institutional framework at the Center and in all States for the implementation of skilling activities in the country.
- Under- Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

Dharmendra Pradhan in News

- Dharmendra Pradhan released the book '**India: The Mother of Democracy**'
- Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated **'Baji Rout National Football Tournament**
- Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated **India's second Srijagannath Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya**

79. Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has chaired a high-level meeting to eliminate Kala-azar from the country by which year?

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य मंत्री डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया ने किस वर्ष तक देश से कालाजार को खत्म करने के लिए एक उच्च स्तरीय बैठक की अध्यक्षता की है?

(a) 2023
(b) 2024
(c) 2025
(d) 2026
(e) 2027

Ans. a

Sol. Health Minister chaired a high-level meeting to eliminate Kala-azar from the country by 2023

Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has chaired a high-level meeting to review the status of Kala-Azar disease in the four endemic states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and West Bengal.

Chaired a meeting with State Health Ministers of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, West Bengal & Jharkhand to review the progress of elimination of Kala Azar disease in these States.

During the high-level meeting, the Union Health Minister assured Centre's complete support in fight against eliminating the life-threatening disease by 2023.

India is committed to eliminating Kala Azar from the country by 2023. 632 (99.8%) endemic blocks have already achieved elimination status. Only one block (Littipara) of Pakur district, Jharkhand, is in the endemic category. We are working holistically with the state government and other stakeholders to achieve elimination in Jharkhand,

Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have achieved the Kala-azar elimination targets at the block level.

What is Kala-azar

- It is also known as Visceral Leishmaniasis (VL), black fever and Dumdum fever.
- The disease is the second largest parasite killer in the world after Malaria.
- It is a Neglected Tropical Disease affecting about 100 countries including India.
- Symptoms
- Fever, weight loss, fatigue, anaemia, and swelling of the liver and spleen.

80. Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the three-day 'North East Krishi Kumbha-2023' in which state?

केंद्रीय कृषि और किसान कल्याण मंत्री नरेंद्र सिंह तोमर ने किस राज्य में तीन दिवसीय 'पूर्वोत्तर कृषि कुंभ-2023' का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) Sikkim / सिक्किम
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. e

Sol. Narendra Tomar inaugurated 'North East Krishi Kumbha-2023'

Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Narendra Singh Tomar has inaugurated the three-day 'North East Krishi Kumbha-2023' in Meghalaya.

He also participated in the 49th Foundation Day celebration of the ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Umiam.

Tomar also presented awards to several progressive farmers to recognize and encourage their contributions to the development of agriculture.

The event included live demonstrations and exhibition of recent technologies through 102 stalls, by the host institute and its regional centers along with all the ICAR institutes.

About Meghalaya

- **Capital** – Shillong
- **Chief Minister** - Conrad Kongkal Sangma
- **Governor -** B. D. Mishra (additional charge)

81. The Foreign Ministers of the Group of Twenty (G20) countries are set to meet in which of the following city in March 2023?

मार्च 2023 में ग्रुप ऑफ ट्वेंटी (G20) देशों के विदेश मंत्रियों की बैठक निम्नलिखित में से किस शहर में होने वाली है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. G20 Foreign ministers to meet in Delhi in March 2023

The foreign ministers of the Group of Twenty (G20) countries are set to meet in New Delhi in March 2023.

India assumed the Presidency of the G20 starting in December 2022.

The 43 Heads of Delegations- the largest ever in G20-will be participating in the final New Delhi Summit in September next year.

India's special invitee guest countries are Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Netherlands, Nigeria, Oman, Singapore, Spain, and UAE.

India is hosting G20 meetings across several cities around the country.

Drawing inspiration from its G20 Presidency theme of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam'-"One Earth One Family One Future, as well as the Prime Minister's vision of an 'all of government" approach, India will host over 200 meetings in over 50 cities across 32 different workstreams.

82. The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) has approved Central Sector Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND) Scheme with an outlay of how many rupees up to 2025-26?

आर्थिक मामलों की मंत्रिमंडलीय समिति (CCEA) ने 2025-26 तक कितने रुपये के परिव्यय के साथ सेंट्रल सेक्टर ब्रॉडकास्टिंग इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर एंड नेटवर्क डेवलपमेंट (BIND) योजना को मंजूरी दी है?

(a) 2539.61 crore
(b) 3539.61 crore
(c) 4539.61 crore
(d) 5539.61 crore
(e) 6539.61 crore

Ans. a

Sol. Government approved BIND Scheme

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting regarding the Central Sector Scheme "Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development" (BIND).

The BIND scheme is aimed to bring modernization to the public broadcaster Prasar Bharati i.e. All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD).

The outlay of the scheme is Rs.2,539.61 crore and is for the time period upto 2025-26.

Prasar Bharati played a critical role during the COVID-19 pandemic in disseminating important public health messages and awareness to the public.

At present, DD operates 36 TV channels including 28 regional channels and AIR operates from more than 500 broadcasting centres.

The Scheme will increase coverage of AIR FM transmitters in the country to 66% by geographical area and 80% by population up from 59% and 68% respectively.

The Scheme also envisages free distribution of over 8 lakh DD Free Dish STBs to people living in remote, tribal, LWE, and border areas.

83. How many monuments out of 3,693 centrally protected monuments of India have gone missing, as per the report of the Ministry of Culture?

संस्कृति मंत्रालय की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत के 3,693 केंद्रीय संरक्षित स्मारकों में से कितने स्मारक गायब हो गए हैं?

(a) 20
(b) 50
(c) 80
(d) 100
(e) 120

Ans. b

Sol. 50 ASI-protected monuments disappear

50 of India's 3,693 centrally protected monuments have gone untraceable, which flagged a matter of grave concern.

The report titled 'Issues relating to Untraceable Monuments and Protection of Monuments in India' was submitted to the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Transport, Tourism, and Culture on December 8.

According to the Ministry of Culture report titled 'Issues relating to Untraceable Monuments and Protection of Monuments in India' submit to the Parliamentary Standing Committee, 50 of India's 3,693 centrally protected monuments have gone missing.

Rapid urbanization has engulfed 14 monuments. As many as 12 monuments have been submerged by the construction of reservoirs and dams, while 24 have gone missing.

The missing monuments include: 11 in Uttar Pradesh, two each in Delhi and Haryana, and in states like Assam, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand.

Other missing monuments include- the Guns of Emperor Sher Shah, Tinsukia (Assam); the Ruins of Copper Temple, Paya, Lohit (Arunachal Pradesh); Kos Minar, Mujesar, Faridabad (Haryana); Kutumbari Temple, Dwarahat, Almora (Uttarakhand); Rock Inscription, Satna (Madhya Pradesh); Old European Tomb, Pune (Maharashtra); 12th Century Temple, Baran (Rajasthan); and Telia Nala Buddhist ruins, Varanasi (Uttar Pradesh).

84. Which insurance company has launched iTerm Prime Insurance plan catering to the need of self-employed individuals with a special 10% discount on the first-year premium?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने पहले साल के प्रीमियम पर 10% की विशेष छूट के साथ स्व-नियोजित व्यक्तियों की ज़रूरतों को पूरा करने के लिए iTerm Prime Insurance योजना शुरू की है?

(a) Bajaj Allianz Insurance / बजाज आलियांज इंश्योरेंस

(b) Bharti AXA Insurance / भारती एक्सा इंश्योरेंस

(c) Cholamandalam MS Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस इंश्योरेंस

(d) Max Life Insurance / मैक्स लाइफ इंश्योरेंस

(e) Aegon Life Insurance / एगॉन लाइफ इंश्योरेंस

Ans. e

Sol. Aegon Life Insurance launched iTerm Prime Insurance plan

Aegon Life Insurance has launched iTerm Prime Insurance plan catering to the need of self-employed individuals with a special 10% discount on the first-year premium.

iTerm Prime offers a minimum sum assured of ₹25 lakhs, with no upper limit on a consumer's requirement.

The product also offers a 'Special Exit Value' option that allows the policyholder to get all premiums back when they turn 55 years old.

It is designed to encourage emerging India to gain access to life insurance.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking Sector

- Bajaj Allianz launched **Respect Senior Care Rider**
- Indian Bank launched its flagship programme **'MSME Prerana** 'in Rajasthan
- IDFC FIRST Bank has launched **ZERO Fee Banking on savings accounts**
- Indian Bank launched a new special retail **term deposit dubbed "Ind Shakti 555 days".**
- Canara HSBC Life Insurance launches Non-Participating '**Guaranteed Fortune Plan**
- IDFC First Bank launched a sticker-based debit card named **FIRSTAP**
- Union Bank of India inaugurated **ethical hacking lab**

85. The Reserve Bank of India has lifted the restriction on which of the following non-banking financial companies on loan recovery through third-party services recently?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने हाल ही में निम्नलिखित में से किस गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनी पर तृतीय-पक्ष सेवाओं के माध्यम से ऋण वसूली पर प्रतिबंध हटा दिया है?

(a) Muthoot Finance / मुथूट फाइनेंस

(b) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited / महिंद्रा एंड महिंद्रा फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज लिमिटेड

(c) Shriram Transport Finance Corporation Ltd. / श्रीराम परिवहन वित्त निगम लिमिटेड

(d) LIC Housing Finance / एलआईसी हाउसिंग फाइनेंस

(e) PNB Housing Finance Limited / पीएनबी हाउसिंग फाइनेंस लिमिटेड

Ans. b

Sol. RBI lifted restrictions on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services

The Reserve Bank of India has lifted the restrictions it had imposed on Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd.

The restrictions prevented the company from effecting any recovery or repossession activity through outsourcing arrangements.

On 22nd September 2022, the RBI had directed the non-banking finance company to immediately cease carrying out any recovery or repossession activity through outsourcing arrangements till further orders.

Mahindra Finance could continue recovery or repossession activities through its own employees

86. Which bank has launched a range of digital solutions to streamline the lifecycle of exports?

किस बैंक ने निर्यात के जीवनचक्र को कारगर बनाने के लिए डिजिटल समाधानों की एक श्रृंखला शुरू की है?

(a) ICICI Bank / आईसीआईसीआई बैंक

(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक

(c) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक

(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक

(e) Bandhan Bank / बंधन बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. ICICI Bank launched digital solutions for exporters

Private lender ICICI Bank has launched a range of digital solutions to streamline the lifecycle of exports.

Objective - To simplify the journey of exporters by decongesting the current time-intensive manual procedures

The rationale behind the launch is to streamline several manual procedures and compliances for exporters and improve their operational efficiency.

Facilities such as instant export finance and a current account to hold foreign currency are included in the suite of solutions.

It will digitize the entire export life-cycle from the discovery of export markets, foreign exchange services to receipt of export incentives.

About Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation of India (ICICI) Bank

- **Founded** - 1994
- **Headquarters –** Vadodara, Gujarat
- **MD & CEO** - Sandeep Bakhshi
- **Tagline** - Hum Hai Na Khayal Apka

87. Which city police has won the 'Best Police Unit' award for 2021?

किस शहर की पुलिस ने 2021 के लिए 'सर्वश्रेष्ठ पुलिस इकाई' का पुरस्कार जीता है?

(a) Nagpur Police/ नागपुर पुलिस

(b) Delhi Police / दिल्ली पुलिस

(c) Bhubaneswar Police / भुवनेश्वर पुलिस

(d) Ahmedabad Police / अहमदाबाद पुलिस

(e) Mumbai Police / मुंबई पुलिस

Ans. a

Sol. Jalna and Nagpur Police won 'Best Police Unit' award

Jalna district police and Nagpur city police in Maharashtra have bagged the 'Best Police Unit' awards for 2021 in the state.

The award has been given under different classes for maintaining law and order and evolving community policing and administration.

The Jalna police got the award in 'Class A' and the Nagpur police in 'Class B', as per the winners by Additional Director General of Police (law and order) Kulwant Sarangal.

Police units with less than 6,100 Indian Penal Code cases are grouped in 'Class A', while those with more than 6,100 IPC cases are grouped in 'Class B'.

Recent Awards

- UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission – Odisha state
- Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 - IIT Madras
- Atal Samman Award - Prabhu Chandra Mishra
- First KR Gouri Amma national award - Aleida Guevara

88. Who has been conferred with Assam State's highest civilian award 'Assam Baibhav' for his contribution in cancer treatment?

कैंसर के इलाज में उनके योगदान के लिए असम राज्य के सर्वोच्च नागरिक पुरस्कार 'असम बैभव' से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Dr. V. G. Somani / डॉ. वी. जी. सोमानी
(b) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy / डॉ. एस ईश्वरा रेड्डी
(c) Dr. P.B.N. Prasad / डॉ. पी.बी.एन. प्रसाद
(d) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया
(e) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma / डॉ. रविकांत शर्मा

Ans. d

Sol. Dr. Tapan Saikia received Assam highest civilian award 'AssamBaibhav'

Mumbai-based physician Dr. Tapan Saikia has been honored with the highest state civilian award, 'Assam Baibhav', for his contribution to cancer treatment.

Assam Saurav (Assam's second-highest civilian award) has been conferred to Krishna Roy; Gilbertson Sangma; Nayanmoni Saikia; Dr. Binoi Kumar Saikia and Dr. Shashidhar Phukan.

AsomGaurav (third highest civilian award) has been conferred to 15 people.

Recent Awards

- VinFuture special prize 2022 - Prof. Thalappil Pradeep
- Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize 2021-22 - Sudeep Sen and Shobhana Kumar
- Platinum Icon in Digital India Awards 2022 - Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs
- First Rohini Nayyar prize for rural development - Sethrichem Sangtam
- Mrs World 2022 title- India's Sargam Koushal

89. National Birds Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय पक्षी दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 6 January / 6 जनवरी

(b) 7 January / 7 जनवरी

(c) 8 January / 8 जनवरी

(d) 4 January / 4 जनवरी

(e) 5 January / 5 जनवरी

Ans. e

Sol. 5 January - National Birds Day

National Birds Day is observed every year on 5 January.

Objective - To raise awareness of the value of tiny tweets in the ecosystem

National Bird Day, which has American origins, has been celebrated annually on January 5 since its inaugural event in 2002.

This particular day was chosen because January 5 also happens to be the day of the yearly "Christmas Bird Count." This yearly national holiday has been observed in the USA for quite some time.

90. India will host a special virtual Summit on 12th and 13th of January 2023 called 'Voice of Global South Summit'. What is the theme of this summit?

भारत 12 और 13 जनवरी 2023 को 'वॉयस ऑफ ग्लोबल साउथ समिट' नामक एक विशेष आभासी शिखर सम्मेलन की मेजबानी करेगा। इस शिखर सम्मेलन का विषय क्या है?

(a) Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas
(b) One Sun, One Earth
(c) Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose
(d) Save Global
(e) Unity of Voice

Ans. c

Sol. India to host Voice of Global South Summit

India will host a special virtual Summit on 12th and 13th of January 2023 called 'Voice of Global South Summit'.

The theme of the Summit is 'Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose. More than 120 countries have been invited for this summit.

The initiative is inspired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas, Sabka Vishwas and Sabka Prayas and India's philosophy of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam.

The summit is India's attempt to provide a common platform to discuss concerns affecting developing countries.

India will work to ensure that the valuable inputs generated by participating countries in the Voice of the Global South deliberations receive due cognizance globally.

91. Which edition of the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention is being organized in Indore from 8th Jan to 10th January in partnership with the Government of Madhya Pradesh?

मध्य प्रदेश सरकार की साझेदारी में 8 जनवरी से 10 जनवरी तक इंदौर में प्रवासी भारतीय दिवस सम्मेलन का कौन सा संस्करण आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

(a) 15th
(b) 16th
(c) 17th
(d) 18th
(e) 19th

Ans. c

Sol. 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention organized in Madhya Pradesh

The 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention is being organized in Indore from 8th Jan to the 10th of January in partnership with the Government of Madhya Pradesh.

The theme of this PBD conference is "Diaspora: Reliable partners for India's progress in Amrit Kaal".

Over 3,500 Diaspora members from around 70 different countries have registered for the convention.

The 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas convention is also significant because it is being organized as a physical event for the first time after a gap of four years.

The postal stamp is dedicated to the safe and legal migration of India's Pravasi. Ministry of External Affairs had launched the "Surakshit Jayen Prashikshit Jayen" – Go Safe, Go Trained campaign.

The goal of this campaign is to raise public awareness about the importance of using safe and legal channels while traveling for overseas employment.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

92. In which state of India, the world's first palm-leaf manuscripts museum has been inaugurated?

भारत के किस राज्य में दुनिया के पहले ताड़ के पत्ते की पांडुलिपियों के संग्रहालय का उद्घाटन किया गया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. e

Sol. World's first Palm-leaf Manuscript Museum in Thiruvananthapuram

Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala has opened the world's first museum of palm leaf manuscripts, enriching the state culturally and educationally.

The museum, which opened last week, has 187 manuscripts chronicling a mine of stories based entirely on primary sources. These documents are written on clean and clear palm leaves, which are furnished in the record rooms. In that period these palm leaves were treated before writing the description.

The museum is a repository of curious nuggets of administrative, socio-cultural and economic facets of the Travancore kingdom which lasted for 650 years till the end of the 19th century.

It had been the Central Vernacular Records Office since 1887 before becoming a museum.

About Kerala

- **Capital –** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister** – Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor –** Arif Mohammad Khan

93. Who has launched the themes of the Y20 summit, logo, and website in New Delhi in the curtain raiser event of Y20 Summit India?

Y20 समिट इंडिया के कर्टेन रेजर इवेंट में नई दिल्ली में Y20 समिट की थीम, लोगो और वेबसाइट किसने लॉन्च की है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. a

Sol. Anurag Thakur launched the themes of the Y20 summit, logo, and website

Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur has launched the themes of the Y20 summit, logo, and website in New Delhi in the curtain raiser event of Y20 Summit India.

Youth 20 (Y20) is the official youth engagement group of G20.

It provides a platform that allows youth to express their vision and ideas on the G20 priorities.

During the event, panel discussions of young achievers will also take place in the second session.

India is hosting the Y20 summit for the first time. In Youth 20 Engagement Group, India's key focus is to bring young leaders from all across the globe together and discuss ideas for a better tomorrow and draft an agenda for action.

Recent Inauguration by Anurag Thakur

- Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurated the **Sports Science Centre** in Udupi, Karnataka.
- Anurag Singh Thakur launched new **dashboard for Khelo India**
- Anurag Thakur inaugurated the **National Level Kabaddi Championship** in Udupi in Karnataka.
- Anurag Thakur unveiled **FIH Hockey World Cup 2023 trophy** in New Delhi
- Anurag Thakur inaugurated **Water Sports Center** in Himachal Pradesh
- Anurag Thakur launched the **WADA Athlete Biological Passport Symposium**

94. Union Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar has inaugurated Purple Fest: Celebrating Diversity in which state?

केंद्रीय सामाजिक न्याय और अधिकारिता मंत्री डॉ. वीरेंद्र कुमार ने किस राज्य में पर्पल फेस्ट: सेलिब्रेटिंग डाइवर्सिटी का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Goa / गोवा
(d) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
(e) Punjab / पंजाब

Ans. c

Sol. India's first Inclusion Festival, Purple Fest begins in Goa

Union Social Justice and Empowerment Minister Dr. Virendra Kumar has inaugurated 'Purple Fest: Celebrating Diversity', India's first festival of inclusion in Goa.

Objective - To showcase how we can come together to create a welcoming and inclusive world for everyone.

The Purple Fest will feature a variety of thrilling live performances, sporting events, major exhibitions, immersive experience zones, accessible movie screenings, and talks on important topics such as inclusive education, tourism, employment, and independent living.

Purple Fest is the first festival of its kind in Goa. It is an inclusive event that aims to highlight how we can work together to make the world a welcoming and inclusive place for all.

Recent Inauguration by Union Ministers

- Dr. Virendra Kumar inaugurated the **SHILP SAMAGAM-2022** in New Delhi.
- G Kishan Reddy inaugurated the 11th edition of the **Manipur Sangai Festival.**
- G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the **sixth edition of Ganga Utsav 2022** in New Delhi.
- Rajnath Singh inaugurated the **100 metre-Siyom Bridge** in Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated **'Ayush Utsav'** in Kashmir

95. Which of the following state government has begun caste surveys in different parts of the State?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य के विभिन्न हिस्सों में जाति सर्वेक्षण शुरू किया है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Bihar / बिहार

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Ans. b

Sol. Bihar Government begins caste survey in State

The Bihar government has begun caste surveys in different parts of the State.

Chief Minister Nitish Kumar made it clear that only castes, not sub- castes along with the economic status of each family will be cataloged.

The economic condition of each family will be duly mentioned in the survey.

This caste survey will help in taking the required measures for the upliftment of the deprived sections.

In the first phase, the number of all the families of the state will be counted and recorded.

In the second phase of the survey to be held from April 1 to 30, data will be collected regarding the people living in the houses, their caste, and socio-economic status.

The survey will end on 31 May 2023. About five lakh people have been employed to carry out this entire process.

The state government will spend Rs 500 crore from its contingency fund for this exercise.

About Bihar

- **Capital –** Patna
- **Chief Minister** – Nitish Kumar
- **Governor –** Phagu Chauhan

96. A Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance Festival - Aadi Shaurya - Parv Parakram Ka, will be held at which city on January 23 & 24, 2023?

एक सैन्य टैटू और जनजातीय नृत्य महोत्सव - आदि शौर्य - पर्व पराक्रम का, 23 और 24 जनवरी, 2023 को किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. Military Tattoo & Tribal Dance Festival to be held in New Delhi

A Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance Festival - Aadi Shaurya - Parv Parakram Ka will be held at Jawaharlal Nehru stadium in New Delhi on January 23 & 24, 2023.

The two-day festival will showcase the prowess of the Armed Forces and the ethnic beauty of India's tribal culture.

As part of the Republic Day Celebrations 2023 and to mark the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose (celebrated as Parakram Diwas), this festival will showcase the prowess of the Armed Forces and the ethnic beauty of India's tribal culture.

The festival is free to attend, with tickets available through www.bookmyshow.com.

ambitious baba.com

97. Union Minister Purushottam Rupala has inaugurated how many Mobile Veterinary Units (MVUs) and Centralised Call Center in Thiruvananthapuram Kerala recently?

केंद्रीय मंत्री पुरुषोत्तम रूपाला ने हाल ही में तिरुवनंतपुरम केरल में कितनी मोबाइल पशु चिकित्सा इकाइयों (एमवीयू) और केंद्रीकृत कॉल सेंटर का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) 15
(b) 19
(c) 24
(d) 29
(e) 39

Ans. d

Sol. Purushottam Rupala inaugurated 29 mobile veterinary units in Kerala

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Purushottam Rupala inaugurated 29 Mobile Veterinary Units (MVUs) and Centralised Call Center in Thiruvananthapuram Kerala.

It is a major step for the benefit of the livestock farmers in Kerala. Kerala is deploying 50 MVUs in different districts.

These MVUs will be operated through a centralised call centre with a uniform Helpline No. 1962.

It will receive calls from livestock rearers/animal owners and Veterinarians will prioritize all cases on the basis of emergency nature and will transmit them to the nearest MVU for attending at farmer's doorstep.

The call center will act as one-stop centres for resolution of veterinary issues.

Recent Inauguration by Union Ministers

- Rajnath Singh launched '**Maa Bharati Ke Sapoot**' website
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated **'Ayush Utsav'** in Kashmir
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated **Unani Institute** in Silchar
- Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan inaugurated the **Animal Quarantine Certification Services (AQCS)** at Hessarghata, Bengaluru.

98. Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated the state-of-the-art hockey stadium in Rourkela. The stadium has been named after which freedom fighter?

ओडिशा के मुख्यमंत्री नवीन पटनायक ने राउरकेला में अत्याधुनिक हॉकी स्टेडियम का उद्घाटन किया। स्टेडियम का नाम किस स्वतंत्रता सेनानी के नाम पर रखा गया है?

(a) Bhagat Singh / भगत सिंह
(b) Subhas Chandra Bose / सुभाष चंद्र बोस
(c) Birsa Munda / बिरसा मुंडा
(d) Vinayak Damodar Savarkar / विनायक दामोदर सावरकर
(e) Mangal Pandey / मंगल पाण्डेय

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha CM inaugurated the state-of-the-art hockey stadium in Rourkela

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated the state-of-the-art hockey stadium in Rourkela.

The stadium has been named after legendary freedom fighter Bhagwan Birsa Munda.

The stadium has been built at a cost of 261 crore rupees in a record time of 15 months.

Along with the stadium, he also inaugurated the Hockey World Cup village which will house the teams of the upcoming hockey World Cup.

The Stadium, being billed as the World's largest with a sitting capacity of twenty thousand spectators, will be one of the two venues where the upcoming hockey tournament will be played.

The Hockey World Cup, being hosted by Odisha for the second time, will also be played in the iconic Kalinga Stadium in the capital Bhubaneswar. The prestigious Cup will be vied for by as many as 16 teams, including that of India in the tournament that begins on the 13th to 29th January.

About Odisha

- **Capital –** Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Naveen Patnaik
- **Governor –** Ganeshi Lal

99. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will issue Sovereign Green Bonds of how much rupees in two tranches on January 25 and February 9?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) 25 जनवरी और 9 फरवरी को दो किश्तों में कितने रुपये के सॉवरेन ग्रीन बॉन्ड जारी करेगा?

(a) 5000 crore
(b) 6000 crore
(c) 7000 crore
(d) 8000 crore
(e) 9000 crore

Ans. d

Sol. RBI to issue green bonds in two tranches of Rs 8,000 crore each

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will issue Sovereign Green Bonds worth Rs 8,000 crore each in two tranches on January 25 and February 9.

The proceeds will be deployed in public sector projects which help in reducing the carbon intensity of the economy.

The RBI will sell two bonds maturing in five years and 10 years worth, Rs 4,000 crore each, at every auction. Sovereign green bonds will be issued through Uniform Price Auctions.

5 percent of the notified amount of sale will be reserved for retail investors and it will be eligible for Repurchase Transactions (Repo).

These bonds will be reckoned as eligible investments for Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR) purposes.

The government, in the second half borrowing calendar, had announced raising Rs 16,000 crore through sovereign green bonds, which will be part of the overall Rs 5.92 lakh crore borrowing in the second half.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **Founded** - 1 April 1935
- **RBI Nationalized** - 1 January 1949
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **RBI set up -** Hilton Young Commission
- **1st Governor -** Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)
- **1st Indian Governor -** CD Deshmukh
- **25th Governor** - Shaktikanta Das
- **RBI Deputy Governor** (4) - 1. Tavarna Rabi Sankar
  2. Mukesh Kumar Jain
  3. Michael D Patra
  4. M Rajeshwar Rao

100. India's economy is expected to grow how much percent in the financial year 2023, according to the first advance estimates by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in January 2023?

जनवरी 2023 में राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकी कार्यालय (NSO) द्वारा पहले अग्रिम अनुमान के अनुसार, भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था के वित्तीय वर्ष 2023 में कितने प्रतिशत बढ़ने की उम्मीद है?

(a) 8.1%
(b) 7.1%
(c) 7.8%
(d) 7.0%
(e) 6.9%

Ans. d

Exp India's GDP to grow at 7.0 percent in FY23: NSO report

India's economy is expected to grow 7.0% in the financial year 2023, according to the first advance estimates by the National Statistical Office (NSO) in January 2023.

It had pegged India's growth at 8.7% in the fiscal year 2022.

The economy grew 9.7 percent in the first half (April-September) of FY23, the data for which was released on November 30.

The RBI and the World Bank have projected 6.8 per cent and 6.9 percent GDP growth, respectively, in FY23.

The economy grew 8.7 percent in FY22. In FY23, gross value added (GVA) at basic prices is expected to grow at 6.7 percent.

- World Bank - 6.9% (FY23)
- MOODY'S. – 7% (FY23)
- S&P – 7% (FY23), 6% (FY24)
- IMF – 6.8% (FY23), 6.1% (FY24)
- ADB - 7% (FY23), 7.2% (FY24)
- RBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- India Ratings – 6.9% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING - 7% (FY23), 6.7% (FY24)
- FICCI - 7% (FY23), 6.4% (FY24)
- OECD - 6.6% (FY23), 5.7% (FY24)
- CRISIL - 7% (FY23), 6% (FY24)
- NSO – 7% (FY23)
- SBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- Morgan Stanley - 7.2% (FY23), 6.4%(FY24)
- Nomura – 7.2% (FY23)
- UNTCAD – 5.7% (FY23)
- Goldman Sachs - 5.9% (FY23)
- UNTCAD – 5.7% (FY23)

101. Which of the following bank has partnered with the digital banking fintech company OPEN to launch a digital current account for its customers?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने अपने ग्राहकों के लिए डिजिटल चालू खाता शुरू करने के लिए डिजिटल बैंकिंग फिनटेक कंपनी ओपेन के साथ साझेदारी की है?

(a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
(c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
(e) IDFC First Bank / आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक

Ans. b

Sol. Axis Bank partnered with OPEN to launch a fully digital current account

Private lender Axis Bank has partnered with the digital banking fintech company OPEN to launch a digital current account for its customers including SMEs, freelancers, homepreneurs, influencers and others.

The current account holders will get access to Axis bank's over 250 banking services along with OPEN's financial automation tools for business management including payments, accounting, payroll, compliance, expense management and other such services.

The authentication process of the digital current account will be completely online using PAN (permanent account number) and Aadhaar followed by a Video KYC (know your customer).

Axis Bank has around 4,760 domestic branches across the country and it offers services to large and mid-Corporates, SME, agriculture and retail businesses.

About OPEN Company

- Founded in 2017, Open Financial Technologies operates SME neo-banking platform Open Money, embedded finance platform, Zwitch and enterprise digital banking platform for banks, Banking Stack.
- Over 30 lakh businesses currently use its digital banking platform.
- The 100th Unicorn from India, Open is backed by leading global investors like IIFL Finance, Temasek, Google, Visa, Tiger Global, amongst others.

Recent MoUs signed in Banking Sector

- Niva Bupa and Sundaram Finance signed corporate agency agreement
- HDFC Bank partnered with Microsoft for digital transformation
- SBI Card partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to launch co-brand credit cards
- Bandhan Bank signed MoU with Defence Ministry for defence pensioners
- Spice Money partnered with Axis Bank for financial inclusion in rural India
- YES Bank partnered with Turtlefin to create tech platform 'EasyNsure'

102. Who has been elected as the Speaker of the US House of Representatives?
हाल ही में अमेरिकी प्रतिनिधि सभा के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?
(a) Mitch McConnell / मिच मैककोनेल
(b) Nancy Pelosi / नैन्सी पेलोसी
(c) Lauren Boebert / लॉरेन बोएबर्ट
(d) Kari Lake / कारी झील
(e) Kevin McCarthy / केविन मैकार्थी
Ans. e
Sol. Kevin McCarthy elected as new speaker of the US House of Representatives
Republican leader Kevin McCarthy has been elected as the Speaker of the US House of Representatives.
He was serving as the House Minority Leader in the House.
He was picked after days of Election Drama, making the election process for electing the Speaker as the longest in 160 years.
57-year-old McCarthy got 216 votes in the final tally, to be elected as Washington's top legislator, who presides over House business and is second in line to the presidency.

Recent Appointment

- Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) - Dr. Vinay Prakash Sing
- Bihar's state icon by Election Commission - Maithili Thakur
- Command of the IAF Western Command - Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha
- Director General of BSF - Sujoy Lal Thaosen (additional charge)
- Chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) - Dinesh Kumar Shukla
- Head of Maharashtra government advisory council - N Chandrasekaran

103. Recently, who has become the79th chess Grandmaster of India?

हाल ही में भारत के 79वें शतरंज ग्रैंडमास्टर कौन बने हैं?

(a) M Pranesh / एम प्रणेश

(b) Koustav Chatterjee / कौस्तव चटर्जी

(c) Aditya Mittal / आदित्य मित्तल

(d) Pranav Anand / प्रणव आनंद

(e) V. Pranav / वी. प्रणव

Ans. a

Sol. Pranesh M became India's 79th Grandmaster

Tamilnadu's M Pranesh (16) has clinched the title in the Rilton Cup, the first tournament of the FIDE Circuit, here to become India's 79th chess Grandmaster

After beating GM Frode Olav Olsen Urkedal of Norway, Pranesh attained the required 2500 ELO ratings and won the Rilton Cup in the final round to claim the title.

With this, he also becomes India's first Grandmaster of year 2023.

In December 2022, Koustav Chatterjee became India's 78th Grandmaster.

GRAND MASTERS OF INDIA

- 78th - Koustav Chatterjee (West Bengal)
- 77th - Aditya Mittal (Maharashtra)
- 76th – Pranav Anand (Karnataka)
- 75th - V. Pranav (Tamil Nadu)
- 74th - Rahul Shrivastava P (Telangana)
- 73rd - Bharath Subramanian (Tamil Nadu)
- 72nd - Mitrabha Guha (West Bengal)
- 71st - Sankalp Gupta (Maharstra)
- 70th - Raja Ritwik (Telangana)

104. The World Day of War Orphans is observed every year on which day?

विश्व युद्ध अनाथ दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 6 January / 6 जनवरी

(b) 7 January / 7 जनवरी

(c) 8 January / 8 जनवरी

(d) 4 January / 4 जनवरी

(e) 5 January / 5 जनवरी

Ans. a

Sol. 6 January - World Day of War Orphans

The World Day of War Orphans is observed on January 6 every year.

Objective - To raise awareness about children orphaned in wars.

The World Day of War Orphans was founded by the French organization SOS Enfants en Detresses.

The day offers communities an opportunity to address the plight of war orphans.

105. In which city is the first meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group of G20 being held?
G20 के वित्तीय समावेशन कार्य समूह के लिए वैश्विक भागीदारी की पहली बैठक किस शहर में आयोजित की जा रही है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
(c) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
(d) Kolkata / कोलकाता
(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. 1st meeting of Financial Inclusion Working Group begins in Kolkata

First meeting of the working group on G20 Financial Inclusion Indicator begins in Kolkata.

Kolkata hosting the first Meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group of G20 on Jan 9-11, 2023.

All the member countries, invited countries and invited organizations like World Bank, IMF, and the United Nations will take part in the meeting.

The main session will begin on the 10th and the two-day session will discuss Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion.

The official Twitter handle of the G20 is also holding a small quiz about the "City of Joy".

Images of the iconic sites in Kolkata have been splashed on social media platforms. These include the Howrah Bridge, Victoria Memorial, tram and the yellow taxi.

India assumed the presidency of G20 from December 1, 2022 for an year upto November 30, 2023. Since then meetings have already been held in Udaipur, Mumbai, and Bengaluru.

106. Which company has launched low-smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for the Indian Army in Jammu?

किस कंपनी ने जम्मू में भारतीय सेना के लिए लो-स्मोक सुपीरियर केरोसिन ऑयल (SKO) लॉन्च किया है?

(a) Hindustan Petroleum / हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम

(b) Indian Oil Corporation / इंडियन ऑयल कॉर्पोरेशन

(c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation / तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस निगम

(d) Steel Authority of India Limited / स्टील अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड

(e) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited / भारत पेट्रोलियम कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड

Ans. e

Sol. BPCL launched low-smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for Indian Army

Indian state refiner Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) has launched low-smoke Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) for the Indian Army in Jammu.

BPCL has emerged as the first OMC to commence the supply of the new LSLA grade SKO supplies to the Army, which will go a long way in improving the serving environment and alleviating the issues related to smoke and smell in the use of SKO.

Normal kerosene emits substantial smoke, which poses a health hazard to personnel who use it at higher altitudes, where oxygen level is very low.

The low-smoke kerosene will provide cleaner fuel to soldiers.

About Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL)

- Founded - 1952
- Headquarters - Mumbai
- Chairman - Vetsa Ramakrishna Gupta

107. Which state government has announced that 122 new sports complexes will soon be built in rural areas to reinforce the state's status as a sporting powerhouse in the country?

किस राज्य सरकार ने देश में खेल महाशक्ति के रूप में राज्य की स्थिति को सुदृढ़ करने के लिए ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में जल्द ही 122 नए खेल परिसरों का निर्माण करने की घोषणा की है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Gujarat / गुजरात
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. a

Sol. Maharashtra to set up 122 new sports complexes in rural areas

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde has announced that 122 new sports complexes will soon be built in rural areas to reinforce the state's status as a sporting powerhouse in the country.

The state government will also provide our athletes with every possible facility and support so that they can excel not only at the national level but internationally too.

The state has to develop players from a young age at every level -- village, district, taluka, and state - to create international-class sportspersons. He also revealed that an exhaustive database of every sportsperson in the state is being maintained to ensure their progress in the world of sports.

Maharashtra Sports Minister Girish Mahajan promised to hold the Maharashtra Games every two years from now on. National Games winners will receive cash awards to the tune of 50 lakh rupees for a gold, 30 lakh rupees for a silver, and 20 lakh rupees.

Over 10,000 athletes and officials are taking part in 39 disciplines in the Maharashtra State Olympic Games which is being staged at nine venues across the state from January 2-12.

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Bhagat Singh Koshyari

108. According to the Cirium report 2022, which of the following airport has made it to a list of the top 10 performing global airports?
सीरियम रिपोर्ट 2022 के अनुसार, निम्नलिखित में से किस हवाई अड्डे ने शीर्ष 10 प्रदर्शन करने वाले वैश्विक हवाई अड्डों की सूची में जगह बनाई है?

(a) Chennai International Airport / चेन्नई अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा
(b) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru / केम्पेगौड़ा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, बेंगलुरु
(c) Cochin International Airport, Kochi / कोचीन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, कोच्चि
(d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad / सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, अहमदाबाद
(e) Mangaluru International Airport, Mangaluru / मंगलुरु अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, मंगलुरु

Ans. b

Sol. Bangalore, Delhi one of the Top-Performing Global Airports of 2022

Tracking performance of airports and airlines, Cirium issued a list of the top-performing global airports of 2022 in which Bangalore's Kempegowda International Airport won the 2nd rank, whereas Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport acquired the 7th spot.

While Kempegowda International Airport saw on-time departure for 84.08% of 201,897 flights, Delhi's IGI witnessed 81.84% on-time departure for 411,205 flights.

The top 10 Rankings for best-performing global airports of 2022 according to Cirium's report are as follows –

1. Tokyo, Japan – Haneda Airport
2. Bengaluru, India – Kempegowda International Airport
3. Salt Lake City, USA – Salt Lake City International Airport
4. Detroit, USA – Detroit Metropolitan Wayne County Airport
5. Philadelphia, USA – Philadelphia International Airport
6. USA – Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport
7. Delhi, India – Indira Gandhi International Airport
8. Seattle, USA – Seattle-Tacoma International Airport
9. Bogotá, Colombia – Dorado International Airport
10. North Carolina, USA – Charlotte Douglas International Airport

Along with the above analytics, Cirium also released a list of most punctual airlines globally wherein Azul Airlines surfaced as "the global leader". It is a Brazilian carrier based in Barueri, a suburb of São Paulo.

The airlines is counted among the top three airlines of Brazil which started operations in late 2008. It has, since, become the fastest-growing airline in the country and won many awards for its services.

109. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has recently unveiled a 120 feet tall statue of a polo player in which state?

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने हाल ही में किस राज्य में एक पोलो खिलाड़ी की 120 फीट ऊंची प्रतिमा का अनावरण किया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. d

Sol. Amit Shah inaugurated 120-feet-tall polo statue in Manipur

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has unveiled a 120-feet-tall statue of a polo player riding a pony at Marjing Polo Complex in Manipur's Imphal East district.

Northeastern state Manipur is considered as the birthplace of polo sports. The state is epicentre of the game.

According to Guinness World Records, polo's origins in Manipur with having history of around 3100 BC, when it was played as Sagol Kangjei.

This is the highest monument in the northeast.

This massive statue would popularise Manipur, the home of polo, and increase tourist traffic.

About Manipur

- **Capital** – Imphal
- **Chief Minister** – N. Biren Singh
- **Governor -** La Ganesan

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

- Amit Shah laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka.
- Amit Shah inaugurated Mega Dairy at Mandya, Karnataka
- Amit Shah launched the Prahari app of the Border Security Force
- Amit Shah inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 projects worth over Rs 6,600 cr in Faridabad
- Amit Shah inaugurated Dairy Cooperative Conclave in Gangtok, Sikkim
- Amit Shah inaugurated SP conference at Dergaon in Assam

110. As per the Nikkei Asia report, India has overtaken which country to become the world's third-largest auto market?
निक्केई एशिया रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत किस देश को पीछे छोड़कर दुनिया का तीसरा सबसे बड़ा ऑटो बाजार बन गया है?

(a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(b) Russia / रूस
(c) Japan / जापान
(d) USA / यूएसए
(e) China / चीन

Ans. c

Sol. India becomes 3rd largest auto market globally, surpasses Japan: Report

For the first time, India surpassed Japan in auto sales last year and became the third-largest auto market in the world, according to Nikkei Asia.

The country's sales of new vehicles totaled at least 4.25 million units, topping the 4.2 million sold in Japan.

According to the Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers, new vehicles delivered in India totaled 4.13 million between January and November 2022.

Adding December's sales volume reported by Maruti Suzuki, India's largest carmaker, brings the total to roughly 4.25 million units.

China continued to lead the global auto market in 2021 with 26.27 million vehicles sold. The US remained second at 15.4 million vehicles, followed by Japan at 4.44 million units.

In 2018, around 4.4 million vehicles were sold in India, but the volume dipped below 4 million in 2019, due primarily to the credit crunch that hit the nonbank sector that year.

It further plummeted below the 3-million mark in 2020 due to the Covid-associated lockdown.

111. Which state celebrated the traditional Cherchera festival at Dudhadhari Math in the state?

किस राज्य ने राज्य में दूधाधारी मठ में पारंपरिक चेरचेरा त्योहार मनाया?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Karnataka / कर्नाटक
(e) Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़

Ans. e

Sol. Chhattisgarh celebrated traditional 'Cherchera' festival

Chhattisgarh Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel celebrates the traditional Cherchera festival at Dudhadhari Math in the state capital Raipur.

The traditional Cherchera festival is celebrated on the full moon night of 'Paush' Hindu calendar month in the happiness of taking the crops to their homes after cultivation.

According to mythological belief, on this day Lord Shankar begged from Mata Annapurna, so people used to donate green vegetables along with paddy on this day.

About Chhattisgarh

- **Capital –** Raipur
- **Chief Minister** – Bhupesh Baghel
- **Governor –** Anusuiya Uikey

Popular Festivals of Chhattisgarh

- Bastar Dussehra
- Bhoramdeo Mahotsav Festival
- Rajim Kumbh Mela
- Madai Festival
- Kajari Festival
- National Tribal Dance Festival

112. Who has been appointed as the Vice Chairman of All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC)?
अखिल भारतीय रत्न और आभूषण घरेलू परिषद (GJC) के उपाध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?
(a) Saiyam Mehra / सैयम मेहरा
(b) Rajesh Rokde / राजेश रोकड़े
(c) M A Ganapathy / एम ए गणपति
(d) Umesh Mishra / उमेश मिश्रा
(e) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal / सुबोध कुमार जायसवाल
Ans. b
Sol. Saiyam Mehra elected as Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council
The All India Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council (GJC) has elected Saiyam Mehra as Chairman and Rajesh Rokde as Vice Chairman of the industry body for a period of two years (2023-24).
GJC represents over 6,00,000 industry players including manufacturers, wholesalers, retailers, distributors, laboratories, gemologists, designers and allied service providers.
Saiyam Mehra, known for his vision to set benchmarks in the gold jewellery business, has been associated with GJC for the past several years.
All India Gem and Jewelry Domestic Council is a national trade association for the promotion and development of the gems and jewellery trade across the country.

Recent Appointment

- New Speaker of the US House of Representatives - Kevin McCarthy
- Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) - Dr. Vinay Prakash Sing
- Bihar's state icon by Election Commission - Maithili Thakur
- Command of the IAF Western Command - Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha
- Director General of BSF - Sujoy Lal Thaosen (additional charge)

113. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL)?

पेटीएम पेमेंट्स बैंक लिमिटेड (पीपीबीएल) के नए प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
(b) Aryama Sundaram / आर्यमा सुंदरम
(c) Kishor Kumar Basa / किशोर कुमार बसा
(d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
(e) Surinder Chawla / सुरिंदर चावला

Ans. e

Sol. Surinder Chawla appointed as new MD & CEO of Paytm bank

Veteran banker Surinder Chawla has been appointed as new Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL).

The appointment has been approved by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for a period of three years.

Paytm Payments Bank CEO Satish Kumar Gupta was retired in October 2022.

Since then, Deependra Singh Rathore has been serving as interim CEO of the payments bank.

Chawla is currently serving as head of branch banking at RBL Bank.

He had also worked with HDFC Bank as head of retail liabilities product group and senior executive VP.

Recent Appointment in Banking Sector

- Interim CEO of BharatPe - Nalin Negi
- CEO of Bank of Singapore - Jason Moo
- MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank - Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- MD & CEO of BSE - Sundararaman Ramamurthy
- MD & CEO of Suryoday Small Finance Bank - Baskar Babu Ramachandran (re-appointement)

114. Sania Mirza has announced her retirement recently. She was related to which sport?

सानिया मिर्जा ने हाल ही में अपने संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस खेल से संबंधित थीं?

(a) Hockey / हॉकी

(b) Tennis / टेनिस

(c) Badminton / बैडमिंटन

(d) Football / फुटबॉल

(e) Cricket / क्रिकेट

Ans. b

Sol. Sania Mirza announced her retirement from Professional Tennis

Indian Tennis Player Sania Mirza has announced her retirement from professional Tennis.

The former doubles World No. 1 champion has announced that she will retire at the WTA 1000 event in Dubai in February.

The 36-year-old will be playing in women's doubles at the Australian Open in January alongside Kazakhstan's Anna Danilina.

This is her final appearance at a Grand Slam event after she missed the US Open last year due to an elbow injury.

Mirza became the first Indian to win a WTA singles title, when she won her hometown Hyderabad event in 2005. She broke into the top 30 by 2007 and reached her career-high ranking of world number 27.

She won her first mixed doubles title at the Australian Open in 2009, partnering with Mahesh Bhupathi.

The pair earned a second victory at the 2012 French Open. Mirza's third mixed doubles title came at the 2014 US Open, where she partnered with Brazilian player Bruno Soares.

In 2015, she partnered with Swiss legend Martina Hingis and won three back-to-back Grand Slam doubles titles.

115. Which university has won the 'Overall Championship' at the 36th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival in Tirupati?

तिरुपति में 36वें इंटर यूनिवर्सिटी साउथ जोन यूथ फेस्टिवल में किस यूनिवर्सिटी ने 'ओवरऑल चैंपियनशिप' जीती है?

(a) University of Kerala / केरल विश्वविद्यालय

(b) Mahatma Gandhi University / महात्मा गांधी विश्वविद्यालय

(c) Sri Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit / श्री शंकराचार्य संस्कृत विश्वविद्यालय

(d) Yogi Vemana University / योगी वेमना विश्वविद्यालय

(e) Sri Krishnadevaraya University / श्री कृष्णदेवराय विश्वविद्यालय

Ans. a

Sol. Kerala University won 'Overall Championship' at youth festival

The University of Kerala bagged the 'Overall Championship' at the 36th Inter University South Zone Youth Festival in Tirupati.

Mahatma Gandhi University came as the runners-up.

Noted Bharatanatyam and Kuchipudi dancer Alekhya Punjala was the chief guest of the event.

Championships were awarded in each of the five categories viz., music, dance, fine arts, theatre, and literary events, which were respectively won by MGU Kottayam, Sri Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Yogi Vemana University, University of Kerala (last two categories).

116. Who has released the book titled 'Chief Minister's Diary No. 1'?

'मुख्यमंत्री की डायरी नंबर 1' नामक पुस्तक का विमोचन किसने किया है?

(a) Ranjan Gogoi / रंजन गोगोई

(b) Sharad Arvind Bobde / शरद अरविंद बोबडे

(c) Uday Lalit / उदय ललित

(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु

(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. Former CJI Ranjan Gogoi released book titled 'Diary No.1'

Former Chief Justice of India and member of the Rajya Sabha Ranjan Gogoi has released a book written by Assam CM 'Chief Minister's Diary No.1.

It contains the account of events of the first year in the office of Assam Chief Minister Dr. Himanta Biswa Sarma.

Ranjan Gogoi is presently a member of the Rajya Sabha.

He served as the 46th Chief Justice of India for 13 months from 2018 to 2019.

Recent Book

- A book titled 'Ambedkar: A Life - Shashi Tharoor
- Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond - C. Rangarajan
- The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage - Ranjit B Rai and Aritra Banerjee
- Fit At Any Age – Launched Retd. Air Marshal PV Iyer
- Miracles of Face Yoga - Mansi Gulati
- Now You Breathe - Rakhi Kapoor

117. Who is the author of the book "Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom"?
"रेवोल्यूशनरीज: द अदर स्टोरी ऑफ हाउ इंडिया वोन इट्स फ्रीडम" नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन है?

(a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन
(b) Arvind Subramanian / अरविंद सुब्रमण्यम
(c) Shashi Tharoor / शशि थरूर
(d) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत
(e) Sanjeev Sanyal / संजीव सान्याल

Ans. e

Sol. Historian Sanjeev Sanyal released his new book 'Revolutionaries'

Noted economist and popular historian Sanjeev Sanyal released his new book titled "Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom".

It is based on the revolutionary movements related to the struggle for Indian Independence.

Some of Sanyal's books include - Land of the Seven Rivers, The Ocean of Churn, India in the Age of Ideas, and The Indian Renaissance.

Recent Book

- The World: A Family History - Simon Sebag
- Nuclearization of Asia - French author Rene Naba
- The Last Heroes - P Sainath
- 'Muskurate Chand Lamhe aur Kuchh Khamoshiyan' - Jiwesh Nandan
- Ambedkar and Modi - Reformer's Ideas Performer's Implementation' – lauched by Ram Nath Kovind
- Forging Mettle: Nrupender Rao and the Pennar Story - Pavan C. Lal

118. Former Governor Keshari Nath Tripathi passed away recently. Apart from West Bengal, Tripathi had taken additional charge of the Governor of Bihar, Meghalaya, and which state?

पूर्व राज्यपाल केशरी नाथ त्रिपाठी का हाल ही में निधन हो गया। त्रिपाठी ने पश्चिम बंगाल के अलावा बिहार, मेघालय और किस राज्य के राज्यपाल का अतिरिक्त प्रभार संभाला था?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Mizoram / मिजोरम

Ans. e

Sol. Former governor of Bengal Keshari Nath Tripathi passed away

Former Governor of West Bengal and three-time Uttar Pradesh Assembly Speaker Keshari Nath Tripathi passed away recently in Prayagraj. He was 88.

Apart from West Bengal, Tripathi had held additional charge as the Governor of Bihar, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.

Born on November 10, 1934 in erstwhile Allahabad, Tripathi was also a senior advocate at the Allahabad High Court.

He joined RSS when he was just 12 and later switched to Bharatiya Jana Sangh.

He was jailed in Naini Central Jail in 1953 for participating in the 'Kashmir Andolan' and again in 1990 for taking part in the Ram Janmabhoomi movement.

119. Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has inaugurated the International Kite Festival 2023 in Ahmedabad. What is the theme of this festival?

गुजरात के मुख्यमंत्री भूपेंद्र पटेल ने अहमदाबाद में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पतंग महोत्सव 2023 का उद्घाटन किया है। इस उत्सव का विषय क्या है?

(a) Sabka Saath, Sabka Vikas
(b) One Earth, One Family, One Future
(c) Unity of Voice, Unity of Purpose
(d) Save Global
(e) Unity of Voice

Ans. b

Sol. Gujarat CM inaugurated International Kite Festival 2023

Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has inaugurated the International Kite Festival 2023 in Ahmedabad.

It will be held from the 8th to the 14th of January, 2023.

The theme of this festival will be held with the theme of G20 - 'One Earth, One Family, One Future'.

The event is organized after a gap of two years due to the covid 19 pandemic.

The delegates from G20 countries have been invited to the inauguration of the international kite festival 2023 to exchange their culture.

About Gujarat

- Capital- Gandhinagar
- Chief Minister- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel
- Governor- Acharya Devvrat

120. Recently, who has launched the Aspirational Block Programme at the second National Conference of Chief Secretaries?
हाल ही में मुख्य सचिवों के दूसरे राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन में एस्पिरेशनल ब्लॉक प्रोग्राम किसने लॉन्च किया है?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
(c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु
(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi launched Aspirational Block Programme

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the Aspirational Block Programme (ABP) on the lines of a similar exercise aimed at developing backward districts.

India is focussing on the four pillars of infrastructure, investment, innovation and inclusion to be a developed country.

The ABP was launched during the 2nd National Conference of Chief Secretaries.

Launching the Aspirational Block Programme, Prime Minister underscored the success achieved in various Aspirational Districts in the country under the Aspirational District Programme.

The programme will cover 500 districts across 31 states and Union Territories initially.

Over half of these blocks are in 6 states-UP (68 blocks), Bihar (61), MP (42), Jharkhand (34), Odisha (29), and WB (29).

Recent Inauguration by PM Modi

- PM Modi chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi
- PM Modi to launch world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Assam
- PM Modi flagged off West Bengal's first Vande Bharata Express train (7th)
- PM Modi flagged off 6th Vande Bharat train in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated 4th Vande Bharat Express in Himachal Pradesh
- PM Modi participated in the historic programme marking 'Veer Bal Diwas' in Delhi

121. Which among the following has launched a portal for mapping of industrial units and laboratories?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने औद्योगिक इकाइयों और प्रयोगशालाओं की मैपिंग के लिए एक पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है?

(a) NABARD / नाबार्ड

(b) RBI / आरबीआई

(c) Bureau of Indian Standards / भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो

(d) SEBI / सेबी

(e) SIDBI / सिडबी

Ans. c

Sol. BIS launched portal for mapping of industrial units and laboratories

Union Minister for Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal emphasized the importance of quality in India's development at the 76th Foundation Day of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) in New Delhi.

Portal for mapping of Industrial Units and Laboratorieswas launched on the occasion.

This is a centralized platform for information on industrial units and laboratories across the country.

This will enable analysis of test facilities in the country and help entrepreneurs in accessing information about testing facilities.

He has also launched the Standards National Action Plan (SNAP) 2022- 27.

Piyush Goyal in News

- Piyush Goel launched **right to repair portal** for consumers in New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal co-chairs **India-US CEO Forum**
- Piyush Goyal inaugurated **41st edition of the India International Trade Fair (IITF)** in New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal addressed **21st World Congress of Accountants**
- Piyush Goyal addressed **Millets-Smart Nutritive Food** summit in New Delhi

122. Union Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has informed that the country's first-ever coal gasification-based Talcher Fertiliser plant in Odisha will be ready to be dedicated to the nation by which year?
केंद्रीय रसायन और उर्वरक मंत्री डॉ. मनसुख मंडाविया ने जानकारी दी है कि ओडिशा में देश का पहला कोयला गैसीकरण आधारित तलचर उर्वरक संयंत्र किस वर्ष तक राष्ट्र को समर्पित करने के लिए तैयार हो जाएगा?
(a) December 2023
(b) August 2023
(c) March 2024
(d) October 2024
(e) March 2025
Ans. d
Sol. Talcher Fertiliser plant in Odisha will be ready by October 2024
Union Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya has informed that the country's first-ever coal gasification-based Talcher Fertiliser plant in Odisha will be ready to be dedicated to the nation by October 2024.
It will be the largest and first coal gasification plant in India. When operational, the plant will help us reduce our dependence on urea imports.
Under Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Aatmanirbhar Bharat, five out of four urea plants have already become functional. The urea plant being constructed at a cost of about 17,000 crore rupees will benefit the farmers across the country besides generating local employment and boosting local economy.
Coal India Ltd, the Gas Authority of India Ltd, and the National Fertiliser Corporation are supporting the setting up the Talcher Fertiliser plant with the coal gasification technology which will address our self-reliance in Urea.
Talcher Fertilizers Ltd has been mandated by the government to revive the erstwhile Talcher plant of FCIL by setting up a new coal gasification-based urea plant with an installed capacity of 12.7 lakh tonne per annum (LMTPA).

- **Capital –** Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Naveen Patnaik
- **Governor –** Ganeshi Lal

123. Which state government has launched a 100-day "Global City" campaign in advance of the Global Investors Summit and G20 summit?

किस राज्य सरकार ने ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टर्स समिट और G20 समिट से पहले 100 दिवसीय "ग्लोबल सिटी" अभियान शुरू किया है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. a

Sol. Uttar Pradesh government launched UP Global City campaign

The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a 100-day "UP Global City" campaign in advance of the Global Investors Summit and G20 summit.

Objective - To bring urban areas in the state up to global standards, with a focus on improving urban facilities, air quality, cleanliness, and beautification, as well as proper garbage disposal.

The campaign will be implemented in all 762 urban bodies in the state.

The Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath-led government has set a goal of making the state a USD 1 trillion economy in the next five years.

The Global Investors Summit, which takes place from February 10-12, 2023 in Lucknow, will bring together business delegations, corporate and industry leaders, policymakers, academia, think tanks, and political and government leadership from around the world.

About Uttar Pradesh

- **Capital** - Lucknow
- **Chief Minister** – Yogi Adityanath
- **Governor -** Anandiben Patel

124. Hockey Wali Sarpanch has signed an agreement with which bank to strengthen farmers of Lambi Ahir Village, Rajasthan?

हॉकी वाली सरपंच ने लंबी अहीर गांव, राजस्थान के किसानों को मजबूत करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) NABARD / नाबार्ड

(b) RBI / आरबीआई

(c) PFRDA / पीएफआरडीए

(d) SEBI / सेबी

(e) SIDBI / सिडबी

Ans. a

Sol. Hockey Wali Sarpanch signed an agreement with NABARD to strengthen farmers

Neeru Yadav, fondly known as 'Hockey Wali Sarpanch' has taken a new initiative to strengthen farmers of Lambi Ahir Village, Rajasthan.

Yadav has signed an agreement with NABARD to start the Farmers Producers Organisation (FPO) with the assistance of SIIRD (Society of Indian Institute of Rural Development).

Objective - To bring market access of different channels for our farmers, the economy of scale, reduction in transaction cost, and reduction in middlemen.

FPO is a legal entity formed by primary producers. Producers such as farmers, milk producers, fishermen, weavers, rural artisans, craftsmen, etc., can form a company basis equity share.

Sachhi Saheli Mahila Agro Producer Company Limited is the 15th such FPO launched by NABARD in Rajasthan where Yadav has taken the responsibility as Board of Directors of this company.

About National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

- **Founded** - 12 July 1982
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman -** K V Shaji
- NABARD established on the recommendations of B. Sivaramman Committee

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Axis Bank partnered with OPEN to launch a fully digital current account
- Niva Bupa and Sundaram Finance signed corporate agency agreement
- HDFC Bank partnered with Microsoft for digital transformation
- SBI Card partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to launch co-brand credit cards
- Bandhan Bank signed MoU with Defence Ministry for defence pensioners

125. ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has announced the launch of its '360 Financial Protection with its digital-first campaign featuring whom?

आईसीआईसीआई प्रूडेंशियल लाइफ इंश्योरेंस ने अपने डिजिटल-प्रथम अभियान के साथ '360 वित्तीय सुरक्षा' शुरू करने की घोषणा की है जिसमें कौन शामिल है?

(a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
(b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
(c) KL Rahul / केएल राहुल
(d) Dinesh Karthik / दिनेश कार्तिक
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. e

Sol. ICICI Prudential signed Suryakumar Yadav for a new campaign

ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has launched of its '360° Financial Protection with ICICI Prudential Life Insurance' digital-first campaign featuring cricketer Suryakumar Yadav

The company also provides 360-degree financial protection against any unfortunate event, critical illnesses, and accidents.

Suryakumar Yadav has quickly risen to emerge as one of the most consistent and dependable batters in the white ball format.

The multi-dimensional batter is popularly known as "Mr. 360 degree" for his wide array of shots covering every inch of the field.

126. Who has been reappointed as the Chairman of the Senior Selection Committee of BCCI?
बीसीसीआई की वरिष्ठ चयन समिति के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे फिर से नियुक्त किया गया है?
(a) Ravi Shastri / रवि शास्त्री
(b) Chetan Sharma / चेतन शर्मा
(c) Rahul Dravid / राहुल द्रविड़
(d) Sunil Gavaskar / सुनील गावस्कर
(e) Kapil Dev / कपिल देव
Ans. b
Sol. Chetan Sharma reappointed as Chairman of BCCI's selection committee
Chetan Sharma has been reappointed as the Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee.
With Chetan Sharma being recommended for the position of chief selector, Shiv Sundar Das, Subroto Banerjee, Salil Ankola, and Sridharan Sharath will also be part of the panel.
The board had earlier parted ways with the Chetan Sharma-led selection committee after the Indian team had failed to reach the final of the T20 World Cup last year.
Under Chetan's tenure, India also failed to qualify for the final of the Asia Cup; in 2021, the team was knocked out in the group stages of the T20 World Cup as well.
Sharma is a former Indian cricketer and politician who played Tests and ODIs as a fast bowler for the Indian cricket team.
He was the first man to take a hat trick in the ODI world cup and achieved this feat in the 1987 Reliance World Cup against New Zealand.

Recent Appointment

- Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Saiyam Mehra
- Vice chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Rajesh Rokde
- New Speaker of the US House of Representatives - Kevin McCarthy
- Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) - Dr. Vinay Prakash Sing
- Bihar's state icon by Election Commission - Maithili Thakur

127. Who has become the first female Sikh judge in the US?

अमेरिका में पहली महिला सिख जज कौन बनी हैं?

(a) Hima Kohli / हिमा कोहली
(b) Bela Trivedi / बेला त्रिवेदी
(c) Indira Banerjee / इंदिरा बनर्जी
(d) Manpreet Monica Singh / मनप्रीत मोनिका सिंह
(e) Indu Malhotra / इंदु मल्होत्रा

Ans. d

Sol. Manpreet Monica Singh sworn in as First female Sikh judge in US

Indian-origin Manpreet Monica Singh has become the first female Sikh judge in the US.

She was sworn in as a judge of the Harris County Civil Court at Law No. 4 in Texas.

Singh's father immigrated to the US in the early 1970s.

Singh was born and raised in Houston and now lives in Bellaire with her husband and two children.

A trial lawyer for 20 years, she has been involved in numerous civil rights organizations at the local, state, and national levels.

She has been A trial lawyer for two decades and remains involved with many civil rights organizations at the local, state and national levels.

Recent Appointment

- Command of the IAF Western Command - Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha
- Director General of BSF - Sujoy Lal Thaosen (additional charge)
- Chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) - Dinesh Kumar Shukla
- Head of Maharashtra government advisory council - N Chandrasekaran
- Chairman & MD of MOIL - Ajit Kumar Saxena
- Acting Central Vigilance Commissioner - Praveen K Srivastava

128. Who has been honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the opening ceremony of the 15th edition of the Jaipur International Film Festival (JIFF)?

जयपुर इंटरनेशनल फिल्म फेस्टिवल (JIFF) के 15वें संस्करण के उद्घाटन समारोह में लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट अवार्ड से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Mukul Sharma / मुकुल शर्मा
(b) Kalyan Ray / कल्याण राय
(c) Aparna Sen / अपर्णा सेन
(d) Soumitra Chatterjee / सौमित्र चटर्जी
(e) Rituparno Ghosh / रितुपर्णो घोष

Ans. c

Sol. Aparna Sen received Lifetime Achievement Award at Jaipur Film Festival

Veteran actor-director Aparna Sen has honoured with the Lifetime Achievement Award at the opening ceremony of the 15th edition of the Jaipur International Film Festival (JIFF).

In 1961, Aparna Sen made her film debut in Satyajit Ray's Teen Kanya. From there, she went on to star in films like Akash Kusum (1965), Aranyer Din Ratri (1970), Baksho Badal (1970) Basanta Bilap (1973), and Pikoor Diary (1981).

She has directed acclaimed movies like 36 Chowringhee Lane (1981), Paroma (1985), Paromitar Ek Din (2000), Mr and Mrs Iyer (2002), and The Japanese Director (2010).

More than two hundred producers, directors, and scriptwriters attended the event. 282 films from 63 countries will be screened.

Recent Awards

- Assam highest civilian award 'AssamBaibhav' - Dr. Tapan Saikia
- 'Best Police Unit' award for 2021 - Jalna and Nagpur Police (Maharastra)
- UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission – Odisha state
- Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 - IIT Madras
- Atal Samman Award - Prabhu Chandra Mishra
- First KR Gouri Amma national award - Aleida Guevara

129. Who has been selected for the "Award for Global Leadership" by the Harvard Law School Center in recognition of his lifetime service to the legal profession in the country and around the world?

हार्वर्ड लॉ स्कूल सेंटर द्वारा देश और दुनिया भर में कानूनी पेशे के लिए उनकी आजीवन सेवा के सम्मान में "वैश्विक नेतृत्व के लिए पुरस्कार" के लिए किसे चुना गया है?

(a) Justice Sharad Arvind Bobde / जस्टिस शरद अरविंद बोबड़े
(b) Justice D.Y. Chandrachud / जस्टिस डी. वाई. चंद्रचूड़
(c) Justice Uday Lalit / जस्टिस उदय ललित
(d) Justice N. V. Ramana / जस्टिस एन वी रमना
(e) Justice Ranjan Gogoi / जस्टिस रंजन गोगोई

Ans. b

Sol. CJI Chandrachud to be conferred with 'Award for Global Leadership'

Chief Justice of India (CJI) D.Y. Chandrachud has been selected for the "Award for Global Leadership" by the Harvard Law School Center in recognition of his lifetime service to the legal profession in the country and around the world.

Chandrachud obtained an LLM degree and a Doctorate in Juridical Sciences (SJD) from the Harvard Law School in the United States.

The award will be presented to him at an online event on January 11, 2023.

Justice Chandrachud, who was part of the apex court benches that delivered several landmark verdicts, including the Ayodhya land dispute case, was sworn in as the 50th CJI on November 9, 2022.

130. The Khelo India Senior Women National Kho Kho league is set to take place in which state from 10 to 13 January 2023?

खेलो इंडिया सीनियर महिला राष्ट्रीय खो खो लीग 10 से 13 जनवरी 2023 तक किस राज्य में होने वाली है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Punjab / पंजाब

(e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. d

Sol. Khelo India National Women Kho Kho leagues set to take place in Punjab

The Khelo India Senior Women National Kho Kho league is set to take place at Chandigarh University, Punjab from 10 January to 13 January 2023.

The league is being organized by the Kho Kho Federation of India and will be held over three phases with full financial support from the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

A total of 12 teams and close to 200 players are slated to participate.

The Kho Kho women's league for junior and sub-junior age groups is scheduled from January 16 to 19 at the Alberta Ekka Kho Kho stadium in Hotwar, Ranchi.

131. Who has become the fastest player to reach 1,500 runs in T20 International cricket in terms of balls faced?

गेंदों का सामना करने के मामले में टी20 अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट में सबसे तेज 1,500 रन बनाने वाले खिलाड़ी कौन बन गए हैं?

(a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
(b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
(c) KL Rahul / केएल राहुल
(d) Dinesh Karthik / दिनेश कार्तिक
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. e

Sol. Surya Kumar Yadav becomes fastest player to reach 1,500 runs in T20I

Indian batter, Suryakumar Yadav has become the fastest player to reach 1,500 runs in T20 International cricket in terms of balls faced.

He took only 843 balls to reach this landmark. However, he is the third-fastest batter to reach the 1,500-run mark in terms of innings

The fastest batters to reach this landmark are Indian batter Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Australian veteran Aaron Finch, and Pakistan skipper Babar Azam, who all took 39 innings to score 1,500 runs in T20 International cricket.

Pakistan wicketkeeper-batter Mohammed Rizwan reached the milestone in 42 innings and Suryakumar did so in 43 innings.

In 45 matches and 43 innings, Suryakumar has scored 1,578 runs at an average of 46.41.

He has three centuries and 13 half-centuries in the format, with the best individual score of 117.

132. Who has won the Girls Under-15 squash title at the most prestigious British Junior Open tournament in Birmingham (UK)?

बर्मिंघम (यूके) में सबसे प्रतिष्ठित ब्रिटिश जूनियर ओपन टूर्नामेंट में गर्ल्स अंडर-15 स्क्वैश का खिताब किसने जीता है?

(a) Anahat Singh / अनाहत सिंह
(b) Joshna Chinappa / जोशना चिनप्पा
(c) Dipika Pallikal / दीपिका पल्लीकल
(d) Anshika Salunkhe / अंशिका सालुंखे
(e) Tanvi Khanna / तन्वी खन्ना

Ans. a

Sol. Anahat Singh won Girls U-15 squash title at British Junior Open Tournament

Indian squash prodigy Anahat Singh has won the Girls Under-15 squash title at the most prestigious British Junior Open tournament in Birmingham (UK).

The 14-year-old defeated Sohaila Hazem of Egypt, 3-1 in the final.

The British Junior Open is held in January every year in the UK where all the best players from all over the world compete to win the coveted title.

This year it was held after a Covid-induced gap of two years.

She has also won the 2022 Scottish Junior Open held in Edinburgh, Scotland in the Girls under-17 categories.

133. World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 every year. What is the theme of World Hindi Day 2023?

विश्व हिंदी दिवस हर साल 10 जनवरी को मनाया जाता है। विश्व हिंदी दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

(a) Great recitation and poems

(b) Hindi Vishwa Aur Bharatiya Sanskriti

(c) To make Hindi a part of public opinion

(d) Hindi: Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence

(e) New World, New India, New Hindi

Ans. d

Sol. 10 January - World Hindi Day

World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 every year.

It is celebrated worldwide to promote the use of the Hindi language and raise awareness about it.

This day was observed for the first time in 2006. However, the World Hindi Conference was held in 1975.

This day is not to be confused with National Hindi Day, which is commemorated on September 14 annually.

Theme 2023 - Hindi: Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence.

The Union of India adopted Hindi as its official language in 1950. According to Article 343, the Constitution of India states that the official language of India shall be Hindi in Devanagari script.

World Hindi Day was first celebrated on January 10, 2006. Former Prime Minister Dr. Manmohan Singh adopted it. On this day, various events are organized around the world to promote the language and celebrate its rich heritage.

134. Which state's tourism board has signed MoUs with chapters of eight countries of the Global Organization of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) at the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention?

किस राज्य के पर्यटन बोर्ड ने 17वें प्रवासी भारतीय दिवस सम्मेलन में भारतीय मूल के लोगों के वैश्विक संगठन (जीओपीआईओ) के आठ देशों के अध्यायों के साथ समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Ans. e

Sol. MP Tourism Board signed MoUs with 8 countries

Madhya Pradesh Tourism Board has signed MoUs with chapters of eight countries of the Global Organisation of People of Indian Origin (GOPIO) at the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention Indore.

These MoUs were signed with France Metropole Paris, Mauritius, Reunion Island, Martinique, Sri Lanka, GOPIO International, Malaysia, and Mauritius.

These MoUs have been executed with the aim of boosting cooperation in the development of the Tourism sector of the State, and promotion, and publicity of tourist places.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

Recent MoUs

- Odisha Government signed an MoU with NIOT for protecting coastline
- Bihar govt signed agreement with ICCR to showcase its soft power to world
- Andhra Pradesh government signed an MoU with NISG for integrated land management system
- Andhra Pradesh signed an MoU with Parley for the Oceans to save seas from pollution
- CPRI signed an MoU with Chhattisgarh Government to set up a regional testing lab

135. Which state has become the country's first fully digital banking state?

कौन सा राज्य देश का पहला पूर्ण डिजिटल बैंकिंग राज्य बन गया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. e

Sol. Kerala becomes country's first fully digital banking state

Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has declared Kerala as the first state in the country to go fully digital in its banking service.

This achievement was possible due to social interventions through local self-government institutions along with infrastructure development and technological advances in the banking sector.

He has also announced that the ambitious Kerala Fibre Optic Network (KFON) project of the state government will reduce the digital divide.

The K-FON will ensure internet facility to everyone in the state and 17,155 km-long optic fibre cable network has been laid. Once the project gets completed, internet will be available to everyone in the state either for a cheaper price or for free-of-cost.

About Kerala

- **Capital –** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister** – Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor –** Arif Mohammad Khan

136. India has signed an MoU with which of the following country to enhance cooperation in the training of diplomats?
राजनयिकों के प्रशिक्षण में सहयोग बढ़ाने के लिए भारत ने निम्नलिखित में से किस देश के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Tanzania / तंजानिया
(b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
(c) Oman / ओमान
(d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
(e) Panama / पनामा

Ans. e

Sol. India signed MoU with Panama to enhance cooperation in training of diplomats

India has signed an MoU with Panama to enhance cooperation in the training of diplomats.

The official agreement was exchanged in the presence of External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar and Panamanian Foreign Minister Janaina Tewaney, who met on the sidelines of the 17th Pravasi Bhartiya Divas Convention in Indore.

The agreement would allow diplomats from both countries to continue benefiting from the exchange of knowledge and experiences in their respective fields of diplomatic academics.

Both countries have also discussed the opportunities for greater economic, health, finance and people-to-people linkages.

Panamanian Minister has also joined the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention in Indore.

Recent MoUs

- India signed an agreement with Austria for migration and mobility
- India & Cyprus sign agreement on defence and military cooperation
- India and Germany signed Migration and Mobility Agreement
- India & EU signed an agreement for climate, quantum tech
- India signed an agreement with Netherlands to formalize bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism

137. Which of the following films has been shortlisted for Oscars 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से किस फिल्म को ऑस्कर 2023 के लिए शॉर्टलिस्ट किया गया है?

(a) RRR

(b) The Kashmir Files

(c) KGF 2

(d) Pushpa

(e) Attack

Ans. b

Sol. Vivek Agnihotri's 'The Kashmir Files' nominated for Oscars 2023

Vivek Agnihotri's film 'The Kashmir Files' has been shortlisted for Oscars 2023.

Actors Anupam Kher, Mithun Chakraborthy, Darshan Kumar, and Pallavi Joshi are also shortlisted for the best actor category.

Rishabh Shetty's 'Kantara', Sanjay Leela Bhansali's 'Gangubai Kathiawadi', Paan Nalin's 'The Chello Show' and SS Rajamouli's 'RRR' have also been selected for the Oscars.

The film had incidentally collected over ₹200 crores at the box office.

Meanwhile, Kannada film Kantara has made it to the Oscars qualification list in the 'Best Picture and 'Best Actor' categories. Written and directed by Rishab Shetty, the blockbuster had minted ₹400 crores at the box office worldwide last year.

138. SS Rajamouli's film RRR has won Best Original Song for which song at the 80th 'Golden Globe Awards 2023' award ceremony?

एसएस राजामौली की फिल्म आरआरआर ने 80वें 'गोल्डन ग्लोब अवार्ड्स 2023' पुरस्कार समारोह में किस गीत के लिए सर्वश्रेष्ठ मूल गीत का पुरस्कार जीता है?

(a) Dosti / दोस्ती
(b) Naatu Naatu / नातु नातु
(c) Janani / जननी
(d) Komuram Bheemudo / कोमुराम भीमूडो
(e) Raamam Raaghavam / रामम राघवम

Ans. b

Sol. RRR won Best Original Song for Naatu Naatu at Golden Globes

South Cinema's film RRR has created history at the 80th 'Golden Globe Awards 2023' award ceremony.

SS Rajamouli's film RRR won Best Original Song for Naatu Naatu, one of the two categories it was nominated in.

It was also nominated in Best Non-English Language Film which was won by 'Argentina 1985.

RRR has already won other international honours including Best Director for Rajamouli at the New York Film Critics Circle awards.

RRR, which made over ₹ 1,200 crore globally, has already won a slew of international honours including Best Director for Rajamouli at the New York Film Critics Circle awards.

RRR has submitted itself for consideration in various Oscar categories as well and is expected to be nominated in at least one category if not more.

139. Who among the following has received the Dr. Patangrao Kadam award?
निम्नलिखित में से किसे डॉ पतंगराव कदम पुरस्कार मिला है?
(a) Adar Poonawalla / अदार पूनावाला
(b) Mukesh Ambani / मुकेश अंबानी
(c) Shiv Nadar / शिव नादर
(d) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया
(e) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma / डॉ. रविकांत शर्मा
Ans. a
Sol. Adar Poonawalla received Patangrao Kadam award
CEO of Vaccine manufacturer Serum Institute of India, Adar Poonawalla has received the Dr. Patangrao Kadam award for their contribution in the fight against COVID-19.
Poonawalla is the first one to be conferred with Dr. Patangrao Kadam Memorial Award.
Patangrao Kadam was an Indian politician from the state of Maharashtra and the award has been set up in his memory.
The vaccines provided by SII during the pandemic showed the country's strength to the world.
Adar Poonawalla was carrying forward the legacy of his father Dr. Cyrus Poonawalla as SII has manufactured 160 vaccines.
Recent Awards
- Lifetime Achievement Award at 15th Jaipur Film Festival - Aparna Sen
- Assam highest civilian award 'Assam Baibhav' - Dr. Tapan Saikia
- Best Police Unit' award for 2021 - Jalna and Nagpur Police (Maharastra)
- UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission – Odisha state
- Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 - IIT Madras
- Atal Samman Award - Prabhu Chandra Mishra

140. Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japan Air Self Defense Force (JASDF) commencing which edition of exercise 'Veer Guardian-2023' at Hyakuri Air Base in Japan from 12 January 2023 to 26 January 2023?

भारतीय वायु सेना (IAF) और जापान एयर सेल्फ डिफेंस फोर्स (JASDF) ने 12 जनवरी 2023 से 26 जनवरी 2023 तक जापान के हयाकुरी एयर बेस में 'वीर गार्जियन-2023' अभ्यास का कौन सा संस्करण शुरू किया है?

(a) First / पहला

(b) Second / दूसरा

(c) Third / तीसरा

(d) Fouth / चौथा

(e) Fifth / पांचवां

Ans. a

Sol. India and Japan to hold 1st bilateral air exercise 'Veer Guardian-2023'

India and Japan are all set to commence the maiden joint air exercise Veer Guardian 2023.

Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japan Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) will hold the first bilateral air exercise at Hyakuri Air Base in Japan from 12 January 2023 to 26 January 2023.

Exercise 'Veer Guardian 2023' between the Indian Air Force and the Japanese Air Self-Defense Force (JASDF) will be conducted from January 12 to 26 at the Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.

During the joint air exercise Veer Guardian 2023, the participating IAF contingent will include four Su-30 MKI, two C-17 & one IL-78 aircraft. On the other hand, the JASDF contingent will consist of four F-2 & four F-15 aircraft.

Recent Exercise

- 16th edition of India & Nepal Joint Training Excercise Surya Kiran begins in Saljhandi, Nepal
- India & Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND 2022 begins in Umroi, Meghalaya
- 7th edition of US-India Naval Exercise Sangam held in Goa
- The Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise 'Samanvay 2022' has been conducted at Air Force Station, Agra.
- A joint military exercise between India-Malaysia "Harimau Shakti-2022" has been started at Pulai Klang in Malaysia

141. Who has won the men's single Adelaide International 1 title 2023?

2023 का पुरुष एकल एडिलेड इंटरनेशनल 1 खिताब किसने जीता है?

(a) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच

(b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल

(c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर

(d) Alexander Zverev / अलेक्जेंडर ज्वेरेव

(e) Sebastian Korda / सेबस्टियन कोर्डा

Ans. a

Sol. Novak Djokovic won men's single Adelaide International 1 title 2023

Serbian Tennis Player Novak Djokovic has defeated America's Sebastian Korda to win the 2023 Adelaide International 1 men's singles title 2023.

In the women's final at Adelaide International 1, Aryna Sabalenka won the women's singles by defeating Linda Noskova of the Czech Republic. This was her 11th WTA Tour singles title.

Men's doubles: Lloyd Glasspool (United Kingdom) and Harri Heliovaara (Finland)

Women's doubles: Asia Muhammad (United States) and Taylor Townsend (United States)

142. Dwaine Pretorius has announced his retirement from international cricket. From which of the following countries does he belong?
ड्वेन प्रिटोरियस ने अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस देश से संबंधित है?

(a) England / इंग्लैंड
(b) New Zealand /न्यूजीलैंड
(c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. d

Sol. Dwaine Pretorius announces retirement from international cricket

South Africa all-rounder Dwaine Pretorius has announced his retirement from international cricket.

The all-rounder had made a total of 60 appearances for the Proteas across all formats, with the maximum being in the shorter format.

Pretorius had featured in 30 T20Is, 27 ODIs, and 3 Tests, in which he amassed 1895 runs and scalped 77 wickets.

He made his international debut in 2016 and was part of the South Africa squad for the 2019 ODI World Cup and the 2021 T20 World Cup.

Pretorius had finished as the joint-highest wicket-taker from the Proteas camp in the T20 World Cup in UAE, where he picked nine wickets in five matches.

Recently Retired Players

- Sania Mirza – International Tennis - India
- Farhaan Behardien - International Cricket - South African
- Karim Benzema - International Football - France
- Ben Stokes - One Day International Cricket - England
- Dinesh Ramdin - International Cricket - West Indies
- Tamim Iqbal - T20 International - Bangladesh
- Lendl Simmons - International Cricket - West Indies
- Eoin Morgan - International Cricket - England
- Mohammad Hafeez - International Cricket - Pakistan
- Ross Taylor - International Cricket - New Zealand

143. Who has equaled Sachin Tendulkar's record of most hundreds at home in ODI Cricket recently?

हाल ही में वनडे क्रिकेट में घर में सबसे ज्यादा शतक लगाने के सचिन तेंदुलकर के रिकॉर्ड की बराबरी किसने की है?

(a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
(b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
(c) KL Rahul / केएल राहुल
(d) Dinesh Karthik / दिनेश कार्तिक
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. a

Sol. Virat Kohli equals Sachin Tendulkar's record of most hundreds

Former India skipper Virat Kohli has become the batter with the joint most ODI centuries in a country when he scored a hundred against Sri Lanka in the first ODI of the three-match series in Guwahati.

It was Kohli's 20th ODI hundred in India, equaling the record held by batting great Sachin Tendulkar.

Kohli took only 99 innings to score his 20 ODI hundreds on home soil, while Sachin did so in 160 innings.

South Africa's Hashim Amla (14 centuries in South Africa in 69 innings) and Ricky Ponting (14 centuries in Australia in 151 innings) are next in the list of most ODI hundreds in a country.

Among the active players, Virat continues to be the 'Century King', with a total of 73 hundreds. Other players that follow him in the list are David Warner (Australia) - 45, Joe Root (England) - 44, Steve Smith (Australia) 42 and Rohit Sharma (India) 41.

144. Eminent techno-educationist Professor K.K. Abdul Ghaffar's autobiography 'Najan Sakshi' (I as a Witness) has been released by?

प्रख्यात तकनीकी-शिक्षाविद् प्रोफेसर के.के. अब्दुल गफ्फार की आत्मकथा 'नजन साक्षी' (मैं एक गवाह के रूप में) किसके द्वारा जारी की गई है?

(a) Ravi Shastri / रवि शास्त्री
(b) Chetan Sharma / चेतन शर्मा
(c) Rahul Dravid / राहुल द्रविड़
(d) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. d

Sol. Dhoni released autobiography of Prof KK Abdul Gaffar

Noted Techno-educationalist Professor K.K. Abdul Gaffar's autobiography 'Njaan Sakshi' (me as the witness) has been released by Mahendra Singh Dhoni.

It will provide an insight into the journey of Prof. Gaffar and how education and students have changed over time.

The first copy of this book was received by Marwan Al Mulla, the CEO of Dubai Health Authority (DHA).

He also presented copies of the book to dignitaries including actor Tovino Thomas at the occasion.

Recent Book

- Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom - Sanjeev Sanyal
- Chief Minister's Diary No.1. – Released by - Former CJI Ranjan Gogoi; Authored by – Assam CM
- A book titled 'Ambedkar: A Life - Shashi Tharoor
- Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond - C. Rangarajan
- The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage - Ranjit B Rai and Aritra Banerjee

145. Who is the author of a book titled 'Human Anatomy'?

'ह्यूमन एनाटॉमी' नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

(a) Dr. V. G. Somani / डॉ. वी. जी. सोमानी

(b) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy / डॉ. एस ईश्वरा रेड्डी

(c) Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi / डॉ अश्विनी कुमार द्विवेदी

(d) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया

(e) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma / डॉ. रविकांत शर्मा

Ans. c

Sol. AK Dwivedi's book 'Human Anatomy' released by Governor of MP

A Medical book 'Human Anatomy' in Hindi Manav sharir Rachna Vigyan was released by the Governor of Madhya Pradesh Shri Mangubhai Patel and written by Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi.

This book has been published by Madhya Pradesh Hindi Granth Academy.

Dwivedi is a Homeopathic Doctor of Indore Professor & HOD Physiology SKRP Gujarati Homeopathic Medical College Indore and member of the Scientific Advisory Board in the Central Council for Research in Homeopathy, Ministry of AYUSH (Govt. of India).

The Foreword has been written by Dr. Mohan Yadav, Minister of Higher Education in the MP Government.

Recent Book

- Fit At Any Age – Launched Retd. Air Marshal PV Iyer
- Miracles of Face Yoga - Mansi Gulati
- India: The Mother of Democracy - Prepared and published by ICHR & launched by Dharmendra Pradhan
- Now You Breathe - Rakhi Kapoor
- The World: A Family History - Simon Sebag
- Nuclearization of Asia - French author Rene Naba

146. Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has released the Theme of National Science Day 2023 at a function in New Delhi. What is the theme of National Science Day 2023?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्री डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने नई दिल्ली में एक समारोह में राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान दिवस 2023 की थीम जारी की है। राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

(a) We need more basic science to achieve
(b) Women in Science
(c) Science for the People and People for Science
(d) Global Science for Global Wellbeing
(e) Science for Nation Building

Ans. d

Sol. Jitendra Singh released theme of National Science Day 2023

Union Minister of Science and Technology Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has released the Theme of National Science Day 2023 at a function in New Delhi.

Theme 2023 - Global Science for Global Wellbeing

The theme has been chosen for the purpose of raising public appreciation of scientific issues in a global context which is having a bearing on global Well-being.

National Science Day is celebrated every year on the 28th of February to commemorate the discovery of the Raman Effect by Indian Physicist Sir C V Raman.

The government of India designated 28 February as National Science Day (NSD) in 1986. On this day Sir C.V. Raman announced the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930.

147. Renowned poet and Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee Professor Rahman Rahi passed away recently at the age of 98. In which year was he honored with the Jnanpith Award?

प्रसिद्ध कवि और कश्मीर के पहले ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार विजेता प्रोफेसर रहमान राही का हाल ही में 98 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्हें किस वर्ष ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया था?

(a) 2005
(b) 2007
(c) 2006
(d) 2008
(e) 2010

Ans. b

Sol. Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee Rehman Rahi passed away

Renowned poet and Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee Prof. Rehman Rahi passed away recently at the age of 98.

Rahi wrote several beautiful poems and also translated the works of many renowned poets of other languages into Kashmiri.

In 2007, he received the highest literary award in the country, the Jnanpith award for his collection 'Siyah Rood Jaeren Manz' (In Black Drizzle).

Earlier, in the year 2000, the poet was also honored with the prestigious Padma Shri award.

Rahi received Sahitya Akademi Award in 1961 for his collection of poems called 'Nawroz-i-Saba'.

148. Father of Laparoscopic Surgery Dr. Tehemton Erach Udwadia passed away recently at the age of 88. In which year did he receive the Padam Bhushan?

लेप्रोस्कोपिक सर्जरी के जनक डॉ. टेहेम्टन एराच उदवाडिया का हाल ही में 88 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्हें किस वर्ष पदम भूषण मिला था?

(a) 2002

(b) 2005

(c) 2010

(d) 2015

(e) 2017

Ans. e

Sol. Father of laparoscopic surgery Tehemton Udwadia passed away

Dr. Tehemton Erach Udwadia, an Indian Surgeon and Gastroenterologist, who was known as the 'father of laparoscopic surgery in India' passed away, at the age of 88.

He was the 1st surgeon in India to introduce laparoscopy in surgery in 1972, and the 1st to perform laparoscopic surgery in the developing world in 1990.

The doctor was awarded the Padma Bhushan, the country's third-highest civilian award, in 2017.

In 2002, he was awarded the Padma Shri for his contributions to the field of medicine.

149. Who among the following has inaugurated the 7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh?
निम्नलिखित में से किसने इंदौर, मध्य प्रदेश में ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टर्स समिट के 7वें संस्करण का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
(c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु
(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated Global Investors Summit in Indore

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

The inaugural session of the summit was attended by Chandrika Prasad Santokhi (President of Suriname) and Dr. Mohammed Irfan Ali (President of Guyana).

The theme of the Global Investors Summit is 'Madhya Pradesh - a future-ready state'.

A total of 447 international delegates from 84 countries, 401 international buyers, more than 5,000 industrialists and representatives of various international industry associations, and representatives of all G20 countries will take part in the event.

The key objectives of the event are - showcasing industrial ecosystem of the state, promoting the state policies, consultation with industrial organisations to formulate industry-friendly policies, collaboration opportunities, promoting export potential and buyer-seller meets and vendor development.

Environmental protection has been taken care of in this summit that will be completely based on Carbon Neutral and Zero Waste.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi
- PM Modi launched world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Assam
- PM Modi flagged off West Bengal's first Vande Bharata Express train (7th)
- PM Modi flagged off **6th Vande Bharat train** in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated **4th Vande Bharat Express** in Himachal Pradesh
- PM Modi participated in the historic programme marking 'Veer Bal Diwas' in Delhi

150. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched Jio True 5G services in which city of Assam?

असम के मुख्यमंत्री हिमंत बिस्वा सरमा ने असम के किस शहर में Jio True 5G सेवाओं की शुरुआत की है?

(a) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
(b) Silchar / सिलचर
(c) Dibrugarh / डिब्रूगढ़
(d) Jorhat / जोरहाट
(e) Nagaon / नगांव

Ans. a

Sol. Assam CM launched Jio 5G services in Guwahati

Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma has launched Jio True 5G services at Guwahati in Assam.

Jio also started its True 5G-powered Wi-Fi services at Maa Kamakhya Temple complex in Guwahati.

Apart from Jio's existing investment of Rs 9,500 crore, the company is additionally investing over Rs 2,500 crore to deploy True 5G network in Assam.

By December 2023, Jio True 5G services will be made available in every town and taluka of Assam.

Other than the launch, Smart Healthcare Solutions like teleradiology and connected ambulances were showcased during the event.

About Assam

- **Capital –** Dispur
- **Chief Minister** –Himanta Biswa Sarma
- **Governor –** Prof Jagdish Mukhi

151. Renowned sand artist Sudarshan Patnaik has recently created the world's largest hockey sculpture on the banks of which river in Odisha?

प्रसिद्ध रेत कलाकार सुदर्शन पटनायक ने हाल ही में ओडिशा में किस नदी के तट पर दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी हॉकी की मूर्ति बनाई है?

(a) Mahanadi River / महानदी नदी
(b) Brahmani River / ब्राह्मणी नदी
(c) Baitarani River / बैतरणी नदी
(d) Subarnarekha River / सुवर्णरेखा नदी
(e) Budhabalanga River / बुधबलंगा नदी

Ans. a

Sol. Sudarsan Pattnaik builds world's largest hockey stick in Odisha

Renowned sand artist Sudarsan Pattnaik built the world's largest hockey sculpture on the banks of the Mahanadi river in Cuttack, Odisha.

He built a 105-feet long hockey stick, using 5000 hockey balls.

Objective - To mark the commencement of the Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 that begins on January 13.

He has also been awarded Padma Shri in 2014, for his contribution to sand art.

He also holds the Guinness Record (2017) for building the tallest sand castle at 48 feet.

About Odisha

- **Capital –** Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Naveen Patnaik
- **Governor –** Ganeshi Lal

152. Which of the following statement is not correct about Henley Passport Index 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा कथन हेनले पासपोर्ट इंडेक्स 2023 के बारे में सही नहीं है?

(i) Japan is at the top for the fourth year in a row.

(ii) The Indian passport has ranked 85th.

(iii) Mauritius and Kazakhstan passports are as powerful as India's passports.

(iv) Afghanistan's remained the weakest passport.

(a) Only i & ii

(b) Only ii & iii

(c) Only iii & iv

(d) Only i & iii

(e) Only iii & iv

Ans. d

Sol. Henley Passport Index 2023: India ranked 85; topped by Japan

According to the Henley Passport Index 2023, Japan has retained its position as the most favourible passport in the world, allowing visa-free entry to 193 global destinations.

Japan is at the top for the fifth year in a row.

Singapore and South Korea are joint second in the ranking, followed by Germany and Spain and then several other European nations.

The Indian passport was ranked 85th, giving visa-free entry to 59 destinations worldwide. Compared to last year India's position has improved by two points.

Mauritius and Uzbekistan passports are as powerful as India's passports.

The US was among the top 22, with visa-free access to 186 places, matching the likes of Switzerland, New Zealand and Norway.

China's allows access to 80, the same as Bolivia's. Russia's is better, providing hassle-free entry to 118 destinations, while Afghanistan's remained the weakest, with access to just 27.

Top 10 countries in Henley Passport Index 2023

1. Japan - 193 destination
2. Singapore, South Korea 192 destination
3. Germany, Spain 190 destination

4. Finland, Italy, Luxembourg 189 destination
5. Austria, Denmark, Netherlands, Sweden 188 destination
6. France, Ireland, Portugal, United Kingdom 187 destination
7. Belgium, Czech Republic, New Zealand, Norway, Switzerland, United States 186 destination
8. Australia, Canada, Greece, Malta 185 destination
9. Hungary, Poland 184 destination
10. Lithuania, Slovakia 183 destination

85. India, Mauritania, Uzbekistan 59 destination

Bottom 10 countries in Henley Passport Index 2023

100. Sri Lanka/Sudan (42 destinations)
101. Bangladesh/Kosovo/Libya (41 destinations)
102. North Korea (40 destinations)
103. Nepal, Palestinian territory (38 destinations)
104. Somalia (35 destinations)
105. Yemen (34 destinations)
106. Pakistan (32 destinations)
107. Syria (30 destinations)
108. Iraq (29 destinations)
109. Afghanistan (27 destinations).

Recent index

- List of best Cuisines of the World by Taste Atlas - India ranked 5th; topped by Italy
- Social Progress Index 2022: Puducherry best-performing States; Jharkhand and Bihar scored the lowest
- Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2022: India ranked 68th; topped by Finland
- Global ranking in scientific publications paper - India ranked **3rd**, topped by China
- Passport Index 2022 published by Arton Capital – India ranked 87th; topped by UAE
- Global Aviation Safety Rankings: India ranked 48th; topped by Singapore

153. Which bank has launched an MSME online portal providing instant online 'In Principle' approval of up to ₹1 crore?

किस बैंक ने ₹1 करोड़ तक की तत्काल ऑनलाइन 'सैद्धांतिक' स्वीकृति प्रदान करते हुए एक MSME ऑनलाइन पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है?

(a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक

(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक

(c) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक

(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक

(e) Kotak Mahindra Bank / कोटक महिंद्रा बैंक

Ans. c

Sol. South Indian Bank launched MSME online portal

The South Indian Bank launched a MSME online portal providing instant online 'In Principle' approval of up to ₹1 crore.

South Indian Bank is facilitating MSMEs to get instant funds. This initiative will help thousands of micro and small businesses avail loans quickly.

MSME enterprises are the most important pillars of the economy and the government is working towards making the sector stronger.

This development is at the backdrop of central government considering to make India a $5 trillion economy.

MD & CEO, South Indian Bank - Murali Ramakrishnan

154. The Australian government has decided to include which of the following language in schools?

ऑस्ट्रेलियाई सरकार ने निम्नलिखित में से किस भाषा को स्कूलों में शामिल करने का निर्णय लिया है?

(a) Hindi / हिंदी
(b) Urdu / उर्दू
(c) Punjabi / पंजाबी
(d) Tamil / तमिल
(e) Korean / कोरियाई

Ans. c

Sol. Punjabi will be taught in Australian schools

Punjabi is all set to be the newest language to be taught in public schools of Western Australia.

The Australian government is adopting Punjabi as the newest language after a 2021 census showed that it was the fastest-growing language in Australia with more than 239,000 people using it at home, an increase of over 80 percent from 2016.

The syllabus for pre-primary to year 12 will be developed this year.

The move to teach Punjabi in schools was considered after the syllabus included Tamil, Hindi, and Korean languages in 2021.

About Australia

- **Capital -** Canberra
- **Currency** - Dollar
- **President** - Anthony Albanese

155. The government of India has extended the term of the deputy governor of the RBI, Michael Debabrata Patra, by a further period of one year. Who among the following is not the deputy governor of the RBI at present?

भारत सरकार ने RBI के डिप्टी गवर्नर माइकल देवव्रत पात्रा का कार्यकाल एक वर्ष और बढ़ा दिया है। निम्नलिखित में से कौन वर्तमान में RBI का डिप्टी गवर्नर नहीं है?

(a) Tavarna Rabi Sankar / तवर्ण रबी शंकर
(b) Michael D Patra / माइकल डी पात्रा
(c) Ashima Goyal / आशिमा गोयल
(d) Mukesh Kumar Jain / मुकेश कुमार जैन
(e) M Rajeshwar Rao / एम राजेश्वर राव

Ans. c

Sol. Govt extends RBI Deputy Governor Michael Patra tenure by one year

The Government of India has extended the term of the deputy governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Michael Debabrata Patra, by a further period of one year.

His three-year tenure was coming to an end on January 14, 2023.

Patra looks after the monetary policy department as the deputy governor of the central bank and also as a member of the rate-setting Monetary Policy Committee.

Besides the governor, the RBI has four deputy governors. The three other deputy governors of the bank are M K Jain, M Rajeshwar Rao and T Rabi Sankar.

About Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- **Founded** - 1 April 1935
- **RBI Nationalized** - 1 January 1949
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **RBI set up -** Hilton Young Commission
- **1st Governor -** Sir Osborne Smith (Australia)
- **1st Indian Governor -** CD Deshmukh
- **25th Governor** - Shaktikanta Das
- **RBI Deputy Governor** (4) - 1. Tavarna Rabi Sankar
  2. Mukesh Kumar Jain
  3. Michael D Patra
  4. M Rajeshwar Rao

Recent Appointment in Banking Sector

- MD & CEO of Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) - Surinder Chawla
- Interim CEO of BharatPe - Nalin Negi
- CEO of Bank of Singapore - Jason Moo
- MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank - Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- MD & CEO of BSE - Sundararaman Ramamurthy
- MD & CEO of Suryoday Small Finance Bank - Baskar Babu Ramachandran (re-appointement)

156. Who has been appointed as Director of Meta's Global Business Group in India?

भारत में मेटा के ग्लोबल बिजनेस ग्रुप के निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Vikas Purohit / विकास पुरोहित
(b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
(c) Dixit Joshi / दीक्षित जोशी
(d) Binesh Kumar Tyagi / बिनेश कुमार त्यागी
(e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

Ans. a

Sol. Meta appoints Vikas Purohit as Director of Global Business Group India

Facebook-parent Meta has appointed Vikas Purohit as Director of its Global Business Group in India.

He will lead the strategy and delivery of the charter, focused on the country's largest advertisers and agency partners.

He has served as the chief executive at Tata CLiQ till October 2022. He has also worked in companies such as Amazon, Reliance Brands, Aditya Birla Group and Tommy Hilfiger.

He will report to Arun Srinivas, Director and Head of Ads Business for Meta in India.

Recent Appointment

- First female Sikh judge in US - Manpreet Monica Singh
- Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee - Chetan Sharma
- Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Saiyam Mehra
- Vice chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Rajesh Rokde
- New Speaker of the US House of Representatives - Kevin McCarthy

157. Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh has been appointed as the acting Chief Justice of which High Court?

न्यायमूर्ति नोंगमीकापम कोटेश्वर सिंह को किस उच्च न्यायालय का कार्यवाहक मुख्य न्यायाधीश नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Allahabad High Court / इलाहाबाद उच्च न्यायालय

(b) Andhra Pradesh High Court / आंध्र प्रदेश उच्च न्यायालय

(c) Gauhati High Court / गौहाटी उच्च न्यायालय

(d) Bombay High Court / बंबई उच्च न्यायालय

(e) Calcutta High Court / कलकत्ता उच्च न्यायालय

Ans. c

Sol. Justice N. Kotiswar Singh appointed as acting Chief Justice of Gauhati HC

The Central government has appointed Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh as the acting Chief Justice of the Gauhati High Court, effective from January 12.

He replaced Chief Justice, Rashmin Manharbhai Chhaya, who superannuated on 11 January 2023.

In exercise of the power conferred by Article 223 of the Constitution of India, the President is pleased to appoint, Justice Nongmeikapam Kotiswar Singh to perform the duties of the office of the Chief Justice of that High Court.

While Supreme Court judges retire at the age of 65 years, high court judge retire at 62.

158. Who has been appointed as the new chief technologist of NASA?

नासा के नए मुख्य प्रौद्योगिकीविद् के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) A C Charania / एसी चरणिया

(b) Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam / कृष्णन शंकरसुब्रमण्यम

(c) N. Kalaiselvi / एन. कलैसेल्विक

(d) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया

(e) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma / डॉ. रविकांत शर्मा

Ans. a

Sol. Indian origin A C Charania appointed new chief technologist of NASA

An Indian-American aerospace expert, AC Charania has been appointed as the new chief technologist of NASA.

He replaced another Indian-American scientist Bhavya Lal, who served as acting chief technologist.

He will serve as principal advisor to Administrator Bill Nelson on technology policy and programmes.

He has also served as vice president of product strategy at Reliable Robotics.

159. Which state chief minister has unveiled the mascot, torch, and anthem of Khelo India Youth Games-2022?
किस राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री ने खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स-2022 के शुभंकर, मशाल और गान का अनावरण किया है?
(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
(b) Gujarat / गुजरात
(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश
Ans. e
Sol. CM Shivraj Singh unveild mascot, torch of Khelo India Youth Games 2022
Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan has unveiled the mascot, torch, and anthem of Khelo India Youth Games-2022 in a colorful program at Shaurya Smarak in Bhopal.
Madhya Pradesh is hosting the fifth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games.
The mascot of Khelo India Youth Games 2022 is 'Asha'. While the theme song is 'Hindustan Ka Dil Dhadka Do...' sung by famous singer Shaan.
The torch of Khelo India Youth Games was named Amarkantak, on which the figure of Maa Narmada is also engraved.
The Games will be hosted in Madhya Pradesh from 31 January 2023 to 11 February 2023.
For the first time water sports namely Kayaking Canoeing, Canoe Salaam and Fencing will be part of this edition of Khelo India Games.
It will be organized in eight different cities of the state. The eight host cities designated are Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Ujjain, Maheshwar, Mandla and Balaghat.
The 4th Khelo India Youth Games was held at Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula (Haryana) from 4 to 13 June, while some matches were also played in Chandigarh.
Union Minister of State for Youth Affairs and Sports Nishith Pramanik will be the guest of honour.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

160. Ashleigh Gardner has won the ICC Women's Player of the Month award for December 2022. From which of the following countries does he belong?

एशले गार्डनर ने दिसंबर 2022 के लिए आईसीसी महिला प्लेयर ऑफ द मंथ का पुरस्कार जीता है। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस देश से संबंधित हैं?

(a) England / इंग्लैंड
(b) New Zealand /न्यूजीलैंड
(c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. c

Sol. Harry Brook & Ashleigh Gardner named ICC Players of the Month

England's Harry Brook has won his maiden ICC Men's Player of the Month crown for December 2022.

Brook helped England claim a historic World Test Championship (WTC) series victory in Pakistan.

While Australia's Ashleigh Gardner has won the ICC Women's Player of the Month award for December 2022

Gardner contributed with bat and ball guided her side to T20I series victory in India, and led her to the summit of the Player Rankings for all-rounders.

ICC Men's Player of the Month

- January 2022- Keegan Petersen (South Africa)
- February 2022- Shreyas Iyer (India)
- March 2022- Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- April 2022 -Keshav Maharaj (South Africa)

- May 2022 -Angelo Mathews (Sri Lanka)
- June 2022 -Jonny Bairstow (England)
- July 2022– Prabath Jasasurya (Sri Lanka)
- August 2022- Sikandar Raza (Zimbabwe)
- September 2022- Mohammed Rizwan (Pakistan)
- October 2022– Virat Kohli (India)
- November 2022 - Jos Buttler (England)
- December 2022 - Harry Brook (England)

ICC Women's Player of the Month

- January 2022- Heather Knight (England)
- February 2022- Amelia Kerr (New Zealand)
- March 2022- Rachael Haynes (Australia)
- April 2022 -Alyssa Healy (Australia)
- May 2022 -Tuba Hassan (Pakistan)
- June 2022 - Marizanne Kapp (South Africa)
- July2022 – Emma lamb (England)
- August 2022- Tahlia McGrath (Australia)
- September 2022- Harmanpreet Kaur (India)
- October 2022 - Nida Dar (Pakistan)
- November 2022 - Sidra Ameen (Pakistan)
- December 2022 - Ashleigh Gardner (Australia)

161. Which film has won 80th Annual Golden Globes Awards 2023 in the category of Best Motion Picture - Drama?

किस फिल्म ने सर्वश्रेष्ठ मोशन पिक्चर-ड्रामा की श्रेणी में 80वां वार्षिक गोल्डन ग्लोब पुरस्कार 2023 जीता है?

(a) The Fablemans / द फैबलमैन्स
(b) Banshees of Inisherin / इनिशरिन के बंशी
(c) Armageddon Time / आर्मगेडन टाइम
(d) Tár / टार
(e) Elvis / एल्विस

Ans. a

Sol. 80th Annual Golden Globes Awards 2023

The 80th Golden Globe Awards honored the best in film and American television of 2022, as chosen by the Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA).

The ceremony was held on January 10, 2023, from The Beverly Hilton in Beverly Hills, California, with it being aired live in the United States on NBC and streamed on Peacock. Jerrod Carmichael hosted the ceremony.

Golden Globes 2023 Winners

Film	Winner	Nominees
Best Motion Picture – Drama	The Fablemans	Avatar: The Way of Water Elvis Tár Top Gun: Maverick
Best Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy	The Banshees of Inisherin	Babylon Everything Everywhere All at Once Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery Triangle of Sadness
Best Actress in a Motion Picture – Drama	Cate Blanchett for Tár	Olivia Colman – Empire of Light Viola Davis – The Woman King Ana de Armas – Blonde

		Michelle Williams – The Fabelmans
Best Actor in a Motion Picture – Drama	Austin Butler for Elvis	Brendan Fraser – The Whale Hugh Jackman – The Son Bill Nighy – Living Jeremy Pope – The Inspection
Best Actress in a Motion Picture — Musical or Comedy	Michelle Yeoh for Everything Everywhere All at Once	Margot Robbie – Babylon Anya Taylor-Joy – The Menu Emma Thompson – Good Luck to You, Leo Grande Lesley Manville – Mrs. Harris Goes to Paris
Best Actor in a Motion Picture – Musical or Comedy	Colin Farrell for The Banshees of Inisherin	Diego Calva – Babylon Daniel Craig – Glass Onion: A Knives Out Mystery Adam Driver – White Noise Ralph Fiennes – The Menu
Best Actress in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture	Angela Bassett For Black Panther: Wakanda Forever	Kerry Condon – The Banshees of Inisherin

		Jamie Lee Curtis's – Everything Everywhere All at Once Dolly De Leon – Triangle of Sadness Carey Mulligan – She Said
Best Actor in a Supporting Role in Any Motion Picture	Ke Huy Quan For Everything Everywhere All at Once	Barry Keoghan – The Banshees of Inisherin Brad Pitt – Babylon Eddie Redmayne – The Good Nurse Brendan Gleeson – The Banshees of Inisherin
Best Director – Motion Picture	Steven Spielberg – The Fabelmans	James Cameron – Avatar: The Way of Water Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert – Everything Everywhere All at Once Baz Luhrmann – Elvis Martin McDonagh – The Banshees of Inisherin
Best Screenplay — Motion Picture	Martin McDonagh For The Banshees of Inisherin	Sarah Polley – Women Talking Todd Field – Tár

		Tony Kushner and Steven Spielberg – The Fabelmans Daniel Kwan and Daniel Scheinert – Everything Everywhere All at Once
Best Picture — Animated	Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio	Inu-Oh Marcel the Shell with Shoes On Puss in Boots: The Last Wish Turning Red
Best Picture — Non-English Language	Argentina, 1985	All Quiet on the Western Front Close Decision to Leave RRR
Best Original Score – Motion Picture	Justin Hurwitz, Babylon	Carter Burwell, The Banshees of Inisherin Alexandre Desplat, Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio Hildur Guðnadóttir, Women Talking John Williams, The Fabelmans
Best Song Motion Picture	**"Naatu Naatu," RRR**	"Carolina," Where the Crawdads Sing "Ciao Papa," Guillermo del Toro's Pinocchio "Hold My Hand," Top Gun: Maverick "Lift Me Up," Black Panther: Wakanda Forever

Television	**Winner**	**Nominees**
Best Television Series — Drama	House of the Dragon (HBO Max)	Better Call Saul (AMC+/AMC) The Crown (Netflix)

		Ozark (Netflix) Severance (Apple TV+)
Best Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Abbott Elementary (ABC)	The Bear (FX) Hacks (HBO Max) Only Murders in the Building (Hulu) Wednesday (Netflix)
Best Television Motion Picture	The White Lotus (HBO Max)	Black Bird (Apple TV+) Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story (Netflix) The Dropout (Hulu) Pam & Tommy (Hulu)
Best Actress — Television Motion Picture	Amanda Seyfried, The Dropout	Jessica Chastain, George & Tammy Julia Garner, Inventing Anna Lily James, Pam & Tommy Julia Roberts, Gaslit
Best Actor – Television Motion Picture	Evan Peters, Dahmer For Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story	Taron Egerton, Black Bird Colin Firth, The Staircase Andrew Garfield, Under the Banner of Heaven Sebastian Stan, Pam & Tommy
Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series — Drama	Zendaya, Euphoria	Emma D'Arcy, House of the Dragon Laura Linney, Ozark Imelda Staunton, The Crown Hilary Swank, Alaska Daily
Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series — Drama	Kevin Costner, Yellowstone	Jeff Bridges, The Old Man Diego Luna, Andor

		Bob Odenkirk, Better Call Saul Adam Scott, Severance
Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Quinta Brunson, Abbott Elementary	Kaley Cuoco, The Flight Attendant Selena Gomez, Only Murders in the Building Jenna Ortega, Wednesday Jean Smart, Hacks
Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series — Musical or Comedy	Jeremy Allen White, The Bear	Donald Glover, Atlanta Bill Hader, Barry Steve Martin, Only Murders in the Building Martin Short, Only Murders in the Building
Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role on Television	Jennifer Coolidge, The White Lotus	Claire Danes, Fleishman is in Trouble Daisy Edgar-Jones, Under the Banner of Heaven Niecy Nash, Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story Aubrey Plaza, The White Lotus
Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role on Television	Paul Walter Hauser, Black Bird	F. Murray Abraham, The White Lotus Domhnall Gleeson, The Patient Richard Jenkins, Dahmer – Monster: The Jeffrey Dahmer Story Seth Rogen, Pam & Tommy

162. Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is celebrating Road Safety Week across the country from _____ to _____ 2023.

सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्रालय देश भर में _____ से _____ 2023 तक सड़क सुरक्षा सप्ताह मना रहा है।

(a) 10 - 15 January 2023 / 10 - 15 जनवरी 2023
(b) 11 - 16 January 2023 / 11 - 16 जनवरी 2023
(c) 11 - 17 January 2023 / 11 - 17 जनवरी 2023
(d) 12 - 18 January 2023 / 12 - 18 जनवरी 2023
(e) 12 - 19 January 2023 / 12 - 19 जनवरी 2023

Ans. c

Sol. Road Transport and Highways Ministry observed Road Safety Week

Ministry of Road Transport and Highways is celebrating Road Safety Week across the country from 11th to 17th January 2023.

The aim of the programme is to propagate the cause of safer roads for all under the Swachhata Pakhwada.

During the week, various activities will be organized including various awareness campaigns related to the causes of road accidents and measures to prevent them.

Nukkad Nataks and Sensitization Campaigns will be conducted at various locations in the National Capital.

163. National Youth Day is celebrated every year on January 12 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. What is the theme of National Youth Day 2023?

स्वामी विवेकानंद की जयंती के उपलक्ष्य में हर साल 12 जनवरी को राष्ट्रीय युवा दिवस मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय युवा दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

(a) Youth for a Clean and Green Environment
(b) Youth for Rural Development
(c) Transforming education
(d) Viksit Yuva-Viksit Bharat
(e) Youth Civic Engagement

Ans. d

Sol. 12 January - National Youth Day

National Youth Day is celebrated every year on January 12 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

Objective - To promote awareness of people's rights and to provide information about them

Theme 2022 - Viksit Yuva-Viksit Bharat

In 1984, the Indian government declared Swamiji's birth anniversary as National Youth Day and since 1985, it has been celebrated to honor and recognize Vivekananda's teachings.

The Pre-monastic name of Swami Vivekananda was Narendra Nath Dutta. He was born on January 12, 1863, in Kolkata and died on July 4, 1902.

He became a disciple of Saint Ramakrishna Paramhamsa after being introduced to him by one of his English professors in 1881 at Dakshineshwar's Kali Temple.

The Indian philosophies of Vedanta and Yoga were introduced to the Western World by him.

Vivekananda is best known for his speech at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago in 1893, when he began his speech by saying "Sisters and brothers of America..." and introduced the culture of India, its importance, Hinduism, etc.

164. The Indian High Commission has signed an MoU to establish a Hindi Chair at Sabaragamuwa University of which country?
भारतीय उच्चायोग ने किस देश के सबरागमुवा विश्वविद्यालय में हिंदी चेयर स्थापित करने के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?
(a) Iran / ईरान
(b) Maldives / मालदीव
(c) Bhutan / भूटान
(d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
(e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
Ans. e
Sol. Indian High Commission signed MoU to establish Hindi Chair at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka
The Indian High Commission has signed an MoU with the Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka to establish a Hindi Chair.
High Commissioner Gopal Bagale and Vice-Chancellor of Sabaragamuwa University Prof. Uday Ratnayake signed an MoU for establishment of Hindi Chair for cultural engagement through Indian Council for Cultural Relations.
The Hindi Chair will help to acquaint the students with India, its history, and culture. This will pave the way for popularising Hindi by appointing Indian faculties.
The Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka is a public university located in Belihuloya, Balangoda, Sri Lanka. It was established on 20th November 1991.

- **Legislative capital** - Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- **Executive and Judicial capital** - Colombo
- **Currency** - Sri Lankan rupee
- **President** - Ranil Wickremesinghe
- **Prime Minister** - Dinesh Gunawardena

Recent MoUs

- India signed an agreement with Austria for migration and mobility
- India & Cyprus sign agreement on defence and military cooperation
- India and Germany signed Migration and Mobility Agreement
- India & EU signed an agreement for climate, quantum tech
- India signed an agreement with Netherlands to formalize bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism
- India signed an MoU with Japan to advance scientific cooperation for Indian Ayurveda

165. The new Integrated Food Security scheme has been named as PMGKAY by the Union Cabinet. What is the full form of PMGKAY?

नई एकीकृत खाद्य सुरक्षा योजना को केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल द्वारा पीएमजीकेएवाई नाम दिया गया है। पीएमजीकेएवाई का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

(a) Pradhan Mantri Garib Karmayogi Ann Yojana
(b) Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ayush Yojana
(c) Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana
(d) Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan AtmaNirbhar Yojana
(e) Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Amrut Yojana

Ans. c

Sol. Centre renamed Integrated Food Security Scheme as Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana

The Cabinet led by Prime Minister Narendra Modi had approved a new integrated food security scheme for providing free foodgrains to Antodaya Ann Yojna (AAY) & Primary Household (PHH) beneficiaries, to be rolled out from 1st January 2023.

New scheme has been named as Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Ann Yojana (PMGKAY).

Implementation of the new scheme has started from 1st January 2023, benefitting more than 80 crores poor and poorest of poor people.

The integrated scheme will strengthen the provisions of NFSA, 2013 in terms of accessibility, affordability, and availability of food grains for the poor.

For the effective and uniform implementation of NFSA 2013, PMGKAY will subsume the two subsidy schemes of the Department of Food & Public Distribution (a) Food Subsidy to FCI (b) Food Subsidy for decentralized procurement states dealing with procurement, allocation, and delivery of free foodgrains to the states under NFSA.

The Central Government will spend more than Rs 2 lakh crore in 2023 as food subsidy under NFSA and other welfare schemes, to remove the financial burden of the poor and the poorest of the poor.

166. In which city the 14th edition of the World Spice Congress (WSC) will be held from 16-18 February 2023?
वर्ल्ड स्पाइस कांग्रेस (WSC) का 14वां संस्करण 16-18 फरवरी 2023 तक किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?
(a) Varanasi / वाराणसी
(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
(e) Mumbai / मुंबई
Ans. e
Sol. 14th edition of the World Spice Congress (WSC) to be held in Mumbai
The 14th edition of the World Spice Congress (WSC) is to be held in Mumbai from 16-18 February 2023.
Objective - To open up newer opportunities to promote the international trade of Indian spices.
The event, organized to create a platform not only for traders but also policy regulators, will have special business sessions dedicated to promoting spice trade among the G20 countries.
Policymakers, regulatory authorities, spice trade associations, government officials as well as technical experts from key G20 countries will participate in the event.
The theme of the WSC 2023 is VISION 2030: S-P-I-C-E-S (Sustainability, Productivity, Innovation, Collaboration, Excellence and Safety).
Union Minister Piyush Goyal will also distribute the trophies and Awards for Excellence in Exports of Spices on 17th February 2023.
The WSC is organized by the Spices Board of India.
Maharashtra is one of the leading states producing spices. It is the largest producer of turmeric in India. Maharashtra produces two GI-tagged turmeric varieties and one GI-tagged chilli variety.
Coastal areas of Maharashtra are also known for the production of GI-tagged Kokum. The state is one of the largest exporting hubs for spices.

167. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 26th National Youth Festival in Karnataka. What is the theme of this festival?
प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने कर्नाटक में 26वें राष्ट्रीय युवा महोत्सव का उद्घाटन किया। इस उत्सव का विषय क्या है?

(a) Youth for a Clean and Green Environment
(b) Youth for Rural Development
(c) Transforming education
(d) Viksit Yuva-Viksit Bharat
(e) Youth Civic Engagement

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival at Hubbali in Karnataka

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival, organized in Karnataka from 12th -16th January 2023.

Theme of this event: "Viksit Yuva - Viksit Bharat". The event also included folk dances and songs.

The festival aims to step up the role of youth in nation building during Amrit Kaal. It will be an endeavour to disseminate the message of 'Panch Pran' espoused by the Prime Minister in his Independence Day address.

The festival brings diverse cultures from all parts of the country on a common platform and unites the participants in the spirit of Ek Bharat, Shreshtha Bharat.

Over 7500 youngsters representing the states and Union Territories India have congregated at the festival to exchange their talents.

This festival is held every year to provide exposure to our talented youth at the national level.

It is being held on National Youth Day (12th January), which is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- PM Modi chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi
- PM Modi launched world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Assam
- PM Modi flagged off West Bengal's first Vande Bharata Express train (7th)
- PM Modi flagged off 6th Vande Bharat train in Nagpur, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated 4th Vande Bharat Express in Himachal Pradesh

168. Which bank has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru to establish a Centre for Mathematics and Computing at the Institute?

किस बैंक ने संस्थान में गणित और कंप्यूटिंग केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान (IISc) बेंगलुरु के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
(c) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक
(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
(e) Bandhan Bank / बंधन बैंक

Ans. b

Sol. Axis Bank signed MoU with IISc Bengaluru to set up Centre for Mathematics and Computing

Axis Bank has signed an MoU with the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru to establish a Centre for Mathematics and Computing at the Institute.

The centre spread over 1.6 lakh square feet will have labs and programmes benefitting faculty and students.

Additionally, it will host the new IISc BTech programme in Mathematics and Computing and the ongoing Interdisciplinary Ph.D. programme in Mathematical Sciences.

Over 500 engineers and scientists are estimated to be benefited annually.

The centre will play a vital role in building the country's future as many contemporary and futuristic areas such as Artificial Intelligence and Data Science rely on the foundations of mathematics and computing.

About Axis Bank

- **Founded** - 1993
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Rakesh Makhija
- **MD & CEO** - Amitabh Chaudhary
- **Tagline** - Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Hockey Wali Sarpanch signed an agreement with NABARD to strengthen farmers
- Axis Bank partnered with OPEN to launch a fully digital current account
- Niva Bupa and Sundaram Finance signed corporate agency agreement
- HDFC Bank partnered with Microsoft for digital transformation
- SBI Card partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to launch co-brand credit cards
- Bandhan Bank signed MoU with Defence Ministry for defence pensioners

169. Which union minister has participated 13th Ministerial Meeting of the India-US Trade Policy Forum in Washington DC, USA?

किस केंद्रीय मंत्री ने वाशिंगटन डीसी, यूएसए में भारत-अमेरिका व्यापार नीति फोरम की 13वीं मंत्रिस्तरीय बैठक में भाग लिया?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Sarbananda Sonowal / सर्बानंद सोनोवाल
(d) Dharmendra Pradhan / धर्मेंद्र प्रधान
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. b

Sol. 13th Ministerial-level meeting of the India-US Trade Policy Forum held in Washington

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal has participated 13th Ministerial Meeting of the India-US Trade Policy Forum in Washington DC, USA.

Before the delegation-level talks, CIM also held a one-to-one meeting with USTR Ambassador Katherine Tai.

The Ministers underlined the significance of the TPF in forging robust bilateral trade ties and enhancing the bilateral economic relationship to benefit working people in both countries.

TPF aims to lay the foundation for forging robust bilateral trade ties and enhancing the bilateral economic relationship between both countries.

India and US launched a new working group on "Resilient Trade" to deepen bilateral dialogue.

Piyush Goyal in News

- Piyush Goyal participated 13th Ministerial Meeting of the India-US Trade Policy Forum in Washington DC, USA.
- Piyush Goel launched Portal for mapping of Industrial Units and Laboratories for BIS
- Piyush Goel launched right to repair portal for consumers in New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal co-chairs India-US CEO Forum
- Piyush Goyal inaugurated 41st edition of the India International Trade Fair (IITF) in New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal addressed 21st World Congress of Accountants

170. The World Bank has projected India's economy to grow by how much percent in FY23?

विश्व बैंक ने FY23 में भारत की अर्थव्यवस्था के कितने प्रतिशत बढ़ने का अनुमान लगाया है?

(a) 6.8 %

(b) 6.9%

(c) 7.0%

(d) 7.1%

(e) 7.2%

Ans. b

Sol. World Bank projected India's economic growth to slow to 6.9% in FY23

The World Bank has projected that India's economy would grow 6.9% in FY23, which is much lower than the 8.7% growth achieved by the country in the previous financial year (FY2021/ 22).

India is expected to be the fastest-growing economy of the seven largest developing economies.

The World Bank stated that global growth is slowing sharply in the face of elevated inflation, higher interest rates, reduced investment, and disruptions caused by Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

The World Bank has also predicted that global growth in 2023 would slow to 1.7% from the 3%.

This would mark the first time in more than 80 years that two global recessions have occurred within the same decade.

In October, IMF had said that global growth is forecast to slow from 6% in 2021 to 3.2% in 2022 and 2.7% in 2023.

Updated GDP List

- World Bank - 6.9% (FY23)
- MOODY'S. – 7% (FY23)
- S&P – 7% (FY23), 6% (FY24)
- IMF – 6.8% (FY23), 6.1% (FY24)
- ADB - 7% (FY23), 7.2% (FY24)

- RBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- India Ratings – 6.9% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING - 7% (FY23), 6.7% (FY24)
- FICCI - 7% (FY23), 6.4% (FY24)
- OECD - 6.6% (FY23), 5.7% (FY24)
- CRISIL - 7% (FY23), 6% (FY24)
- NSO – 7%
- SBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- Morgan Stanley - 7.2% (FY23), 6.4%(FY24)
- Nomura – 7.2% (FY23)
- UNTCAD – 5.7% (FY23)
- Goldman Sachs - 5.9% (FY23)
- UNTCAD – 5.7% (FY23)

About World Bank

- **Founded -** 1944
- **Headquarters -** Washington Dc
- **President -** David Malpass
- **MD & CFO -** Anshula Kant
- **Chief Economist** - Carman Reinhart
- **Executive Director** - Rajesh Khullar
- **Member Countries** -189
- **World Bank Group** - 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID)

171. India's Fastest Payment App recently launched which is built on the cutting-edge technology of Web 3.0. What is the name of this app?

भारत का सबसे तेज़ भुगतान ऐप हाल ही में लॉन्च किया गया है जो वेब 3.0 की अत्याधुनिक तकनीक पर बनाया गया है। इस ऐप का नाम क्या है?

(a) PayBharat
(b) PayRup
(c) PayCash
(d) PayDigital
(e) PayFast

Ans. b

Sol. India's fastest payment app 'PayRup' launched

India's fastest payment app has launched. PayRup is built by the cutting-edge technology of web 3.0.

It provides advanced digital payment experience with outstanding user experience.

PayRup users can pay utility bills and landline bills, recharge their mobile, broadband, DTH, and purchase Gift Cards.

PayRup services are planned to expand across various financial instruments, including multiple payment services such as school fees, pay rent, and other payment collection services.

Recently, PayRup has announced ticketing and booking services for flights, buses, and hotels along with a few other USPs.

PayRup opens 24/7 customer care facilities for help and support for users. The customer support desk runs with leading CRM technologies and supports by global standard.

PayRup ensures the 5 dimensions of service quality and follows SERVQUAL standard to provide the best service experience.

The launching event was hosted in Bangalore and was launched by Mahadevappa Halagatti.

172. The Union Cabinet has recently approved a scheme of how many rupees to promote RuPay Debit cards and low-value BHIM-UPI transactions?

केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने हाल ही में रुपे डेबिट कार्ड और कम मूल्य के भीम-यूपीआई लेनदेन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए कितने रुपये की योजना को मंजूरी दी है?

(a) 2000 crore
(b) 2200 crore
(c) 2400 crore
(d) 2900 crore
(e) 2600 crore

Ans. e

Sol. Centre approved ₹2,600 crore as incentive for banks to promote digital payments

The Union Cabinet has approved a ₹2,600 crore scheme for promoting RuPay debit cards and low-value BHIM-UPI transactions.

The Cabinet has approved this incentive scheme to promote small amount transactions between individuals and merchants through RuPay Debit Cards and BHIM-UPI.

Under the scheme, banks will be given financial incentives in the current financial year 2022-23 to promote 'Point of Sale' (PoS) i.e. payment machines and e-commerce transactions using RuPay and UPI.

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said in the last budget, will continue to provide financial help to increase digital payments.

India has remained a cash-dependent economy since independence. India's Cash to GDP ratio is 13% while the global average is at most 8%.

173. Nutrition Company Herbalife Nutrition India Pvt. Ltd has appointed whom as its brand ambassador for 'nutritional sponsorship'?
पोषण कंपनी हर्बालाइफ न्यूट्रिशन इंडिया प्राइवेट लिमिटेड ने 'पोषण प्रायोजन' के लिए किसे अपना ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया है?

(a) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
(b) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
(c) Rahul Dravid / राहुल द्रविड़
(d) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. a

Sol. Herbalife appointed Smriti Mandhana as a brand ambassador

Nutrition Company Herbalife Nutrition India Private Limited has appointed women's cricketer Smriti Mandhana as a 'nutrition sponsor'.

It has about 150 sponsored teams and athletes around the world.

Many Indian athletes like Virat Kohli, Mary Kom, Lakshya Sen, and Manika Batra have partnered up with Herbalife Nutrition.

Currently, she is the vice-captain of the Indian women's national cricket team.

Mandhana's performance on the field made her the first Indian women cricketer to be recognized as the ICC Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year in 2018. The same year saw her winning the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Award, a feat she repeated in 2021

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Sourav Ganguly - Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust campaign (Bandhan Bank)
- Anushka Sharma - Puma India
- Deepika Padukone - American furniture retailer Pottery Barn
- Virat Kohli - Wearables martwatch leader Noise
- Prasoon Joshi - Uttarakhand State
- Janhvi Kapoor - Marico's Saffola Fittify
- Deepa Malik - Ambassador of Nikshay Mitra (TB Campaign)
- Suryakumar Yadav - UrbanGabru (Men's grooming brand)
- Neeraj Chopra - Friendship Ambassador of Switzerland
- Lionel Messi - Byju's

174. DRDO has successfully launched Short-Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM) Prithvi-II from the Integrated Test Range recently. The range of Prithvi-II missile is approximately how many kilometers?

DRDO ने हाल ही में इंटीग्रेटेड टेस्ट रेंज से शॉर्ट-रेंज बैलिस्टिक मिसाइल (SRBM) पृथ्वी- II को सफलतापूर्वक लॉन्च किया है। पृथ्वी-द्वितीय मिसाइल की रेंज लगभग कितने किलोमीटर है?

(a) 150 km
(b) 250 km
(c) 350 km
(d) 450 km
(e) 550 km

Ans. c

Sol. India successfully carried out test launch of Prithvi-II ballistic missile

Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) has successfully launched Short-Range Ballistic Missile (SRBM) Prithvi-II from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur Odisha coast.

The missile, which is powered by light propulsion twin engines, has a range of around 350 km and can carry 500-1,000 kg of warheads.

It uses an advanced inertial navigation system to strike the set target.

Prithvi-II missile is a well-established system. The Prithvi-II was earlier successfully test-fired during night hours in 2018 and in 2019.

Prithvi was developed by the DRDO under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme.

About Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

- **Founded** - 1 January 1958
- **Headquarters -** New Delhi
- **Motto -** "Strength's Origin is in Knowledge"
- **Chairman -** Dr. Samir V Kamat

175. Gareth Bale has announced his retirement. He is associated with which of the following sport?

गैरेथ बेल ने अपनी सेवानिवृत्ति की घोषणा की है। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

(a) Hockey / हॉकी

(b) Tennis / टेनिस

(c) Basketball / बास्केटबॉल

(d) Football / फुटबॉल

(e) Cricket / क्रिकेट

Ans. d

Sol. Footballer Gareth Bale announced his retirement from professional football

Former Tottenham and Real Madrid star, Gareth Bale has announced his retirement from professional football.

Bale made his Wales debut in 2006 against Trinidad and Tobago. He has won Wales' player of the year award six times.

Bale was once the world's most expensive player when he joined Real Madrid for $132 million in 2013 and, alongside Cristiano Ronaldo, was a devastating forward capable of surging runs and brilliant goals with his powerful left foot.

Bale played a record of 111 games for his country and was a five-time Champions League winner with Real Madrid.

He captained Wales in their first European Chamninnahin.

Recently retired cricketers

- Sania Mirza – International Tennis - India
- Farhaan Behardien - International Cricket - South African
- Karim Benzema - International football - France
- Ben Stokes - One Day International Cricket - England
- Dinesh Ramdin - International Cricket - West Indies
- Tamim Iqbal - T20 International - Bangladesh

176. Who is the author of the book titled Braving a Viral Storm: India's COVID-19 Vaccine Story?

ब्रेविंग ए वायरल स्टॉर्म: इंडियाज कोविड-19 वैक्सीन स्टोरी नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन है?

(a) Aritra Banerjee and Suraj Sudhir / अरित्रा बनर्जी और सूरज सुधीर

(b) Aashish Chandorkar and Suraj Sudhir / आशीष चांदोरकर और सूरज सुधीर

(c) Sanjeev Sanyal and Aashish Chandorkar / संजीव सान्याल और आशीष चांदोरकर

(d) Sanjeev Sanyal and Aritra Banerjee / संजीव सान्याल और अरित्रा बनर्जी

(e) Ranjit B Rai and Aritra Banerjee / रंजीत बी राय और अरित्रा बनर्जी

Ans. b

Sol. Mansukh Mandaviya released a book titled Braving A Viral Storm

Union Health and Family Welfare Minister, Mansukh Mandaviya has officially launched the book titled Braving A Viral Storm: India's Covid-19 Vaccine Story in New Delhi.

The book is co-authored by Aashish Chandorkar and Suraj Sudhir.

The book launch comes ahead of India's second anniversary of starting its COVID-19 vaccination drive in January 2021.

The book is a transcription of the country's success story and will be New India's history.

This book has explained the growth of India as a self-sufficient nation where all sections of society contributed to fighting the pandemic.

Recent Book

- Njaan Sakshi' (me as the witness) - K.K. Abdul Gaffar (autobiography); released by MS Dhoni
- Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom - Sanjeev Sanyal
- Chief Minister's Diary No.1. – Released by - Former CJI Ranjan Gogoi; Authored by – Assam CM
- A book titled 'Ambedkar: A Life - Shashi Tharoor
- Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond - C. Rangarajan
- The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage - Ranjit B Rai and Aritra Banerjee

177. The National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय मानव तस्करी जागरूकता दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 9 January / 9 जनवरी

(b) 10 January / 10 जनवरी

(c) 11 January / 11 जनवरी

(d) 12 January / 12 जनवरी

(e) 13 January / 13 जनवरी

Ans. c

Sol. 11 January - National Human Trafficking Day

The National Human Trafficking Awareness Day is observed every year on January 11.

Objective - To raise awareness about the plight of human trafficking victims, as well as to promote and protect their rights.

Human trafficking is the use of force, deception, or coercion to obtain labor or commercial sex acts.

178. Sharad Yadav passed away recently at the age of 75 in Gurugram. He was related to which of the following fields?

शरद यादव का हाल ही में 75 वर्ष की आयु में गुरुग्राम में निधन हो गया। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस क्षेत्र से संबंधित थे?

(a) Law / कानून

(b) Cricket / क्रिकेट

(c) Politics / राजनीति

(d) Acting / अभिनय

(e) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता

Ans. c

Sol. Former Union Minister Sharad Yadav passed away

Former Union Minister and RJD Leader Sharad Yadav passed away recently at the age of 75-year in Gurugram.

He was elected from Uttar Pradesh's Badaun parliamentary seat in 1989.

He also served as the Union Minister for Civil Aviation, Consumer Affairs from 1999-2004.

He contested from the Madhepura Lok Sabha constituency in Bihar in a by-election caused by Lalu Prasad Yadav's resignation from his seat in 2004. He was elected from Madhepura four times in 1991, 1996, 1999 and 2009.

Sharad Yadav was probably the first politician in India to be elected as a member of the Lok Sabha from three states. Sharad Yadav was the convenor of the National Democratic Alliance.

179. Union government has announced to set up India's first center of excellence for online gaming in which state?
केंद्र सरकार ने किस राज्य में ऑनलाइन गेमिंग के लिए भारत का पहला उत्कृष्टता केंद्र स्थापित करने की घोषणा की है?
(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय
Ans. e
Sol. Shillong to get India's first centre of excellence for online gaming
Union government has announced to set up India's first center of excellence for online gaming in Shillong, Meghalaya.
The CoE will be set up under Digital India Startup Hub through the Software Technology Parks of India (STPI).
The STPI was set up in 1991 as an autonomous society in the field of Science and Technology under the MeitY.
India has one of the largest markets for the gaming business, the Boston Consulting Group (BCG) and Sequoia India report suggests that the Indian mobile gaming industry will be worth $5 Billion in 2025.
It is expected to catalyze startups from India's Northeast to build the next-generation online gaming ecosystem.
The Ministry of Electronics (MeitY) will also set up a state-of-the-art facility under the National Institute of Electronics and IT (NIELIT) in Shillong.

About Meghalaya

- **Capital** – Shillong
- **Chief Minister** - Conrad Kongkal Sangma
- **Governor -** B. D. Mishra (additional charge)

180. Which of the following state has organized 'Ganga Sagar Mela' on Makar Sankranti?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने मकर संक्रांति पर 'गंगा सागर मेला' का आयोजन किया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Karnataka / कर्नाटक
(e) Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़

Ans. b

Sol. West Bengal organized 'Ganga Sagar Mela' on Makar Sankranti

Lakhs of pilgrims have celebrated flocking to Sagar Island on the southernmost tip of West Bengal for the annual Gangasagar Mela, held between January 12 and 14 to celebrate Makar Sankranti.

It is the second largest fair in India after Kumbha Mela.

Gangasagar is a place of Hindu pilgrimage. Every year on the day of Makar Sankranti (14 January), hundreds of thousands of Hindus gather to take a holy dip at the confluence of the river Ganges and Bay of Bengal and offer prayers (puja) in the Kapil Muni Temple.

Gangasagar is an island in the Ganges delta located on the continental shelf of the Bay of Bengal.

Although Sagar Island is a part of the Sundarbans, it does not have a tiger habitat or mangrove forests, or small river tributaries.

About West Bengal

- **Capital –** Kolkata
- **Chief Minister** – Mamata Banerjee
- **Governor –** C V Ananda Bose

181. Who has inaugurated the School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication in Agartala, Tripura?
त्रिपुरा के अगरतला में स्कूल ऑफ लॉजिस्टिक्स, वाटरवेज एंड कम्युनिकेशन का उद्घाटन किसने किया?
(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Sarbananda Sonowal / सर्बानंद सोनोवाल
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. d

Sol. Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication in Agartala, Tripura.
Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal and Tripura CM Manik Saha have inaugurated the School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication in Agartala, Tripura.
The school will enable the rich pool of talent of the region to become world-class experts in the transportation and logistics sector.
In order to unlock the promised economic potential of the Northeast, the school will enable the innate capacity of human resources along our opulent waterways
It has been set up under the State Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development (SIPARD), an autonomous body funded by the govt of Tripura and MORD.

- **Capital –** Agartala
- **Chief Minister -** Manik Sarkar
- **Governor –** Satyadeo Narain Arya

Recent Inauguration by Union Ministers

- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated **'Ayush Utsav'** in Kashmir
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated Unani Institute in Silchar
- Bhupender Yadav to lead Indian delegation at COP27 in Egypt
- Bhupender Yadav chaired the 189th meeting of ESIC
- Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan inaugurated the Animal Quarantine Certification Services (AQCS) at Hessarghata, Bengaluru.

182. Which of the following state has launched the shared school bus system, prime tourism vehicles, and agriculture response vehicle scheme?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने साझा स्कूल बस प्रणाली, प्रधान पर्यटन वाहन और कृषि प्रतिक्रिया वाहन योजना शुरू की है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. e

Sol. Meghalaya CM launched agriculture response vehicle scheme

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma has launched the shared school bus system, prime tourism vehicles, and agriculture response vehicle scheme.

The chief minister flagged off shared school buses and hoped that it will help to minimize traffic congestion in Shillong.

The buses are part of the Sustainable Transport and Efficient Mobility Society (STEMS) programme focussed on mobility and overall transportation to decongest the city.

Agriculture Response Vehicles: Provided to farmers' associations and groups for a strong transportation network

Prime tourist vehicles: Step to improve the overall tourism sector, and to provide good transportation services to tourists

About Meghalaya

- **Capital** – Shillong
- **Chief Minister** - Conrad Kongkal Sangma
- **Governor -** B. D. Mishra (additional charge)

183. Which state government's state-level steering committee for CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority) has approved an annual plan of Rs 1,086 crore for 2023-24?

CAMPA (प्रतिपूरक वनीकरण कोष प्रबंधन और योजना प्राधिकरण) के लिए किस राज्य सरकार की राज्य स्तरीय संचालन समिति ने 2023-24 के लिए 1,086 करोड़ रुपये की वार्षिक योजना को मंजूरी दी है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha's steering committee approved Rs 1,086 crore action plan for 2023-24

Odisha government's state-level steering committee for CAMPA (Compensatory Afforestation Fund Management & Planning Authority) has approved an annual plan of Rs 1,086 crore for 2023-24.

The annual plan of operation (APO) mainly focuses on taking up of plantations and other activities like maintenance of old plantations.

The plan was approved during a meeting chaired by Chief Secretary S. C. Mohapatra

The plan made at the district level for combating forest fire will be discussed with collectors concerned for effective control of forest fire and it should be uploaded in the public domain. She also suggested to prepare a five-year action plan for improvement of forest roads.

He has also raised the issue relating to wildlife management activities that are being extensively being carried out through CAMPA funds.

About Odisha

- **Capital –** Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Naveen Patnaik
- **Governor –** Ganeshi Lal

184. The 28th edition of Sarang, India's largest student-run festival has been organized in which of the following IITs?

भारत के सबसे बड़े छात्र-संचालित सारंग उत्सव के 28वें संस्करण का आयोजन निम्नलिखित में से किस IIT में किया गया है?

(a) IIT Guwahati/ आईआईटी गुवाहाटी

(b) IIT Delhi / आईआईटी दिल्ली

(c) IIT Madras / आईआईटी मद्रास

(d) IIT Kanpur / आईआईटी कानपुर

(e) IIT Roorkee / आईआईटी रुड़की

Ans. c

Sol. India's largest student-run festival 'Saarang' conducts at IIT Madras

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) Annual Cultural Festival Saarang has been conducted completely in physical mode.

This year is the 28th Edition of the Saarang, which is one of the largest student-run festivals.

The theme for Saarang 2023 is 'Mystic Hues' which celebrates how intertwined colours are with culture and traditions.

Saarang 2023 featured nearly 100 events between the 11th and 15th of January 2023 and attracted a footfall of over 80,000 from over 500 colleges across the country.

For this year's social cause, Saarang launched 'Panacea', a campaign surrounding health and hygiene awareness, aimed at encouraging healthy habits to thwart disease breakouts.

185. Which bank has launched e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility in association with National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)?

किस बैंक ने नेशनल ई-गवर्नेंस सर्विसेज लिमिटेड (NeSL) के साथ मिलकर ई-बैंक गारंटी (e-BG) सुविधा शुरू की है?

(a) State Bank of India / भारतीय स्टेट बैंक
(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
(c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
(e) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. SBI launched e-Bank Guarantee facility in association with NeSL

State Bank of India (SBI) has launched e-Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility in association with National e-Governance Services Limited (NeSL).

With the advent of e-BG, this function will be replaced by e-stamping and e-signature.

Currently, the bank issues these guarantees with physical stamping and wet signatures.

The e-Bank Guarantee procedure will be made easier by NeSL's Digital Document Execution (DDE) technology, which offers e-Stamp and e-Sign features.

Beneficiaries using NeSL's platform will instantly get an e-Bank Guarantee without additional verification. It has taken this initiative to enhance transparency and reduce turnaround time from days to minutes.

About State Bank of India (SBI)

- **Founded -** 1 July 1955
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Dinesh Kumar Khara
- **Managing Director -** (4) Alok Kumar Choudhary, Swaminathan Janakiraman, Challa Sreenivasulu Setty, and Ashwini Kumar Tewari
- Imperial Bank of India was previous name of SBI.
- The presidency Banks of Bengal, Bombay and Madras with merged in 1921 to Imperial Bank of India.
- **Tagline -** (1) Pure Banking Nothing Else
  (2) With you all the way
  (3) A bank of the common man
  (4) The banker to every Indian
  (5) The Nation banks on us
- Bajaj Allianz launched Respect Senior Care Rider
- ICICI Bank launched digital solutions for exporters
- Indian Bank launched its flagship programme 'MSME Prerana 'in Rajasthan
- IDFC FIRST Bank has launched ZERO Fee Banking on savings accounts
- Indian Bank launched a new special retail term deposit dubbed "Ind Shakti 555 days".
- Canara HSBC Life Insurance launches Non-Participating 'Guaranteed Fortune Plan

186. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Cognizant?
कॉग्निजेंट के नए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?
(a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
(b) Ajay Bhadoo / अजय भादू
(c) R Venkataramani / आर वेंकटरमणि
(d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
(e) Ravi Kumar / रवि कुमार
Ans. e
Sol. Ravi Kumar appointed as CEO of Cognizant
Former Infosys president, Ravi Kumar has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Cognizant with immediate effect.
He has succeeded CEO Brian Humphries, who will be departing from the company on March 15, 2023.
He was the president and COO of Infosys until October 2022, before leaving the company to join Cognizant the following week as President of Cognizant Americas.
The IT Giant Cognizant had previously announced the appointment of Ravi as President of Cognizant Americas, which will be given to Cognizant veteran Surya Gummadi.
He has 20 years of experience in Infosys, where he held various leadership roles.
Recent Appointment
- Director of Meta's Global Business Group in India - Vikas Purohit
- First female Sikh judge in US - Manpreet Monica Singh
- Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee - Chetan Sharma
- Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Saiyam Mehra
- Vice chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Rajesh Rokde
- New Speaker of the US House of Representatives - Kevin McCarthy

187. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Telangana?

तेलंगाना के नए मुख्य सचिव के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया
(b) Pradeep Kharola / प्रदीप खरोला
(c) A. Santhi Kumari / ए शांति कुमारी
(d) Umesh Mishra / उमेश मिश्रा
(e) Parul Goyal / पारुल गोयल

Ans. c

Sol. Santhi Kumari appointed as first woman chief secretary of Telangana

Senior IAS Officer A. Santhi Kumari has been appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Telangana.

Kumari, a 1989 batch IAS officer, became the first woman Chief Secretary of Telangana.

After the DoPT relieved Somesh Kumar from the Telangana cadre, the government appointed Santhi Kumari as the sixth Chief Secretary of the State. She will be in service till April 2025.

She served at the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) for two years overseeing financial inclusion.

Santhi Kumari worked in the Chief Minister's Office for four years as Principal Secretary to the CM and headed the 'Industry Chasing Cell', which is mandated to implement single window industrial clearances under TS-iPASS.

Recent Appointment

- Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) - Dr. Vinay Prakash Singh
- Bihar's state icon by Election Commission - Maithili Thakur
- Command of the IAF Western Command - Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha
- Director General of BSF - Sujoy Lal Thaosen (additional charge)
- Chairperson of the Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) - Dinesh Kumar Shukla
- Engineer-in-Chief of Army - LG Arvind Walia

188. Who has become the first woman officer of the Border Roads Organization (BRO) to be posted on a foreign project?
किसी विदेशी परियोजना पर तैनात होने वाली सीमा सड़क संगठन (BRO) की पहली महिला अधिकारी कौन बनी हैं?

(a) Punita Arora / पुनीता अरोड़ा
(b) Padmavathy Bandopadhyay / पद्मावती बंदोपाध्याय
(c) Vaishali Hiwase / वैशाली हिवासे
(d) Surbhi Jakhmola / सुरभि जखमोला
(e) Bhawana Joshi / भावना जोशी

Ans. d

Sol. Captain Surbhi Jakhmola becomes first woman officer to be posted at BRO

An officer of the 117 Engineer Regiment of the Indian Army, Captain Surabhi Jakhmola has become the first woman officer of the Border Roads Organization (BRO) to be posted on a foreign project.

She has been deployed by BRO under Project Dantak in Bhutan.

The Border Roads Organization (BRO) is an executive road construction force in India that supports the Indian armed forces.

BRO builds and maintains road networks along India's borders and in friendly neighbouring countries. It is also included in the armed forces Order of Battle, ensuring their support at all times.

In order to improve border connectivity, BRO was transferred entirely to the ministry of defence in 2015.

The Indian Air Force recently deployed Squadron Leader Avani Chaturvedi, a woman fighter pilot, to Japan for Veer Guardian 2023 training.

About Border Roads Organization (BRO)

- **Formation -** 7 May 1960
- **Headquarters** - New Delhi
- **Director General** - Rajeev Chaudhary

Recent Appointment

- Chairman of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) - Santosh Kumar Yadav
- CEO of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) - Ganji Kamala Vardhana Rao
- Chief advisor to the Gujarat CM - Hasmukh Adhia
- Chairman of Railway Board - Anil Kumar Lahoti (replace Vinay Kumar Tripathi)
- Captain Indian team at the FIH men's world cup 2023 - Harmanpreet Singh

189. Who has been awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award for his contribution towards community welfare?
सामुदायिक कल्याण के लिए उनके योगदान के लिए प्रवासी भारतीय सम्मान पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Jayathmika Lakshmi / जयत्मिका लक्ष्मी
(b) Yaduraya Wodeyar / यदुरया वोडेयार
(c) Thiru Kumar Nadesan / थिरु कुमार नदेसन
(d) Trishika Kumari Devi / त्रिशिका कुमारी देवी
(e) Pramoda Devi Wadiyar / प्रमोदा देवी वाडियार

Ans. c

Sol. Thiru Nadesan awarded Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2023

Thiru Kumar Nadesan has been awarded the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award for his contribution towards community welfare.

Nadesan had initiated a fundraiser to assist stranded Indian Citizens in Sri Lanka during the Covid outbreak.

He actively promotes business and cultural exchanges between India and Sri Lanka.

He is the second member of Indian diaspora from Sri Lanka to receive the honour.

A delegation of 30 people from Sri Lanka which is the biggest till date, is attending the Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas convention in Indore.

Recent Awards

- Dr. Patangrao Kadam award - Adar Poonawalla
- Lifetime Achievement Award at 15th Jaipur Film Festival - Aparna Sen
- Assam highest civilian award 'AssamBaibhav' - Dr. Tapan Saikia
- 'Best Police Unit' award for 2021 - Jalna and Nagpur Police (Maharastra)
- UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission – Odisha state

190. Hugo Lloris has announced his retirement at the age of 36. He is associated with which of the following sports?
ह्यूगो लोरिस ने 36 वर्ष की आयु में अपनी सेवानिवृत्ति की घोषणा की है। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

(a) Hockey / हॉकी
(b) Tennis / टेनिस
(c) Badminton / बैडमिंटन
(d) Football / फुटबॉल
(e) Cricket / क्रिकेट

Ans. d

Sol. France captain Hugo Lloris retires from international football

France team captain Hugo Lloris has announced his retirement from international football at the age of 36.

Lloris represented France in four World Cups and three Euros and captained Les Blues to the World Cup trophy in 2018.

The 36-year-old holds many records and is France's most-capped player with 145 appearances to his name.

Lloris made his debut for Les Blues back in November 2008. He was handed the armband two years after his international debut and would go on to captain France in 121 matches.

- Gareth Bale - International football – Wales
- Sania Mirza – International Tennis - India
- Farhaan Behardien - International Cricket - South Africa
- Karim Benzema - International football - France
- Ben Stokes - One Day International Cricket - England
- Dinesh Ramdin - International Cricket - West Indies
- Tamim Iqbal - T20 International - Bangladesh
- Lendl Simmons - International Cricket - West Indies
- Eoin Morgan - International Cricket - England
- Mohammad Hafeez - International Cricket - Pakistan

191. Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex has released his memoir titled "Spare". The book has written with the assistance of whom?

ससेक्स के ड्यूक प्रिंस हैरी ने "स्पेयर" शीर्षक से अपना संस्मरण जारी किया है। पुस्तक किसकी सहायता से लिखी गई है?

(a) J. R. Moehringer / जे आर मोहरिंगर
(b) Lily Rabe / लिली राबे
(c) Max Martini / मैक्स मार्टिनी
(d) William Monahan / विलियम मोनाहन
(e) Daniel Ranieri / डेनियल रानियरी

Ans. a

Sol. Prince Harry released his Memoir titled "Spare"

Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex, a member of the British royal family, has released his memoir titled "Spare".

The book was written with the assistance of American novelist J. R. Moehringer.

The book is published by Transworld Publishers Ltd, a division of Penguin Random House.

The book reveals the details of Harry's relationship with his father, King Charles, his elder brother, Prince William, and other members of the royal family.

He announced that his memoir will be used to support British charities.

Recent Book

- Braving A Viral Storm: India's Covid-19 Vaccine Story - Aashish Chandorkar & Suraj Sudhir; released by Mansukh Mandaviya
- Njaan Sakshi' (me as the witness) - K.K. Abdul Gaffar(autobiography); released by MS Dhoni
- Revolutionaries: The Other Story of How India Won Its Freedom - Sanjeev Sanyal
- Chief Minister's Diary No.1. – Released by - Former CJI Ranjan Gogoi; Authored by – Assam CM
- Ambedkar: A Life - Shashi Tharoor

192. Who is the author of the book "Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies"?

"इरफान खान: ए लाइफ इन मूवीज" पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

(a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन
(b) Shubhra Gupta / शुभ्रा गुप्ता
(c) Shashi Tharoor / शशि थरूर
(d) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत
(e) Pulapre Balakrishnan / पुलाप्रे बालकृष्णन

Ans. b

Sol. A book titled Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies author by Shubhra Gupta

A Well-known film critic and author, Shubhra Gupta has announced her new book "Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies".

The book describes actor Irrfan Khan's life and achievements, starting from his days at the prestigious National School of Drama (NSD) to his nearly decade-long stint in television and his gradual ascent in the film industry.

The book will be released in March 2023.

Khan featured in many commercially successful films that were also critically acclaimed including "Pan Singh Tomar" (2012), which won him the National Film Award for Best Actor, "Haider" (2014), "Piku" (2015) and "Hindi Medium" (2017).

Recent Book

- Human Anatomy - written by Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi; released by Governor of MP
- Njaan Sakshi' (me as the witness) - K.K. Abdul Gaffar(autobiography); released by MS Dhoni
- Forks in the Road: My Days at RBI and Beyond - C. Rangarajan
- The Indian Navy@75 Reminiscing the Voyage - Ranjit B Rai and Aritra Banerjee
- Fit At Any Age – Launched Retd. Air Marshal PV Iyer

193. The Indian Armed Forces have celebrated which edition of the Armed Forces Veterans' Day on 14 January 2023?

भारतीय सशस्त्र बलों ने 14 जनवरी 2023 को सशस्त्र सेना पूर्व सैनिक दिवस का कौन सा संस्करण मनाया है?

(a) 6th

(b) 7th

(c) 8th

(d) 9th

(e) 10th

Ans. b

Sol. 14 January 2023 - 7th Armed Forces Veterans Day

The Indian Armed Forces celebrated the 7th Armed Forces Veterans' Day on 14 January 2023.

Veterans' Day is celebrated in recognition of the services rendered by the First Commander-in-Chief of Indian Armed Forces, Field Marshal KM Cariappa, who retired on this day in 1953.

This year the event is being celebrated at nine locations across the country, namely Juhunjhunu, Jalandhar, Panagarh, New Delhi, Dehradun, Chennai, Chandigarh, Bhubaneshwar and Mumbai by three Service Headquarters.

The event in Chennai has presided over by Raksha Rajya Mantri.

The First Armed Forces Veterans Day was celebrated on 14 January 2016 and it was decided to commemorate this day every year by hosting such interactive events in honor of our Armed Forces Veterans and their families.

194. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually flagged off the 8th Vande Bharata Express train connecting Secunderabad with which city?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने सिकंदराबाद को किस शहर से जोड़ने वाली 8 वीं वंदे भारत एक्सप्रेस ट्रेन को वस्तुतः हरी झंडी दिखाई?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
(b) Kochi / कोच्चि
(c) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम
(d) Vishakhapatnam / विशाखापत्तनम
(e) Kolkata / कोलकाता

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi flagged off Secunderabad-Visakhapatnam Vande Bharat Express train

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually flagged off the Vande Bharata Express train connecting Secunderabad with Vishakhapatnam.

The train will be the eighth Vande Bharat Express to be introduced by Indian Railways and the first one to connect the two Telugu-speaking States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

The first Vande Bharat Express train was flagged off in February 2019 between New Delhi to Varanasi.

The Vande Bharat train between Secunderabad and Visakhapatnam will cover a distance of around 700 kilometres in around eight hours.

It will have stoppages at Visakhapatnam, Rajahmundry and Vijayawada stations in Andhra Pradesh and at Khammam, Warangal and Secunderabad stations in Telangana.

Under the Make in India initiative, a target has been set to manufacture 400 Vande Bharat trains in the coming years.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival at Hubbali in Karnataka
- PM Modi virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- PM Modi chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi
- PM Modi launched world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Assam
- PM Modi flagged off West Bengal's first Vande Bharata Express train (7th)
- PM Modi flagged off 6th Vande Bharat train in Nagpur, Maharashtra

195. In which city the first G-20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) meeting under G20 India Presidency will be held on 16-17 January 2023?

16-17 जनवरी 2023 को G20 इंडिया प्रेसीडेंसी के तहत पहली G-20 इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर वर्किंग ग्रुप (IWG) की बैठक किस शहर में होगी?

(a) Pune / पुणे
(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. a

Sol. G20's first Infrastructure Working Group meeting to be held in Pune

The first G-20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) meeting under G20 India Presidency is scheduled to be held from 16th-17th January 2023 in Pune.

The forum will bring together the IWG member countries, guest countries and international organizations invited by India to discuss the 2023 Infrastructure Agenda under the Indian G20 Presidency.

The meeting will be hosted by the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India along with Australia and Brazil as the co-chairs.

The Indian G20 Presidency's theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future' sets the tone for the 2023 Infrastructure Agenda under the 2023 Indian G-20 Presidency.

The theme underlines the message of equitable growth and aptly ties up with the central agenda of the discussions which is building resilient, inclusive, and sustainable urban infrastructure.

In the Pune meeting, discussions will focus on the agenda for the Infrastructure Working Group under the Indian Presidency.

The flagship priority to be discussed in this meeting is "Financing Cities of Tomorrow: Inclusive, Resilient and Sustainable".

- IISc Bengaluru will serve as the secretariat for Science 20 (S20), one of the G20's multiple groupings.
- First G-20 meeting to take place in Puducherry on Jan 31.
- G20 Foreign Ministers to meet in New Delhi in March 2023
- Anurag Singh Thakur launched the themes of the Y20 summit, logo, and website in New Delhi.
- First meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group of G20 begins in Kolkata.

196. Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the 'Soul of Steel' challenge in which state on the occasion of Armed Forces Veterans Day?

रक्षा मंत्री राजनाथ सिंह ने सशस्त्र बल पूर्व सैनिक दिवस के अवसर पर किस राज्य में 'सोल ऑफ स्टील' चुनौती शुरू की है?

(a) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश

(b) Sikkim / सिक्किम

(c) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. e

Sol. 'Soul of Steel' challenge launched in Uttarakhand

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh has launched the 'Soul of Steel' challenge in Dehradun, Uttarakhand on the occasion of Armed Forces Veterans Day.

The 'Soul of steel' challenge is based on the lines of the 'Ironman triathlon', a long-distance triathlon held in Europe which tests an individual's physical capabilities.

The CLAW Global was set up in January 2019 by Major (retd.) Vivek Jacob, a retired para Special Forces officer.

The initiative is aimed at enabling life skill training and youth development. It is also expected to boost global promotion of adventure tourism in Uttarakhand

The general area of the expedition would be the Nanda Devi national park, which has several peaks which are over 7,000ft.

The Indian Army plans to organize the 'Soul of steel' challenge at least once every year. Anyone between the age group of 18-30 can apply for the challenge that would be spread across a duration of three months.

The idea behind Soul of Steel is pooling of skill sets and creating a challenge that will unlock the human ability to survive, stabilize and thrive in high-altitude areas.

About Uttarakhand

- **Capital -** Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)
- **Chief Minister** - Pushkar Singh Dhami
- **Governor -** Gurmit Singh

Union Ministers in News

- Dr. Virendra Kumar inaugurated the **SHILP SAMAGAM-2022** in New Delhi.
- G Kishan Reddy inaugurated the 11th edition of the **Manipur Sangai Festival.**
- G. Kishan Reddy inaugurated the **sixth edition of Ganga Utsav 2022** in New Delhi.
- Rajnath Singh inaugurated the **100 metre-Siyom Bridge in Siang district of Arunachal Pradesh.**
- Rajnath Singh launched '**Maa Bharati Ke Sapoot**' website

197. Piyush Goyal will launch the MAARG platform to facilitate mentorship between startups and entrepreneurs across sectors, stages, and functions. What does the stand for M in MAARG?

पीयूष गोयल सेक्टरों, चरणों और कार्यों में स्टार्टअप्स और उद्यमियों के बीच सलाह की सुविधा के लिए MAARG प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च करेंगे। MAARG में M का क्या मतलब है?

(a) Membership
(b) Money
(c) Micro
(d) Mentorship
(e) Management

Ans. d

Sol. Piyush Goyal to launch MAARG portal for startup mentorship

Union Commerce and industry minister Piyush Goyal will launch the MAARG platform (Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth)

The portal will facilitate mentorship between startups and entrepreneurs across sectors, stages, and functions.

It will facilitate mentorship between start-ups and entrepreneurs across sectors, stages, and functions. The matchmaking phase of the portal will allow start-ups to connect with mentors and discuss their mentorship needs.

Goyal will also announce the results of the National Startup Awards 2022.

The winning startups will be given a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh.

One exceptional Incubator and one Accelerator each will also get a cash prize of Rs 15 lakh.

Piyush Goyal in News

- Piyush Goyal participated **13th Ministerial Meeting of the India-US Trade Policy Forum** in Washington DC, USA.
- Piyush Goel launched Portal for mapping of **Industrial Units and Laboratories for BIS**
- Piyush Goel launched **right to repair portal** for consumers in New Delhi
- Piyush Goyal co-chairs **India-US CEO Forum**
- Piyush Goyal inaugurated **41st edition of the India International Trade Fair (IITF)** in New Delhi

198. Union Minister for Labour and Employment Bhupender Yadav has inaugurated the Regional Office of EPFO in which district of Rajasthan state recently?

केंद्रीय श्रम और रोजगार मंत्री भूपेंद्र यादव ने हाल ही में राजस्थान राज्य के किस जिले में ईपीएफओ के क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Bhiwadi / भिवाड़ी
(b) Khushkhera / खुशखेड़ा
(c) Khairthal / खैरथल
(d) Jaipur / जयपुर
(e) Alwar / अलवर

Ans. e

Sol. Bhupender Yadav inaugurated Regional Office of EPFO at Alwar

Union Minister for Labour and Employment, Forest, Environment and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav has inaugurated the Regional Office of EPFO at Alwar, Rajasthan.

The Regional Office will help more than 2 lakh workers, 12,000 establishments, and 8,500 pensioners from Alwar and the neighboring districts of Bharatpur and Dholpur.

The major industrial areas served by Regional Office are Bhiwadi, Khushkhera, Tapukara, Karoli, Neemrana, Behror, Gheelot, and Khairthal.

About EPFO

Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) is a statutory organization set up under the Union Ministry of Labour and Employment was set up in 1951 by an Ordinance issued by the President.

It is the country's largest social security organization.

EPFO assists the Central Board of Trustees in the administration of a provident fund scheme, pension scheme and insurance scheme for the registered establishments in India.

- **Capital –** Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Ashok Gehlot
- **Governor –** Kalraj Mishra

Union Minister in News

- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication in Agartala, Tripura.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated 'Ayush Utsav' in Kashmir
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated Unani Institute in Silchar
- Bhupender Yadav to lead Indian delegation at COP27 in Egypt
- Bhupender Yadav chaired the 189th meeting of ESIC

199. Who has announced the "Aarogya Maitri" project during the Voice of Global South Summit?

वॉयस ऑफ ग्लोबल साउथ समिट के दौरान "आरोग्य मैत्री" परियोजना की घोषणा किसने की?

(a) Narendra Modi / *नरेंद्र मोदी*

(b) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह

(c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

(d) Ajit Doval / अजीत डोभाल

(e) S Jaishankar / एस जयशंकर

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi announced 'Aarogya Maitri' project

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced a new 'Aarogya Maitri' project under which India will provide essential medical supplies to any developing country affected by natural disasters or humanitarian crisis.

PM Modi announced the "Aarogya Maitri" project during the Voice of Global South Summit

He also proposed setting up a 'centre of excellence' to facilitate development solutions to these countries.

Also, India will launch the Global South Science and Technology Initiative to share its expertise in space technology.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi participated in the historic programme marking 'Veer Bal Diwas' in Delhi
- PM Modi addressed 75th Amrut Mahotsav of Shree Swaminarayan Gurukul Rajkot Sansthan
- PM Modi inaugurated projects worth Rs 6,800 crore in Tripura, Meghalaya
- PM Modi launched projects worth Rs 75,000 cr in Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated the first phase of the international airport at Mopa in north Goa.

200. Which company has signed non-binding MoUs with the Uttar Pradesh government to extend financial assistance for various projects during UP Global Investors Summit in Delhi?

किस कंपनी ने दिल्ली में यूपी ग्लोबल इन्वेस्टर्स समिट के दौरान विभिन्न परियोजनाओं के लिए वित्तीय सहायता देने के लिए उत्तर प्रदेश सरकार के साथ गैर-बाध्यकारी समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) ReNew Power / रिन्यू पावर
(b) TP renewable Microgrid / टीपी रिन्यूएबल माइक्रोग्रिड
(c) JSW Energy / जेएसडब्ल्यू एनर्जी
(d) NTPC Limited / एनटीपीसी लिमिटेड
(e) REC Limited / आरईसी लिमिटेड

Ans. e

Sol. REC signed MoU with UP govt for multiple projects worth Rs 98,853 crore

State-owned REC has signed non-binding MoUs with the Uttar Pradesh government to extend financial assistance for various projects during UP Global Investors Summit in Delhi.

It will help UP in employment generation as well as exponential growth in the state.

These projects include a power plant at a cost of Rs 14,103 crore, with a capacity addition of nearly 3,000 megawatts (MW), pollution control equipment and allied works; transmission projects worth Rs 7,800 crore for strengthening the transmission system and network in the state, and a distribution project of Rs 13,600 crore for strengthening infrastructure, reducing aggregate technical and commercial losses.

REC shared with exchanges also talked about harnessing renewable energy at a cost of Rs 45,350 crore for the addition of 10000 MW capacity and multiple infrastructure development projects in UP state of Rs 20,000 crore across various sectors.

REC, formerly Rural Electrification Corporation, is a subsidiary of Power Finance Corporation under the Union Power ministry. It finances and promotes power projects across India.

The PSU provides loans to central or state sector power utilities in the country, state electricity boards, rural electric cooperatives, NGOs, and private power developers.

About Uttar Pradesh

- **Capital** - Lucknow
- **Chief Minister** – Yogi Adityanath
- **Governor -** Anandiben Patel

Recent MoUs Signed by State Governments

- Meghalaya signed MoU with Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for MSME borrowers
- Haryana government signed an MoU with Dubai for economic cooperation
- Haryana government has launched Nirogi Haryana project
- Finland partnered with Kerala government to replicate Little KITEs model
- IRCTC signed an agreement with Chhattisgarh toursim board to promote tourist spots of state

201. Which state / UTs government has launched a virtual mega book fair for state government schools?

किस राज्य/केंद्र शासित प्रदेश की सरकार ने राज्य के सरकारी स्कूलों के लिए वर्चुअल मेगा बुक फेयर शुरू किया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(b) Delhi / दिल्ली

(c) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर

(d) Ladakh / लद्दाख

(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. b

Sol. Delhi government organized virtual book fair for its schools

Deputy Chief Minister of Delhi Manish Sisodia has inaugurated a virtual mega book fair for Delhi government schools.

The online platform will enable schools under the Directorate of Education to purchase books for their libraries and to ensure that library books reach the school's doorstep.

Delhi is the first in the country where teachers and children of all government schools participate in the virtual fair and select books for their library.

The online platform of the book fair will play a pivotal role and children will be able to get access to the finest books.

At least 340 publishers are participating in the fair and 8,000 books have been included in it.

202. Recently, which state has entered the Guinness Book of World Records by taking 4,500 penalty kicks in 12 hours?
हाल ही में किस राज्य ने 12 घंटे में 4,500 पेनल्टी किक लेकर गिनीज बुक ऑफ वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड में नाम दर्ज किया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. e

Sol. Kerala enters Guinness Book of World Records for goals scored

Kerala has entered the Guinness Book of World Records by taking 4,500 penalty kicks in 12 hours.

The Department of Sports and Youth Affairs organized the event to set the Guinness record for a Dream Goal penalty shootout organized in Manjeri, Kerala.

Many football lovers, students, teachers and others enthusiastically queued up to take the penalty kicks. Officials representing the Guinness Book of World Records were present at the event organised by the State Department of Youth Affairs and Sports.

The Malappuram event obliterated the previous record of 2500 penalty kicks held by Germany.

Former Indian player U. Sharafali took the inaugural kick. Minister for Sports V. Abdurahiman took the last penalty kick of the record.

About Kerala

- **Capital –** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister** – Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor –** Arif Mohammad Khan

203. Which of the following has specified identity standards for basmati rice for the first time?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने पहली बार बासमती चावल के लिए पहचान मानक निर्दिष्ट किए हैं?

(a) NABARD / नाबार्ड

(b) FSSAI / एफएसएसएआई

(c) BIS / बीआईएस

(d) ESIC / ईएसआईसी

(e) FCI / एफसीआई

Ans. b

Sol. FSSAI issues regulatory standards for Basmati Rice for first time

Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has specified identity standards for basmati rice (including brown basmati, milled basmati, parboiled brown basmati, and milled parboiled basmati) for the first time.

As per these standards, Basmati rice shall possess the natural fragrance characteristics of basmati rice and be free from artificial coloring.

These standards will be enforced from August 1.

Basmati rice is a premium variety of rice cultivated in the Himalayan foothills of the Indian subcontinent and is universally known for its long grain size, fluffy texture, and unique inherent aroma and flavour.

About Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

- Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been set up under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.
- Founded - 5 September 2008
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Under - Union Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.
- Chairperson - Rita Teaotia

204. Which of the following country has named Sultan al-Jaber to preside over the upcoming United Nations climate negotiations?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने आगामी संयुक्त राष्ट्र जलवायु वार्ताओं की अध्यक्षता करने के लिए सुल्तान अल-जबर को नामित किया है?

(a) Iran / ईरान
(b) Iraq / इराक
(c) UAE / यूएई
(d) Syria / सीरिया
(e) Saudi Arabia / सऊदी अरब

Ans. c

Sol. UAE names ADNOC oil chief Sultan al-Jaber as President of COP28

The president of the UAE's national oil company Sultan al-Jaber has been named as president of this year's COP28 climate talks. Jaber, also UAE's minister of industry and technology and its climate envoy, will help develop the COP28 agenda and play a central role in intergovernmental negotiations to build consensus.

The UAE, a major OPEC oil exporter, will be the second Arab state to host the climate conference after Egypt hosted the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change's (UNFCCC) 27th Conference of the Parties (COP 27) in 2022.

The chief executive of the ADNOC will be the first CEO to take the role at the UN summit.

Jaber is also the Gulf state's special envoy for climate change and has taken part in more than 10 COP meetings.

About United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- **Capital -** Abu Dhabi
- **Currency** - Dirham
- **President** - Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- **Prime Minister** - Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum

205. Recently, which of the following has sold a 3.1% stake in Indian digital payments firm Paytm for a total of $125 million through a block deal?

हाल ही में, निम्नलिखित में से किसने एक ब्लॉक डील के माध्यम से कुल $125 मिलियन में भारतीय डिजिटल भुगतान फर्म पेटीएम में 3.1% हिस्सेदारी बेची है?

(a) Lazada Group / लाजदा समूह
(b) Banggood.com / बैंगगूड.कॉम
(c) Alibaba Group / अलीबाबा समूह
(d) Taobao / ताओबाओ
(e) Tencent / टेनसेंट

Ans. c

Sol. Alibaba sells Paytm stake worth $125 million via block deal

China's Alibaba Group sold a 3.1% stake in Indian digital payments firm Paytm for a total of $125 million through a block deal.

Alibaba, which held a 6.26% stake in Paytm as of end-September, sold the stake at 536.95 rupees apiece.

Formally known as One97 Communications, Paytm listed in 2021 after a mega $2.5 billion initial public offer (IPO).

Since then, the stock has plunged around 75% from its IPO offer price as investors started questioning the company's monetization plans amid worries about sky-high valuations of tech companies and fears of a global economic recession.

Block deal: Single transaction between two institutional players of a minimum quantity of 5 lakh shares or at least Rs. 5 Crores in value.

It happens at the start of trading hours for about 35 minutes through a separate trading window.

206. Sonia Guajajara has been appointed as the first minister of the new Ministry of Indigenous People of which country recently?

सोनिया गुजाजारा को हाल ही में किस देश के स्वदेशी लोगों के नए मंत्रालय के पहले मंत्री के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
(b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
(c) Brazil / ब्राजील
(d) Finland / फिनलैंड
(e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

Ans. c

Sol. Brazil appoints Sonia Guajajara as 1st minister of indigenous people

Brazil's President-elect Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva announced Sônia Guajajara as the first minister of the new Ministry of Indigenous People.

Sonia Guajajara is widely known as the leader of the main group of Brazil's indigenous tribes and is a member of the Amazon Guajajara.

She was also featured in Time Magazine's annual list of the world's 100 most influential people in 2022.

Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva promised to create the Indigenous cabinet department during his presidential campaign.

On 1st January 2023, he returned to power and he also previously governed Brazil from 2003 to 2010.

- **Capital -** Brasília
- **Currency -** Brazilian Real
- **President -** Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva

Recent Appointment

- First woman president of Indian Olympic Association - PT Usha
- First woman officer to be posted at BRO - Captain Surbhi Jakhmola
- First woman chief secretary of Telangana - Santhi Kumari
- First female Sikh judge in US - Manpreet Monica Singh

207. Who has bagged a gold medal in the 23rd National Sqay Championship Sqay championship?

23वीं नेशनल स्के चैंपियनशिप स्के चैंपियनशिप में किसने स्वर्ण पदक जीता है?

(a) Anahat Singh / अनाहत सिंह
(b) Swasti Singh / स्वस्ति सिंह
(c) Falak Mumtaz / फलक मुमताज
(d) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह
(e) Chahat Arora / चाहत अरोड़ा

Ans. c

Sol. 11-year-old Falak Mumtaz won gold medal at National Sqay Championship

An 11-year-old Kashmiri girl Falak Mumtaz from a far-flung area has won a gold medal at the national level in the Sqay championship in Jammu.

She is currently studying sixth standard at Aisha Ali Academy in Kulgam.

Recently four girls were selected for the Sqay championship.

Falak is the only girl who gave a tremendous performance to win the gold medal.

The 23rd National Sqay Championship was organized by the SQAY Federation of India and hosted by Jammu and Kashmir SQAY Association at Indoor Stadium Bhagwati Nagar, Jammu.

In the 23rd National Sqay Championship, players from all over Jammu and Kashmir performed very well and bagged 1st place in the overall medal tally.

Andhra Pradesh bagged 2nd place and Odisha was in 3rd place.

208. Ronald E. Asher passed away recently at the age of 96. Which year did he win a gold medal from Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Trichur?

रोनाल्ड ई. अशर का हाल ही में 96 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्होंने केरल साहित्य अकादमी, त्रिचूर से किस वर्ष स्वर्ण पदक जीता था?

(a) 1975

(b) 1980

(c) 1983

(d) 1985

(e) 1989

Ans. c

Sol. British linguist Ronald E Ashe passed away

A British linguist and educator specializing in Dravidian languages, Ronald E. Asher passed away at the age of 96.

He won a gold medal from Kerala Sahitya Akademi, Trichur, in 1983 and was honored by the Royal Society, Edinburgh in 1991.

His relationship with Kerala began during his days at the University of London.

He was also a recipient of a medal from the College de France, Paris in 1970.

209. Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has informed that by which year the entire country will be covered by the Doppler weather radar network to predict extreme weather events more accurately?

केंद्रीय मंत्री डॉ. जितेंद्र सिंह ने सूचित किया है कि किस वर्ष तक पूरे देश को डॉपलर मौसम रडार नेटवर्क द्वारा कवर किया जाएगा ताकि चरम मौसम की घटनाओं की अधिक सटीक भविष्यवाणी की जा सके?

(a) 2024
(b) 2025
(c) 2026
(d) 2027
(e) 2028

Ans. b

Sol. Entire country to be covered by doppler weather radar network by 2025

Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh has informed that by 2025, the entire country will be covered by the Doppler weather radar network.

The purpose is to predict extreme weather events more accurately.

The number of Doppler radars in the country has increased from 15 in 2013 to 37 in 2023.

India will set up 25 more radars in the next 2 to 3 years, taking the number to 62.

Doppler weather radar, commonly known as Weather Surveillance Radar (WSR), is a type of radar used to find precipitation, determine its motion, and also the type of precipitation (rain, snow, hail, etc.).

The intensification and frequency of extreme weather events is one of the most evident repercussions of global warming and the usual occurrence of cold waves or heatwaves, heavy precipitation, and droughts are resulting to take a number of human lives as well.

210. Indian Railways has announced to run the Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC Tourist Train to strengthen relations between India and which country?

भारतीय रेलवे ने भारत और किस देश के बीच संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए भारत गौरव डीलक्स एसी टूरिस्ट ट्रेन चलाने की घोषणा की है?

(a) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
(b) Nepal / नेपाल
(c) Bhutan / भूटान
(d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
(e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Railway to run Bharat Gaurav train between Ayodhya and Janakpur

Indian Railways is going to run its Bharat Gaurav Deluxe AC Tourist Train on a very special tour "Shri Ram-Janaki Yatra: Ayodhya to Janakpur" covering two most significant pilgrimage sites Ayodhya and Janakpur from the neighboring countries India and Nepal. The tourist train will start from Delhi on 17th Feb 2023 and this initiative will strengthen the bilateral relations and also promote the cultural relations between the two countries.

The tourist train will include the visit of Nandigram, Sitamarhi, Kashi and Prayagraj as added attractions in the tour.

There will be two-night stay in the hotels, one each at Janakpur and Varanasi respectively, while the visit of Ayodhya, Sitamarhi, and Prayagraj will be covered in the day halt at the destination.

The Bharat Gaurav train was run with the theme 'Dekho Apna Desh'.

About Nepal

- **Capital-** Kathmandu
- **Currency-** Nepalese rupee
- **President**- Bidhya Devi Bhandari
- **Prime minister**- Pushpa Kamal Dahal

211. Who has launched a "Geospatial Hackathon" to promote Innovation and Start-Ups in India's Geospatial ecosystem?
भारत के भू-स्थानिक पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र में नवाचार और स्टार्ट-अप को बढ़ावा देने के लिए "जियोस्पेशियल हैकथॉन" किसने लॉन्च किया है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Hardeep Singh Puri / हरदीप सिंह पुरी
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. c

Sol. Jitendra Singh launched "Geospatial Hackathon"

Union Minister of State Science & Technology Dr. Jitendra Singh has launched a "Geospatial Hackathon" to promote Innovation and Start-Ups in India's Geospatial ecosystem.

Objective - To promote partnerships not only among the public and private geospatial sectors but also to strengthen our country's geospatial Start-Up ecosystem.

The "Geospatial Hackathon" will end on March 10, 2023 and will have two sets of challenges - Research Challenge and Startup Challenge.

Recent Inauguration by Jitendra Singh

- Jitendra Singh inaugurated Incubation Centre at NRDC
- Jitendra Singh launched revamped probity portal 'e-HRM 2.0
- Jitendra Singh announced 'One Week One Lab' campaign
- Jitendra Singh launched portal for PM's Excellence Awards
- Jitendra Singh inaugurated a conference on women's leadership
- Jitendra Singh inaugurated 'Prashasan Gaon ki Ore' campaign

212. Recently, India has announced the donation of 12,500 doses of pentavalent vaccines to which country?

हाल ही में, भारत ने किस देश को पेंटावैलेंट टीकों की 12,500 खुराक दान करने की घोषणा की है?

(a) Cuba / क्यूबा
(b) Ghana / घाना
(c) Sudan / सूडान
(d) Zimbabwe / जिम्बाब्वे
(e) Oman / ओमान

Ans. a

Sol. India announced the donation of pentavalent vaccines to Cuba

India has announced, the donation of 12,500 doses of pentavalent vaccines to Cuba.

The pentavalent vaccine provides protection to a child from five life-threatening diseases Diphtheria, Pertussis, Tetanus, Hepatitis B and Hib.

It was announced during the Minister of State for External Affairs Meenakshi Lekhi's official visit to Cuba.

Both the leaders discussed various issues including, the development of indigenous vaccines against Covid and woman empowerment

About Cuba

- **Capital-** Havana
- **Currency-** Cuban Peso
- **President**- Miguel Diaz-Canel
- **Prime Minister**- Manuel Marrero Cruz
- **Official language**- Spanish

213. Which of the following state has become the first state to implement a policy to control blindness, with the objective of ensuring the "right to sight"?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा राज्य "दृष्टि के अधिकार" को सुनिश्चित करने के उद्देश्य से अंधेपन को नियंत्रित करने के लिए नीति लागू करने वाला पहला राज्य बन गया है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
(b) Gujarat / गुजरात
(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
(d) Punjab / पंजाब
(e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. c

Sol. Rajasthan becomes first state to implement blindness control policy

Rajasthan has become the first state to implement a policy to control blindness, with the objective of ensuring the "right to sight". The policy has been introduced with the aim to bring light in the lives of more than three lakh people suffering from visual impairment in the state.

The prevalence rate of blindness in the country was 1.1 percent in 2020 and work would be done to bring it down to 0.3 percent through the blindness control policy.

Under the policy, the Rajasthan government will mandatorily run Keratoplasty Centres and Eye Banks at all government medical colleges.

Also, cornea collected by private organizations and NGOs getting financial help from the government will have to be provided to the government institutions on priority.

About Rajasthan

- **Capital –** Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Ashok Gehlot
- **Governor –** Kalraj Mishra

214. The richest one percent in India now own more than _____ of the country's total wealth, according to Oxfam report.
ऑक्सफैम की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत में सबसे अमीर एक प्रतिशत के पास अब देश की कुल संपत्ति का _____ से अधिक है।

(a) 20%
(b) 30%
(c) 40%
(d) 50%
(e) 60%

Ans. c

Sol. India's richest 1% own more than 40% of total wealth: Oxfam

The richest one percent in India now own more than 40 percent of the country's total wealth, while the bottom half of the population together share just 3 percent of wealth, according to Oxfam report

A one-off tax on unrealized gains from 2017–2021 on just one billionaire, Gautam Adani, could have raised Rs 1.79 lakh crore, enough to employ more than five million Indian primary school teachers for a year.

The report titled 'Survival of the Richest' further said that if India's billionaires are taxed once at 2 percent on their entire wealth, it would support the requirement of Rs 40,423 crore for the nutrition of malnourished in the country for the next three years.

A one-time tax of 5 percent on the 10 richest billionaires in the country (Rs 1.37 lakh crore) is more than 1.5 times the funds estimated by the Health and Family Welfare Ministry (Rs 86,200 crore) and the Ministry of Ayush (Rs 3,050 crore) for the year 2022-23.

On gender inequality, the report said that female workers earned only 63 paise for every 1 rupee a male worker earned.

215. Which edition of the annual World Economic Forum Summit has begun in Davos, Switzerland from 16 to 20 January 2023?
16 से 20 जनवरी 2023 तक स्विट्जरलैंड के दावोस में वार्षिक विश्व आर्थिक मंच शिखर सम्मेलन का कौन सा संस्करण शुरू हुआ है?

(a) 50th
(b) 51st
(c) 52nd
(d) 53rd
(e) 54th

Ans. d

Sol. World Economic Forum 2023 Summit begins in Davos

The 53rd edition of the annual World Economic Forum Summit has begun in Davos, Switzerland from 16 to 20 January 2023.

The five-day-long conclave featuring business leaders, political figureheads, investors and academics is being held physically for the first time in three years.More than 2,700 delegates are expected to convene at Davos during the mega summit.

The theme of this year's meet is 'Cooperation in a fragmented world'. Besides this raging issues like the Russia-Ukraine war, global recession, climate change, and spike in the cost of living are among the key issues to be discussed.

A delegation of Indian Ministers Union ministers including Ashwini Vaishnaw, Mansukh Mandaviya, Smriti Irani, and RK Singh would be present during the event.

About Switzerland

- Capital - Bern
- Currency -Swiss franc
- Prime Minister- Ueli Maurer
- President - Ignazio Cassis
- Official languages - French, German, Italian, Romansh

About World Economic Forum (WEF)

- **Founded** - 24 January 1971
- **Founder-** Klaus Schwab
- **Headquarters-** Cologny, Switzerland
- **President**- Borge Brende

216. The wholesale price-based inflation has declined to how much percent in December 2022?

थोक मूल्य आधारित मुद्रास्फीति दिसंबर 2022 में घटकर कितने प्रतिशत रह गई है?

(a) 4.95%
(b) 3.95%
(c) 4.85%
(d) 3.85%
(e) 4.75%

Ans. a

Sol. WPI inflation eased to 4.95 percent in December 2022

The wholesale price-based inflation declined to 4.95 percent in December 2022, mainly due to fall in prices of food articles and crude petroleum.

The Wholesale Price Index (WPI)-based inflation was 5.85 percent in November 2022 and 14.27 percent in December 2021.

Inflation in food articles was (-)1.25 percent, while in fuel and power, it was 18.09 percent during December 2022. Inflation in manufactured products was 3.37 percent during the month.

The decline in the rate of inflation in December 2022 is primarily contributed by fall in prices of food articles, mineral oils, crude petroleum & natural gas, food products, textiles and chemicals & chemical products.

Recent WPI-based Wholesale inflation in India

- **January-** 12.96%
- **February-** 13.11%
- **March-** 14.55%
- **April-** 15.08%
- **May-** 15.88%
- **June** - 15.18%
- **July** - 13.93%
- **August** – 12.41%
- **September –** 10.07%
- **October** – 8.39%
- **November –** 5.85%
- **December –** 4.95%

217. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Economist of Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)?
आर्थिक सहयोग और विकास संगठन (OECD) के नए मुख्य अर्थशास्त्री के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Thierry Weil / थिएरी वेल
(b) Borge Brende / बोर्ज ब्रेंडे
(c) Clare Lombardelli / क्लेयर लोम्बार्डेली
(d) Achim Steiner/ अचिम स्टेनर
(e) Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala / न्गोज़ी ओकोन्जो-इवेला

Ans. c

Sol. UK Treasury Adviser Clare appointed as OECD Chief Economist

UK's Clare Lombardelli has been appointed as the new Chief Economist of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). She will replace France's Laurence Boone, who has held the post since 2018.

She is currently UK Treasury's chief economic adviser.

Lombardelli has 20 years of experience in economic analysis. She will lead the OECD's economic work, replacing France's Laurence Boone, who has held the post since 2018.

About Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

- Founded - 1960
- Headquarters – Paris (France)
- Member Countries - 38
- Objective- To encourage economic progress and world trade
- India is not a member of OECD.

Recent Appointment

- CEO of Cognizant - Ravi Kumar
- Director of Meta's Global Business Group in India - Vikas Purohit
- Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee - Chetan Sharma
- Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Saiyam Mehra
- Vice chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Rajesh Rokde
- New Speaker of the US House of Representatives - Kevin McCarthy

218. Who has been named the winner of the 71st annual Miss Universe pageant?

71वीं वार्षिक मिस यूनिवर्स प्रतियोगिता का विजेता किसे घोषित किया गया है?

(a) R'Bonney Gabriel / आर'बोनी गेब्रियल

(b) Harnaaz Sandhu / हरनाज संधू

(c) Cheslie Kryst / चेस्ली क्रिस्ट

(d) Anna Sueangam-iam / अन्ना सुएंगम-इयाम

(e) Morgan Romano / मॉर्गन रोमानो

Ans. a

Sol. Miss USA R'Bonney Gabriel crowned the new Miss Universe

R'Bonney Gabriel has been named the winner of the 71st annual Miss Universe pageant.

In second place was Miss Venezuela Amanda Dudamel, followed by Miss Dominican Republic Andreina Martinez.

She is also the first Filipina American to win Miss USA.

This year's Miss Universe pageant allowed married women and mothers to compete for the first time in its 70-year history.

219. Who has received the first-ever Federal Bank Literary Award 2022 for his autobiography 'Oranweshananthinte Katha'?
अपनी आत्मकथा 'ओरनवेशनंथिनते कथा' के लिए सबसे पहले फेडरल बैंक लिटरेरी अवार्ड 2022 किसे मिला है?

(a) Pradeep Kharola / प्रदीप खरोला
(b) Aryama Sundaram / आर्यमा सुंदरम
(c) R Venkataramani / आर वेंकटरमणि
(d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
(e) K Venu / के वेणु

Ans. e

Sol. Writer K Venu received Federal Bank Literary Award 2023

Noted writer K Venu has bagged the first-ever Federal Bank Literary Award 2022 for his autobiography 'Oranweshananthinte Katha'.

The award was presented by the chairman and independent director of the Federal Bank, Balagopal Chandrasekhar.

It was presented at an event held as part of the ongoing sixth edition Kerala Literature Festival, Kozhikode beach.

The prize money was handed over by Nandakumar V (executive vice-president of the bank).

Recent Awards

- Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award - Thiru Kumar Nadesan
- Dr. Patangrao Kadam award - Adar Poonawalla
- Lifetime Achievement Award at 15th Jaipur Film Festival - Aparna Sen
- Assam highest civilian award 'AssamBaibhav' - Dr. Tapan Saikia
- 'Best Police Unit' award for 2021 - Jalna and Nagpur Police (Maharastra)

220. Who has become the fifth-highest run-scorer in the history of ODI cricket recently?

हाल ही में ODI क्रिकेट के इतिहास में पाँचवाँ सबसे अधिक रन बनाने वाला खिलाड़ी कौन बना है?

(a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
(b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
(c) KL Rahul / केएल राहुल
(d) Dinesh Karthik / दिनेश कार्तिक
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. a

Sol. Virat Kohli becomes 5th highest run scorer in ODI cricket

Indian cricketer Virat Kohli has become the fifth-highest run-scorer in the history of ODI cricket after overtaking Sri Lankan legend Mahela Jayawardene (12,650 runs in 448 matches) to enter the top five.

He scored this during India's third and final ODI of the series against Sri Lanka in Kerala.

Virat had 12,652 runs in 268 ODIs at an average of 57.78, with 45 tons and 65 half-centuries.

As per records, the highest run-scorer in ODI history is Indian legend Sachin Tendulkar, who has scored 18,426 runs at an average of 44.83. He has 49 centuries and 96 fifties in this format, with the best of 200*.

Followed by Sachin, Sri Lankan great Kumar Sangakkara (14,234 runs in 404 matches), Australian great Ricky Ponting (13,704), Sri Lankan all-rounder Sanath Jayasuriya (13,430 in 445 matches), and Virat.

221. Who won the Bangkok Open Men's double tennis championship, held at Nonthaburi, Thailand?

थाईलैंड के नोंथबुरी में आयोजित बैंकॉक ओपन मेन्स डबल टेनिस चैंपियनशिप किसने जीती?

(a) Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni / युकी भांबरी और साकेत माइनेनी
(b) Ramkumar Ramanathan and Saketh Myneni / रामकुमार रामनाथन और साकेत माइनेनी
(c) Purav Raja and Saketh Myneni / पूरव राजा और साकेत माइनेनी
(d) Saketh Myneni and Divij Sharan / साकेत माइनेनी और दिविज शरण
(e) Divij Sharan and Yuki Bhambri / दिविज शरण और युकी भांबरी

Ans. a

Sol. Yuki Bhambri, Saketh Myneni won Bangkok Open tennis title 2023

The Indian tennis pair of Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni has won the Bangkok Open Men's double tennis championship, held at Nonthaburi, Thailand.

Bhambri-Saket, playing their seventh final as a pair, beat Indonesian Christopher Rungkat and Australian Akira Santillan 2-6, 7-6, 14-12.

This is their sixth title together on the ATP Challenger Tour.

They will compete in the Australian Open 2023, the season's first Grand Slam-where they have been given a wild card entry.

222. National Startup Day is celebrated every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय स्टार्टअप दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 16 January / 16 जनवरी

(b) 17 January / 17 जनवरी

(c) 18 January / 18 जनवरी

(d) 14 January / 14 जनवरी

(e) 15 January / 15 जनवरी

Ans. a

Sol. 16 January - National Startup Day

National Startup Day is celebrated every year on 16 January.

Objective - To promote and encourage upcoming businesses in the country.

On January 15, 2022, PM Modi first announced the adoption of the day.

To celebrate this day, the Ministry of Commerce has organized Startup India Innovation Week from 10 to 16 January 2023.

On this day, several events are being organized in more than 75 places.

223. India Meteorological Department (IMD) has celebrated which of its Foundation Day on 15 January 2023?

भारत मौसम विज्ञान विभाग (IMD) ने 15 जनवरी 2023 को अपना कौन सा स्थापना दिवस मनाया है?

(a) 150th

(b) 149th

(c) 148th

(d) 147th

(e) 146th

Ans. c

Sol. 15 January 2023 – 148th Foundation Day of India Meteorological Department (IMD)

The 148th Foundation Day of India Meteorological Department (IMD) has celebrated on 15 Jan 2023 in New Delhi.

IMD is the chief government agency dealing in meteorology, seismology, and associated subjects.

IMD has the legacy of maintaining weather and climate records and is monitoring & predicting the weather since its inception 148 years ago on 15 January 1875.

During 148 years of its existence, the department has served the cause of safety and well-being of Indian population against weather related hazards and helped in the economic development of the country.

Headquarters - New Delhi

IMD works under the Ministry of Earth Sciences.

224. The First Health Working Group meeting under G-20 India Presidency will be held from the 18-20 Jan 2023 in which of the following city?

G-20 इंडिया प्रेसीडेंसी के तहत पहली स्वास्थ्य कार्य समूह की बैठक 18-20 जनवरी 2023 को निम्नलिखित में से किस शहर में आयोजित की जाएगी?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
(c) Chennai / चेन्नई
(d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
(e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. e

Sol. First G20 Health Working Group meet to be held in Kerala

The First Health Working Group meeting under G-20 India Presidency will be held from the 18-20 Jan 2023 in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.The three-day meeting will focus on thematic discussions on three main priorities, health emergencies prevention, preparedness and response, strengthening cooperation in the pharmaceutical sector, and digital health innovations to aid universal health coverage.

The meeting will be attended by representatives of G20 member countries, special invitee countries, and relevant international organizations.

An exhibition to showcase the achievements of India's health programmes and a side event on Medical Value Travel to showcase the need for promoting holistic, value-based medical travel will also be organized as part of the HWG meeting.

225. As part of the G-20 presidency, a Business-20 (B-20) inception meeting will be organized at which city from 22 to 24 January 2023?

G-20 अध्यक्षता के भाग के रूप में, 22 से 24 जनवरी 2023 तक किस शहर में एक Business-20 (B-20) स्थापना बैठक आयोजित की जाएगी?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Gandhinagar / गांधीनगर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. B-20 inception meeting to be organized in Gandhinagar

As part of the G-20 presidency, a Business-20 (B-20) inception meeting will be organized at Gandhinagar in Gujarat from 22- 24 January 2023.

The meeting will be held to formulate policy recommendations to be submitted to G-20 ahead of the leaders' Summit. This will be the first of 15 events that the State is set to organize as part of India's G-20 presidency.The inaugural ceremony of the B-20 inception meeting will be attended by Union Ministers Piyush Goyal and Ashwini Vaishnaw, State Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel, India's Sherpa to G-20 Amitabh Kant and Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran.

More than 150 policy-makers, business executives, CEOs, and senior executives representing enterprises from G-20 countries will take part in the inaugural meeting.

226. Think-20 meeting under the G-20 has begun in which city of India?

G-20 के तहत थिंक-20 बैठक भारत के किस शहर में शुरू हुई है?

(a) Varanasi / वाराणसी

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhopal / भोपाल

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. 'Think 20' meeting under G20 began in Bhopal

The two-day Think-20 meeting under the G-20 is started at the Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Center in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh (MP).

The first Think-20 meeting in MP has inaugurated by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan.

94 international delegates, 115 from different states and about 100 local participants will be involved in discussions.

During the meeting, experts and foreign guests will discuss various topics including Global Governance with LiFE, Values, and Wellbeing.

The G20, or Group of 20, is an intergovernmental forum of the world's major developed and developing economies.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

G20 in News

- IISc Bengaluru will serve as the secretariat for Science 20 (S20), one of the G20's multiple groupings.
- First G-20 meeting to take place in Puducherry on Jan 31
- G20 Foreign Ministers to meet in New Delhi in March 2023
- Anurag Singh Thakur launched the themes of the Y20 summit, logo, and website in New Delhi.
- First meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group of G20 begins in Kolkata.
- G20's first Infrastructure Working Group meeting to be held in Pune from 16th-17th January 2023.

227. Maghi Mela festival has celebrated in which state?

माघी मेला उत्सव किस राज्य में मनाया जाता है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Punjab / पंजाब

(e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. d

Sol. Maghi Mela festival being held in Punjab

Maghi Mela festival is being celebrated in Muktsar Sahib, Punjab.

The Maghi Mela has been celebrated in the city of Sri Muktsar Sahib in Punjab for centuries in memory of the 40 Sikh warriors who died fighting the Mughals in the Battle of Khidrana in 1705.

The battle took place near a pool of water, Khidrane di Dhab, on 29th Dec 1705.

The Khidrana War began when in 1704, during the siege of Anandpur Sahib by the Mughals, 40 Sikh soldiers deserted their posts.

About Punjab

- **Capital –** Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Bhagwant Mann
- **Governor –** Banwarilal Purohit

228. NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd has signed an MoU with which state for the Development of Floating and Ground Mounted based Renewable Energy Projects?

एनटीपीसी रिन्यूएबल एनर्जी लिमिटेड ने फ्लोटिंग और ग्राउंड माउंटेड अक्षय ऊर्जा परियोजनाओं के विकास के लिए किस राज्य के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. a

Sol. NTPC REL signs MoU with Tripura for collaboration in Renewable Energy

NTPC Renewable Energy Ltd (NTPC REL) has signed an MoU with the Government of Tripura for the Development of Floating and Ground Mounted based Renewable Energy Projects in the State of Tripura.

The MoU was signed by Shri Rajiv Gupta, Chief General Manager, NTPC REL and Shri Mahananda Debbarma, Director General and CEO, Tripura Renewable Energy Development Agency.

This MoU embarks upon the journey towards development of large sized Renewable Energy Projects in the State of Tripura and shall help Govt of Tripura in meeting its Clean Energy Commitments and obligations.

About Tripura

- **Capital –** Agartala
- **Chief Minister -** Manik Sarkar
- **Governor –** Satyadeo Narain Arya

Recent MoUs signed by State Government

- REC signed MoU with UP govt for multiple projects worth Rs 98,853 crore
- Meghalaya signed MoU with Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for MSME borrowers
- Haryana government signed an MoU with Dubai for economic cooperation
- Haryana government has launched Nirogi Haryana project
- Finland partnered with Kerala government to replicate Little KITEs model

229. Which of the following film will be screened at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Film Festival in January 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी फिल्म जनवरी 2023 में शंघाई सहयोग संगठन फिल्म महोत्सव में दिखाई जाएगी?

(a) Saala Khadoos / साला खडूस
(b) Patiala House / पटियाला हाउस
(c) Toolsidas Junior / टूलीदास जूनियर
(d) Apne / अपने
(e) Jhund / झुंड

Ans. c

Sol. Film 'Toolsidas Junior' to be screened at SCO Film Festival 2023

National Award-winning movie "Toolsidas Junior" will be screened at the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Film Festival in the Children Focus Section. National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) in association with the Shanghai Cooperation Organization Film Festival will be hosting the screening. The festival will take place from January 27 to January 31 in Mumbai.

'Toolsidas Junior' has already won two National Awards- Best Hindi Film and Special Mention in Child Actor Category for the leading child actor Varun Buddhadev.

Marking the last film of late veteran actor Rajiv Kapoor, 'Toolsidas Junior' is the first sports film to highlight snooker and traces the story of a young boy determined to return the glory of his father.

The film was produced by Ashutosh Gowariker, Sunita Gowariker, Bhushan Kumar, and Krishan Kumar, and directed and written by Mridul Toolsidass.

About Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

- **Founded** - 2001
- **Headquarters** - Beijing, China
- **Secretary General** - Zhang Ming (China)
- **Member Countries** - 9 (Iran, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan & Uzbekistan)
- SCO Summit 2021 - Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- SCO Summit 2022 - Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
- SCO Summit to be hosted by the Indian side in 2023
- The founding members (5) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) were China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and Tajikistan. India and Pakistan officially joined this organization in 2017

230. Recently, the biggest decline in the population of China has been recorded after which year?
हाल ही में चीन की जनसंख्या में सबसे बड़ी गिरावट किस वर्ष के बाद दर्ज की गई है?
(a) 1941
(b) 1951
(c) 1961
(d) 1971
(e) 1981
Ans. c
Sol. China's population drops for first time since 1961
The biggest decline in the population of China has been recorded after the year 1961
China had 1.41 billion people at the end of last year, 850,000 fewer than the end of 2021, according to data released by the National Statistics Bureau.
That marks the first drop since 1961, the final year of the Great Famine under former leader Mao Zedong.
China's birth rate, or the number of newborns per 1,000 people, declined to 6.77 last year, the lowest level since at least 1978.
The main reason for China's population decline is the one-child policy implemented between 1980 and 2015.
Additionally, higher education in China is very expensive, which has prohibited many Chinese people from having more than one child.

About China

- **Capital –** Beijing
- **Currency –** Yuan
- **President -** Xi Jinping

231. Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) has signed an MoU with which bank to help farmers in getting low-interest-rate loans?

वेयरहाउसिंग डेवलपमेंट रेगुलेटरी अथॉरिटी (WDRA) ने किसानों को कम ब्याज दर पर ऋण प्राप्त करने में मदद करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) State Bank of India / भारतीय स्टेट बैंक
(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
(c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
(e) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. WDRA signed MoU with SBI to help farmers

Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) has signed an MoU with the State Bank of India to help farmers in getting low interest-rate loans. The objective of the MoU is to provide information on the benefits to the depositors besides carrying out further activities to improve agricultural finance in India.

It is envisaged that the product will have far-reaching consequences with regard to the acceptance of e-NWRs (electronic Negotiable Warehouse Receipt) among small and marginal farmers.

It will help in preventing distress sale and releasing better prices for the produce.

About Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA)

- WDRA was constituted on 26 October 2010 under the Warehousing (Development and Regulation) Act, 2007.
- It is a statutory authority under the Department of Food and Public Distribution, Government of India.
- The Authority consists of a Chairperson and two members appointed by the Central Government.
- Headquarters - New Delhi

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Axis Bank signed MoU with IISc Bengaluru to set up Centre for Mathematics and Computing
- Hockey Wali Sarpanch signed an agreement with NABARD to strengthen farmers*
- Axis Bank partnered with OPEN to launch a fully digital current account
- Niva Bupa and Sundaram Finance signed corporate agency agreement
- HDFC Bank partnered with Microsoft for digital transformation

232. India's merchandise exports declined by how much percent from a year earlier to $34.5 billion in December 2022?

दिसंबर 2022 में भारत का व्यापारिक निर्यात एक साल पहले से कितने प्रतिशत घटकर 34.5 बिलियन डॉलर हो गया?

(a) 12.2%
(b) 22.2%
(c) 12.8%
(d) 11.4%
(e) 13.2%

Ans. a

Sol. India's exports decline by 12.2% to $34.48 billion in December 2022

India's merchandise exports declined by 12.2 percent to $34.48 billion in December 2022, as against $39.27 billion recorded in the same month of the preceding year.

This comes after a 0.6 percent rise in exports in November and a 12 percent contraction in October.

The country's imports in December declined to $58.24 billion as against $60.33 billion recorded in the year-ago period.

The merchandise trade deficit fell further to $23.76 billion in December, after declining to a seven-month low of $23.89 billion in November.

233. With which country did India conduct the 21st edition of Exercise Varuna 2023 in the western seaboard?

भारत ने किस देश के साथ पश्चिमी समुद्र तट पर अभ्यास वरुण 2023 के 21वें संस्करण का आयोजन किया?

(a) France / फ्रांस
(b) Thailand / थाईलैंड
(c) UK / यूके
(d) USA / यूएसए
(e) Israel / इजराइल

Ans. a

Sol. India, France joint naval exercise 'Varuna 2023' begins

The 21st edition of the bilateral naval exercise between India and France titled 'Varuna' began on the western seaboard.

The bilateral exercise between the two navies was initiated in 1993 and was named 'VARUNA' in 2001.

The exercise will be conducted from 16 to 20 January 2023 and will witness advanced air defense exercises, tactical maneuvers, and surface firings.

This edition of the exercise will witness the participation of indigenous guided missile stealth destroyer INS Chennai, guided missile frigate INS Teg, maritime patrol aircraft P-8I and Dornier, integral helicopters and MiG29K fighter aircraft.

Recent Exercise

- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) will conduct their first Air exercise "Veer Guardian 23" from January 16 to 26 at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.
- 16th edition of India & Nepal Joint Training Excercise Surya Kiran begins in Saljhandi, Nepal
- India & Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND 2022 begins in Umroi, Meghalaya
- 7th edition of US-India Naval Exercise Sangam held in Goa
- The Annual Joint Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise 'Samanvay 2022' has been conducted at Air Force Station, Agra.

234. India and which country are set to hold the first-ever military exercises involving the special forces in Udaipur, Jaipur and Jodhpur?

भारत और कौन सा देश उदयपुर, जयपुर और जोधपुर में विशेष बलों को शामिल करते हुए पहला सैन्य अभ्यास आयोजित करने के लिए तैयार हैं?

(a) Egypt / मिस्र
(b) Ghana / घाना
(c) Sudan / सूडान
(d) Zimbabwe / जिम्बाब्वे
(e) Myanmar / म्यांमार

Ans. a

Sol. India, Egypt to hold first-ever exercises between Special Forces

India and Egypt are set to hold the first-ever military exercises involving the Special Forces in Udaipur, Jaipur and Jodhpur.

It is being held to celebrate the 75 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

India is a major country in the Indian Ocean and the security of the Indian Ocean starts from the security of the Red Sea in the West and for Egypt on the Suez Canal.

Egypt has also been invited as a guest country at the G20 summit in 2023.

In April 2022, Egypt announced the inclusion of India in the list of accredited countries.

- Capital- Cairo
- Currency- Egyptian pound
- Continent - Africa, Asia
- President - Abdel Fattah El-Sisi

Recent Exercise

- A joint military exercise between India-Malaysia "Harimau Shakti-2022" has been started at Pulai Klang in Malaysia
- The 13th edition of the bilateral exercise between the Indian navy and the Royal Oman navy Naseem Al Bahr-2022 organized on the coast of Oman.
- India-Indonesia joint exercise 'Garuda Shakti' kicks off in Karawang, Indonesia
- The 3rd edition of the 'Pan-India' Coastal Defence Exercise 'Sea Vigil-22' has concluded.
- 18th edition of India-US joint military exercise 'Yudh Abhyas' started in Uttrakhand

235. Which of the following has acquired the media rights of the Women's Indian Premier League (WIPL) for five years from 2023 to 2027 for Rs 951 crore?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने 951 करोड़ रुपये में 2023 से 2027 तक पांच साल के लिए महिला इंडियन प्रीमियर लीग (डब्ल्यूआईपीएल) के मीडिया अधिकार हासिल किए हैं?

(a) DD National / डी डी नेशनल
(b) Star Sports / स्टार स्पोर्ट्स
(c) Sony Entertainment / सोनी एंटरटेनमेंट
(d) Viacom18 / वायकॉम 18
(e) Voot / वूट

Ans. d

Sol. Viacom18 gets 'WIPL' media rights for Rs 951 crore

Viacom 18 has acquired the media rights of the Women's Indian Premier League (WIPL), which will start from March-April 2023.

Viacom18 has bought the media rights of the women's IPL for five years from 2023 to 2027 for Rs 951 crore.

Viacom 18's bid is understood to have been almost 10 times more than the Rs. 98 crore bid by Disney-Star, the only other broadcaster that submitted the document.

The auction for the T20 League was conducted by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in Mumbai.

The WIPL is set to feature 22 games in a five-team format for the first three years. Should the BCCI add a sixth team, the next two editions - in 2026 and 2027 - will see 34 games being played.

Their names are Chennai Super Kings, Rajasthan Royals, Delhi Capitals, Kolkata Knight Riders and Punjab Kings. All are showing interest in investing in a team in WIPL.

The detailed terms and conditions governing the tender process including eligibility requirements etc. are contained in the 'Invitation to Tender' (ITT).

236. Who has won the men's singles Malaysia Open title 2023?

पुरुष एकल मलेशिया ओपन खिताब 2023 किसने जीता है?

(a) Lin Dan / लिन डैन

(b) Viktor Axelsen / विक्टर एक्सेलसन

(c) Kento Momota / केंटो मोमोटा

(d) Chen Long / चेन लॉन्ग

(e) Anders Antonsen / एंडर्स एंटोनसेन

Ans. b

Sol. Victor and Akane won the Malaysia Open Badminton title 2023

Denmark badminton player, Viktor Axelsen won the men's singles Malaysia Open title 2023, after defeating Kodai Naraoka from Japan.

While Japanese player Akane Yamaguchi lifted the title in the women's final, after beating South Korea's An Se-young.

Men's doubles - Fajar Alfian and Muhammad Rian Ardianto (Indonesia)

Women's doubles - Chen Qingchen and Jia Yifan (China)

Mixed doubles - Zheng Siwei and Huang Yaqiong (China)

237. Which among the following has won the Spanish Super Cup for14th time recently?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने हाल ही में 14वीं बार स्पेनिश सुपर कप जीता है?

(a) Barcelona / बार्सिलोना

(b) Real Madrid / रियल मेड्रिड

(c) Man City / मेन सिटी

(d) Liverpool / लिवरपूल

(e) Inter Milan / इंटर मिलान

Ans. a

Sol. Barcelona won the Spanish Super Cup for the 14th time

Barcelona has defeated Real Madrid 3-1 in Riyadh to win their 14th Spanish Super Cup title.

The cup was held in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

Barcelona has won the Supercup for the first time since 2018 and for the 14th time overall. Real Madrid has won the Supercup 12 times so far.

This competition is being played since 1982.

The Super Cup was previously played between the winner of the Spanish league and the champion team of the Copa del Rey. From the year 2020, now the runner-up teams of both competitions also take part in it.

238. The National Council of Education Research and Training (NCERT) has notified India's first National Assessment Regulator 'PARAKH' recently. What is the meaning of the second 'A' in 'PARAKH'?

राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा अनुसंधान और प्रशिक्षण परिषद (NCERT) ने हाल ही में भारत के पहले राष्ट्रीय मूल्यांकन नियामक 'PARAKH' को अधिसूचित किया है। 'PARAKH' में दूसरे A का क्या अर्थ है?

(a) Appraisal
(b) Analysis
(c) Achievement
(d) Assessment
(e) Aims

Ans. b

Sol. NCERT notified India's first national assessment regulator 'PARAKH'

The National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) has notified India's first national assessment regulator, PARAKH.

PARAKH stands for Performance Appraisal, Review and Analysis of Knowledge for Holistic Development.

The regulator aims to set up assessment guidelines for all boards to help remove disparities in scores of students enrolled with different state boards.

PARAKH has been launched as part of the implementation of the National Education Policy (NEP)-2020 that envisaged a standard-setting body to advise school boards regarding new assessment patterns and the latest research and promote collaborations between them.

PARAKH will work on three major assessment areas: large-scale assessments, school-based assessment, and examination reforms.

To begin with, PARAKH will work on bringing an equivalence in the recognized school boards in India in terms of the academic standards among learners.

It will set up assessment guidelines for all the boards to help remove disparities in scores of students enrolled with different state boards.

PARAKH will closely work with the state directorates of education, state education boards and international organizations working in the area of assessment and evaluation.

239. Which state has launched the second phase of the 'Kanti Velugu' initiative in Khammam district?
किस राज्य ने खम्मम जिले में 'कांति वेलुगु' पहल का दूसरा चरण शुरू किया है?
(a) Kerala / केरल
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Telangana / तेलंगाना
Ans. e
Sol. Telangana CM launched second phase of 'Kanti Velugu'
Telangana Chief Minister, K Chandrasekhar Rao has launched the second phase of the 'Kanti Velugu' initiative in Khammam district. It is considered to be the world's largest eye screening programme.
Under the Kanti Velugu, free eye screening will be held at the special health camps for 100 days with 1500 medical teams.
The first phase of Kanti Velugu was conducted for eight months by 827 health teams. The health camps will commence on January 19 in the rest of the state.
Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan, his Punjab counterpart Bhagwant Singh Mann, and Delhi Counterpart Arvind Kejriwal will also be taking part in the programme.
About Telangana
- **Capital –** Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – K. Chandrashekar Rao
- **Governor –** Tamilisai Soundararajan

240. Recently, which edition of the Kerala Literature Festival has concluded in Kozhikode, Kerala?

हाल ही में, केरल साहित्य महोत्सव का कौन सा संस्करण कोझिकोड, केरल में संपन्न हुआ है?

(a) 5th

(b) 6th

(c) 7th

(d) 8th

(e) 9th

Ans. b

Sol. Kerala Literature Festival concludes in Kozhikode

The 6th edition of the Kerala Literature Festival concluded in Kozhikode, Kerala.

The event was included in the World Tourism Calendar.

The Thrissur Pooram and the Kochi-Muziris Biennale are other events in Kerala that have found a place in the World tourism calendar.

The 7th edition would be held at the same venue from January 11 to 14, 2024.

About Kerala

- **Capital –** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister** – Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor –** Arif Mohammad Khan

241. The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has discovered two miniature stupas within the complex of the world heritage site 'Nalanda Mahavihara' in the Nalanda district of Bihar recently. The stupas are around how many years old?

भारतीय पुरातत्व सर्वेक्षण (एएसआई) ने हाल ही में बिहार के नालंदा जिले में विश्व धरोहर स्थल 'नालंदा महाविहार' के परिसर के भीतर दो लघु स्तूपों की खोज की है। स्तूप लगभग कितने वर्ष पुराने हैं?

(a) 500
(b) 800
(c) 1000
(d) 1200
(e) 1500

Ans. d

Sol. ASI discovers two 1200-year-old miniature stupas at Nalanda, Bihar

The Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has discovered two 1200-year-old miniature stupas within the complex of the world heritage site 'Nalanda Mahavihara' in the Nalanda district of Bihar.

The figures of Buddha are shown on the stupa carved out of stone. Such stupas were popular as votive offerings in India as early as the 7th century.The stupa is a hemispherical structure symbolizing the burial mound of the Buddha. It rose to prominence after the advent of Buddhism and reached its peak during the reign of Ashoka.

Stupas evolved from chortens in Tibet and pagodas in East Asia.

Nalanda was a Mahavihara, a large Buddhist monastery in the ancient kingdom of Magadha (modern Bihar) in India.

About Archaeological Survey of India (ASI)

- ASI is responsible for archaeological research and the conservation and preservation of cultural and historical monuments in India.
- Founded - 1861
- Founder - Alexander Cunningham
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- Director General -V Vidyavathi

242. Which state government will launch its first major education project, 'Schools of Eminence'?

कौन सी राज्य सरकार अपनी पहली बड़ी शिक्षा परियोजना, 'स्कूल ऑफ एमिनेंस' लॉन्च करेगी?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Punjab / पंजाब

(e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. d

Sol. Punjab government to launch 'Schools of Eminence' project

The Punjab government will launch its first major education project, 'Schools of Eminence'.

It will be launched at the Indian School of Business (ISB), Mohali.

Under the project, the state government will upgrade existing government schools into 'Schools of Eminence' for classes 9 to 12.

Under phase 1, the govt plans to upgrade nearly 110 government schools as 'Schools of Eminence'.

The Punjab government had set aside a fund of Rs 200 crore for this project.

About Punjab

- **Capital –** Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Bhagwant Mann
- **Governor –** Banwarilal Purohit

243. Which district of Kerala has been declared the first Constitution-Literate District of India?
केरल के किस जिले को भारत का पहला संविधान-साक्षर जिला घोषित किया गया है?
(a) Kasaragod / कासरगोड
(b) Kannur / कन्नूर
(c) Wayanad / वायनाड
(d) Kozhikode / कोझिकोड
(e) Kollam / कोल्लम
Ans. e
Sol. Kollam becomes first constitution-literate district in India
Kerala Chief Minister, Pinarayi Vijayan has declared Kollam district as the first Constitution-literate district in the country.
It is achieved through 'The Citizen', a Constitution literacy campaign.
The district's success is the result of a seven-month campaign launched by the Kollam district panchayat, the District Planning Committee, and the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA) to educate citizens about the country's laws and their rights.
The campaign has been launched to educate the residents of Kollam district of Kerala about the basics of the Constitution. Its objective is to make Kollam district a constitutionally literate district.
Under this campaign, more than seven lakh families of the district are being educated on the basic principles of the Constitution.
About Kerala

- **Capital –** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister** – Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor –** Arif Mohammad Khan

244. According to India Mobile Gaming Report 2022, which state has emerged as the top destination for mobile gamers?
इंडिया मोबाइल गेमिंग रिपोर्ट 2022 के अनुसार, कौन सा राज्य मोबाइल गेमर्स के लिए शीर्ष स्थान के रूप में उभरा है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
(b) Gujarat / गुजरात
(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Ans. a

Sol. Uttar Pradesh tops charts for mobile gaming destination in India

Uttar Pradesh has emerged as the top destination for mobile gamers, followed by Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar, and West Bengal, according to India Mobile Gaming Report 2022 by gaming platform Mobile Premier League.

Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry, and Himachal Pradesh have seen the highest increase in mobile gamers in 2022 compared to 2021.

In terms of games, Ludo Dice, Snakes and Ladders, Carrom, Fruit Dart, Block Puzzle and Poker were some of the top games played by gamers across different Indian cities.

In Uttar Pradesh, Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, Ghaziabad, and Allahabad have the highest share of gamers.

Thirty-six percent of the total gamers in UP hail from these cities.

India's gaming market was worth $SD 2.6 billion in the financial year 2022 and it will reach $8.6 billion by 2027 with a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 27 percent

245. Who has inaugurated the second phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23 in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh?
उत्तर प्रदेश के बस्ती जिले में सांसद खेल महाकुंभ 2022-23 के दूसरे चरण का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
(b) Yogi Adityanath / योगी आदित्यनाथ
(c) Anandiben Patel / आनंदीबेन पटेल
(d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(e) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi inaugurated the second phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the second phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23 in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh via video conferencing.

The Khel Mahakumbh organizes diverse competitions in both indoor and outdoor sports like wrestling, Kabaddi, Kho Kho, Basketball, Football, Hockey, Chess, Badminton, and Table Tennis.

Apart from these, competitions in essay writing, painting, rangoli making are also organized.

The Saansad Khel Mahakumbh is being organized in two phases. The first phase was organized from 10th to 16th December last year. The second phase of Khel Mahakumbh will be held from January 18 to 28.

About Uttar Pradesh

- **Capital** - Lucknow
- **Chief Minister** – Yogi Adityanath
- **Governor -** Anandiben Patel

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi virtually flagged off the 8th Vande Bharata Express train connecting Secunderabad with Vishakhapatnam.
- PM Modi announced the "Aarogya Maitri" project during the Voice of Global South Summit
- PM Modi inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival at Hubbali in Karnataka
- PM Modi virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- PM Modi chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi
- PM Modi launched world's longest river cruise from Varanasi to Assam

246. Who has been ranked fourth in a list of 8 richest actors in the world, released by the World of Statistics?
वर्ल्ड ऑफ स्टैटिस्टिक्स द्वारा जारी दुनिया के 8 सबसे अमीर अभिनेताओं की सूची में किसे चौथा स्थान मिला है?

(a) Aamir Khan / आमिर खान
(b) Akshay Kumar / अक्षय कुमार
(c) Hrithik Roshan / ह्रितिक रोशन
(d) Salman Khan / सलमान खान
(e) Shah Rukh Khan / शाहरुख खान

Ans. e

Sol. Shah Rukh Khan ranks third on world's richest actors list

Shah Rukh Khan has been ranked fourth in a list of 8 richest actors in the world, released by World of Statistics.

SRK's net worth is 770 million dollars. Shah Rukh Khan is the only Indian on the list.

The actor is ranked above Hollywood star Tom Cruise.

The list is led by Seinfeld star Jerry Seinfeld and Tyler Perry with $1 billion.

They are followed by Dwayne Johnson, with $800 million.

Richest actors in the world

1. Jerry Seinfeld (US)- $1 Billion
2. Tyler Perry (US)- $1 Billion
3. Dwayne Johnson (US)- $800 million
4. Shah Rukh Khan (India)- $770 million
5. Tom Cruise (US)- $620 million
6. Jackie Chan (Hong Kong)- $520 million
7. George Clooney (US)- $500 million
8. Robert De Niro (US)- $500 million

247. Who has become the youngest and the first LGBTQ woman of color to take the oath of Oakland City Council in the US state of California?

अमेरिकी राज्य कैलिफोर्निया में ओकलैंड सिटी काउंसिल की शपथ लेने वाली सबसे कम उम्र की और पहली LGBTQ रंग की महिला कौन बन गई है?

(a) Janani Ramachandran / जननी रामचंद्रन
(b) Santhi Kumari / शांति कुमारी
(c) Manpreet Monica Singh / मनप्रीत मोनिका सिंह
(d) Surbhi Jakhmola / सुरभि जखमोला
(e) Sonia Guajajara / सोनिया गुजाजारा

Ans. a

Sol. Janani Ramachandran becomes first LGBTQ woman of colour city council

A 30-year-old Indian American social justice lawyer, activist, and artist, Janani Ramachandran has become the youngest and the first LGBTQ woman of colour to serve on Oakland City Council in the US state of California.

Ramachandran currently serves on the California Commission on Asian and Pacific Islander American Affairs and has previously served as a Commissioner at the City of Oakland Public Ethics Commission.

The Stanford University and University of California, Berkeley pass-out has worked in several legal non-profits.

Recent Appointment

- First minister of the new Ministry of Indigenous People in Brazil - Sonia Guajajara
- First woman president of Indian Olympic Association - PT Usha
- First woman officer to be posted at BRO - Captain Surbhi Jakhmola
- First woman chief secretary of Telangana - Santhi Kumari
- First female Sikh judge in US - Manpreet Monica Singh

248. Who has been appointed as the Deputy National Security Adviser (NSA) in National Security Council Secretariat?
राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा परिषद सचिवालय में उप राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा सलाहकार (NSA) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Anish Dayal Singh / अनीश दयाल सिंह
(b) Sujoy Lal Thaosen / सुजॉय लाल थाउसेन
(c) M A Ganapathy / एम ए गणपति
(d) Pankaj Kumar Singh / पंकज कुमार सिंह
(e) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal / सुबोध कुमार जायसवाल

Ans. d

Sol. Pankaj Kumar Singh appointed as Deputy NSA

Former Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF), Pankaj Kumar Singh has been appointed as the Deputy National Security Adviser (NSA) in National Security Council Secretariat for two years.

He is a 1988-batch IPS officer of the Rajasthan cadre. He retired as the BSF chief on December 31, 2022.

He had earlier served as inspector General of CRPF in Chhattisgarh and IG (Operations) at CRPF Headquarters in Delhi.

He has also served in the Rajasthan Police and CBI.

National Security Adviser -Ajit Doval

Other Appointment

- Director General of BSF - Sujoy Lal Thaosen (additional charge)
- Director General of CISF - Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- Director General of ITBP - Anish Dayal Singh
- Director General of CRPF - Sujoy Lal Thaosen
- Director General of NSG - M A Ganapathy
- Director General of Indian Coast Guard - Virender Singh Pathania

249. Who has recently broken MS Dhoni's record of hitting the most sixes in ODIs in India?

हाल ही में भारत में वनडे में सबसे ज्यादा छक्के मारने का एमएस धोनी का रिकॉर्ड किसने तोड़ा है?

(a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
(b) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
(c) KL Rahul / केएल राहुल
(d) Dinesh Karthik / दिनेश कार्तिक
(e) Suryakumar Yadav / सूर्यकुमार यादव

Ans. b

Sol. Rohit Sharma breaks MS Dhoni's record of most sixes in ODIs in India

Indian captain Rohit Sharma has shattered a long-standing record held by MS Dhoni to become India's most prolific six-hitter in the history of ODI cricket at the Rajiv Gandhi Stadium in Hyderabad.

Rohit achieved this remarkable feat during the first ODI between India and New Zealand.

Rohit and Dhoni are the only two Indians with more than 100 sixes in the 50-over format, with Yuvraj Singh a distant third in the list. His effort in the series opener was a testament to his prowess as a batsman, and a reminder of the legacy he is creating in the world of cricket.

Most Sixes in ODI in India

Rohit - 125

Dhoni - 123

Yuvraj - 71

250. According to a report, ISRO's Venus mission 'Shukrayan I' may be postponed till _____.

एक रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, इसरो के शुक्र मिशन 'शुक्रायन I' को _____ तक के लिए स्थगित किया जा सकता है।

(a) 2026
(b) 2028
(c) 2030
(d) 2031
(e) 2034

Ans. d

Sol. ISRO 'Shukrayaan' mission to planet Venus reportedly shifted to 2031

According to a report, P. Sreekumar, the Satish Dhawan Professor at the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and advisor to its space science programme, stated in a talk that the organization has not yet received approval from the Indian government for the Venus mission and that, as a result, the mission may be delayed until 2031

The mission was scheduled to launch in December 2024.

The concept was conceived in 2012; five years later, after the Department of Space got a 23% increase in the 2017–2018 budget, ISRO started preliminary investigations. In April 2017, the organization requested payload proposals from research institutions.

The best time to launch from Earth to Venus is once every 19 months or thereabouts. In case it misses the 2024 window, ISRO has "backup" launch dates in 2026 and 2028. But every eight years, new better windows present themselves that further cut down on the quantity of fuel needed for takeoff.

The VERITAS and EnVision missions of the American and European space agencies, respectively, both have Venus missions scheduled for 2031, but China might go anytime: 2026, 2027, whenever they want to go.

251. Which bank has partnered with the Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to provide financial assistance to the dealers of SAIL across the country?

किस बैंक ने देश भर में सेल के डीलरों को वित्तीय सहायता प्रदान करने के लिए स्टील अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड (सेल) के साथ भागीदारी की है?

(a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
(b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
(c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
(d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
(e) IDFC First Bank / आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. South Indian Bank partnered with SAIL for financing dealers

South Indian Bank has partnered with Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) to provide financial assistance to the dealers of SAIL across the country.

With the vast network of the bank, they will be able to serve the MSME and corporate customers of SAIL located in different geographies.

SAIL has a vast network of dealers who ensure the availability of quality steel in virtually all districts of the country.

MD & CEO of South Indian Bank - Murali Ramakrishnan

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- Axis Bank signed MoU with IISc Bengaluru to set up Centre for Mathematics and Computing
- Hockey Wali Sarpanch signed an agreement with NABARD to strengthen farmers
- Axis Bank partnered with OPEN to launch a fully digital current account
- Niva Bupa and Sundaram Finance signed corporate agency agreement
- HDFC Bank partnered with Microsoft for digital transformation
- SBI Card partnered with Punjab & Sind Bank to launch co-brand credit cards

252. The world's oldest person Lucile Randon has died aged 118. He was from which country?

दुनिया के सबसे बुजुर्ग व्यक्ति ल्यूसिल रैंडन का 118 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया है। वह किस देश से थे?

(a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया

(b) North Korea / उत्तर कोरिया

(c) Japan / जापान

(d) France / फ्रांस

(e) China / चीन

Ans. d

Sol. World's oldest person Lucile Randon dies at the age of 118

The world's oldest person, French nun Lucile Randon has died aged 118.

Randon - who assumed the name Sister André when she took holy orders in 1944 - died in her sleep at her nursing home in Toulon, France.

She was born on 11 February 1904 in Southern France.

In the year 2022, the world's oldest person Ken Tanaka of Japan died. He was 119 years old.

After Tanaka's death, 118-year-old Sister Lucille Randon became the oldest person in the world.

Guinness World Records had officially recognized her status in April 2022.

The record for oldest confirmed age reached by a human belongs to Jeanne Calment, also of southern France, who died in 1997 at the age of 122.

253. Recently, who has announced an additional grant of 100 Million Maldivian Rufiyaa for community development projects in Maldives?

हाल ही में किसने मालदीव में सामुदायिक विकास परियोजनाओं के लिए 100 मिलियन मालदीव रूफिया के अतिरिक्त अनुदान की घोषणा की है?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

(b) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह

(c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

(d) Ajit Doval / अजीत डोभाल

(e) S Jaishankar / एस जयशंकर

Ans. e

Sol. India announced 100 million Maldivian Rufiyaa for development projects

During the visit to Maldives, EAM Dr. S Jaishankar has announced an additional grant of 100 Million Maldivian Rufiyaa for community development projects in Maldives.

He also witnessed an MoU between Maldivian National University and Kochi University of Science & Technology.

The agreement included grant assistance of 100 million rufiyaa (Maldives' currency) for the High Impact Community Development Project (HICDP).

He has also announced that India has handed over two sea ambulances to help the Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF).

India has completed 23 out of 45 impactful community development projects.

About Maldives

- **Capital** – Male
- **Currency –** Rufiya
- **President -** Ibrahim Mohamed Solih

254. The Ministry of Tourism will organize which edition of the Global Tourism Investors Summit from 10th to 12th April 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi?

पर्यटन मंत्रालय 10 से 12 अप्रैल 2023 तक प्रगति मैदान, नई दिल्ली में ग्लोबल टूरिज्म इन्वेस्टर्स समिट के किस संस्करण का आयोजन करेगा?

(a) First / पहला

(b) Second / दूसरा

(c) Third / तीसरा

(d) Fouth / चौथा

(e) Fifth / पांचवां

Ans. a

Sol. Tourism Ministry to organize 1st Global Tourism Investors Summit

The Ministry of Tourism will organize the first Global Tourism Investors Summit from 10th to 12th April 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.

The aim of the summit is to bring together global business leaders, and policymakers to understand and explore Tourism Business opportunities in India.

The event focused on promoting India as an investment destination for travel, tourism, and hospitality by identifying State-Specific investment possibilities and discuss avenues to promote sustainable tourism.

255. Which of the following company has signed an agreement with Ashok Leyland and Ballard Power (Canada) to develop a hydrogen fuel cell electric truck (FCET) for mining logistics and transportation?

निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी ने खनन रसद और परिवहन के लिए हाइड्रोजन फ्यूल सेल इलेक्ट्रिक ट्रक (FCET) विकसित करने के लिए अशोक लेलैंड और बैलार्ड पावर (कनाडा) के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) ReNew Power / रिन्यू पावर

(b) Adani Enterprises / अडानी एंटरप्राइजेज

(c) JSW Energy / जेएसडब्ल्यू एनर्जी

(d) NTPC Limited / एनटीपीसी लिमिटेड

(e) Torrent Power / टोरेंट पावर

Ans. b

Sol. Adani Enterprises signed agreement with Ashok Leyland to develop Asia's first hydrogen-mining truck

Adani Enterprises has signed an agreement with Ashok Leyland and Ballard Power (Canada) to launch a pilot project to develop a hydrogen fuel cell electric truck (FCET) for mining logistics and transportation.

The agreement marks Asia's first planned hydrogen-powered mining truck.

The demonstration project will be led by Adani Enterprises Limited a company focused on both mining operations and developing green hydrogen projects for sourcing, transporting, and building out hydrogen refueling infrastructure.

The mining truck will weigh 55 tons and will have a 200-km working range.

The FCET is scheduled to be launched in India in 2023.

Ballard will supply the FCmoveTM fuel cell engine for the hydrogen truck.

Ashok Leyland will provide the vehicle platform and technical support.

Recent MoUs

- NTPC signed with Italy-based Maire Technimont Pvt Ltd for green methanol production
- NTPC Limited signed MoU with GE Power India Limited to reduce carbon intensity
- NTPC signed an MoU with GE Gas Power for hydrogen co-firing in gas turbines
- BHEL signed MoUs with Coal India Limited (CIL) and NLC India Limited (NLCIL) for setting up Coal Gasification based plants.
- Coal India Limited (CIL) signed an MoU with Rajasthan Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (RVUNL) for setting up 1190 MW solar power plant in the Bikaner district of Rajasthan.

256. Recently, who has laid the foundation stone and inaugurated several projects in the northern districts of Yadgiri, and Kalaburagi (Karnataka), and Maharashtra?
हाल ही में किसने यादगिरि, कालाबुरगी (कर्नाटक) और महाराष्ट्र के उत्तरी जिलों में कई परियोजनाओं का शिलान्यास और उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
(c) Jyotiraditya Scindia / ज्योतिरादित्य सिंधिया
(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु
(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi launched several development projects in Karnataka, Maharashtra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone and inaugurated several projects in the northern districts of Yadgiri, and Kalaburagi (Karnataka), and Maharashtra. Modi laid the foundation stone and inaugurate various developmental projects related to irrigation, drinking water, and a National Highway development project at Kodeka in the Yadgiri district.

The project, which costs more than ₹ 2,050 crore, will provide potable water to about 2.3 lakh households of more than 700 rural habitations and three towns in the Yadgiri district.

Modi also inaugurated Narayanpur Left Bank Canal - Extension Renovation and Modernisation Project (NLBC-ERM). The project, with canal carrying capacity of 10,000 cusecs, can irrigate 4.5 lakh hectares of command area.

It will benefit more than three lakh farmers in 560 villages of Kalaburgi, Yadagir and Vijaypur districts. The total cost of the project is about ₹ 4,700 crore.

PM also laid the foundation stone of the 71 km section of NH-150C. This six-lane Greenfield road project is also part of Surat- Chennai Expressway. It is being built at a cost of more than ₹ 2,100 crore.

Surat-Chennai Expressway will pass through six states- Gujarat, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu. It will reduce the existing route from 1,600 km to 1,270 km.

He also inaugurated and lay the foundation stone of projects worth around ₹ 38,800 crores in Maharastra and inaugurated two lines of the Mumbai Metro.

PM Modi also launched MUMBAI 1 Mobile App and National Common Mobility Card (Mumbai 1). The app will facilitate ease of travel, can be shown at the entry gates of metro stations and supports digital payment to buy tickets through UPI.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi inaugurated 2nd phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23 in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh
- PM Modi virtually flagged off the 8th Vande Bharata Express train connecting Secunderabad with Vishakhapatnam.
- PM Modi announced the "Aarogya Maitri" project during the Voice of Global South Summit
- PM Modi inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival at Hubbali in Karnataka
- PM Modi virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- PM Modi chaired the Annual General Meeting of the Nehru Memorial Museum and Library Society in New Delhi.

257. With which country did India hold 5th Foreign Policy and Security Dialogue recently?

हाल ही में भारत ने किस देश के साथ 5वीं विदेश नीति और सुरक्षा वार्ता आयोजित की?

(a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
(b) North Korea / उत्तर कोरिया
(c) Japan / जापान
(d) Thailand / थाईलैंड
(e) UK / यूके

Ans. a

Sol. India and South Korea hold Foreign Policy and Security Dialogue in Seoul

The 5th Foreign Policy and Security Dialogue between India and South Korea was held in Seoul.

Both sides agreed to deepen cooperation in areas including trade and investment, security and defense, science and technology, as well as cultural and people-to-people exchanges.

They agreed to take concrete steps to take bilateral trade to $50 billion by 2030 from current all-time high of $28 billion.

About South Korea

- **Capital –** Seoul
- **Currency –** South Korean Won
- **Prime Minister -** Han Duck-soo
- **President -** Yoon Seok-youl

258. India's first School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication has launched in which state?

भारत का पहला रसद, जलमार्ग और संचार स्कूल किस राज्य में शुरू हुआ है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Bihar / बिहार
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. a

Sol. India's 1st School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication launched

India's first School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication has launched in Agartala, Tripura.

The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal, along with Dr. Manik Saha, Chief Minister of Tripura, jointly inaugurated the school.

Objective - To enable the rich pool of talent in the region to become world-class experts in the transportation and logistics sector.

It is set up under State Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development.

It will facilitate in conducting studies/ research, training, workshops/seminars for stakeholders like businesses, exporters, etc.

About Tripura

- **Capital –** Agartala
- **Chief Minister -** Manik Sarkar
- **Governor –** Satyadeo Narain Arya

259. The World Economic Forum (WEF) has chosen which city to set up its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution focused on healthcare and life sciences?

विश्व आर्थिक मंच (WEF) ने स्वास्थ्य सेवा और जीवन विज्ञान पर केंद्रित चौथी औद्योगिक क्रांति के लिए अपना केंद्र स्थापित करने के लिए किस शहर को चुना है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद

(c) Chennai / चेन्नई

(d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा

(e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. b

Sol. Hyderabad selected to host WEF Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution

The World Economic Forum (WEF) has chosen Hyderabad to set up its Center for the Fourth Industrial Revolution focused on healthcare and life sciences.

This will be the only centre in India thematically focused on healthcare and life sciences. The announcement was made at the WEF's annual meeting in Davos.

The centre will be an autonomous, non-profit organisation, leading on policy and governance for healthcare and life sciences. The Telangana government and the World Economic Forum signed a collaboration agreement during the Davos meeting.

C4IR Telangana is the 18th centre to join the World Economic Forum's Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR) Network, which spans four continents.

Telangana is known as the vaccine centre of the world and produces one-third of all vaccines produced globally.

About Telangana

- **Capital –** Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – K. Chandrashekar Rao
- **Governor –** Tamilisai Soundararajan

260. 41st session of the Network Planning Group (NPG) has organized in which city?

नेटवर्क प्लानिंग ग्रुप (NPG) का 41वां सत्र किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. 41st session of the Network Planning Group (NPG) held in New Delhi

The Network Planning Group (NPG) was held its 41st session in New Delhi.

It was chaired by Anil Agrawal, the Special Secretary of Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT).

The meeting saw deliberations on a 4 Lane Accessed Controlled Greenfield Highway as part of the Nagpur-Vijaywada corridor and new rail connectivity projects connecting Barejadi Nandej to Sanand in Gujarat, and Barbil, Barsuan and Nayagrah in Odisha

During the session, it was observed by the NPG that the Ahmedabad Station has been one of the busiest stations on the Western Railway Corridor for freight movement.

The connectivity to economic nodes in the proposed alignment will help in increasing freight transportation of cement and chemicals which are largely produced in this part of the country.

261. Which bank has awarded the Best Small Bank Award 2022 in the 'Best Banks Survey for the year 2022', conducted by Business Today-KPMG (BT-KPMG Best banks survey)?

बिजनेस टुडे-केपीएमजी (बीटी-केपीएमजी बेस्ट बैंक सर्वे) द्वारा आयोजित 'वर्ष 2022 के लिए सर्वश्रेष्ठ बैंक सर्वेक्षण' में किस बैंक को सर्वश्रेष्ठ लघु बैंक पुरस्कार 2022 से सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Punjab & Sind Bank / पंजाब एंड सिंध बैंक
(b) City Union Bank / सिटी यूनियन बैंक
(c) Tamilnad Mercantile Bank / तमिलनाड मर्केंटाइल बैंक
(d) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक
(e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Ans. b

Sol. Tamilnad Mercantile Bank won Best Small Bank Award 2022

Tamilnad Mercantile Bank (TMB) has awarded the Best Small Bank Award 2022 in the 'Best Banks Survey for the year 2022', conducted by Business Today-KPMG (BT-KPMG Best banks survey).

The bank has won the Best Small Bank Award under the category of banks with a book size of less than Rs 1 Lakh crore.

TMB, MD and CEO Shri S Krishnan has received the awards from Union Minister Nitin Gadkari.

BT-KPMG is conducting BT-KPMG Best banks survey and awarding the best banks with 37 parameters.

Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited (TMB) was founded in 1921 as the Nadar Bank, later it was changed to Tamilnad Mercantile Bank in 1962.

Recent Awards

- Banker's Bank of the Year Award 2022 for the India segment – Canara Bank
- Federal Bank Literary Award 2023 - Writer K Venu for Oranweshananthinte Katha'.
- 71st annual Miss Universe pageant - R'Bonney Gabriel (USA)
- Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award - Thiru Kumar Nadesan
- Dr. Patangrao Kadam award - Adar Poonawalla

262. Who has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas?

वेदांता के केयर्न ऑयल एंड गैस के नए मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Kazuhiro Kashio / कज़ुहिरो काशियो
(b) Makoto Uchida / मकोतो उचिदा
(c) Nick Walker / निक वाकर
(d) Carlos Ghosn / कार्लोस घोसन
(e) Hiroto Saikawa / हिरोटो सैकावा

Ans. c

Sol. Nick Walker appointed as CEO of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas

Nick Walker has been appointed as the new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas, with effect from 5 January 2023.

Before this appointment, Walker was president and CEO at Lundin Energy, a large European independent E&P companies.

He has previously worked with BP, Talisman Energy and Africa Oil and has 30 years of international experience in technical, commercial and executive leadership roles.

Recent Appointment

- Chief Economist of OECD - Clare Lombardelli (UK)
- CEO of Cognizant - Ravi Kumar
- Director of Meta's Global Business Group in India - Vikas Purohit
- Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee - Chetan Sharma
- Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Saiyam Mehra
- Vice chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Rajesh Rokde

263. Nguyen Xuan Phuc has announced his resignation recently. He is the president of which country?

गुयेन जुआन फुक ने हाल ही में अपने इस्तीफे की घोषणा की है। वह किस देश के राष्ट्रपति हैं?

(a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
(b) Vietnam / वियतनाम
(c) Bhutan / भूटान
(d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
(e) Japan / जापान

Ans. b

Sol. Vietnam President Nguyen Xuan Phuc announced his resignation

Vietnam President Nguyen Xuan Phuc has announced his resignation amid the ongoing anti-corruption drive.

Earlier, two deputy prime ministers who served under President Phuc had quit.

The anti-corruption drive has led to several ministers being fired in Vietnam.

Phuc, a former Prime Minister, held the post of president since 2021.

He had served as Prime Minister of Vietnam from 2016 until April 2021.

About Vietnam

- Capital- Hanoi
- Currency- Vietnamese dong
- Prime Minister - Pham Minh Chinh

264. Jacinda Ardern resigned as the Prime Minister of which country on 7 Feb 2023?

जैसिंडा अर्डर्न ने किस देश के प्रधान मंत्री के पद से इस्तीफा दे दिया?

(a) England / इंग्लैंड
(b) New Zealand /न्यूजीलैंड
(c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. b

Sol. Jacinda Ardern resigns as Prime Minister of New Zealand

Prime Minister of New Zealand Jacinda Ardern will step down on 7 Feb'23.

Ardern doesn't have the energy or inspiration to seek re-election later this year. Ardern will not also contest general elections set for 14 October.

The ruling Party will vote for a new leader, the party leader will be the Prime Minister until the next general election.

Ardern, 42, became the youngest female head of government in the world when she was elected prime minister in 2017, at the age of 37.

A year later, she became the second elected world leader to ever give birth while in office, following Pakistan's Benazir Bhutto in 1990.

During her time in office, she successfully navigated the country through the Covid-19 pandemic and its ensuing recession, the Christchurch mosque shootings, and the White Island volcanic eruption.

About New Zealand

- **Capital –** Wellington
- **Currency –** Dollar

265. Which of the following film has bagged the 'Golden Kailasha' award for the best movie at the 8th edition of the Ajanta-Ellora film festival?

निम्नलिखित में से किस फिल्म ने अजंता-एलोरा फिल्म समारोह के 8वें संस्करण में सर्वश्रेष्ठ फिल्म के लिए 'गोल्डन कैलाशा' पुरस्कार जीता है?

(a) Chidi Balla / चिड़ी बल्ला
(b) Taawdo the Sunlight / तावडो द सनलाइट
(c) Hivade Me Fute Laadu / हिवदे में फूटे लड्डू
(d) Naanera / नानेरा
(e) Bhoj Bagdawat Bharat / भोज बगदावत भरत

Ans. d

Sol. 'Naanera' bagged 'Golden Kailasha' award in Ajanta-Ellora film festival

"Naanera", a Rajasthani film directed by Deepankar Prakash, bagged the 'Golden Kailasha' award for the best movie at the 8th edition of the Ajanta-Ellora film festival.

"Naanera" also bagged awards for best director, best screenplay, and best editor.

The best picture award, announced by FIPRESCI India jury N Vidyashakar, included a trophy and a cash prize of Rs one lakh.

Best Actress: Akshatha Pandavapura

Best Actor: Jeetu Kamal (Bengali film: Aparajito)

Recent Awards

- UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission – Odisha state
- Wharton-QS Reimagine Education Awards 2022 - IIT Madras
- Atal Samman Award - Prabhu Chandra Mishra
- First KR Gouri Amma national award - Aleida Guevara
- BBC Sports Personality of the Year 2022 award - Beth Mead (England)

266. Which of the following has organized the second edition of "SAINYA RANAKSHETRAM 2.0" from October 2022 to January 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने अक्टूबर 2022 से जनवरी 2023 तक "सैन्य रणक्षेत्रम 2.0" के दूसरे संस्करण का आयोजन किया है?

(a) Indian Army / भारतीय सेना
(b) Indian Air Force / भारतीय वायु सेना
(c) Indian Navy / भारतीय नौसेना
(d) Indian Coast Guard / भारतीय तट रक्षक
(e) Defense Ministry / रक्षा मंत्रालय

Ans. a

Sol. Army organized 'Sainya Ranakshetram 2.0' Seminar-cum-workshop

The second edition of "SAINYA RANAKSHETRAM 2.0" has organized by the Indian Army under the aegis of HQ Army Training Command from October 2022 to January 2023.

Objective - To seek solutions to operational cyber challenges and to jump-start and telescope the development time for innovative solutions in the field of Cyber Security.

The prize winners of the event were felicitated by Gen Manoj Pande, Chief of the Army Staff during a virtual function.

The Cyber Threat Seminar cum Workshop has facilitated engagement with the intrinsic talent at levels of individuals, academia and organizations leading to the identification of suitable talent in the field of Cyber Security both within the Defence forces and in the civil academia.

The identified talent can further be utilized for focused engagement resulting in fast-track development of cyber security tools and techniques.

267. Who has defeated Aditya Mehta by 9-6 to win the final of the 'Baulkline' NSCI All India Snooker Open 2023?

किसने आदित्य मेहता को 9-6 से हराकर 'बाउल्कलाइन' NSCI ऑल इंडिया स्नूकर ओपन 2023 का फाइनल जीता है?

(a) Laxman Rawat / लक्ष्मण रावत

(b) Pankaj Advani / पंकज आडवाणी

(c) Aditya Mehta / आदित्य मेहता

(d) Geet Sethi / गीत सेठी

(e) Vidya Pillai / विद्या पिल्लई

Ans. a

Sol. Laxman Rawat clinched NSCI Snooker Open Crown

Laxman Rawat of the Petroleum Sports Promotion Board (PSPB) has defeated Aditya Mehta (his fellow PSPB challenger) by 9-6 to win the final of the 'Baulkline' NSCI All India Snooker Open 2023.

Rawat had finished as the runner-up in the previous edition of the tournament, losing to Sourav Kothari in the final.

This win marked Rawat's first major title after 2-3 years.

Cash prize - Rs 3 lakh (winner) & Rs 1.5 lakh (Runner-up)

About NSCI Snooker Open Crown

- The NSCI Snooker Open Crown is a snooker tournament organized by the National Sports Club of India (NSCI).
- The tournament is open to players from all over India and features a best-of-17-frame final.
- The tournament is considered as a major title in Indian snooker and the champion of the tournament is awarded the NSCI Snooker Open Crown.

268. 23-year-old Shubman Gill has become the fifth Indian player to score a double-hundred in the One Day International (ODI) match against New Zealand recently. In how many ODI innings did Gill achieve this feat?

23 वर्षीय शुभमन गिल हाल ही में न्यूजीलैंड के खिलाफ एक दिवसीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय (ODI) मैच में दोहरा शतक बनाने वाले पांचवें भारतीय खिलाड़ी बन गए हैं। गिल ने कितनी एकदिवसीय पारियों में यह उपलब्धि हासिल की है?

(a) 17
(b) 18
(c) 19
(d) 20
(e) 21

Ans. c

Sol. Shubman Gill broke records of Virat Kohli and Sachin Tendulkar

23-year-old Shubman Gill has become the fifth Indian player to score a double-hundred in the One Day International (ODI) match against New Zealand.

The young player has broken several records including the fastest Indian to score 1,000 runs in ODI cricket.

Gill has broken the records of Virat Kohli and Shikhar Dhawan who took 24 innings to complete 1,000 runs, a feat Gill achieved in just 19 ODI innings.

At the world stage, currently, Pakistani player Fakhar Zaman has the record for the fastest 1,000 in just 18 innings.

Gill also broke Sachin Tendulkar's record of the highest individual score against New Zealand in an ODI. Tendulkar's undefeated 186 against the Kiwis in Hyderabad was one of his best knocks.

269. The President of which country will be the Chief Guest for Republic Day 2023?
किस देश के राष्ट्रपति गणतंत्र दिवस 2023 के मुख्य अतिथि होंगे?
(a) Suriname / सूरीनाम
(b) Saudi Arabia / सऊदी अरब
(c) Israel / इजराइल
(d) UAE / यूएई
(e) Egypt / मिस्र
Ans. e
Sol. Egypt president Abdel Fattah El Sisi to be chief guest at Republic Day celebrations
Egypt President Abdel Fattah El Sisi will be the chief guest at Republic Day celebrations.
This is for the first time that the president of Egypt has been invited as chief guest on our Republic Day 2023.
A 180-member strong military contingent from the Egyptian army will also participate in the Republic Day parade.
President el-Sisi is scheduled to visit India from 24 January to 26 January, during which he will hold wide-ranging talks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi, attend the Republic Day celebrations and interact with the business community.
The Egyptian president previously visited India in October 2015 to participate in the third India-Africa Forum Summit, which was followed by a state visit in September 2016.
A commemorative stamp marking 75 years of diplomatic ties between India and Egypt will be released during his visit.

About Egypt

- Capital- Cairo
- Currency- Egyptian pound
- Continent - Africa, Asia
- President - Abdel Fattah El-Sisi

270. India's deepest metro station to be built in which city?

भारत का सबसे गहरा मेट्रो स्टेशन किस शहर में बनाया जाएगा?

(a) Pune / पुणे
(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. a

Sol. India's deepest metro station to be built at Pune Civil Court

The Maharashtra Metro Rail Corporation (MahaMetro) has announced that the Commissioner of Metro Railway Safety (CMRS) will inspect a stretch of the Pune Metro in February, and clearances are expected in March.

This line features India's deepest underground station, which will be ready in a few months at the Civil Court and measures 33.1 metres (108.59 feet) in depth.

It will be used as an interchange facility for an underground station on the Pimpri-Chinchwad-Swargate route and one elevated route on Vanaz-Ramwadi route and Hinjewadi-Shivajinagar line.

This underground station's ceiling is 95 feet high and was constructed to receive direct sunshine or natural light.

It is also the largest station in the Pune Metro network, spanning 11.17 acres and featuring various access and exit locations.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Bhagat Singh Koshyari

271. The first G-20 Environment meeting under the G-20 India Presidency will be held in which city during 9 -11 February 2023?
G-20 इंडिया प्रेसीडेंसी के तहत पहली G-20 पर्यावरण बैठक 9 -11 फरवरी 2023 के दौरान किस शहर में आयोजित की जाएगी?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
(b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
(c) Chennai / चेन्नई
(d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
(e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. a

Sol. G20's First Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting to be held in Bengaluru

The first G-20 Environment meeting under the G-20 India Presidency will be held at the Taj West End in Bengaluru during 9 -11 February 2023.

It has scheduled four meetings of the Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG), which will be hosted by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.

The G-20 Working Group will focus on Arresting Land Degradation Restoration of Degraded Lands and Enhancement of Biodiversity.

It will put specific emphasis on the restoration of areas affected by Forest Fire and Mining.

India will chair the G-20 for one year till 30 November 2023.

G20 in News

- As part of the G-20 presidency, a Business-20 (B-20) inception meeting will be organized at Gandhinagar in Gujarat from 22- 24 January 2023.
- Think-20 meeting under the G-20 begins at the Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Center in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh (MP).
- IISc Bengaluru will serve as the secretariat for Science 20 (S20), one of the G20's multiple groupings.
- First G-20 meeting to take place in Puducherry on Jan 31
- G20 Foreign Ministers to meet in New Delhi in March 2023
- Anurag Singh Thakur launched the themes of the Y20 summit, logo, and website in New Delhi.
- First meeting of the Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group of G20 begins in Kolkata.
- G20's first Infrastructure Working Group meeting to be held in Pune from 16th-17th January 2023.

272. Which state's chief minister has inaugurated an 'International Craft Summit' recently?

हाल ही में किस राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री ने 'अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शिल्प शिखर सम्मेलन' का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha CM inaugurated 'International Craft Summit'

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik has inaugurated an 'International Craft Summit' in Jajpur, Odisha.

This first-of-its-kind craft summit features pioneering craftspeople, culture, and art enthusiasts.

International delegates from 15 countries have arrived in Jajpur to engage with local artisans and other stakeholders.

Four UN agencies and five UNESCO Creative Cities have partnered with the District to realize this ambitious and forward-looking event on behalf of the State Government.

About Odisha

- **Capital –** Bhubaneswar
- **Chief Minister** – Naveen Patnaik
- **Governor –** Ganeshi Lal

273. What is the rank of India in Global Firepower Index 2023?

ग्लोबल फायरपावर इंडेक्स 2023 में भारत का रैंक क्या है?

(a) First

(b) Second

(c) Third

(d) Fourth

(e) Fifth

Ans. d

Sol. Global Fire Power Index 2023: India ranked 4th; topped by US

Global Firepower Index is a rating of the military forces of all countries on the planet. The Index ranks the countries based on their potential military strength.

India is ranked fourth in the index. The Global Firepower Index ranked 145 countries.

The most powerful country in the world is the United States of America, followed by Russia, China, and India.

Turkey has once again emerged as the most powerful country in the Middle East and North African region. Turkey has been placed at the 11th position in the global ranking.

Egypt is ranked 14th and Iran is ranked 17th in the global ranking. Egypt is ranked as the most powerful Arab country in terms of its military power.

Saudi Arabia emerged as the most powerful country among the Gulf Cooperation Council countries and Saudi Arabia has the second most powerful military among the Arab countries. It is placed at the 22nd position in the global ranking.

Algeria is the most powerful of the North African countries, ranking 26th on the global index. While Lebanon has been described as the weakest country in the Middle East.

Top 10 Countries on Global Power Index 2023

1. USA
2. Russia

3. China
4. India
5. United Kingdom
6. South Korea
7. Pakistan
8. Japan
9. France
10. Italy
15. Ukraine
141. Liberia
142. Somalia
143. Moldova
144. Benin
145. Bhutan

Recent index

- Henley Passport Index 2023: India ranked 85th; topped by Japan
- List of best Cuisines of the World by Taste Atlas - India ranked 5th; topped by Italy
- Social Progress Index 2022: Puducherry best-performing States; Jharkhand and Bihar scored the lowest
- Global Food Security Index (GFSI) 2022: India ranked 68th; topped by Finland
- Global ranking in scientific publications paper - India ranked **3rd**, topped by China

274. World Bank forecast which country's economic growth to slow further to two percent during 2023?
विश्व बैंक ने अनुमान लगाया है कि 2023 के दौरान किस देश की आर्थिक वृद्धि दो प्रतिशत तक धीमी हो जाएगी?
(a) Afghanistan / अफगानिस्तान
(b) Nepal / नेपाल
(c) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
(d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
(e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
Ans. d
Sol. Pakistan is South Asia's weakest economy: World Bank report
World Bank forecast Pakistan's economic growth to slow further to two percent during 2023.
This will mark a drop of two percentage points from its June 2022 estimates, according to the World Bank's Global Economic Prospects report.
The reason behind this is unprecedented floods, depleting forex reserves, food shortages, and poverty.
It forecast Pakistan's GDP growth rate to improve to 3.2% in 2024, which would be lower than earlier estimate of 4.2%.

About World Bank

- **Founded -** 1944
- **Headquarters -** Washington Dc
- **President -** David Malpass
- **MD & CFO -** Anshula Kant
- **Chief Economist** - Carman Reinhart
- **Executive Director** - Rajesh Khullar
- **Member Countries** -189
- **World Bank Group** - 5 (IBRD, IDA, IFC, MIGA and ICSID)

275. Who among the following has been ranked second globally and top among Indians in Brand Guardianship Index 2023?
ब्रांड गार्जियनशिप इंडेक्स 2023 में निम्नलिखित में से किसे विश्व स्तर पर दूसरा और भारतीयों में शीर्ष स्थान दिया गया है?

(a) Gautam Adani / गौतम अडानी
(b) Anand Piramal / आनंद पीरामल
(c) Mukesh Ambani / मुकेश अंबानी
(d) Ratan Tata / रतन टाटा
(e) Nina Kothari / नीना कोठारी

Ans. c

Sol. Brand Guardianship Index 2023: Mukesh Ambani No1 among Indians

Reliance Industries Chairman and Managing Director Mukesh Ambani has been ranked second globally and top among Indians in Brand Guardianship Index 2023, compiled by Brand Finance.

The Brand Guardianship Index is a global recognition of CEOs, who are building business value in a sustainable manner, by balancing the needs of all stakeholders - employees, investors, and the wider society.

The Brand Guardianship Index 2023 saw the rise of Nvidia CEO, Jensen Huang, and Mukesh Ambani of Reliance to 1st and 2nd position, respectively. They both now rank above last year's leader Microsoft's Satya Nadella, who now sits in the 3rd place.

He is also the 9th richest person in the world, as per the Bloomberg Billionaire Index.

Ambani has ranked ahead of global majors like Satya Nadella of Microsoft, Google's Sundar Pichai, Apple's Tim Cook and Tencent's Huateng Ma, and fellow Indians such as N Chandrasekaran of Tata Group, Anand Mahindra, Sunil Bharti Mittal, among many others.

276. Which of the following insurance company has launched Jeevan Azad (Plan No. 868) to offer an attractive combination of protection and savings?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बीमा कंपनी ने सुरक्षा और बचत के आकर्षक संयोजन की पेशकश करने के लिए जीवन आज़ाद (योजना संख्या 868) लॉन्च की है?

(a) Bajaj Allianz Insurance / बजाज आलियांज इंश्योरेंस

(b) Bharti AXA Insurance / भारती एक्सा इंश्योरेंस

(c) Cholamandalam MS Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस इंश्योरेंस

(d) Max Life Insurance / मैक्स लाइफ इंश्योरेंस

(e) Life Insurance Corporation of India / भारतीय जीवन बीमा निगम

Ans. e

Sol. LIC launched Jeevan Azad limited premium payment plan

The Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India has launched Jeevan Azad (Plan No. 868) to offer an attractive combination of protection and savings.

It is a limited-period premium payment plan that offers financial support for the family in case of unfortunate death of the life assured during the policy term.

If the LIC policyholder survives the maturity term, then the plan offers a guaranteed base sum-assured amount.

The minimum age of entry is 90 days completed and the maximum age at entry is 50 years.

Recent Facilities Launched by Banks

- SBI launched e-Bank Guarantee facility in association with NeSL
- Bajaj Allianz launched Respect Senior Care Rider
- ICICI Bank launched digital solutions for exporters
- Indian Bank launched its flagship programme 'MSME Prerana 'in Rajasthan
- IDFC FIRST Bank has launched ZERO Fee Banking on savings accounts

277. Who has been appointed as the Director of the National Health Authority?

राष्ट्रीय स्वास्थ्य प्राधिकरण के निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
(b) Praveen Sharma / प्रवीण शर्मा
(c) Kishor Kumar Basa / किशोर कुमार बसा
(d) Dinesh Kumar Shukla / दिनेश कुमार शुक्ला
(e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

Ans. b

Sol. Praveen Sharma appointed as Director of National Health Authority

Praveen Sharma has been appointed as the Director of the National Health Authority (Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission) under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

Sharma has been appointed to the post under the Central Staffing Scheme for a period of five years.

He is a 2005 batch Indian Defense Service of Engineers (IDSE) officer.

About National Health Authority (NHA)

- National Health Authority (NHA) is the apex body responsible for implementing India's flagship public health insurance/assurance scheme called Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana
- NHA was established to implement PM-JAY at the national level.

Recent Appointment

- CEO of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas - Nick Walker
- Chief Economist of OECD - Clare Lombardelli (UK)
- CEO of Cognizant - Ravi Kumar
- Director of Meta's Global Business Group in India - Vikas Purohit
- Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee - Chetan Sharma

278. Aruna Miller has become the first Indian-American politician to be sworn in as the Lieutenant Governor of which state of the USA?

अरुणा मिलर संयुक्त राज्य अमेरिका के किस राज्य के लेफ्टिनेंट गवर्नर के रूप में शपथ लेने वाली पहली भारतीय-अमेरिकी राजनीतिज्ञ बन गई हैं?

(a) California / कैलिफोर्निया
(b) Florida / फ्लोरिडा
(c) Alaska / अलास्का
(d) New Jersey / न्यू जर्सी
(e) Maryland / मैरीलैंड

Ans. e

Sol. Aruna Miller becomes Maryland's first Indian-American Lt. Governor

Aruna Miller has become the first Indian-American politician to be sworn in as the Lieutenant Governor in the state of Maryland, USA.

She is a former delegate to the Maryland House and became the 10th Lieutenant Governor of the Maryland state.

While new Governor Wes Moore became Maryland's 63rd governor, the state's first and the country's only current Black chief executive

The Lieutenant Governor is the state's highest official following the Governor and assumes the role when the Governor is out of state or incapacitated.

Recent Appointment

- First LGBTQ woman of colour city council in the US state of California - Janani Ramachandran
- First minister of the new Ministry of Indigenous People in Brazil - Sonia Guajajara
- First woman president of Indian Olympic Association - PT Usha
- First woman officer to be posted at BRO - Captain Surbhi Jakhmola
- First woman chief secretary of Telangana - Santhi Kumari
- First female Sikh judge in US - Manpreet Monica Singh

279. Which of the following airport has won the 'Best Sustainable Greenfield Airport' award under aviation sustainability and environment at ASSOCHAM's 14th International Conference-cum-Awards for Civil Aviation 2023?

नागरिक उड्डयन 2023 के लिए ASSOCHAM के 14 वें अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन-सह-पुरस्कार में विमानन स्थिरता और पर्यावरण के तहत निम्नलिखित में से किस हवाई अड्डे ने 'सर्वश्रेष्ठ सतत ग्रीनफील्ड हवाई अड्डे' का पुरस्कार जीता है?

(a) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi / इंदिरा गांधी अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, दिल्ली

(b) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru / केम्पेगौड़ा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, बेंगलुरु

(c) Cochin International Airport, Kochi / कोचीन अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, कोच्चि

(d) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel International Airport, Ahmedabad / सरदार वल्लभभाई पटेल अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, अहमदाबाद

(e) GMR Goa International Airport, Goa / जीएमआर गोवा अंतरराष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, गोवा

Ans. e

Sol. Goa Manohar International Airport wins Best Sustainable Greenfield Airport Award

A subsidiary of GMR Airports Infrastructure, GMR Goa International Airport (GGIAL) has won the 'Best Sustainable Greenfield Airport' award under aviation sustainability and environment at ASSOCHAM's 14th International Conference-cum-Awards for Civil Aviation 2023.

The award was presented for "outstanding initiatives" taken by Goa International Airport Limited (GGIAL) in implementing sustainability.

The criteria of awards are contribution, innovativeness, applicability, relevance and impact potential in their respective areas.

Goa Manohar International Airport was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 11 December 2022.

280. Which statement is correct about indigenously developed Mobile Operating System 'BharOS'?

स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित मोबाइल ऑपरेटिंग सिस्टम 'भरोसे' के बारे में कौन सा कथन सही है?

(i) IIT Delhi has developed Indigenous Mobile Operating System BharOS'.

IIT दिल्ली ने स्वदेशी मोबाइल ऑपरेटिंग सिस्टम BharOS' विकसित किया है।

(ii) The OS is claimed to be a significant contribution towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat'.

ओएस को 'आत्मनिर्भर भारत' की दिशा में एक महत्वपूर्ण योगदान होने का दावा किया जाता है।

(iii) BharOS has been developed by ISRO.

BharOS को इसरो द्वारा विकसित किया गया है।

(a) Only i
(b) Only ii
(c) Only iii
(d) Both i & ii
(e) Both ii & iii

Ans. b

Sol. IIT Madras developed Indigenous Mobile Operating System 'BharOS'

IIT Madras incubated firm has developed an Indigenous Mobile Operating Shystem named 'BharOS'.

The OS is claimed to be a significant contribution towards 'Atmanirbhar Bharat' and is said to offer a secure environment for users.

BharOS has been developed by JandK Operations Private Limited (JandKops) – a non-profit organization established by IIT Madras Pravartak Technologies Foundation.The Foundation is funded by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, under its National Mission on Interdisciplinary Cyber-Physical Systems (NMICPS).

BharOS provides access to trusted apps from organization-specific Private App Store Services (PASS). A PASS provides access to a curated list of apps that have been thoroughly screened and have met certain security and privacy standards of organizations.

This means users can be confident that the apps they are installing are safe to use and have been checked for any potential security vulnerabilities or privacy concerns.

At present, BharOS services are being provided to organizations that have stringent privacy and security requirements, and whose users handle sensitive information and require access to private cloud services through private 5G networks.

Director of IIT Madras - Prof. V. Kamakoti

281. Hashim Amla has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket recently. From which country does he belong?
हाशिम अमला ने हाल ही में क्रिकेट के सभी प्रारूपों से संन्यास लेने की घोषणा की है। वह किस देश से संबंधित है?

(a) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
(b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
(c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. d

Sol. Hashim Amla announced retirement from all forms of cricket

South Africa cricketer Hashim Amla has announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.

He last played for Surrey in the County Championship 2022 and helped them win the title as well.

The right-handed batter had already retired from international cricket after the World Cup in 2019.

Hashim Amla, South Africa's second-highest Test run-scorer of all time.

He scored 9282 runs in 124 Tests, second only to Jacques Kallis, hit 27 ODI hundreds, and scored a total of 18672 runs in all formats for South Africa.He became the first and only South African batsman to score a triple century in Test Cricket.

- Hugo Lloris - International football - France
- Gareth Bale - International football – Wales
- Sania Mirza – International Tennis - India
- Farhaan Behardien - International Cricket - South Africa
- Karim Benzema - International football - France
- Ben Stokes - One Day International Cricket - England
- Dinesh Ramdin - International Cricket - West Indies
- Tamim Iqbal - T20 International - Bangladesh
- Lendl Simmons - International Cricket - West Indies
- Eoin Morgan - International Cricket - England

282. The Statehood Day of Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura is celebrated on which day?

मणिपुर, मेघालय और त्रिपुरा का स्थापना दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 20 January / 20 जनवरी
(b) 21 January / 21 जनवरी
(c) 22 January / 22 जनवरी
(d) 19 January / 19 जनवरी
(e) 18 January / 18 जनवरी

Ans. b

Sol. 21 January - Foundation Day of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura

The Statehood Day of Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura is celebrated on January 21.

This year marks the 51st foundation year for the three states which attained statehood under the North Eastern Areas (Reorganisation) Act of 1971.

Manipur became a part of India from 15 October 1949 after the merger treaty on 21 September 1949. Manipur was made a Union Territory in 1956.

Tripura was a princely state until its merger with the Indian Union on 15 November 1949. After the death of Bir Bikram Singh, the last Maharaja of Tripura on 17 May 1947, Maharani Kanchan Prabha (wife of Maharaja Bir Bikram) represented the state of Tripura and merged it with India.

The rulers of the Garo and Khasi regions acceded to the Indian Union in the year 1947. Meghalaya was created as an autonomous state within Assam under the Assam Reorganisation (Meghalaya) Act of 1969.

283. National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Day is celebrated every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय आपदा प्रतिक्रिया बल (एनडीआरएफ) दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 20 January / 20 जनवरी
(b) 21 January / 21 जनवरी
(c) 22 January / 22 जनवरी
(d) 19 January / 19 जनवरी
(e) 18 January / 18 जनवरी

Ans. d

Sol. 19 January - National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Day
18th National Disaster Response Force day is celebrated on 19 January 2023 by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF).
It was formed in the year 2006 under the Disaster Management Act of 2005.
It plays a crucial role in the country's disaster management and community awareness for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR).
NDRF at present consists of 12 Battalions.
These battalions are located at 16 different locations on the basis of the vulnerability profile.
The NDRF is the primary agency responsible for conducting rescue operations during disasters like drowning, building collapses, landslides, devastating floods, earthquakes, and cyclones.

284. Which district of Kerala has become the first district in India to provide basic documents to all tribal people recently?
केरल का कौन सा जिला हाल ही में सभी आदिवासी लोगों को बुनियादी दस्तावेज प्रदान करने वाला भारत का पहला जिला बन गया है?

(a) Kasaragod / कासरगोड
(b) Kannur/ कन्नूर
(c) Wayanad / वायनाड
(d) Malappuram / मलप्पुरम
(e) Ernakulam / एर्नाकुलम

Ans. c

Sol. Wayanad becomes first district to provide basic documents to tribals

Kerala's Wayanad has become the first district in India to provide basic documents to all tribal people.

It will provide facilities such as Aadhaar cards, ration cards, birth/death certificates, and health insurance.

Wayanad district administration has achieved this feat by providing 1,42,563 services to 64,670 tribal beneficiaries as part of Akshaya Big Campaign for Document Digitization (ABCD) campaign.

The campaign was launched in November 2021 with the objective of ensuring basic documents for all citizens of Scheduled Tribe communities from Thondarandu Gram Panchayat.

About Kerala

- **Capital –** Thiruvananthapuram
- **Chief Minister** – Pinarayi Vijayan
- **Governor –** Arif Mohammad Khan

285. The Ministry of Tourism is participating in FITUR, the world's largest international travel exhibition in which country?
पर्यटन मंत्रालय किस देश में दुनिया की सबसे बड़ी अंतरराष्ट्रीय यात्रा प्रदर्शनी FITUR में भाग ले रहा है?

(a) France / फ्रांस
(b) Spain / स्पेन
(c) UK / यूके
(d) Norway / नॉर्वे
(e) Poland / पोलैंड

Ans. b

Sol. Tourism Ministry participates in world's largest Travel Exhibition

The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, is participating in FITUR, the world's largest international travel exhibition in Madrid, Spain.

India's participation at FITUR is significant to step up the recovery of inbound tourism to pre-pandemic levels

The Ministry of Tourism has taken up 253 square metres of space, with over 30 participants exhibiting along with the India Pavilion, to participate in the exhibition.

The India Pavilion was inaugurated by Dinesh K Patnaik, Indian Ambassador to Spain.

The first Global Tourism Investors Summit will be organized in New Delhi from 10-12 April 2023.

The first Global Tourism Investors Summit will be organized by the Ministry of Tourism in New Delhi from 10 to 12 April.

About Spain

- **Capital-** Madrid
- **Currency** – Euro
- Prime Minister - Pedro Sánchez
  Official language- Spanish

286. Who co-chaired the 18th Annual General Meeting of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati?
भारतीय उद्यमिता संस्थान (IIE), गुवाहाटी की 18 वीं वार्षिक आम बैठक की सह-अध्यक्षता किसने की?

(a) Anurag Thakur & Dharmendra Pradhan / अनुराग ठाकुर और धर्मेंद्र प्रधान
(b) Piyush Goyal & Anurag Thakur /पीयूष गोयल और अनुराग ठाकुर
(c) G Kishan Reddy & Anurag Thakur / जी किशन रेड्डी और अनुराग ठाकुर
(d) Dharmendra Pradhan & G Kishan Reddy / धर्मेंद्र प्रधान और जी किशन रेड्डी
(e) Piyush Goyal & G Kishan Reddy / पीयूष गोयल और जी किशन रेड्डी

Ans. d

Sol. 18th Annual Meeting of Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE) held
Union Minister for Tourism, Culture G Kishan Reddy and Union Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan co-chaired the 18th Annual General Meeting of the Indian Institute of Entrepreneurship (IIE), Guwahati.
During the meeting, a holistic approach of the government for skill development in the North Eastern region was suggested.
Both the Ministers also co-chaired a review meeting on the preparations for several activities under 'Ek Bharat, Shreshth Bharat'.
Students from North East will be selected to visit different tourist spots in the rest of India to enable closer cultural and emotional ties.
At least 20,000 students from 100 universities will be selected to tour different parts of India to gain an opportunity for experiential learning.

287. Which State/UTs government is going to host its maiden SARAS Fair 2023 from 4 to 14 February 2023?
कौन सी राज्य/केंद्र शासित प्रदेश सरकार 4 से 14 फरवरी 2023 तक अपना पहला सरस मेला 2023 आयोजित करने जा रही है?

(a) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर
(b) Gujarat / गुजरात
(c) Delhi /दिल्ली
(d) Punjab / पंजाब
(e) Ladakh / लद्दाख

Ans. a

Sol. J&K government to host its maiden SARAS Fair 2023

The Government of Jammu and Kashmir is going to host its maiden SARAS Fair 2023 from 4 to 14 Feb 23.

In this fair, artisans and women self-help groups from across the country will showcase their crafts, handcrafts, handloom, and foods.

The fair would be organized at Bagh-e-Bahu, Jammu.

The fair is expected to witness the participation of women Self Help Groups from around 15 States and UTs across the country to sell their self-made products.

Popular Festivals of Jammu and Kashmir

- Ladakh Screenwriters Fair
- Har Navami Festival
- Bahu Mela
- Dosmoche Festival
- Hemis Festival
- Kanchoth festival
- Tulip Festival
- Spituk Gustor Festival
- Herath Festival
- Lavendar Festival

288. A Science Literature Festival 'Vigyanika' has been organized at the Indian International Science Festival (IISF) in which of the following city?

निम्नलिखित में से किस शहर में भारतीय अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विज्ञान महोत्सव (IISF) में विज्ञान साहित्य महोत्सव 'विज्ञानिका' का आयोजन किया गया है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhopal / भोपाल

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. 'Vigyanika - Science Literature Festival' event to be held in IISF, Bhopal

A Science Literature Festival 'Vigyanika' has been organized at the Indian International Science Festival (IISF), Maulana Azad National Institute of Technology, Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

"Science Literature Festival" is being organized as part of the 8th IISF.

In 2023, IISF is being coordinated and organized by the Ministry of Earth Sciences, Ministry of Science & Technology, and Vijnana Bharati.

About 300 science writers, communicators, artists, journalists, young and budding authors, researchers, college students, children, science enthusiasts, science policymakers and citizens has participated in Vigyanika event.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

289. According to an EY report, the Indian Economy will become $26 trillion economy by which year?

EY रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारतीय अर्थव्यवस्था किस वर्ष तक 26 ट्रिलियन डॉलर की अर्थव्यवस्था बन जाएगी?

(a) 2030
(b) 2035
(c) 2040
(d) 2047
(e) 2050

Ans. d

Sol. India to become $26 trillion economy by 2047: EY report

According to an EY report, the Indian Economy is very likely to hit the $26 trillion mark by the year 2047, which will also be the 100th year of India's independence.

The report also showed that the country's per capita income would exceed $15,000, placing it among the top developed economies.

It also noted that despite maintaining a stable yet modest growth rate of 6% per annum, India would still be able to become a $26 trillion economy (in nominal terms) by 2047-48, with the per capita income at six times the current levels.

According to EY's report, few factor have contributed in positioning India for higher and sustainable growth. These include the recent accelerated pace of economic reforms in important areas like social inclusion, financial inclusion, improving and transforming fiscal, physical, and digital infrastructure, etc.

A decade ago Indian GDP was the eleventh largest globally. And recently India's economy had overtaken that of the United Kingdom to become the fifth biggest in the world (in terms of size), according to figures from the International Monetary Fund.

290. Which insurance company has partnered with Doers NGO to assist Himachal Pradesh police in reducing the number of traffic accidents under the Corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने कॉर्पोरेट सामाजिक उत्तरदायित्व (CSR) पहल के तहत यातायात दुर्घटनाओं की संख्या को कम करने में हिमाचल प्रदेश पुलिस की सहायता के लिए Doers NGO के साथ भागीदारी की है?

(a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance / बजाज आलियांज जनरल इंश्योरेंस

(b) Bharti AXA General Insurance / भारती एक्सा जनरल इंश्योरेंस

(c) Cholamandalam MS General Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस जनरल इंश्योरेंस

(d) SBI General Insurance / SBI जनरल इंश्योरेंस

(e) Universal Sompo General Insurance / यूनिवर्सल सोम्पो जनरल इंश्योरेंस

Ans. d

Sol. SBI General Insurance partnered with HP Police and Doers NGO

SBI General Insurance has partnered with Doers NGO to assist Himachal Pradesh police in reducing the number of traffic accidents under the corporate social responsibility (CSR) initiative.

SBI General has donated a well-equipped ambulance which would provide timely medical care to the road accident victims in the Mandi district within the 'Golden hour'.

Objective - To provide timely treatment and facilitate lifesaving medical resources for road accident victims.

According to a report by the Ministry of Road Transports and Highways Transport (MoRTH) Research Wing, road accidents in India kills almost 1.5 lakh people annually. India accounts for almost 11 percent of the accident-related deaths in the World.

MD & CEO of SBI General Insurance - Kishore Kumar Poludasu

About Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital –** Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- **Chief Minister** – Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
- **Deputy Chief Minister -** Mukesh Agnihotri
- **Governor –** Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

Recent MoUs Signed in Banking Sector

- South Indian Bank partnered with SAIL to provide financial assistance to the dealers of SAIL
- Axis Bank signed MoU with IISc Bengaluru to set up Centre for Mathematics and Computing
- Hockey Wali Sarpanch signed an agreement with NABARD to strengthen farmers*
- Axis Bank partnered with OPEN to launch a fully digital current account
- Niva Bupa and Sundaram Finance signed corporate agency agreement

291. According to the report published by Brand Finance, what is the rank of Reliance Jio among the world's strongest brands?

ब्रांड फाइनेंस द्वारा प्रकाशित रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, दुनिया के सबसे मजबूत ब्रांडों में रिलायंस जियो की रैंक क्या है?

(a) 5th

(b) 6th

(c) 9th

(d) 12th

(e) 15th

Ans. d

Sol. Jio is India's strongest brand, ranked 9th globally: Brand Finance Report

Reliance Jio has been ranked as the strongest brand in India and placed 9th among the world's strongest brands, according to the report 'Global 500 – 2023' published by Brand Finance.

Jio was placed ninth among the world's strongest brands ahead of brands like EY, Coca-Cola, Accenture and Porsche, and behind the likes of Google, YouTube, Deloitte, and Instagram.

With a Brand Strength Index of 90.2, Jio is the only brand among the world's strongest 25 brands, according to the Brand Finance listing.

The report titled 'Global 500 - 2023' is published annually and ranks the world's most valuable and strongest brands.

292. Who has been elected as the new Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand?

न्यूजीलैंड के नए उप प्रधान मंत्री के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

(a) Leo Varadkar /लियो वराडकर

(b) Chris Hipkins / क्रिस हिपकिंस

(c) Natasa Pirc Musar / नतासा पिर्क मुसर

(d) Dina Boluarte / दीना बोलुआर्टे

(e) Carmel Sepuloni / कार्मेल सेपुलोनी

Ans. e

Sol. Chris Hipkins elected as new prime minister of New Zealand

New Zealand's ruling Labor Party has elected Chris Hipkins as its leader and the country's 41st prime minister, replacing Ms. Jacinda Ardern.

Hipkins was the only nomination for the job and his confirmation in a party meeting known as the Labour caucus was largely a formality.

Hipkins named Carmel Sepuloni as Deputy Prime Minister.

First elected to Parliament in 2008, he became a household name fronting the Government's response to the pandemic.

He was appointed Health Minister in July 2020 before becoming the COVID Response Minister at the end of the year.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- Prime Minister of Nepal - Pushpa Kamal Dahal
- Prime Minister of Ireland – Indian-origin Leo Varadkar (2nd term)
- First female President of Peru - Dina Boluarte
- Prime Minister of Malaysia - Anwar Ibrahim
- President of Kazakhstan - Kassym-Jomart Tokayev (2nd term)
- First female president of Slovenia - Natasa Pirc Musar
- New Prime Minister of Israel - Benjamin Netanyahu
- President of Brazil - Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva
- Prime Minister of Sweden - Ulf Kristersson
- President of Iraq - Abdul Latif Rashid

293. Reed Hastings steps down as Chief Executive Officer (CEO) recently. He was the CEO of which company?

रीड हेस्टिंग्स ने हाल ही में मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के पद से इस्तीफा दिया। वह किस कंपनी के सीईओ थे?

(a) Netflix / नेटफ्लिक्स
(b) Instagram / इंस्टाग्राम
(c) YouTube / यूट्यूब
(d) Pinterest / यूट्यूब
(e) Amazon Prime / अमेजॉन प्राइम

Ans. a

Sol. Co-founder of Netflix, Reed Hastings steps down as CEO

Netflix Inc co-founder Reed Hastings is stepping down as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), handing the reins of the streaming service to longtime partner and co-CEO Ted Sarandos and the company's chief operating officer, Greg Peters.

Netflix has been under pressure after losing customers in the first half of 2022.

He had co-founded Netflix as a DVD-by-mail business in 1997, saying the idea came from his frustration at having returned a rental of Apollo 13 to the local Blockbuster, a chain of physical stores in the US from where movies could be rented.

294. Who has been awarded "the most distinguished scientist of the year 2022" at the Indian Achievers Award at Vigyan Bhawan?

विज्ञान भवन में इंडियन अचीवर्स अवार्ड में "वर्ष 2022 के सबसे प्रतिष्ठित वैज्ञानिक" से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) A. S. Kiran Kumar / ए एस किरण कुमार
(b) Malathi Sivan / मालती सिवन
(c) Ritu Karidhal / रितु करिधल
(d) Tessy Thomas / टेसी थॉमस
(e) R Vishnu Prassad / आर विष्णु प्रसाद

Ans. e

Sol. RV Prassad awarded the most distinguished scientist of the year 2022

R Vishnu Prassad has been awarded "the most distinguished scientist of the year 2022" at the Indian Achievers Award at Vigyan Bhawan in Delhi.

The award recognizes individuals for their outstanding contributions in various fields, including culture, science, sports, and innovation.

R Vishnu Prassad, a scientist with 69 patents has been honored with the Indian Achievers Award as the most distinguished scientist of the year by Anurag Thakur.

Recent Awards

- Golden Kailasha award at 8th Ajanta-Ellora FF - Naanera (Rajasthani film)
- Banker's Bank of the Year Award 2022 for the India segment – Canara Bank
- Best Small Bank Award 2022 - Tamilnad Mercantile Bank
- Federal Bank Literary Award 2023 - Writer K Venu for Oranweshananthinte Katha'.
- 71st annual Miss Universe pageant - R'Bonney Gabriel (USA)
- Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award - Thiru Kumar Nadesan

295. Who has won the ISA Award 2021-22 for Service to Humanity, a top civilian award of Bahrain?
मानवता की सेवा के लिए आईएसए पुरस्कार 2021-22 किसने जीता है, जो बहरीन का शीर्ष नागरिक पुरस्कार है?
(a) Dr. Sanduk Ruit / डॉ. सैंडुक रुइत
(b) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy / डॉ. एस ईश्वरा रेड्डी
(c) Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi / डॉ अश्विनी कुमार द्विवेदी
(d) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया
(e) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma / डॉ. रविकांत शर्मा
Ans. a
Sol. Nepalese ophthalmologist Dr. Sanduk Ruit won Bahrain's ISA Award
Himalayan Cataract Project Co-Founder and noted Nepali ophthalmologist Dr. Sanduk Ruit has won the ISA Award 2021-22 for Service to Humanity, a top civilian award of Bahrain.
He is fondly called as "God of Sight" to have saved 1,20,000 eyesight who would have otherwise gone blind in absence of treatment.
The award carries a cash prize of US$1 million, a certificate of merit, and a gold medallion.
He is a recipient of the Padma Shri award, the National Order of Merit of Bhutan, and the Ramon Magsaysay Award.
In 2016, he was awarded the 'Asian Game Changer Award.'

Recent Awards

- Gaja Capital Business Book Prize 2022 – Harish Damodaran
- Dr. Patangrao Kadam award - Adar Poonawalla
- Lifetime Achievement Award at 15th Jaipur Film Festival - Aparna Sen
- Assam highest civilian award 'AssamBaibhav' - Dr. Tapan Saikia
- 'Best Police Unit' award for 2021 - Jalna and Nagpur Police (Maharastra)

296. The first edition of which of the following exercise between India and Egypt began in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan?
भारत और मिस्र के बीच निम्नलिखित में से किस अभ्यास का पहला संस्करण राजस्थान के जैसलमेर में शुरू हुआ?
(a) Sangam I
(b) Veer Guardian I
(c) Samanvay I
(d) Gagan Strike I
(e) Cyclone I
Ans. e
Sol. India & Egypt Joint Training Exercise Cyclone - I begin in Rajasthan
Indian Army and Egyptian Army have commenced Exercise Cyclone-I, the first-ever joint exercise between their special forces.
The 14-day-long joint exercise is in progress at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.
The first of its kind joint Exercise Cyclone-I, being held in the deserts of Rajasthan, is seeing the Special Forces contingents of India and Egypt engage in various activities to enhance their skills.
The activities include Sniping, Combat Free Fall, Reconnaissance, Surveillance & Target Designation, and sharing of information on weapons, equipment, innovations, tactics, techniques & procedures.
The goal of Exercise Cyclone-I is to improve defence cooperation between the two countries.
The Exercise will concentrate on professional skill sharing and Special Forces interoperability in desert terrain while conducting counterterrorism, reconnaissance, raids, and other special operations

Recent Exercise

- The 21st edition of the bilateral naval exercise between India and France titled 'Varuna' began on the western seaboard.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) will conduct their first Air exercise "Veer Guardian 23" from January 16 to 26 at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.
- 16th edition of India & Nepal Joint Training Excercise Surya Kiran begins in Saljhandi, Nepal
- India & Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND 2022 begins in Umroi, Meghalaya
- 7th edition of US-India Naval Exercise Sangam held in Goa

297. UNESCO has decided to dedicate the International Day of Education on _____ to Afghan girls and women.

यूनेस्को ने अफगान लड़कियों और महिलाओं को _____ पर अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा दिवस समर्पित करने का निर्णय लिया है।

(a) 23 January 2023 / 23 जनवरी 2023
(b) 22 January 2023 / 22 जनवरी 2023
(c) 24 January 2023 / 24 जनवरी 2023
(d) 25 January 2023 / 25 जनवरी 2023
(e) 21 January 2023 / 21 जनवरी 2023

Ans. c

Sol. UNESCO to dedicate International Day of Education to Afghan Girls

UNESCO has decided to dedicate the International Day of Education on the 24th of January 2023 to Afghan girls and women.

It said that no country in the world should bar women and girls from receiving an education and it is a universal human right that must be respected.

The international community has the responsibility to ensure that the rights of Afghan girls and women are restored without delay.

According to UNESCO, currently, around 80 percent of school-aged Afghan girls and young women are out of school under Taliban rule, as they denied them access to secondary schools and universities.

298. Parakram Diwas is celebrated every year on which day?

पराक्रम दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 23 January/ 23 जनवरी
(b) 22 January / 22 जनवरी
(c) 24 January / 24 जनवरी
(d) 25 January / 25 जनवरी
(e) 21 January / 21 जनवरी

Ans. a

Sol. 23 January 2023 - 126th Birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

The birth anniversary of Subhash Chandra Bose on 23 January is celebrated every year as Parakram Diwas to inspire the people of the country, especially the youth.

He was born on January 23, 1897, at Cuttack in Odisha and his birthday is being celebrated as 'Parakram Divas' (day of valor) since 2022.

In 1923, he was elected the President of the All India Youth Congress and was elected President of the Haripura Congress Session in 1938.

299. Which state government is planning to make the state as the first Green Energy State by the end of 2025?

कौन सी राज्य सरकार 2025 के अंत तक राज्य को पहला हरित ऊर्जा राज्य बनाने की योजना बना रही है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Gujarat / गुजरात
(d) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
(e) Punjab / पंजाब

Ans. d

Sol. Himachal Pradesh targets to be first 'green energy state' by 2025

The Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister, Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has announced that the state government is planning to make the state as the first Green Energy State by the end of 2025.

The state government would also invest in solar plants and will install 500 MW solar projects during the year 2023-24.

Out of this, 200 MW would be installed by HPPCL for which land has been identified for 70 MW capacity and the rest of the sites will be finalized soon.

He also directed HIMURJA to ensure 5% premium for the state in each solar power project up to 5 MW and 10% share in the solar power projects of more than 5 MW capacity.

About Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital –** Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- **Chief Minister** – Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
- **Deputy Chief Minister -** Mukesh Agnihotri
- **Governor –** Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

300. The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and the Indian Embassy jointly organized an International seminar on knowledge sharing on the conservation of natural and cultural heritage in which city?

इंडियन नेशनल ट्रस्ट फॉर आर्ट एंड कल्चरल हेरिटेज (INTACH) और भारतीय दूतावास ने संयुक्त रूप से किस शहर में प्राकृतिक और सांस्कृतिक विरासत के संरक्षण पर ज्ञान साझा करने पर एक अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संगोष्ठी का आयोजन किया?

(a) Kathmandu / काठमांडू
(b) Jakarta / जकार्ता
(c) Dhaka / ढाका
(d) Thimpu / थिम्पू
(e) Colombo / कोलंबो

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Embassy organizes Intl seminar on knowledge sharing in Kathmandu

The Indian National Trust for Art and Cultural Heritage (INTACH) and the Indian Embassy jointly have organized an International seminar on knowledge sharing on the conservation of natural and cultural heritage in Kathmandu.

The guest of honour of the event was Nepal's Minister of Culture, Tourism and Civil Aviation, Sudan Kirati.

The government of India extended support worth USD 50 million for the reconstruction of two UNESCO heritage sites Pashupatinath Temple and Bhandarkhal of Patan Durbar Square post-2015 earthquake in Nepal.

The Ambassador of India to Nepal is Naveen Shrivastav.

About Nepal

- **Capital-** Kathmandu
- **Currency-** Nepalese rupee
- **President**- Bidhya Devi Bhandari
- **Prime minister**- Pushpa Kamal Dahal

301. Prime Minister Narendra Modi named how many islands of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands after Param Vir Chakra awardees on the occasion of Parakram Divas?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने पराक्रम दिवस के अवसर पर परमवीर चक्र पुरस्कार विजेताओं के नाम पर अंडमान और निकोबार द्वीप समूह के कितने द्वीपों का नाम रखा?

(a) 20
(b) 31
(c) 19
(d) 21
(e) 11

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi named 21 islands of Andaman and Nicobar after Paramveer Chakra awardees

Prime Minister Narendra Modi named 21 islands of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands after 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees on the auspicious occasion of Parakram Divas organized to mark the 126th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.

The memorial will be built on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep in Port Blair. The memorial will consist of Netaji's Museum, Heritage trail, ropeway connected to Port Blair and a children's park. Modi has also unveiled the model of the National Memorial dedicated to Netaji to be built on Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose Island.

The largest unnamed island was named after the first Param Vir Chakra awardee, Major Somnath Sharma, who was martyred in action on November 3, 1947 while repulsing Pakistani infiltrators near Srinagar Airport.

The 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees, after whom the islands have been named are:

1. Major Somnath Sharma,
2. Subedar and Honorary Captain (then Lance Naik) Karam Singh
3. MM 2nd Lt. Rama Raghoba Rane
4. Naik Jadunath Singh
5. Havildar Major Piru Singh
6. Capt GS Salaria
7. Lt. Col. (then Major) Dhan Singh Thapa
8. Subedar Joginder Singh
9. Maj. Shaitan Singh
10. Abdul Hameed
11. Lieutenant Colonel Ardeshir Burjorji Tarapore
12. Lance Naik Albert Ekka
13. Major Hoshiar Singh
14. Second Lieutenant Arun Khetrapal
15. Flying Officer Nirmaljit Singh Sekhon
16. Major Ramaswamy Parameswaran
17. Naib Subedar Bana Singh
18. Captain Vikram Batra
19. Lieutenant Manoj Kumar Pandey
20. Subedar Major (then Rifleman) Sanjay Kumar
21. Subedar Major Retd Grenadier Yogendra Singh Yadav

302. The annual Ethnic Mamani Festival has been organized at Historical Styangkung Village and Chiktan Shagaran by the Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation (HCHF) and which Tourism Department?

हिमालयन कल्चरल हेरिटेज फाउंडेशन (HCHF) और किस पर्यटन विभाग द्वारा ऐतिहासिक स्त्यंगकुंग गांव और चिकतन शगरान में वार्षिक जातीय ममानी महोत्सव का आयोजन किया गया है?

(a) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर

(b) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

(c) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश

(d) Punjab / पंजाब

(e) Ladakh / लद्दाख

Ans. e

Sol. HCHF and Ladakh Tourism Dept organized annual Ethnic Mamani Festival

The annual Ethnic Mamani Festival was organized at Historical Styangkung Village and Chiktan Shagaran by the Himalayan Cultural Heritage Foundation (HCHF) and Ladakh Tourism Department.

The Steyangkung village is around 500 years old and still well-preserved and is being developed as one of the well-maintained heritage villages in Ladakh.

This village is being developed as one of the well-maintained heritage villages in Ladakh.

During Mamani Festival, people would exchange food with their relatives and neighbours and worship a variety of spirits.

These festivals have helped in the revival of more than 35 cuisines of Kargil Ladakh.

Famous festivals of Ladakh

- Spituk Gustor
- Ladakh Festival
- Diskit Gustor Festival
- Chemrey Wangchok Festival
- Galdan Namchot Festival
- Losar Festival

303. Charaideo Moidams is India's nomination for UNESCO's world heritage site status in the cultural category. This site is located in which state?

चराइदेव मोइदम्स सांस्कृतिक श्रेणी में यूनेस्को की विश्व विरासत स्थल की स्थिति के लिए भारत का नामांकन है। यह साइट किस राज्य में स्थित है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. c

Sol. 'Moidams' nominated for UNESCO World Heritage Site

Charaideo Moidams is India's nomination for UNESCO's world heritage site status in the cultural category.

The Ahom-era 'Moidams' (cemetery of the royal family) in Assam's Charaideo district will be India's only nomination for recognition as a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

The 'Moidams' of the Ahom dynasty at Charaideo was first included in the tentative list of UNESCO World Heritage Site in April 2014.

Moidams represents the late medieval (13th-19th century CE) mound burial tradition of the Tai Ahoms in Assam, which lasted almost 600 years.

India currently has 40 World Heritage Sites – 32 of them cultural sites, seven natural sites and one mixed site.

About Assam

- **Capital –** Dispur
- **Chief Minister** –Himanta Biswa Sarma
- **Governor –** Prof Jagdish Mukhi

About United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

- **Formation** - 16 November 1945
- **Headquarters** - Paris, France
- **Director General** - Audrey Azoulay (France)
- **Member countries –** 193

304. Who has been appointed as the new Chief of the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA)?

नागरिक उड्डयन महानिदेशालय (DGCA) के नए प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Anish Dayal Singh / अनीश दयाल सिंह

(b) Vikram Dev Dutt / विक्रम देव दत्त

(c) M A Ganapathy / एम ए गणपति

(d) Pankaj Kumar Singh / पंकज कुमार सिंह

(e) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal / सुबोध कुमार जायसवाल

Ans. b

Sol. Vikram Dev Dutt appointed as director general of DGCA

The Centre has approved the appointment of IAS officer Vikram Dev Dutt as the next chief of the aviation regulator Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

Dutt, a 1993 batch IAS officer, is currently serving as the CMD of Air India Assets Holding Ltd (AIAHL).

He will take over as the head of the aviation regulator on February 28, upon the superannuation of incumbent DGCA chief Arun Kumar.

Recent Appointment

- Director of National Health Authority - Praveen Sharma
- Nick Walker appointed as CEO of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas
- Chief Economist of OECD - Clare Lombardelli (UK)
- CEO of Cognizant - Ravi Kumar
- Director of Meta's Global Business Group in India - Vikas Purohit
- Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee - Chetan Sharma

305. Who has been appointed by the Delhi High Court as Administrator to manage the use of funds for the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2023?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय निशानेबाजी खेल महासंघ (ISSF) विश्व कप 2023 के लिए धन के उपयोग का प्रबंधन करने के लिए दिल्ली उच्च न्यायालय द्वारा प्रशासक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Sharad Arvind Bobde / शरद अरविंद बोबड़े
(b) AK Sikri / एके सीकरी
(c) Uday Lalit / उदय ललित
(d) N. V. Ramana / एन वी रमना
(e) Ranjan Gogoi / रंजन गोगोई

Ans. b

Sol. Justice AK Sikri appointed Administrator of Shooting World Cup 2023

Former Supreme Court Judge, A. K. Sikri has been appointed by the Delhi High Court as Administrator to manage the use of funds for the International Shooting Sports Federation (ISSF) World Cup 2023.

The world cup will take place in March 2023 in Bhopal.

According to the court, the administrator can enlist the services of any athlete of his choosing who has competed at the national or international level in the shooting.

Recent Appointment

- Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Saiyam Mehra
- Vice chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Rajesh Rokde
- New Speaker of the US House of Representatives - Kevin McCarthy
- Secretary General of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) - Dr. Vinay Prakash Sing
- Bihar's state icon by Election Commission - Maithili Thakur

306. The Indian Navy has organized a 6-day-long mega biennial tri-services amphibious 'exercise AMPHEX 2023' in which state?

भारतीय नौसेना ने किस राज्य में 6 दिवसीय मेगा द्विवार्षिक त्रि-सेवा उभयचर 'अभ्यास AMPHEX 2023' का आयोजन किया है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Gujarat / गुजरात
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Telangana / तेलंगाना

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Navy conducts 'Exercise AMPHEX' 2023 In Andhra Pradesh

The Indian Navy has organized a six-day-long mega biennial tri-services amphibious 'exercise AMPHEX 2023' near Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.

The military exercise has organized between the Indian Army, Indian Air Force (IAF), and the Indian Navy.

The joint operations conducted during the exercise saw the participation of a large number of troops from the Indian Army, amphibious warships from the Indian Navy, and aircraft from the IAF.

The aim of this war exercise was to showcase India's capabilities to protect the territorial integrity of its areas including better coordination between the three services and enhance joint warfighting capabilities.

It took place amid growing concerns over China's increasing military forays into the Indian Ocean.

- Indian Army and Egyptian Army commenced Exercise Cyclone-I, the first-ever joint exercise between their special forces at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.
- The 21st edition of the bilateral naval exercise between India and France titled 'Varuna' began on the western seaboard.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) will conduct their first Air exercise "Veer Guardian 23" at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.
- 16th edition of India & Nepal Joint Training Excercise Surya Kiran begins in Saljhandi, Nepal
- India & Kazakhstan joint military exercise KAZIND 2022 begins in Umroi, Meghalaya

307. Which of the following armed forces is conducting 'Ops Alert' exercise?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा सशस्त्र बल 'ऑप्स अलर्ट' अभ्यास कर रहा है?

(a) BSF

(b) CRPF

(c) CISF

(d) SSB

(e) ITBP

Ans. a

Sol. BSF conducts 'Ops Alert' exercise

The Border Security Force (BSF) has started an "Ops Alert" exercise with an aim to enhance security along the India-Pakistan border in the Kutch district of Gujarat and Barmer in Rajasthan.

The 'Ops Alert' exercise commenced on January 21 and will continue till January 28 "all along the Indo-Pak international border from Sir Creek (marshy area) to the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat and Barmer district of Rajasthan.

It is being carried out to "thwart any ill-designs of anti-national elements" during the Republic Day celebrations.

308. The fifth Kalvari class submarine INS Vagir has been inducted into Indian Navy. The submarine has been built by which company?

पांचवीं कलवारी श्रेणी की पनडुब्बी आईएनएस वागीर को भारतीय नौसेना में शामिल कर लिया गया है। पनडुब्बी किस कंपनी द्वारा बनाई गई है?

(a) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited / मझगांव डॉक शिपबिल्डर्स लिमिटेड
(b) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers / गार्डन रीच शिपबिल्डर्स एंड इंजीनियर्स
(c) Goa Shipyard Limited / गोवा शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड
(d) Hindustan Shipyard Limited / हिंदुस्तान शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड
(e) Cochin Shipyard Limited / कोचीन शिपयार्ड लिमिटेड

Ans. a

Sol. Fifth Kalvari class submarine INS Vagir inducted into Indian Navy

The fifth Kalvari class submarine INS Vagir has been inducted into Indian Navy.

Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral R Hari Kumar was the Chief Guest at a ceremony held at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai.

The submarine has been built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) Mumbai, under collaboration with M/s Naval Group, France.

Four of the Kalvari class of submarines have already been commissioned into the Indian Navy.

Vagir is expected to boost the Indian Navy's capability to further India's maritime interests. It is capable of undertaking diverse missions including anti-surface warfare, anti-submarine warfare, intelligence gathering, mine laying, and surveillance missions.

Launched and named 'Vagir' on 12th November 2020 Kalvari has the distinction of having the lowest build time among all indigenously manufactured submarines till date.

309. Who has been awarded the Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award?

पंडित हरिप्रसाद चौरसिया लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Dr. Prabha Atre / डॉ. प्रभा अत्रे

(b) Dr. S. Eswara Reddy / डॉ. एस ईश्वरा रेड्डी

(c) Dr. P.B.N. Prasad / डॉ. पी.बी.एन. प्रसाद

(d) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया

(e) Dr. Ravi Kant Sharma / डॉ. रविकांत शर्मा

Ans. a

Sol. Dr. Prabha Atre awarded Pt Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award

Hindustani vocalist & Padma Vibhushan awardee, Dr. Prabha Atre has been awarded the Pandit Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award.

The award was conferred by Maharashtra CM Eknath Shinde to her, at a function at Ram Ganesh Gadkari Rangayatan in Mumbai.

She was also presented with a citation and Rs 1 lakh.

She is an Indian classical vocalist from the Kirana Gharana.

She has been awarded Padma Shri (1990), Padma Bhushan (2002), and Padma Vibhushan (2022) by the Government of India.

Recent Awards

- Golden Kailasha award at 8th Ajanta-Ellora FF - Naanera (Rajasthani film)
- Federal Bank Literary Award 2023 - Writer K Venu for Oranweshananthinte Katha'.
- 71st annual Miss Universe pageant - R'Bonney Gabriel (USA)
- Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award - Thiru Kumar Nadesan
- Dr. Patangrao Kadam award - Adar Poonawalla

310. In the India Open Badminton Championship, who won the Women's singles final at K D Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi?

इंडिया ओपन बैडमिंटन चैंपियनशिप में, नई दिल्ली के के डी जाधव इंडोर स्टेडियम में महिला एकल का फाइनल किसने जीता?

(a) An Seyoung / एक सेयंग

(b) Nozomi Okuhara / नोज़ोमी ओकुहारा

(c) Kim So-yeong / किम सो-योंग

(d) Ratchanok Intanon / रतनचानोक इंतानोन

(e) Akane Yamaguchi / अकाने यामागुची

Ans. a

Sol. In the India Open Badminton Championship, Korea's An Seyoung won the Women's Singles final at K D Jadhav Indoor Stadium in New Delhi.

In the finals, An Seyoung beat World No.1 Japanese Akane Yamaguchi 15-21, 21-16, 21-12.

While Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn won Men's Singles final defeating Denmark's Viktor Axelsen.

Men's doubles - Liang Weikeng and Wang Chang (China)

Women's doubles - Nami Matsuyama and Chiharu Shida (Japan)

311. Who is the author of the book titled 'COACHING BEYOND: My Days with the Indian Cricket Team'?

'कोचिंग बियॉन्ड: माई डेज़ विद द इंडियन क्रिकेट टीम' नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

(a) Aashish Kapoor & Sanjay Bangar / आशीष कपूर और संजय बांगड़

(b) Bharat Arun & Sanjay Bangar / भरत अरुण और संजय बांगर

(c) R. Kaushik & R Sridhar / आर कौशिक और आर श्रीधर

(d) Vikram Rathour & R. Kaushik / विक्रम राठौर और आर कौशिक

(e) Ravi Shastri & Sanjay Bangar / रवि शास्त्री और संजय बांगड़

Ans. c

Sol. A book titled 'Coaching Beyond' by R. Kaushik & R Sridhar released

A book titled 'COACHING BEYOND: My Days with the Indian Cricket Team' has been authored by R. Kaushik & R. Sridhar.

The book reflects on R. Sridhar's seven-year from 2014 to 2021 coaching tenure with the Indian cricket team as its fielding coach.

R. Sridhar, a left-arm spinner who played for Hyderabad in the late 1990s, discovered his love for coaching when still an active player.

R. Kaushik is also the co-author of V.V.S Laxman's autobiography, 281 and Beyond, as well as, Gundappa Vishwanath's autobiography, Wrist Assured.

Recent Book

- Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies - Shubhra Gupta
- Human Anatomy - written by Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi; released by Governor of MP
- Njaan Sakshi' (me as the witness) - K.K. Abdul Gaffar(autobiography); released by MS Dhoni
- Spare - J. R. Moehringer; released by Prince Harry (his Memoir)
- A book titled 'Ambedkar: A Life - Shashi Tharoor

312. National Girl Child Day is celebrated in India every year on which day?

भारत में हर साल राष्ट्रीय बालिका दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 22 January / 22 जनवरी

(b) 23 January / 23 जनवरी

(c) 24 January / 24 जनवरी

(d) 21 January / 21 जनवरी

(e) 25 January / 25 जनवरी

Ans. c

Sol. 24 January - National Girl Child Day

National Girl Child Day is celebrated in India every year on January 24.

It was initiated in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the government of India.

Objective - To raise awareness against pre-natal sex determination and gender-selective abortion,

The first National Girl Child was celebrated on January 24, 2008.

313. Padma Shri awardee Prabhaben Sobhagchand Shah passed away recently at the age of 92. Who was she?
पद्म श्री पुरस्कार से सम्मानित प्रभाबेन शोभगचंद शाह का हाल ही में 92 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थीं?

(a) Writer / लेखक
(b) Politician / राजनेता
(c) Actor / अभिनेता
(d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
(e) Film Director / फिल्म निर्देशक

Ans. d

Sol. Padma Shri awardee Prabhaben Sobhagchand Shah passed away

Padma Shri awardee Prabhaben Sobhagchand Shah passed away recently at the age of 92.

She was a social worker from the Union Territory of Dadra and Nagar Haveli, Daman, and Diu.

Prabhaben Sobhagchand Shah was also known as "Daman ki Divya".

In 1969, Prabhaben started sewing classes for women in Daman.

She also started the Women Cooperative Society, and Women Credit Society.

In 2022, she was awarded the Padma Shri.

Important Obituary

- Ronald E Ashe – A British linguist and educator specializing in Dravidian languages
- Sharad Yadav – Politician
- Dr. Tehemton Erach Udwadia - Father of Laparoscopic Surgery in India
- Prof. Rehman Rahi - Renowned poet and Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee

314. The first meeting of the Youth-20 Group will be held in which city from 6-8 February 2023?

यूथ-20 ग्रुप की पहली बैठक 6-8 फरवरी 2023 को किस शहर में होगी?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
(c) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. First meeting of the Youth 20 Group will be held in Guwahati

The first meeting of the Youth-20 Group will be held in Guwahati from 6-8 February, 2023.

The Youth 20 (Y20) Summit is being hosted by India for the first time on the sidelines of the G20 Summit.

This is the first of several meetings to be held in India on five Youth20 themes in the run-up to the Youth-20 Summit.

The meeting will focus on five themes of the Future of Work - climate change and disaster risk reduction, peacebuilding and reconciliation, democracy and youth in health, well-being and sport.

G20 in News ***(Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)***

- **First Meeting of the Youth-20 Group** - Guwahati (6 - 8 February 2023)
- **First G-20 Environment Meeting -** Bengaluru (9 -11 February 2023)
- **Business-20 (B-20) Inception Meeting** - Gandhinagar (22- 24 January 2023)
- **Think-20 Meeting –** Bhopal (16 - 17 January 2023)
- **Secretariat for Science 20 (S20) Meeting** - IISc Bengaluru
- **First G-20 Meeting –** Puducherry (31 January 2023

315. The 4th International Trade Fair of Millets and Organics Products has been organized in which city?

बाजरा और जैविक उत्पादों का चौथा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय व्यापार मेला किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. a

Sol. International Trade Fair on Millets organized in Bengaluru

The 4th International Trade Fair of Millets and Organics Products has been organized in Bengaluru.

The 3-day fair was organized by the Department of Agriculture and Government of Karnataka.

The trade fair is a platform for farmers, farmer groups, domestic and international companies, central and state institutions in the organic and millet sector to connect and explore opportunities in agriculture, horticulture, processing, machinery and agri-technology.

The Government of Karnataka has been a leader in the promotion of millets - The first Organics and Millets Fair was held in 2017, the second and third editions in 2018 and 2019 in Bengaluru.

India is leading among countries to celebrate 2023 as the International Year of Millets.

About Karnataka

- **Capital –** Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** –Basavaraj Bommai
- **Governor –** Thawar Chand Gehlot

316. Sports Ministry has formed an Oversight Committee to enquire into the allegations of sexual misconduct and financial irregularities in the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI). The Committee will be headed by _____.

भारतीय कुश्ती महासंघ (डब्ल्यूएफआई) में यौन दुराचार और वित्तीय अनियमितताओं के आरोपों की जांच के लिए खेल मंत्रालय ने ए क निरीक्षण समिति का गठन किया है। समिति की अध्यक्षता _____ करेंगे।

(a) Kiran Bedi / किरण बेदी
(b) MC Mary Kom / एमसी मैरी कॉम
(c) PT Usha / पीटी उषा
(d) Milkha Singh / मिल्खा सिंह
(e) Saikhom Mirabai Chanu / सैखोम मीराबाई चानू

Ans. b

Sol. Sports Ministry forms oversight committee to probe allegations in WFI

Sports Ministry has formed an Oversight Committee to enquire into the allegations of sexual misconduct and financial irregularities in the Wrestling Federation of India (WFI), leveled by prominent sportspersons.

The Committee will be headed by Khel Ratna Awardee M C Mary Kom and other members include Yogeshwar Dutt and Trupti Murgunde.

The Oversight Committee will complete the enquiry in four weeks and till then, WFI President [Brij Bhushan Sharan Singh] will step aside from the day-to-day functioning and he has assured to cooperate in the investigation.

Recent Committee

- Government formed Committee to protect Ladakh culture, language & employment - MoS for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai
- CJI constituted committee to conduct accessibility audit of SC premises - SC Judge S Ravindra Bhat.
- Centre constituted a panel for Higher Educational Institutions - Dr K. Radhakrishnan
- Government formed 5-member committee to review pharma marketing practices – V K Paul
- SEBI reconstituted 21 members Market Data Advisory Committee (MDAC) - M S Sahoo
- SEBI restructured Secondary Market Advisory Committee (SMAC)- Gurumoorthy Mahalingam

317. Who among the following Union Minister has inaugurated a day-long National SC-ST Hub Conclave in Mumbai?

निम्नलिखित में से किस केंद्रीय मंत्री ने मुंबई में एक दिवसीय राष्ट्रीय एससी-एसटी हब कॉन्क्लेव का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
(e) Narayan Rane / नारायण राणे

Ans. e

Sol. MSME Ministry organized National SC-ST Hub Conclave in Mumbai

Union Minister of MSME, Narayan Rane has inaugurated a day-long National SC-ST Hub Conclave in Mumbai.

The National conclave has been organized by the Union Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises, to spread awareness of the National SC-ST Hub (NSSH) and other schemes of the MSME Ministry.

The Hub supports entrepreneurs of the SC and ST communities in capacity building, finance facilitation, and tender bid participation.

318. Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur has launched the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) in Leh. How many digits is this ULPIN number?

लद्दाख के उपराज्यपाल आर के माथुर ने लेह में विशिष्ट भूमि पार्सल पहचान संख्या (ULPIN) लॉन्च की है। यह ULPIN संख्या कितने अंकों की है?

(a) 8
(b) 10
(c) 12
(d) 14
(e) 16

Ans. d

Sol. Lt Governor R K Mathur launched ULPIN in Ladakh

Ladakh Lieutenant Governor R K Mathur has launched the Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) in Leh.

The 14-digit ULPIN would help in the digitization of land records and also reach a conclusive land titling.

The UPLIN scheme will prove beneficial in numerous ways, including settling and expediting land-related disputes in court and addressing legacy issues such as putting a check on any unwanted change in land revenue records.

319. Which state government has launched a water conservation scheme with an outlay of Rs 467.32 crore to benefit farmers who faced drought in 2022?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 2022 में सूखे का सामना करने वाले किसानों को लाभान्वित करने के लिए 467.32 करोड़ रुपये के परिव्यय के साथ जल संरक्षण योजना शुरू की है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) Jharkhand / झारखंड
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Bihar / बिहार
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. b

Sol. Jharkhand government launched water conservation scheme for farmers

Jharkhand government has launched a water conservation scheme with an outlay of Rs 467.32 crore to benefit farmers who faced drought in 2022.

Under the scheme, 2,133 ponds will be renovated and 2,795 percolation tanks will be constructed in all the blocks of 24 districts of the state.

Foundation stone for renovation work of 71 ponds and 184 percolation tanks was also laid on the occasion.

The objective of this scheme is to provide water to the drought-affected farmers of the state for irrigation purpose.The state government received 31.33 lakh applications from drought-hit farmers and 8.5 lakhs of them have so far been given financial aid.

About Jharkhand

- **Capital** – Ranchi
- **Chief Minister** – Hemant Soren
- **Governor -** Ramesh Bais

320. The American India Foundation (AIF) has inaugurated India's first STEM Innovation and Learning Center (SILC) in which city?

अमेरिकन इंडिया फाउंडेशन (एआईएफ) ने किस शहर में भारत के पहले एसटीईएम इनोवेशन एंड लर्निंग सेंटर (एसआईएलसी) का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद

(c) Chennai / चेन्नई

(d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा

(e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. c

Sol. AIF inaugurated India's first STEM innovation centre in Chennai

The American India Foundation (AIF) has inaugurated India's first STEM Innovation and Learning Center (SILC) in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.STEM Innovation and Learning Center is inaugurated under the scheme of Vanavil Mandram at the Government Higher Secondary School, MMDA Colony, Chennai.

The Centre will introduce students to a trans disciplinary learning approach through robotics, AI, Space Technology, and the STEM Incubation workstation.

AIF's award-winning flagship education program- Digital Equalizer has designed the Centre to be a one-stop solution for STEM among students and teachers.

- **Capital –** Chennai
- **Chief Minister** – M K Stalin
- **Governor –** R N Ravi

321. The Indian Air Force (IAF) will conduct which exercise in Northeast India?

भारतीय वायु सेना (IAF) पूर्वोत्तर भारत में कौन सा अभ्यास आयोजित करेगी?

(a) AKASH
(b) CYCLONE
(c) VISHNU
(d) SHAKTI
(e) PRALAY

Ans. e

Sol. Indian Air Force (IAF) to conduct 'PRALAY' exercise in Northeast

The Indian Air Force (IAF) will carry out Exercise Pralay involving all its major air bases in the northeast including the recently moved drone squadrons in the northeast amid the ongoing standoff with China.

The exercise will include a variety of platforms, such as C-130J 'Super Hercules' aircraft, Chinook heavy-lift and Apache attack helicopters.

The Indian Air Force has deployed and activated the S-400 air defence squadron in the area which can take on any enemy aircraft or missile from a distance of up to 400 km.

The exercise will be conducted in preparation for another Air Force exercise named 'Eastern Akash', an annual command-level exercise, to be held in first week of February.

Recent Exercise

- The Indian Navy organized mega biennial tri-services amphibious 'exercise AMPHEX 2023' near Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh.
- Indian Army and Egyptian Army have commenced Exercise Cyclone-I, the first-ever joint exercise between their special forces at Jaisalmer in Rajasthan.
- The 21st edition of the bilateral naval exercise between India and France titled 'Varuna' began on the western seaboard.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) and Japanese Air Self Defence Force (JASDF) will conduct their first Air exercise "Veer Guardian 23" from January 16 to 26 at Hyakuri air base and Iruma air base in Japan.
- 16th edition of India & Nepal Joint Training Excercise Surya Kiran begins in Saljhandi, Nepal

322. The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has partnered with which of the following for Hockey Development and Men's World Cup 2023?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हॉकी महासंघ (FIH) ने हॉकी विकास और पुरुष विश्व कप 2023 के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ भागीदारी की है?

(a) JSP Foundation / जेएसपी फाउंडेशन
(b) Jindal Organization / जिंदल संगठन
(c) JMS Foundation / जेएमएस फाउंडेशन
(d) Reliance Foundation / रिलायंस जेएमएस फाउंडेशन
(e) Akshaya Patra Foundation / अक्षय पात्र फाउंडेशन

Ans. a

Sol. FIH signed an MoU with JSP Foundation for hockey development

The International Hockey Federation (FIH) has partnered with JSP Foundation for Hockey Development and Men's World Cup 2023.

FIH will be working closely with JSP Foundation for some of its key initiatives for hockey development.

The partnership will also see the JSP Foundation coming onboard the ongoing FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023 Bhubaneswar-Rourkela as a global partner.

About International Hockey Federation (FIH)

- Founded- 7 January 1924, Paris, France
- Founder- Paul Léautey
- Headquarters- Lausanne, Switzerland
- CEO- Thierry Weil
- President- Tayyab Ikram (Macau)
- Motto- Fair Play Friendship Forever

323. Where did the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) organize its first Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) meeting outside Delhi?

युवा मामले और खेल मंत्रालय (एमवाईएएस) ने दिल्ली के बाहर अपनी पहली मिशन ओलंपिक सेल (एमओसी) की बैठक कहाँ आयोजित की?

(a) Varanasi / वाराणसी

(b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. Sports Ministry holds its 1st Mission Olympic Cell meet outside Delhi

The Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (MYAS) has organized its first Mission Olympic Cell (MOC) meeting outside Delhi in Bhubaneswar, Odisha.

The MOC members met to discuss the major agenda of India's Olympic program and proposals for the Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS) athletes.

Normally, MOC members visit Delhi every month to discuss agenda related to TOPS.

The Indian men's and women's hockey teams are the only teams that are funded under MYAS's TOPS Scheme and get an annual expenditure of Rs 24 cr under Sports Authority of India's (SAI) Annual Calendar for Training and Competitions (ACTC) scheme.

About Target Olympic Podium Scheme (TOPS)

- It was created in July 2014 under the auspices of the National Sports Development Fund (NSDF) with the objective of identifying and preparing potential medal prospects for the Olympic and Paralympic Games.
- It is a flagship program of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

324. Which of the following Small Finance Banks has won the prestigious Inclusive Finance India Awards 2022?

निम्नलिखित में से किस स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक ने प्रतिष्ठित समावेशी वित्त भारत पुरस्कार 2022 जीता है?

(a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited / एयू स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited / कैपिटल स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(c) Fincare Small Finance Bank Limited / फिनकेयर स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(d) ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited / ESAF स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(e) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited / इक्विटास स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड

Ans. d

Sol. ESAF Finance Bank won Inclusive Finance India Awards 2022

ESAF Small Finance Bank has won the prestigious Inclusive Finance India Awards 2022.

It was awarded for its contributions to advancing the goal of financial inclusion and supporting inclusive growth.

The bank received the award from Anantha Nageshwaran, Chief Economic Advisor at the 19th Inclusive Finance India Summit held in New Delhi.

The Inclusive Finance India Awards is an initiative of ACCESS Development Services constituted in 2009 in partnership with HSBC India.

This award is a recognition of ESAF's unique spectrum of Financial Inclusion projects ESAF Dhansree, ESAF Udyog Jyothi, LSEDP (Local Sustainable Economic Development Project), ESAF Balajyothi, ESAF Vayojyothi, and ESAF Garshom.

About ESAF Small Finance Bank

- **Founded-** 10 March 2017
- **Founders-** K. Paul Thomas, Mereena Paul, Jacob Samuel
- **Headquarters**- Thrissur, Kerala
- **MD & CEO** - Paul Thomas K

Recent Awards

- Banker's Bank of the Year Award 2022 for the India segment – Canara Bank
- Best Small Bank Award 2022 - Tamilnad Mercantile Bank
- Federal Bank Literary Award 2023 - Writer K Venu for Oranweshananthinte Katha'.
- Gaja Capital Business Book Prize 2022 – Harish Damodaran
- Most distinguished scientist of the year 2022 - R Vishnu Prassad

325. Which state has received Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2023 for excellence in disaster management for the year 2023?
किस राज्य को वर्ष 2023 के लिए आपदा प्रबंधन में उत्कृष्टता के लिए सुभाष चंद्र बोस आपदा प्रबंधन पुरस्कार-2023 मिला है?

(a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Kerala / केरल

Ans. c

Sol. Govt announced Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award 2023

Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) and Lunglei Fire Station (LFS) Mizoram selected for Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar-2023 for excellence in disaster management for the year 2023.

Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) was established in 1999 after the huge cyclone tragedy in Odisha.

OSDMA had worked effectively during various cyclones like Hudhud (2014), Fani (2019), Amphan (2020) and Odisha flood (2020).

Lunglei Fire Station efficiently and effectively controlled the massive fire that broke out in the uninhabited forest areas surrounding Lunglei town on 24 April 2021.

The personnel deployed at Lunglei Fire Station worked tirelessly for more than 32 hours to douse the fire with the help of local citizens, during which they motivated and trained them to douse the fire on the spot.

About Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award

- The Government of India under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi has instituted an annual award known as Subhash Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognize and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organizations in India in the field of disaster management.
- The award is announced every year on 23rd January, the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose.
- The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual.

Recent Awards

- Pt Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award - Dr. Prabha Atre
- Golden Kailasha award at 8th Ajanta-Ellora FF - Naanera (Rajasthani film)
- Federal Bank Literary Award 2023 - Writer K Venu for Oranweshananthinte Katha'.
- 71st annual Miss Universe pageant - R'Bonney Gabriel (USA)
- Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award - Thiru Kumar Nadesan

326. Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2023 have been conferred upon how many children for their exceptional achievement in 6 categories?

प्रधान मंत्री राष्ट्रीय बाल पुरस्कार 2023, 6 श्रेणियों में कितने बच्चों को उनकी असाधारण उपलब्धि के लिए प्रदान किया गया है?

(a) 11
(b) 21
(c) 31
(d) 41
(e) 51

Ans. a

Sol. President Murmu conferred Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar

President Droupadi Murmu conferred Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar at Vigyan Bhawan in New Delhi.

The awards have been conferred upon 11 children for their exceptional achievement in six categories, which include Art, Culture, Bravery, Innovation, Social Service, and Sports.

Each awardee has received a medal, a cash prize of one lakh rupees, and a certificate from the President.

Of the 11 children selected for the prestigious award, there are 6 boys and 5 girls belonging to 11 States and UTs.

In 2021, as many as 32 kids were conferred with prestigious award for their excelling performance in creativity, athletics, arts, community service, scholarship and bravery.

327. International Day of Education is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय शिक्षा दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 24 January / 24 जनवरी
(e) 25 January / 25 जनवरी

Ans. d

Sol. 24 January - International Education Day

International Day of Education is celebrated every year on 24 January to spread awareness about education globally and to make education accessible to all.

Theme 2023 - To Invest in People, Prioritise Education

This year is the fourth edition of International Education Day.

It was announced by the United Nations General Assembly on 3 December 2018 to celebrate International Education Day on 24 January every year.

Recently, UNESCO has decided to dedicate the International Day of Education for the year 2023 to Afghan girls and women.

While National Education Day in India is celebrated every year on 11 November.

328. Foundation Day of Uttar Pradesh State Day is celebrated every year on which day?

उत्तर प्रदेश राज्य दिवस का स्थापना दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 24 January / 24 जनवरी
(e) 25 January / 25 जनवरी

Ans. d

Sol. 24 January - Foundation Day of Uttar Pradesh

Foundation Day of Uttar Pradesh State Day is celebrated every year on 24 January.

The initiative to celebrate 'Uttar Pradesh Day' was taken by the then Governor Ram Naik and this event is celebrated every year since 2018.

The main theme of the 'Uttar Pradesh Day' 2023 is 'Investment and Employment' this year.

The state-level event on 'Uttar Pradesh Day' has been organized in 'Awadh Shilp Gram', Lucknow, and 'Noida Shilp Gram',

Earlier, Uttar Pradesh was known as United Provinces. However, on January 24, 1950, it was recognized as Uttar Pradesh.

329. National Voters Day is celebrated every year on January 25. What is the theme of National Voters Day 2023?

राष्ट्रीय मतदाता दिवस हर साल 25 जनवरी को मनाया जाता है। राष्ट्रीय मतदाता दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

(a) Encourage the youth to participate in the vote in the electoral process

(b) Your meticulous planning, hard work and leadership

(c) Making Elections Inclusive, Accessible and Participative

(d) Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For Sure

(e) No Voter to be left behind

Ans. d

Sol. 25 January - National Voter's Day

India celebrates National Voters Day every year on January 25.

Objective -To encourage each and every vote in the country to participate in the electoral process.

Theme 2023 - Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For Sure

The country marked its first-ever National Voters Day in 2011. The idea behind the celebration was to encourage more young voters to take part in the electoral process.

The Union government back then, under the leadership of Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, approved a proposal of the law ministry to this end.

330. Which railway station has been awarded the 'Green Railway Station Certification with the highest rating of Platinum' by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for adopting green concepts?

भारतीय ग्रीन बिल्डिंग काउंसिल (IGBC) द्वारा हरित अवधारणाओं को अपनाने के लिए किस रेलवे स्टेशन को 'प्लैटिनम की उच्चतम रेटिंग वाला ग्रीन रेलवे स्टेशन प्रमाणन' से सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Dehradun Railway Station / देहरादून रेलवे स्टेशन

(b) Visakhapatnam Railway Station / विशाखापत्तनम रेलवे स्टेशन

(c) Indore Junction Railway Station / इंदौर जंक्शन रेलवे स्टेशन

(d) Varanasi Cantt / वाराणसी कैंट

(e) New Delhi Railway Station / नई दिल्ली रेलवे स्टेशन

Ans. b

Sol. Visakhapatnam Railway Station awarded 'Green Railway Station Certificate'

Visakhapatnam railway station of East Coast Railway has been awarded the 'Green Railway Station Certification with the highest rating of Platinum' by the Indian Green Building Council (IGBC) for adopting green concepts. Visakhapatnam is one of the few railway stations to get this prestigious certificate. Visakhapatnam secured 82 out of 100 points in six environmental categories.

The Green Railway Station Rating System has been developed by the Environment Directorate of Indian Railways in collaboration with IGBC.

The system addresses national priorities such as water conservation, waste management, energy efficiency, limited use of fossil fuels, minimal reliance on the use of natural materials, and health and well-being of users.

331. Indian Railways has introduced which module for maximum capacity utilization and income generation by regularly analyzing the movement of demand in each train in reserved express trains?

भारतीय रेलवे ने आरक्षित एक्सप्रेस ट्रेनों में प्रत्येक ट्रेन में मांग की गति का नियमित रूप से विश्लेषण करके अधिकतम क्षमता उपयोग और आय सृजन के लिए कौन सा मॉड्यूल पेश किया है?

(a) Train Expert

(b) Reserved Expressed Trains

(c) All Train Profile

(d) Ideal Train Profile

(e) Ideal Train

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Railways launches 'Ideal Train Profile'

Indian Railways has introduced 'Ideal Train Profile' for maximum capacity utilization and income generation by regularly analyzing the movement of demand in each train in reserved express trains.

The pilot project was started on seven zonal railways – Eastern, Central, Northern, Southern, South Central, Western, and West Central Railway.

The pilot project has so far been rolled out in over 200 trains in Indian Railways. It is expected that the utility will also help to enhance confirmed seat availability and increase the occupancy of a train by up to 5 percent.

Ideal Train Profile — a seat capacity optimization decision support — is done due to the fact that the number of ticket-class combinations on a single train journey date can exceed 5,000.

This module has been developed after two years of hard work by the Railway team under the leadership of R Gopalakrishnan.

332. Who has inaugurated North India's largest floating solar project of 2000kWp in Chandigarh?

चंडीगढ़ में 2000kWp की उत्तर भारत की सबसे बड़ी तैरती सौर परियोजना का उद्घाटन किसने किया हैं?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

(c) Banwari Lal Purohit / बनवारी लाल पुरोहित

(d) Bhagwant Mann / भगवंत मान

(e) Manohar Lal Khattar / मनोहर लाल खट्टर

Ans. c

Sol. North India's largest floating solar project inaugurated in Chandigarh

The Governor of Punjab, Banwari Lal Purohit has inaugurated North India's largest floating Solar project of 2000kWp worth Rs 11.70 crore in Chandigarh.

He has also inaugurated a 500kWp floating Solar Project with Fountains at Dhanas Lake in Chandigarh. It was constructed at a cost of Rs 3.34 crore.

These projects were designed and executed by CREST (Chandigarh Renewable Energy and Science & Technology Promotion Society).

It will generate a minimum of 35 Lac Units (kWh) of Solar Energy per year with 20% module efficiency.

About Punjab

- **Capital –** Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Bhagwant Mann
- **Governor –** Banwarilal Purohit

333. Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Film Festival will be organized in which city from 27 - 31 January 2023?
शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) फिल्म महोत्सव 27 से 31 जनवरी 2023 तक किस शहर में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
(c) Chennai / चेन्नई
(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. e

Sol. SCO Film Festival to be organized in Mumbai

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Film Festival will be organized by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting through the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) in Mumbai from 27 to 31 January 2023.

The SCO Film Festival is being organized during the Presidency of India in the SCO.

The opening ceremony will be held at Jamshed Bhabha Theatre of the National Centre for the Performing Arts, NCPA, Mumbai on 27th January. Veteran director Priyadarshan's Tamil film 'Appatha', which also marks the 700th film of lead actor Urvashi, will be the opening film of the festival.

A total of 57 Films from member countries, including 14 from the competition section, will be showcased at the Festival. The screenings will take place at the Films Division Complex at Peddar Road and NFDC Theater at Worli.

About Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

- **Founded** - 2001
- **Headquarters** - Beijing, China
- **Secretary General** - Zhang Ming (China)
- **Member Countries** - 9 (Iran, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan & Uzbekistan)
- SCO Summit 2021 - Dushanbe, Tajikistan.
- SCO Summit 2022 - Samarkand, Uzbekistan.
- SCO Summit 2023 – India
- The founding members (5) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) were China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. India and Pakistan officially joined this organization in 2017

334. The Ayush Ministry has signed an MoU with which of the following to work together for the promotion of medical value travel in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine?

आयुष मंत्रालय ने आयुर्वेद और चिकित्सा की अन्य पारंपरिक प्रणालियों में चिकित्सा मूल्य यात्रा को बढ़ावा देने के लिए निम्नलिखित में से किसके साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) India Tourism Development Corporation / भारत पर्यटन विकास निगम
(b) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation / भारतीय रेलवे खानपान और पर्यटन निगम
(c) Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Limited / महानगर टेलीफोन निगम लिमिटेड
(d) Lemon Tree Hotels / लेमन ट्री होटल
(e) Indian Hotels Company Limited / इंडियन होटल्स कंपनी लिमिटेड

Ans. a

Sol. Ayush Ministry signed MoU with India Tourism Development Corporation

The Ayush Ministry has signed an MoU with India Tourism Development Corporation (ITDC) to work together for the promotion of medical value travel in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine.

The Ministry of Ayush will provide training to the officials of ITDC to sensitize them about Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine.

They will work together for the promotion of medical value travel in Ayurveda and other traditional systems of medicine.

Medical Value Travel has seen significant growth in India in recent years. According to the report, the Global Wellness economy will grow at 9.9 percent annually. Ayush based healthcare and Wellness economy is estimated to grow to 70 billion dollars by 2025.

Recent MoUs

- Adani Enterprises signed agreement with Ashok Leyland to develop Asia's first hydrogen-mining truck
- Bharti Airtel and Nokia have joined hands to bring India's first 5G enabled immersive experience to visitors at the Indian Mobile Congress (IMC) 2022.
- NTPC signed with Italy-based Maire Technimont Pvt Ltd for green methanol production
- NTPC Limited signed MoU with GE Power India Limited to reduce carbon intensity
- NTPC signed an MoU with GE Gas Power for hydrogen co-firing in gas turbines

335. Who has inaugurated the demo-run of Inland Water Vessel powered by Methanol blended Diesel (MD15)?
मेथनॉल मिश्रित डीजल (MD15) द्वारा संचालित अंतर्देशीय जल पोत के डेमो-रन का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Hardeep Singh Puri / हरदीप सिंह पुरी
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. d

Sol. Hardeep S Puri flagged off low carbon cruise on Mahabahu Brahmaputra

Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri has inaugurated the demo-run of Inland Water Vessel powered by Methanol blended Diesel (MD15).

The boat ride was conducted on a 50-seater motor launch marine vessel named 'SB Gangadhar'.

The marine vessel is equipped with two Ruston make diesel engines (each engine of 105 hp). The boat will be run on MD-15 (15% methanol blended HSD).

Methanol is a low-carbon hydrogen carrier fuel produced from high-ash coal, agricultural residue, CO2 from thermal power plants, and natural gas. It is the best pathway for meeting India's commitment to COP 21.

NITI Aayog's 'Methanol Economy' program is aimed at reducing India's oil import bill, greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and converting coal reserves and municipal solid waste into methanol.

Recent Inauguration by Union Ministers

- Hardeep Singh Puri inaugurated 5th South Asian Geoscience Conference in Jaipur
- Hardeep Singh Puri launched guidelines for City Finance Rankings and City Beauty Competition
- Jyotiraditya Scindia inaugurated 4th Heli-India Summit 2022.
- Jyotiradity Scindia inaugurated multiple flights to boost northeast connectivity
- Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the first phase of the New Zuari Bridge in Goa.

336. The Election Commission of India (ECI) has hosted the 2nd International Conference in which city?

भारत के चुनाव आयोग (ECI) ने किस शहर में दूसरे अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सम्मेलन की मेजबानी की है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. ECI hosted 2nd International Conference in New Delhi

The Election Commission of India (ECI) has hosted the 2nd International Conference in New Delhi.

Theme 2023 - Use of Technology and Elections Integrity

The Chief Election Commissioner of India, Rajiv Kumar, along with Election Commissioners Anup Chandra Pandey and Arun Goel, inaugurated the two-day international conference.

Around 43 Participants from 17 Countries/EMBs including Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Chile, Croatia, Dominica, Fiji, Georgia, Indonesia, Kiribati, Mauritius, Nepal, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines and Suriname and 06 participants from international organizations namely, IFES, International IDEA have joined the conference.

About Election Commissioner of India (ECI)

- It is a constitutional body to conduct and regulate elections in the country.
- Founded - 25 January 1950
- 25 January - Voter's Day
- HQ - New Delhi
- 1st Chief - Sukumar Sen
- 1st Women Chief - V.S. Ramadevi
- 25th Chief - Rajiv Kumar
- Commissioner - Anup Chandra Pandey & Arun Goel

337. Who has been nominated as a special envoy for human rights in North Korea by US President Joe Biden?
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति जो बिडेन द्वारा उत्तर कोरिया में मानवाधिकारों के लिए विशेष दूत के रूप में किसे नामित किया गया है?
(a) Tulsi Gabbard / तुलसी गबार्ड
(b) Hillary Clinton / हिलेरी क्लिंटन
(c) Julie Turner / जूली टर्नर
(d) Kamala Harris / कमला हैरिस
(e) Nancy Pelosi / नैन्सी पेलोसी
Ans. c
Sol. US President Biden nominated Julie Turner as North Korea human rights envoy
US President Joe Biden has nominated Julie Turner as special envoy for human rights in North Korea
The move to fill the post, which has been vacant since 2017, comes amid debate over human rights issues as well as efforts to counter Pyongyang's nuclear weapons program.
Julie Turner is currently the director for East Asia and the Pacific in the State Department's Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor.
Turner has served in the office for East Asia and the Pacific for more than 16 years, primarily focusing on initiatives related to the promotion of human rights in North Korea.

Recent Appointment

- Maryland's first Indian-American Lt. Governor - Aruna Miller
- Administrator of Shooting World Cup 2023 – Former SC Judge AK Sikri
- DG of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) - Vikram Dev Dutt
- Director of National Health Authority - Praveen Sharma
- CEO of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas - Nick Walker

338. Who has been appointed as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Tata Trusts?

टाटा ट्रस्ट्स के मुख्य परिचालन अधिकारी (सीओओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Siddharth Sharma / सिद्धार्थ शर्मा
(b) Aparna Uppaluri / अपर्णा उप्पलुरी
(c) Kishor Kumar Basa / किशोर कुमार बसा
(d) Dinesh Kumar Shukla / दिनेश कुमार शुक्ला
(e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

Ans. b

Sol. Siddharth Sharma appointed as new CEO of Tata Trusts

Tata Trusts, one of the country's oldest public charitable foundations, has appointed Siddharth Sharma as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Trusts and Aparna Uppaluri as the Chief Operating Officer (COO).

Their appointment will come into effect from 1 April 2023.

54-year-old Sharma, the chief sustainability officer at Tata Sons, will succeed N Srinath, who stepped down from the CEO's post in 2022 following his retirement.

The company will create the COO post for the first time to accommodate Uppaluri, who is currently the programme director for India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka at the Ford Foundation.

Recent Appointment

- Chief Economist of OECD - Clare Lombardelli (UK)
- CEO of Cognizant - Ravi Kumar
- Director of Meta's Global Business Group in India - Vikas Purohit
- Chairman of the Senior Men's National Selection Committee - Chetan Sharma
- Chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Saiyam Mehra
- Vice chairman of Gem and Jewellery Domestic Council - Rajesh Rokde

339. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of JP Morgan Chase & Co (India)?

जेपी मॉर्गन चेस एंड कंपनी (इंडिया) के नए सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
(b) Vijay Jasuja / विजय जसुजा
(c) Sanjay Khanna / संजय खन्ना
(d) R K Gupta / आर के गुप्ता
(e) Prabdev Singh / प्रबदेव सिंह

Ans. e

Sol. Prabdev Singh appointed as new CEO of JP Morgan Chase

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has given its approval to appoint Prabdev Singh as the new CEO of JP Morgan Chase & Co (India) for three years.

Singh had been JP Morgan's interim CEO since November, replacing Madhav Kalyan who was named head of payments for Asia Pacific.

Singh, a trained engineer, had worked for a decade at HSBC Holdings Plc before joining JPMorgan in 2010.

Recent Appointment in Banking Sector

- RBI Deputy Governor - Michael Patra (reappointment)
- MD & CEO of Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) - Surinder Chawla
- Interim CEO of BharatPe - Nalin Negi
- CEO of Bank of Singapore - Jason Moo
- MD and CEO of the Indian Overseas Bank - Ajay Kumar Srivastava
- MD & CEO of BSE - Sundararaman Ramamurthy

340. Aska police station in which district of Odisha was awarded the number one police station during DGSP/IGSP conference held in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में आयोजित DGSP/IGSP सम्मेलन के दौरान ओडिशा के किस जिले के अस्का पुलिस स्टेशन को नंबर एक पुलिस स्टेशन से सम्मानित किया गया है?

(a) Koraput / कोरापुट
(b) Kendrapara / केंद्रपाड़ा
(c) Malkangiri / मल्कानगिरी
(d) Mayurbhanj / मयूरभंज
(e) Ganjam / गंजम

Ans. e

Sol. Aska police station of Odisha becomes country's number 1 station

Aska police station in Ganjam district of Odisha was awarded the number one police station.

The award was given during DGSP/IGSP conference held in New Delhi.

Aska station got this title in the annual ranking of police stations for the year 2022.

Gangapur police station in Odisha's Ganjam district has been awarded the second-best police station award.

Banbasa police station in Champawat district of Uttarakhand has been selected as the third-best station.

Sadar Bazar police station was adjudged the best police station in the year 2021 while Gangapur police station was awarded the second-best police station award.

341. The Union Ministry of Home Affairs has announced how many names for Padma Vibhushan on 25 January 2023?
केंद्रीय गृह मंत्रालय ने 25 जनवरी 2023 को पद्म विभूषण के लिए कितने नामों की घोषणा की है?

(a) 5
(b) 91
(c) 6
(d) 9
(e) 11

Ans. c

Sol. Padma Awards 2023 Winners List Announced

The Union ministry of home affairs announced the Padma Awards on the eve of the country's 74th Republic Day.

The government announced 6 names for Padma Vibhushan, 9 for Padma Bhushan, and 91 for Padma Shri Awards.

Nineteen of the awardees are women.

Padma Vibhushan (6)

1. Zakir Hussain - Art
2. S M Krishna - Public Affairs
3. Dilip Mahalanabis (Posthumous) - Medicine
4. Srinivas Varadhan - Science & Engineering
5. Mulayam Singh Yadav (Posthumous) - Public Affairs
6. Balkrishna Doshi (Posthumous) - Architecture

Padma Bhushan (9)

1. S L Bhyrappa - Literature & Education
2. Kapil Kapoor - Literature & Education
3. Kumar Mangalam Birla - Trade & Industry
4. Deepak Dhar - Science & Engineering
5. Vani Jairam - Art
6. Suman Kalyanpur - Art
7. Swami Chinna Jeeyar - Spiritualism
8. Kamlesh D Patel - Spiritualism
9. Sudha Murty - Social Work

Padma Shri (91)

1. Shri Anand Kumar - Literature & Education
2. Shri Radha Charan Gupta - Literature & Education

3. Shri Rattan Singh Jaggi - Literature & Education
4. Shri C I Issac - Literature & Education
5. Shri Prabhakar Bhanudas Mande - Literature & Education
6. Shri Antaryami Mishra - Literature & Education
7. Shri Ramesh Patange - Literature & Education
8. Shri Vishwanath Prasad Tiwari - Literature & Education
9. Shri Dhaniram Toto - Literature & Education
10. Shri Prakash Chandra Sood - Literature & Education
11. Dr. Janum Singh Soy - Literature & Education
12. Shri Mohan Singh - Literature & Education
13. Shri B Ramakrishna Reddy - Literature & Education
14. Shri Arvind Kumar - Science & Engineering
15. Shri Khadar Valli Dudekula - Science & Engineering
16. Shri Ganesh Nagappa Krishnarajanagara - Science & Engineering
17. Shri Modadugu Vijay Gupta - Science & Engineering
18. Prof. (Dr.) Mahendra Pal - Science & Engineering
19. Ms. Sujatha Ramdorai - Science & Engineering
20. Shri Abbareddy Nageswara Rao - Science & Engineering
21. Shri Bakshi Ram - Science & Engineering
22. Ms. Jodhaiyabai Baiga - Art
23. Shri Premjit Baria - Art
24. Ms. Usha Barle - Art
25. Shri Hemant Chauhan - Art
26. Shri Bhanubhai Chitara - Art
27. Ms. Hemoprova Chutia - Art
28. Shri Hem Chandra Goswami - Art
29. Ms. Pritikana Goswami - Art
30. Shri Domar Singh Kunvar - Art
31. Shri Risingbor Kurkalang - Art
32. Ms. Subhadra Devi - Art
33. Shri Ahmed Hussain & Shri Mohd Hussain - Art
34. Shri Dilshad Hussain - Art

35. Shri Parshuram Komaji Khune - Art
36. Shri Maguni Charan Kuanr - Art
37. Ms. Rani Machaiah - Art
38. Shri Ajay Kumar Mandavi - Art
39. Ms. Krishna Patel - Art
40. Shri K Kalyanasundaram Pillai - Art
41. Shri Mahipat Kavi - Art
42. Shri M M Keeravaani - Art
43. Shri Mangala Kanti Roy - Art
44. Ms. K C Runremsangi - Art
45. Shri Ritwik Sanyal- Art
46. Shri Kota Satchidananda Sastry -Art
47. Shri Kapil Dev Prasad - Art
48. Shri Shah Rasheed Ahmed Quadri - Art
49. Shri C V Raju - Art
50. Shri Pareshbhai Rathwa - Art
51. Shri Moa Subong - Art
52. Ms. Raveena Ravi Tandon - Art
53. Ms. Coomi Nariman Wadia - Art
54. Ms. Neihunuo Sorhie - Art
55. Shri Ghulam Muhammad Zaz - Art
56. Shri Ramesh Parmar & Ms. Shanti Parmar - Art
57. Shri Nadoja Pindipapanahalli Munivenkatappa - Art
58. Shri Bhiku Ramji Idate - Social Work
59. Shri Bikram Bahadur Jamatia -Social Work
60. Shri Ramkuiwangbe Jene - Social Work
61. Ms. Hirabai Lobi - Social Work
62. Shri Moolchand Lodha - Social Work
63. Shri Gajanan Jagannath Mane - Social Work
64. Shri Uma Shankar Pandey - Social Work
65. Shri V P Appukuttan Poduval - Social Work
66. Shri Laxman Singh - Social Work

67. Shri Palam Kalyana Sundaram - Social Work
68. Shri Karma Wangchu (Posthumous) - Social Work
69. Shri Sankurathri Chandra Sekhar- Social Work
70. Shri Vadivel Gopal & Shri Masi Sadaiyan - Social Work
71. Shri Narendra Chandra Debbarma (Posthumous) - Public Affairs
72. Shri Rakesh Radheshyam Jhunjhunwala (Posthumous) - Trade & Industry
73. Shri Areez Khambatta (Posthumous) - Trade & Industry
74. Shri Ratan Chandra Kar - Medicine
75. Dr. Nalini Parthasarathi - Medicine
76. Shri Hanumantha Rao Pasupuleti - Medicine
77. Shri Munishwar Chanddawar - Medicine
78. Dr. Gopalsamy Veluchamy - Medicine
79. Dr. Ishwar Chander Verma - Medicine
80. Shri Manoranjan Sahu - Medicine
81. Shri S R D Prasad - Sports
82. Shri Cheruvayal K Raman – Agriculture
83. Shri Tula Ram Upreti – Agriculture
84. Shri Patayat Sahu – Agriculture
85. Shri Nekram Sharma – Agriculture
86. Shri K Shanathoiba Sharma - Sports
87. Shri Gurcharan Singh - Sports
88. Shri Thounaojam Chaoba Singh - Public Affairs
89. Shri Kushok Thiksey Nawang Chamba Stanzin – Spiritualism
90. Dr. Sukama Acharya - Spiritualism
91. Shri S Subbaraman – Archaeology

342. National Tourism Day is celebrated every year on which day?

राष्ट्रीय पर्यटन दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 24 January / 24 जनवरी
(e) 25 January / 25 जनवरी

Ans. e

Sol. 25 January- National Tourism Day

National Tourism Day is celebrated every year on January 25.

Objective - To raise awareness about the importance that the tourism industry plays in the country

The day is also a way to recognize the contributions of the thousands working in the tourism industry.

While many countries around the world have been celebrating World Tourism Day on September 27 since the 1980s.

This contribution from the tourism sector is expected to grow rapidly. It is estimated that the number of people employed in the sector is expected to grow by around 35 percent to 53 million by 2028.

During the same time period, the tourism industry is expected to grow to $125 billion, an increase of nearly 67 percent. By 2028, India is expected to see 30.5 million foreign tourists and earn $56 billion in foreign exchange.

343. Padma Bhushan awardee Balkrishna Doshi passed away recently at the age of 95. Who was she?

पद्म भूषण पुरस्कार से सम्मानित बालकृष्ण दोशी का हाल ही में 95 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थीं?

(a) Writer / लेखक

(b) Politician / राजनेता

(c) Architect / वास्तुकार

(d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता

(e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. c

Sol. Renowned architect Dr. B.V. Doshi passed away

Noted architect and Padma Bhushan awardee Balkrishna Doshi passed away recently at the age of 95.

Doshi was awarded the prestigious Aga Khan Award in the year 1995 for the architecture of 'Aranya Low-Cost Housing' township.

Doshi was also awarded the Padma Bhushan, India's third-highest civilian award in the year 2020 and Padma Shri in 1976.

He was awarded the most prestigious award in the field of architecture "Pritzker" in the year 2018. He was the first Indian to receive this honour.

He was credited with designing some of the most iconic structures in the country such as IIM Bangalore, NIFT Delhi, and CEPT University in Ahmedabad.

Important Obituary

- Ronald E Ashe – A British linguist and educator specializing in Dravidian languages
- Sharad Yadav – Politician
- Dr. Tehemton Erach Udwadia - Father of Laparoscopic Surgery in India
- Prof. Rehman Rahi - Renowned poet and Kashmir's first Jnanpith awardee
- Padma Shri awardee Prabhaben Sobhagchand Shah - Social Worker

344. The first-ever India Stack Developer Conference was organized in which city?

पहला इंडिया स्टैक डेवलपर सम्मेलन किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया था?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. Delhi host first-ever India Stack Developer Conference

The first-ever India Stack Developer Conference was organized in New Delhi.

Delegates from G20 countries and G20 Secretariat have also been invited to the conference.

India Stack is a multi-layer cluster of digital solutions such as Aadhaar, UPI, Digi Locker, Co-Win, GeM, and GSTN, and has played a key role in India's digital transformation.

The conference will provide a platform for the Industry and developer community to explore ways to develop a robust start-up and innovation ecosystem within the country and also take India stack products to other countries.

India Stack will be one of the focus areas at the World Government Summit 2023 which will be held at Abu Dhabi next month.

345. Which of the following state has celebrated the 3rd edition of the annual Orange Festival 2023?
निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने वार्षिक ऑरेंज फेस्टिवल 2023 का तीसरा संस्करण मनाया है?
(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Nagaland / नगालैंड
(d) Manipur / मणिपुर
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय
Ans. c
Sol. Annual Orange festival 2023 celebrated in Nagaland
Nagaland has celebrated the 3rd edition of the annual Orange festival 2023 at Rusoma village, under Kohima district.
The Festival is being organized by the department of Horticulture, Agriculture, Rural Development, Land Resources and Kohima Smart City.
The Festival is conceptualized to recognize the hard work of orange growers while facilitating them the market linkages to sell their produce.

About Nagaland

- Capital- Kohima
- Chief Minister- Neiphiu Rio
- Governor- Jagdish Mukhi (additional charge)

Popular Festivals of Nagaland

- Hornbill festival
- Moatsu festival
- Ngada festival
- Monyu festival
- Aoleng Festival

346. Who among the following has chaired the 10th meeting of the Group of Infrastructure Committee in New Delhi?
निम्नलिखित में से किसने नई दिल्ली में ग्रुप ऑफ इंफ्रास्ट्रक्चर कमेटी की 10वीं बैठक की अध्यक्षता की है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Nitin Gadkari / नितिन गडकरी
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. d

Sol. Nitin Gadkari chaired 10th meeting of Group of Infrastructure Committee

Road Transport and Highways Minister, Nitin Gadkari has chaired the 10th meeting of the Group of Infrastructure Committee in New Delhi.

Objective - To address existing inter-Ministerial issues concerning the implementation of various infrastructure projects.

During the meeting, the committee discussed upon issues related to pending environmental clearances, land approvals, fund releases, etc.

The Infrastructure Committee was formed in 2009.

Nitin Gadkari in News

- Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the first phase of the New Zuari Bridge in Goa.
- Nitin Gadkari launched Surety Bond Insurance product from Bajaj Allianz
- Nitin Gadkari launched Toyota pilot project on Flex-Fuel Strong Hybrid EV.
- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated 13 road projects worth Rs 5315 crore in Madhya Pradesh
- Nitin Gadkari announced new projects of 1.6 lakh crores rupees in the North-East India region.

347. Which state has launched Phase 2 of India's first government-run veterinary ambulance network by flagging off an additional 165 veterinary ambulance units?

किस राज्य ने अतिरिक्त 165 पशु चिकित्सा एम्बुलेंस इकाइयों को हरी झंडी दिखाकर भारत की पहली सरकार द्वारा संचालित पशु चिकित्सा एम्बुलेंस नेटवर्क के चरण 2 का शुभारंभ किया है?

(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़

Ans. d

Sol. Andhra Pradesh CM launched 165 veterinary ambulances

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy has launched Phase 2 of India's first government-run veterinary ambulance network by flagging off an additional 165 veterinary ambulance units from Tadepalli.

With this, the government will be providing quality medical services with a total of 340 veterinary ambulances.

CM Jagan flagged off 175 ambulance units as part of the first batch of 'Dr YSR Sanchara Pasu Aarogya Seva' (Veterinary Ambulances) with state-of-the-art facilities, in May 2021.

Each ambulance will have one doctor, a qualified Assistant and a driver-cum assistant.

A small lab equipped with a microscope to perform 20 types of manure tests and 15 types of blood tests.

The ambulances are also designed to perform minor surgery on bovine animals, sheep, goats, and pets.

About Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital –** Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – YS Jagan Mohan Reddy
- **Governor –** Biswabhsrin Harichandan

348. The G20 Startup20 Engagement Group will hold its inception meeting in which city from 28 to 29 January 2023?

G20 स्टार्टअप 20 एंगेजमेंट ग्रुप 28 से 29 जनवरी 2023 तक किस शहर में अपनी स्थापना बैठक आयोजित करेगा?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद

(c) Chennai / चेन्नई

(d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा

(e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. b

Sol. G20 group to hold Startup20 Engagement meet in Hyderabad

The G20 Startup20 Engagement Group will hold its inception meeting in Hyderabad from 28-29 January 2023.

The group will discuss the productive development of policy recommendations on entrepreneurship and innovation priorities of and across G20 countries for the years ahead.

The group will also bridge the knowledge gap between the startup ecosystems of G20 member countries.

G20 in News ***(Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)***

- **First Meeting of the Youth-20 Group** - Guwahati (6 - 8 February 2023)
- **First G-20 Environment Meeting -** Bengaluru (9 -11 February 2023)
- **Business-20 (B-20) Inception Meeting** - Gandhinagar **(**22- 24 January 2023)
- **Think-20 Meeting –** Bhopal (16 - 17 January 2023)
- **Secretariat for Science 20 (S20) Meeting** - IISc Bengaluru
- **G20 Foreign Ministers Meeting -** New Delhi (March 2023)
- **First G-20 Meeting –** Puducherry (31 January 2023).
- **First Infrastructure Working Group Meeting** - Pune (16-17 January 2023)
- **First Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group Meeting** - Kolkata

349. Which of the following Small Finance Bank has launched the SwipeUp platform?

निम्नलिखित में से किस स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक ने स्वाइपअप प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च किया है?

(a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited / एयू स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited / कैपिटल स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(c) Fincare Small Finance Bank Limited / फिनकेयर स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(d) ESAF Small Finance Bank Limited / ESAF स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
(e) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited / इक्विटास स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड

Ans. a

Sol. AU Bank launched credit card offering platform SwipeUp

India's largest Small Finance Bank, AU Small Finance Bank has launched the SwipeUp platform.

The platform will provide an opportunity to other bank credit cardholders to upgrade their card to one of AU credit cards.

The bank has provided a platform to compare existing credit cards of customers within seconds. Thereafter, within minutes they can upgrade credit limit, cashback, reward point etc.

The cards issued in SwipeUp platform are different from current credit cards offered by AU Small Finance Bank. While the new range of cards offer high value proposition to customers, the card plastic is biodegradable which is another step towards a better environment.

About AU Small Finance Bank Limited

- Founded - 1996
- Founder - Sanjay Agarwal
- Headquarters - Jaipur, Rajasthan
- MD & CEO - Sanjay Agarwal
- Tagline - Chalo Aage Badhein

Recent Facilities Launched by Banks

- LIC India launched Jeevan Azad (Plan No. 868) limited premium payment plan
- SBI launched e-Bank Guarantee facility in association with NeSL
- Bajaj Allianz launched Respect Senior Care Rider
- ICICI Bank launched digital solutions for exporters
- Indian Bank launched its flagship programme 'MSME Prerana 'in Rajasthan

350. Who has been appointed as Chairman of Amul?

अमूल के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
(b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
(c) Shamalbhai B Patel / शामलभाई बी पटेल
(d) Mahendra Shah / महेंद्र एन शाह
(e) Raj Shukla / राज शुक्ला

Ans. c

Sol. Shamalbhai B Patel appointed as Chairman of Amul

Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation, which markets milk and dairy products under the Amul brand announced the appointment of Shamalbhai B Patel as its chairman and Valamjibhai Humbal as vice chairman.

Shamalbhai B Patel is chairman of Sabarkantha District Cooperative Milk Producers Union and Sabar dairy.

Announcement was made after an election conducted by deputy collector, Anand.

Recent Appointment

- Administrator of Shooting World Cup 2023 – Former SC Judge AK Sikri
- DG of Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) - Vikram Dev Dutt
- Director of National Health Authority - Praveen Sharma
- CEO of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas - Nick Walker
- Chief Economist of OECD - Clare Lombardelli (UK)

351. Which ministry has organized the 6-day mega event "Bharat Parv" at Red Fort lawns?

किस मंत्रालय ने लाल किले के लॉन में 6 दिवसीय मेगा इवेंट "भारत पर्व" आयोजित किया है?

(a) Ministry of Culture / संस्कृति मंत्रालय

(b) Ministry of Environment and Forests / पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय

(c) Ministry of Tourism / पर्यटन मंत्रालय

(d) Ministry of Education / शिक्षा मंत्रालय

(e) Ministry of Jal Shakti (Water) / जल शक्ति मंत्रालय (जल)

Ans. c

Sol. Ministry of Tourism organized 6-day mega event "Bharat Parv" at Red Fort lawns

The six-day mega event Bharat Parv will be organized at Red Fort in Delhi from the 26th to the 31st of this month as part of the Republic Day Celebrations.

The event will have a Food Festival, Handicraft mela, folk and tribal dance performances, Performances by cultural troupes, and the illumination of Red Fort.

Branding and promotion of Dekho Apna Desh, Ek Bharat Shrestha Bharat, G-20, and Mission LIFE will also be undertaken during the event.

352. The European Space Agency's Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE) will be launched from the agency's spaceport in French Guiana in which year?

यूरोपीय अंतरिक्ष एजेंसी का ज्यूपिटर आइसी मून्स एक्सप्लोरर (JUICE) किस वर्ष फ्रेंच गुयाना में एजेंसी के स्पेसपोर्ट से लॉन्च किया जाएगा?

(a) April 2023
(b) September 2024
(c) April 2024
(d) December 2023
(e) April 2025

Ans. a

Sol. JUICE Space Mission of Europe to be launched in April 2023

The European Space Agency's Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer (JUICE) will be launched from the agency's spaceport in French Guiana in April 2023.

Objective - To explore the large, frigid worlds that orbit Jupiter, Ganymede, Callisto, and Europa

Out of the 80 moons of the planet, these three were selected for their large oceans. The satellite is to be launched from French Guiana.

Ariane 5 will carry the satellite. JUICE is the first satellite from the earth to enter the orbit of Ganymede.

If launched in April 2023, the satellite is expected to enter Jupiter orbit by 2034 and will be deorbited in 2035.

353. Who is the author of the book titled "India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn"?

"इंडियाज नॉलेज सुप्रीमेसी: द न्यू डॉन" नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

(a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन

(b) Dr. Ashwin Fernandes / डॉ अश्विन फर्नांडीस

(c) Shashi Tharoor / शशि थरूर

(d) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत

(e) Pulapre Balakrishnan / पुलाप्रे बालकृष्णन

Ans. b

Sol. A new book 'India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn" released

A new book titled "India's Knowledge Supremacy: The New Dawn" written by Dr. Ashwin Fernandes was released globally.

This book was launched by Minister of Education of India Dharmendra Pradhan, at an event at Dr. Ambedkar International Centre.

This New book launched focuses on India's knowledge supremacy, journey showcasing changing trends in newly emerging India.

The book is published by Bloomsbury Publishing, a leading independent publishing house, established in 1986, with authors who have won the Nobel, Pulitzer and Booker Prizes, and is the originating publisher and custodian of the Harry Potter series.

Recent Books

- Coaching Beyond : My Days with the Indian Cricket Team - R. Kaushik & R. Sridhar
- Irrfan Khan: A Life in Movies - Shubhra Gupta
- Human Anatomy - Dr. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi; released by Governor of MP
- Njaan Sakshi (me as the witness) - K.K. Abdul Gaffar(autobiography); released by MS Dhoni
- Spare - J. R. Moehringer; released by Prince Harry (his Memoir)

354. President Droupadi Murmu has approved how many Gallantry Awards to Armed Forces personnel?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी मुर्मू ने सशस्त्र बलों के कर्मियों को कितने वीरता पुरस्कारों की मंजूरी दी है?

(a) 399

(b) 350

(c) 255

(d) 412

(e) 312

Ans. d

Sol. President Murmu approved 412 Gallantry Awards to Armed Forces personnel

President Droupadi Murmu has approved 412 Gallantry awards and other Defence decorations to Armed Forces personnel and others.

These include six Kirti Chakras, including four posthumous, and 15 Shaurya Chakras including two posthumous.

These include one Bar to Sena Medal (Gallantry), 92 Sena Medals, including four posthumous, one Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry), seven Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry) and 29 Param Vishisht Seva Medals.

President has also awarded President's Tatrakshak Medal and Tatrakshak Medal to Indian Coast Guard Personnel for their act of conspicuous gallantry, exceptional devotion to duty, and distinguished service.

355. International Customs Day is celebrated every year on which day globally?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सीमा शुल्क दिवस हर साल विश्व स्तर पर किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 24 January / 24 जनवरी
(e) 25 January / 25 जनवरी

Ans. a

Sol. 26 January - International Customs Day

International Customs Day is celebrated every year on 26 January globally.

Objective - To bring light to the challenges and working conditions of customs administrators.

Theme 2023 - Nurturing the next generation: promoting a culture of knowledge-sharing and professional pride in Customs

The Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) currently known as the World Customs Organisation (WCO) was established on January 26, 1953.

They formally announced the observance of ICD in an inaugural session that was conducted in Brussels, Belgium. The event was attended by renowned representatives from 17 European countries.

To mark the establishment of WCO, International Customs Day is observed on the day of its conception. The World Customs Organisation works on matters related to custom reinforcement, security of supply chain, and facilitation of international trade among others. Currently, the WCO comprises 182 member states from all parts of the world.

356. Himachal Pradesh has celebrated its 53rd Statehood Day on which day?

हिमाचल प्रदेश ने अपना 53वां स्थापना दिवस किस दिन मनाया है?

(a) 26 January 2023 / 26 जनवरी 2023
(b) 27 January 2023/ 27 जनवरी 2023
(c) 28 January 2023/ 28 जनवरी 2023
(d) 24 January 2023/ 24 जनवरी 2023
(e) 25 January 2023/ 25 जनवरी 2023

Ans. e

Sol. 25 January - Himachal Pradesh Statehood Day

Himachal Pradesh celebrated its 53rd Statehood Day on January 25.

It was on this day in 1971 that Himachal Pradesh became the 18th state of India.

After India's independence, Himachal Pradesh was formed on 15 April 1948, by uniting 30 hill princely states of the region.

It was granted the status of a Union Territory on November 1, 1956.

After this, in the year 1966, the hilly areas of Punjab were included in Himachal Pradesh.

On 18 December 1970, the Parliament passed the Himachal Pradesh Act, and on 25 January 1971, Himachal Pradesh came into existence as a full-fledged state and became the 18th state of India.

About Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital –** Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- **Chief Minister** – Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
- **Deputy Chief Minister -** Mukesh Agnihotri
- **Governor –** Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

357. Leopoldo Roberto Garcia Pelaez Benitez passed away recently. Who was he?

लियोपोल्डो रॉबर्टो गार्सिया पेलाज़ बेनिटेज़ का हाल ही में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

(a) Writer / लेखक

(b) Politician / राजनेता

(c) Theatre artist / थिएटर कलाकार

(d) Comedian / कॉमेडियन

(e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. d

Sol. Popular Mexican comedian Polo Polo passes away

Mexican comedian Leopoldo Roberto Garcia Pelaez Benitez passed away recently.

He is also known as "Polo Polo".

He was born in 1944 in Leon, Guanajuato, and is regarded as the "father" of the Stand-Up comedy genre.

He hosted a program called Con Ganas in the 1990s.

His most recent film role was in Cronicas Chilangas, which was released in 2009.

358. The Central government has renamed the Mughal Gardens in New Delhi's Rashtrapati Bhavan as 'Amrit Udyan'. The Mughal Gardens was designed in which year?

केंद्र सरकार ने नई दिल्ली के राष्ट्रपति भवन में मुगल गार्डन का नाम बदलकर 'अमृत उद्यान' कर दिया है। मुगल गार्डन किस वर्ष डिजाइन किया गया था?

(a) 1909
(b) 1917
(c) 1936
(d) 1947
(e) 1949

Ans. b

Sol. Government renamed Delhi's Mughal Gardens as 'Amrit Udyan'

The Central government has renamed the Mughal Gardens in New Delhi's Rashtrapati Bhavan as 'Amrit Udyan'.

In keeping with the theme of 'Amrit Mahotsav' to commemorate 75 years of India's independence, the Union Government has renamed the Mughal Gardens as Amrit Udyan.

On the occasion of 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav', the President of India has given a common name to Rashtrapati Bhavan Gardens as Amrit Udyan.

Designed in 1917, the gardens spread over 15 acres are also known as the “soul of the presidential palace.

The Central Government had last year renamed Delhi’s iconic Rajpath as “Kartavya Path”.

359. Luminous Power Technologies has announced its plan to build the country's first green energy-based solar panel manufacturing factory in which state?

ल्यूमिनस पावर टेक्नोलॉजीज ने किस राज्य में देश की पहली हरित ऊर्जा आधारित सौर पैनल निर्माण फैक्ट्री बनाने की अपनी योजना की घोषणा की है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
(b) Gujarat / गुजरात
(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
(e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. e

Sol. Luminous to build India's first green solar panel factory in Uttarakhand

Luminous Power Technologies has announced its plan to build the country's first green energy-based solar panel manufacturing factory in Uttarakhand.

The new manufacturing plant located in Rudrapur is expected to be fully operational by the end of 2023.

This state-of-the-art facility will be equipped with the latest technology to design and produce high-quality solar panels that will be used for both residential and commercial applications.

Once operational, the facility, spread across 4.5 lakh square feet/10 acres will help enable a solar production capacity of 500 MW per annum, expandable up to 1 GW, producing a range of solar panels with a power output of 40W to 600W.

This solar panel facility is fully robotic and will use 100 percent energy from solar power, he noted.

CEO and Managing Director of Luminous Power Technologies - Preeti Bajaj

About Uttarakhand

- **Capital -** Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)
- **Chief Minister** - Pushkar Singh Dhami
- **Governor -** Gurmit Singh

360. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the ceremony commemorating the 1111th 'Avataran Mahotsav' of Bhagwan Shri Devnarayan Ji in which of the following state?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य में भगवान श्री देवनारायण जी के 1111वें 'अवतरण महोत्सव' के उपलक्ष्य में समारोह को संबोधित किया है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Punjab / पंजाब

(e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. c

Sol. PM Modi addressed 1111th Avataran Mahotsav of Bhagwan Devnarayan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has addressed the ceremony commemorating the 1111th 'Avataran Mahotsav' of Bhagwan Shri Devnarayan Ji in Bhilwara, Rajasthan.

Bhagwan Shri Devnarayan Ji was born in the family of a popular Mandalji Gurjar who established the famous Mandal Lake near Bhilwara district in Mewar. Devnarayan was a mighty warrior who fought many battles and wars against tyrannical rulers. He was also a ruler.

Devnarayan is worshipped as an incarnation of Vishnu by the Gujjar community as a folk deity in Rajasthan and South-Western Madhya Pradesh.

About Rajasthan

- **Capital –** Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Ashok Gehlot
- **Governor –** Kalraj Mishra

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi launched several development projects in Karnataka, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated 2nd phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23 in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh
- PM Modi virtually flagged off the 8th Vande Bharata Express train connecting Secunderabad with Vishakhapatnam.
- PM Modi announced the "Aarogya Maitri" project during the Voice of Global South Summit
- PM Modi inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival at Hubbali in Karnataka
- PM Modi virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of the Global Investors Summit in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

361. Woxsen University has launched Project Aspiration to empower adolescent girls of standards IX-XII of Model Schools and Junior Colleges of in which state?

वॉक्ससेन यूनिवर्सिटी ने किस राज्य में मॉडल स्कूलों और जूनियर कॉलेजों की कक्षा IX-XII की किशोर लड़कियों को सशक्त बनाने के लिए प्रोजेक्ट एस्पिरेशन लॉन्च किया है?

(a) Kerala / केरल
(b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
(c) Odisha / ओडिशा
(d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
(e) Telangana / तेलंगाना

Ans. e

Sol. Woxsen University launched Project Aspiration in Telangana for girls

Woxsen University has launched Project Aspiration to empower adolescent girls of standards IX-XII of Model Schools and Junior Colleges of Telangana.

Under the Project, the school principal selected a few deserving students to participate in the 'Train the Trainer' workshop, which commenced in Dec 2022.

Over 3 weeks of training sessions, the girls were exposed to different aspects of future, developing SMART goals & learnt how to work towards achieving them.

Professors from different schools at Woxsen briefed the students on various avenues of higher education and career opportunities.

Anubha Jain, Counsellor at Woxsen University acquainted them with important concepts of mental health and counselling.

The Project Aspiration team has organized various debates and discussed crucial social issues to open up young minds.

About Telangana

- **Capital –** Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – K. Chandrashekar Rao
- **Governor –** Tamilisai Soundararajan

362. Who among the following has inaugurated National Logistics Portal (Marine)?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने राष्ट्रीय रसद पोर्टल (समुद्री) का उद्घाटन किया है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Sarbananda Sonowal / सर्बानंद सोनोवाल
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. d

Sol. Sonowal inaugurated NLP-Marine, a portal to reduce logistics cost

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping, and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal has inaugurated National Logistics Portal (Marine).

The National Logistic Portal (marine) (NLP) is a project of national importance, as envisaged by the Ministry of Ports Shipping Waterways and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

NLP will be a single window for all trade processes of the logistics sector spread across the country covering all modes of transport in the waterways, roadways, and airways along with an e-marketplace to provide a seamless end-to-end logistic service coverage," he said.

The portal is a one-step platform aimed at connecting all the stakeholders of the logistics community using Information Technology to improve efficiency and transparency by reducing costs and time delays.

The portal aims to reduce regulatory complexities and enhance the ease of doing business by moving towards user-friendly paperless trade.

Sarbananda Sonowal in News

- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated School of Logistics, Waterways, and Communication in Agartala, Tripura.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated 'Ayush Utsav' in Kashmir
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated Unani Institute in Silchar

363. The government will hand over how many monuments to the private sector for their upkeep under the Monument Mitra Scheme, announced by the Ministry of Culture?

संस्कृति मंत्रालय द्वारा घोषित स्मारक मित्र योजना के तहत सरकार कितने स्मारकों को उनके रखरखाव के लिए निजी क्षेत्र को सौंपेगी?

(a) 100
(b) 500
(c) 700
(d) 1000
(e) 1100

Ans. d

Sol. Government to hand over 1,000 sites to private sector under Monument Scheme

The government will hand over around 1,000 monuments under the control of the Archaeological Survey of India to the private sector for their upkeep under the Monument Mitra Scheme, announced by the Ministry of Culture.

Corporate entities will take over these monuments as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility. Under the scheme, monument amenities will be revamped by the private sector.

The government has set the target to hand over 500 sites under the revamped Monument Mitra Scheme by the end of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav on 15 August 2023

This Monument Mitra Scheme had been started some years back under the Ministry of Tourism. Now the Ministry of Tourism has transferred the scheme to the Ministry of Culture in respect of the monuments under the Archaeological Survey of India.

364. The Prime Minister of which country has announced to commercialize the world's first photonic-based, fault-tolerant quantum computer?

किस देश के प्रधान मंत्री ने दुनिया के पहले फोटोनिक-आधारित, दोष-सहिष्णु क्वांटम कंप्यूटर का व्यावसायीकरण करने की घोषणा की है?

(a) France / फ्रांस
(b) Russia / रूस
(c) UK / यूके
(d) USA / यूएसए
(e) Canada / कनाडा

Ans. e

Sol. Canada to commercialize world's first photonic-based Quantum Computer

Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau has announced to commercialize the world's first photonic-based, fault-tolerant quantum computer.

The investment of 40 million Canadian dollars will enable Xanadu Quantum Technologies Inc. to develop the quantum computer which will help solve complex data problems and could be used in finance, transportation, and health.

This project of 177.8 million Canadian dollars ($142 million) is expected to create 530 new highly skilled positions in the high-tech and quantum computing fields.

Founded in 2016, Xanadu, with the mission to build quantum computers that are useful and available to people everywhere, leads the development of PennyLane, an open-source software library for quantum computing and application development.

About Canada

- **Capital -** Ottawa
- **Currency -** Dollar
- **President -** Justin Trudeau

365. The United Nations (UN) has reduced its GDP growth forecast for India for the calendar year 2023 to what percent?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र (UN) ने कैलेंडर वर्ष 2023 के लिए भारत के लिए अपने सकल घरेलू उत्पाद के विकास के अनुमान को घटाकर कितने प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

(a) 6.0%
(b) 5.9%
(c) 5.8%
(d) 5.5%
(e) 5.2%

Ans. c

Sol. UN cuts India's Economic Growth Forecast by 20 bps to 5.8% for 2023

The United Nations (UN) has cut its GDP growth forecast for India for the calendar year 2023 to 5.8 percent, citing the effect of tighter monetary policy and weak global demand.Growth in India is expected to remain strong at 5.8%, albeit slightly lower than the estimated 6.4% in 2022, as higher interest rates and a global slowdown weigh on investment and exports.

The government's first advance estimate for growth in this financial year is 7 percent.

The report projected India's retail inflation to decelerate to 5.5 percent in 2023 from 7.1 percent in 2022 as global commodity prices moderate and slower currency depreciation eases imported inflation.

- World Bank - 6.9% (FY23)
- MOODY'S. – 7% (FY23)
- S&P – 7% (FY23), 6% (FY24)
- IMF – 6.8% (FY23), 6.1% (FY24)
- ADB - 7% (FY23), 7.2% (FY24)
- RBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- India Ratings – 6.9% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING - 7% (FY23), 6.7% (FY24)
- FICCI - 7% (FY23), 6.4% (FY24)
- OECD - 6.6% (FY23), 5.7% (FY24)
- CRISIL - 7% (FY23), 6% (FY24)
- UN – 5.8 % (FY23)
- NSO – 7%
- SBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- Morgan Stanley - 7.2% (FY23), 6.4%(FY24)
- Nomura – 7.2% (FY23)
- UNTCAD – 5.7% (FY23)
- Goldman Sachs - 5.9% (FY23)

366. Who has been nominated by US president Joe Biden for the post of Air Force brigadier general?
अमेरिकी राष्ट्रपति जो बिडेन ने वायु सेना ब्रिगेडियर जनरल के पद के लिए किसे नामित किया है?
(a) Jasmin Moghbeli / जैस्मीन मोगबेली
(b) Raja Chari / राजा चारी
(c) Kayla Barron / कायला बैरोन
(d) Anil Menon / अनिल मेनन
(e) Robert Hines / रॉबर्ट हाइन्स
Ans. b
Sol. Indian-American astronaut Chari named for US Air Force Brigadier Gen
Indian-American astronaut Raja Chari has been nominated by US President Joe Biden for the post of Air Force brigadier general. Chari is currently serving as the Crew-3 commander and astronaut, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, Johnson Space Center, Texas USA.
In the past, Chari was one of the four astronauts aboard the SpaceX spacecraft that successfully docked with the orbiting lab in May of the previous year.
The Crew Dragon and Crew-3 missions were both under Chari's command. From takeoff until landing, he was in charge of the entire operation

Recent Appointment

- North Korea human rights envoy by US President - Julie Turner
- Maryland's first Indian-American Lt. Governor - Aruna Miller
- First LGBTQ woman of colour city council in the US state of California - Janani Ramachandran
- CEO of Vedanta's Cairn Oil & Gas - Nick Walker
- Chief Economist of OECD - Clare Lombardelli (UK)
- Director of Meta’s Global Business Group in India - Vikas Purohit

367. Which country has announced the introduction of the Debbie Hockley Medal to honor the outstanding female cricketer?

किस देश ने उत्कृष्ट महिला क्रिकेटर को सम्मानित करने के लिए डेबी हॉकले मेडल शुरू करने की घोषणा की है?

(a) England / इंग्लैंड

(b) New Zealand /न्यूजीलैंड

(c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया

(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका

(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. b

Sol. New Zealand to introduce Debbie H. Medal to honour women cricketers

New Zealand Cricket has announced the introduction of the Debbie Hockley Medal to honor the outstanding female cricketer.

Cricketer Debbie Hockley played 19 Tests and 118 ODIs for New Zealand from 1979 to 2000.

Hockley was the fourth woman to be inducted into the ICC Hall of Fame, in 2013.

New Zealand awards the Sir Richard Hadlee Medal for the outstanding male cricketer of the year

368. Who has become the first Asian to bag an Oscar nomination for Best Actress for her movie "The 'Everything Everywhere All at Once"?

अपनी फिल्म "द एवरीथिंग एवरीवेयर ऑल एट वंस" के लिए सर्वश्रेष्ठ अभिनेत्री का ऑस्कर नामांकन पाने वाली पहली एशियाई कौन बनी हैं?

(a) Michelle Yeoh / मिशेल योह
(b) Ke Huy Quan / के हुई क्वान
(c) Ken Watanabe / केन वातानाबे
(d) Gemma Chan / जेम्मा चान
(e) Meng'er Zhang / मेंगर झांग

Ans. a

Sol. M Yeoh becomes first Asian to bag Oscar nomination for Best Actress

Michelle Yeoh became the first Asian to bag an Oscar nomination for Best Actress for her movie "The 'Everything Everywhere All at Once".

Malaysian descent, Michelle Yeoh has also won the Golden Globe Award in the Best Actress category for her performance in the movie 'Everything Everywhere All at Once.'

She was also nominated for the Gotham Independent Film Awards 2022.

Recent Awards

- Subhash Chandra Bose Disaster Management Award 2023 - Odisha State Disaster Management Authority (OSDMA) & Lunglei Fire Station (LFS)
- Pt Hariprasad Chaurasia Lifetime Achievement Award - Dr. Prabha Atre
- Gaja Capital Business Book Prize 2022 – Harish Damodaran
- Most distinguished scientist of the year 2022 - R Vishnu Prassad
- Golden Kailasha award at 8th Ajanta-Ellora FF - Naanera (Rajasthani film)

369. Aasif Sheikh has been awarded the ICC Spirit of Cricket Award for 2022. From which of the following countries does he belong?

आसिफ शेख को 2022 के लिए ICC स्पिरिट ऑफ क्रिकेट अवार्ड से सम्मानित किया गया है। वह निम्नलिखित में से किस देश से संबंधित हैं?

(a) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
(b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
(c) Nepal / नेपाल
(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. c

Sol. Aasif become the 1st Nepali cricketer to win the ICC Spirit of Cricket

Nepal wicketkeeper Aasif Sheikh has been awarded the ICC Spirit of Cricket Award for 2022 after his selfless decision to refuse the run-out of Ireland's Andy McBrine in their T20I match in the Oman Quadrangular Series back in February.

Sheikh's incredible gesture in the cricketing field saw Balbirnie safely reach the striker's end after that batter had taken a tumble while running.

Aasif thus becomes the first player from Nepal to win the ICC Spirit of Cricket Award.

The award is annually awarded by the ICC to recognize the player or team upholding the spirit of the game.

370. Who has been named Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year 2022?

वुमन इमर्जिंग क्रिकेटर ऑफ द ईयर 2022 किसे नामित किया गया है?

(a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
(b) Harmanpreet Kaur / हरमनप्रीत कौर
(c) Renuka Singh / रेणुका सिंह
(d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
(e) Deepti Sharma / दीप्ति शर्मा

Ans. c

Sol. England's Ben Stokes and Nat Sciver won ICC annual awards

England Test captain Ben Stokes and England all-rounder Nat Sciver have won ICC cricketer of the year 2022 awards.

All-rounder Stokes has been named Men's Test Cricketer of the Year while Sciver won the Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy for ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year.Sciver, 30, is also named Women's one-day international (ODI) Cricketer of the Year.

The 31-year-old Stokes took over the Test captaincy from Joe Root in April 2022 and has won nine of his 10 Tests in charge.

ICC awards winners for 2022

- Sir Garfield Sobers Trophy- Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- Rachael Heyhoe Flint Trophy- Nat Sciver (England)
- Men's Test Cricketer of the Year- Ben Stokes (England)
- Men's ODI Cricketer of the Year- Babar Azam (Pakistan)
- Women's ODI Cricketer of the Year- Nat Sciver (England)
- Men's T20 International Cricketer of the Year- Suryakumar Yadav (India)
- Women's T20 International Cricketer of the Year- Tahlia McGrath (Australia)
- Men's Emerging Cricketer of the Year- Marco Jansen (South Africa)
- Women's Emerging Cricketer of the Year- Renuka Singh (India)
- Men's Associate Cricketer of the Year- Gerhard Erasmus (Namibia)
- Women's Associate Cricketer of the Year- Esha Oza (India)
- David Shepherd Trophy- Richard Illingworth (England)
- Spirit of Cricket Award- Aasif Sheikh (Nepal)

371. Who has won the women's singles title by defeating Elena Rybakina in the Australian Open 2023?

ऑस्ट्रेलियन ओपन 2023 में एलेना रयबकिना को हराकर महिला एकल खिताब किसने जीता है?

(a) Arina Sabalenka / अरीना सबलेंका
(b) Karolína Plíšková / करोलिना प्लिस्कोवा
(c) Caroline Garcia / कैरोलीन गार्सिया
(d) Kaia Kanepi / कैया कानेपी
(e) Victoria Azarenka / विक्टोरिया अजारेंका

Ans. a

Sol. Arina Sabalenka won the Australian Open title

Arina Sabalenka of Belarus has won the women's singles title by defeating Elena Rybakina of Kazakhstan in the Australian Open 2023.

Sabalenka has won the Grand Slam title for the first time, while Rybakina missed out on winning the Grand Slam for the second time.

Sabalenka defeated Elena Rybakina 4–6, 6–3, 6–4 in the final match played at Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne.

While the Brazilian duo of Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos won the Mixed Doubles title.

The Brazilian pair defeated the Indian pair of Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza 7-6, 6-2 at the Rod Laver Arena in Melbourne.

Mirza was the first Indian to win a WTA singles title in her hometown Hyderabad in 2005.

372. International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रलय स्मरण दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 29 January / 29 जनवरी
(e) 30 January / 30 जनवरी

Ans. b

Sol. 27 January - International Holocaust Remembrance Day

International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed every year on 27 January.

This day is observed to reflect on the atrocities inflicted by Adolf Hitler, which resulted in the deaths of an estimated six million Jews.

Theme 2023 - Home and Belonging

The day commemorates the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau in January 1945 from Nazi control.

The Holocaust was Nazi Germany's "Final Solution" for eliminating all Jewish people.

373. Khadi Fest-23 has been inaugurated in which city recently?

हाल ही में किस शहर में खादी फेस्ट-23 का उद्घाटन किया गया है?

(a) Varanasi / वाराणसी

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. e

Sol. Khadi Fest-23 inaugurated in Mumbai

Chairman of Khadi and Village Industries Commission Manoj Kumar has inaugurated the Khadi Fest- 23 at the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) Headquarters in Mumbai.

Khadi Fest- 23 will run from 27 January to 24 February 2023.

The fest will showcase apparel made of Khadi, Pashmina, Kalamkari, Phulkari, Tussar silk, etc while Dry-fruits, Tea, Kahwa, Honey, Bamboo Products, Carpets, Aloe Vera Products and others will be up for sale.

Events and exhibitions like Khadi Fest provide a platform to the Khadi Institutions, Prime Minister's Employment Generation Programme – PMEGP and the Scheme of Fund for Regeneration of Traditional Industries – SFURTI units to market the products of thousands of artisans directly to customers.

374. India's Ministry of Culture has signed an MoU with the Government of Egypt to strengthen cultural ties. This MoU has been signed for a period of how many years?

भारत के संस्कृति मंत्रालय ने सांस्कृतिक संबंधों को मजबूत करने के लिए मिस्र सरकार के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। इस समझौता ज्ञापन पर कितने वर्षों की अवधि के लिए हस्ताक्षर किए गए हैं?

(a) 3 years
(b) 5 years
(c) 6 years
(d) 7 years
(e) 10 years

Ans. b

Sol. India & Egypt signed an MoU on Cultural Cooperation

India's Ministry of Culture signed an MoU with the Government of Egypt to strengthen cultural ties.

The MoU was signed by the Culture Minister of India, G. Kishan Reddy and the Foreign Minister of Egypt, Sameh Hassan Shoukry.

This MoU has been signed for a period of five years.

Under the aegis of the MoU on Cultural Cooperation signed between India and Egypt, both countries will host cultural activities in the fields of music, dance, theatre, literature, libraries, organizing festivals in the respective countries, research and documentation etc.

About Egypt

- Capital- Cairo
- Currency- Egyptian pound
- Continent - Africa, Asia
- President - Abdel Fattah El-Sisi

Recent MoUs

- Indian High Commission signed MoU to establish Hindi Chair at Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka
- India signed an agreement with Austria for migration and mobility
- India & Cyprus sign agreement on defence and military cooperation
- India and Germany signed Migration and Mobility Agreement
- India & EU signed an agreement for climate, quantum tech
- India signed an agreement with Netherlands to formalize bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism

375. Which edition of the Interpol Young Global Police Leaders Program is being held in New Delhi?

इंटरपोल यंग ग्लोबल पुलिस लीडर्स प्रोग्राम का कौन सा संस्करण नई दिल्ली में आयोजित किया जा रहा है?

(a) First / पहला

(b) Second / दूसरा

(c) Third / तीसरा

(d) Fouth / चौथा

(e) Fifth / पांचवां

Ans. c

Sol. Third Interpol Young Global Police Leaders Program begins

The third edition of the Interpol Young Global Police Leaders Program being held in New Delhi with the theme 'Trust'.

The event which is being organized by the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) began on the 25 January to 2 February 2023.

As many as 59 participants from 44 countries are taking part in the programme.

The event brings together young police leaders holding vital assignments in their respective countries and helps them develop an international perspective and understanding.

About International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)

- Founded- 7 September 1923, Vienna, Austria
- Headquarters- Lyon, France
- Member Countries - 195
- President- Ahmed Naser Al-Raisi

376. Which of the following state is launched first survey of migrants recently?
निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य ने हाल ही में प्रवासियों का पहला सर्वेक्षण शुरू किया है?
(a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
(b) Jharkhand / झारखंड
(c) Assam / असम
(d) Bihar / बिहार
(e) Meghalaya / मेघालय
Ans. b
Sol. Jharkhand launched first survey of migrants
Around 8.5 lakh migrants returned to their home state, Jharkhand, during the COVID crisis. To help these migrants with a good livelihood, the State Government of Jharkhand started the State and Responsible Migration Initiative in 2021.
To achieve this, the Jharkhand Government recently launched the first survey of Migrants. Jharkhand is not the only state to launch such states. Several other states like Tamil Nadu and Punjab had already launched such surveys.
The survey is to be conducted of 11,000 households in 24 districts.
The purpose of it is to create a robust database of migrants and migration pattern in the state.
The survey outputs will be used to create a state-level policy
Survey will gather information about incoming migrants, outgoing migrants, quality of life of migrants, understanding the mindset of migrants, etc.

About Jharkhand

- **Capital** – Ranchi
- **Chief Minister** – Hemant Soren
- **Governor -** Ramesh Bais

377. India has signed an MoU with which country to introduce 12 Cheetahs annually over the next eight to ten years?
भारत ने अगले आठ से दस वर्षों में सालाना 12 चीतों को पेश करने के लिए किस देश के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

(a) England / इंग्लैंड
(b) New Zealand /न्यूजीलैंड
(c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. d

Sol. India & South Africa signed MoU to introduce 12 African Cheetahs

India and South Africa have signed an MoU to introduce 12 African Cheetahs annually over the next eight to ten years.

In terms of the agreement, an initial batch of 12 cheetahs will be flown from South Africa to India in February 2023.

The cats will join eight Cheetah brought in India from Namibia last year.

The initiative to reintroduce cheetah to a former range state is being carried out following the local extinction of this iconic species due to overhunting and loss of habitat in the last century.

Recent MoUs

- India & EU signed an agreement for climate, quantum tech
- India signed an agreement with Netherlands to formalize bilateral Fast-Track Mechanism
- India signed an MoU with Japan to advance scientific cooperation for Indian Ayurveda
- India signed 4 MoUs with Cambodia in the areas of culture, wildlife, health
- Maldives signed an MoU with India for Hanimaadhoo International Airport Development Projects
- India signed an agreement with Armenia to export missiles, rockets & ammunition

378. Who has laid the foundation stone for a National Forensic Sciences University at the premises of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad in Karnataka?

कर्नाटक में कृषि विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय, धारवाड़ के परिसर में एक राष्ट्रीय फोरेंसिक विज्ञान विश्वविद्यालय की आधारशिला किसने रखी है?

(a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
(b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
(c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
(d) Nitin Gadkari / नितिन गडकरी
(e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. e

Sol. Amit Shah laid the foundation stone for National Forensic Sciences University in Karnataka

Union Home Minsiter Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone for a National Forensic Sciences University at the premises of the University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad in Karnataka.

It will help to create expert manpower for the country to combat crime and result in the prosecution of criminals.

He was also part of a road show in Dharwad and addressed a public rally in the Belagavi district.

About Karnataka

- **Capital –** Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** –Basavaraj Bommai
- **Governor –** Thawar Chand Gehlot

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

- Amit Shah inaugurated 120-feet-tall polo statue in Manipur
- Amit Shah has laid the foundation stone of the Central Detective Training Institute (CDTI) at Devanahalli in Karnataka.
- Amit Shah inaugurated Mega Dairy at Mandya, Karnataka
- Amit Shah launched the Prahari app of the Border Security Force
- Amit Shah inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 projects worth over Rs 6,600 cr in Faridabad

379. The 15th BRICS summit will be held in which country in August 2023?

अगस्त 2023 में 15वां ब्रिक्स शिखर सम्मेलन किस देश में आयोजित किया जाएगा?

(a) India / भारत

(b) Russia / रूस

(c) Brazil / ब्राजील

(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका

(e) China / चीन

Ans. d

Sol. South Africa to host 15th BRICS summit in August 2023

The 15th BRICS summit will be held in Durban, South Africa in August 2023.

It was announced by the Russian Foreign Minister, Sergei Lavrov in a joint conference with Foreign Minister of the State of Eritrea Osman Saleh in Massawa, Eritrea.

The foreign ministers of Brazil, Russia, India, and China met for the first time on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in 2006, kicking off BRIC cooperation. Later in April 2011, South Africa participated, for the first time, in the 3rd BRICS Summit held in Sanya, China.

Earlier in 2013, the fifth annual BRICS summit was held in Durban, South Africa. It was attended by the head of state or heads of government of the five member states Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

In June 2009, the BRIC leaders held their first meeting in Russia, upgrading BRIC cooperation to Summit level.

The BRIC leaders met for the first time in Russia in June 2009, elevating BRIC cooperation to Summit status.

BRICS: Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

BRIC was founded in 2006 and later, in 2010, South Africa was included and it became BRICS.

380. Which among the following has launched the "Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0" Program?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने "निधि आपके निकट 2.0" कार्यक्रम लॉन्च किया है?

(a) EPFO / ईपीएफओ
(b) LIC / एलआईसी
(c) ESIC / ईएसआईसी
(d) FCI / एफसीआई
(e) NASSCOM / नैसकॉम

Ans. a

Sol. EPFO launched Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 Program

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has launched "Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0"- A District Outreach Program for expanding its presence in more than 685 districts of the country.

It was e-launched by Arti Ahuja, Secretary (Ministry of Labour & Employment) from the EPFO Headquarters, in the presence of the Central Provident Fund Commissioner (CPFC) and officers of EPFO.

The Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 will not only be the grievance redressal platform and information exchange network for employers and employees but also a platform for the exchange of information with the district-level authorities of various State and Central Government departments.

In this programme, a help desk will be created where members will get online services like filing online claims. Grievance redressal of the members will be done on the spot.

The aim of the programme is to reach out to all the districts in the country on the same day every month. The Nidhi Aapke Nikat 2.0 will be conducted on the 27th of every month.

About Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)

- Founded - 1952
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- EPFO is the statutory body under the ownership of Ministry of Labour and Employment

381. NMDC has appointed whom as its brand ambassador?

NMDC ने किसे अपना ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया है?

(a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
(b) Nikhat Zareen / निकहत ज़रीन
(c) Mary Kom / मैरी कॉम
(d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
(e) PV Sindhu / पीवी सिंधु

Ans. b

Sol. NMDC signs up Champion Boxer Nikhat Zareen as its Brand Ambassador National miner and India's largest producer of iron ore, National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) has signed an agreement with World Boxing Champion and gold medal winner of Birmingham 2022 Commonwealth Games Nikhat Zareen to represent NMDC as its brand ambassador. Nikhat Zareen represents the strength, courage, agility and national pride associated with the brand NMDC.

She joins an elite list of Indian boxers, including Mary Kom, Sarita Devi, Jenny RL and Lekha KC, who have become world champions.

About NMDC Limited

- Headquarters: Hyderabad
- Founded: 1958
- Chairman & MD: Sumit Deb
- NMDC is under the ownership of the Ministry of Steel, Government of India.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Smriti Mandhana - Herbalife Nutrition
- Sourav Ganguly - Jahaan Bandhan, Wahaan Trust campaign (Bandhan Bank)
- Anushka Sharma - Puma India
- Deepika Padukone - American furniture retailer Pottery Barn
- Virat Kohli - Wearables martwatch leader Noise
- Prasoon Joshi - Uttarakhand State

392. Retired army general, Petr Pavel was elected as President of which country?

सेवानिवृत्त आर्मी जनरल, पेट्र पावेल को किस देश के राष्ट्रपति के रूप में चुना गया है?

(a) Ireland / आयरलैंड
(b) Thailand / थाईलैंड
(c) UK / यूके
(d) Czech Republic / चेक गणराज्य
(e) Israel / इजराइल

Ans. d

Sol. Petr Pavel elected as President of the Czech Republic

Retired army general, Petr Pavel was elected as President of the Czech Republic.

He defeated billionaire businesswoman Andrej Babis.

During the election, General Pavel got 58.2 percent of the votes while Andrzej Babis got 42.8 percent.

General Powell has been Chairman of the Military Committee of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO).

Pavel has repeatedly expressed his support for providing military and humanitarian aid to Ukraine during Russia–Ukraine conflict.

About Czech Republic

- **Capital** - Prague
- **Currency -** Czech koruna
- **Prime Minister** - Petr Fiala
- **President** - Petr Pavel

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- Prime Minister of New Zealand - Chris Hipkins
- Deputy Prime Minister of New Zealand - Carmel Sepuloni
- Prime Minister of Nepal - Pushpa Kamal Dahal
- Prime Minister of Ireland – Indian-origin Leo Varadkar (2nd term)
- First female President of Peru - Dina Boluarte
- Prime Minister of Malaysia - Anwar Ibrahim
- President of Kazakhstan - Kassym-Jomart Tokayev (2nd term)
- First female president of Slovenia - Natasa Pirc Musar

393. Who has won the Australian Open men's single title 2023 by defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas?

स्टेफानोस सितसिपास को हराकर ऑस्ट्रेलियन ओपन पुरुष एकल का खिताब 2023 किसने जीता है?

(a) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच
(b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल
(c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर
(d) Alexander Zverev / अलेक्जेंडर ज्वेरेव
(e) Carlos Alcaraz / कार्लोस अलकराज

Ans. a

Sol. Nvak Djokovic won the Australian Open 2023 title

Novak Djokovic has won the Australian Open title for the 10th time by defeating Stefanos Tsitsipas 6-3, 7-6, 7-6 in the first Grand Slam Australia Open 2023.

With this victory, Djokovic has equaled Spain's Rafael Nadal's record of winning 22 Grand Slam titles.

His 22 major championships — which include seven from Wimbledon, three from the U.S. Open, and two from the French Open — are tied with Rafael Nadal for the most by a man in the history of tennis.

Djokovic won the first Australian Open title in the year 2008. After that he has won this title in the years 2011, 2012, 2013, 2015, 2016, 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2023.

Margaret Court, with 24, Serena Williams, with 23, and Steffi Graf, with 22, have the most championships among women.

Australian Open title 2023

Women's Singles

- Winner - Arina Sabalenka (Belarus)
- Runner Up - Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan)

Men's Singles

- Winner – Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
- Runner Up - Stefanos Tsitsipas (Greece)

Men's Doubles

- Winner - J. Kubler & R. Hijikata (Australia)
- Runner Up - H. Nys (Monaco) & J. Zieliński (Poland)

Women's Doubles

- Winner - B. Krejčíková & K. Siniaková (Czech Republic)
- Runner Up - S. Aoyama & E. Shibahara (Japan)

Mixed Doubles title 2023

- Winner - Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos (Brazilian)
- Runner Up - Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza (India)

394. Which of the following country has won FIH Men's Hockey World Cup in Bhubaneswar?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने भुवनेश्वर में FIH पुरुष हॉकी विश्व कप जीता है?

(a) India / भारत
(b) Germany / जर्मनी
(c) France / फ्रांस
(d) Argentina / अर्जेंटीना
(e) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया

Ans. b

Sol. Germany beat Belgium to win FIH Men's Hockey World Cup in Bhubaneswar

Germany has won the Men's Hockey World Cup Title 2023.

Germany defeated defending champions Belgium 5-4 in a shootout in the final played at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

Germany now has won the World Cup three times, first in 2002 and second in 2006.

Germany had earlier won the quarter-finals against England and the semi-finals against Australia after coming from two goals down.

Germany also took their world title tally to three, equaling Australia and the Netherlands.

The record of winning the most titles in the Men's Hockey World Cup is recorded in the name of Pakistan, which have won this title four times.

Earlier in the day, the Netherlands beat Australia 3-1 to claim the bronze medal. It was the first time since 1998 that Australia failed to finish on podium at the FIH World Cup.Total Team -16 (Germany, Belgium, Netherlands, Australia, England, Spain, New Zealand, Korea, Argentina, India, South Africa, Wales, France, Malaysia, Chile, Japan)

Awards of Hockey World Cup 2023 -

- Best Player- Niklas Wellen (Germany)
- Best Goalkeeper- Vincent Vanasch (Belgium)
- Best Junior Player- Mustapha Cassiem (South Africa)
- Hero Top Scorer- Jeremy Hayward (Australia)
- Best Team Goal Celebration Award- Korea
- Fan's Choice Award- Christopher Ruhr (Germany)
- Fair Play Award- Belgium
- Maximum Team Goals Award- Netherlands
- Best Forward of the Tournament Award- Niklas Wellen (Germany)
- Best Midfielder of the Tournament Award- Victor Wegnez (Belgium)
- Best Defender of the Tournament Award- Jeremy Hayward (Australia)

395. India has defeated which country to win the first edition of the Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup?
भारत ने अंडर-19 महिला टी-20 विश्व कप का पहला संस्करण किस देश को हराकर जीता है?
(a) England / इंग्लैंड
(b) New Zealand /न्यूजीलैंड
(c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
(d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
(e) Ireland / आयरलैंड
Ans. a
Sol. India defeated England to win Women's U -19 T20 World Cup
In the first edition of the Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup, India defeated England by seven wickets to win the tournament. England was bowled out for 68 in 17.1 overs. In response, the Indian squad easily chased down the total by the 16th over.
For the first time the Indian women's team has been successful in winning any ICC tournament.
Indian player Shweta Sehrawat scored the most runs in the Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup 2023. She scored 292 runs in 6 matches.
Maggie Clarke was the top wicket-taker in the tournament with 12 wickets in 5 matches.
Under-19 Women's T20 World Cup

- Host Country - South Africa
- Participants - 16 teams
- Player of the match in the final - Titas Sadhu (India)
- Player of the Tournament - Grace Scrivens (Captain England)
- Indian Captain - Shafali Verma

396. Data Privacy Day is observed every year on which day globally?

डेटा गोपनीयता दिवस हर साल विश्व स्तर पर किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 29 January / 29 जनवरी
(e) 30 January / 30 जनवरी

Ans. c

Sol. 28 January - Data Privacy Day

Data Privacy Day is observed across the world on 28 January every year.

Objective - To raise awareness about the right to data protection and various ways in which people can keep their data safe.

Theme 2023 - Think Privacy First

This important celebration was initiated by the Council of Europe.

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe decided to launch Data Protection Day in 2006. January 28 was chosen for the annual celebrations.

397. World Leprosy Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व कुष्ठ दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) Last Sunday of January / जनवरी का आखिरी रविवार
(b) Last Monday of January / जनवरी का अंतिम सोमवार
(c) Last Tuesday of January / जनवरी का अंतिम मंगलवार
(d) Last Thursday of January / जनवरी के अंतिम गुरुवार
(e) Last Friday of January / जनवरी का अंतिम शुक्रवार

Ans. a

Sol. 29 January 2023 - World Leprosy Day

World Leprosy Day is observed every year on the last Sunday of January.

In 2023, World Leprosy Day is Sunday 29 January.

Theme 2023 - Act Now. End Leprosy

The purpose of this day is to raise awareness and dispel myths surrounding the disease, which is preventable and treatable.

The aim is to create awareness about a disease that still reports over 200 thousand people every year, according to the World Health Organization.

Hansen's disease or Leprosy is an infectious disease caused by slow-growing bacteria called Mycobacterium leprae.

According to the Centers For Disease Control and Prevention, the bacteria affect the nerves, skin, eyes, and lining of the nose. It is totally curable if the disease is diagnosed and treated early.

398. The first G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group meeting under the G20 Indian Presidency has been organized in which city from 30 to 31 January 2023?

G20 इंडियन प्रेसीडेंसी के तहत पहली G20 इंटरनेशनल फाइनेंशियल आर्किटेक्चर वर्किंग ग्रुप की बैठक 30 से 31 जनवरी 2023 तक किस शहर में आयोजित की गई है?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
(b) Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़
(c) Chennai / चेन्नई
(d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
(e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. b

Sol. G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group begins in Chandigarh

The first G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group meeting under the G20 Indian Presidency is being organized in Chandigarh from 30th to 31st January 2023.

The meeting was inaugurated by Union agriculture minister, Narendra Singh Tomar, and food processing industries minister, Pashupati Kumar Paras.

The discussions during the two-day meeting will be jointly steered by the Ministry of Finance and the Reserve Bank of India along with France and Korea who are the co-chairs of the International Financial Architecture Working Group.

The International Financial Architecture Working Group is one of the important workstreams under the G20 Finance Track with a focus on strengthening international financial architecture. It also aims to address multiple challenges faced by vulnerable countries.

During the course of India's G20 Presidency, this Working Group will meet again in March, June, and September to continue discussions on the priorities set under the Indian Presidency.

G20 in News ***(Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)***

- **Startup 20 Engagement Group Meeting -** Hyderabad (28-29 January 2023)
- **First Meeting of the Youth-20 Group** - Guwahati (6 - 8 February 2023)
- **First G-20 Environment Meeting -** Bengaluru (9 -11 February 2023)
- **Business-20 (B-20) Inception Meeting** - Gandhinagar **(**22- 24 January 2023)
- **Think-20 Meeting –** Bhopal (16 - 17 January 2023)

399. The first Employment Working Group Meeting under the Sherpa track of the G20 will be held from February 2 to 4 in which city?

G20 के शेरपा ट्रैक के तहत पहली एम्प्लॉयमेंट वर्किंग ग्रुप की बैठक 2 फरवरी से 4 फरवरी तक किस शहर में होगी?

(a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Jodhpur / जोधपुर

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. First Employment Working Group Meeting will be held in Jodhpur

The first Employment Working Group Meeting under the Sherpa track of the G20 will be held from February 2 to 4 in Jodhpur, Rajasthan.

Sherpas and delegates from 20 countries including Australia, Italy, Japan, and China are expected to attend the meeting.

The Focus areas of The Employment Working Group Meeting will target issues including addressing Global Skill Gaps, Gig and Platform Economy and Social Protection, and Sustainable Financing of Social Security.

The city has been decorated with Rajasthani culture and a special theme.

Dishes specially prepared with millets will be served to the Sherpas and delegates.

G20 in News ***(Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)***

- **Secretariat for Science 20 (S20) Meeting** - IISc Bengaluru
- **G20 Foreign Ministers Meeting -** New Delhi (March 2023)
- **First G-20 Meeting –** Puducherry (31 January 2023).
- **First Infrastructure Working Group Meeting** - Pune (16-17 January 2023)
- **First Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion Working Group Meeting** - Kolkata

400. Who has inaugurated India's first Model G-20 Summit organized by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini's Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership?

रामभाऊ म्हालगी प्रबोधिनी के इंडियन इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ डेमोक्रेटिक लीडरशिप द्वारा आयोजित भारत के पहले मॉडल G-20 शिखर सम्मेलन का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

(b) Amitabh Kant / अमिताभ कांत

(c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

(d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल

(e) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर

Ans. b

Sol. India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant inaugurated India's first Model G-20 Summit

India's G-20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant has inaugurated India's first Model G-20 Summit organized by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini's Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership.

The two-day model G-20 summit has been organized at the Uttan campus of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini near Mumbai to celebrate India's chairmanship and to take the idea of G-20 to the youth.

Dr. Vinay Sahasrabuddhe, President of ICCR and Vice Chairman of Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini chaired the inaugural ceremony.

During this two-day conference, students will get into the role of G-20 member countries and discuss various political and social issues in four committees or tracks, namely Leader Track, Sherpa Track, Civil-20, and Business-20.

A total of 150 youth from across the country will participate in the program and will play the role of delegates representing G-20 countries.

The best two delegates will be awarded cash prizes of Rs 15,000 and Rs 10,000.

401. Who has released a special day cover and a commemorative specially minted coin of Rs 75 denomination on the occasion of 75 successful years of the National Cadet Corps (NCC)?

राष्ट्रीय कैडेट कोर (NCC) के 75 सफल वर्षों के अवसर पर किसने एक विशेष डे कवर और 75 रुपये मूल्यवर्ग का विशेष रूप से निर्मित एक स्मारक सिक्का जारी किया है?

(a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

(b) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

(c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह

(d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मु

(e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi released special Rs 75 coin to mark 75 successful years of NCC

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has released a special day cover and a commemorative specially minted coin of Rs 75 denomination on the occasion of 75 successful years of the National Cadet Corps (NCC).

The NCC rally was held on the occasion of the commemoration of 75 years at the Cariappa Ground in Delhi. 196 officers and cadets from 19 foreign countries also participated in the rally.

The NCC was formed in 1948 on the recommendation of H N Kunzru Committee-1946 under National Cadet Corps Act, 1948.

NCC is the largest uniformed youth organisation in the world. Director General of NCC - Lt Gen Gurbirpal Singh

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi released special Rs 75 coin to mark 75 successful years of NCC
- PM Modi addressed 1111th Avataran Mahotsav of Bhagwan Devnarayan in Bhilwara, Rajasthan.
- PM Modi launched several development projects in Karnataka, Maharashtra
- PM Modi inaugurated 2nd phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh 2022-23 in Basti District of Uttar Pradesh
- PM Modi virtually flagged off the 8th Vande Bharata Express train connecting Secunderabad with Vishakhapatnam.
- PM Modi announced the "Aarogya Maitri" project during the Voice of Global South Summit
- PM Modi inaugurated 26th National Youth Festival at Hubbali in Karnataka

402. Which of the following state government has launched a campaign, 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' to make daughters of the underprivileged classes capable and self-reliant?

निम्न में से किस राज्य सरकार ने वंचित वर्गों की बेटियों को सक्षम और आत्मनिर्भर बनाने के लिए 'समग्र शिक्षा अभियान' अभियान शुरू किया है?

(a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश

(b) Gujarat / गुजरात

(c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

(d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र

(e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Ans. a

Sol. UP government launched 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' campaign

Uttar Pradesh government has launched a campaign, 'Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan' to make daughters of the underprivileged classes capable and self-reliant.

The Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan will work under the Aarohini Initiative Training Programme for the safety and security of girls in 746 Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girls Schools in the state.

It will be implemented in three phases.

In the first phase, which will start on February 1, teachers will be trained.

Two teachers of every Kasturba Gandhi Residential Girls' School will receive the training, who will then educate the students of their respective schools.

Along with the teachers, the institution will also groom the girls through debates and other activities.

About Uttar Pradesh

- **Capital** - Lucknow
- **Chief Minister** – Yogi Adityanath
- **Governor -** Anandiben Patel

403. A 5-day 'Jeevan Vidya Shivir' was organized for the teachers of government schools of which state/UT?

किस राज्य/केंद्रशासित प्रदेश के सरकारी स्कूलों के शिक्षकों के लिए 5 दिवसीय 'जीवन विद्या शिविर' का आयोजन किया गया है?

(a) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर

(b) Delhi / दिल्ली

(c) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश

(d) Punjab / पंजाब

(e) Ladakh / लद्दाख

Ans. b

Sol. Jeevan Vidya Shivir' organized for Delhi govt school teachers

Delhi State Council of Educational Research and Training (SCERT) has organized a 5-day 'Jeevan Vidya Shivir' for the teachers of Delhi govt schools at Thyagaraja stadium in New Delhi.

Nearly 4,000 teachers from Delhi government schools participated in the workshop.

Jeevan Vidya Shivir is a co-existence workshop based on the Coexistential philosophy of A Nagraj.

The 5-day Jeevan Vidya Shivir will help teachers in building their capacity to find those gaps present in the education system and fill them.

404. The 30th National Child Science Congress has organized at which city?

30वीं राष्ट्रीय बाल विज्ञान कांग्रेस का आयोजन किस शहर में किया गया है?

(a) Varanasi / वाराणसी

(b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली

(c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर

(d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद

(e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. National Child Science Congress organized in Ahmedabad

The 30th National Child Science Congress has organized at Science City in Ahmedabad.

It was inaugurated by Vijay Nahera, Secretary, Gujarat Science and Technology Department.

More than 1400 delegates including child scientists, escort teachers, evaluators and government officials participated in it.

More than 850 students from across the country showcased their unique projects at the Congress.

405. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has designated 'Odesa' a World Heritage in danger site. In which of the following country is it situated?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र शैक्षिक, वैज्ञानिक और सांस्कृतिक संगठन (यूनेस्को) ने 'ओडेसा' को खतरे वाली जगह में विश्व विरासत नामित किया है। यह निम्नलिखित में से किस देश में स्थित है?

(a) Ukraine / यूक्रेन
(b) Russia / रूस
(c) Japan / जापान
(d) USA / यूएसए
(e) China / चीन

Ans. a

Sol. UNESCO designated Ukraine's Odesa a World Heritage in Danger site

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has designated Odesa as it faced danger from Russian air strikes.

Odesa is a historic centre and strategic port city located on the Black Sea.

In July 2022, part of the large glass roof and windows of Odesa's Museum of Fine Arts, inaugurated in 1899, were destroyed.

Empress Catherine founded ODESA.

About United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

- **Formation** - 16 November 1945
- **Headquarters** - Paris, France
- **Director General** - Audrey Azoulay (France)
- **Member countries –** 193

406. According to the Futures Industry Association (FIA), which of the following Stock Exchange has emerged as the world's largest derivatives exchange in 2022, in terms of the number of contracts traded?

फ्यूचर्स इंडस्ट्री एसोसिएशन (FIA) के अनुसार, निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा स्टॉक एक्सचेंज 2022 में कारोबार किए गए अनुबंधों की संख्या के मामले में दुनिया के सबसे बड़े डेरिवेटिव एक्सचेंज के रूप में उभरा है?

(a) Calcutta Stock Exchange / कलकत्ता स्टॉक एक्सचेंज
(b) Madras Stock Exchange / मद्रास स्टॉक एक्सचेंज
(c) Bombay Stock Exchange / बॉम्बे स्टॉक एक्सचेंज
(d) National Stock Exchange / नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज
(e) Frankfurt Stock Exchange / फ्रेंकफर्ट स्टॉक एक्सचेंज

Ans. d

Sol. NSE becomes world's largest derivatives exchange for 4th straight year

According to the Futures Industry Association (FIA), the National Stock Exchange of India (NSE) has emerged as the world's largest derivatives exchange in 2022, in terms of the number of contracts traded.

NSE has secured the top position for the fourth consecutive year.

NSE ranked third in terms of number of deals (Electronic Order Book) in the equity segment in 2022. Whereas last year it was in fourth position.

About National Stock Exchange of India (NSE)

- NSE is the largest financial market in India.
- NSE is the first dematerialized electronic exchange in the country.
- Founded - 1992
- Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Managing Director & CEO - Ashish Kumar Chauhan

407. Which edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2022 has started in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh?
खेलो इंडिया यूथ गेम्स 2022 का कौन सा संस्करण भोपाल, मध्य प्रदेश में शुरू हुआ है?
(a) First / पहला
(b) Second / दूसरा
(c) Third / तीसरा
(d) Fouth / चौथा
(e) Fifth / पांचवां
Ans. e
Sol. 5th Khelo India Youth Games begins in Madhya Pradesh
The fifth edition of Khelo India Youth Games 2022 began in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.
Union Sports and Youth Affairs Minister Anurag Singh Thakur and Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan have inaugurated this sports event at TT Nagar Stadium in Bhopal.
Singer Shaan performed at the opening ceremony. Shaan sang the theme song of Khelo India Youth Games. Singer Neeti Mohan performed on Narmada Ashtak.
A group of 100 folk artistes along with drummer Shivamani performed on Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat.
The Games will be hosted in Madhya Pradesh from 31 January 2023 to 11 February 2023.
For the first time water sports namely Kayaking Canoeing, Canoe Salaam and Fencing will be part of this edition of Khelo India Games.
It will be organized in eight different cities of the state. The eight host cities designated are Bhopal, Indore, Jabalpur, Gwalior, Ujjain, Maheshwar, Mandla and Balaghat.
More than 8500 athletes and sportspersons are expected to participate in this sporting event.
The 4th Khelo India Youth Games was held at Tau Devi Lal Stadium in Panchkula (Haryana) from 4 to 13 June 2022 while some matches were also played in Chandigarh.

About Madhya Pradesh

- **Capital –** Bhopal
- **Chief Minister** – Shivraj Singh Chauhan
- **Governor –** Mangubhai C. Patel

408. Who has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF)?
भारतीय वायु सेना (IAF) के नए उप प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

(a) Anish Dayal Singh / अनीश दयाल सिंह
(b) Sujoy Lal Thaosen / सुजॉय लाल थाउसेन
(c) M A Ganapathy / एम ए गणपति
(d) Umesh Mishra / उमेश मिश्रा
(e) Amanpreet Singh / अमनप्रीत सिंह

Ans. e

Sol. Air Marshal AP Singh appointed as new Vice Chief of Air Force

Air Marshal Amanpreet Singh has been appointed as the new Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF).

He replaced Air Marshal Sandeep Singh.

Air Marshal AP Singh is currently serving as the Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Central Air Command, Prayagraj.

Air Marshal AP Singh was commissioned into the fighter stream of the Indian Air Force on 21 December 1984.

He is a Qualified Flying Instructor and an Experimental Test Pilot with more than 4,900 hours of service flying on a variety of fixed wing and rotary-wing aircraft.

409. The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is planning to launch which mission by June or July 2023?

भारतीय अंतरिक्ष अनुसंधान संगठन (ISRO) जून या जुलाई 2023 तक किस मिशन को लॉन्च करने की योजना बना रहा है?

(a) Aditya-L1

(b) Shukrayaan-1

(c) Mangalyaan 2

(d) Lunar Polar Exploration Mission

(e) AstroSat-2

Ans. a

Sol. ISRO to launch Aditya-L1 by June-July 2023

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is planning to launch the Aditya-L1 mission by June or July 2023.

Aditya L1 is the first space-based Indian mission to study the Sun from a halo orbit around the Lagrangian point 1 (L1) of the Sun-Earth system.

This mission with seven payloads on board to observe the photosphere, chromosphere and the outermost layers of the Sun (the corona) will provide greater advantage of observing the solar activities and its effect on space weather.

The ISRO recently received the Visible Line Emission Coronagraph (VELC), which is the primary payload onboard Aditya-L1, from the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA).

VELC is the first scientific mission of India for studying the sun.

About Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)

- **Founded** - 15 August 1969
- **Headquarters -** Bangalore, Karnataka
- **Founder / 1st Chairman** - Vikram Sarabhai
- **10th Chairman -** S Somanath
- Aryabhata India's first satellites Launched on 19 April 1975

410. World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व उपेक्षित उष्णकटिबंधीय रोग (NTD) दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 30 January / 30 जनवरी
(e) 31 January / 31 जनवरी

Ans. d

Sol. 30 January - World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day

World Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD) Day is annually observed across the world on 30 January.

Objective - To create awareness about Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTD).

Theme 2023 - Act Now. Act Together. Invest in Neglected Tropical Diseases

The first World NTD Day was observed on 30 January 2020.

Neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) are a group of 20 diseases caused by a variety of pathogens.

411. Which day is marked as the death anniversary of the 'Bapu' of the nation, Mahatma Gandhi?

किस दिन को राष्ट्र के 'बापू', महात्मा गांधी की पुण्यतिथि के रूप में चिह्नित किया गया है?

(a) 26 January / 26 जनवरी
(b) 27 January / 27 जनवरी
(c) 28 January / 28 जनवरी
(d) 30 January / 30 जनवरी
(e) 31 January / 31 जनवरी

Ans. d

Sol. 30 January - Martyr's Day (Shaheed Diwas)

On 30 January 2023, India observed Martyrs' Day or Shaheed Diwas to pay tribute to all the freedom fighters who sacrificed their lives for the country.

The day is also marked as the death anniversary of the nation's 'Bapu', Mahatma Gandhi. Nathuram Godse killed Mahatma Gandhi on the evening of January 30, 1948.

Every year 23 March is also celebrated as Martyr's Day to pay homage to the three revolutionaries of India Bhagat Singh, Rajguru and Sukhdev.

412. Jamuna passed away recently at the age of 86. Who was she?

जमुना का हाल ही में 86 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थीं?

(a) Writer / लेखक

(b) Politician / राजनेता

(c) Actress / अभिनेत्री

(d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता

(e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. c

Sol. Veteran actress and former MP Jamuna passed away

Veteran film actress, Jamuna passed away recently at the age of 86.

She was born in 1936 in Hampi in Karnataka and started her career as a stage artist, debuting with Puttillu on Silver Screen.

She acted in about 200 Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, and Hindi films.

She was identified with her role in 'Satyabhama' and became a household name for the mythological character.

She was a former Lok Sabha MP from Rajahmundry in 1989 from the Congress.

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