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Current Affairs PDF



1. PM Narendra Modi will chair the 22nd Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State on 4th July. Which of the following country is not a member of SCO?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी 4 जुलाई को राष्ट्रध्यक्षों के एससीओ परिषद के 22वें शिखर सम्मेलन की अध्यक्षता करेंगे। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश एससीओ का सदस्य नहीं है?

- (a) Kazakhstan /कजाकिस्तान
- (b) Kyrgyzstan /किर्गिस्तान
- (c) Tajikistan /ताजिकिस्तान
- (d) Uzbekistan / उज़्बेकिस्तान
- (e) Turkmenistan / तुर्कमेनिस्तान

Ans. e

Sol. PM Modi to chair SCO Summit virtually

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will chair the 22nd Summit of the SCO Council of Heads of State on 4th July. It will be held in the virtual format.

India assumed the rotating Chairmanship of SCO at the Samarkand Summit on 16 September last year.

All the SCO Member States, China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan have been invited to attend the Summit.

In addition, Iran, Belarus, and Mongolia have been invited as observer states.

As per SCO tradition, Turkmenistan has also been invited as the Guest of the Chair.

The theme of the summit is 'Towards a Secure SCO'.

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 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

2. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched the 'Maha Jansampark' campaign in which city of Rajasthan?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने राजस्थान के किस शहर में 'महा जनसम्पर्क' अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Jaipur / जयपुर
- (b) Udaipur / उदयपुर
- (c) Chittorgarh / चित्तौड़गढ़
- (d) Jodhpur / जोधपुर
- (e) Ajmer / अजमेर

Ans. e

Sol. PM launches 'Maha Jansampark' campaign in Rajasthan

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched Bharatiya Janata Party's (BJP) month-long pan-India campaign, 'Maha Jansampark', in poll-bound Rajasthan's Ajmer covering all 543 Lok Sabha constituencies.

Under this Maha Jan Sampark, scheduled to be held from May 31 to June 30, extensive public programmes will be done across the country after the completion of 9 yrs at the Centre.

Over 51 huge rallies, public meetings at more than 500 places, and over 600 press conferences in over 500 Lok Sabha and 4000 Vidhan Sabha constituencies will be conducted along with over 5 lakh distinguished families will be contacted.

Door-to-door public meetings will be undertaken from June 20 to June 30, in which all the leaders, office bearers and workers including Union ministers and national office bearers will participate.

About Rajasthan

- **Capital** – Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Ashok Gehlot
- **Governor** – Kalraj Mishra

3. Which state government has recently approved the implementation of the 'Aai' (mother) tourism policy under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'

किस राज्य सरकार ने हाल ही में 'आजादी का अमृत महोत्सव' के तहत 'आई' (मां) पर्यटन नीति के कार्यान्वयन को मंजूरी दी है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Maharashtra Cabinet approves Gender Inclusive Tourism Policy

The Maharashtra cabinet has approved the implementation of the 'Aai' (mother) tourism policy under the 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav'. The cabinet also gave a nod to women-run bike-taxi services in some tourist destinations.

The Women Tourism Policy Cell will be created under the Directorate of Tourism for the implementation of the Aai policy and a five-point program will be implemented as part of the policy.

The five-point program includes the promotion of women entrepreneurship, the creation of infrastructure for women, prioritizing the safety of women tourists, customizing products for women tourists, and providing discounts to women travellers.

A task force will also be formed under the chairmanship of the tourism minister for the effective implementation of the policy.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

4. Which state government has signed an MoU with the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) to facilitate the return of dropouts to educational institutions?

किस राज्य सरकार ने शैक्षिक संस्थानों में ड्रॉपआउट्स की वापसी की सुविधा के लिए राष्ट्रीय मुक्त विद्यालयी शिक्षा संस्थान (NIOS) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. e

Sol. Meghalaya signed MoU with NIOS to bring dropouts back to schools

Meghalaya government has signed an MoU with the National Institute of Open Schooling to facilitate the return of dropouts to educational institutions.

Assam recorded the highest dropout rate in the country with 31 percent of out-of-school students at the secondary level, Tripura with 29.8 percent is ranked number 2.

While Meghalaya with 27.9 percent dropout rate in the secondary level is ranked third followed closely by Madhya Pradesh (26.1 percent) and Nagaland (24.4 percent).

An MoU for the identification of Out of School Children (OoSC) and enrolling them into the NIOS Study Centres was signed between the Samagra Shiksha authorities and the National Institute of Open Schooling.

About Meghalaya

- **Capital** – Shillong
- **Chief Minister** - Conrad Kongkal Sangma
- **Governor** - Phagu Chauhan

Recent MoUs signed by State Government

- Odisha govt collaborates with Infosys, Nasscom to enhance the skills and employability of students
- Goa, Uttarakhand sign MoU to boost tourism
- Himachal Pradesh signed MoU with the French Development Agency Agence Francaise de Development (AFD) for Rs 817.12 crore project.
- Kerala government signed MoU with UN Women to boost women-friendly activities in tourism
- Nagaland government partnered with Patanjali Foods for palm oil cultivation
- NTPC REL signs MoU with Tripura for collaboration in Renewable Energy

5. The University of Edinburgh and the Indian consulate in the UK have collaborated to create the first open-access course in which language?

एडिनबर्ग विश्वविद्यालय और यूके में भारतीय वाणिज्य दूतावास ने किस भाषा में पहला ओपन-एक्सेस कोर्स बनाने के लिए सहयोग किया है?

- (a) Hindi
- (b) Urdu
- (c) Bengali
- (d) Punjabi
- (e) Gujarati

Ans. a

Sol. University of Edinburgh launches Hindi course

The University of Edinburgh and the Indian consulate in the UK have collaborated to create the first open-access course in Hindi language.

The Climate Solutions course is available in English, Arabic and Hindi, with versions focused on Egypt, the UAE, India and the UK.

It is designed and delivered by award-winning climate change experts, including Executive Director of the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute (ECCI) Professor Dave Reay.

This program named Climate Solutions was created with the help of translators and developed in conjunction with the Edinburgh Climate Change Institute and the government of India.

The Climate Solutions: India (Hindi) course, unveiled this month, looks at the science, impacts and solutions of climate change in the country as a valuable resource for many thousands of Hindi-speaking students and educators across India and the rest of the world.

The university said the collaboration between the government of India and the university was instrumental in the launch of the new Hindi course, having been carefully curated with the help of expert translators.

6. Which country will host an oil and gas conference from June 19 to 23 in hopes of attracting energy companies, particularly from India?

कौन सा देश विशेष रूप से भारत से ऊर्जा कंपनियों को आकर्षित करने की उम्मीद में 19 से 23 जून तक तेल और गैस सम्मेलन की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Iran / ईरान
- (b) Iraq / इराक
- (c) UAE / यूएई
- (d) Syria / सीरिया
- (e) Suriname / सूरीनाम

Ans. e

Sol. Suriname to host Indian energy majors from 19 June

The South American nation of Suriname is hosting an oil and gas conference from June 19 to 23 in hopes of attracting energy companies, particularly from India.

Suriname is thought to have at least 3-4 billion barrels of oil reserves which were discovered in recent years.

India imports roughly 85% of its crude oil requirements from abroad.

While American and European energy companies currently dominate the energy market in Suriname, the country's officials are interested in bringing in Indian companies and expertise.

About Suriname

- Capital- Paramaribo
- Currency - Surinamese dollar
- Official language- Dutch
- Continent- South America

7. YES Bank has unveiled its new logo as part of its "refreshed brand identity" and also launched the new brand campaign with the slogan Life Ko Banao Rich. What is the tagline of YES Bank?

यस बैंक ने अपनी "ताज़ा ब्रांड पहचान" के हिस्से के रूप में अपने नए लोगो का अनावरण किया है और लाइफ को बनाओ रिच के नारे के साथ नया ब्रांड अभियान भी लॉन्च किया है। यस बैंक की टैगलाइन क्या है?

- (a) Hum Hai Na Khayal Apka
- (b) Aapka Bank, Aapke Dwaar
- (c) Relationship beyond Banking
- (d) Experience our Expertise
- (e) The Name You can Bank Upon

Ans. d

Sol. YES BANK launches new logo and campaign

Yes Bank has unveiled its new and refreshed brand logo. The logo is designed to resonate with consumer needs by providing them utmost experience.

The design language is digitally friendly and reflects a brand that believes in being fluid.

The tick has been transformed into a soaring bird, which represents the Bank's current position of 'soaring'.

In addition, Yes Bank is all set to roll out an integrated campaign with the tagline – 'Life Ko Banao Rich' - which represents the bank's core focus of being a complete solution provider for every financial matter.

The revamped identity extends across bank's headquarters, branches, products, digital platforms, and communication materials

About Yes Bank

- **Founded** - 2004
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **MD & CEO** - Prashant Kumar
- **Chairman** – Sunil Mehta
- **Tagline** - Experience our Expertise

8. Recep Tayyip Erdogan was re-elected as President of which country?

रेसेप तैयप एर्दोगन किस देश के राष्ट्रपति के रूप में फिर से चुने गए हैं?

- (a) Mangolia / मंगोलिया
- (b) Ghana / घाना
- (c) Sudan / सूडान
- (d) Namibia / नामीबिया
- (e) Turkey / तुर्की

Ans. e

Sol. Tayyip Erdogan re-elected as President of Turkey

Recep Tayyip Erdogan re-elected as President of Turkey.

After failing to secure more than 50 percent of votes required for an outright win in the first round held on May 14, Erdogan received 52.14 percent of votes in the second round on Sunday, beating his rival, Kemal Kilicdaroglu, who won 47.86 percent. The vote seals Erdogan's place in history as he extends his 20-year rule for a further five years.

About Turkey

- Capital- Ankara
- Currency- Turkish lira
- Official language- Turkish
- President - Recep Tayyip Erdogan

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Nigeria - Bola Ahmed Tinubu
- President of Paraguay - Santiago Peña
- President of Bangladesh - Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu (22nd)
- Deputy prime minister of UK - Oliver Dowden
- President of Cuba - Miguel Diaz-Canel (2nd term)
- Vice-President of UAE - Sheikh Mansour Bin Zayed Al Nahyan

9. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)?

टाटा कंसल्टेंसी सर्विसेज (TCS) के नए सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) R K Gupta / आर के गुप्ता
- (b) Kalikesh Singh Deo / कलिकेश सिंह देव
- (c) Raj Shukla / राज शुक्ला
- (d) Alvaro Lario / अल्वारो लारियो
- (e) K. Krithivasan / के. कृतिवासन

Ans. e

Sol. K. Krithivasan takes charge as CEO of TCS

K. Krithivasan took charge as the chief executive officer (CEO) for Tata Consultancy Services (TCS).

The stepping down of erstwhile chief, Rajesh Gopinathan, isn't expected to pose any uncertainty for the company, for which Krithivasan is the fifth CEO in its 55-year history.

Krithivasan, who has been at TCS for over 34 years now, will be the oldest CEO appointment so far. His predecessor, Gopinathan, was the youngest appointee, taking up the role in 2017, aged 46.

TCS is India's largest information technology (IT) services firm by market capitalization.

Recent Appointment

- **Central Vigilance Commissioner** - Praveen Kumar Srivastava
- **As member of UPSC** - Suman Sharma
- **President of Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for 2023-24** - R Dinesh
- **Chairman of Internet and Mobile Association of India' (IAMAI)** - Harsh Jain (CEO of Dream 11)
- **President of Basketball Federation of India** - Dr. K Govindraj
- **MD & CEO of Tata Chemical Board** - R. Mukundan (reappointment)

10. Who has been appointed as Managing Director of the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)?

सोलर एनर्जी कॉर्पोरेशन ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड (SECI) के प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Vijay Jasuja / विजय जसुजा
- (c) Ajay Yadav / अजय यादव
- (d) N S Rajana / एन एस राजन
- (e) Vinayak Godse / विनायक गोडसे

Ans. c

Sol. Ajay Yadav appoints as MD of SECI

Ajay Yadav has been appointed as Managing Director of the Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI).

Yadav is an IAS officer from the 2005 batch of the Bihar cadre.

SECI is a Miniratna Category-I Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) established in 2011.

SECI is the primary implementing agency for renewable energy schemes and projects under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, Government of India.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of Petroleum & Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB)** - Anil Kumar Jain
- **Chairman of UPSC** - Manoj Soni
- **Chairperson of Competition Commission of India (CCI)** - Ravneet Kaur (replace Ashok Kr. Gupta)
- **CFO of Vedanta Limited** - Sonal Srivastava
- **Director Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** - Praveen Sood (replace Subodh Jaiswal)

11. Who has become the first female NCC cadet in India to complete the advanced mountaineering course in the Himalayan region of Uttarkashi in Uttarakhand?

उत्तराखंड में उत्तरकाशी के हिमालयी क्षेत्र में उन्नत पर्वतारोहण पाठ्यक्रम पूरा करने वाली भारत की पहली महिला एनसीसी कैडेट कौन बन गई है?

- (a) Shivangi Singh / शिवांगी सिंह
- (b) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा
- (c) Bhawana Kanth / भावना कंठ
- (d) Shalini Singh / शालिनी सिंह
- (e) Shaliza Dhama / शालिजा धामी

Ans. d

Sol. Shalini becomes 1st girl NCC cadet to complete mountaineering course

Shalini Singh has become the first female NCC cadet in India to complete the advanced mountaineering course in the Himalayan region of Uttarkashi in Uttarakhand.

She was the only female cadet in the team of 45 NCC cadets that was formed to complete the course.

The Senior Wing NCC cadet, Shalini Singh, was enrolled in the 67 UP Battalion. She began the month-long mountaineering course on April 26.

Before that, she had to complete her mandatory basic mountaineering course in 2022 at Pahalgam, Jammu, and Kashmir, reported HT. Shalini is pursuing her graduation from Bappa Shri Narayan Vocational PG College.

To succeed in the course, Shalini scaled 15,400 feet through snow-covered mountains in the Dring Valley.

12. Jude Bellingham has been named Bundesliga Player of the Season for his incredible campaign in season 2022/23. He is related to which sport?

जूड बेलिंगम को सीजन 2022/23 में उनके अविश्वसनीय अभियान के लिए बुंडेसलीगा प्लेयर ऑफ द सीजन नामित किया गया है। वह किस खेल से संबंधित है?

- (a) Hockey / हॉकी
- (b) Tennis / टेनिस
- (c) Badminton / बैडमिंटन
- (d) Football / फुटबॉल
- (e) Cricket / क्रिकेट

Ans. d

Sol. Bellingham named Bundesliga Player of the Season 2022-23

19-year-old Borussia Dortmund football player Jude Bellingham has been named Bundesliga Player of the Season for his incredible campaign in season 2022/23.

The award is a well-deserved honor for the midfielder, who played a crucial role in BVB's title bid this season.

At the age of 19, he became the youngest-ever captain of Borussia Dortmund.

13. Who has bagged the gold medal in the women's 100m hurdles event in the T-Meeting 2023 athletics meet in Tilburg, Netherlands?

नीदरलैंड के टिलबर्ग में टी-मीटिंग 2023 एथलेटिक्स मीट में महिलाओं की 100 मीटर बाधा दौड़ स्पर्धा में स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Amlan Borgohain / अमलान बोरगोहैन
- (b) Jyothi Yarraji / ज्योति याराजी
- (c) Jeswin Aldrin / जेसविन एल्ड्रिन
- (d) Hima Das / हिमा दास
- (e) Mohammed Afsal / मोहम्मद अफसल

Ans. b

Sol. Jyothi Yarraji clinches gold medal at T-Meeting 2023

Jyothi Yarraji has bagged the gold medal in the women's 100m hurdles event in the T-Meeting 2023 athletics meet in Tilburg, Netherlands.

The 23-year-old Jyothi Yarraji clocked 13.20s in the final to win the event at the category E World Ranking competition. En route to the final, Jyothi Yarraji topped the heats with a time of 13.08s.

Angel Agwazie of Belgium clinched the silver with 13.64s while Dutch athlete Mira Groot clocked 13.78s to bag the bronze.

While Mohammed Afsal Pulikkalakath finished third in the men's 400m race at the T-Meeting 2023.

14. The Global Day of Parents is celebrated annually on which day?

माता-पिता का वैश्विक दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 31 May / 22 मई
- (b) 30 May / 23 मई
- (c) 1 June / 1 जून
- (d) 2 June / 2 जून
- (e) 3 June / 3 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 1 June - Global Day of Parents

The Global Day of Parents is celebrated annually on June 1.

It aims to honour parents and their vital role in nurturing and caring for their children. It recognizes the important contributions parents make to the well-being and development of their families.

The inception of the Global Day of Parents can be traced back to 1983 when the Economic and Social Council and the Commission for Social Development called upon the Secretary-General to prioritize family-related issues. Subsequently, in 1989, the United Nations General Assembly declared 1994 as the International Year of the Family, highlighting the significance of families.

Finally, in 2012, June 1 was officially designated as the Global Day of Parents through a proclamation by the General Assembly. The inaugural observance of the Global Day of Parents took place in 2013, marking a significant milestone in recognizing and celebrating the role of parents worldwide.

15. World Milk Day is observed annually on 1 June. What is the theme of World Milk Day 2023?

विश्व दुग्ध दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 1 जून को मनाया जाता है। विश्व दुग्ध दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Sustainability in the dairy sector
- (b) The 20th Anniversary of World Milk Day
- (c) Drink Move Be Strong
- (d) Drink Milk: Today & Everyday
- (e) Enjoy Dairy

Ans. e

Sol. 1 June - World Milk Day

World Milk Day is observed annually on 1 June.

Objective - To raise awareness about the benefits of milk for overall nutrition and health.

Theme – Enjoy Dairy

The day is an opportunity to appreciate the significance of milk and dairy products in our lives. It is also a chance to support sustainable and responsible dairy practices while promoting the importance of a balanced diet for overall health and well-being.

World Milk Day was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations to recognize the importance of milk as a global food and to celebrate the dairy sector.

The first World Milk Day was celebrated on June 1, 2001, and since then, it has become an annual event observed in many countries around the world.

16. Ahmednagar district will be named after warrior queen Ahilyabai Holkar. Ahmednagar is district of which state?

अहमदनगर जिले का नाम योद्धा रानी अहिल्याबाई होल्कर के नाम पर रखा जाएगा। अहमदनगर किस राज्य का जिला है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Ahmednagar to be named after Ahilyabai Holkar

Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced that Ahmednagar district will be named after warrior queen Ahilyabai Holkar. The announcement was made during a program organized at the birthplace of Ahilyabai Holkar on her 297th birth anniversary at Chondi village in Ahmednagar district.

Ahilyabai Holkar, born in 1725, was a famous ruler of the Indore kingdom, known for her wisdom and compassion.

Earlier, Maharashtra Chief Minister Eknath Shinde announced that the Bandra-Versova sea-link bridge would be named 'Veer Savarkar Setu'.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

17. Rail company Alstom will manufacture 100 aluminum-bodied Vande Bharat trains with sleeper facilities, after bidding the lowest for the tender at a price of Rs 150.9 crores per train. Alstom is the company of which country?

रेल कंपनी एल्सटॉम प्रति ट्रेन 150.9 करोड़ रुपये की कीमत पर निविदा के लिए सबसे कम बोली लगाने के बाद स्लीपर सुविधाओं के साथ 100 एल्युमिनियम बॉडी वाली वंदे भारत ट्रेनों का निर्माण करेगी। एल्सटॉम किस देश की कंपनी है?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) UK / यूके
- (d) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
- (e) Japan / जापान

Ans. a

Sol. French company Alstom to make 100 Vande Bharat trains

French railway major Alstom has emerged as the lowest bidder for manufacture and maintenance of 100 aluminium Vande Bharat trainsets, valued at Rs 30,000 crore.

The company, which is a major player in the Indian railway and urban transport sector, bid Rs 150.99 crore as the cost to manufacture one trainset, followed by a consortium of Swiss rolling stock company Stadler Rail and India's Medha Servo, which quoted Rs 169.9 crore to build one trainset.

The basic manufacturing cost would be paid upon delivery of the trainsets, while the remaining portion of close to Rs 17,000 crore would be paid for maintenance for a period of 35 years.

The train is pegged to have a speed capability of 200 km per hour.

18. In which city the 3rd India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue has been held?

तीसरा भारत-वियतनाम समुद्री सुरक्षा संवाद किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Kumarakom / कुमारकोम
- (e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. b

Sol. India, Vietnam hold 3rd Maritime Security Dialogue

The 3rd India-Vietnam Maritime Security Dialogue was held in New Delhi.

Both sides discussed ways to better maintain the marine environment which is helpful for the inclusive development of both countries.

They also reviewed maritime cooperation initiatives and avenues of reinforcing international and regional mechanisms for comprehensive maritime security.

Senior officials from ministries and services dealing with maritime affairs participated in the dialogue.

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19. The Indian G20 Presidency is organizing the third Employment Working Group EWG meeting in which city?
भारतीय G20 प्रेसीडेंसी किस शहर में तीसरी एम्प्लॉयमेंट वर्किंग ग्रुप EWG बैठक आयोजित कर रही है?

- (a) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (b) Geneva / जिनेवा
- (c) Paris / पेरिस
- (d) Dubai / दुबई
- (e) London / लंदन

Ans. b

Sol. 3rd Employment Working Group meeting organized in Geneva

The Indian G20 Presidency is organizing the third Employment Working Group EWG meeting at the International Labour Organization ILO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

It is a G20 tradition since the inception of the EWG, to organize an Employment Working Group at the side-lines of the ILO's annual International Labour Conference in Geneva.

78 delegates from twenty G20 member countries, nine guest countries and four International Organizations are attending the meeting.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment's international knowledge partners, ILO, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development OECD, International Social Security Association ISSA, World Bank and a domestic knowledge partner, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship are attending the meeting to provide their technical expertise to the Group.

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **2nd G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand (25 - 27 May 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023)
- **2nd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (23 – 25 May 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG)** - Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023).
- **3rd G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting** - Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir (22 – 24 2023)

20. How many railway stations to be upgraded under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme?

अमृत भारत स्टेशन योजना के तहत कितने रेलवे स्टेशनों का उन्नयन किया जाएगा?

- (a) 551
- (b) 1000
- (c) 1100
- (d) 1200
- (e) 1275

Ans. e

Sol. 1,275 Railway Stations to be upgraded under Amrit Bharat Station Scheme

The Consultative Committee of Members of Parliament for the Ministry of Railways has resolved to upgrade 1,275 railway stations under Amrit Bharat Station.

The decision was taken at a meeting in New Delhi. The meeting was chaired by Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

The catering services were given to passengers through either static or mobile units, adding that there were 473 pairs of trains with pantry cars/mini pantries and 706 pairs of trains with a train-side vending facility.

There were 9,342 minor and 582 Major Static units of Indian Railways which included the Jan Aahaars outlets, Food Plazas, and Refreshment Rooms.

21. Which insurance company has launched a term insurance plan for Type 2 diabetics?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने टाइप 2 मधुमेह रोगियों के लिए टर्म इश्योरेंस योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz Insurance / बजाज आलियांज इश्योरेंस
- (b) Bharti AXA Insurance / भारती एक्सा इश्योरेंस
- (c) Cholamandalam MS Insurance / चोलामंडलम एमएस इश्योरेंस
- (d) Max Life Insurance / मैक्स लाइफ इश्योरेंस
- (e) Edelweiss Insurance / एडलवाइस इश्योरेंस

Ans. a

Sol. Bajaj Allianz Life launches term insurance plan for Type 2 diabetics

Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance has launched an exclusive term plan Bajaj Allianz Life Diabetic Term Plan Sub 8 HbA1c.

This is a first-of-its-kind protection plan in the Indian life insurance industry designed especially for Type 2 diabetic and pre-diabetic individuals.

The plan offers coverage by factoring in the nuances of the health condition of those having diabetes.

For pre-diabetic or Type 2 diabetic individuals whose HbA1c is up to 8 percent, the comprehensive plan will enable them to provide financial security.

The insurer offers a 10% premium reduction for individuals trying to achieve health goals and other health management services.

The policy term ranges from five to 25 years and premiums can be paid monthly/annually.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- YES BANK launches new logo and **Life Ko Banao Rich** campaign
- Razorpay launcheds "**Turbo UPI**" with Axis Bank & NPCI
- Axis Bank launches a digital onboarding platform '**Sarathi**'
- Paytm launches Paytm SBI Card on RuPay Network with NPCI
- Bank of Baroda launches **electronic bank guarantee** on its digital platform

22. Ashwani Kumar has been appointed as new MD & CEO of which bank?

अश्विनी कुमार को किस बैंक का नया एमडी और सीईओ नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) State Bank of India / भारतीय स्टेट बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) UCO Bank / यूको बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

Ans. c

Sol. Govt appoints Ashwani Kumar as MD & CEO of UCO Bank

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Ashwani Kumar, Executive Director of Indian Bank as MD and CEO of UCO Bank.

Kumar will replace Soma Sankara Prasad, who is due to superannuate on May 31. It may be recalled that Centre had in December 2021 appointed Prasad as MD & CEO of UCO Bank.

Ashwani Kumar will lead the public sector bank for period of three years from June 1.

Kumar, a Chartered Accountant, has served in various offices of five public sector banks - Bank of Baroda, Corporation Bank, Oriental Bank of Commerce, Punjab National Bank and Indian Bank.

His work experience includes working as the Head of the Wholesale Banking Division and several branches (including industrial finance branches).

About United Commercial Bank (UCO) Bank

- **Founded** - 1943
- **Headquarters** - Kolkata
- **MD & CEO** - Ashwani Kumar
- **Tagline** - Honours your Trust
- UCO Bank, Syndicate Bank, Indian Overseas Bank merged with Canara Bank

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank** - Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma
- **Part-time chairman of Paytm** - Vijay Shekhar (reappointment)
- **Deputy MD of IDBI Bank** - Jayakumar S. Pillai
- **President and COO of Paytm** - Bhavesh Gupta
- **MD & CEO of Bank of Baroda (BoB)** - Debadatta Chand
- **MD & CEO of Bank of India (BoI)** - Rajneesh K

23. Who has taken over as the Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA)?

एयर ऑफिसर-इन-चार्ज एडमिनिस्ट्रेशन (एओए) के रूप में किसने पदभार संभाला 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) Rajesh Kumar Anand / राजेश कुमार आनंद

Ans. e

Sol. Rajesh Kumar Anand VSM takes over as Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA)

Air Marshal Rajesh Kumar Anand took over as the Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA).

An alumnus of the National Defense Academy, the Air Marshal was commissioned as Air Marshal in the administrative branch of the Indian Air Force.

In a career spanning over 36 years, the Air Marshal has held various field and staff appointments.

Prior to his present appointment, he was the Director General (Administration) at Air Headquarters, New Delhi.

For his distinguished service, he was awarded the Vishisht Seva Medal by the President of India in January 2022.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **Vice Chief of the Air Staff** - Ashutosh Dixit
- **Director Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** - Praveen Sood (replace Subodh Jaiswal)
- **Military Advisor to National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)** - Sandeep Singh
- **Director General Naval Operations (DGNO)** - Vice Admiral Atul Anand
- **Vice Chief of Naval Staff** - Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh

24. Who has taken over as Director General of Naval Armament (DGONA)?

नेवल आर्मामेंट (DGONA) के महानिदेशक के रूप में किसने पदभार संभाला है?

- (a) P Upadhyay / पी उपाध्याय
- (b) Kalikesh Singh Deo / कलिकेश सिंह देव
- (c) Raj Shukla / राज शुक्ला
- (d) Alvaro Lario / अल्वारो लारियो
- (e) Paritosh Tripathi / परितोष त्रिपाठी

Ans. a

Sol. P Upadhyay INAS takes over as Director General of Naval Armament

P Upadhyay, INAS has taken over as Director General of Naval Armament (DGONA) from KSC Iyer.

Upadhyay is an officer of the 1987 batch of the Indian Naval Armament Service.

He joined the Naval Armament Organization of the Indian Navy on 12 July 1989.

An Electrical Engineering Graduate from SGSITS Indore, he earned his Post Graduate degree from Devi Ahilya University in Electrical Engineering with a specialization in 'Digital Techniques and Instrumentation' in 1988.

In a span of 34 years, he has held various important assignments at NAD (Visakhapatnam), NAD (Karanja), NAD (Trombay), NAD (Alwaye) and IHQ, MoD(N).

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25. Who has been appointed as a member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) recently?

हाल ही में संघ लोक सेवा आयोग (यूपीएससी) के सदस्य के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Dr. Vasudha Gupta / डॉ वसुधा गुप्ता
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) Dixit Joshi / दीक्षित जोशी
- (d) Kapil Maheshwari / कपिल माहेश्वरी
- (e) Bidyut Bihari Swain / विद्युत बिहारी स्वैन

Ans. e

Sol. Bidyut Bihari Swain sworn in as UPSC member

Former Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) secretary Bidyut Bihari Swain was sworn in as a member of the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC).

Swain, a 1988 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Gujarat cadre, was administered the oath of office and secrecy by UPSC chairman Manoj Soni.

He served in various capacities within the Gujarat government from 1989 to 2018, holding significant positions such as CEO of the Gujarat Infrastructure Development Board, Secretary of Primary Education, Industries Commissioner, Vice Chairman, and Managing Director of the Gujarat Industrial Development Corporation, and Chief Electoral Officer of Gujarat State.

In 2018, he joined the Government of India as Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce, overseeing Special Economic Zones and trade negotiations with CIS countries.

He also served in positions such as Chairman of the Kimberley Protocol and Commissioner General of India for the World Expo-Dubai.

From January 2021 to May 2023, he served as the Secretary in the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.

About UPSC

- Establishment - 1 October 1926
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- Chairman – Manoj Soni
- UPSC is the central recruitment agency in India for Group 'A' officer posts under the Government of India.
- It is established as a constitutional body under Article 315 of the Indian Constitution.

Recent Appointment

- **Shalini becomes 1st girl NCC cadet to complete mountaineering course** - Shalini Singh
- **MD of Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)** - Ajay Yadav
- **CEO for Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** - K. Krithivasan
- **Central Vigilance Commissioner** - Praveen Kumar Srivastava
- **Sworn in as member of UPSC** - Suman Sharma

26. Which of the following country has won Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने पुरुष जूनियर एशिया कप 2023 जीता है?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. a

Sol. India wins Junior Asia Cup 2023 hockey title

The Indian Junior Men's Hockey Team won the Men's Junior Asia Cup 2023 by defeating Pakistan 2-1 in Salalah, Oman.

India had won the tournament three times previously, in 2004, 2008, and 2015. While Pakistan has won the tournament three times: in 1987, 1992, and 1996.

Recognizing the team's efforts and unbeaten record in the prestigious tournament that saw the country qualify for the FIH Men's Junior World Cup in Malaysia, the Hockey India Executive Board announced a cash award of Rs 2 lakh for each player and Rs 1 lakh for each support staff member.

27. Which of the following country has launched its first commercial-grade satellite?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने अपना पहला वाणिज्यिक-ग्रेड उपग्रह लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
- (b) North Korea / उत्तर कोरिया
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) Thailand / थाईलैंड
- (e) UK / यूके

Ans. a

Sol. South Korea launches first commercial-grade satellite

South Korea has launched its first commercial-grade satellite.

The commercial-grade satellite was launched by the Naro Space Center in Gohang, South Korea, using a Launch Nuri rocket.

The main satellite objectives include verifying imaging radar technology and observing cosmic radiation in near-Earth orbit.

The main satellite, called "Next Generation Small Satellite 2", was accompanied by seven cube-shaped satellites.

South Korea also plans to launch three more Nuri rockets by 2027.

About South Korea

- **Capital** – Seoul
- **Currency** – South Korean Won
- **Prime Minister** - Han Duck-soo
- **President** - Yoon Seok-youl

28. Who is the author of a book titled "Ringside"?

"रिंगसाइड" नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Dr. Vijay Darda / डॉ. विजय दर्डा
- (d) K.K. Shailaja / के.के. शैलजा
- (e) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत

Ans. c

Sol. Shashi Tharoor releases Vijay Darda's book Ringside

Renowned author and Congress MP Dr. Shashi Tharoor has released the book "Ringside" written by Lokmat Media Group Editorial Board Chairman and former MP Dr. Vijay Darda.

The book is a captivating compilation of Darda's weekly articles, which were published in the Lokmat Media Group newspapers and other prominent national and regional dailies of the country between 2011 and 2016.

As a follow-up to his earlier book "Straight Thoughts", which encompassed articles from 2004 to 2011, this latest work delves into a diverse range of subjects beyond political developments and happenings.

"RINGSIDE" will take readers on an intellectual journey encompassing science, environment, economy, security, social developments, sports, arts, culture, foreign policy, and national and international affairs.

This book is a reflection of contemporary political, social, cultural and other significant happenings and developments.

Recent Books

- **The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life** - Ruskin Bond
- **The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces** - Varun Gandhi
- **Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise** - Amitabh Kant (CEO of NITI Aayog)
- **My Life as a Comrade** - K.K. Shailaja
- **Collective Spirit, Concrete Action** - Shashi Shekhar Vempati
- **Smoke and Ashes** - Amitav Ghos

29. International Sex Workers' Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सेक्स वर्कर्स दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 June / 1 जून
- (b) 2 June / 2 जून
- (c) 3 June / 3 जून
- (d) 4 June / 4 जून
- (e) 5 June / 5 जून

Ans. b

Sol. 2 June - International Sex Workers' Day

International Sex Workers' Day is observed every year on 2 June.

This day is dedicated to all sex workers, and it aims to raise awareness of the exploited working conditions of sex workers globally.

According to the latest data, there are around 3 million sex workers in India between the age group 15-35 because of the emphasis on physical appearance and endurance capacity to entertain multiple customers.

Globally, the number of sex workers is 40-42 million, of which 80 percent are females and range in age between 13-25.

The movement started in 1975 on June 2 when nearly 100 sex workers occupied the Saint-Nizier Church in Lyon.

The women occupied the church for eight days, demanding an end to police discrimination against sex work and asking for decent working conditions.

The protest by the women was sparked by sex workers facing increasing violence. The movement brought the plight of sex workers to national attention.

30. Telangana Formation Day is celebrated on June 2 every year. The state of Telangana was formed in which year?

तेलंगाना स्थापना दिवस हर साल 2 जून को मनाया जाता है। तेलंगाना राज्य का गठन किस वर्ष हुआ था?

- (a) 2011
- (b) 2012
- (c) 2013
- (d) 2014
- (e) 2015

Ans. d

Sol. 2 June - Telangana Formation Day

Telangana Formation Day is celebrated on June 2 every year, marking the day when the state of Telangana was formed in 2014. The Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act 2014 bill was passed in the Parliament in February 2014 for the formation of the Telangana state.

The bill was then passed by the President of India on March 1, 2014, and the state of Telangana was finally formed on June 2. The creation of Telangana was a complex and lengthy process. The demand for a separate Telangana state emerged in the early 1960s, eventually leading to the passing of the Andhra Pradesh Reorganization Act in 2009. This act paved the way for the formation of Telangana.

Since its establishment, Telangana has experienced positive developments, including increased investment and growth. The state has also witnessed improvements in poverty reduction and employment opportunities.

31. Which state police has recently launched a massive state-wide operation named "OP Clean"?

किस राज्य की पुलिस ने हाल ही में "ओपी क्लीन" नाम से एक व्यापक राज्यव्यापी अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. d

Sol. Punjab Police launches OPS Clean

Punjab Police has launched a massive state-wide operation named "OP Clean" wherein 650 police teams comprising over 5,000 personnel raided more than 2,000 locations across the state to keep a tab on activities of people involved in the smuggling of commercial quantities of drugs.

As many as 650 police teams, involving over 5,500 police personnel, raided 2,247 locations and conducted searches at 2,125 houses of people having involvement in drug smuggling cases.

The police teams recovered 1.8 kg heroin, 82 kg poppy husk, 1 kg opium, Rs 5.35 lakh drug money and four weapons from them, besides recovering illicit liquor, lahan (raw material used to make liquor) and vehicles after registering 48 FIRs across the state.

The operation was conducted by the Director General of Police (DGP) Punjab Gaurav Yadav.

About Punjab

- **Capital** – Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Bhagwant Mann
- **Governor** – Banwarilal Purohit

32. Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme has recently successfully completed how many years?

प्रधान मंत्री स्ट्रीट वेंडर की आत्मनिर्भर निधि (पीएम स्वनिधि) योजना ने हाल ही में सफलतापूर्वक कितने वर्ष पूरे किए हैं?

- (a) 3
- (b) 4
- (c) 5
- (d) 6
- (e) 7

Ans. a

Sol. PM SVANidhi Scheme Celebrates Successful Completion of 3 Years

Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri complimented the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Scheme on the occasion of its successful completion of 3 momentous years.

The scheme was launched in June 2020.

Objective - To empower street vendors by restoring self-employment, self-sustenance, and self-confidence.

Over the years, PM SVANidhi has emerged as one of the most beneficial and rapidly growing micro-credit schemes in India, fostering financial inclusion, digital literacy, and offering dignity and stability to street vendors.

The scheme offers working capital loans in three installments to street vendors and has successfully provided microcredit to over 3.6 million street vendors across the country.

As of 30th June 2023, a sum of Rs. 4.85 million loan applications have been approved with over 4.64 million loans disbursed amounting to a cumulative sum of Rs. 5,795 crore.

33. Which state government has launched a 15-day registration campaign for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in all districts across the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य भर के सभी जिलों में सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यमों (MSMEs) के लिए 15 दिवसीय पंजीकरण 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. Uttar Pradesh govt launches 15-day mega registration drive for MSMEs

The Uttar Pradesh government has launched a 15-day registration campaign for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) in all 75 districts across the state.

This campaign will be conducted in the entire state till June 15.

The campaign aims to cover around 14 lakh unregistered MSMEs and provide them with all the benefits of the schemes of the state government.

There are more than 90 lakh active MSMEs in the state, but only 14 lakh are registered, says the MSME and Export Promotion Department of the state government.

The MSME and Export Promotion Department of the state government will organize camps for the registration of MSMEs in each district.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

34. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated two National Highway projects in which state worth Rs 48 crore?

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने किस राज्य में 48 करोड़ रुपये की दो राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. b

Sol. Nitin Gadkari inaugurates two Highway projects in Vadodara

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated two National Highway projects in Vadodara, Gujarat worth Rs 48 crore.

One of the projects focuses on the improvement of the Ahmedabad-Vadodara section of National Highway 48 near Dumad Chowkdi. Spanning approximately 3 kilometers, this project has been inaugurated at a cost of Rs 27.01 crore.

The second project, costing Rs 17 crore, stretches about 1 kilometer near Dena Junction on National Highway 48 in Vadodara.

Nitin Gadkari In News

- Nitin Gadkari unveiled Bengaluru's first methanol-run buses.
- Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated 7 National Highway projects with an investment of 6500 cr in Chitbada village, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh.
- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated Rs 3670 cr Highways projects in Maharashtra
- Nitin Gadkari chaired 10th meeting of Group of Infrastructure Committee
- Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated the first phase of the New Zuari Bridge in Goa.

35. Which company has joined hands with the Skill Development Ministry to train students, and teachers?

किस कंपनी ने छात्रों और शिक्षकों को प्रशिक्षित करने के लिए कौशल विकास मंत्रालय के साथ हाथ मिलाया है?

- (a) Microsoft / माइक्रोसॉफ्ट
- (b) Apple / ऐप्पल
- (c) Adobe / एडोब
- (d) Google / गूगल
- (e) Meta / मेटा

Ans. a

Sol. Microsoft joins hands with Skill Development Ministry to train students, teachers

With the aim to empower youth in India with future-ready skills, Microsoft has signed an MoU with the Directorate General of Training (DGT), Ministry of Skills Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), to train students and educators at government-led Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) and National Skills Training Institutions (NSTIs).

Microsoft will offer a wide range of courses, including training in AI, cloud computing, web development and cybersecurity skills for nearly 6000 students and 200 faculty members.

This training will empower young students with industry-relevant skills, enhancing their employability, and connecting them to relevant job opportunities.

Train-the-Trainer workshops will be conducted to empower faculty members on AI fluency and fundamentals, cloud computing, web development, Power BI, and soft skills.

These trained faculty members can then train ITI students attending computer operator and programming assistant (COPA) training. The CyberShikshaa programme focusing on basic and intermediate cybersecurity skills training will also be expanded to students and educators at 10 NSTIs for women.

Recent MoU

- NTPC Green Energy ties up with HPCL Mittal Energy for green hydrogen
- ICMR signs MoU with AYUSH Ministry for health research in Integrated Medicine
- IBM partners with NASA to convert satellite data into high-resolution maps
- BEL signs MoU with Emjay Control Systems to develop electro-mechanical bollards
- NTPC and NPCIL sign agreement for joint development of nuclear power plant
- Vedanta partners with 20 Korean firms to establish electronics manufacturing hub

36. Which state government has set up an expert committee to review the 1972 reservation policy?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 1972 की आरक्षण नीति की समीक्षा के लिए एक विशेषज्ञ समिति का गठन किया है?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Bihar / बिहार
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. e

Sol. Meghalaya sets up expert panel to review reservation formula

The Meghalaya government has set up an expert committee to review the 1972 reservation policy in line with demands made by the opposition Voice of the People's Party (VPP) whose leader is on an indefinite hunger strike.

Following the announcement, VPP MLA Ardent Basaiawmoit called off his hunger strike that lasted for over 200 hours.

The expert committee is mandated to review the state reservation policy by obtaining views from all stakeholders.

The chairperson and members of the committee shall consist of experts in constitutional law, economics, sociology, demographic studies and related fields.

The 1972 job reservation policy awarded 40 percent of reserved jobs to Garos, 40 percent for Khasi-Jaintia tribes, 5 percent for other tribes and 15 percent for general category candidates.

About Meghalaya

- **Capital** – Shillong
- **Chief Minister** - Conrad Kongkal Sangma
- **Governor** - Phagu Chauhan

37. Which AIIMS has become the first of all AIIMS to receive the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) accreditation?

कौन सा एम्स अस्पतालों और स्वास्थ्य सेवा प्रदाताओं के लिए राष्ट्रीय प्रत्यायन बोर्ड (एनएबीएच) मान्यता प्राप्त करने वाला पहला एम्स बन गया है?

- (a) AIIMS Delhi
- (b) AIIMS Patna
- (c) AIIMS Bhopal
- (d) AIIMS Raipur
- (e) AIIMS Nagpur

Ans. e

Sol. AIIMS Nagpur becomes first AIIMS to receive NABH accreditation

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has congratulated AIIMS Nagpur for becoming the first of all AIIMS to receive the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH) accreditation.

The NABH accreditation is recognized globally as a standard for healthcare excellence. Only a few private hospitals in Nagpur have this accreditation.

AIIMS-Nagpur, established in 2018, is one of the premier medical institutions in the region.

The process of attaining the NABH accreditation is rigorous and all-encompassing, evaluating various aspects of a hospital's performance, including patient care, safety protocols, and organizational efficiency.

NABH plays a vital role in ensuring that healthcare institutions adhere to rigorous quality standards. By evaluating a hospital's infrastructure, processes, and patient outcomes, NABH accreditation establishes a benchmark for excellence.

38. By which year the city will get the 'Smart City' tag under the Srinagar Smart City Project?

श्रीनगर स्मार्ट सिटी प्रोजेक्ट के तहत शहर को किस वर्ष तक 'स्मार्ट सिटी' का टैग मिल जाएगा?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Srinagar to become smart city by June 2024

Srinagar is all set for a facelift. The city will get a 'Smart City' tag by June 2024 under the Srinagar Smart City Project.

A total of 137 projects have been sanctioned for Srinagar Smart City under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

Under the project, Srinagar is aimed to get a complete transformation by using its natural and cultural heritage which will enhance the beauty and quality of life. Till now, 66 projects have been completed and currently, 71 projects are ongoing.

Under smart city, the project has eight themes: Jhelum Water Front Development and Water Transport, Urban Mobility, Street and Intersection Development, City Beautification & Urban Art, Green Srinagar, Heritage Conservation and Downtown Renewal, Information Technology, Central Business District Upgradation, Solid Waste Management.

Athar Amir Khan, CEO, Srinagar Smart City Ltd (SSCL) and Srinagar Municipal Commissioner informed this.

39. Who has been elected as the new President of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for a four-year term from 2023 to 2027?

2023 से 2027 तक चार साल के कार्यकाल के लिए विश्व मौसम विज्ञान संगठन (WMO) के नए अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Tedros Adhanom / टेड्रोस अदनोम
- (b) Maria Van Kerkhove / मारिया वैन केरखोव
- (c) Haitham Al Ghais / हैथम अल घैस
- (d) Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous / डॉ अब्दुल्ला अल मंडौस
- (e) Margaret Chan / मार्गरेट चान

Ans. d

Sol. UAE wins Presidency of World Meteorological Organization

A meteorologist of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Dr Abdulla Al Mandous has been elected as the new President of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) for a four-year term from 2023 to 2027.

He will succeed Prof Gerhard Adrian from the German Meteorological Service, who served as WMO President since June 2019.

Dr. Abdulla Al Mandous emerged as the official candidate of the UAE and secured 95 votes out of the representatives from WMO's 193 member states and territories.

The election took place during the 19th session of the World Meteorological Congress (Cg-19) held in Geneva, Switzerland from 22nd May to 2nd June

Under Dr. Al Mandous' leadership, WMO's upcoming 77th Executive Council Session (EC-77) will be chaired by the UAE in Geneva from 5th to 6th June.

The WMO is an authoritative body within the UN system that focuses on weather, climate, hydrological, and related environmental fields.

About World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

- Founded- 23 March 1950
- Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland
- President- Dr Abdulla Al Mandous (UAE)
- Secretary general- Petteri Taalas
- Parent organization- United Nations

40. Which of the following country has hosted the meeting of BRICS Foreign Ministers?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश ब्रिक्स विदेश मंत्रियों की बैठक की मेजबानी की है?

- (a) Brazil
- (b) Russia
- (c) India
- (d) China
- (e) South Africa

Ans. e

Sol. BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Cape Town

External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar joined fellow foreign ministers from the emerging economies of Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa (BRICS) in Cape Town.

South Africa, which currently chairs the bloc, is hosting the BRICS foreign ministers' meeting in Cape Town.

The foreign ministers' meeting will finalize the agenda for the 15th BRICS summit scheduled to be held in South Africa in August.

It is believed that 19 countries are in line to join BRICS.

The full form of BRICS is Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.

41. Which of the following country has become the first country to start putting health warnings on individual cigarettes?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश व्यक्तिगत सिगरेट पर स्वास्थ्य चेतावनी लगाने वाला पहला देश बन गया है?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) UK / यूके
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) Canada / कनाडा

Ans. e

Sol. Canada becomes first country to start putting health warnings on cigarettes

Canada has become the first country in the world to stipulate that individual cigarettes carry mandatory health warnings. While packets carry such warnings of the risks associated with smoking, the Canadian Government is taking this measure to ensure that it becomes virtually impossible to avoid health warnings altogether.

These regulations will come into effect on August 1 this year. These cigarettes will be introduced in a phased manner.

The individual health warnings will first appear on king-size cigarettes by the end of July 2024, and by the end of April 2025, other varieties, regular-size cigarettes and little cigars with tipping paper, and tubes, will follow.

About Canada

- **Capital** - Ottawa
- **Currency** - Dollar
- **President** - Justin Trudeau

42. Who has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)?
स्टील अथॉरिटी ऑफ इंडिया लिमिटेड (सेल) के नए अध्यक्ष और प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Amarendu Prakash / अमरेंदु प्रकाश

Ans. e

Sol. Amarendu Prakash appoints chairman of SAIL

Amarendu Prakash has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL).

He was earlier Director (In-Charge) of SAIL's Bokaro Steel Plant.

Prakash is heading the Bokaro Steel Plant as Director-in-Charge from September 2020.

Under Prakash's leadership, Bokaro Steel Plant achieved remarkable production records in FY22 and FY23.

Recent Appointment

- **Sworn in as member of UPSC** - Bidyut Bihari Swain
- **Shalini becomes 1st girl NCC cadet to complete mountaineering course** - Shalini Singh
- **MD of Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)** - Ajay Yadav
- **CEO for Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** - K. Krithivasan
- **Central Vigilance Commissioner** - Praveen Kumar Srivastava

43. Edgars Rinkevics was elected as the new president of which country?

एडगर रिकेविक्स किस देश के नए राष्ट्रपति चुने गए हैं?

- (a) Lithuania / लिथुआनिया
- (b) Latvia / लातविया
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. b

Sol. Edgars Rinkevics elected as new president of Latvia

Edgars Rinkevics, Latvia's foreign minister since 2011, has been elected as the country's new president.

The 100-seat Saeima legislature elected Edgars Rinkevics, the country's top diplomat since 2011, as president to serve for a four-year term. In 2014, he announced that he is "proudly" homosexual, will be the first openly gay president in the Baltic nations

Latvia declared independence in 1918 but was later occupied by the Soviet Union in 1940.

It regained independence in 1991 with the collapse of the Soviet Union.

About Latvia

- Capital- Riga
- Currency- Euro
- Prime minister- Krisjanis Kariņš
- President - Edgars Rinkevics

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Turkey - Recep Tayyip Erdogan (re-elected)
- President of Nigeria - Bola Ahmed Tinubu
- President of Paraguay - Santiago Peña
- President of Bangladesh - Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu (22nd)
- Deputy prime minister of UK - Oliver Dowden

44. World Bicycle Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व साइकिल दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 June / 1 जून
- (b) 2 June / 2 जून
- (c) 3 June / 3 जून
- (d) 4 June / 4 जून
- (e) 5 June / 5 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 3 June - World Bicycle Day 2023

World Bicycle Day is observed every year on June 3.

The day is observed for strengthening education, preventing diseases, including physical exercise, promoting tolerance, and facilitating social inclusion through cycling.

Theme 2023 - Riding Together for a Sustainable Future

World Bicycle Day was first marked on June 3, 2018, when the United Nations first adopted a resolution during the 72nd Regular Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York City in April.

The declaration was adopted by more than 193 member states that encouraged them to include bicycles in regional, international, and subnational development programmes and policies.

Cycling is a healthy, sustainable and affordable form of transportation. It can help to improve physical fitness, reduce air pollution and traffic congestion, and promote social inclusion.

45. International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed every year on which day?

आक्रामकता के शिकार मासूम बच्चों का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 1 June / 1 जून
- (b) 2 June / 2 जून
- (c) 3 June / 3 जून
- (d) 4 June / 4 जून
- (e) 5 June / 5 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 4 June – International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression

International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression is observed every year on 4 June.

Objective - To raise awareness about the children who have suffered a lot throughout the world and are victims of physical, mental, and emotional abuse.

According to the UNICEF report, 104,100 children have been killed or maimed since 2005, with more than two-thirds of these deaths occurring between 2014 and 2020.

Since 2005, around 25,700 children have been abducted, 14,200 have been sexually abused and 93,000 have been recruited by armed actors.

The idea of the International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression emerged from the UN General Assembly's emergency special session held on August 19, 1982.

During the session, the assembly focused on protecting Palestinian and Lebanese children from Israeli aggression during the Lebanon war.

46. The Tata Group has signed an outline deal with which state government on building a lithium-ion cell factory with an investment of Rs 13,000 crore?

टाटा समूह ने 13,000 करोड़ रुपये के निवेश के साथ लिथियम-आयन सेल फैक्ट्री के निर्माण पर किस राज्य सरकार के साथ एक रूपरेखा समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Tata Group signs deal with Gujarat for EV battery plant

The Tata Group has signed an outline deal with the Gujarat government on building a lithium-ion cell factory with an investment of about Rs 13,000 crore (\$1.6 billion).

The decision to set up the EV battery plant at Sanand, Gujarat, was taken at a Tata Sons board meeting.

Tata Motors already has a plant operational at Sanand, and has also acquired the adjoining Ford Motors' plant.

It would have an initial manufacturing capacity of 20 Gigawatt hours (GWh), which could be doubled in a second phase of expansion.

About Gujarat

- Capital- Gandhinagar
- Chief Minister- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel
- Governor- Acharya Devvrat

Recent MoUs signed by State Government

- Meghalaya signed MoU with NIOS to facilitate the return of dropouts to educational institutions.
- Odisha govt collaborates with Infosys, Nasscom to enhance the skills and employability of students
- Goa, Uttarakhand sign MoU to boost tourism
- Himachal Pradesh signed MoU with the French Development Agency Agence Francaise de Development (AFD) for Rs 817.12 crore project.
- Kerala government signed MoU with UN Women to boost women-friendly activities in tourism

47. Who has become the first woman from Tamil Nadu to climb the world's highest peak, Mount Everest?

दुनिया की सबसे ऊंची चोटी माउंट एवरेस्ट पर चढ़ने वाली तमिलनाडु की पहली महिला कौन बनी हैं?

- (a) Muthamizh Selvi / मुथमिज़ह सेल्वी
- (b) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा
- (c) Bhawana Kanth / भावना कंठ
- (d) Avani Chaturvedi / अवनी चतुर्वेदी
- (e) Shaliza Dhama / शालिजा धामी

Ans. a

Sol. Tamil Nadu's Muthamizh Selvi climbs Mount Everest

A teacher from Chennai became the first woman from Tamil Nadu to climb Mount Everest. Muthamizh Selvi set out on the quest to scale the world's highest peak on April 2.

Muthamizh Selvi, who teaches Japanese in Chennai.

After 56 days of a challenging journey, she reached the summit on May 23 and returned to Kathmandu on May 27.

Selvi faced many challenges and even came across dead bodies on her way to the summit.

Even after her sherpa fell ill, Selvi didn't give up and continued her journey. Despite losing two campmates, Selvi completed the feat in 56 days to become the first Tamil woman to scale Mount Everest.

48. Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) in which city?

केंद्रीय स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्री, डॉ मनसुख मंडाविया ने किस शहर में अत्याधुनिक राष्ट्रीय खाद्य सुरक्षा और मानक प्राधिकरण (FSSAI) के राष्ट्रीय प्रशिक्षण केंद्र का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Ayodhya / अयोध्या
- (b) Ghaziabad / गाज़ियाबाद
- (c) Kanpur / कानपुर
- (d) Lucknow / लखनऊ
- (e) Noida / नोएडा

Ans. b

Sol. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated National Food Safety & Standards Training Centre

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has inaugurated the state-of-the-art National Training Centre for Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) at Ghaziabad, Uttar Pradesh.

He emphasized the need for Swasth Nagrik to create a Swastha Rashtra, leading to a Samruddha Rashtra, and urged citizens to adopt India's traditional food habits and way of life for wellness and preventive healthcare.

The people who will train at the National Training Centre of FSSAI will play a significant role in creating healthy citizens in the country, as they will ensure quality standards for food are followed in the country.

The National Training Centre of the FSSAI in Ghaziabad provides various training programs for individuals involved in food businesses, including food business operators, employees, Food Safety Officers, and designated officers.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

49. The third G20 Health Working Group meeting begins in which city?

तीसरी G20 स्वास्थ्य कार्य समूह की बैठक किस शहर में शुरू हुई है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. b

Sol. Third G20 Health Working Group meeting begins in Hyderabad

The 3rd G20 Health Working Group meeting was formally opened in Hyderabad.

Minister of State for Health Family Welfare Bharati Pravin Pawar behalf of Union Minister Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, is taking forward the agenda of the G20 Health Track under India's Presidency.

She emphasized leveraging the existing global health systems and regional health practices in a synergic manner to achieve universal health services accessible to all.

The 3-day meeting is focusing on priorities including Health Emergencies Prevention, Preparedness, and Response, Access, and Availability to Affordable Medical countermeasures, and Digital Health.

Government is committed to providing all health and medical service by the year 2030.

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **3rd Employment Working Group Meeting** - Geneva, Switzerland (31 May - 2 June 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand (25 - 27 May 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023)
- **2nd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (23 – 25 May 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG)** - Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023).
- **3rd G20 Tourism Working Group Meeting** - Srinagar, Jammu & Kashmir (22 – 24 2023)

50. Which IIT has signed an agreement with HCL Tech for collaboration in the field of petroleum engineering and earth sciences?

किस IIT ने पेट्रोलियम इंजीनियरिंग और पृथ्वी विज्ञान के क्षेत्र में सहयोग के लिए HCL Tech के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) IIT Guwahati/ आईआईटी गुवाहाटी
- (b) IIT Delhi / आईआईटी दिल्ली
- (c) IIT Madras / आईआईटी मद्रास
- (d) IIT Kharagpur / आईआईटी खड़गपुर
- (e) IIT Roorkee / आईआईटी रुड़की

Ans. d

Sol. IIT-Kharagpur signed MoU with HCL for collaboration in petroleum engineering

IIT-Kharagpur has signed an agreement with HCL Tech for collaboration in the field of petroleum engineering and earth sciences. HCL Tech and IIT-Kharagpur will jointly develop innovative and sustainable solutions to address critical challenges of the petroleum industry, including reduction of carbon footprint, and provide significant sustainable solutions towards net zero.

Under the agreement, HCL Tech will provide opportunities to students and research scholars from IIT-Kharagpur to undertake projects and internships at the company, and use state-of-the-art technologies to develop digital solutions in the exploration, drilling and production of hydrocarbons. Both IIT-Kharagpur and HCL Tech will initiate collaboration on programmes of sustainability that includes discussions, podcasts and joint presentations at international fora on transformative initiatives in the oil and gas sector. HCL Tech will also provide opportunities to IIT-Kharagpur students and research scholars to undertake projects and internships at the company.

Recent MoU

- Microsoft joins hands with Skill Development Ministry to train students, teachers
- NTPC Green Energy ties up with HPCL Mittal Energy for green hydrogen
- ICMR signs MoU with AYUSH Ministry for health research in Integrated Medicine
- IBM partners with NASA to convert satellite data into high-resolution maps
- BEL signs MoU with Emjay Control Systems to develop electro-mechanical bollards

51. According to a new report by Standard Chartered, India is set to remain UAE's largest export destination by which year?
स्टैंडर्ड चार्टर्ड की एक नई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, भारत किस वर्ष तक संयुक्त अरब अमीरात का सबसे बड़ा निर्यात गंतव्य बना रहेगा?

- (a) 2025
- (b) 2028
- (c) 2030
- (d) 2035
- (e) 2032

Ans. c

Sol. India set to remain UAE's largest export destination by 2030

India is set to remain the United Arab Emirates (UAE) largest export destination by 2030, according to a new report by Standard Chartered.

The report, titled "Future of Trade: New opportunities in high-growth corridors", forecasts that the UAE's exports will reach around USD 543 billion by 2030, showcasing a robust annual growth rate of 5.5 percent.

The report also highlights that trade corridors anchored in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East are expected to outpace the global trade growth rate by almost four percentage points, propelling the combined trade volume in these regions to an astounding USD14.4 trillion, accounting for 44 percent of global trade by 2030.

India is set to remain the UAE's largest export destination by 2030, while exports to Turkiye, Vietnam and Singapore are among the fastest growing. The report attributed the UAE's strong export growth to a number of factors, including its strategic location, its well-developed infrastructure, and its business-friendly environment.

About United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- **Capital** - Abu Dhabi
- **Currency** - Dirham
- **President** - Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- **Prime Minister** - Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
- **Official language** -Arabic

52. Which country will host the 2025 World Conservation Congress (WCC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) from 10 to 21 October 2025?

कौन सा देश 10 से 21 अक्टूबर 2025 तक प्रकृति के संरक्षण के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संघ (IUCN) की 2025 विश्व संरक्षण कांग्रेस (WCC) की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Finland / फिनलैंड
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. e

Sol. UAE to host world's largest Conservation Conference in 2025

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has won the bid to host the 2025 World Conservation Congress (WCC) of the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The 2025 WCC will be held in Abu Dhabi from October 10-21, 2025.

The WCC is the world's largest and most important gathering of conservationists, and it is expected to draw more than 10,000 delegates from over 160 countries.

The UAE has a long history of environmental protection, and it is home to a number of important conservation initiatives, including the Sheikh Zayed Desert Learning Center and the Al Ain Oasis.

The event will be an opportunity for conservationists from around the world to come together and discuss the most pressing environmental challenges facing our planet.

The WCC is also expected to produce a number of important resolutions and recommendations that will help to guide future conservation efforts.

About United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- **Capital** - Abu Dhabi
- **Currency** - Dirham
- **President** - Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- **Prime Minister** - Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
- **Official language** -Arabic

53. What was the gross GST revenue collected in the month of May 2023?

मई 2023 के महीने में सकल GST राजस्व कितना एकत्र किया गया?

- (a) 1,55,922 crore
- (b) 1,49,577 crore
- (c) 1,60,122 crore
- (d) 1,87,035 crore
- (e) 1,57,090 crore

Ans. e

Sol. GST collection rises 12% to ₹1.57-lakh crore in May

Goods and Services Tax (GST) collection in May rose 12 percent to ₹1.57-lakh crore.

The gross GST revenue collected in the month of May 2023 is ₹1,57,090 crore of which Central GST is ₹28,411 crore, State GST is ₹35,828 crore, Integrated GST is ₹81,363 crore (including ₹41,772 crore collected on import of goods) and cess is ₹11,489 crore (including ₹1,057 crore collected on import of goods).

The revenues for the month of May 2023 are 12 percent higher than the GST revenues in the same month last year.

During the month, revenue from import of goods was 12 percent higher and the revenues from domestic transactions (including import of services) are 11 percent higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.

GST Collection of Previous Months

- January 2023 - 1,55,922 crore
- February 2023 – 1,49,577 crore
- March 2023 – 1,60,122 crore
- April 2023 – 1,87,035 crore
- May 2023 - 1,57,090 crore

54. Janardan Prasad has been appointed as the new Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI). Where is the headquarters of the Geological Survey of India?

जनार्दन प्रसाद को भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण (GSI) का नया महानिदेशक नियुक्त किया गया है। भारतीय भूवैज्ञानिक सर्वेक्षण का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
- (d) Kolkata / कोलकाता
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. Janardan Prasad appointed as DG of Geological Survey of India

Janardan Prasad has been appointed as the new Director General of the Geological Survey of India (GSI).

Prasad succeeds Dr. S. Raju, who has held the post since April 2022.

Mr. Prasad is an MSc in Geology from Patna University and joined GSI, Gandhinagar, as a geologist in 1988.

He was also posted in Shillong, Patna, Faridabad, Ranchi and Hyderabad in various capacities.

About Geological Survey of India (GSI)

- Founded - 4 March 1851
- Founder - Thomas Oldham
- Headquarters - Kolkata, West Bengal
- Director General - Janardan Prasad
- Parent Government agency - Ministry of Mines

Recent Appointment

- **President of World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** - Dr Abdulla Al Mandous (UAE)
- **Chairman and MD of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)** - Amarendu Prakash
- **Sworn in as member of UPSC** - Bidyut Bihari Swain
- **Shalini becomes 1st girl NCC cadet to complete mountaineering course** - Shalini Singh
- **MD of Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)** - Ajay Yadav
- **CEO for Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** - K. Krithivasan

55. Who has been appointed as a brand ambassador for Zebronics TV?

जेब्रोनिक्स टीवी के लिए ब्रांड एंबेसडर के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Shah Rukh Khan / शाहरुख खान
- (c) Rahul Dravid / राहुल द्रविड़
- (d) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी
- (e) Hrithik Roshan / हृथिक रोशन

Ans. e

Sol. Hrithik Roshan appointed brand ambassador for Zebronics TV

An IT peripheral, audio systems, and lifestyle accessories company, Zebronics has signed actor Hrithik Roshan as the face of its range of Smart LED TVs.

This is the sixth year of its collaboration with Roshan and it has been extended to its new range.

According to a report by Kroll, Hrithik Roshan had a value of \$71.6 million and was the tenth most-valued celebrity in the country in 2022 as part of its Celebrity Brand Valuation Report.

Co-founder and director of Zebronics - Rajesh Doshi

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Sachin Tendulkar - Smile Ambassador by Maharashtra government
- Sourav Ganguly - Tripura Tourism
- Virat Kohli - Duroflex (mattress and sleep products maker)
- Alia Bhatt - Gucci's First Indian Global Ambassador
- Ayushmann Khurrana - Wakefit (Manufacturer of mattresses)
- Rishabh Pant - Star Sports Believe Ambassadors

56. Who has won the Thailand Open 2023 Women's Singles Title?

थाईलैंड ओपन २०२३ के महिला एकल का खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Viktor Axelsen
- (b) Chen Yufei
- (c) An Se-young
- (d) Akane Yamaguchi
- (e) Ratchanok Intanon

Ans. c

Sol. South Korea's An Se-young wins Thailand Open final

World No. 2 Ann Se-young of South Korea claimed her fourth title in 2023 by defeating China's He Bingjiao in the women's singles final of the Thailand Open badminton tournament in Bangkok.

21-year-old Ann Si-young won 21-10, 21-19. This was Young's seventh final berth in a row.

In Men's singles, the Thai shuttler Kunlavut Vitidsarn secured the Thailand Open title for the first time in his career becoming the only men's singles player in the badminton World Tour to have won more than one tournament this year.

He defeated Lee Cheuk Yiu of Hong Kong in straight sets, 21-12, 21-10 in the final.

Italian Opens Title 2023 (Tennis)

- **Men's Title** - Daniil Medvedev (Russia) defeated Holger Roon (Denmark)
- **Women's Title** - Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan) defeated Anhelina Kalinina (Ukraine)
- **Men's doubles** - Hugo Nieves and Jan Zielinski
- **Women's doubles** - Storm Hunter and Elise Mertens

Maiden Miami Opens Title 2023 (Tennis)

- **Men's Title** - Daniil Medvedev (Russia) defeated Jannik Sinner (Italy)
- **Women's Title** - Petra Kvitová (Czech Republic) defeated Elena Rybakina (Kazakhstan)
- **Men's doubles** - Santiago González (Mexico) & Édouard Roger-Vasselin (France)
- **Women's doubles** - Coco Gauff (US) & Jessica Pegula (US)

57. Which of the following institute has topped the tally of the 3rd Khelo India University games?

निम्नलिखित में से किस संस्थान ने तीसरे खेलो इंडिया यूनिवर्सिटी गेम्स की तालिका में शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त किया है?

- (a) Bangalore University
- (b) Lovely Professional University, Punjab
- (c) Jain University, Karnataka
- (d) Gujarat University
- (e) Punjab University, Chandigarh

Ans. e

Sol. 3rd Khelo India University games conclude in Varanasi

The third khelo India University games has been concluded at IIT BHU campus in Varanasi.

Union Youth Affairs and Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur along with Union Minister of state for Sports, Nishith Pramanik and Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, Yogi Adityanath were present at the closing ceremony.

Punjab University, Chandigarh regain champions crown as Guru Nanak Dev University fall short despite Fencing sweep on final day, after a gap of one edition of the Khelo India University Games.

PUC finished with an overall tally of 69 medals including 26 gold, 17 silver and 26 bronze medals.

GNDU amassed 24 gold, 27 silver and 17 bronze medals to finish second and in the top three for the very first time.

Jain University, Karnataka, last time's champions, were third with 16 gold, 10 silver and six bronze medals.

As many as 131 of the 203 Universities who finally participated at the Games.

58. Who is the author of the book titled "The Power of One Thought: Master Your Mind"?

"द पावर ऑफ़ वन थॉट: मास्टर योर माइंड" नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुंपा लाहिड़ी
- (d) K.K. Shailaja / के.के. शैलजा
- (e) BK Shivani / बीके शिवानी

Ans. e

Sol. Book titled 'The Power of One Thought' released

"The Power of One Thought: Master Your Mind" is a book by BK Shivani that aims to guide readers toward personal transformation. The book is published by HarperCollins India.

Shivani was also honored with 'Nari Shakti Puraskaar' in 2017.

Since 2017, she has been appointed as a Goodwill Ambassador by the World Psychiatric Association.

HarperCollins India was awarded the Publisher of the Year Award three times, in 2015, 2016, and 2018.

Recent Book

- **Ringside** - Dr. Vijay Darda (released by Shashi Tharoor)
- **The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life** - Ruskin Bond
- **The Indian Metropolis: Deconstructing India's Urban Spaces** - Varun Gandhi
- **Made in India: 75 Years of Business and Enterprise** - Amitabh Kant (CEO of NITI Aayog)
- **My Life as a Comrade** - K.K. Shailaja
- **Collective Spirit, Concrete Action** - Shashi Shekhar Vempati

59. World Environment Day is celebrated annually on 5 June. What is the theme of World Environment Day 2023?

विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 5 जून को मनाया जाता है। विश्व पर्यावरण दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Only One Earth
- (b) Ecosystem Restoration
- (c) Air pollution
- (d) Time for Nature
- (e) Beat Plastic Pollution

Ans. e

Sol. 5 June - World Environment Day

World Environment Day is celebrated annually on 5 June.

Objective - To raise awareness of and take action on urgent environmental challenges

Theme 2023 - Beat Plastic Pollution

World Environment Day gives individuals a chance to consider how human activity affects the environment and motivates them to change for the better in order to live sustainably.

The United Nations General Assembly founded World Environment Day in 1972 to increase public awareness of environmental challenges and encourage action.

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60. International Day Against Illegal Fishing is observed every year on which day?

अवैध मछली पकड़ने के खिलाफ अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 6 June / 6 जून
- (b) 7 June / 7 जून
- (c) 3 June / 3 जून
- (d) 4 June / 4 जून
- (e) 5 June / 5 जून

Ans. e

Sol. 5 June - International Day Against Illegal Fishing

International Day Against Illegal Fishing is observed every year on 5 June.

It is also known as International Day for the Fight against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated (IUU) Fishing.

Objective - To promote awareness of the threats posed by illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing activities to the sustainability of fisheries resources.

The International Day for the Fight against IUU Fishing was observed for the first time on 5 June 2018.

In 2015, at its 39th session, the General Fisheries Commission for the Mediterranean (GFCM) of the FAO proposed an initiative to declare an International Day for the Fight against IUU Fishing to raise awareness of the importance of the fight against IUU fishing.

Subsequently, this proposal was endorsed by the FAO Committee on Fisheries (COFI), at its 32nd session.

On 5 December 2017, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution (A/RES/72/72) proclaiming 5 June of each year as the "International Day for the Fight Against Illegal, Unreported and Unregulated Fishing."

61. Which of the following institute has topped in the category of engineering at National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Rankings 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से किस संस्थान ने नेशनल इंस्टीट्यूशनल रैंकिंग फ्रेमवर्क (NIRF) रैंकिंग 2023 में इंजीनियरिंग की श्रेणी में शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त 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. National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Rankings 2023 released

The National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Rankings 2023 were released by Minister of State for Education and External Affairs, Rajkumar Ranjan Singh.

The latest rankings include four categories: Overall, Colleges, Universities, and Research Institutions.

The subject domains now consist of Engineering, Management, Pharmacy, Law, Medical, Architecture and Planning, Dental, and a new addition -- Agriculture and Allied Sectors.

IIT Madras has emerged as the top college under the overall category for the fifth consecutive year and the best engineering institute for the eighth consecutive year. Under the best university category, IISc Bangalore has topped the university rankings followed by JNU and Jamia Millia Islamia. Three private universities have also made it to the list.

Meanwhile, AIIMS Delhi too, retains the number one position under the medical colleges category.

List

- Engineering - IIT Madras
- Colleges - Miranda House (Delhi University)
- Research - IISc Bengaluru
- Innovation - IIT Kanpur
- Management - IIM Ahmedabad
- Pharmacy - National Institute of Pharmaceutical Education and Research, Hyderabad
- Law - National Law School of India University, Bengaluru

62. Which district in Maharashtra is the development of India's first carbon-neutral village taking place?

महाराष्ट्र के किस जिले में भारत का पहला कार्बन-तटस्थ गाँव का विकास हो रहा है?

- (a) Nashik / नासिक
- (b) Mumbai / मुंबई
- (c) Pune / पुणे
- (d) Nagpur / नागपुर
- (e) Thane / ठाणे

Ans. e

Sol. India's first zero-carbon village being developed in Bhiwandi

Union Minister of State Kapil Patil announced that India's first carbon-neutral village is being developed in Bhiwandi Taluka of Thane district, Maharashtra.

This initiative aims to minimize carbon emissions and promote sustainable practices for a cleaner and greener environment.

Along with the carbon-neutral village, 121 tribal villages are being developed as model villages

These model villages serve as examples for sustainable development, showcasing effective infrastructure, amenities, and improved living conditions.

In the Bhiwandi Lok Sabha Constituency, around 1,75,000 farmers are benefiting from the Pradhan Mantri Kisan Samman Yojana.

Earlier, Palli village in Jammu had become the first carbon-neutral panchayat in the country.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

63. The Union government has set up a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the violence in Manipur. The commission will be headed by _____.

केंद्र सरकार ने मणिपुर में हुई हिंसा की जांच के लिए एक जांच आयोग का गठन किया है। आयोग की अध्यक्षता _____ करेंगे।

- (a) Nidhi Khatri / निधि खत्री
- (b) Sunil Bajpai / सुनील बाजपेयी
- (c) Sanjay Agrawal / संजय अग्रवाल
- (d) Adarsh Kumar Goel / आदर्श कुमार गोयल
- (e) Ajai Lamba / अजय लांबा

Ans. e

Sol. Government sets up 3-member panel to probe Manipur Violence

The Union government has set up a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the violence in Manipur.

The commission will be headed by former chief justice of the Gauhati High Court Ajai Lamba.

The commission will make inquiry with respect of the causes and spread of the violence and riots targeting members of different communities, which took place in Manipur on May 3 and thereafter.

It will probe the sequence of events leading to, and all the facts relating to such violence; whether there were any lapses or dereliction of duty in this regard on the part of any of the responsible authorities/individuals and adequacy of the administrative measures taken to prevent, and to deal with the violence and riots. The commission shall submit its report to the central government as soon as possible but not later than six months from the date of its first sitting.

The commission, however, if it deems fit, can make interim reports to the central government before the said date.

The other members of the commission are retired IAS officer Himanshu Shekhar Das and retired IPS officer Aloka Prabhakar.

Recent Committees

- SEBI formed an Intermediary Advisory Committee to advise the market regulator on changes in the legal framework; chaired by -S Ravindran
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) set up an 11-member Cheetah Project Steering Committee; Headed by - Rajesh Gopal
- IRDAI constitutes Expert committee for matters related to mental health; headed by - Pratima Murthy
- NGT constitutes committee to investigate disappearance of 1095 ponds - Headed by Adarsh Kumar Goel.
- MeitY constituted task force with the aim to make India 'product developer and manufacturing nation'; Chaired by - Bhuvnesh Kumar

64. Bajaj Finserv has signed an MoU with which state government to invest Rs 5,000 crore in Pune in their financial services business?

बजाज फिनसर्व ने पुणे में अपने वित्तीय सेवा व्यवसाय में 5,000 करोड़ रुपये का निवेश करने के लिए किस राज्य सरकार के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. Maharashtra govt signs MoU with Bajaj Finserv to invest Rs 5000 cr

Bajaj Finserv has signed an MoU with the Government of Maharashtra to invest Rs 5,000 crore in Pune in their financial services business.

This investment would create 40,000 jobs and give a boost to Pune and make it a financial services hub. This the largest investment in the recent past in the fintech sector in the state.

The Bajaj Finserv Campus is planned in Pune and the project is expected to create 40,000 jobs and continue to develop Pune as a financial centre.

Work on the project will commence in 2023 and envisions state-of-the-art connectivity and facilities for business.

The development will have a positive impact, both socially and economically, as it will create new jobs and business opportunities for partners, vendors, suppliers and contractors in and around Pune, as well as globally.

Chairman and Managing Director of Bajaj Finserv - Sanjiv Bajaj

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

Recent MoUs signed by State Government

- Tata Group signs deal with Gujarat govt for EV battery plant in Sanand, Gujarat
- Meghalaya signed MoU with NIOS to facilitate the return of dropouts to educational institutions.
- Odisha govt collaborates with Infosys, Nasscom to enhance the skills and employability of students
- Goa, Uttarakhand sign MoU to boost tourism
- Himachal Pradesh signed MoU with the French Development Agency Agence Francaise de Development (AFD) for Rs 817.12 crore project.

65. Who has inaugurated a two-day lavender festival at Baderwah, Jammu & Kashmir?

जम्मू और कश्मीर के भद्रवाह में दो दिवसीय लैवेंडर उत्सव का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Manoj Sinha / मनोज सिन्हा
- (b) RK Mathur / आरके माथुर
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Sarbananda Sonowal / सर्बानंद सोनोवाल
- (e) G Kishan Reddy / जी किशन रेड्डी

Ans. c

Sol. Jitendra Singh inaugurates 'Lavender Festival' in J&K

Union Minister of State, Jitendra Singh has inaugurated a two-day lavender festival at Baderwah, Jammu & Kashmir.

The festival has been organised by the CSIR-IIIM and is part of the institution's 'One Week One Lab Campaign'.

It showcases the remarkable progress made in lavender cultivation and its impact on the local community.

He also highlighted that Baderwah has emerged as the Lavender capital of India and agri StartUp destination.

The CSIR-Aroma Mission is a flagship project of CSIR under which Lavender cultivation is being promoted in the temperate regions of J&K

The CSIR-IIIM has provided more than 30 lakh free lavender plants to farmers in different districts of Jammu and Kashmir.

66. Reserve Bank of India has recently imposed a penalty of ₹2.2 crore on which bank for violation of various regulatory norms?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने हाल ही में विभिन्न नियामक मानदंडों के उल्लंघन के लिए किस बैंक पर ₹2.2 करोड़ का जुर्माना लगाया 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. RBI fines Indian Overseas Bank Rs 2.2 crore for multiple violations

Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of ₹2.2 crore on Indian Overseas Bank for violation of various regulatory norms.

The breach pertains to guidelines on disclosure of NPA (non-performing assets) divergence, interest rates on deposits, and advisory on 'Man in the Middle (MiTM) attacks in ATMs.

RBI had conducted the Statutory Inspection for Supervisory Evaluation as per Indian Overseas Bank's financial position as on March 2021, wherein it found contravention of certain provisions.

The public sector bank failed to make a minimum mandatory transfer of a sum equivalent to 25 percent of its disclosed profit for FY21 to its reserve fund.

Further, there was a significant divergence between the NPAs, as reported by it and as assessed by the inspection, and the bank offered interest on deposits of non-individual constituents at rates applicable to senior/super senior citizens, in certain instances.

The lender also did not implement control measures for ATMs relating to end-to-end encryption of communication between the ATM terminal/PC and the ATM Switch, within the timelines prescribed.

As a result, the central bank issued two show-cause notices to the bank and decided that the charges were substantiated after considering the submissions made by the bank.

About Indian Overseas Bank

- Founded- 10 February 1937
- Founder- M. Ct. M. Chidambaram Chettyar
- Headquarters- Chennai
- CEO- Ajay Kumar Srivastava

67. Which bank has recently launched Project Kuber in Bengaluru?

किस बैंक ने हाल ही में बेंगलुरु में प्रोजेक्ट कुबेर लॉन्च किया 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 launches Project Kuber in Bengaluru

The State Bank of India has launched Project Kuber having four transaction banking hubs and one corporate salary package hub in Bengaluru.

The objective is to source, facilitate, and cater to the various banking needs of customers, and these hubs will help increase SBI's market share in liability products.

The Transaction Banking Hubs will provide a range of services to both corporate and non-corporate clients.

These services include account opening, onboarding on SBI's digital platforms, and catering to payment and collection-related requirements.

The hubs will serve as a one-stop destination for digital banking services such as Yono Business, e-Payments, Cash Management Products, and more.

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

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Bajaj Allianz Life launches term **insurance plan for Type 2 diabetics**
- Yes Bank launches new logo and **Life Ko Banao Rich campaign**
- Razorpay launcheds "**Turbo UPI**" with Axis Bank & NPCI
- Axis Bank launches a digital onboarding platform '**Sarathi**'
- Paytm launches Paytm SBI Card on RuPay Network with NPCI

68. Indian American, Ajay Banga has assumed charge as the President of the World Bank. He has been appointed as ____ President of the World Bank for a five-year term.

भारतीय अमेरिकी, अजय बंगा ने विश्व बैंक के अध्यक्ष के रूप में पदभार ग्रहण किया है। उन्हें पांच साल की अवधि के लिए विश्व बैंक के ____ अध्यक्ष के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया है।

- (a) 10th
- (b) 11th
- (c) 12th
- (d) 13th
- (e) 14th

Ans. e

Sol. Indian American Ajay Banga assumes charge as World Bank President

Indian American, Ajay Banga has assumed charge as the President of the World Bank.

Banga has become the first-ever Indian-American to head the World Bank. He replaces David Malpass, who announced his decision to step down in February.

He has been appointed as the 14th President of the World Bank for a five-year term.

In February 2023, President Joe Biden announced that the US would nominate Banga to lead the World Bank.

Prior to this role, he served as Vice Chairman at General Atlantic.

About World Bank

- **Founded** - 1944
- **Headquarters** - Washington Dc
- **President** - Ajay Banga
- **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)

Recent Appointments of Persons of Indian Origin

- **1st-ever Indian-origin Lord Mayor of Birmingham** - Chaman Lal
- **US Ambassador for Global Women's Issues** - Indian-American Geeta Rao Gupta
- **Domestic policy advisor in Biden administration** - Indian-origin Neera Tandon
- **President of World Bank** - Indian-Origin Ajay Banga
- **Association of American Universities (AAU) Task Force Chairs** - Neeli Bendapudi

69. Dennis Francis has been elected as the President of the UN General Assembly (UNGA). He is from which country?

डेनिस फ्रांसिस को संयुक्त राष्ट्र महासभा (UNGA) के अध्यक्ष के रूप में चुना गया है। वह किस देश से है?

- (a) Grenada / ग्रेनेडा
- (b) Dominica / डोमिनिका
- (c) Trinidad and Tobago / त्रिनिदाद और टोबैगो
- (d) Barbados / बारबाडोस
- (e) Guyana / गुयाना

Ans. c

Sol. Dennis Francis elected 78th UNGA president

A citizen of Trinidad and Tobago (TT), Dennis Francis created history by becoming the first TT citizen to be elected as the President of the UN General Assembly (UNGA).

Francis, who has served in the diplomatic service for over 40 years, was nominated on April 1 and faced no opposition in the election. He will serve as the 78th President of the UNGA.

The current General Assembly President, Csaba Kőrösi of Hungary, noted that his successor would bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to the post.

About the UNGA

- UNGA is the United Nation's chief policy-making and representative organ and was created in 1945.
- It is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations (UN).
- It serves as the main deliberative, policy making and representative organ of the United Nations.

Recent Appointment

- **DG of Geological Survey of India (GSI)** - Janardan Prasad (replace Dr. S. Raju)
- **President of World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** - Dr Abdulla Al Mandous (UAE)
- **Chairman and MD of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)** - Amarendu Prakash
- **Sworn in as member of UPSC** - Bidyut Bihari Swain
- **Shalini becomes 1st girl NCC cadet to complete mountaineering course** - Shalini Singh

70. President Draupadi has been awarded the country's highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star. It is the highest civilian award in which country?

राष्ट्रपति द्रौपदी को देश के सर्वोच्च नागरिक पुरस्कार ग्रैंड ऑर्डर ऑफ द चेन ऑफ येलो स्टार से सम्मानित किया गया है। यह किस देश का सर्वोच्च नागरिक पुरस्कार है?

- (a) Guyana
- (b) Venezuela
- (c) Papua New Guinea
- (d) Suriname
- (e) New Zealand

Ans. d

Sol. Suriname confers highest civilian award to President Droupadi Murmu

President Droupadi was conferred with the highest civilian award of the country, the Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star.

She is the 1st Indian to receive the award.

She received the award from Suriname's President Chandrikapersad Santokhi during her state visit to Suriname.

The visit coincides with Suriname's commemoration of the 150th anniversary of the arrival of Indians in the country.

About Suriname

- Capital- Paramaribo
- Currency - Suriname Dollar
- Official language- Dutch
- Continent- South America.
- President - Chandrikapersad Santokhi

 **ambitious baba**.com

71. Who has won India's first gold medal in the women's 65 kg category at the Ranking Series in Kyrgyzstan?

किर्गिस्तान में रैंकिंग सीरीज में महिलाओं के 65 किग्रा वर्ग में भारत का पहला स्वर्ण पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Reetika / रीतिका
- (b) Manisha / मनीषा
- (c) Sarita Mor / सरिता मोर
- (d) Manjeet / मंजीत
- (e) Anahat / अनाहत

Ans. b

Sol. Manisha wins Gold, Reetika clinches Silver at Bishkek Ranking Series

Manisha won India's first gold medal in the women's 65 kg category at the Ranking Series in Kyrgyzstan.

Reetika won silver in the women's 72kg event and Sarita Mor won bronze in the women's 59kg. While Manjeet won bronze in Greco-Roman wrestling.

Manisha won four matches in the four rounds she completed which helped her win the gold medal.

72. Who has won the Spanish Grand Prix Title 2023?

स्पेनिश ग्रां प्री टाइटल 2023 किसने जीता है?

- (a) Sebastian Vettel / सेबस्टियन वेट्टेली
- (b) Lewis Hamilton / लुईस हैमिल्टन
- (c) Max Verstappen / मैक्स वेरस्टैपेन
- (d) Charles Leclerc / चार्ल्स लेक्लर
- (e) Sergio Pérez / सर्जियो पेरेज़

Ans. c

Sol. Max Verstappen wins Spanish Grand Prix 2023

Red Bull's driver Max Verstappen has won the Spanish Grand Prix 2023.

Red Bull's dominance continued as they celebrated their seventh consecutive triumph of the season.

Lewis Hamilton, a seven-time world champion, secured the second spot for Mercedes but trailed a substantial 24.090 seconds behind Verstappen.

Sergio Perez of Red Bull, Verstappen's closest contender in what seems to be a season destined to crown the Dutch prodigy for the third time, fought back from an 11th-place start to finish fourth.

Verstappen's triumph in Spain marked his fifth win of the season, his third consecutive victory, and his third triumph in Spain.

It also marked his 40th Formula One win, adding to his remarkable track record.

Recent Grand Prix Winner

- Spanish Grand Prix 2023 - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Monaco Grand Prix 2023 - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Miami Grand Prix 2023 - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Australian Grand Prix 2023 - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Bahrain Grand Prix 2023 - Red Bull's Max Verstappen (Netherlands)
- Saudi Arabian Grand Prix 2023 - Red Bull's Sergio Pérez (Mexico)
- Azerbaijan Grand Prix 2023 - Red Bull's Sergio Pérez (Mexico)

73. UN Russian Language Day is observed every year on which day?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र रूसी भाषा दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 6 June / 6 जून
- (b) 7 June / 7 जून
- (c) 8 June / 8 जून
- (d) 4 June / 4 जून
- (e) 5 June / 5 जून

Ans. a

Sol. 6 June - UN Russian Language Day

United Nations celebrates UN Russian Language Day every year on 6 June, which was established by UNESCO in 2010.

This day aligns with the birthday of Alexander Pushkin, a renowned Russian poet known as the founder of the modern Russian language.

The purpose of this initiative is to promote equal recognition and appreciation for all six official languages of the UN: English, Arabic, Spanish, Chinese, Russian, and French.

Each language is given the opportunity to find its own unique approach and develop its own program of activities for the day, including inviting famous poets and writers and developing informational and thematic materials.

74. Veteran Actress Sulochana Didi passed away at the age of 96. In which year was she honored with the Lifetime Achievement Award by Filmfare?

अनुभवी अभिनेत्री सुलोचना दीदी का 96 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। उन्हें किस वर्ष फिल्मफेयर द्वारा लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया था?

- (a) 2000
- (b) 2004
- (c) 2008
- (d) 2012
- (e) 2016

Ans. b

Sol. Veteran Actress Sulochana Didi passes away

Veteran Actress Sulochana Didi passed away at the age of 96.

Sulochana Didi is famous for her role as a Mother in Bollywood.

Sulochana Latkar is popularly known as Sulochana didi in Bollywood and Marathi film industry.

Chimukala Sansar released in 1943 was her first movie. Sulochana Didi has worked in more than 300 Hindi and Marathi Movies.

Yarana, Kati Patang, Roti Kapda aur Makan, Mere Jeevan Saathi, Sarswatichandra, Johny Mera Naam, Saajan, Aayi Milan Ki Bela, Prem nagar, Nayi Roshni, Sangharsh are some of her popular Hindi movies.

In 1999 she was honoured with Padmashree. In 2004 Sulochana was awarded with lifetime achievement award by Filmfare.

She was also awarded by Maharashtra Bhushan, V. Shantaram Award, Best Actress by Maharashtra Government.

75. Amir Raza Husain passed recently away at the age of 66. Who was he?

अमीर रज़ा हुसैन का हाल ही में 66 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Actor / अभिनेता
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. c

Sol. Renowned theater actor Aamir Raza Hussain passes away

Noted theatre actor and director, Amir Raza Husain passed away at the age of 66.

Hussain was known for his large outdoor stage productions such as "The Fifty Day War" based on the Kargil War and "The Legend of Ram".

He was also the Creative Director of the Stagedoor Theatre Company, established in 1974, which has presented over 91 productions and more than 1,100 performances.

The actor was known for his unforgettable stage plays like 'The Fifty Day War' (2000) and 'The Legend of Ram'.

Husain was honored with the Padma Shri in 2001 by the Indian government for his contribution to theatre.

Aamir Raj has acted in super hit movies 'Baahubali' and 'RRR'. He will also be seen in the movie 'Adipurush' which will be released on 16th June.

76. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched two schemes named Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI to revive wetlands and mangroves across the country. What is the full form of MISTHI?

प्रधान मंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने देश भर में आर्द्रभूमि और मैंग्रोव को पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए Amrit Dharohar और MISHTI नाम की दो योजनाएं शुरू की हैं। MISHTI का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) Mangrove Initiative for Sustainable Habitats and Tangible Incomes
- (b) Mangrove Investment for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes
- (c) Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Horticulture and Tangible Incomes
- (d) Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Investment
- (e) Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes

Ans. e

Sol. PM flags off two schemes to revive wetlands, mangroves

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has launched two schemes named Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes).

The MISHTI scheme will help in reviving and protecting the mangrove ecosystem in the country.

India currently has 75 Ramsar sites that are wetlands of international importance and designated under the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands.

In the last nine years, the number of wetlands and Ramsar sites in India have increased almost three times.

The launch of Amrit Dharohar Yojana on World Environment Day will ensure the conservation of the existing Ramsar sites through public participation, and these Ramsar sites will become centres of eco-tourism and a source of green jobs for thousands of people. In the 2023-24 budget, Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman announced Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI schemes to protect vital wetlands that sustain aquatic biodiversity and mangrove plantations along the coastline and on salt pan lands.

While Amrit Dharohar aims to achieve sustainable ecosystem development with the help of local communities over the next three years, MISHTI envisages to comprehensively explore the possible area for the development of mangroves covering nearly 540 sq km, spreading across 11 states and two union territories over five years, starting from FY2023-24.

77. Which of the following will launch "One Student One Tree Campaign 2023"?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन "एक छात्र एक पेड़ अभियान 2023" लॉन्च करेगा?

- (a) All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) / अखिल भारतीय तकनीकी शिक्षा परिषद (एआईसीटीई)
- (b) University Grants Commission (UGC) / विश्वविद्यालय अनुदान आयोग (यूजीसी)
- (c) Staff Selection Commission (SSC) / कर्मचारी चयन आयोग (एसएससी)
- (d) Union Public Service Commission (UPSC) / संघ लोक सेवा आयोग (यूपीएससी)
- (e) National Testing Agency (NTA) / राष्ट्रीय परीक्षण एजेंसी (एनटीए)

Ans. a

Sol. AICTE to launch 'One Student One Tree Campaign 2023'

All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE) will launch "One Student One Tree Campaign 2023" and that UGC too has taken initiatives for creating awareness about Mission LiFE.

The celebration of World Environment Day across the country envisages involvement of youth in spreading the message of LiFE, along with sensitizing school going children and others about LiFE.

The mantra of Mission Life is 'Lifestyle For Environment' to make the fight against climate change democratic, in which everyone can contribute within their capacity.

He also released guidelines and a curriculum framework for environmental education at the undergraduate level.

The guidelines include areas such as climate change, pollution, waste management, and sustainable development.

78. The Himachal Pradesh government has signed an agreement with which company for promoting green hydrogen production?

हिमाचल प्रदेश सरकार ने हरित हाइड्रोजन उत्पादन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ समझौता किया है?

- (a) Hindustan Petroleum / हिंदुस्तान पेट्रोलियम
- (b) Oil India Limited / ऑयल इंडिया लिमिटेड
- (c) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation / तेल और प्राकृतिक गैस निगम
- (d) Reliance Petroleum / रिलायंस पेट्रोलियम
- (e) Bharat Petroleum / भारत पेट्रोलियम

Ans. b

Sol. Himachal Pradesh signs MoU with Oil India Ltd for Green Hydrogen

The Himachal Pradesh government has signed an agreement with Oil India Limited for promoting green hydrogen production.

State Government has imposed ban on single-use plastic in Himachal Pradesh since 2009 and now it was working to find suitable alternatives to plastic.

The government is committed to environmental protection and has made various provisions in the budget to improve the state's climate.

The government is focused on integrating technology with governance and is committed to environmental protection.

About Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital** – Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- **Chief Minister** – Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - Mukesh Agnihotri
- **Governor** – Shiv Pratap Shukla

Recent MoUs signed by State Government

- Maharashtra govt signs MoU with Bajaj Finserv to invest Rs 5000 cr
- Tata Group signs deal with Gujarat govt for EV battery plant in Sanand, Gujarat
- Meghalaya signed MoU with NIOS to facilitate the return of dropouts to educational institutions.
- Odisha govt collaborates with Infosys, Nasscom to enhance the skills and employability of students
- Goa, Uttarakhand sign MoU to boost tourism
- Himachal Pradesh signed MoU with the French Development Agency Agence Francaise de Development (AFD) for Rs 817.12 crore project.

79. Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal has flagged off India's first international cruise vessel 'MV Empress' from Chennai to which country?

केंद्रीय बंदरगाह, नौवहन और जलमार्ग मंत्री, सर्बानंद सोनोवाल ने भारत के पहले अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रूज पोत 'एमवी एम्प्रेस' को चेन्नई से किस देश के लिए रवाना किया?

- (a) Iran / ईरान
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. e

Sol. Sarbananda Sonowal flags off India's 1st International Cruise Vessel

Union Minister for Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal flagged off India's first international cruise vessel - MV Empress, from Chennai to Sri Lanka.

This is the launch of the International Cruise Tourism Terminal at Chennai built at a cost of Rs 17.21 crore, ushering in a new era of cruise tourism and maritime trade in the country.

On the occasion of Environment Day, Sonowal along with the port officials also planted 2,500 saplings at the port.

The launch of the first cruise service between Chennai and Sri Lanka has opened a new chapter in the cruise tourism sector in the country. This is the result of an MoU signed during the Incredible India International Cruise Summit in 2022 between Chennai Port and M/s Waterways Leisure Tourism Pvt Ltd to start domestic and international cruise services.

Recent Inauguration by Sarbananda Sonowal

- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated "**PCIM&H e-Office Portal**" and an online portal.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates **National Mission Conclave** in Delhi
- Sarbananda Sonowal launched '**Harit Sagar**' the **Green Port Guidelines 2023**
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated **Discovery Campus of National Technology Centre** in Chennai
- Sarbananda Sonowal flags off **International Yoga Mahotsav in Dibrugarh**

80. Who has inaugurated the 4-Lane Section between Nagaon Bypass-Teliagaon and Teliagaon-Rangagara in Assam?

असम में नागांव बाईपास-तेलियागांव और तेलियागांव-रंगगरा के बीच 4-लेन खंड का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (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 inaugurates four projects worth Rs 1450 Crore in Assam

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated 4-Lane Section between Nagaon Bypass-Teliagaon, and Teliagaon-Rangagara in Assam.

The projects are worth 1450 Crores and symbolize a significant investment in the state's infrastructure.

The foundation for Mangaldai Bypass and the 4-lane section between Daboka-Parakhuwa in Assam was also laid by the minister.

About Assam

- **Capital** – Dispur
- **Chief Minister** –Himanta Biswa Sarma
- **Governor** – Gulab Chand Kataria

Nitin Gadkari In News

- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated two National Highway projects in Vadodara, Gujarat worth Rs 48 crore.
- Nitin Gadkari unveiled Bengaluru's first methanol-run buses.
- Nitin Gadkari has inaugurated 7 National Highway projects with an investment of 6500 cr in Chitbada village, Ballia, Uttar Pradesh.
- Nitin Gadkari inaugurated Rs 3670 cr Highways projects in Maharashtra
- Nitin Gadkari chaired 10th meeting of Group of Infrastructure Committee

81. Which state government has launched the Fibre Optic Network project in the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में फाइबर ऑप्टिक नेटवर्क परियोजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Kerala / केरल
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Odisha / ओडिशा
- (d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
- (e) Telangana / तेलंगाना

Ans. a

Sol. Kerala CM launches Kerala Fibre Optic Network project

Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan has launched the KFON, Kerala Fibre Optic Network project at Shankaranarayanan Thambi Hall of the State Legislative Assembly.

The project aims to, ensure internet facilities for all at affordable rates in the State. It also aims to give free internet to over 20 lakh of poor families.

During the first phase of the KFON initiative, Internet facilities will be provided to thirty thousand government institutions and fourteen thousand houses in the State.

About Kerala

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

82. Which state government has launched the 'Elder Line' 14567 service to rescue destitute old persons and provide them shelter in old age homes?

किस राज्य सरकार ने बेसहारा वृद्ध व्यक्तियों को बचाने और उन्हें वृद्धाश्रम में आश्रय प्रदान करने के लिए 'एल्डर लाइन' 14567 सेवा शुरू की है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. a

Sol. UP govt launches 'Elder Line' service to give shelter to elderly homeless

Uttar Pradesh Social Welfare Department has launched the 'Elder Line' 14567 service.

The objective of the helpline is to rescue destitute old persons and provide them shelter in old age homes.

The initiative is the brainchild of Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Social Welfare Aseem Arun, who earlier headed the emergency helpline 112.

'Elder Line' 14567 service has been activated, actively responding to distress related to older persons.

At present there are 6,053 inmates in these homes, both male and female, who are spending the twilight years of their life with dignity.

The inmates are provided food, health facilities and entertainment facilities free of cost.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

83. Which of the following country has introduced a digital birth certificate for someone who was born in country for free?
निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने मुफ्त में देश में जन्म लेने वाले व्यक्ति के लिए डिजिटल जन्म प्रमाण पत्र पेश किया है?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) Thailand / थाईलैंड
- (c) UK / यूके
- (d) Japan / जापान
- (e) Israel / इजराइल

Ans. e

Sol. Israel introduces digital birth certificates

Israel Government has introduced a digital birth certificate for someone who was born in Israel for free.

The service allows parents to receive the birth certificate immediately as a digital file via email or mobile device app.

The Authority said the new service will allow the public to receive the birth certificate immediately as a digital file sent by email or by mobile device app, without the need for people to personally go down to a government office to take care of this or to wait for the document to arrive in the mail.

The new service eliminates the need for people to personally go to a government office to obtain the document.

About Israel

- **Capital** - Jerusalem
- **Currency** - Sheqel
- **President** - Isaac Herzog
- **Prime Minister** - Benjamin Netanyahu

84. Which of the following has launched a financial inclusion dashboard named 'Antardrishti'?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने 'अंतरदृष्टि' नामक एक वित्तीय समावेशन डैशबोर्ड लॉन्च किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. RBI Governor launches Financial Inclusion Dashboard 'ANTARDRIHSTI'

RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has launched a financial inclusion dashboard named 'Antardrishti'.

The dashboard would, as its name suggests, provide the necessary knowledge to evaluate and track the development of financial inclusion by recording relevant data.

This tool will also make it possible to assess the degree of financial exclusion at a local level across the nation so that such places may be addressed.

The dashboard, presently intended for internal use in the RBI, will further facilitate greater financial inclusion through a multi-stakeholder approach

The Reserve Bank has been supporting financial inclusion by implementing a number of policy initiatives and the launch of Antardrishti' is another step in this direction.

In collaboration with the government and the relevant sectoral regulators, the FI-Index was conceptualized as a complete index that includes information on the banking, investments, insurance, postal, and pension sectors.

The index records data on different aspects of financial inclusion in a single value ranging from 0 to 100, where 0 denotes total financial exclusion and 100 denotes complete financial inclusion.

According to RBI, the FI-Index comprises of three broad parameters (weights indicated in brackets) viz., Access (35 percent), Usage (45 percent), and Quality (20 percent) with each of these consisting of various dimensions, which are computed based on a number of indicators.

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. Tavarana Rabi Sankar
 2. Mukesh Kumar Jain
 3. Michael D Patra
 4. M Rajeshwar Rao

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- SBI launches **Project Kuber** in Bengaluru
- Bajaj Allianz Life launches term **insurance plan for Type 2 diabetics**
- Yes Bank launches new logo and **Life Ko Banao Rich** campaign
- Razorpay launcheds "**Turbo UPI**" with Axis Bank & NPCI
- Axis Bank launches a digital onboarding platform '**Sarathi**'

85. Which bank has launched a new service called Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW), which allows customers to withdraw cash using UPI (Unified Payments Interface) from the bank's ATMs?

किस बैंक ने इंटरऑपरेबल कार्डलेस कैश विदड्रॉल (ICCW) नामक एक नई सेवा शुरू की है, जो ग्राहकों को बैंक के एटीएम से UPI (यूनिफाइड पेमेंट्स इंटरफेस) का उपयोग करके नकदी निकालने की अनुमति देती है?

- (a) Bank of Baroda / बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
- (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. Bank of Baroda launches cash withdrawal facility via UPI on its ATMs

Bank of Baroda has launched a new service called Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW), which allows customers to withdraw cash using UPI (Unified Payments Interface) from the bank's ATMs.

This makes Bank of Baroda the first public sector bank to introduce this service. With this, customers can avail two transactions a day per account with a withdrawal limit of Rs 5,000 per transaction.

The first public sector bank to launch this service, Bank of Baroda customers as well as customers of other participating issuer banks that use BHIM UPI, bob World UPI or any other UPI application enabled for ICCW on their mobile phone can withdraw cash from a Bank of Baroda ATM without using their debit card.

About Bank of Baroda (BOB)

- **Founded** - 1908
- **Headquarters** - Vadodara, Gujarat
- **MD & CEO** - Debadatta Chand
- **Tagline** - India's International Bank

86. The World Bank has reduced India's growth rate to how much percent from 6.6% in the financial year 2023-24?

विश्व बैंक ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 में भारत की विकास दर को 6.6% से घटाकर कितने प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 6.3%
- (b) 6.2%
- (c) 6.1%
- (d) 6.0%
- (e) 5.6%

Ans. a

Sol. World Bank cuts India's GDP growth forecast for FY24 to 6.3%

World Bank expects growth in India to slow down further to 6.3% in the financial year FY 2023/24 (April to March).

This is a 0.3 percentage point downward revision from the previous estimates of 6.6%.

The international financial institution attributes constrained private consumption due to high inflation as the main reason for slowdown. Nevertheless, it expects India to continue to be among the fastest-growing economy.

Unemployment declined to 6.8% in Q1 2023, the lowest since the onset of COVID-19.

World Bank also expects a GDP growth rate at 6.4% for FY25 and 6.5% for FY26.

The report highlights that India will remain the fastest-growing economy (in terms of both aggregate and per capita GDP).

Updated GDP List

- World Bank - 6.3% (FY24), 6.4% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)
- MOODY'S. – 5.5% (FY23)
- S&P – 7% (FY24), 6.3% (FY25)
- IMF – 5.9% (FY24), 6.8% (FY25)
- ADB – 6.4% (FY24), 6.7% (FY25)
- RBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- India Ratings – 6.9% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING - 6 (FY23), 6.7% (FY24)
- FICCI - 7% (FY23), 6.4% (FY24)
- OECD - 6.6% (FY23), 5.7% (FY24)
- CRISIL - 6% (FY24)
- NSO – 7%
- SBI – 6.8% (FY23)

87. Who has become the first woman officer to command a Communication Zone Mechanical Transport Battalion in the Indian Army Service Corps?

भारतीय सेना सेवा कोर में संचार क्षेत्र यांत्रिक परिवहन बटालियन की कमान संभालने वाली पहली महिला अधिकारी कौन बनी हैं?

- (a) Shivangi Singh / शिवांगी सिंह
- (b) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा
- (c) Shuchita Shekhar / शुचिता शेखर
- (d) Avani Chaturvedi / अवनी चतुर्वेदी
- (e) Shaliza Dhama / शालिजा धामी

Ans. c

Sol. Colonel Shuchita becomes 1st woman to command Communication Zone

Colonel Shuchita Shekhar has become the first woman officer to command a Communication Zone Mechanical Transport Battalion in the Indian Army Service Corps.

She is responsible for the maintenance of the Supply Chain of the fully operational Northern Command.

This is a significant milestone in the history of the Indian Army and a great step towards gender equality.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **Director General of Naval Armament** - P Upadhyay
- **Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA)** - Rajesh Kumar Anand
- **Vice Chief of the Air Staff** - Ashutosh Dixit
- **Director Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** - Praveen Sood (replace Subodh Jaiswal)
- **Military Advisor to National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)** - Sandeep Singh

88. Which Indian cricketer has been appointed as the brand ambassador of the Wrangler brand?

किस भारतीय क्रिकेटर को रेंगलर ब्रांड का ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Harmanpreet Kaur / हरमनप्रीत कौर
- (c) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
- (d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
- (e) Mahendra Singh Dhoni / महेन्द्र सिंह धोनी

Ans. d

Sol. Wrangler signs Smriti Mandhana as brand ambassador

Ace Turtle Omni Pvt Ltd., a retail company, has appointed Indian cricketer Smriti Mandhana as the brand ambassador of its Wrangler brand.

The company is the exclusive licensee of the denim brand in India. The company aims for significant expansion in the fiscal year 2024.

Mandhana embodies the company's values and is expected to inspire customers to embrace their uniqueness and pursue their dreams.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Hrithik Roshan - Zebronic TV
- Sachin Tendulkar - Smile Ambassador by Maharashtra government
- Sourav Ganguly - Tripura Tourism
- Virat Kohli - Duroflex (mattress and sleep products maker)
- Alia Bhatt - Gucci's First Indian Global Ambassador
- Ayushmann Khurrana - Wakefit (Manufacturer of mattresses)

89. Who has bagged two gold medals in the men's 100 and 200-meter races category at the Flanders Cup 2023 athletics in Belgium?

बेल्जियम में फ़्लैंडर्स कप 2023 एथलेटिक्स में पुरुषों की 100 और 200 मीटर दौड़ श्रेणी में किसने दो स्वर्ण पदक जीते हैं?

- (a) Amiya Kumar Mallick / अमिय कुमार मल्लिक
- (b) Dutee Chand / दुती चंद
- (c) Hima Das / हिमा दास
- (d) Amlan Borgohain / अमलान बोरगोहैन
- (e) Jyothi Yarraji / ज्योति याराजी

Ans. d

Sol. Amlan Borgohain bags two gold medals in Flanders Cup 2023

Indian sprinter, Amlan Borgohain has bagged two gold medals in the men's 100 and 200-meter races category at the Flanders Cup 2023 athletics in Merksem, Belgium.

Borgohain clocked 10.70 seconds to emerge as the fastest man of the meet. He holds the 100-meter national record of 10.25 seconds.

In the 200 meter, the 25-year-old Borgohain clocked 20.96 seconds to emerge winner ahead of Hofman 21.42 and Jamaica's Samuel Rowe 21.88.

Meanwhile, Sapna Kumari finished behind Belgium's Amber Vanden Bosch in the women's 100m hurdles after clocking 14.10.

90. World Food Safety Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व खाद्य सुरक्षा दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 6 June / 6 जून
- (b) 7 June / 7 जून
- (c) 8 June / 8 जून
- (d) 9 June / 9 जून
- (e) 5 June / 5 जून

Ans. b

Sol. 7 June - World Food Safety Day

World Food Safety Day is celebrated every year on 7 June.

The day has emerged as an important occasion for raising awareness about the importance of food safety standards at all levels.

Theme 2023 - Food Standards Save Lives

This day was first designated by the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 2018.

The history of World Food Safety Day traces back to December 2018 when the UN officially approved the day.

The inaugural World Food Safety Day was observed on June 7, 2019, marking a milestone in global efforts to address food safety challenges.

91. Which state government has launched the Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme at a cost of Rs 1,000 crore?

किस राज्य सरकार ने 1,000 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से नंद बाबा दुग्ध मिशन योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. a

Sol. UP govt launches Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme

Uttar Pradesh government has launched the Nand Baba Milk Mission scheme at a cost of Rs 1,000 crore.

This scheme provides milk producers the facility of selling their milk at a reasonable price in villages through dairy co-operative societies.

Under this mission, it is proposed to form a Dairy farmer producer organization (Dairy FPO) in order to facilitate the sale of milk in producers' villages itself.

UP is a leading state in the field of milk development and milk production.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

92. Which state government has launched Learn and Earn scheme to teach employable skills to the youth?

किस राज्य सरकार ने युवाओं को रोजगारपरक कौशल सिखाने के लिए सीखो और कमाओ 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 launches 'CM Learn and Earn' scheme

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister has launched Learn and Earn scheme to teach employable skills to the youth.

In the scheme, 703 work areas have been identified for training. At least one lakh youth will be provided training under the scheme. The most important aspect of this learn-and-earn scheme is that along with learning skills, the youth will also be given an allowance of Rs 8,000 to 10,000.

As per the schedule, the registration of establishments providing training to youth will start from today and the registration of youth willing to learn work will start from 15th June.

About Madhya Pradesh

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

93. Which state has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation?

किस राज्य ने डोर-टू-डोर कचरा संग्रह और पृथक्करण के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने के लिए एक विशेष अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. e

Sol. Haryana launched campaign to raise awareness about waste collection

Haryana has launched a special campaign to raise awareness about door-to-door waste collection and segregation.

It is a part of the government's continuous efforts to transform every city in the state into a 'Clean City-Safe City'.

The govt will take concrete measures for the beautification of cities including the repair of roads, parks, and parking facilities.

About Haryana

- **Capital** – Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Manohar Lal Khattar
- **Governor** – Bandaru Dattatreya

94. Which country has begun conducting initial tests of autonomous flying taxi that could one day serve as public transportation?

किस देश ने स्वायत्त उड़ान टैक्सी का प्रारंभिक परीक्षण करना शुरू कर दिया है जो एक दिन सार्वजनिक परिवहन के रूप में काम कर सकती है?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) Thailand / थाईलैंड
- (c) UK / यूके
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) Israel / इजराइल

Ans. e

Sol. Israel tests first autonomous flying taxi

Israel has begun conducting initial tests of autonomous drones that could one day serve as public transportation.

The drones are part of Israel's National Drone Initiative to ease traffic congestion.

Israel hopes autonomous Electric Vertical Takeoff and Landing (eVTOL) aircraft will help to ease its worsening traffic problems.

The aircraft being tested now will be able to bypass traffic jams and ease congestion by removing cars and trucks from the roads, in conjunction with air traffic management systems.

The initiative is a partnership between govt entities and the country's Civil Aviation Authority.

About Israel

- **Capital** - Jerusalem
- **Currency** - Sheqel
- **President** - Isaac Herzog
- **Prime Minister** - Benjamin Netanyahu

95. Algeria, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, and Slovenia were elected non-permanent members of the UN Security Council (UNSC) for a two-year term. Where is the headquarters of UNSC?

अल्जीरिया, गुयाना, कोरिया गणराज्य, सिएरा लियोन और स्लोवेनिया दो साल के कार्यकाल के लिए संयुक्त राष्ट्र सुरक्षा परिषद (UNSC) के गैर-स्थायी सदस्य चुने गए। UNSC का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Washington DC
- (b) Manila
- (c) Paris
- (d) New York
- (e) London

Ans. d

Sol. Five new countries elected as non-permanent members of the UN Security Council

Algeria, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone and Slovenia were elected non-permanent members of the UN Security Council for a two-year term. The newly elected members will take up their new responsibilities on 1 January 2024 and serve till 31 December 2025. Slovenia defeated Belarus by a vote of 153 to 38, while Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone and the Republic of Korea were elected unopposed. These new members will replace Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana and the United Arab Emirates at present when their two-year term ends on 31 December 2023.

About United Nations (UN)

- **Founded** - 24 October 1945
- **Headquarters** - New York, US
- **Official languages** - Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian & Spanish
- **Membership** - 193 member states
- **1st Secretary General** - Trygve Halvdan Lie (Norway)
- **9th Secretary-General** - António Guterres (Portugal)
- **Deputy Secretary-General** - Amina J. Mohammed (Nigeria)
- United Nations Day is celebrated on October 24 every year

96. Which of the following bank has unveiled Réserve premium account for the super-rich?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने सुपर-रिच के लिए रिजर्व प्रीमियम खाते का अनावरण किया है?

- (a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank / कोटक महिंद्रा बैंक

Ans. e

Sol. Kotak Bank launches Réserve premium account

A division of Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited, Kotak Private Banking has unveiled Kotak Réserve, a Savings Programme curated exclusively for UHNIs (Ultra High Net Worth Individuals) and HNIs (High Net Worth Individuals).

This by-invite programme extends beyond banking services, offering a range of exclusive amenities to provide clients with an unparalleled luxury banking experience.

The Kotak Réserve Savings Programme aims to deliver a premium banking experience by offering exclusive lifestyle benefits in areas such as travel, health and wellness, and entertainment. Key offerings of Kotak Réserve include an Epicure Privileged Membership by Taj, Lafayette Luxury Concierge services, BookMyShow vouchers, preferential pricing on services, and the Kotak White Reserve credit card. These privileges encompass a spectrum of services such as luxury stays, dining experiences, spa treatments, customized lifestyle solutions, access to exclusive Michelin-starred restaurants, and more.

CEO of Private Banking at Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. - Oisharya Das

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Bank of Baroda launches of **Interoperable Cardless Cash**
- RBI Governor launches **Financial Inclusion Dashboard 'ANTARDRIHSTI'**
- SBI launches **Project Kuber** in Bengaluru
- Bajaj Allianz Life launches term **insurance plan for Type 2 diabetics**
- Yes Bank launches new logo and **Life Ko Banao Rich** campaign

97. Which of the following has partnered with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions to healthcare professionals?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने स्वास्थ्य सेवा पेशेवरों को निवेश समाधान प्रदान करने के लिए WatchYourHealth के साथ भागीदारी की है?

- (a) Airtel Payments Bank / एयरटेल पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (b) India Post Payments Bank / इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (c) Bharti AXA General Insurance / भारती एक्सा जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (d) SBI Funds Management Pvt Ltd / एसबीआई फंड्स मैनेजमेंट प्राइवेट लिमिटेड
- (e) Yes Securities / यस सिक्योरिटीज

Ans. e

Sol. Yes Securities partners with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions

Yes Securities has partnered with WatchYourHealth (a tech-driven healthcare platform) to provide investment solutions to healthcare professionals through the 'Wellth- Where Investments and Health Unite' program.

The partnership is aimed at helping the healthcare community start their investment journey for successful wealth creation and achieving long-term financial goals. Additionally, the company will provide free-of-cost demat and trading accounts, monthly stock research recommendations, and tailor-made product offerings based on the client's needs.

The partnership will also see the launch of a custom app, which will provide a seamless and personalized investment journey exclusively for doctors.

MD and CEO of YES SECURITIES - Anshul Arzare

CEO and co-founder of WatchYourHealth - Ratheesh Nair

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Equitas SFB partnered with IBM for digital banking platform
- HDFC Bank partners Manipal Global to build up a talent pipeline
- Capital SFB partnered with Max Life to offer life insurance solutions
- Axis Bank partnered with India Shelter Finance for co-lending small loans
- Shivalik SFB partners with Arya.ag to empower small farmers

98. Which of the following bank has introduced a new credit card Millennia to offer cashback?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने कैशबैक प्रदान करने के लिए एक नया क्रेडिट कार्ड मिलेनिया पेश किया 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. d

Sol. HDFC Bank introduces Millennia Credit Card

HDFC Bank has introduced a new credit card — Millennia — offering cashback.

The card comes with contactless technology allowing customers to 'tap and pay' via POS machine.

The HDFC Millennia Credit card offers cashback and reward points on Amazon, Flipkart, and other e-commerce platforms. In addition, the card also offers 1 percent cashback on offline purchases, smart EMI, and lounge access for free, among others.

Eligibility to obtain HDFC Millennia Credit card

- The Millennia card is applicable to both self-employed and salaried persons.
- The minimum age limit is 21 and maximum age is 40.
- People earning a maximum of ₹35,000 gross salary can apply for the card.
- Self-employed people with an annual income of ₹6 lakh or above are also eligible.

About HDFC Bank

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

99. Wipro Limited has collaborated with which company to launch the Wipro Industry Innovation Experience for Financial Services?

विप्रो लिमिटेड ने वित्तीय सेवाओं के लिए विप्रो इंडस्ट्री इनोवेशन एक्सपीरियंस लॉन्च करने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ सहयोग किया है?

- (a) Microsoft / माइक्रोसॉफ्ट
- (b) Apple / ऐप्पल
- (c) Infosys / इंफोसिस
- (d) Samsung / सैमसंग
- (e) IBM / आईबीएम

Ans. a

Sol. Wipro launched innovation experience for financial services with Microsoft

Wipro Limited has collaborated with Microsoft to launch the Wipro Industry Innovation Experience for Financial Services.

The Innovation Experience will allow financial services firms to explore new solutions in an immersive 3D environment.

Solutions are currently available as part of the experience range from prevention of financial crime and loan origination to those that help transform core banking systems and maximize cloud investments.

It will feature a new suite of banking and financial services solutions built on Microsoft Cloud.

About Microsoft

- **Founded** - 1975
- **Founders** - Bill Gates and Paul Allen
- **Headquarters** - Washington DC
- **Chairman** - Satya Nadella
- **CEO** - Satya Nadella
- **President** - Brad Smith

100. Who has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited (THGPPL)?

द हिंदू ग्रुप पब्लिशिंग प्राइवेट लिमिटेड (THGPPL) के निदेशक मंडल के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) R K Gupta / आर के गुप्ता
- (b) Kalikesh Singh Deo / कलिकेश सिंह देव
- (c) Raj Shukla / राज शुक्ला
- (d) Nirmala Laxman / निर्मला लक्ष्मण
- (e) Parul Goel / पारुल गोयल

Ans. d

Sol. Nirmala Laxman appointed as the new chairman of The Hindu Group

Nirmala Laxman has been appointed as the Chairperson of the Board of Directors of The Hindu Group Publishing Private Limited (THGPPL) for a period of 3 years.

He succeeds Malini Parthasarathy, who stepped down after completing her three-year term at the board meeting on June 5, 2023.

Nirmala Laxman is the founder and curator of Lit for Life, a literary festival organized by The Hindu.

She also previously served as the chairman of Kasturi Media Limited (KML), the publisher of The Hindu Tamil Thisai.

Recent Appointment

- **78th UNGA president** - Dennis Francis (Trinidad and Tobago)
- **DG of Geological Survey of India (GSI)** - Janardan Prasad (replace Dr. S. Raju)
- **President of World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** - Dr Abdulla Al Mandous (UAE)
- **Chairman and MD of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)** - Amarendu Prakash
- **Sworn in as member of UPSC** - Bidyut Bihari Swain

101. Who has won the prestigious UNESCO Michel Batisse Award 2023 for biosphere reserve management?

बायोस्फीयर रिजर्व प्रबंधन के लिए प्रतिष्ठित यूनेस्को मिशेल बैटिस अवार्ड 2023 किसने जीता है?

- (a) Abhishek Singhvi / अभिषेक सिंघवी
- (b) Ajay Bhadoo / अजय भादू
- (c) R Venkataramani / आर वेंकटरमणि
- (d) Mukul Rohatgi / मुकुल रोहतगी
- (e) Jagdish S Bakan / जगदीश एस बाकन

Ans. e

Sol. Jagdish S Bakan bagged Michel Batisse award 2023

An IFS officer, Jagdish S Bakan has won the prestigious UNESCO Michel Batisse Award 2023 for biosphere reserve management.

The 2017 batch officer of the Indian Forest Service is currently the director of the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve.

The USD 12,000 award is given in memory of Dr. Michel Batisse for outstanding achievement in the management of biosphere reserves in line with the recommendations of the Seville Strategy.

He will receive the award from Unesco in Paris on June 14, 2023.

Recent Awards

- **Suriname highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star** - Droupadi Murmu
- **Greentech Safety Award 2023** - Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)
- **57th Jnanpith Award** - Damodar Maujo
- **Honoris Causa at Apex University's Jaipur** - Sonu Sood
- **National Water Award 2022** - Chandigarh

102. ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) has signed an agreement with India's biggest warship yard, Mazagon Dock (MDL), to cooperate in building six advanced submarines for the Indian Navy. ThyssenKrupp Marine is the company of which country?

ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) ने भारतीय नौसेना के लिए छह उन्नत पनडुब्बियों के निर्माण में सहयोग करने के लिए भारत के सबसे बड़े युद्धपोत यार्ड, मझगांव डॉक (MDL) के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं। थिसेनक्रुप मरीन किस देश की कंपनी है?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) Thailand / थाईलैंड
- (c) Germany / जर्मनी
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) Israel / इजराइल

Ans. c

Sol. Mazagon Dock signs deal with Germany to build diesel submarines

German shipbuilder ThyssenKrupp Marine Systems (TKMS) has signed an agreement with India's biggest warship yard, Mazagon Dock (MDL), to cooperate in building six advanced submarines for the Indian Navy.

These submarines will be powered by a new technology called air-independent propulsion (AIP). They will be built under a Rs 45,000-crore programme called Project 75-I.

The Project 75-I is being pursued under the so-called "strategic partner" model of equipment acquisition.

This requires the Ministry of defence (MoD) to identify Indian firms that have the capability and capacity to build and supply a particular weapons platform – such as a submarine, warship, fighter aircraft or tank.

103. World Brain Tumour Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व ब्रेन ट्यूमर दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 6 June / 6 जून
- (b) 7 June / 7 जून
- (c) 8 June / 8 जून
- (d) 9 June / 9 जून
- (e) 10 June / 10 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 8 June - World Brain Tumour Day

World Brain Tumour Day is observed every year on June 8.

Objective - To raise awareness about brain tumour and the importance of early detection and timely treatment

Theme 2023 - Protect yourself- keep away from stress

A brain tumour is an abnormal growth of cells in the brain or around it. Brain tumours can be cancerous or non-cancerous. Any abnormal growth causes pressure inside the skull.

In 2010, the International Brain Tumour Alliance (IBTA) designated June 8 as World Brain Tumour Day.

104. World Oceans Day is celebrated every year on 8 June. What is the theme of World Oceans Day 2023?

विश्व महासागर दिवस हर साल 8 जून को मनाया जाता है। विश्व महासागरीय दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Planet Ocean: The Tides are Changing
- (b) Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean
- (c) The Ocean: Life and Livelihoods
- (d) Gender and Oceans
- (e) Innovation for a Sustainable Ocean

Ans. a

Sol. 8 June - World Oceans Day

World Oceans Day is celebrated every year on 8 June.

Objective - To raise awareness about the importance of the oceans, encourage responsible management of marine resources and inspire action to protect and conserve these vital ecosystems

Theme 2023 - Planet Ocean: The Tides are Changing

World Ocean Day was first proposed by Canada in 1992 at the Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

In 2002, The Ocean Project began to promote World Ocean Day with the help of international partner organizations. A year later, the World Ocean Day website was launched, which campaigned for four years to have World Ocean Day established.

Finally, in 2008, the United Nations General Assembly recognized June 8 as World Ocean Day.

105. Gitanjali Aiyar passes away recently. Who was she?

गीतांजलि अय्यर का हाल ही में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थी?

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) News Anchor / न्यूज एंकर
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. c

Sol. Doordarshan news anchor Gitanjali Aiyar passes away

Gitanjali Aiyar, one of India's first English female news presenters on national broadcaster Doordarshan, passed away.

Graduated from Kolkata's Loreto College, Aiyar joined Doordarshan in 1971 and was awarded the best anchor four times.

She also won the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for Outstanding Women in 1989.

Besides presenting news programmes, Aiyar, a diploma holder from the National School of Drama (NSD), had also been a popular face in several print advertisements and even acted in Sridhar Kshirsagar's TV drama "Khandaan".

106. Government has launched MAHIR to quickly identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously for deployment within and outside the country. What is the full form of MAHIR?

सरकार ने बिजली क्षेत्र में उभरती प्रौद्योगिकियों की शीघ्रता से पहचान करने और उन्हें देश के भीतर और बाहर तैनाती के लिए स्वदेशी रूप से विकसित करने के लिए MAHIR लॉन्च किया है। MAHIR का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) Mission on Advanced and High-Indigenously Research
- (b) Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Renewable
- (c) Mobilized on Advanced and High-Impact Research
- (d) Mission on Advanced and High-Imagination Research
- (e) Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research

Ans. e

Sol. Government launches MAHIR

Government has launched Mission on Advanced and High-Impact Research (MAHIR) to quickly identify emerging technologies in the power sector and develop them indigenously for deployment within and outside the country.

The Mission aims at facilitating indigenous research, development and demonstration of the latest and emerging technologies in the power sector.

The Mission will be funded by pooling financial resources of the Ministry of Power, Ministry of New and Renewable Energy and various Central Public Sector Enterprises under the two Ministries.

Any additional funding needed will be mobilized from the central government's budgetary resources. Planned for an initial period of five years from 2023-24 to 2027-28, the Mission will follow the technology life cycle approach of Idea to Product.

107. State-run NHPC has signed an MoU with which state for the development of Pumped Storage schemes and other Renewable Energy (RE) source projects in the state?

राज्य द्वारा संचालित एनएचपीसी ने राज्य में पंप स्टोरेज योजनाओं और अन्य नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा (आरई) स्रोत परियोजनाओं के विकास के लिए किस राज्य के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. a

Sol. NHPC signs MoU with Maharashtra for renewable energy projects

State-run NHPC has signed an MoU with the Department of Energy, Maharashtra for the development of Pumped Storage schemes and other Renewable Energy (RE) source projects in the state.

The MOU envisages development of four Pumped Storage Projects (PSPs) aggregating to 7,350 megawatts (MW), namely Kalu (1,150 MW), Savitri (2,250 MW), Jalond (2,400 MW) and Kengadi (1,550 MW) as well as other RE source projects in the State.

These projects will attract an investment of about ₹44,000 crores and nearly 7,000 indirect and direct jobs in the state.

The MoU entails harnessing the Pump Storage Projects as Energy Storage Solutions to achieve the national objective of Energy Transition—500 GW of renewable energy by 2030 and Net Zero by 2070.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

108. Which of the following state has topped the 5th Food Safety Index in the smaller states?

निम्न में से किस राज्य ने 5वें खाद्य सुरक्षा सूचकांक में छोटे राज्यों में शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त किया है?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) Goa / गोवा
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Manipur / मणिपुर
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. b

Sol. Kerala topped in Food Safety Index

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare Dr Mansukh Mandaviya has unveiled the fifth State Food Safety Index on World Food Safety Day .

The food safety index evaluates the performance of states and union territories across six different aspects of food safety.

Among the larger states, Kerala secured the top ranking, followed by Punjab and Tamil Nadu.

Among the smaller states, Goa emerged as the leader, followed by Manipur and Sikkim.

Additionally, Jammu and Kashmir, Delhi, and Chandigarh secured the first, second, and third ranks respectively among the union territories.

109. Union Cabinet has approved the third revival package for BSNL with a total outlay of how much rupees?
केंद्रीय मंत्रिमंडल ने कितने रुपये के कुल परिव्यय के साथ बीएसएनएल के तीसरे पुनरुद्धार पैकेज को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 59,000 crore
- (b) 69,000 crore
- (c) 79,000 crore
- (d) 89,000 crore
- (e) 99,000 crore

Ans. d

Sol. Government approves over Rs 89,000 crore revival package for BSNL

Union Cabinet has approved the third revival package for BSNL with a total outlay of 89,047 crore rupees, includes an allotment of 4G/5G spectrum through equity infusion

The authorized capital of BSNL will be increased from 1,50,000 crore rupees to 2,10,000 crore rupees.

The Cabinet also cleared the allotment of 4G and 5G spectrum for the company through equity infusion.

With this spectrum allotment, BSNL will be able to provide "pan-Indian 4G and 5G services" as well as 4G coverage in "rural and uncovered villages under various connectivity projects".

The telecom operator will also be able to provide fixed wireless access services for high-speed internet and services for captive non-public networks.

BSNL will emerge as a stable telecom service provider focused on providing connectivity to the remotest parts of India.

First revival package approved in 2019, amounting to 69,000 crore rupees.

110. Which of the following has launched the "Addiction Free Amrit Kaal" campaign to promote a healthier & addiction-free India?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने एक स्वस्थ और व्यसन मुक्त भारत को बढ़ावा देने के लिए "व्यसन मुक्त अमृत काल" अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Central Bureau of Investigation / केंद्रीय जांच ब्यूरो
- (b) National Commission for Women / राष्ट्रीय महिला आयोग
- (c) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights / बाल अधिकारों के संरक्षण के लिए राष्ट्रीय आयोग
- (d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare / स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
- (e) Ministry of Ayush / आयुष मंत्रालय

Ans. c

Sol. NCPCR launches National Campaign "Addiction Free Amrit Kaal"

The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) has launched the "Addiction Free Amrit Kaal" campaign to promote a healthier & addiction-free India.

The campaign is organized by the NCPCR in partnership with Tobacco Free India, a citizens group.

The campaign aims to protect children's rights to have a tobacco and drug-free environment through initiatives, and outreach activities.

111. The Central government has approved how much crore rupees to Andhra Pradesh for completing the first phase of the Polavaram Project?

पोलावरम परियोजना के पहले चरण को पूरा करने के लिए केंद्र सरकार ने आंध्र प्रदेश को कितने करोड़ रुपये की मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 11,911 crore
- (b) 12,911 crore
- (c) 13,911 crore
- (d) 12,913 crore
- (e) 11,912 crore

Ans. b

Sol. Centre approves Rs 12,911 crore for Polavaram Project

The Central government has agreed to sanction ₹ 12,911 crore to Andhra Pradesh for completing the first phase of Polavaram Project.

The sanctioned amount of Rs 12,911 crore also includes Rs 2,000 crore for the construction of the diaphragm wall, which was washed away due to flood.

Polavaram Project is an under-construction multi-purpose irrigation project on the Godavari River in Andhra Pradesh.

About Andhra Pradesh

- **Capital** – Amaravati
- **Chief Minister** – YS Jagan Mohan Reddy
- **Governor** – S. Abdul Nazeer

112. Which company has collaborated with AirJaldi Networks to provide internet access for underserved communities in 12 states of India, marking a major boost to India's potential USD 1 trillion internet economy by 2030?

किस कंपनी ने 2030 तक भारत की संभावित USD 1 ट्रिलियन इंटरनेट अर्थव्यवस्था को एक बड़ा बढ़ावा देते हुए, भारत के 12 राज्यों में कम सेवा वाले समुदायों के लिए इंटरनेट का उपयोग प्रदान करने के लिए AirJaldi Networks के साथ सहयोग किया है?

- (a) Microsoft / माइक्रोसॉफ्ट
- (b) Apple / ऐप्पल
- (c) Adobe / एडोब
- (d) Google / गूगल
- (e) Meta / मेटा

Ans. a

Sol. Microsoft, AirJaldi Networks collaborate to provide internet access

Microsoft has collaborated with AirJaldi Networks to provide internet access for underserved communities in 12 states of India, marking a major boost to India's potential USD 1 trillion internet economy by 2030.

Under the MoU, the companies will look to advance access to high-speed internet and meaningful connectivity as a fundamental right in collaboration with private, public non-profit sectors.

It is further underlined in the MoU that they will build solutions for broadband adoption and digital transformation that will, in turn, benefit the underserved communities in rural regions of India.

Over the next three years, the collaboration's key focus will be expanding AirJaldi Networks into three new states namely, Telangana, Chhattisgarh and Odisha, with an increase in the number of network locations from 40 to 62 in 12 states

It will also focus on strengthening AirJaldi presence in nine states by extending the wireless and wired infrastructure and reaching connectivity provision for underserved users.

Recent MoU

- IIT-Kharagpur signed MoU with HCL for collaboration in petroleum engineering
- Microsoft joins hands with Skill Development Ministry to train students, teachers
- NTPC Green Energy ties up with HPCL Mittal Energy for green hydrogen
- ICMR signs MoU with AYUSH Ministry for health research in Integrated Medicine
- IBM partners with NASA to convert satellite data into high-resolution maps
- BEL signs MoU with Emjay Control Systems to develop electro-mechanical bollards

113. Who has recently started the seventh phase of the "Sagar Parikrama" initiative?

हाल ही में किसने "सागर परिक्रमा" पहल के सातवें चरण की शुरुआत की है?

- (a) Parshottam Rupala / पुरुषोत्तम रूपाला
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
- (e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. a

Sol. Parshottam Rupala starts VII Phase of Sagar Parikarma

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Parshottam Rupala has started the seventh phase of the "Sagar Parikrama" initiative.

Sagar Parikrama Phase-VII shall cover the coastal areas of Kerala and UT Administration of Lakshadweep.

The unique initiative aims to visit coastal areas across the entire country through a predetermined sea route, engaging with fishermen, fish farmers, and beneficiaries of government schemes to address their concerns and gather suggestions for the advancement of the fisheries sector.

The journey of the first phase of "Sagar Parikrama" has started from Mandvi, Gujarat on 5th March 2022 and so far in the Six Phases of Sagar Parikrama, coastal areas of Gujarat, Daman & Diu, Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar have been visited.

114. According to Mercer's Cost of Living Survey 2023, Which of the following city is the most expensive city in globally for expatriates?

मर्सर के रहने की लागत सर्वेक्षण 2023 के अनुसार, निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शहर विश्व स्तर पर प्रवासियों के लिए सबसे महंगा शहर है?

- (a) London / लंदन
- (b) Hong Kong / हांगकांग
- (c) Zurich / ज्यूरिख
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. b

Sol. Mumbai most expensive city for expats in India

According to the Mercer's Cost of Living survey 2023, Mumbai has ranked the most expensive city in India for expatriates.

After Mumbai, cities like New Delhi and Bengaluru fall on second and third place in the most expensive list for expats list in India.

The Mercer's Cost of Living survey was conducted across 227 cities from across five continents.

In Mercer's 2023 Cost of Living survey, Mumbai has been positioned at 147 in the global ranking, New Delhi at 169, Chennai (184), Bengaluru (189), Hyderabad (202), Kolkata (211), and Pune (213).

Globally, Hong Kong, Singapore and Zurich are the most expensive cities for international employees this year.

The survey measures the comparative cost of more than 200 items in each location, including housing, transportation, food, clothing, household goods and entertainment.

115. According to the latest RBI Monetary Policy Committee report, What is the Marginal Standing Facility Rate?

नवीनतम भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक मौद्रिक नीति समिति की रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, सीमांत स्थायी सुविधा दर क्या है?

- (a) 6.25%
- (b) 6.5%
- (c) 6.75%
- (d) 5.75%
- (e) 18%

Ans. c

Sol. RBI Monetary Policy 2023, Repo Rate unchanged

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) in its second bi-monthly monetary policy meeting of FY24 decided to leave the repo rate unchanged at 6.5%.

The MPC voted 5 members to 1 to remain focused on withdrawal of accommodation.

The RBI also retained FY24 GDP growth forecast at 6.5%, while expects FY24 CPI inflation to be at 5.1%.

RBI governor Shaktikanta Das said that the net Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) inflows stand at USD 8.4 billion during the current financial year upto June 6 as against net outflows in the proceeding two years where USD 14.1 billion in 2021-22 and 5.9 billion in 2022-23.

The rupee remained stable since January this year and India's foreign exchange reserves stood at \$595.1 billion as on June 2.

RBI projects consumer price index inflation for FY24 at 5.1%.

Real GDP growth projections for the financial year 2023-24 is projected at 6.5 percent with Q1 projections being 8 percent, Q2 projections being 6.5 percent, Q3 projections being 6 percent and Q4 projections being 5.7 percent.

Monetary Policy Committee decides to keep repo rate unchanged at 6.5%, Standing Deposit Facility Rate remains at 6.25%.

Marginal Standing Facility Rate and Bank Rate unchanged at 6.75%

The next meeting of the MPC is scheduled during August 8-10, 2023.

116. SIDBI has signed an MoU with which bank for providing financial solutions to MSMEs?

SIDBI ने MSMEs को वित्तीय समाधान प्रदान करने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (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. d

Sol. SIDBI signs MoU with HDFC Bank to offer financial solutions to MSMEs

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has signed an MoU with HDFC Bank for providing financial solutions to MSMEs

Under the MoU, SIDBI and HDFC Bank will work together to provide complete financial product and services to the customers under Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs).

The MoU will facilitate providing complete financial solutions to MSMEs in a seamless manner.

This arrangement will enable MSMEs to avail financial products and services of both banks.

About HDFC Bank

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

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Wipro launched innovation experience for financial services with Microsoft
- Yes Securities partners with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions to healthcare professional
- Equitas SFB partnered with IBM for digital banking platform
- HDFC Bank partners Manipal Global to build up a talent pipeline
- Capital SFB partnered with Max Life to offer life insurance solutions
- Axis Bank partnered with India Shelter Finance for co-lending small loans

117. Who has launched Aadhaar-based authentication for UPI transactions that will allow users to set up their UPI pin without a debit card?

UPI लेनदेन के लिए आधार-आधारित प्रमाणीकरण किसने लॉन्च किया है जो उपयोगकर्ताओं को बिना डेबिट कार्ड के अपना UPI पिन सेट करने की अनुमति देगा?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) Google Pay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) BHIM
- (e) Mobikwik

Ans. b

Sol. Google Pay launches Aadhaar-based authentication for UPI activation

Google has launched Aadhaar-based authentication for UPI transactions that will allow users to set up their Unified Payments Interface (UPI) pin without a debit card.

Support for UPI using Aadhaar will work via National Payments Corporation (NPCI).

Users looking to onboard UPI via Aadhaar will need to ensure their phone numbers registered with UIDAI and their bank are the same, and their bank account is linked with Aadhaar.

The move is supported by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- HDFC Bank has introduced a new credit card — **Millennia** — offering cashback.
- Kotak Bank launches **Réserve premium account** for the super-rich
- Bank of Baroda launches of **Interoperable Cardless Cash**
- RBI Governor launches **Financial Inclusion Dashboard 'ANTARDRIHSTI'**
- SBI launches **Project Kuber** in Bengaluru

118. Which of the following has introduced Account Aggregator (AA) services following the receipt of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) licence?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) गैर-बैंकिंग वित्त कंपनियों (NBFC) लाइसेंस की प्राप्ति के बाद अकाउंट एग्रीगेटर (AA) सेवाएं शुरू की हैं?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) Google Pay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) BHIM
- (e) Mobikwik

Ans. a

Sol. PhonePe launches Account Aggregator services

Fintech major PhonePe has introduced Account Aggregator (AA) services following the receipt of Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Non-Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) licence.

The company launched it through its wholly-owned subsidiary PhonePe Technology Services.

PhonePe received the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) approval to operate as an account aggregator in 2021.

The account aggregator services will allow Indian consumers to consent to and share all their financial data such as bank statements, insurance policies and tax filings with regulated financial institutions.

PhonePe Technology Services has also launched its product suite and application programming interface. The fintech company built an account aggregator micro-application within the PhonePe consumer application.

119. World Accreditation Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व प्रत्यायन दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 6 June / 6 जून
- (b) 7 June / 7 जून
- (c) 8 June / 8 जून
- (d) 9 June / 9 जून
- (e) 10 June / 10 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 9 June - World Accreditation Day

World Accreditation Day is observed every year on 9 June.

This day aims to raise awareness about the value and benefits of accreditation in ensuring competence, reliability, and credibility in industries such as healthcare, laboratories, certification bodies, and conformity assessment services.

Theme 2023 - Accreditation: Supporting the Future of Global Trade

World Accreditation Day (WAD) was first celebrated on June 9, 2008.

It was established by the International Accreditation Forum (IAF) and the International Laboratory Accreditation Cooperation (ILAC) as a way to raise awareness of the importance of accreditation and its role in ensuring the quality, safety, and reliability of products, services, and systems.

120. Which airport has introduced a new facility 'DigiYatra' has been introduced to make travel easier?

किस हवाई अड्डे ने यात्रा को आसान बनाने के लिए एक नई सुविधा 'डिजीयात्रा' शुरू की 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) Mangaluru International Airport, Mangaluru / मंगलुरु अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, मंगलुरु

Ans. a

Sol. IGI Airport introduces DigiYatra facility

Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGI) has introduced a new facility DigiYatra to make travel easier.

DigiYatra allows passengers to enjoy the benefits without having to download the mobile application.

The initiative has been launched at Terminal 3 and it simplifies the registration process for the passengers into three steps.

Passengers can use this facility by scanning the boarding pass and face along with presenting identification proof to the security staff deployed near the registration desk.

Once registered successfully, passengers will be able to experience seamless travel within the terminal, which includes the security check area and the boarding gates.

What is DigiYatra?

- DigiYatra is an initiative that uses facial recognition technology to make terminal entry & security clearance at the airport a seamless, hassle-free, and paperless process.
- The platform uses facial recognition technology to verify the identity of flyers.
- It is a decentralised mobile-based ID storage platform where air passengers can save their IDs and travel documents.
- Passengers can use the facility seamlessly, inside the terminal, security check area, and at the boarding gates.
- DigiYatra is a faster, safer, and smoother way of travel.

121. Which state government has launched an integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under Amrit Jal Kranti?

किस राज्य सरकार ने अमृत जल क्रांति के तहत एक एकीकृत जल संसाधन कार्य योजना-2023-25 शुरू की है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. e

Sol. Haryana CM launches integrated Water Resources Action Plan

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has launched an integrated Water Resources Action Plan-2023-25 under Amrit Jal Kranti at Chandigarh.

The initiative is aimed at conserving water resources in the state.

Earlier, the Mera Pani-Meri Virasat Yojana was implemented effectively.

The action plan has been prepared by all the departments for water conservation in the state.

About Haryana

- **Capital** – Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Manohar Lal Khattar
- **Governor** – Bandaru Dattatreya

122. Who has chaired the 6th Mission Steering Group meeting of the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में राष्ट्रीय तकनीकी कपड़ा मिशन (NTTM) की 6 वीं मिशन संचालन समूह की बैठक की अध्यक्षता किसने 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. b

Sol. Piyush Goyal chairs 6th meeting of NTTM

The 6th Mission Steering Group meeting of the National Technical Textiles Mission (NTTM) was chaired by Piyush Goyal in New Delhi.

It aims to catalyze research and innovation in Technical Textiles in India.

Ministry of Textiles also approved 20 Research and Development projects worth over 61 crores rupees across key strategic areas of Geotech, Protech, Indutech, Sustainable Textiles, Sportech, Buildtech segments, and Carbon Fibre and Ultra High Molecular Weight Poly Ethylene during the MSG meeting.

Piyush Goyal in News

- Piyush Goyal inaugurated **the 1st Session of Massmerize 2023 in New Delhi.**
- Piyush Goyal will launch the **MAARG platform (Mentorship, Advisory, Assistance, Resilience, and Growth)**
- 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

123. Which state government has advised women to apply for Shakti smart cards to avail the free travel in state-run buses?
किस राज्य सरकार ने महिलाओं को सरकारी बसों में मुफ्त यात्रा का लाभ उठाने के लिए शक्ति स्मार्ट कार्ड के लिए आवेदन करने की सलाह दी है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Karnataka announces free bus travel 'Shakti' scheme for women

The Karnataka government has advised women to apply for Shakti smart cards to avail the free travel in state-run buses, starting from June 11.

The government has already issued a set of guidelines on the 'Shakti' scheme, which is one of the major poll promises by the Congress party in Karnataka.

According to the transport department of Karnataka, women can apply for Shakti smart cards through sevasindhu.karnataka.gov.in from June 11.

Government buses in Karnataka ferry about 40 lakh women daily. The number is expected to rise by 10 percent under the free travel scheme, which will cost the government about Rs 4,700 crore per year.

About Karnataka

- **Capital** – Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** – Siddaramaiah
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - DK Shivakumar
- **Governor** – Thawar Chand Gehlot

124. Which state government has decided to cancel all Traffic Chalan for private and commercial vehicle owners pending from 2017 to 2021 recently?

किस राज्य सरकार ने हाल ही में 2017 से 2021 तक लंबित निजी और वाणिज्यिक वाहन मालिकों के लिए सभी ट्रैफिक चालान को रद्द करने का निर्णय लिया है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. a

Sol. UP government cancels all traffic challans between 2017 to 2021

Uttar Pradesh government has decided to cancel all Traffic Chalan for private and commercial vehicle owners pending from 2017 to 2021.

According to the government, the cancellation applies on challans issued between 1 January 2017, and 31 December 2021, regardless of the vehicle type.

The cancellation includes cases that are currently pending in various courts.

The government has issued instructions to all divisional transport offices to remove pending challans from the e-challan portal after receiving the court's list.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

125. Which state government has recently launched a new scheme 'Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana' for women empowerment?

किस राज्य सरकार ने हाल ही में महिला सशक्तिकरण के लिए एक नई योजना 'मुख्यमंत्री लाडली बहना 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 govt launched 'Ladli Bahna' scheme

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister, Shivraj Singh Chouhan has launched a new scheme for women empowerment in the state level 'Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana'.

Mukhyamantri Ladli Bahna Yojana aims to make women financially independent, improve their health and nutritional status and increase their role in family decisions.

Chief Minister inaugurated this scheme by depositing an amount of 1,000 rupees each in the accounts of 1.25 crore women of the state.

The amount of Ladli Bahna Yojana will be increased upto 2,000 rupees to 3,000 rupees. Now women will not depend on the small requirements of their children from family members.

The Ladli Bahna Yojana was announced on March 5 this year and in about 35 days more than 1 crore 25 lakh women submitted applications to take advantage of this scheme.

About Madhya Pradesh

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

Recent Scheme/Campaign launched by Madhya Pradesh government

- Ladli Bahna scheme
- CM Learn and Earn' scheme
- Mukhyamantri Sikho Kamao Yojana'
- Chief Minister's Residential Land Rights scheme
- 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

126. Who has recently launched an online dredging monitoring system called "Sagar Samridhhi"?

हाल ही में किसने "सागर समृद्धि" नामक एक ऑनलाइन ड्रेजिंग निगरानी प्रणाली शुरू की 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. Minister Sarbananda Sonowal launches 'SAGAR SAMRIDDHI'

Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways Sarbananda Sonowal has launched an online dredging monitoring system called "Sagar Samridhhi."

The "Sagar Samridhhi" system will aid daily and monthly progress visualization, monitor dredger performance and downtime monitoring, and keep track of location data.

This system has been developed by the National Technology Centre for Ports, Waterways and Coasts (NTCPWC) the technological arm of MoPSW.

The new technology brings in marked improvement against the old system of Draft & Loading Monitor (DLM) system.

Currently, Cochin and Mumbai ports have adopted "Sagar Samridhhi" and New Mangalore Port and Deendayal Port are running the system on a trial basis.

All the major ports and the Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) have been by the ministry to keep track of dredging activity by using the monitoring system.

Recent Inauguration by Sarbananda Sonowal

- Sarbananda Sonowal flags off India's **1st International Cruise Vessel** from Chennai to Sri Lanka
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated "**PCIM&H e-Office Portal**" and an online portal.
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurates **National Mission Conclave** in Delhi
- Sarbananda Sonowal launched '**Harit Sagar**' the **Green Port Guidelines 2023**
- Sarbananda Sonowal inaugurated **Discovery Campus of National Technology Centre** in Chennai
- Sarbananda Sonowal flags off **International Yoga Mahotsav in Dibrugarh**

127. Which of the following bank has launched the 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने 'आई एम अडयार, अडयार इज मी' अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. Federal Bank launches 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign

Federal Bank has launched 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign in Chennai.

The campaign aims to honour and celebrate the local community of Adyar. The Adyar branch of Federal Bank has been converted into a living museum for the campaign. The 'I am Adyar, Adyar is me' campaign has handpicked 40 compelling stories of individuals, which are showcased in an exclusive exhibition at the Adyar branch of Federal Bank.

This art exhibition will run for two weeks between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m.

The campaign is a first-of-its-kind micro-marketing initiative in the banking industry, which is aimed to showcase the soul of Adyar, including its people's struggles and triumphs which make it special.

About Federal Bank

- Federal Bank Limited is an Indian private sector bank headquartered in Kochi, Kerala.
- The bank has 1,336 branches spread across different states in India.
- It also has representative offices abroad in Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, and Dubai.
- Founded- 23 April 1931
- Founder- K.P Hormis
- Headquarters - Kochi, Kerala.
- CEO- Shyam Srinivasan

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Google Pay launches **Aadhaar-based authentication** for UPI activation
- HDFC Bank has introduced a new credit card — **Millennia** — offering cashback.
- Kotak Bank launches **Reserve premium account** for the super-rich
- Bank of Baroda launches of **Interoperable Cardless Cash**
- RBI Governor launches **Financial Inclusion Dashboard 'ANTARDRIHSTI'**

128. Which of the following has approved the First Loss Default Guarantee (FLDG) framework, allowing fintech to partner with banks and non-Banking financial companies (NBFCs)?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने फिनटेक को बैंकों और गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनियों (एनबीएफसी) के साथ साझेदारी करने की अनुमति देते हुए फर्स्ट लॉस डिफॉल्ट गारंटी (एफएलडीजी) ढांचे को मंजूरी दी है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. RBI permits FLDG between fintechs and banks, NBFCs

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the First Loss Default Guarantee (FLDG) framework, allowing fintech to partner with banks and Non-Banking financial companies (NBFCs).

The central bank has allowed a 5% default loss cover for bank-fintech deals.

The RBI had earlier specified that banks and NBFCs must abide by securitization norms before entering into any guarantee arrangement.

Subject to certain guidelines, the RBI has decided to permit arrangements between regulated entities and lending service providers or between two regulated entities involving default loss guarantee.

The limits are aimed at reining in the risk of large slippages in tie-ups between lenders and fintech.

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. Tavarana Rabi Sankar
2. Mukesh Kumar Jain
3. Michael D Patra
4. M Rajeshwar Rao

129. Who has been appointed as the vice president for finance and chief financial officer at Harvard University?

हार्वर्ड विश्वविद्यालय में वित्त के उपाध्यक्ष और मुख्य वित्तीय अधिकारी के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ritu Kalra / रितु कालरा
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Janani Ramachandran / जननी रामचंद्रन
- (e) Sonia Guajajara / सोनिया गुज्जारा

Ans. a

Sol. Ritu Kalra named Harvard's vice president for finance and CFO

Investment banking and financial management expert of Indian-American origin, Ritu Kalra has been appointed as the vice president for finance and chief financial officer at Harvard University.

Kalra is currently serving as the assistant vice president of finance and treasury, as well as a special projects adviser within the university.

As the vice president for finance and CFO, Kalra will oversee various important areas including research administration, strategic procurement, capital planning, and risk management.

Leading a dedicated team of over 200 professionals, she will be responsible for managing multiple financial departments.

Recent Appointments of Persons of Indian Origin

- **President of World Bank** - Ajay Banga (Indian American)
- **1st-ever Indian-origin Lord Mayor of Birmingham** - Chaman Lal
- **US Ambassador for Global Women's Issues** - Indian-American Geeta Rao Gupta
- **Domestic policy advisor in Biden administration** - Indian-origin Neera Tandon
- **President of World Bank** - Indian-Origin Ajay Banga
- **Association of American Universities (AAU) Task Force Chairs** - Neeli Bendapudi

130. Who has been appointed as Chairman of TransUnion Cibil?

ट्रांसयूनियन सिबिल के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) V Anantharaman / वी अनंतरामन

Ans. e

Sol. Anantharaman appointed chairman of TransUnion Cibil

Credit bureau TransUnion CIBIL has appointed banker V Anantharaman as non-executive chairman.

Anantharaman takes over from Mr. M V Nair, who served as the chairman for over eleven years.

Anantharaman has worked in the banking industry for over three decades having led corporate and investment banking teams in leading international firms including Standard Chartered Bank, Credit Suisse, Deutsche Bank, and Bank of America.

Anantharaman was also a senior advisor to British International Investment (formerly CDC), UK's Development Finance Institution.

About TransUnion CIBIL

- TransUnion CIBIL is a credit information company operating in India and is part of TransUnion, an American multinational group.
- The company maintains credit files on over 600 million individuals and 32 million businesses.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of UCO Bank** - Ashwani Kumar (replace Soma Sankara Prasad)
- **MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank** - Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma
- **Part-time chairman of Paytm** - Vijay Shekhar (reappointment)
- **Deputy MD of IDBI Bank** - Jayakumar S. Pillai
- **President and COO of Paytm** - Bhavesh Gupta

131. Which football club has become the most valuable football club in Europe after replacing Real Madrid?

रियल मैड्रिड को हटाकर कौन सा फुटबॉल क्लब यूरोप का सबसे मूल्यवान फुटबॉल क्लब बन गया है?

- (a) Aston Villa
- (b) Inter Milan
- (c) Manchester City
- (d) Liverpool
- (e) Chelsea

Ans. c

Sol. Manchester City becomes most valuable football club in Europe

Manchester City has become the most valuable football club in Europe after replacing Real Madrid.

City, who play Inter Milan in Champions League final in Istanbul, came out on top with a valuation of 4.073 billion euros (\$4.39 billion)

Real Madrid's value was at 4.006 billion euros.

Manchester City, who were taken over by the Abu Dhabi United Group in 2008, recorded revenue for last season of £613 million (\$769.5m), the second-highest revenue figure in English club history after Manchester United's annual revenues hit £627 million in 2019.

132. Who has become the Youngest Grand Slam Wheelchair Champion 2023?

सबसे युवा ग्रैंड स्लैम व्हीलचेयर चैंपियन 2023 कौन बन गया है?

- (a) Keiichi Kimura / केईची किमुरा
- (b) Satoshi Saida / सातोशी सईदा
- (c) Shingo Kunieda / शिंगो कुनिडा
- (d) Ai Kunieda / ऐ कुनिदा
- (e) Tokito Oda / टोकिटो ओडा

Ans. e

Sol. Japanese Tokito Oda becomes Youngest Grand Slam Wheelchair Champion 2023

Japan's Tokito Oda defeated top-ranked Alfie Hewett of Britain 6-1, 6-4 in the French Open wheelchair final to become the sport's youngest Grand Slam champion 2023.

The 17-year-old is also guaranteed to become the youngest ever world number one in the discipline.

With this win, he also becomes the sport's youngest Grand Slam champion.

While Diede de Groot from Netherlands has secured the 2023 Open - Wheelchair women's singles.

Alfie Hewett and Gordon Reid (Britain) won the Men's Double title, and Yui Kamiji and Kgothatso Montjane won the Women's Double title.

 **ambitious baba**.com

133. Which company has recently launched a new 'voice chat' feature to its AI-powered Bing Chat on the desktop?

किस कंपनी ने हाल ही में डेस्कटॉप पर अपने एआई-संचालित बिंग चैट के लिए एक नया 'वॉयस चैट' फीचर लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Microsoft / माइक्रोसॉफ्ट
- (b) Apple / ऐप्पल
- (c) Adobe / एडोब
- (d) Google / गूगल
- (e) Meta / मेटा

Ans. a

Sol. Microsoft launched voice chat feature to AI-powered Bing Chat

Microsoft has launched a new 'voice chat' feature to its AI-powered Bing Chat on the desktop.

It will help users to talk to the AI chatbot by clicking on the microphone icon in the Bing Chatbox.

Currently, the voice chat feature supports five languages -- English, Japanese, French, German, and Mandarin. The company said it will add more languages soon.

Bing Chat supports text-to-speech answers, which will respond to your questions in its own voice.

About Microsoft

- **Founded** - 1975
- **Founders** - Bill Gates and Paul Allen
- **Headquarters** - Washington DC
- **Chairman** - Satya Nadella
- **CEO** - Satya Nadella
- **President** - Brad Smith

134. Which of the following has signed an MoU with Amazon Kisan to combine strengths and create synergy between the two organizations?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने अमेज़ॅन किसान के साथ ताकत जोड़ने और दो संगठनों के बीच तालमेल बनाने के लिए एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Indian Council of Agricultural Research / भारतीय कृषि अनुसंधान परिषद
- (b) National Academy of Agricultural Sciences / राष्ट्रीय कृषि विज्ञान अकादमी
- (c) Indian Council of Food and Agriculture / भारतीय खाद्य और कृषि परिषद
- (d) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research / वैज्ञानिक और औद्योगिक अनुसंधान परिषद
- (e) Krishi Vistar / कृषि विस्तार

Ans. a

Sol. ICAR signed MOU with Amazon Kisan to empower farmers

Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi has signed an MoU with Amazon Kisan to combine strengths and create synergy between the two organizations for guiding the farmers on scientific cultivation of different crops for optimum yield and income.

ICAR will provide technological backstopping to the farmers through Amazon's network. It will improve farmers' livelihood and boost crop yield.

This MoU in farmer's partnership with Amazon Kisan program will help ensuring access to high-quality fresh produce for consumers across India, including through Amazon Fresh.

Recent MoUs

- NHPC signs MoU with Maharashtra for renewable energy projects
- Microsoft, AirJaldi Networks collaborate to provide internet access
- IIT-Kharagpur signed MoU with HCL for collaboration in petroleum engineering
- Microsoft joins hands with Skill Development Ministry to train students, teachers
- NTPC Green Energy ties up with HPCL Mittal Energy for green hydrogen
- ICMR signs MoU with AYUSH Ministry for health research in Integrated Medicine

135. India's premier online procurement platform, Government e-Marketplace (GeM) is organizing Buyer-Seller Workshops in which state from 12th June till 31st August 2023?

भारत का प्रमुख ऑनलाइन खरीद मंच, गवर्नमेंट ई-मार्केटप्लेस (GeM) 12 जून से 31 अगस्त 2023 तक किस राज्य में क्रेता-विक्रेता कार्यशालाओं का आयोजन कर रहा है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. a

Sol. GeM to organise District level Buyer-Seller workshops in UP

India's premier online procurement platform, Government e-Marketplace (GeM) is organizing Buyer-Seller Workshops in all 75 districts of Uttar Pradesh from 12th June till 31st August 2023.

These workshops aim to enhance the understanding of GeM's functionalities among buyers and sellers in the state, as well as provide a platform to address any queries or concerns they may have.

The Buyer-Seller Workshops are a significant step towards ensuring accessibility and participation from every corner of the state. GeM believes in empowering buyers and sellers in the remotest districts of Uttar Pradesh by providing them with the necessary knowledge and resources to leverage the benefits of the platform effectively.

These workshops will serve as a platform to address queries, provide guidance, and discuss any issues faced by the users at the district level.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

136. The second summit of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the G20 countries has begun in which city?

G20 देशों के सुप्रीम ऑडिट इंस्टीट्यूशंस (SAI) का दूसरा शिखर सम्मेलन किस शहर में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) Panaji / पणजी
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. a

Sol. 2nd summit of Supreme Audit Institutions of G20 countries began in Goa

The second summit of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of the G20 countries began in Panaji, the capital of Goa.

The inaugural address at the summit was delivered by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) Girish Chandra Murmu. Goa Governor PS Sreedharan Pillai and India's G20 Sherpa Amitabh Kant also attended the meeting.

The three-day summit will see the participation of the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of Australia, Brazil, Indonesia, South Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, Türkiye, Bangladesh, Egypt, Mauritius, Nigeria, Oman, Spain, the UAE, Morocco, and Poland.

Over 80 national and international delegates, Think20, and Youth20 Engagement Groups will also attend the meeting.

The CAG of India is expected to highlight the crucial role the SAIs can play in the audit of the Blue Economy and Responsible Artificial Intelligence (AI) to ensure good governance, transparency, and accountability, and to optimize their positive impact on humankind.

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **3rd Employment Working Group Meeting** - Geneva, Switzerland (31 May - 2 June 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand (25 - 27 May 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023)
- **2nd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (23 – 25 May 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group (DRRWG)** - Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023).

137. The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the _____ largest investor in India during 2022-23, according to government data.

सरकारी आंकड़ों के अनुसार, संयुक्त अरब अमीरात (यूएई) 2022-23 के दौरान भारत में _____ सबसे बड़े निवेशक के रूप में उभरा है।

- (a) 1st
- (b) 2nd
- (c) 3rd
- (d) 4th
- (e) 5th

Ans. d

Sol. UAE emerges as 4th largest investor in India during FY23

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has emerged as the fourth largest investor in India during 2022-23, according to government data.

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) was signed a comprehensive free trade agreement with India in May last year.

In the last fiscal, foreign direct investment (FDI) from the UAE to India jumped over three-fold to USD 3.35 billion from USD 1.03 billion in 2021-22, the data of the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) showed.

Singapore was the largest investor in India with USD 17.2 billion investment in FY23, followed by Mauritius (USD 6.1 billion) and the US (USD 6 billion).

UAE's investments in India are mainly in sectors like services, sea transport, power, and construction activities.

One of the crucial factors for the increase in foreign direct investment (FDI) from UAE is the signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between India and UAE on February 18, 2022 (effective from May 1, 2022).

138. The central government has formed a Peace Committee in Manipur to facilitate peace among ethnic groups in the state. Who will chair this committee?

केंद्र सरकार ने राज्य में जातीय समूहों के बीच शांति की सुविधा के लिए मणिपुर में एक शांति समिति का गठन किया है। इस समिति की अध्यक्षता कौन करेगा?

- (a) Anusuiya Uikey / अनुसुइया उइके
- (b) N. Biren Singh / एन बीरेन सिंह
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Ajit Doval / अजीत डोभाल
- (e) S Jaishankar / एस जयशंकर

Ans. a

Sol. Centre constitutes peace committee in Manipur under governor

The central government has formed a Peace Committee in Manipur to facilitate peace among ethnic groups in the state.

The committee is chaired by the governor of Manipur and includes members from political parties, civil servants, educationists, artists, and social workers.

The committee's mandate is to strengthen social cohesiveness between various ethnic groups in the state.

About Manipur

- **Capital** – Imphal
- **Chief Minister** – N. Biren Singh
- **Governor** - Anusuiya Uikey

Recent Committees

- Government sets up 3-member panel to probe Manipur Violence; Headed by Ajai Lamba (former CJ of the Gauhati HC)
- SEBI formed an Intermediary Advisory Committee to advise the market regulator on changes in the legal framework; chaired by -S Ravindran
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) set up an 11-member Cheetah Project Steering Committee; Headed by - Rajesh Gopal
- IRDAI constitutes Expert committee for matters related to mental health; headed by - Pratima Murthy
- NGT constitutes committee to investigate disappearance of 1095 ponds - Headed by Adarsh Kumar Goel.

139. Which state government has launched a new scheme to reward for reporting illegal waste dumping on roads?

किस राज्य सरकार ने सड़कों पर अवैध कचरे के डंपिंग की सूचना देने के लिए इनाम देने के लिए एक नई योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Kerala / केरल
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Odisha / ओडिशा
- (d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
- (e) Telangana / तेलंगाना

Ans. a

Sol. Kerala launched a reward system for reporting illegal waste roads

The Kerala government has launched a new scheme to reward for reporting illegal waste dumping on roads.

This scheme is a part of the 'Malinya Muktham Nava Keralam' campaign to make the state garbage-free.

The person who informs authorities of such violations will be given Rs 2,500 (maximum) or 25 percent of the fine imposed on those resorting to disallowed disposal of garbage.

Under this scheme, citizens would report about the littering/dumping (solid and liquid waste) in public spaces, private property and water bodies.

The report must be backed with evidence, including credible photograph or video clip, along with details such as the place and time of the wrong-doing.

About Kerala

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

140. Which IIT has developed critical components for a highly efficient, cost-effective way to electrolyze seawater to generate hydrogen?

किस आईआईटी ने हाइड्रोजन उत्पन्न करने के लिए समुद्री जल को इलेक्ट्रोलाइज करने के लिए अत्यधिक कुशल, लागत प्रभावी तरीके के लिए महत्वपूर्ण घटक विकसित किए हैं?

- (a) IIT Guwahati/ आईआईटी गुवाहाटी
- (b) IIT Delhi / आईआईटी दिल्ली
- (c) IIT Madras / आईआईटी मद्रास
- (d) IIT Indore / आईआईटी इंदौर
- (e) IIT Roorkee / आईआईटी रुड़की

Ans. c

Sol. IIT-Madras generates hydrogen from seawater using solar energy

Researchers from the Department of Physics at IIT-Madras have developed critical components for a highly efficient, cost-effective way to electrolyze seawater to generate hydrogen.

The results were published in the journal ACS Applied Energy Materials.

State-of-the-art alkaline water electrolyzer technology is energy-intensive, requires an expensive oxide-polymer separator, and uses fresh water for electrolysis.

We found our separator is highly resistant to seawater degradation said Sana Fathima, co-authors of the paper.

The IIT-Madras team led by Dr. Ramaprabhu Sundara has addressed each of these challenges by developing simple, scalable and cost-effective alternatives that are highly efficient in splitting seawater and generating hydrogen.

141. State Bank of India (SBI) has approved raising of funds aggregating how many crores via issuance of debt instruments, including capital instruments in FY24?

स्टेट बैंक ऑफ इंडिया (SBI) ने वित्त वर्ष 24 में पूंजीगत उपकरणों सहित ऋण उपकरणों को जारी करके कितने करोड़ रुपये की धनराशि जुटाने की मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) 40,000 crore
- (b) 50,000 crore
- (c) 60,000 crore
- (d) 30,000 crore
- (e) 20,000 crore

Ans. b

Sol. SBI to raise Rs 50,000 crore in FY24

The central board of State Bank of India (SBI) has approved raising of funds aggregating ₹50,000 crore via issuance of debt instruments, including capital instruments in FY24.

The board's approval is for raising funds in the Indian rupee and/or any other convertible currency by issue of debt instruments, including but not limited to Long Term Bonds, Basel III-compliant Additional Tier 1 Bonds, Basel III-compliant Tier 2 Bonds.

The resources will be raised through private placement mode to Indian and/or overseas investors during FY24, subject to the government's approval wherever required.

SBI had raised funds aggregating about ₹38,850 crore through issuance of infrastructure bonds, Tier-2 bonds and AT-1 bonds in FY23.

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

142. Nitin Agarwal has been recently appointed as the new director general of which of the following?

नितिन अग्रवाल को हाल ही में निम्नलिखित में से किसका नया महानिदेशक नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) NCC
- (b) ITBP
- (c) CISF
- (d) CRPF
- (e) BSF

Ans. e

Sol. Nitin Agarwal appointed as the new DG of BSF

Nitin Agarwal has been appointed as the new director general of the Border Security Force (BSF).

The post of BSF chief has been vacant for more than five months after Pankaj Kumar Singh retired on December 31, 2022.

CRPF DG Sujoy Lal Thaisen has been handling the charge of BSF in an additional capacity since then.

Nitin Agarwal, an IPS officer of the 1989 Kerala cadre, currently holds the position of Additional Director General of Operations at the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

He attained the rank of ADG in 2014 while serving with the ITBP.

The BSF is India's leading security agency responsible for safeguarding the 4,096-kilometer-long international borders with Pakistan and Bangladesh.

In addition, it carries out various responsibilities in the realm of internal security. The BSF comprises a workforce of over 2.65 lakh personnel serving in diverse roles.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **1st woman to command Communication Zone** - Colonel Shuchita Shekhar
- **Director General of Naval Armament** - P Upadhyay
- **Air Officer-in-Charge Administration (AOA)** - Rajesh Kumar Anand
- **Vice Chief of the Air Staff** - Ashutosh Dixit
- **Director Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** - Praveen Sood (replace Subodh Jaiswal)
- **Military Advisor to National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)** - Sandeep Singh
- **Director General Naval Operations (DGNO)** - Vice Admiral Atul Anand

143. Who has been elected as the chair-elect of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Board of Governors?

इंटरनेशनल एयर ट्रांसपोर्ट एसोसिएशन (IATA) बोर्ड ऑफ गवर्नर्स के अध्यक्ष-चुनाव के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?

- (a) Rakesh Gangwal / राकेश गंगवाल
- (b) Pieter Elbers / पीटर एल्बर्स
- (c) Marjan Rintel / मार्जन रिंटेल
- (d) Camiel Eurlings / कैमियल एर्लिग्स
- (e) Rahul Bhatia / राहुल भाटिया

Ans. b

Sol. Pieter Elbers appointed as Chair-elect of IATA's Board of Governors

Pieter Elbers has been elected as the chair-elect of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) Board of Governors.

He will succeed Yvonne Manzi Makolo, the CEO of Rwandair, with effect from June 2024.

As the chair-elect of the IATA BoG, Elbers will play a pivotal role in further shaping the global aviation landscape, advocating for the industry's interests, and driving innovation and sustainability initiatives.

Recent Appointment

- **CMD of Director of Container Corporation of India Ltd (CONCOR)** - Sanjay Swarup
- **Chairman of The Hindu Group** - Nirmala Laxman (replace Malini Parthasarathy)
- **78th UNGA president** - Dennis Francis (Trinidad and Tobago)
- **DG of Geological Survey of India (GSI)** - Janardan Prasad (replace Dr. S. Raju)
- **President of World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** - Dr Abdulla Al Mandous (UAE)

144. Who has been appointed as brand ambassador for Printer company Epson India?

प्रिंटर कंपनी एप्सन इंडिया के लिए किसे ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Anushka Sharma / अनुष्का शर्मा
- (c) Rashmika Mandanna / रश्मिका मंदाना
- (d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
- (e) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली

Ans. c

Sol. Epson India signs Rashmika Mandanna as brand ambassador

Printer company Epson India has signed actor Rashmika Mandanna as its brand ambassador.

The actress will collaborate with the company to promote its products in a multi-media campaign for its 'EcoTank' printers this month.

She is one of the new entrants on the list of top 20 celebrities who endorse brands in India.

The collaboration aims to spread awareness about printers and their benefits.

Recent Brand Ambassador

- Smriti Mandhana - Wrangler brand
- Hrithik Roshan - Zebronics TV
- Sachin Tendulkar - Smile Ambassador by Maharashtra government
- Sourav Ganguly - Tripura Tourism
- Virat Kohli - Duroflex (mattress and sleep products maker)
- Alia Bhatt - Gucci's First Indian Global Ambassador
- Ayushmann Khurrana - Wakefit (Manufacturer of mattresses)
- Rishabh Pant - Star Sports Believe Ambassadors

145. Who has been appointed as CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?

भारतीय विशिष्ट पहचान प्राधिकरण (यूआईडीएआई) के सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rashmi Chowdhary /रश्मी चौधरी
- (b) Anshika Singh /अंशिका सिंह
- (c) Richa Sharma /ऋचा शर्मा
- (d) Amit Agrawal /अमित अग्रवाल
- (e) Subodh Kumar Singh / सुबोध कुमार सिंह

Ans. d

Sol. Amit Agrawal appointed as CEO UIDAI

Senior IAS officers Amit Agrawal and Subodh Kumar Singh have been appointed as CEO Unique Identification Authority of India and director general of the National Testing Agency, respectively, as part of a bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre.

Both Agrawal (1993 batch) and Singh (1997 batch) are Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers of the Chhattisgarh cadre.

Agrawal, an additional secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, has been appointed as the chief executive officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority in the rank and pay of additional secretary to the Government of India.

Richa Sharma, additional secretary in the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, has been moved to the Department of Food and Public Distribution to replace Singh.

Rashmi Chowdhary, additional secretary in the Department of Personnel and Training, has been appointed as secretary in the Central Information Commission.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman and MD of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)** - Amarendu Prakash
- **Sworn in as member of UPSC** - Bidyut Bihari Swain
- **Shalini becomes 1st girl NCC cadet to complete mountaineering course** - Shalini Singh
- **MD of Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited (SECI)** - Ajay Yadav
- **CEO for Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)** - K. Krithivasan
- **Central Vigilance Commissioner** - Praveen Kumar Srivastava

146. Who has won the French Open 2023 men's singles title?

फ्रेंच ओपन 2023 का पुरुष एकल का खिताब किसने जीता है?

- (a) Novak Djokovic / नोवाक जोकोविच
- (b) Rafael Nadal / राफेल नडाल
- (c) Roger Federer / रोजर फ़ेडरर
- (d) Casper Ruud / कैस्पर रूड
- (e) Carlos Alcaraz / कार्लोस अल्कराज

Ans. a

Sol. Novak Djokovic won the French Open 2023 Men's Singles Final

Serbian Tennis Player, Novak Djokovic has won the French Open 2023 men's singles final, clinching his 23rd Grand Slam title.

Djokovic beat Norwegian Casper Ruud 7-6 (1), 6-3, 7-5 in the final at Roland Garros.

Djokovic also broke Nadal's record as the oldest French Open singles champion. He became the first man to win all four tennis majors at least three times, joining three women who did so (Serena Williams, Steffi Graf and Margaret Court).

Novak Djokovic has become the first man to reach the 23rd Grand Slam title.

French Open title 2023

Men's Singles

- Winner- Novak Djokovic (Serbia)
- Runner-up- Casper Ruud (Norway)

Women's Singles

- Winner- Iga Świątek (Poland)
- Runner-up- Karolina Muchova (Czech)

Men's Doubles

- Winners- Ivan Dodig and Austin Krajicek
- Runners-up- Sander Gille and Joran Vliegen

Women's Doubles

- Winners- Hsieh Su-Wei and Wang Xinyu
- Runners-up- Taylor Townsend and Leylah Fernandez

Mixed Doubles

- Winners- Miyu Kato and Tim Pütz
- Runners-up- Bianca Andreescu and Michael Venus

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

- Winner - Luisa Stefani and Rafael Matos (Brazilian)
- Runner Up - Rohan Bopanna and Sania Mirza (India)

147. Who has become the first Canadian Champion to win RBC Canadian Open?

आरबीसी कैनेडियन ओपन जीतने वाले पहले कनाडाई चैंपियन कौन बने हैं?

- (a) Emiliano Grillo / एमिलियानो ग्रिलो
- (b) Scottie Scheffler / स्कॉटी शेफ़्लर
- (c) Nick Taylor / निक टेलर
- (d) Adam Hadwin / एडम हैडविन
- (e) Mackenzie Hughes / मैकेन्ज़ी ह्यूजेस

Ans. c

Sol. Nick Taylor becomes first Canadian Champion since 1954

Nick Taylor has become the first Canadian in 69 years to win his national Open, holing a 72-foot eagle putt on the fourth playoff hole to beat Tommy Fleetwood in the RBC Canadian Open.

The last player from Canada to win the Canadian Open was Pat Fletcher in 1954 at Point Grey in Vancouver.

Fletcher was born in England; Carl Keffer had been the only Canadian-born champion, winning in 1909 and 1914.

148. Mangal Dhillon passed away recently. Who was he?

मंगल ढिल्लों का हाल ही में निधन हो गया। वह कौन थे?

- (a) Writer / लेखक
- (b) Politician / राजनेता
- (c) Actor / अभिनेता
- (d) Social Worker / सामाजिक कार्यकर्ता
- (e) Historian / इतिहासकार

Ans. c

Sol. Bollywood Actor Mangal Dhillon passes away

A renowned Bollywood actor, Mangal Dhillon passed away.

He was known for his remarkable acting prowess and memorable performances in shows like 'Junoon' and 'Buniyaad'.

Dhillon was seen alongside Rekha in the film Khoon Bhari Maang, and his repertoire includes notable movies such as Dayavan, Zakhmi Aurat, Vishwatma, Pyaar Ka Devta, Amba, Toofan Singh, Dalaal, among others.

In addition to his achievements in films, Dhillon left an indelible impact on the small screen, featuring in popular television shows like Katha Sagar, Kismat, Ghutan, Rishta and Param Vir Chakra, among others.

149. The Education Ministry will host the 4th and final Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting under India's G20 presidency in which city from 19 to 21 June?

शिक्षा मंत्रालय 19 से 21 जून तक किस शहर में भारत की G20 अध्यक्षता के तहत चौथी और अंतिम शिक्षा कार्य समूह (EDWG) की बैठक की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Pune / पुणे

Ans. e

Sol. Education Ministry to host 4th EDWG Meeting in Pune

The Education Ministry will host the 4th and final Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting under India's G20 presidency in Pune from the 19th to the 21st June. The theme of the Meeting is "Ensuring Foundation Literacy and Numeracy, especially in the context of blended learning". The Department of Higher Education is organizing a Seminar in collaboration with ELSEVIER on the 16th of June at IISER, Pune. The Seminar will be held on the theme 'Accessible Science: Fostering collaboration'.

This event will convene stakeholders across the scientific community to discuss best practices for accessible Science, how accessible Science can be applied across individual nations with differing local capacities, and ways to utilize science practices to support global progress.

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **2nd summit of Supreme Audit Institutions of G20 Meeting** – Panji, Goa (12-15 June 2023)
- **Third G20 Health Working Group meeting** - Hyderabad
- **3rd Employment Working Group Meeting** - Geneva, Switzerland (31 May - 2 June 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand (25 - 27 May 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group Meeting** – Mumbai, Maharashtra (23 – 25 May 2023)
- **2nd Trade and Investment Working Group Meeting** – Bengaluru, Karnataka (23 – 25 May 2023)

150. According to data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation, what is India's retail inflation in May 2023?

सांख्यिकी और कार्यक्रम कार्यान्वयन मंत्रालय के आंकड़ों के अनुसार मई 2023 में भारत की खुदरा मुद्रास्फीति कितनी है?

- (a) 4.7 percent
- (b) 4.6 percent
- (c) 4.5 percent
- (d) 4.35 percent
- (e) 4.25 percent

Ans. e

Sol. India's CPI inflation eases to 4.25 percent in May

India's retail inflation dropped to 4.25 percent in May from 4.7 percent in April, according to a data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation.

The consumer price-based index (CPI) inflation in May is lowest in 25 months.

The food inflation also eased to 2.91 percent in April. It was 3.84 percent in the month of April.

The food basket accounts for nearly half of the CPI. While, inflation in fuel and light also eased to 4.64 percent, from 5.52 percent in April.

It was for the second month in a row that retail inflation remained within the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s comfort zone of below six percent.

Despite the huge 227-basis-point fall since January, CPI inflation remains above the central bank's medium-term target of 4 percent for the 44th month in a row.

India's CPI inflation in April fell sharply to 4.7 percent from 6.4 percent in February on the back of favourable base effects, with softening observed across all three major groups.

Recent CPI-based Retail inflation in India

- **January 2023** – 6.52%
- **February 2023** – 6.44%
- **March 2023** – 5.665
- **April 2023** – 4.7%
- **May 2023** – 4.25%

151. Which bank has recently planned to raise Rs 750 crore from bonds to fund business growth?

किस बैंक ने हाल ही में व्यापार वृद्धि के लिए बांड से 750 करोड़ रुपये जुटाने की योजना बनाई 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. Punjab & Sind Bank to raise Rs 750 cr via bonds

State-owned Punjab & Sind Bank has planned to raise Rs 750 crore from bonds to fund business growth.

The board has approved the raising of capital up to Rs 750 crore through the issuance of Basel-III compliant Additional Tier-I Bonds or Tier-II Bonds.

The fundraising will be done in one or more tranches within a period of 12 months.

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

152. Which bank has become the first public sector bank to introduce an IVR-based UPI solution - UPI 123PAY?

कौन सा बैंक **IVR-आधारित UPI समाधान - UPI 123PAY** पेश करने वाला पहला सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र का बैंक बन गया है?

- (a) State Bank of India / भारतीय स्टेट बैंक
- (b) Punjab National Bank / पंजाब नेशनल बैंक
- (c) UCO Bank / यूको बैंक
- (d) Indian Bank / इंडियन बैंक
- (e) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

Ans. b

Sol. Punjab National Bank launches IVR-based UPI 123PAY

Punjab National Bank (PNB) has become the first public sector bank to introduce an IVR-based UPI solution - UPI 123PAY.

What is UPI 123PAY

- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a 24-hour payment channel enabling customers to perform fast, encrypted and real-time payments.
- Till now, the solution was accessible only through smartphones or through Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) service and was dependent on good internet connectivity.
- The UPI 123PAY solution would extend the functionality and facilitate the feature to any phone users and those in low internet connectivity zones to perform UPI transactions.

How to use UPI 123PAY

- The UPI 123PAY functionality is simple and involves the following steps:
- Step 1-Dial the bank's easy-to-remember IVR number "9188-123-123"
- Step 2-Choose the beneficiary
- Step 3-Authenticate the transaction
- UPI 123PAY will be multilingual and be available in the customer's preferred language.
- The solution is available in multiple languages and can be accessed by dialing 9188-123-123.

IDFC First Bank, City Union Bank, and NSDL Payments Bank have also gone live on IVR payments.

About Punjab National Bank (PNB)

- **Founded** - 12 April 1894
- **Founder** - Dyal Singh Majithia and Lala Lajpat Rai
- **Headquarters** - New Delhi
- **MD & CEO** - Atul Kumar Goel
- **Tagline** - The Name You can Bank Upon
- Punjab National Bank Merge - (Oriental Bank of Commerce & United Bank of India)

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Federal Bank launches '**I am Adyar, Adyar is me**' campaign
- Google Pay launches **Aadhaar-based authentication** for UPI activation
- HDFC Bank has introduced a new credit card — **Millennia** — offering cashback.
- Kotak Bank launches **Réserve premium account** for the super-rich
- Bank of Baroda launches of **Interoperable Cardless Cash**
- RBI Governor launches **Financial Inclusion Dashboard 'ANTARDRIHSTI'**

153. India and the Asian Development Bank have signed a loan agreement worth USD 130 million to boost agricultural productivity in which state?

भारत और एशियाई विकास बैंक ने किस राज्य में कृषि उत्पादकता को बढ़ावा देने के लिए 130 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर के ऋण समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. d

Sol. India, ADB sign \$130 million loan MoU to boost horticulture in HP

The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) have signed a loan agreement worth \$130 million in order to increase agricultural productivity, improve access to irrigation and promote horticulture agribusinesses to raise farmers' income in Himachal Pradesh.

The project interventions will help increase the income and resilience to the effects of climate change of at least 15,000 farm households across 7 districts of the state namely Bilaspur, Hamirpur, Kangra, Mandi, Sirmour, Solan, and Una.

The project builds upon a pilot financed by ADB's project readiness facility which demonstrated the subtropical horticulture production over 200 hectares and prepared the draft water user association (WUA) act and the draft state horticulture development strategy.

About Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital** – Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- **Chief Minister** – Sukhwinder Singh Sukhu
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - Mukesh Agnihotri
- **Governor** – Shiv Pratap Shukla

154. Which of the following bank has launched a new deposit scheme 'Vikas Ashadeep 400 days'?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने एक नई जमा योजना 'विकास आशादीप 400 दिन' शुरू की है?

- (a) Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank / कर्नाटक विकास ग्रामीण बैंक
- (b) Indian Overseas Bank / इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक
- (c) Equitas Small Finance Bank Limited / इक्विटास स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
- (d) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक
- (e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Ans. c

Sol. KVG Bank launches new deposit scheme

Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) has launched a new deposit scheme 'Vikas Ashadeep 400 days'.

The scheme is of a tenor of 400 days with an interest rate of 7.50 percent for senior citizens and 7 percent for general public.

Under the scheme, a minimum of ₹10,000 and a maximum of ₹2 crore can be deposited.

The scheme is applicable to all segments of depositors, including senior citizens, and institutions. The scheme is open for a limited period.

The bank has a network of 639 branches with total business of ₹33350 crore. This included ₹18710 crore of deposits and ₹14640 crore of advances.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Federal Bank launches '**I am Adyar, Adyar is me**' campaign
- Google Pay launches **Aadhaar-based authentication** for UPI activation
- HDFC Bank has introduced a new credit card — **Millennia** — offering cashback.
- Kotak Bank launches **Réserve premium account** for the super-rich
- Bank of Baroda launches of **Interoperable Cardless Cash**

155. Who has been reappointed as CMD of NMDC Steel Limited for 3 months?

3 महीने के लिए NMDC Steel Limited के CMD के रूप में किसे फिर से नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Prasad K Panicker / प्रसाद के पणिककर
- (c) Sanjay Khanna / संजय खन्ना
- (d) Amitava Mukherjee / अमिताव मुखर्जी
- (e) Sanjay Kumar Verma / संजय कुमार वर्मा

Ans. d

Sol. Amitava Mukherjee gets 3 months extension as CMD of NMDC

The Ministry of Steel has given three months extension to Amitava Mukherjee, Director (Finance) of the NMDC to hold the additional charge of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) mining major and its disinvested company NMDC Steel Limited (NSL). Thus, he will be holding the additional charge as CMD of NMDC Limited for a further period of three months with effect from June 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023.

A wholly owned subsidiary of NMDC Limited, NMDC Steel Limited was incorporated on January 2, 2015, under the Companies Act, 2013 with a registered office at NMDC Iron and Steel Plant, Nagarnar (Bastar, Chhattisgarh).

The NSL has set up a 3 MTPA greenfield integrated steel plant in Nagarnar that is all set to go on full stream this month.

Recent Appointment

- **CEO of Unique Identification Authority (UIDAI)** - Amit Agrawal
- **Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA)** - Subodh Kumar Singh
- **Chair-elect of IATA's Board of Governors** - Pieter Elbers
- **CMD of Director of Container Corporation of India Ltd (CONCOR)** - Sanjay Swarup
- **Chairman of The Hindu Group** - Nirmala Laxman (replace Malini Parthasarathy)
- **78th UNGA president** - Dennis Francis (Trinidad and Tobago)

156. Thipatcha Putthawong has won the ICC Women's Player of the Month Award for May 2023. She is from which country?

थिपाचा पुथावोंग ने मई 2023 के लिए आईसीसी महिला प्लेयर ऑफ द मंथ अवार्ड जीता है। वह किस देश से हैं

- (a) England / इंग्लैंड
- (b) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) Thailand / थाईलैंड
- (e) Ireland / आयरलैंड

Ans. d

Sol. Harry Tector won ICC Men's Player of the Month for May

Ireland's Harry Tector has won the ICC's Men's Player of The Month award for May 2023, beating off competition from Pakistan star Babar Azam and Bangladesh's Najmul Hossain Shanto.

Tector has been one of the rising stars in Ireland cricket and was in top form during the ODI series against Bangladesh recently.

The 23-year-old was 21 not out in the first match, that got washed out, but it was in the second ODI he showed his class.

Tector scored 140 from just 113 balls with seven fours and 10 sixes to help Ireland recover from a poor start. The youngster would then cap off a great series for him with 45 in the final ODI.

While, 19-year-old Thipatcha Putthawong (Thiland) has become the latest recipient of the ICC Women's Player of the Month for May 2023, after her countrywoman Naruemol Chaiwai won it last month.

ICC Men's Player of the Month 2023

- January 2023 - Shubman Gill (India)
- February 2023 - Harry Brook (England)
- March 2023 - Shakib Al Hasan (Bangladesh)
- April 2023 - Fakhar Zaman (Pakistan)
- May 2023 - Harry Tector (Ireland)

ICC Women's Player of the Month 2023

- January 2023 - Grace Scrivens (England)
- February 2023 - Ashleigh Gardner (Australia)
- March 2023 - Henriette Ishimwe (Rawanda)
- April 2023 - Naruemol Chaiwai (Thailand)
- May 2023 - Thipatcha Putthawong (Thiland)

157. Which edition of the joint military exercise "Ex Ekuverin" between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand?

भारतीय सेना और मालदीव राष्ट्रीय रक्षा बल के बीच संयुक्त सैन्य अभ्यास "एक्स एकुवेरिन" का कौन सा संस्करण उत्तराखंड के चौबटिया में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) 9th
- (b) 10th
- (c) 11th
- (d) 12th
- (e) 13th

Ans. d

Sol. Indo-Maldives joint military exercise commences

The 12th edition of the joint military exercise "Ex Ekuverin" between the Indian Army and the Maldives National Defence Force has commenced at Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.

"Ekuverin" means "Friends" and is a bilateral annual exercise conducted alternatively in India & Maldives.

The primary objective of the exercise is to enhance interoperability in counter-insurgency/counter-terrorism operations under the UN mandate.

Additionally, it aims to facilitate joint humanitarian assistance and disaster relief operations, it added.

The previous edition of the exercise, the 11th edition, was held in the Maldives in December 2021.

Recent Exercise

- **AL MOHED AL HINDI 2023 Naval Exercise** between India & Saudi Arabia - Saudi Arabia
- **Exercise Jal Rahat** between Indian Army's Gajraj and Joint Flood Relief - Hagrama Bridge (Manas River), Assam.
- **4th Samudra Shakti-23 exercise between India & Indonesia** – Batam, Indonesia
- **1st Maritime Exercise between India & ASEAN** - Changi Naval Base (Singapore) & South China Sea.
- **7th Ajeya Warrior 2023 between India & UK** - Salisbury Plains, UK
- **"Locked Shields" cyber-defense exercise 2023** organized by NATO in Tallinn, Estonia

158. Andy Murray beats Jurij Rodionov to win Surbiton Trophy. Surbiton Trophy is related to which sport?

एंडी मरे ने जुरिज रोडियोनोव को हराकर सर्बिटन ट्रॉफी जीती। सर्बिटन ट्रॉफी किस खेल से संबंधित है?

- (a) Rugby / रग्बी
- (b) Tennis / टेनिस
- (c) Badminton / बैडमिंटन
- (d) Football / फुटबॉल
- (e) Golf / गोल्फ

Ans. b

Sol. Andy Murray beats Jurij Rodionov to win Surbiton Trophy

Tennis player Andy Murray clinched his second ATP Challenger Tour title of the season Surbiton Trophy.

The former World No. 1 defeated Jurij Rodionov 6-3, 6-2 in the final at the ATP Challenger Tour 125 grass-court event.

The 36-year-old Murray also became the oldest grass-court champion at an ATP Challenger Tour event and earned a seeded position at Wimbledon next month which begins on 3 July.

It was his first singles title on grass since winning Wimbledon in 2016. Murray withdrew from the French Open to prioritize Wimbledon, where he has won two of his majors on grass.

159. Which country won the FIFA U-20 World Cup title 2023?

किस देश ने फीफा U-20 विश्व कप 2023 का खिताब जीता है?

- (a) USA / यूएसए
- (b) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
- (c) France / फ्रांस
- (d) Italy / इटली
- (e) Uruguay / उरुग्वे

Ans. e

Sol. Uruguay beat Italy to win maiden FIFA U-20 World Cup title

Uruguay beat Italy 1-0 to win its first Under-20 World Cup title.

The Celeste's victory ends a streak of four consecutive wins of European teams in the tournament.

Luciano Rodríguez scored the winning goal in the 86th minute in a header from close range, giving Uruguay a much-deserved victory after an entire match of dominance against Italy.

France finished third, defeating South Korea 3-2 in the third-place playoff.

Uruguay lost the final of the tournament in 1997 and 2013. Brazil was the last winner from South America in 2011.

FIFA decided to hand the organization over to Argentina one month before kickoff.

About International Federation of Association Football (FIFA)

- **Founded** - 21 May 1904
- **Founded** - Paris, France
- **Headquarters** - Zürich, Switzerland
- **Membership** - 211
- **Languages** - English, French, German, Spanish & Italian
- **First President** - Robert Guérin
- **Current President** - Gianni Infantino (Switzerland)
- **Secretary General** - Fatma Samoura (Senegal)

160. Who among the following was awarded the "Governor of the Year" at the Central Banking Awards 2023 in London?

निम्नलिखित में से किसे लंदन में सेंट्रल बैंकिंग अवार्ड्स 2023 में "गवर्नर ऑफ द ईयर" से सम्मानित किया गया है? (a) Ajay Banga / अजय बंगा

- (b) Madhabi Puri Buch / माधवी पुरी बुच
- (c) Shaktikanta Das / शक्तिकांत दास
- (d) Bimal Jalan / बिमल जालान
- (e) Duvvuri Subbarao / दुव्वुरी सुब्बाराव

Ans. c

Sol. RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das named 'Governor of the Year'

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das was awarded the "Governor of the Year" at the Central Banking Awards 2023 in London.

Central Banking is a London-based international economic research journal.

Das is the second RBI governor to receive the award after Raghuram Rajan, who was given the title in 2015.

The RBI governor has cemented critical reforms, overseen world-leading payments innovation and steered India through difficult times with a steady hand and well-crafted turn of phrase.

Das is a retired Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Tamil Nadu cadre, who is currently serving as the 25th governor of the RBI.

He has worked for both the central government and the Tamil Nadu government in several capacities, such as the economic affairs secretary, the revenue secretary, and fertilizers secretary.

Recent Awards

- **RSL Christopher Bland Prize 2023** - Paterson Joseph (for Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho)
- **UNESCO Michel Batisse award 2023** - Jagdish S Bakan
- **Suriname highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star** - Droupadi Murmu
- **Greentech Safety Award 2023** - Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)
- **57th Jnanpith Award** - Damodar Maujo
- **Honoris Causa at Apex University's Jaipur** - Sonu Sood

161. International Albinism Awareness Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय रंगहीनता जागरूकता दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 12 June / 12 जून
- (c) 10 June / 10 जून
- (d) 13 June / 13 जून
- (e) 14 June / 14 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 13 June - International Albinism Awareness Day

International Albinism Awareness Day is observed every year on 13 June.

Objective - To spread awareness about the human rights of the Albinos across the world and also to condemn such attacks

Theme 2023 - Inclusion Is Strength

The United Nations Human Rights Council adopted the first resolution on albinism on June 13, 2013, called "Attacks and discrimination against persons with albinism."

Eventually, the United Nations' General Assembly (UNGA), on December 18, 2014, established June 13 as International Albinism Awareness Day. The celebration has taken place since 2015 as International Albinism Awareness Day.

Albinism was a serious problem in Tanzania during the mid-2000s. The country is believed to be having the highest percentage of albinos living.

Hundreds of them have been brutally murdered and mutilated in the African country in the past decades. Local superstitions claim their body parts can bring luck and prosperity.

Another widespread rumor is that albinos are evil spirits. The Tanzania Albinism Society (TAS) and other NGOs campaigned for the human rights of albinos.

162. Which city's traffic police has declared 'No Honking Day' on June 14 to curb the unnecessary use of vehicle horns?

किस शहर की ट्रेफिक पुलिस ने 14 जून को वाहनों के हॉर्न के अनावश्यक उपयोग को रोकने के लिए 'नो हॉन्किंग डे' घोषित किया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. e

Sol. Mumbai Traffic Police Declare 'No Honking Day' On June 14

Mumbai Police's Traffic Control Branch has taken a significant step to address the issue of noise pollution and its detrimental effects on public health.

They have announced the observance of a 'No Honking Day' on June 14, aimed at curbing the unnecessary use of vehicle horns.

With noise pollution causing harm to both the environment and human health, the police are urging motorists to positively respond to this initiative by refraining from honking their horns.

The Mumbai Police advised all motorists to ensure that their vehicle horns meet the guidelines specified in Rule 119 of the Central Motor Vehicle Rules, 1989.

163. World Blood Donor Day is an annual event celebrated on June 14. What is the theme of World Blood Donor Day?

विश्व रक्तदाता दिवस 14 जून को मनाया जाने वाला एक वार्षिक आयोजन है। विश्व रक्तदाता दिवस की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Donating blood is an act of solidarity. Join the effort and save lives
- (b) Give blood and keep the world beating
- (c) Safe blood saves lives
- (d) Safe blood for all
- (e) Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often

Ans. e

Sol. 14 June - World Blood Donor Day

World Blood Donor Day is an annual event celebrated on June 14.

Objective - To raise awareness of the need for safe blood and blood products and to thank voluntary, unpaid blood donors for their life-saving gifts of blood.

Theme 2023 - Give blood, give plasma, share life, share often

The day was first officially designated by the World Health Assembly in 2005, and it has been celebrated annually ever since.

Blood helps transport oxygen and nutrients to the lungs, forms blood clots to prevent excess blood loss apart from performing many other important function.

It is important to get access to safe blood free from infections and diseases and thus people who are in good health must donate blood regularly to not just help save lives and also transfusion-dependent patients but also to avail all the benefits of donating blood for their own physical and mental health.

164. Silvio Berlusconi passed away recently at the age of 86. He was the former Prime Minister of which country?

सिल्वियो बर्लुस्कोनी का हाल ही में 86 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। वह किस देश के पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री थे?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Italy / इटली
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Finland / फिनलैंड
- (e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

Ans.16.(b)

Sol. Former Italian PM Silvio Berlusconi passes away

Former Prime Minister of Italy Silvio Berlusconi passed away at the age of 86.

Berlusconi previously served as Prime Minister of Italy four times, from 1994 to 1995, 2001 to 2006, and 2008 to 2011.

Berlusconi's centre-right Forza Italia party went into coalition under right-wing Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni last September.

About Italy

- Capital- Rome
- Currency- Euro
- President- Sergio Mattarella
- Prime Minister- Giorgia Meloni

165. Which state government has announced a monthly pension of 10,000 rupees for the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardees of the State?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य के पद्म श्री, पद्म भूषण और पद्म विभूषण पुरस्कार विजेताओं के लिए 10,000 रुपये मासिक पेंशन की घोषणा की है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. e

Sol. Haryana govt announces monthly pension of Rs. 10,000 for Padma Awards

Haryana Chief Minister Manohar Lal has announced a monthly pension of 10,000 rupees for the Padma Shri, Padma Bhushan and Padma Vibhushan awardees of the State.

The chief minister also announced free travel facility for them in Volvo buses of the Haryana Roadways.

About Haryana

- **Capital** – Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Manohar Lal Khattar
- **Governor** – Bandaru Dattatreya

166. Who has launched the multilingual India Legal app, a helpline to enable citizens obtain legal assistance from their homes?

नागरिकों को उनके घरों से कानूनी सहायता प्राप्त करने में सक्षम बनाने के लिए बहुभाषी भारत कानूनी ऐप किसने लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) DY Chandrachud /डी वाई चंद्रचूड़
- (b) Uday Lalit /उदय ललित
- (c) Ranjan Gogoi /रंजन गोगोई
- (d) M.N. Venkatachaliah /एम.एन. वेंकटचलैया
- (e) Hima Kohli / हिमा कोहली

Ans. d

Sol. Justice Venkatachaliah launches app to provide legal aid

Former Chief Justice of India M.N. Venkatachaliah has launched the multilingual India Legal app, a helpline to enable citizens obtain legal assistance from their homes.

The app will help in disposing of around 70 percent of new cases.

The app will benefit a wide range of consumers, including a large legal community of 1.2 million lawyers and half a million students.

The first call on the app came from Meerut. An employee alleged that his employer did not give him money. Venkatachaliah directed him to file a case against the employer and to approach the High Court.

The second call came from Chennai. A woman, speaking in Tamil, said she was in a live-in relationship with a man who clicked her private photographs and was now blackmailing her.

As per the woman, the man was threatening to upload her photographs on social media. Venkatachaliah advised her to file a complaint with the police.

167. Amit Shah has unveiled schemes worth Rs 8,000 crore to strengthen which sector?

अमित शाह ने किस क्षेत्र को मजबूत करने के लिए 8,000 करोड़ रुपये की योजनाओं का अनावरण किया है?

- (a) Natural environment
- (b) Health administration
- (c) Water resources
- (d) Crime prevention
- (e) Disaster management

Ans. e

Sol. Amit Shah unveils ₹8,000 crore schemes to strengthen disaster management

Union home minister Amit Shah has chaired a meeting with ministers of disaster management from the states and union territories to discuss disaster risk reduction and strengthen the country's disaster management system.

During the meeting, Shah announced three major schemes worth over ₹8,000 crore to bolster disaster management efforts across the nation. The first scheme, valued at ₹5,000 crore, aims to expand and modernize fire services in states. The project intends to enhance firefighting capabilities, upgrade equipment, and improve infrastructure to effectively respond to fire emergencies.

The second scheme, with a budget of ₹2,500 crore, focuses on reducing the risk of urban flooding in seven of India's most populous metros, including Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata, Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, and Pune. The project aims to implement measures to mitigate the impact of flooding in urban areas, safeguarding lives and property.

The third scheme, worth ₹825 crore, is the National Landslide Risk Mitigation Project. It aims to address the issue of landslides in 17 states and Union Territories by implementing measures to prevent and mitigate landslides, ensuring the safety of vulnerable communities.

Recent Inauguration by Amit Shah

- Amit Shah lays foundation stone of campus of National Academy of Coastal Policing in Gujarat
- Amit Shah inaugurates training program on legislative drafting in New Delhi
- Amit Shah launched Vibrant Villages Programme in Arunachal Pradesh
- Amit Shah inaugurated Vedic Heritage portal in New Delhi
- Amit Shah virtually inaugurated development project in Ahmedabad worth Rs 154 cr
- Amit Shah inaugurated the first phase of the Bangalore Safe City Project in Bengaluru, Karnataka

168. Which state has recently celebrated the Raja festival?

किस राज्य ने हाल ही में राजा उत्सव मनाया है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Odisha celebrates 'Raja' agricultural festival

Odisha has celebrated the Raja festival, an agricultural festival.

Raja festival is celebrated for three days.

The first day of the festival is called 'Pahili Raja', the second day is called 'Majhi Raja' 'Raja Sankranti' or 'Mithuna Sankranti', the third day is 'Bhudaha' or 'Basi Raja' or 'Sesha Raja'.

Most of the festivals are connected to agriculture in one way or the other. So is the Raja festival. Odisha's Raja festival is a unique one as mother earth is worshipped during this festival.

Notably, 'Pahili Raja' falls on the last day of month 'Jyestha' and 'Raja Sankranti' on the first day of month 'Asadha', celebrating the beginning of the rainy season.

As women are compared with mother earth, as the former menstruate, the latter too is believed to be undergoing her menstrual cycle during this festival.

This is why all agricultural activities like tilling and digging are suspended during this festival. Just like a menstruating woman, mother earth is allowed to take full rest without any tampering.

About Odisha

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

169. Which bank has launched a digital platform for hassle-free account opening platform that eliminates the hassle of paper-based documentation?

किस बैंक ने इंज़ट मुक्त खाता खोलने के लिए एक डिजिटल प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च किया है जो पेपर-आधारित प्रलेखन की परेशानी को समाप्त करता 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 launches digital platform for hassle-free account opening

South Indian Bank has introduced SIB SWIFTe, an innovative and customer-centric digital account opening platform that eliminates the hassle of paper-based documentation.

The platform prioritizes customer convenience and transforms the account opening process, enabling the bank to swiftly on-board customers in less than five minutes.

This facility brings the branch-like experience to the comfort of customers' homes, allowing them to connect with bankers at their convenience. SIB SWIFTe, a user-friendly and intuitive interface, provides clear instructions and visual cues to guide both customers and bank representatives through each step.

About South Indian Bank

- Founded - 1929
- Headquarters - Thrissur, Kerala
- Chairman - Salim Gangadharan
- MD & CEO - Murali Ramakrishnan
- Tagline - Experience Next Generation Banking

170. Which payments bank has entered into a tie-up with Sequoia Capital-backed fintech Hubble to introduce India's first spending account?

किस भुगतान बैंक ने भारत का पहला व्यय खाता शुरू करने के लिए सिकोइया कैपिटल समर्थित फिनटेक हबल के साथ समझौता किया है?

- (a) Airtel Payments Bank / एयरटेल पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (b) India Post Payments Bank / इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (c) Fino Payments Bank / फिनो पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (d) Paytm Payments Bank / पेटीएम पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (e) Jio Payments Bank / जियो पेमेंट्स बैंक

Ans. c

Sol. Fino Payments Bank joins Hubble to introduce spending account

Fino Payments Bank has entered into a tie-up with Sequoia Capital-backed fintech Hubble to introduce India's first spending account.

The bank customers can park their funds, spend (on categories such as food ordering, shopping, travel, entertainment, etc.) and save up to 10 percent on all purchases made from the account.

Further, users can track spends across categories of over 50 brands that Hubble has partnered with and save up to ₹20,000 a year. The spending account is integrated with the bank's digital savings account operated through its mobile app FinoPay. Users earn an interest rate of 2.75 percent per annum on the funds parked in the account.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) launched a new deposit scheme '**Vikas Ashadeep 400 days**'.
- Punjab National Bank launches **IVR-based UPI 123PAY**
- Federal Bank launches '**I am Adyar, Adyar is me**' campaign
- Google Pay launches **Aadhaar-based authentication** for UPI activation
- HDFC Bank has introduced a new credit card — **Millennia** — offering cashback.
- Kotak Bank launches **Réserve premium account** for the super-rich

171. Which of the following has introduced a regulatory framework for online investment platforms that facilitate investments in commission-free mutual fund (MF) schemes?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने ऑनलाइन निवेश प्लेटफॉर्म के लिए एक नियामक ढांचा पेश किया है जो कमीशन-मुक्त म्यूचुअल फंड (एमएफ) योजनाओं में निवेश की सुविधा प्रदान करता है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Sebi introduces framework for direct mutual fund investment platforms

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has introduced a regulatory framework for online investment platforms that facilitate investments in commission-free mutual fund (MF) schemes.

The regulation brings clarity on the obligations of such platforms while opening an avenue to monetize their business. It also addresses investor concerns on associated risks and introduces grievance redressal mechanism.

As per the framework, platforms providing MF investment services in direct (commission-free) plans will have to apply for 'execution only platform' (EOP) licence either with Sebi or the Association of Mutual Funds in India (Amfi) within three months of the regulation coming into force, which happens in September 2023.

Platforms of investment advisors and stock brokers will not need an EOP registration if it is open only for their advisory or broking clients. Sebi has provided two options to the platforms: they can either register with Amfi and become agents of asset management companies or register with a stock broker and become agents of investors. Whom they charge for the services will depend on whose agent they become.

About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

- **Founded** - 12 April 1988
- **Act** - 1992
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai
- **Chairman** - Madhabi Puri Buch
- **SEBI Set up** - Uday Kotak committee

172. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has opened its regional office in which of the following place?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने निम्नलिखित में से किस स्थान पर अपना क्षेत्रीय कार्यालय खोला है?

- (a) Nagaland / नागालैंड
- (b) Puducherry / पुडुचेरी
- (c) Lakshadweep / लक्षद्वीप
- (d) Andaman & Nicobar / अंडमान और निकोबार
- (e) Daman & Diu / दमन और दीव

Ans. a

Sol. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) opens regional office in Nagaland

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has opened its sub-office in Kohima, Nagaland, expanding its presence in the northeastern region.

RBI Deputy Governor Michael Debabrata Patra inaugurated the office.

RBI now has a presence in Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Tripura, and Nagaland.

With this move, RBI aims to expand its reach in the region and better serve the financial needs of the people.

Additionally, the central bank has announced its intention to establish an office in Itanagar, further demonstrating its commitment to enhancing its operations in the North East. The sub-office in Kohima begins functioning with the following departments -- Financial Inclusion and Development Department (FIDD), Consumer Education and Protection Cell (CEPC), Market Intelligence Cell and Human Resource Management Department (HRMD). The currency management for Nagaland will continue to be conducted by the RBI's office in Guwahati.

The Reserve Bank's office in Itanagar is expected to open shortly.

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. Tavarana Rabi Sankar
2. Mukesh Kumar Jain
3. Michael D Patra
4. M Rajeshwar Rao

173. Which of the following has launched mission EVOLVE (Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem) in association with NITI Aayog to finance MSMEs in the EV space?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने EV अंतरिक्ष में MSMEs को वित्तपोषित करने के लिए NITI Aayog के साथ मिलकर मिशन EVOLVE (इलेक्ट्रिक व्हीकल ऑपरेशंस एंड लेंडिंग फॉर वाइब्रेंट इकोसिस्टम) लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) National Green Tribunal / नेशनल ग्रीन ट्रिब्यूनल
- (b) Finance Ministry / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (c) Ministry of Road Transport & Highways / सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्रालय
- (d) Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises / माइक्रो, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम मंत्रालय
- (e) SIDBI / सिडबी

Ans. e

Sol. SIDBI launches mission EVOLVE to finance MSMEs for EVs

SIDBI has launched mission EVOLVE (Electric Vehicle Operations and Lending for Vibrant Ecosystem) in association with NITI Aayog, World Bank, Korean-World Bank and Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) to finance MSMEs in the EV space. Under the initiative, SIDBI will give MSMEs access to affordable commercial financing for EV loans including hosting of telematics that could help reduce financing costs and provide data for other financial services.

The programme comes in the backdrop of SIDBI's aim to support India's target for 30 percent EV penetration by 2030 or EV30@30. SIDBI announced a pilot scheme Mission 50,000-EV4ECO in April this year under guidance from NITI Aayog to fund MSMEs finding it difficult to access loans to purchase EVs such as two-wheelers, three-wheelers and four-wheelers for their day-to-day operations and commercial use.

The mission aims to finance 50,000 EVs.

About Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

- **Founded** - 2 April 1990
- **Headquarters** - Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh
- **Chairman & MD** - Siva S Ramann

174. Who has been appointed as the Marketing Director of GAIL Limited?

गेल लिमिटेड के विपणन निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) Dixit Joshi / दीक्षित जोशी
- (d) Sanjay Kumar / संजय कुमार
- (e) Adille Sumariwalla / आदिल सुमरिवाला

Ans. d

Sol. Sanjay Kumar appointed as Marketing Director of GAIL

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the appointment of Sanjay Kumar for the post of Director (Marketing) of GAIL (India) Limited.

Kumar has been appointed to the post with effect from the date of taking over charge of the post till the date of his superannuation i.e. June 30, 2027, or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

Presently, he is the Managing Director of Indraprastha Gas Limited (IGL), the largest CNG distribution company of India.

Recent Appointment

- **CMD of NMDC Steel Limited** - Amitava Mukherjee (reappointment)
- **CEO of Unique Identification Authority (UIDAI)** - Amit Agrawal
- **Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA)** - Subodh Kumar Singh
- **Chair-elect of IATA's Board of Governors** - Pieter Elbers
- **CMD of Director of Container Corporation of India Ltd (CONCOR)** - Sanjay Swarup

175. Who has taken over as Director (Personnel) of NHPC Limited?

एनएचपीसी लिमिटेड के निदेशक (कार्मिक) के रूप में किसने पदभार संभाला है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) Dixit Joshi / दीक्षित जोशी
- (d) Mahendra Shah / महेंद्र एन शाह
- (e) Uttam Lal / उत्तम लाल

Ans. e

Sol. Uttam Lal takes over as Director (Personnel) NHPC Ltd

Uttam Lal has taken over as Director (Personnel) of NHPC Limited.

Prior to his appointment at NHPC, Lal was serving as Chief General Manager (HR-CSR/R&R/LA) in NTPC Limited.

Lal has over 35 years of vast and rich experience in the area of Personnel Management, Industrial Relations and Corporate Social Responsibility.

Lal was recommended for the post of Director (Personnel) of NHPC Limited by the PESB panel in its selection meeting held on February 28.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of The Hindu Group** - Nirmala Laxman (replace Malini Parthasarathy)
- **78th UNGA president** - Dennis Francis (Trinidad and Tobago)
- **DG of Geological Survey of India (GSI)** - Janardan Prasad (replace Dr. S. Raju)
- **President of World Meteorological Organization (WMO)** - Dr Abdulla Al Mandous (UAE)
- **Chairman and MD of Steel Authority of India Ltd (SAIL)** - Amarendu Prakash

176. A Book titled Rebels Against the Raj: Western Fighters for India's Freedom has won the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography 2023. Who is the author of this book?

रिबेल्स अगेस्ट द राज: वेस्टर्न फाइटर्स फॉर इंडियाज फ्रीडम नामक पुस्तक ने ऐतिहासिक जीवनी 2023 के लिए एलिजाबेथ लॉन्गफोर्ड पुरस्कार जीता है। इस पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुंपा लाहिड़ी
- (d) Ramachandra Guha / रामचंद्र गुहा
- (e) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत

Ans. d

Sol. Ramachandra Guha's book wins Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023

Historian and writer Ramchandra Guha's book Rebels Against the Raj: Western Fighters for India's Freedom has won the Elizabeth Longford Prize for Historical Biography 2023.

Guha has been awarded £5,000 (₹5 lakhs approximately) and a bound copy of Elizabeth Longford's memoir, The Pebbled Shore.

The Bengaluru-based historian's book tells the story of seven foreigners — four British, Two American, and one Irish — who joined India's freedom fight against British rule. The list of names includes Annie Besant, B.G. Horniman, Philip Spratt, Richard Ralph Keithahn, Samuel Stokes, Madeline Slade, and Catherine Mary Heilemann.

The award was founded in 2003 by Flora Fraser and Peter Soros to commemorate British historian Elizabeth Longford. Every year it rewards exemplary works in historical biography. The prize is celebrating its 20th anniversary this year.

The book has been published by Penguin Random House in India, William Collins in the U.K., and Alfred Knopf in the USA.

Recent Awards

- **Governor of the Year at the Central Banking Awards 2023 in London'** - RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das (Raghuram Rajan in 2015)
- **RSL Christopher Bland Prize 2023** - Paterson Joseph (for Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho)
- **UNESCO Michel Batisse award 2023** - Jagdish S Bakan
- **Suriname highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star** - Droupadi Murmu
- **Greentech Safety Award 2023** - Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)
- **57th Jnanpith Award** - Damodar Maujo

177. The fourth Survey Vessel Large (SVL) of the Indian Navy named 'Sanshodhak' was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai. It is built by which company?

भारतीय नौसेना के 'संशोधक' नाम के चौथे सर्वे वेसल लार्ज (एसवीएल) को कट्टुपल्ली, चेन्नई में लॉन्च किया गया। यह किस कंपनी द्वारा बनाया गया है?

- (a) Reliance Industries Limited / रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड
- (b) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) / लार्सन एंड टुब्रो (एल एंड टी)
- (c) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड (बीईएल)

Ans. b

Sol. Fourth warship of Indian Navy 'Sanshodhak' launched

The fourth Survey Vessel Large (SVL) of the Indian Navy, named 'Sanshodhak', was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai.

The ship named 'Sanshodhak', meaning 'Researcher', signifies the primary role of the ship as a Survey Vessel.

The launch of the fourth SVL reinforces our resolve in indigenous shipbuilding, as part of the government's vision of 'Make in India' and Aatma Nirbhar Bharat.

The project, being built by L&T/GRSE for Indian Navy was launched at Kattupalli, Chennai.

The chief guest of the launch ceremony was Adhir Arora, Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India.

SVL ships will replace the existing Sandhayak Class survey ships, with new-generation hydrographic equipment, to collect oceanographic data.

The SVL ships are 110 m long, 16 m wide with a displacement of 3,400 tons. The hull of these ships is made from indigenously developed DMR 249-A steel manufactured by Steel Authority of India Limited.

178. World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is observed every year on which day?

विश्व बुजुर्ग दुर्व्यवहार जागरूकता दिवस (WEAAD) हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 17 June / 17 जून
- (c) 18 June / 18 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 15 June / 15 जून

Ans. e

Sol. 15 June - World Elder Abuse Awareness Day

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) is observed every year on June 15.

Objective - To raise awareness about the abuse and neglect experienced by older adults

Theme 2023 - Closing the Circle: Addressing Gender-Based Violence (GBV) in Older Age - Policy, Law and Evidence-based Responses

This day aims to promote understanding of the importance of preventing elder abuse and supporting the rights and well-being of older people.

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD) was officially recognized and established by the United Nations General Assembly on June 15, 2011 however, the history of raising awareness about elder abuse predates this specific observance.

179. Global Wind Day is observed every year on which day?

वैश्विक पवन दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 17 June / 17 जून
- (c) 18 June / 18 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 15 June / 15 जून

Ans. e

Sol. 15 June - Global Wind Day

Global Wind Day is observed every year on 15 June.

This special day serves as a reminder of the incredible potential and significance of wind power in addressing climate change and promoting sustainable energy solutions.

The first Wind Day was organized in 2007 by European Wind Energy Association (EWEA). In 2009, the European Wind Energy Association (Wind Europe) and Global Wind Energy Council collaborated to make Wind Day a global event.

The day acknowledges the power of the wind and raises awareness about its potential as a sustainable resource.

180. The W20 summit under the presidency of G20 begins in which city?

G20 की अध्यक्षता में W20 शिखर सम्मेलन किस शहर में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) Varanasi / वाराणसी
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mahabalipuram / महाबलीपुरम

Ans. e

Sol. Women 20 Summit begins in Mahabalipuram

The W20 summit under the presidency of G20 begins in Mahabalipuram near Chennai.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has virtually addressed the inaugural session and union minister for women and child development Smriti Irani delivers the keynote address.

The summit with a theme of women-led development to transform, thrive and transcend will be moderated by Dharitri Patnaik, the W 20 chief Coordinator.

The sessions on the road to achieving sustainable development goals with an agenda on women's health, gender equality, social and economic development will be moderated by Lauren Power, Founder and Advisor of Young professionals in foreign policy.

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **4th Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting** - Pune, Maharashtra (19 -21 June 2023)
- **2nd summit of Supreme Audit Institutions of G20 Meeting** – Panji, Goa (12-15 June 2023)
- **Third G20 Health Working Group meeting** - Hyderabad
- **3rd Employment Working Group Meeting** - Geneva, Switzerland (31 May - 2 June 2023)
- **2nd G-20 Anti-Corruption Working Group Meeting** – Rishikesh, Uttarakhand (25 - 27 May 2023)

181. Who addressed the Plenary Session at the 111th International Labour Conference in Geneva?

जिनेवा में 111वें अंतर्राष्ट्रीय श्रम सम्मेलन में पूर्ण सत्र को किसने संबोधित किया?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Bhupender Yadav / भूपेंद्र यादव
- (d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
- (e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Ans. c

Sol. Bhupender Yadav addresses 111th International Labour Conference

Labour and Employment Minister Bhupender Yadav has addressed the Plenary Session at the 111th International Labour Conference in Geneva.

India aims to push for tools to map skill gaps among countries and move towards harmonization and mutual recognition of skills and qualifications.

India also aims to work with the world to find out ways for sustainable financing mechanisms to provide universal and comprehensive social security coverage to all, including for gig and platform workers.

182. Which state government has launched an app called 'Arunpol App' to lodge complaints without coming to the police station?

किस राज्य सरकार ने पुलिस स्टेशन आए बिना शिकायत दर्ज कराने के लिए 'अरुणपोल ऐप' नामक एक ऐप लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
- (b) Sikkim / सिक्किम
- (c) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
- (d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (e) Uttarakhand / उत्तराखंड

Ans. a

Sol. Arunachal Pradesh CM launches app called 'Arunpol App'

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister has launched an app called 'Arunpol App' of Arunachal Pradesh Police and flagged off an APP awareness generation vehicle from the Civil Secretariat, Itanagar.

The Arunpol app will facilitate common people to lodge complaints without coming to the police station.

People can also apply for other clearances from the police through this app.

The state home minister informed that CM also launched another app called E-Vigilance app for the state government employees.

About Arunachal Pradesh

- **Capital** – Itanagar
- **Chief Minister** – Pema Khandu
- **Governor** – LG (Retd) Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik

183. The 4th Tourism Working Group Meeting under India's G20 presidency and G20 Tourism Ministers meeting will be held in which state from 19th June to 22nd June?

भारत की G20 अध्यक्षता और G20 पर्यटन मंत्रियों की बैठक के तहत चौथी पर्यटन कार्य समूह की बैठक 19 जून से 22 जून तक किस राज्य में आयोजित की जाएगी?

- (a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Goa / गोवा
- (d) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Punjab / पंजाब

Ans. c

Sol. G20 Tourism Ministers meeting to be held in Goa

The 4th Tourism Working Group Meeting under India's G20 presidency and G20 Tourism Ministers meeting will be held in Goa from 19th June to 22nd June.

A side event on making Cruise Tourism a model for sustainable and responsible travel will be organized on 19th June.

The Secretary said various cultural programs will be organized to highlight and showcase the rich cultural heritage of Goa.

Tourism Ministry will also organize a side event Towards a circular economy of plastics in tourism-the global tourism plastics initiative in collaboration with United Nations Environment Programme UNEP and United Nations World Tourism Organization UNWTO.

About Goa

- **Formation** – 30 May 1987
- **Capital** – Panaji
- **Chief Minister** – Pramod Sawant
- **Governor** – P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

184. Which ministry has introduced the Yoga Break (Y-Break) protocol to assist professionals in relieving stress, renewing their energy, and improving focus?

किस मंत्रालय ने पेशेवरों को तनाव दूर करने, उनकी ऊर्जा को नवीनीकृत करने और फोकस में सुधार करने में सहायता करने के लिए योग ब्रेक (वाई-ब्रेक) प्रोटोकॉल पेश किया है?

- (a) Ministry of Corporate Affairs/ कॉर्पोरेट मामलों के मंत्रालय
- (b) Ministry of Ayush / आयुष मंत्रालय
- (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare / स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
- (d) Ministry of Finance / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (e) Ministry of Home Affairs / गृह मंत्रालय

Ans. b

Sol. Centre introduces 'Y-Break-Yoga at office chair' for stress relief

The AYUSH ministry has introduced the Yoga Break (Y-Break) protocol to assist professionals in relieving stress, renewing their energy, and improving focus.

This protocol includes a series of light practices that can be easily incorporated into a short break from work.

The protocol comprises few simple Yoga practices which include 'asanas' (postures), 'pranayama' (breathing techniques) and 'dhyana' (meditation), the ministry mentioned.

The personnel ministry has directed all central government ministries and departments to embrace and encourage this innovative Yoga practice for employees in the workplace.

The officials can now benefit themselves while sitting in their office chair by practicing a short duration Yoga protocol namely "Y-Break@workplace yoga" at chair to refresh, de-stress and refocus.

In order to spread awareness about the "Y-Break@workplace - yoga at chair", all ministries/departments of the Government of India are requested for wide dissemination amongst their employees, including those of attached and subordinate under their control.

185. Which railway station has been awarded the 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI in recognition of providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers recently?

किस रेलवे स्टेशन को हाल ही में यात्रियों को उच्च-गुणवत्ता, पौष्टिक भोजन प्रदान करने के लिए FSSAI द्वारा 'ईट राइट स्टेशन' प्रमाणन से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Guwahati Railway Station / गुवाहाटी 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. a

Sol. Guwahati Railway Station achieves 'Eat Right Station' certification

The Guwahati Railway Station in Assam under North East Frontier Railway has been awarded 'Eat Right Station' certification by FSSAI in recognition of providing high-quality, nutritious food to passengers.

The station has been able to qualify the guidelines established by FSSAI and becomes the first railway station in NF Railway to get this status.

It is to mention that the 'Eat Right Station' certification is granted by FSSAI to railway stations adhering to standard food storage and hygiene practices.

This certification is awarded by FSSAI to railway stations that set benchmarks in providing safe and wholesome food to passengers.

186. What is the rate of inflation based on the All-India Wholesale Price Index (WPI) in May 2023?

मई 2023 में अखिल भारतीय थोक मूल्य सूचकांक (WPI) पर आधारित मुद्रास्फीति की दर क्या है?

- (a) 0.92%
- (b) -0.92%
- (c) 3.48%
- (d) -3.48%
- (e) 16.63%

Ans. d

Sol. India's wholesale price inflation falls to -3.48% in May 2023

India's wholesale prices contracted for the second straight month in May, led by a fall in prices across all major categories.

The Wholesale Price Index declined 3.48% year-on-year in May compared to a fall of 0.92% in April, according to data released by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

The deflation in factory gate inflation for the second consecutive month in 2023-24 comes on the back of a higher base effect and due to a fall in prices of mineral oils, basic metals, food products, textiles, non-food articles, chemical products, crude petroleum, and natural gas.

The wholesale inflation was 16.63 percent in May 2022. Earlier, it was minus 3.7 percent in October 2015.

Data shows the prices for manufactured items (minus 2.97 percent) contracted further in May, from minus 2.42 percent in April, led by a decelerated price rise in items such as beverages, apparel, cement, and mineral products.

Recent WPI-based Wholesale inflation in India

- **January 2023** – 4.73%
- **February 2023** – 3.85%
- **March 2023** – 1.38%
- **April 2023** – (-)0.92%
- **May 2023** – (-) 3.48%

187. India will host the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) Annual Conference at Kochi in which year?
भारत किस वर्ष कोच्चि में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रशासनिक विज्ञान संस्थान (IIAS) वार्षिक सम्मेलन की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) 2024
- (b) 2025
- (c) 2026
- (d) 2027
- (e) 2028

Ans. b

Sol. India to host IIAS Annual Conference 2025 at Kochi, Kerala

India will host the 2025 International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS) Annual Conference at Kochi, Kerala in February 2025. The annual conference will be attended by 30 countries, 18 national sections, and over 50 IIAS universities/ institutes of public administration.

The DARPG proposed the theme of the annual conference as "Next Generation Administrative Reforms - Empowering The Citizens And Reaching The Last Mile".

The IIAS is a federation of member states, national sections, and academic research centres which elaborates on public administration solutions to policy challenges.

Established in 1930, it is headquartered in Brussels. The Council of Administration manages the affairs of the institute, decides its program of activities, and establishes the annual budget.

About Kerala

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

188. Which institute has been awarded accreditation as 'Athi Uttam' by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training (NABET)?

राष्ट्रीय प्रत्यायन बोर्ड ऑफ एजुकेशन एंड ट्रेनिंग (NABET) द्वारा किस संस्थान को 'अथी उत्तम' के रूप में मान्यता प्रदान की गई है?

- (a) Geological Survey of India Training Institute, Hyderabad
- (b) IIT Delhi
- (c) IISc Bangalore
- (d) ISRO
- (e) DRDO

Ans. a

Sol. GSITI Hyderabad gets Accredited as 'Athi Uttam'

The Geological Survey of India Training Institute (GSITI) has been awarded accreditation as 'Athi Uttam' by the National Accreditation Board of Education and Training (NABET).

The assessment was made on the basis of the inspection of all standard operating procedures and methodologies followed by the institute in different levels. The team from Capacity Building Commission (CBC), NABET and Quality Control of India conducted the on-site assessment and awarded the Certificate of Accreditation with the grading of Athi Uttam.

Established in 1976, GSITI with its headquarters at Hyderabad, has six regional training divisions (RTD) located at Hyderabad, Nagpur, Jaipur, Lucknow, Kolkata and Shillong. Four field training centers (FTCs) are also established at Chitradurga (Karnataka), Raipur (Chhattisgarh), Zawar (Rajasthan) and Kuju (Jharkhand). These centers are established as per the vision of the Ministry of Mines to impart various trainings to geoscience professionals, teachers, researchers and students in various subjects of geology.

GSITI is a national training facility, under the Ministry of Mines that provides training and capacity building to multiple stakeholders including Central and state departments, PSUs (MECL, ONGC, OIL, NMDC), national academic institutions (IITs, Central universities and colleges) and colleges.

The institute regularly conducts courses on remote sensing under NNRMS programme sponsored by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).

GSITI provides domain specific and terrain specific training programmes through its center at Hyderabad and RTDs and FTCs located across the country.

Recent Awards

- **Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023** - Ramachandra Guha (for Rebels Against the Raj)
- **Governor of the Year at the Central Banking Awards 2023 in London** - RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das (Raghuram Rajan in 2015)
- **RSL Christopher Bland Prize 2023** - Paterson Joseph (for Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho)
- **UNESCO Michel Batisse award 2023** - Jagdish S Bakan
- **Suriname highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star** - Droupadi Murmu

189. Which organization has launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh?

किस संगठन ने बांग्लादेश सरकार के साथ ढाका में हस्ताक्षरित 358 मिलियन अमरीकी डालर के वित्तपोषण समझौते के साथ दक्षिण एशिया में अपनी पहली समर्पित सड़क सुरक्षा परियोजना शुरू की है?

- (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. e

Sol. World Bank launches its first road safety project in South Asia

The World Bank (WB) has launched its first dedicated road safety project in South Asia with a USD 358 million financing agreement signed in Dhaka with the government of Bangladesh.

The project seeks to improve road safety and reduce fatalities and injuries from road crashes in selected cities, high-risk highways, and district roads.

The project will focus on two national highways in Bangladesh: Gazipur-Elenga (N4) and Natore-Nawabganj (N6).

These highways will serve as the primary sites for implementing various road safety measures.

The aim is to achieve a substantial reduction of over 30 percent in road traffic deaths on these two highways.

The project will introduce innovative emergency services, including the use of bike-ambulances equipped with a toll-free number.

About World Bank

- **Founded** - 1944
- **Headquarters** - Washington Dc
- **President** - Ajay Banga
- **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)

190. Which bank has introduced "MY ACCOUNT MY NAME" for Savings Bank account customers?

किस बैंक ने बचत बैंक खाता ग्राहकों के लिए "मेरा खाता मेरा नाम" पेश किया है?

- (a) City Union Bank / सिटी यूनियन 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. Indian Overseas Bank Introduces "MY ACCOUNT MY NAME"

Indian Overseas Bank has introduced "MY ACCOUNT MY NAME" for Savings Bank account customers.

This is the first time such a feature has been introduced in the banking industry.

In 'My Account My Name' customer can choose any name (alias) for his/her account in addition to the account name. This 'Alias Name' name can be shared by customers to others instead of sharing the 15-digit account numbers.

The account name can be a combination of seven letters only or seven numbers only or seven alphanumeric -- like AJIT007, PRADHAN or 2424707 and others.

Customers can visit the bank's website or the nearest branch to benefit from this scheme.

The schemes were launched from Central Office, Chennai, virtually by Shri Ajay Kumar Srivastava, MD&CEO, Indian Overseas Bank with all the 49 Regional Offices.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- South Indian Bank launches **digital platform for hassle-free account opening**
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) launched a new deposit scheme '**Vikas Ashadeep 400 days**'.
- Punjab National Bank launches **IVR-based UPI 123PAY**
- Federal Bank launches '**I am Adyar, Adyar is me**' campaign
- Google Pay launches **Aadhaar-based authentication** for UPI activation

191. According to RBI data, the outstanding portfolio under education loans grew how much percent in the year 2022-23 as against Rs 82,723 crore in the previous year?

RBI के आंकड़ों के अनुसार, शिक्षा ऋण के तहत बकाया पोर्टफोलियो पिछले वर्ष के 82,723 करोड़ रुपये की तुलना में वर्ष 2022-23 में कितने प्रतिशत बढ़ा है?

- (a) 15%
- (b) 16%
- (c) 17%
- (d) 32%
- (e) 38%

Ans. c

Sol. Education loans register 17% growth in FY23

According to RBI data, the outstanding portfolio under education loans grew 17% at Rs 96,847 crore in the year 2022-23 as against Rs 82,723 crore in the previous year.

For the first time in five years, growth in education loans not only turned positive but also registered a 17% surge in the last financial year ended March 2023.

This is significant because the growth in education loans was flat during 2021-22 and it was negative for the three years prior to it. The education loans were down by 3 percent, 3.3 percent, and 2.5 percent during FY21, FY20, and FY19, respectively.

The Non-Performing Assets (NPAs) in education advances stood at 7.82 percent of a total outstanding portfolio of ₹80,000 crore at the end of the first quarter of FY23. The NPA data for the full year is yet to come.

The priority sector education loans slow only modest growth as they registered 0.9 percent growth in FY 23. In the previous financial year, they decreased by 7 percent.

192. Which Indian documentary has won a special prize in the 'Health for All' category at the 4th Annual Health for All Film Festival (HAFF) held at the World Health Organization (WHO) headquarters in Geneva?

जिनेवा में विश्व स्वास्थ्य संगठन (WHO) के मुख्यालय में आयोजित चौथे वार्षिक स्वास्थ्य के लिए एनुअल हेल्थ फॉर ऑल फिल्म फेस्टिवल (HAFF) में किस भारतीय वृत्तचित्र ने 'सभी के लिए स्वास्थ्य' श्रेणी में विशेष पुरस्कार जीता है?

- (a) When Climate Change Turns Violent
- (b) Sisters in Arms
- (c) One in 36 Million
- (d) The Man Who Sold His Skin
- (e) Communicating for health impact

Ans. a

Sol. Indian film 'When Climate Change Turns Violent' wins WHO award

An Indian documentary film titled "When Climate Change Turns Violent" has won a special prize in the 'Health for All' category at the 4th Annual Health for All Film Festival (HAFF) held at the World Health Organisation (WHO) headquarters in Geneva.

The documentary has been directed by Vandita Saharia of Rajasthan. She was the only Indian among the winners.

The 4.32-minute documentary focuses on the relationship between domestic violence, climate change and human trafficking.

Another documentary film titled "One in 36 Million: Story of Childhood Lead Poisoning in Bangladesh", directed by Arifur Rahma and Mitali Das and produced by Pure Earth Bangladesh, won the award under the 'Better Health and Well-being' category.

This year, more than 780 entries were received by the jury. Of them, 93 films were shortlisted which covered issues ranging from anxiety and depression through to the effects of climate change on health, as well as the health challenges of people with disabilities.

WHO initiated HAFF in 2019 to make audio-visual language a key component of the organization's "communicating for health impact" approach.

Well-produced and well-targeted short films can improve the health status of some groups by encouraging behaviour change or providing knowledge, motivation, or skills needed for people to take action.

193. International Day of Family Remittances is observed every year on which day?

परिवार प्रेषण का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 17 June / 17 जून
- (c) 18 June / 18 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 15 June / 15 जून

Ans. a

Sol. 16 June - International Day of Family Remittances

International Day of Family Remittances is observed every year on 16 June.

Objective - To highlight the significant contributions of migrant workers who financially support their families

Remittances refer to the money that is transferred by migrant workers to their native countries with the aim to contribute towards economic development.

Theme 2023 - Digital remittances towards financial inclusion and cost reduction

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) and the World Bank together marked the first-ever International Day of Family Remittances on 16 June 2008, with the aim of highlighting the role of migrant workers and that of their remittances in improving the economy of developing countries.

The day received global recognition and support by various organisations and finally on 16 June 2015, the United Nations General Assembly passed a resolution and declared 16 June as official International Day of Family Remittances.

194. According to Reuters Institute's Digital News Report 2023, which of the following has been recognized as the most trusted electronic media organization in the country?

रॉयटर्स इंस्टीट्यूट की डिजिटल न्यूज रिपोर्ट 2023 के अनुसार, निम्नलिखित में से किसे देश में सबसे भरोसेमंद इलेक्ट्रॉनिक मीडिया संगठन के रूप में मान्यता दी गई है?

- (a) PIB
- (b) News on Air
- (c) Prasar Bharati
- (d) Doordarshan
- (e) DD National

Ans. d

Sol. Akashvani and Doordarshan emerge as most trusted electronic media organization in country

According to Reuters Institute's Digital News Report 2023, DD India and All India Radio have been recognized as the most trusted electronic media organizations in the country.

The report highlights that although overall trust in news has decreased marginally by 3 percentage points, public broadcasters and print brands have managed to maintain a relatively high level of trust among the public.

The report said public broadcasters DD India and All India Radio are among those with the highest levels of trust.

195. Which defence forces is conducting "Julley Ladakh" (Hello Ladakh) to Ladakh to increase awareness about the service in the pristine state and to engage with youth and civil society there?
प्राचीन राज्य में सेवा के बारे में जागरूकता बढ़ाने और वहां के युवाओं और नागरिक समाज के साथ जुड़ने के लिए कौन सा रक्षा बल लद्दाख में "जूली लद्दाख" (हैलो लद्दाख) आयोजित कर रहा है?

- (a) Indian Army
- (b) Indian Navy
- (c) Indian Air Force
- (d) Indian Coast Guard
- (e) Both a & b

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Navy's Outreach Program "Jully Ladakh" (Hello Ladakh)

Indian Navy is conducting "Julley Ladakh" (Hello Ladakh), an outreach programme to Ladakh to increase awareness about the service in the pristine state and to engage with youth and civil society there.

As part of this initiative, a 5000 km Motorcycle Expedition was flagged off from the National War Memorial by Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh, the Vice Chief of Naval Staff.

This outreach program follows the successful efforts of the Indian Navy in the North East region and the Sam No Varunah car expedition, which aimed to connect with citizens in coastal states.

196. Which of the following states has emerged as top achievers in Wind Energy?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा राज्य पवन ऊर्जा में शीर्ष प्राप्तकर्ताओं के रूप में उभरा है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu
- (c) Punjab, Rajasthan and Haryana
- (d) Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Odisha
- (e) Kerala, Telangana and Punjab

Ans. b

Sol. Rajasthan, Gujarat and Tamil Nadu emerge top achievers in Wind Energy

The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy celebrated Global Wind Day in New Delhi.

The event aimed to discuss ways to accelerate wind energy adoption in India.

The central theme of the celebration was "Pawan - Urja: Powering the Future of India.

Rajasthan was felicitated for achieving the highest wind capacity addition, Gujarat for achieving the highest wind capacity addition through open access and Tamil Nadu for initiating repowering of wind turbines.

Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Tamil Nadu were felicitated for their achievements in wind energy capacity addition.

197. Which state government has recently to establish prisons as 'Sudhaar Grah' (Reform Homes)?

किस राज्य सरकार ने हाल ही में जेलों को 'सुधार गृह' (सुधार गृह) के रूप में स्थापित किया है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. a

Sol. Uttar Pradesh CM renames UP prisons as 'Reform Homes'

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath has given guidelines for prison reform to establish prisons as 'Sudhaar Grah' (Reform Homes).

The objective of the Prison Act of 1894 is to maintain discipline and control over offenders in custody, but we need to focus on reform and rehabilitation. Therefore, considering the future, it is necessary for us to implement new acts.

The Model Prison Act - 2023 has recently been prepared by the Govt of India, which is useful for the reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners.

The state cabinet has also approved the new jail manual, which is an important effort toward prison reforms.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

198. Who has flagged off Gabon's first Agri- SEZ project from New Delhi?

गैबॉन की पहली कृषि-एसईजेड परियोजना को नई दिल्ली से किसने हरी झंडी दिखाई है?

- (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. d

Sol. Dharmendra Pradhan flags off Gabon's first Agri-SEZ project

Union Minister of Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship Dharmendra Pradhan flagged off Gabon's first Agri- SEZ project from New Delhi.

The project will be implemented by the AOM group with Centurion University as the technical partner.

In the first phase of the program, 30 farmers and 20 Engineering students will be traveling together as agri-technical consultants.

Dharmendra Pradhan in News

- Dharmendra Pradhan launched the **four-year Bachelor Science Degree** in Electronic Systems at IIT Madras.
- Dharmendra Pradhan chaired the **3rd meeting of the steering committee of National Skill Development Mission** In New Delhi
- Dharmendra Pradhan released the book '**India: The Mother of Democracy**'
- Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated '**Baji Raut National Football Tournament**
- Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated **India's second Srijagannath Rashtriya Adarsh Veda Vidyalaya**

199. Which of the following state has celebrated the Palkhi festival by Warkari community?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य में वारकरी समुदाय द्वारा पालकी उत्सव मनाया जाता है?

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

Ans. d

Sol. Warkari community celebrates Palkhi festival in Maharashtra

Warkari community has celebrated the Palkhi festival in Pandharpur, Maharashtra.

Palkhi festival is an annual yatra to Pandharpur in Maharashtra to honor the Hindu god Vithoba.

The Palkhi festival is a tradition that dates back 1000 years and was initiated by saints from Maharashtra, India.

The Palkhi festival takes place in the month of Jyeshth (June) and lasts for a total of 22 days. It involves a journey from the departure points to Pandharpur. It is still practiced today by their followers known as varkaris.

These varkaris are individuals who follow a vari, which is a fundamental ritual associated with the festival.

Devotees take a holy dip in the sacred Chandrabhaga River before visiting the Vithoba temple.

About Maharashtra

- **Capital** - Mumbai
- **Chief Minister** - Eknath Sindhe
- **Governor** - Ramesh Bais

200. Sberbank has recently launched Indian rupee accounts for individuals. Sberbank is the bank of which country?

Sberbank ने हाल ही में व्यक्तियों के लिए भारतीय रुपये खाते शुरू किए हैं। सर्वेक किस देश का बैंक है?

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) France / फ्रांस

Ans. b

Sol. Russia's Sberbank launches Indian rupee accounts for individuals

Russia's dominant lender, Sberbank has launched Indian rupee accounts for individuals.

Objective - To expand the range of foreign currencies available to reduce dependency on the US dollar and euro.

Sberbank has more than 100 million retail clients and already offers deposits in China's yuan and UAE dirhams.

Sberbank will issue bonds in Chinese yuan this year if an opportunity arises and will continue borrowing in roubles to drive portfolio growth.

About Russia

- **Capital** – Moscow
- **Currency** – Rubel
- **President** – Vladimir Putin

201. The United Kingdom has appointed Jane Marriott as the first female envoy to which of the following country?

यूनाइटेड किंगडम ने जेन मैरियट को निम्नलिखित में से किस देश की पहली महिला दूत के रूप में नियुक्त किया है?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

Ans. d

Sol. Britain appoints Jane Marriott as first female envoy to Pakistan

The United Kingdom has appointed Jane Marriott as the next British High Commissioner to Pakistan, making her the first female British envoy to Islamabad.

Jane Marriott previously served as the High Commissioner to Kenya since September 2019.

She will replace Dr Christian Turner, who held the position of British Ambassador to Pakistan since December 2019.

About United Kingdom (UK)

- **Capital** - London
- **Currency** - Pound sterling
- **Prime Minister** – Rishi Sunak

202. Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director of Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL)?

इंद्रप्रस्थ गैस लिमिटेड (IGL) के नए प्रबंध निदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam / कृष्णन शंकरसुब्रमण्यम
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) Shantanu Roy / शांतनु राय
- (d) Kamal Kishore Chatiwal / कमल किशोर चटवाल
- (e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

Ans. d

Sol. Kamal Kishore Chatiwal takes over as MD of IGL

Kamal Kishore Chatiwal has assumed charge as the new managing director of Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL), the largest CNG distribution company.

He has replaced Sanjay Kumar, who has taken over as Director (Marketing) in GAIL (India) Ltd.

Prior to this role, he was working as an executive director and head of zonal marketing of GAIL in Jaipur.

IGL is a joint venture of GAIL and Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd (BPCL) with the Delhi government holding 5% stake.

Recent Appointment

- **Director (Personnel) of NHPC Ltd** - Uttam Lal
- **Marketing Director of GAIL** - Sanjay Kumar
- **CMD of NMDC Steel Limited** - Amitava Mukherjee (reappointment)
- **CEO of Unique Identification Authority (UIDAI)** - Amit Agrawal
- **Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA)** - Subodh Kumar Singh
- **Chair-elect of IATA's Board of Governors** - Pieter Elbers

203. The Defence Ministry has signed a contract of 500 crore rupees with which company to strengthen the Indian Army's communication system?

रक्षा मंत्रालय ने भारतीय सेना की संचार प्रणाली को मजबूत करने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ 500 करोड़ रुपये के अनुबंध पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Reliance Industries Limited / रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड
- (b) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) / लार्सन एंड टुब्रो (एल एंड टी)
- (c) ICOMM Tele Limited / आईसीओएमएम टेली लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड (बीईएल)

Ans. c

Sol. Defence Ministry signs Rs 500 crore contract to strengthen Indian Army's communication system

The Defence Ministry has signed a contract of 500 crore rupees with an indigenous firm for the supply of Radio Relay Containers to strengthen the Indian Army's communication system.

The contract was signed with ICOMM Tele Limited of Hyderabad for the procurement of more than one thousand Radio Relay Communication equipment containers.

The Radio Relay Containers will address a long overdue requirement of mobile communication detachments of the Indian Army.

These containers will be utilized to provide a protected environment for communication equipment. The containers would be mounted on authorized specialist vehicles and moved as per operational requirements.

This will give a further boost to the indigenous manufacturing of defence equipment and stimulate the private sector to actively engage in realizing the vision of a self-reliant India.

204. Nahida Khan has recently announced her retirement from international cricket. She is from which country?

नाहिदा खान ने हाल ही में अंतरराष्ट्रीय क्रिकेट से संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस देश से है?

- (a) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Nepal / नेपाल
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) India / भारत

Ans. a

Sol. Pakistan's Nahida Khan announces retirement from international cricket

Pakistan women's cricketer Nahida Khan has announced her retirement from international cricket, bringing an end to a remarkable career that spanned over a decade.

The 36-year-old opening batter made her debut for the national team in February 2009 against Sri Lanka and went on to represent Pakistan in over 100 matches across formats.

She represented Pakistan in three 50-over World Cups (2013, 2017 and 2022) and in four T20 World Cups (2012, 2014, 2016 and 2018).

Recently Retired Players

- Shabnim Ismail - International Cricket - South Africa
- Gary Ballance - All forms of cricket - England
- Shaun Marsh - First-class cricket - Australia
- Sergio Ramos - International football – Spain
- Eoin Morgan - All forms of cricket - England
- Kamran Akmal - All forms of professional cricket - Pakistan
- Aaron Finch - International Cricket - Australia
- Raphael Varane - International football - France

205. The Asia Cup 2023 will take place in Pakistan and Sri Lanka between August 31 and September 17, 2023. Which of the following country is not a part of Asia Cup 2023?

एशिया कप 2023 पाकिस्तान और श्रीलंका में 31 अगस्त से 17 सितंबर, 2023 के बीच होगा। निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश एशिया कप 2023 का हिस्सा नहीं है?

- (a) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) UAE / यूएई
- (d) Afghanistan / अफगानिस्तान
- (e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

Ans. c

Sol. Asia Cup 2023 to be played in Pakistan and Sri Lanka

The Asia Cup 2023 will take place in Pakistan and Sri Lanka between August 31 and September 17, 2023.

The tournament will be held on a hybrid model for the first time in the history of the championship.

India, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, Afghanistan, and Nepal will take part in the Asia Cup.

The tournament will be hosted in a hybrid model with four matches being held in Pakistan, and the remaining nine matches being played in Sri Lanka.

Sri Lanka won the Asia Cup last time around in 2022 after beating Pakistan in the final at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.

India failed to make their way through to the final after losing to Sri Lanka and Pakistan in the Super 4 round.

206. Who is the author of the book titled 'Master Residential Real Estate'?

'मास्टर रेजिडेंशियल रियल एस्टेट' 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) Ashwinder Singh / अश्विंदर सिंह

Ans. e

Sol. A book titled "Master Residential Real Estate" by Ashwinder Singh

Ashwinder R Singh is a well-known real estate expert in India, and his new book, Master Residential Real Estate, is a comprehensive guide to the industry.

This comprehensive guidebook equips homebuyers and industry experts with the knowledge and strategies to successfully navigate the dynamic real estate market.

The book covers a wide range of topics, from finding the right property to financing a home purchase.

Singh also provides valuable insights into the current state of the real estate market and offers advice on how to make the most of your investment.

The book empowers readers to take control of their financial and emotional future by providing them with the necessary information to make informed decisions based on data and research.

Recent Book

- **India Secret War BSF** – Ushinor Majumdar
- **Through the Broken Glass** – T N Seshan
- **Beyond Cricket** – C D Gopinath
- **The Power of One Thought: Master Your Mind** - BK Shivani
- **Ringside** - Dr. Vijay Darda (released by Shashi Tharoor)
- **The Golden Years: The Many Joys of Living a Good Long Life** - Ruskin Bond

207. World Day to combat desertification and drought is observed every year on 17 June. What is the theme of World Day to combat desertification and drought 2023?

मरुस्थलीकरण और सूखे से निपटने के लिए विश्व दिवस हर साल 17 जून को मनाया जाता है। मरुस्थलीकरण और सूखे से निपटने के लिए विश्व दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Rising up from drought together
- (b) Land-degradation neutrality
- (c) Don't let our future dry up
- (d) Save Nature, Save Land
- (e) Her Land, Her Rights

Ans. e

Sol. 17 June - World Day to combat desertification and drought

World Day to combat desertification and drought is observed every year on 17 June.

Objective - To raise awareness about the threats posed by desertification and drought and promoting efforts to combat these challenges

Theme 2023 - Her Land. Her Rights

The World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought was established in 1994 as a result of a convention held at the UN General Assembly.

This day was observed in 1995 for the first time. In order to combat the environmental deterioration that is being brought upon by climate change, the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) was created.

The convention's objective was to educate the general public on ways to stop desertification, particularly in regions that are now suffering from severe drought.

208. International Father's Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय फादर्स डे हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) Third Saturday of June / जून का तीसरा शनिवार
- (b) Third Sunday of June / जून के तीसरे रविवार
- (c) Third Monday of June / जून का तीसरा सोमवार
- (d) Third Tuesday of June / जून के तीसरे मंगलवार
- (e) Third Wednesday of June / जून के तीसरे बुधवार

Ans. b

Sol. 18 June 2023 - International Father's Day

International Father's Day is celebrated every year on third Sunday of June.

This year Father's Day held on 18th June.

The day honours fathers or father figures in our lives and the sacrifices they make to raise us.

Our fathers are heroes in our lives, capable of achieving any feat, teaching us strength in silence, and adept at solving all problems.

Father's Day originated in the US after the daughter of a Civil War veteran, Sonora Smart Dodd, wanted to pay an ode to all fathers across the globe.

William Jackson Smart was a single father to six children. His daughter decided to honour him by choosing his birth anniversary, June 5, 1982, to celebrate Father's Day.

Finally, the date got pushed from June 5 to the third Sunday of June. In 1910, Father's Day was marked for the first time.

"A good father is one of the most unsung, unpraised, unnoticed, and yet one of the most valuable assets in our society." – Billy Graham

209. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has inaugurated National Legislators' Conference Bharat (NLC Bharat) in which city?

लोकसभा अध्यक्ष ओम बिरला ने किस शहर में राष्ट्रीय विधायक सम्मेलन भारत (एनएलसी भारत) का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. e

Sol. Om Birla inaugurates National Legislators' Conference Bharat in Mumbai

The National Legislators' Conference Bharat (NLC Bharat) was officially inaugurated by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla in Mumbai.

The APJ Abdul Kalam expo pavilion was also inaugurated on the theme of Bharat's 75th year of independence and celebrating the spirit of democracy.

This conference gives a platform to engage in discussions and contemplate strengthening our legislative institutions. It will help to spread the essence of Indian democracy throughout the world.

210. The two-day conference of Science-20 under G-20 has been organized in which city?

जी-20 के तहत विज्ञान-20 का दो दिवसीय सम्मेलन किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Bhopal / भोपाल
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. Two-day conference of Science-20 organized in Bhopal

The two-day conference of Science-20 under G-20 has organized at the Taj Hotel in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

The theme of the conference is "Connecting Science to Society and Culture".

The conference is being presided over by Professor Ashutosh Sharma, President of the Indian National Science Academy.

The conference is being attended by representatives of the G-20 countries, invited states, and international organizations.

The Science-20 consultation was begun with a preliminary meeting to be held in Puducherry on 30 and 31 January 2023

while the Science-20 conferences will culminate with a summit-level meeting in Coimbatore

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **Women 20 Summit** – Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu (15 June 2023)
- **4th Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting** - Pune, Maharashtra (19 -21 June 2023)
- **2nd summit of Supreme Audit Institutions of G20 Meeting** – Panji, Goa (12-15 June 2023)
- **Third G20 Health Working Group meeting** - Hyderabad
- **3rd Employment Working Group Meeting** - Geneva, Switzerland (31 May - 2 June 2023)

211. The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) has joined hands with which company to drive citizen awareness 'G20-Stay Safe Online' campaign on online cyber safety in the country?

इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स और सूचना प्रौद्योगिकी मंत्रालय (MeitY) ने देश में ऑनलाइन साइबर सुरक्षा पर नागरिक जागरूकता 'G20-स्टे सेफ ऑनलाइन' अभियान चलाने के लिए किस कंपनी के साथ हाथ मिलाया है?

- (a) Microsoft / माइक्रोसॉफ्ट
- (b) Apple / ऐप्पल
- (c) Infosys / इंफोसिस
- (d) Google / गूगल
- (e) IBM / आईबीएम

Ans. d

Sol. Google and MeitY join hands for 'G20-Stay Safe Online'

The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has joined hand with Google to drive citizen awareness 'G20-Stay Safe Online' campaign on online cyber safety in the country.

The duo aims to foster citizen awareness about online safety and security.

Under the bright beacon of India's G20 Presidency, the nation is steering towards a trillion-dollar digital economy.

To chart this course, MeitY has launched the mega-campaign, 'Stay Safe Online.' To raise the cyber hygiene bar, spreading awareness about online risks and safe practices among users of all ages.

212. Remains of a species of herbivorous dinosaur previously unknown in the southern hemisphere have been discovered in which country?

किस देश में दक्षिणी गोलार्ध में पहले अज्ञात शाकाहारी डायनासोर की प्रजाति के अवशेष खोजे गए हैं?

- (a) Chile / चिली
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) Colombia / कोलंबिया
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. a

Sol. Remains of new species of duck-billed dinosaur found in Chile

Remains of a species of herbivorous dinosaur previously unknown in the southern hemisphere have been discovered in Chile, challenging long-held beliefs about the range of duck-billed dinosaurs.

Measuring up to four meters (13 feet) in length and weighing a ton, *Gonkoken nanoi* lived 72 million years ago in the extreme south of what is now Chilean Patagonia.

The discovery demonstrated that Chilean Patagonia served as a refuge for very ancient species of hadrosaurs, a type of duck-billed dinosaur common in North America, Asia and Europe during the Cretaceous period, from 145 to 66 million years ago.

Gonkoken nanoi, the fifth species of dinosaur discovered in Chile, was actually found in 2013, kicking off a decade-long investigation.

The name *Gonkoken* comes from the Tehuelche language, the first inhabitants of the region, and means "similar to a wild duck or a swan."

About Chile

- Capital- Santiago
- Currency - Chilean Peso
- Official language- Spanish

213. Which of the following country will rejoin UNESCO in July 2023 four years after leaving due to allegations of bias against Israel?
निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा देश इज़राइल के खिलाफ पक्षपात के आरोपों के कारण चार साल बाद जुलाई 2023 में यूनेस्को में शामिल होगा?

- (a) France / फ़्रांस
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) UK / यूके
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) Israel / इज़राइल

Ans. d

Sol. USA announces to rejoin UNESCO in July 2023

UNESCO has announced that the United States will rejoin the agency in July 2023 four years after leaving due to allegations of bias against Israel. The US stopped funding UNESCO, worth millions of dollars, in 2011 after Palestine became a member of the agency. Palestine was included as a non-member observer state in 2012, granting them participation in General Assembly proceedings.

What made the US leave UNESCO?

- The issue goes back to 2011, when UNESCO inducted Palestine as a member. This led to the US halting the agency's funding, worth millions of dollars, under then President Barack Obama.
- Notably, Palestine is not recognised as a sovereign state by the United Nations. It was included as a non-member observer State over Israel's objections in 2012, meaning it could participate in General Assembly proceedings but lacked voting rights.
- In 2013, Israel's ambassador to UNESCO, Nimrod Barkan, told the Associated Press that his country supported the United States' decision to stop its funding, saying it was "objecting to the politicisation of UNESCO, or any international organisation, with the accession of a non-existing country like Palestine".

About United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

- UNESCO (United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization) is a specialized agency of the United Nations that promotes cooperation among nations through education, science, culture, and communication.
- **Formation** - 16 November 1945
- **Headquarters** - Paris, France
- **Director General** - Audrey Azoulay (France)
- **Member countries** – 193

214. The Reserve Bank of India has recently imposed ₹20 lakh monetary penalty on which finance company for non-compliance with certain provisions of Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC)?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने हाल ही में गैर-बैंकिंग वित्तीय कंपनी (NBFC) के कुछ प्रावधानों का पालन न करने के लिए किस वित्त कंपनी पर ₹20 लाख का मौद्रिक जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) Muthoot Finance / मुथूट फाइनेंस
- (b) Manappuram Finance / मणप्पुरम फाइनेंस
- (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 imposes Rs 20 lakh penalty on Manappuram Finance

The Reserve Bank of India has imposed ₹20 lakh monetary penalty on Manappuram Finance for non-compliance with certain provisions of Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).

The RBI imposed this penalty on the NBFC as it did not classify certain gold loan accounts with overdue of more than 90 days as Non-Performing Assets (NPAs).

This penalty has been imposed in exercise of powers vested in RBI under the provisions of section 58G (1) (b) read with section 58B (5) (aa) of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934."

This action is based on deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the company with its customers.

The Reserve Bank of India conducted a statutory inspection of the company concerning its financial position as of March 2021.

215. Former RBI's Deputy Governor NS Vishwanathan has been appointed as a part-time Non-Executive Chairman of which bank?

RBI के पूर्व डिप्टी गवर्नर एनएस विश्वनाथन को किस बैंक के अंशकालिक गैर-कार्यकारी अध्यक्ष के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया 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. N S Vishwanathan appoints as part-time chairman of Axis Bank

Axis Bank has appointed former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Deputy Governor NS Vishwanathan as a part-time Non-Executive Chairman.

The board of directors of the bank have appointed Vishwanathan for a period of three years.

Vishwanathan had joined the RBI in 1981 and retired in March 2020 as the Deputy Governor, spanning a career of nearly four decades at the central bank.

About Axis Bank

- **Founded** - 1993
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Rakesh Makhija
- **MD & CEO** - Amitabh Chaudhary
- **Tagline** - Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Chairman of TransUnion Cibil** - V Anantharaman
- **MD & CEO of UCO Bank** - Ashwani Kumar (replace Soma Sankara Prasad)
- **MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank** - Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma
- **Part-time chairman of Paytm** - Vijay Shekhar (reappointment)
- **Deputy MD of IDBI Bank** - Jayakumar S. Pillai

216. Who has been re-appointed as MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank?

इक्विटस स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक के एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे फिर से नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) P N Vasudevan / पीएन वासुदेवन
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. d

Sol. P N Vasudevan re-appointed as MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the reappointment of P Vasudevan as Managing Director and CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank. Vasudevan has been reappointed for a period of three years, from July 23, 2023, to July 23, 2026.

In December 2022, the bank announced that PN Vasudevan had decided to remain as MD and CEO of the bank in response to the Board's suggestions.

About Equitas Small Finance Bank

- Founded- 1993
- Headquarters- Chennai
- MD & CEO - P.N. Vasudevan
- Tagline - It's fun banking

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **President and COO of Paytm** - Bhavesh Gupta
- **MD & CEO of Bank of Baroda (BoB)** - Debadatta Chand
- **MD & CEO of Bank of India (BoI)** - Rajneesh K
- **Chairman of LIC** - Siddhartha Mohanty
- **CEO of Association of Asset Reconstruction Companies** - Hari Hara Mishra

217. The Ministry of Defence has recently approved the deal to acquire the e Predator (MQ-9 Reaper) drones from which country?

रक्षा मंत्रालय ने हाल ही में किस देश से ई प्रीडेटर (MQ-9 रीपर) ड्रोन हासिल करने के सौदे को मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) UK / यूके
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) Canada / कनाडा

Ans. d

Sol. Defence Ministry approves MQ-9 Reaper drone deal with US

The Defence Ministry has approved the deal for acquiring the Predator (MQ-9 Reaper) drones from America for which the final decision would be taken by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS).

The deal for the Predator drones was approved by the Defence Acquisition Council meeting.

The DAC is the highest body in the Defence Ministry to take decisions on acquisitions.

The hunter-killer MQ-9 drones are capable of a variety of roles, including maritime surveillance, anti-submarine warfare, over-the-horizon targeting, airborne early warning, electronic warfare.

The SkyGuardian variant has a wingspan of 79 feet and can carry a payload of 2,155kg on nine hardpoints.

The SeaGuardian variant can fly over the horizon via satellite for more than 30 hours and has advanced intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance (ISR) capabilities.

218. Which of the following country has won the World Squash Championship 2023?
निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने विश्व स्क्वैश चैंपियनशिप 2023 जीती है?

- (a) India / भारत
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Egypt / मिस्र
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. d

Sol. Egypt won the World Squash Championship

Egypt emerged victorious in the World Squash Championship, defeating Malaysia 2-1 in the final held in Chennai.

Malaysia secured the silver medal in the championship.

The third place in the championship was shared between the host country, India, and Japan

A total of eight countries participated in the championship, which commenced on June 13.

219. The inaugural edition of India's first-ever Women's Kabaddi League (WKL) commenced in which city?

भारत की पहली महिला कबड्डी लीग (WKL) का उद्घाटन संस्करण किस शहर में शुरू हुआ है?

- (a) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (b) Berlin / बर्लिन
- (c) Paris / पेरिस
- (d) Dubai / दुबई
- (e) London / लंदन

Ans. d

Sol. First Women's Kabaddi League Inaugurated in Dubai

The inaugural edition of India's first-ever Women's Kabaddi League (WKL) commenced with great fanfare in Dubai.

The league is being organized by the Kabaddi Federation of India and the Dream Sports Group. The league consists of eight teams, featuring a total of 96 players, each representing Indian states. These teams bear the names of various states, including the Delhi Dynamites, Gujarat Angels, Great Marathas, Haryana Hustlers, Punjab Panthers, Rajasthan Riders, Uma Kolkata, and Bengaluru Hawks.

The league is expected to provide a platform for talented women kabaddi players to showcase their skills and inspire other women to take up the sport.

220. Autistic Pride Day is observed every year on which day?

ऑटिस्टिक प्राइड डे हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 17 June / 17 जून
- (c) 18 June / 18 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 20 June / 20 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 18 June - Autistic Pride Day

Autistic Pride Day is observed every year on 18 June.

Objective - To raise awareness about autism, a complex developmental disorder that affects communication and social interaction.

Autistic Pride Day was first observed in 2005 by Aspies for Freedom, which is a community that works for spreading awareness about autism.

People with autism often have co-occurring conditions, including epilepsy, depression, anxiety and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder as well as challenging behaviours such as difficulty sleeping and self-injury.

The level of intellectual functioning among autistic people varies widely, extending from profound impairment to superior levels.

221. International Picnic Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय पिकनिक दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 17 June / 17 जून
- (c) 18 June / 18 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 20 June / 20 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 18 June - International Picnic Day

International Picnic Day is celebrated on June 18 every year.

Picnics have been a popular way to enjoy the outdoors and spend time with family and friends for centuries, and International Picnic Day is a great opportunity to continue that tradition.

The term "picnic" finds its roots in the French word "pique-nique," and its popularity surged in France after the revolution, providing an opportunity to enjoy informal outdoor meals in the country's royal parks.

These leisurely gatherings transformed into elaborate social events in 19th-century England, as depicted in Jane Austen's novels, featuring elaborate menus with days of preparation.

222. World Sickle Cell Awareness Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व सिकल सेल जागरूकता दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 17 June / 17 जून
- (c) 18 June / 18 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 20 June / 20 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 19 June - World Sickle Cell Awareness Day

World Sickle Cell Awareness Day is observed every year on 19 June.

Objective - To raise awareness and promote understanding of sickle cell disease, highlighting the challenges faced by individuals and their families.

Recognized as a public health issue by the United Nations General Assembly in 2008, sickle cell disease, specifically sickle cell anaemia, was one of the earliest identified hereditary disorders.

What is Sickle Cell Disease?

- Sickle cell disease is an inherited blood disorder characterized by abnormally shaped red blood cells that tend to stick together, impeding the flow of blood and oxygen throughout the body.
- This condition affects the normal functioning of haemoglobin, the protein found in red blood cells. In individuals with sickle cell disease, an abnormal form of haemoglobin called haemoglobin S causes the red blood cells to take on a sickle-like shape.

223. World Sauntering Day is observed every year on 19 June. What is the theme of World Sauntering Day 2023?

हर साल 19 जून को वर्ल्ड साउंटिंग डे मनाया जाता है। वर्ल्ड सौंटिंग डे 2023 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Everyone to slowdown, connect with nature
- (b) Everyone is busy these days
- (c) Daily hectic routine impacts adversely on people
- (d) Rediscover the Joy of Simplicity
- (e) None of above

Ans. d

Sol. 19 June - World Sauntering Day

World Sauntering Day is observed every year on 19 June to cherish life as it comes and not bother about the speed of the world, rather set our own pace of life and enjoy it.

Theme 2023 - Rediscover the Joy of Simplicity

Sauntering is seen to boost the efficiency of people by as much as sixty percent. When people are not bounded by a deadline, they take their time to perfect the work.

World Sauntering Day was founded by WT Rabe in 1979 during his employment at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island in Michigan. In response to the rising popularity of the jogging craze in the United States during the 1970s, Rabe introduced the concept of this day, urging people to slow down and take it easy.

224. The G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (AMM) was held in which city?

G20 कृषि मंत्री स्तरीय बैठक (AMM) किस शहर में आयोजित की गई?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. b

Sol. G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (AMM) held in Hyderabad

The G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (AMM) has been held in Hyderabad to provide the Agriculture Ministers and delegates from various G20 countries a first-hand experience of ICAR-IIMR (Indian Institute of Millets Research).

The delegates discussed about Managing Agribusiness for Profit, People, and Planet and Connecting the Digitally Disconnected- Harnessing the Power of Digital Technologies in Agriculture.

The delegates also witnessed programmes which are a blend of vibrant diverse traditions, arts, culture, and heritage of India in the city of pearls.

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **Science-20 Meeting** - Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh (16 -17 June 2023)
- **Women 20 Summit** – Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu (15 June 2023)
- **4th Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting** - Pune, Maharashtra (19 -21 June 2023)
- **2nd summit of Supreme Audit Institutions of G20 Meeting** – Panaji, Goa (12-15 June 2023)
- **Third G20 Health Working Group meeting** - Hyderabad
- **3rd Employment Working Group Meeting** - Geneva, Switzerland (31 May - 2 June 2023)

225. The civil aviation sector in India recorded a growth of how much percent during January-May 2023, compared to the same period in 2022?

भारत में नागरिक उड्डयन क्षेत्र ने 2022 में इसी अवधि की तुलना में जनवरी-मई 2023 के दौरान कितने प्रतिशत की वृद्धि दर्ज की है?

- (a) 15%
- (b) 25%
- (c) 36%
- (d) 48%
- (e) 51%

Ans. c

Sol. Civil Aviation sector records 36% growth during January to May 2023

The civil aviation sector in India recorded a growth of 36% during January-May 2023, compared to the same period in 2022.

The number of passengers carried during the period increased to 79.8 million, from 58.9 million in 2022.

Domestic passenger traffic grew by 37.7%, while international passenger traffic grew by 33.2%. The cargo traffic also grew by 13.2% during the period.

In the month of May last year, passenger count was over 114 lakh, which in May this year rose to over 132 lakh, registering a Month-on-Month growth of 15.24 percent.

The overall passenger number in May this year increased by 3.26 lakhs as compared to April this year. Also, the number of passenger-related complaints decreased in May 2023 compared to May 2019.

226. Which state's chief minister has inaugurated "The Tribune Real Estate Expo 2023" in the state?

किस राज्य के मुख्यमंत्री ने राज्य में "द ट्रिब्यून रियल एस्टेट एक्सपो 2023" का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Goa / गोवा
- (d) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Punjab / पंजाब

Ans. d

Sol. Himachal CM inaugurates Real Estate Expo-2023

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has inaugurated "The Tribune Real Estate Expo, 2023, Shimla".

Around 15 real estate developers and some banks are participating in the expo.

The expo is expected to attract potential buyers and investors from across the country.

Most of these developers are exhibiting their properties situated in Zirakpur, Mohali and other areas close to Chandigarh.

The expo is being organized by the Himachal Pradesh Real Estate Regulatory Authority (HPRERA) and the Himachal Pradesh Chamber of Commerce and Industry (HPCCI).

About Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital** – Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- **Chief Minister** – Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - Mukesh Agnihotri
- **Governor** – Shiv Pratap Shukla

227. The Department of Legal Affairs under the Union law ministry has set up a panel to recommend reforms in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act. The committee would be led by _____.

केंद्रीय कानून मंत्रालय के तहत कानूनी मामलों के विभाग ने मध्यस्थता और सुलह अधिनियम में सुधारों की सिफारिश करने के लिए एक पैनल का गठन किया है। समिति का नेतृत्व _____ द्वारा किया जाएगा।

- (a) Nidhi Khatri / निधि खत्री
- (b) Sunil Bajpai / सुनील बाजपेयी
- (c) Sanjay Agrawal / संजय अग्रवाल
- (d) M S Sahoo / एम एस साहू
- (e) T K Vishwanathan / टी के विश्वनाथन

Ans. e

Sol. Government sets up panel to recommend reforms in arbitration law

The Department of Legal Affairs under the Union law ministry, has set up a panel to recommend reforms in the Arbitration and Conciliation Act. The committee would be led by former law secretary T K Vishwanathan.

It will evaluate and analyze the operation of the present arbitration ecosystem of the country, including the working of the Arbitration Act, highlighting its strengths and weaknesses and challenges vis-a-vis other important foreign jurisdictions.

The committee has also been asked to recommend a framework of model arbitration system which is efficient, effective and economical and caters to the requirements of the users.

Recent Committees

- Centre constitutes peace committee in Manipur; Chaired by the governor of Manipur
- Government sets up 3-member panel to probe Manipur Violence; Headed by Ajai Lamba (former CJ of the Gauhati HC)
- SEBI formed an Intermediary Advisory Committee to advise the market regulator on changes in the legal framework; chaired by -S Ravindran
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) set up an 11-member Cheetah Project Steering Committee; Headed by - Rajesh Gopal
- IRDAI constitutes Expert committee for matters related to mental health; headed by - Pratima Murthy

228. Which organization has approved a \$150 million loan to support the Resilient Kerala program to continue strengthening the state's preparedness against natural disasters, climate change impacts, and disease outbreaks?

किस संगठन ने प्राकृतिक आपदाओं, जलवायु परिवर्तन के प्रभावों और बीमारी के प्रकोप के खिलाफ राज्य की तैयारियों को मजबूत करने के लिए और रेजिलिएंट केरल कार्यक्रम का समर्थन करने के लिए \$150 मिलियन के ऋण को मंजूरी दी है?

- (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. e

Sol. World Bank approves \$150-million loan for Resilient Kerala programme

The World Bank has approved a \$150 million loan to support the Resilient Kerala program to continue strengthening the state's preparedness against natural disasters, climate change impacts, and disease outbreaks.

This additional financing will further deepen Kerala's resilience in the critical areas of coastal erosion and water resource management.

The loan, from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), has a final maturity of 14 years, including a grace period of six years.

It complements the World Bank's earlier investment of \$125 million and the overall support is expected to protect nearly 50 lakh people from the impact of floods.

In the aftermath of the 2018 floods, the World Bank had aided the State in building the capability to respond to shocks to the economy and prevent the loss of lives, assets, and livelihoods.

The programme supported policy and institutional reforms in the State, including improved management of the Pampa River basin, sustainable and climate-resilient agriculture, risk-informed land-use, and disaster management planning at local levels.

About Kerala

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

229. Which bank has recently launched its ActivMoney feature, which gives customers the benefit of fixed deposit (FD)-like interest up to 7 percent per annum?

किस बैंक ने हाल ही में अपना एक्टिवमनी फीचर लॉन्च किया है, जो ग्राहकों को सावधि जमा (एफडी) जैसे ब्याज का लाभ 7 प्रतिशत प्रति वर्ष तक देता है?

- (a) Federal Bank / फेडरल बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) Kotak Mahindra Bank / कोटक महिंद्रा बैंक

Ans. e

Sol. Kotak Mahindra Bank launches 'ActivMoney'

Kotak Mahindra Bank launched its ActivMoney feature, which gives customers the benefit of fixed deposit (FD)-like interest up to 7 percent per annum, and the flexibility to access their funds at any time from the linked savings account.

This is an auto sweep feature that is offered by several other banks, including Axis Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, and IndusInd Bank.

What is an auto sweep feature?

- This allows a savings account holder to earn higher interest as offered in FDs while retaining the liquidity offered by a saving account.
- Some banks like Jana Small Finance Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank extend this facility to their current account holders.
- As and when the balance in the savings or current account crosses a preset threshold, the excess amount is automatically used to open FDs for a pre-determined tenure (also called sweep-out).
- Similarly, when the savings account balance falls below a pre-determined limit, the linked FD(s) are automatically closed and the proceeds credited to the savings account to make up the deficit (also called sweep-in).
- The threshold limit for sweep-out varies. For instance, at Axis Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank, the required threshold amount in the savings account is Rs 25,000, at ICICI Bank its Rs 15,000, and at IndusInd Bank its Rs 20,000 (see graphic).

Difference between an auto sweep account and a regular FD

- To invest in auto sweep FD, you need to give a consent only one time to your bank for a particular savings account. After that, the surplus amount beyond the threshold limit is automatically converted into FD.
- As a result, you will earn higher returns and you won't need to visit the bank branch to obtain an FD or apply for FD online on the bank website every time you have a surplus amount in the savings account.
- In the case of a regular FD, you will have to request your bank every time to convert your surplus amount in the savings account to an FD.

About Kotak Mahindra Bank

- **Founded** - 2003
- **Founders** - Uday Kotak
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Prakash Apte
- **MD & CEO** - Uday Kotak

230. Which of the following has restricted online bond platform providers from offering products other than listed debt securities on their platforms?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने ऑनलाइन बांड प्लेटफॉर्म प्रदाताओं को उनके प्लेटफॉर्म पर सूचीबद्ध ऋण प्रतिभूतियों के अलावा अन्य उत्पादों की पेशकश करने से प्रतिबंधित कर दिया है?

- (a) (d) National Stock Exchange / नेशनल स्टॉक एक्सचेंज
- (b) RBI / आरबीआई
- (c) PFRDA / पीएफआरडीए
- (d) SEBI / सेबी
- (e) Bombay Stock Exchange / बॉम्बे स्टॉक एक्सचेंज

Ans. d

Sol. SEBI issues guidelines on product offerings by online bond platform

Capital markets regulator SEBI has restricted online bond platform providers from offering products other than listed debt securities on their platforms.

In addition, the regulator allowed them to offer securities such as Government Securities, Treasury Bills, listed Sovereign Gold Bonds, listed municipal debt securities, and listed securitized debt instruments on their online bond platforms, according to a circular.

Under the rules, Online Bond Platform Providers (OBPPs) need to register themselves as stock brokers in the debt segment of the stock exchange. OBPs offer an avenue for investors, particularly non-institutional investors to access the bond market.

While restricting products offered on an online bond platform, Sebi reiterated that an entity acting as an online bond platform provider would cease to offer on its platform or any other platform website, products or services not permitted under the rules.

About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

- **Founded** - 12 April 1988
- **Act** - 1992
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai
- **Chairman** - Madhabi Puri Buch
- **SEBI Set up** - Uday Kotak committee

231. Which fintech company has introduced a UPI Software Development Kit (SDK) for customers to make payments to online merchants without any failure of the system?

किस फिनटेक कंपनी ने सिस्टम की किसी भी विफलता के बिना ऑनलाइन व्यापारियों को भुगतान करने के लिए, ग्राहकों के लिए एक यूपीआई सॉफ्टवेयर डेवलपमेंट किट (एसडीके) पेश किया है?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) Google Pay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) Instamojo
- (e) Razorpay

Ans. c

Sol. Paytm introduces UPI SDK for seamless online merchant payments

Paytm has introduced a UPI Software Development Kit (SDK) for customers to make payments to online merchants without any failure of the system.

UPI SDK has also assured fail-proof transactions.

Paytm UPI SDK will let users pay directly from bank accounts through UPI PIN without having to jump between merchant and payment app. Along with Paytm UPI Lite, the company is enhancing two-sided payments, for both merchants and customers.

In addition, the Paytm UPI SDK is the smallest and lightest in the market, packed with low-code integration, fully customizable UI themes and priority customer support.

About PAYTM

- Founded - August 2010
- Headquarters - Noida, Uttar Pradesh
- Owner - One97 Communications Ltd.
- Founder(s) - Vijay Shekhar Sharma

232. Who has been appointed as the new chief of the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)?

रिसर्च एंड एनालिसिस विंग (राॅ) के नए प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Manoj Govil / मनोज गोविल
- (b) Sanjay Malhotra / संजय मल्होत्रा
- (c) Rajiv Gauba / राजीव गौबा
- (d) Pramod Kumar Mishra / प्रमोद कुमार मिश्रा
- (e) Ravi Sinha / रवि सिन्हा

Ans. e

Sol. Ravi Sinha appoints as new chief of RAW

Ravi Sinha, a 1988 batch IPS officer of the Chhattisgarh cadre, has been appointed as the next chief of the Research and Analysis Wing (RAW).

Sinha will take over from current chief Samant Kumar Goel, whose term ends on June 30, 2023.

Sinha, who has had an over two-decade-long stint in the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW), is at present the second-in-command in the organization.

Before being promoted, he was looking after the operations wing. His predecessor Goel was appointed R&AW chief for two years in June 2019. He was later given two extensions of one year each in 2021 and June 2022. Goel, an expert on matters related to Jammu and Kashmir, is believed to have played a key role in planning the February 2019 surgical strike in Pakistan's Balakot.

About Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)

- Established - 21 September 1968
- Founder - RN Kao, Indira Gandhi
- Headquarters - New Delhi
- Chief - Ravi Sinha
- RAW is the foreign intelligence agency of India.
- RAW's primary function is to gather foreign intelligence. It is responsible for counter-terrorism and counter-proliferation efforts.
- RAW advises Indian policy makers on strategic matters.

Recent Appointment in Defence Sector

- **Director general of the Border Security Force (BSF)** - Nitin Agarwal
- **1st woman to command Communication Zone** - Colonel Shuchita Shekhar
- **Vice Chief of the Air Staff** - Ashutosh Dixit
- **Director Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)** - Praveen Sood (replace Subodh Jaiswal)
- **Vice Chief of Naval Staff** - Vice Admiral Sanjay Jasjit Singh
- **Director general of SSB** – Rashmi Shukla

233. Who has been awarded the 45th European Essay Prize for lifetime achievement by the Charles Veillon Foundation?
चार्ल्स वीलन फाउंडेशन द्वारा लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट के लिए 45वें यूरोपीय निबंध पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन
- (b) Arvind Subramanian / अरविंद सुब्रमण्यम
- (c) Shashi Tharoor / शशि थरूर
- (d) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत
- (e) Arundhati Roy / अरुंधति रॉय

Ans. e

Sol. Arundhati Roy wins 45th European Essay Prize for 'Azadi'

Writer Arundhati Roy has been awarded the 45th European Essay Prize for lifetime achievement by the Charles Veillon Foundation.

Ms. Roy has been awarded the prize for the French translation of her compilation of essays titled "Azadi" (2021).

In "Azadi", Roy has reflected on the meaning of freedom in a world of "growing authoritarianism". The essays include meditations on language, public as well as private, and on the role of fiction and alternative imaginations in current times.

Roy will receive the award, along with the prize money of CHF 20,000 (approx ₹18 lakh), at a ceremony on September 12 in the Swiss city of Lausanne.

Since its inception in 1975, the award by the Charles Veillon Foundation has honoured a book or the work of an author "who, through their writings, contributes to nourishing and spreading the evolution of thought".

Recent Awards

- **'Athi Uttam' by the NABET** - GSITI Hyderabad
- **Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023** - Ramachandra Guha (for Rebels Against the Raj)
- **Governor of the Year at the Central Banking Awards 2023 in London** - RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das (Raghuram Rajan in 2015)
- **RSL Christopher Bland Prize 2023** - Paterson Joseph (for Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho)
- **UNESCO Michel Batisse award 2023** - Jagdish S Bakan
- **Suriname highest civilian award Grand Order of the Chain of the Yellow Star** - Droupadi Murmu

234. Which will be awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 for his extraordinary contribution to social, economic, and political transformation through non-violent and Gandhian methods?

अहिंसक और गांधीवादी तरीकों के माध्यम से सामाजिक, आर्थिक और राजनीतिक परिवर्तन में उनके असाधारण योगदान के लिए 2021 के गांधी शांति पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया जाएगा?

- (a) Prarthana Samaj / प्रार्थना समाज
- (b) Gita Press Gorakhpur / गीता प्रेस गोरखपुर
- (c) Church of God Chenna / चर्च ऑफ गॉड चेन्ना
- (d) Ayana Charitable Trust / अयाना चैरिटेबल ट्रस्ट
- (e) Arya Samaj / आर्य समाज

Ans. b

Sol. Gita Press, Gorakhpur, awarded Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021

Gita Press, Gorakhpur, will be awarded the Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 in recognition of its exceptional contribution to social, economic, and political transformation through non-violent and Gandhian methods.

The jury headed by Prime Minister Modi, unanimously selected Gita Press as the recipient of the Gandhi Peace Prize.

Gita Press, Gorakhpur, one of the world's largest publishers, has refused to accept the Rs 1 crore cash reward for the Gandhi Peace Prize for 2021 amid a controversy over being picked for the honour.

The Gandhi Peace Prize is an annual award instituted in 1995, on the occasion of the 125th birth anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi as a tribute to the ideals espoused by Mahatma Gandhi.

The award is open to all persons regardless of nationality, race, language, caste, creed or gender.

Recent awardees include Sultan Qaboos Bin Said Al Said, Oman (2019) and Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (2020), Bangladesh

235. Who has been awarded the prestigious German Peace Prize 2023 for his literary work?

साहित्यिक कार्यों के लिए प्रतिष्ठित जर्मन शांति पुरस्कार 2023 किसे प्रदान किया गया है?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Salman Rushdie / सलमान रुश्दी
- (d) Aravind Adiga / अरविंद अडिगा
- (e) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत

Ans. c

Sol. Author Salman Rushdie awarded German Peace Prize 2023

Author Salman Rushdie has been awarded a prestigious German prize for his literary work and for his resolve in the face of a "constant threat to his life".

He would receive the award in Frankfurt on October 22, 2023.

Cash prize: Euro 25,000 (\$27,300)

This prize was established in 1950 to recognize a personality committed to serving international understanding between nations and cultures through their work.

Rushdie served as the president of the PEN American Center from 2004 to 2006, and then as chairman of the PEN World Voices International Literary Festival for 10 years.

Recent Awards

- **Greentech Safety Award 2023** - Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL)
- **57th Jnanpith Award** - Damodar Maujo
- **Honoris Causa at Apex University's Jaipur** - Sonu Sood
- **National Water Award 2022** - Chandigarh
- **Fiji's highest civilian award "The Companion of the Order of Fiji"** - PM Modi

236. Indian men's football team has won the Intercontinental Cup 2023 by defeating which country?

भारतीय पुरुष फुटबॉल टीम ने किस देश को हराकर इंटरकॉन्टिनेंटल कप 2023 जीता है?

- (a) South Korea / दक्षिण कोरिया
- (b) North Korea / उत्तर कोरिया
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) Lebanon / लेबनान
- (e) Tajikistan / ताजिकिस्तान

Ans. d

Sol. Indian Men's Senior Football Team wins Intercontinental Cup 2023

The Indian men's football team beat Lebanon 2-0 to win the Intercontinental Cup 2023 at the Kalinga Stadium in Bhubaneswar.

It was India's first win over Lebanon in 47 years and second in eight meetings.

This was the third edition of the Intercontinental Cup. The Indian football team upset Kenya to win the inaugural Intercontinental Cup in 2018 while North Korea clinched the crown in 2019 by beating Tajikistan.

Indian captain - Sunil Chhetri

237. The International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict is observed every year on which day?

संघर्ष में यौन हिंसा के उन्मूलन के लिए अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 16 June / 16 जून
- (b) 17 June / 17 जून
- (c) 18 June / 18 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 20 June / 20 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 19 June - International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict

The International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence in Conflict is observed every year on 19 June.

Objective - To raise awareness and end sexual violence in conflict situations.

Theme 2023 - Bridging the gender digital divide to prevent, address and respond to conflict-related sexual violence

The day focuses on the prevalence and consequences of sexual violence in conflict zones.

International Day for the Elimination of Sexual Violence was established on June 19, 2015, by the United Nations General Assembly.

It is aimed at raising awareness about the need to end conflict-related sexual violence and honouring people who are subjected to sexual violence around the world.

The day was also created to pay tribute to those who strived to eradicate the crime and lost their lives doing that

238. World Refugee Day is observed annually on June 20. What is the theme of World Refugee Day 2023?

विश्व शरणार्थी दिवस प्रतिवर्ष 20 जून को मनाया जाता है। विश्व शरणार्थी दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Hope away from home
- (b) Together we heal, learn and shine.
- (c) Whoever, Whatever, Whenever
- (d) Step with Refugees
- (e) Global Compact on Refugee

Ans. a

Sol. 20 June - World Refugee Day

World Refugee Day is observed annually on June 20.

Objective - To raise awareness, show solidarity, and support the millions of refugees seeking safety, dignity, and a brighter future

Theme 2023 - Hope away from home

World Refugee Day has its origins in the United Nations General Assembly's Resolution 55/76, which was passed on December 4, 2000.

This resolution was introduced to raise awareness about the growing global population of refugees and to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention.

The 1951 Refugee Convention was created in the aftermath of World War II and laid the foundation for the legal framework governing the protection and rights of refugees.

It established the criteria for identifying individuals as refugees, outlined their entitlements, and delineated the responsibilities of nations in offering them safety and support.

The convention played a crucial role in safeguarding the rights and well-being of those who have been forced to flee their homes due to persecution or conflict.

239. Which state government has launched a free power scheme named 'Gruha Jyothi scheme' for providing free electricity up to 200 units a month?

किस राज्य सरकार ने एक महीने में 200 यूनिट तक मुफ्त बिजली प्रदान करने के लिए 'गृह ज्योति योजना' नाम से एक मुफ्त बिजली योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Punjab / पंजाब
- (b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Karnataka / कर्नाटक
- (e) Chhattisgarh / छत्तीसगढ़

Ans. d

Sol. Karnataka's free power scheme, 'Gruha Jyothi Scheme'

Karnataka government has launched a free power scheme named 'Gruha Jyothi scheme' for providing free electricity up to 200 units a month.

The scheme also extends to tenants living on rent if their electricity consumption matches the scheme's criteria.

Registration to the scheme is done on the Seva Sindhu portal under a special custom-made page.

Registration to the scheme is done on the Seva Sindhu portal under a special custom-made page

(<https://sevasindhugs.karnataka.gov.in>). The E-governance department has made the registration process very simple. The consumer must enter the electricity bill's customer ID, their Aadhar number, and mobile number.

The registration simultaneously started at Karnataka One, Grama One and Bengaluru One centre across the state.

The beneficiaries will get a 'zero bill' starting August 1 if usage is within their entitlement.

About Karnataka

- **Capital** – Bengaluru
- **Chief Minister** –Siddaramaiah
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - DK Shivakumar
- **Governor** – Thawar Chand Gehlot

240. Who has launched the "Dugdh Sanakalan Sathi Mobile App" in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand?

मसूरी, उत्तराखंड में "दुग्ध संकल्प साथी मोबाइल ऐप" किसने लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Nitin Gadkari / नितिन गडकरी
- (e) Mahendra Nath Pandey / महेंद्र नाथ पांडेय

Ans. e

Sol. Centre unveiled Dugdh Sanakalan Sathi Mobile App

Union minister of heavy industries, Mahendra Nath Pandey has launched the "Dugdh Sanakalan Sathi Mobile App" in Mussoorie, Uttarakhand.

This mobile application was developed by Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Limited (REIL), a CPSE Mini Ratna under the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

This mobile app aims to improve the quality of milk, foster transparency among stakeholders, and streamline operations at the grassroots village level, including milk cooperative societies.

The "Dugdh Sanakalan Sathi Mobile App" is expected to deliver significant benefits to all stakeholders involved in the milk collection process, including milk producers, cooperative societies, milk unions, and state federations.

241. Which company has signed an agreement with the German government for investing more than 30 billion euros (\$32.8 billion) in a chip manufacturing site in Magdeburg, Germany?

मैगडेबर्ग, जर्मनी में एक चिप निर्माण स्थल में 30 बिलियन यूरो (32.8 बिलियन डॉलर) से अधिक के निवेश के लिए किस कंपनी ने जर्मन सरकार के साथ एक समझौते पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) HP
- (b) Intel
- (c) AMD
- (d) IBM
- (e) Samsung

Ans. b

Sol. Intel and Germany sign agreement for \$32.8 billion chip plant investment

Intel has signed an agreement with the German government for investing more than 30 billion euros (\$32.8 billion) in a chip manufacturing site in Magdeburg, Germany.

Intel acquired the land for two semiconductor facilities in Magdeburg in eastern Germany in November 2022 and is expected to start production in four or five years.

The investment in Germany means a significant expansion of Intel's production capacity in Europe and is the biggest investment ever made by a foreign company in Germany.

The deal is poised to bolster the country's semiconductor industry and solidify Intel's position as a leading player in the market.

About Intel

- Founded- 18 July 1968
- Founders- Gordon Moore, Robert Noyce, Arthur Rock
- Headquarters- Santa Clara, California, United States
- CEO- Patrick P. Gelsinger
- Chairperson- Omar Ishrak

242. Which bank has partnered with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India?

किस बैंक ने भारत में कम लागत और तेजी से आवक प्रेषण की पेशकश करने के लिए वाइज 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) IndusInd Bank / इंडसइंड बैंक

Ans. e

Sol. IndusInd Bank collaborates with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India

IndusInd Bank has forged a strategic partnership with Wise, a global technology company specializing in secure money transfers.

The collaboration aims to provide convenient and efficient online inward remittance services specifically tailored for Non-Resident Indians (NRIs) residing in the United States and Singapore.

Through this partnership, IndusInd Bank's customers can transfer funds from these two major global markets. The remittance service, known as Indus Fast Remit (IFR), will integrate with the Wise Platform, allowing NRIs to enjoy a multi-currency inward remittance service.

Through this partnership, IndusInd Bank's customers can transfer funds from these two major global markets. The remittance service, known as Indus Fast Remit (IFR), will integrate with the Wise Platform, allowing NRIs to enjoy a multi-currency inward remittance service.

One of the primary benefits for customers utilizing the "Indus Fast Remit - Wise" service is the ability to avail highly competitive forex rates.

IndusInd Bank

- **Founded** - 1994
- **Founder** - S.P. Hinduja
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- **MD & CEO** - Sumant Kathpalia
- **Tagline** - We Make You Feel Richer

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- SIDBI signs MoU with HDFC Bank to offer financial solutions to MSMEs
- Wipro launched innovation experience for financial services with Microsoft
- Yes Securities partners with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions to healthcare professional
- Equitas SFB partnered with IBM for digital banking platform
- HDFC Bank partners Manipal Global to build up a talent pipeline

243. Swaminathan Janakiraman has been appointed as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for three years. He is currently the Managing Director of which bank?

स्वामीनाथन जानकीरमन को तीन साल के लिए भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) का डिप्टी गवर्नर नियुक्त किया गया है। वह वर्तमान में किस बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक 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. Swaminathan Janakiraman appointed as Deputy Governor of RBI

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has selected State Bank of India Managing Director Swaminathan Janakiraman for the post of Deputy Governor in the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for three years.

He will replace Deputy Governor Mahesh Kumar Jain whose tenure will end this month.

Mr. Jain, the former chief of IDBI Bank and Indian Bank, was appointed to the critical RBI role in 2018. Typically, at least one of the central bank's deputy governors is picked from public sector banks.

Mahesh K. Jain was appointed deputy governor in 2018.

RBI has three other deputy governors: T. Rabi Sankar, M. Rajeshwar Rao, and Michael Patra.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank** - P N Vasudevan
- **Part-time Chairman of Axis Bank** - N S Vishwanathan
- **Chairman of TransUnion Cibil** - V Anantharaman
- **MD & CEO of UCO Bank** - Ashwani Kumar (replace Soma Sankara Prasad)
- **MD & CEO of Karnataka Bank** - Srikrishnan Hari Hara Sarma

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. Tavarana Rabi Sankar
2. Mukesh Kumar Jain
3. Michael D Patra
4. M Rajeshwar Rao

244. Who has been appointed as the first Muslim female federal judge in US history?
अमेरिकी इतिहास में पहली मुस्लिम महिला संघीय न्यायाधीश के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Nusrat Chowdhary / नुसरत चौधरी
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Janani Ramachandran / जननी रामचंद्रन
- (e) Sonia Guajajara / सोनिया गुज्जारा

Ans. a

Sol. Nusrat Chowdhary confirmed first Muslim woman federal judge in US history

Nusrat Chowdhury, a civil rights lawyer, has been confirmed by the Senate as the first Muslim female federal judge in US history.

She will assume her lifetime appointment in Brooklyn federal court in New York after a 50-49 vote along party lines.

Prior to that post, she served from 2008 to 2020 at the national ACLU office, including seven years as deputy director of the ACLU Racial Justice Programme.

Recent Appointments

- **Harvard's vice president for finance and CFO** - Ritu Kalra (Indian-American origin)
- **President of World Bank** - Ajay Banga (Indian American)
- **1st-ever Indian-origin Lord Mayor of Birmingham** - Chaman Lal
- **US Ambassador for Global Women's Issues** - Indian-American Geeta Rao Gupta
- **Domestic policy advisor in Biden administration** - Indian-origin Neera Tandon

245. Who has been awarded the first Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award instituted by Bharat Jagruthi?

भारत जागृति द्वारा स्थापित प्रथम प्रो. कोठापल्ली जयशंकर पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Salman Rushdie / सलमान रुश्दी
- (d) Aravind Adiga / अरविंद अडिगा
- (e) Acharya Gopi / आचार्य गोपी

Ans. e

Sol. Acharya Gopi to be conferred with Prof. Jayashankar Award

Eminent poet, literary critic, and Sahitya Akademi Award recipient, Acharya N. Gopi has been selected for Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award instituted by Bharat Jagruthi, a cultural organization and extended arm of Bharat Rashtra Samithi.

The award would be presented to Acharya Gopi at an event to be organised at Telangana Saraswatha Parishath in Abids.

The award has been instituted earlier this year for honouring the littérateurs every year.

Acharya Gopi has so far penned 56 books including 26 compilations of poems, 7 compilations of essays, 5 translations and 3 research books.

His books were translated to several Indian languages as also into foreign languages such as German, Persian, Russian and others.

He worked as the Vice-Chancellor of Telugu University and acted as the in-charge V-C of Kakatiya and Dravida Universities in the past.

Recent Awards

- **German Peace Prize 2023** - Salman Rushdie
- **45th European Essay Prize** - Arundhati Roy (for 'Azadi' Essay)
- **'Athi Uttam' by the NABET** - GSITI Hyderabad
- **Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023** - Ramachandra Guha (for Rebels Against the Raj)
- **Governor of the Year at the Central Banking Awards 2023 in London** - RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das (Raghuram Rajan in 2015)

246. Indian Army is participating in multinational peacekeeping Joint Exercise Ex Khaan Quest 2023 in which country?
भारतीय सेना किस देश में बहुराष्ट्रीय शांति स्थापना संयुक्त अभ्यास एक्स खान क्वेस्ट 2023 में भाग ले रही है?

- (a) Mongolia / मंगोलिया
- (b) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (c) Oman / ओमान
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. a

Sol. Indian Army participates in multinational exercise 'Khaan Quest 2023'

Indian Army is participating in the multinational peacekeeping Joint Exercise Ex Khaan Quest 2023 in Mongolia.

Military contingents and observers from over 20 countries are participating in this exercise. President of Mongolia Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh inaugurated the Exercise.

The Indian Army is represented by a contingent from the Garhwal Rifles. The 14-day exercise is aimed at enhancing the interoperability of the participating nations, sharing experience, and training uniformed personnel for the United Nations Peacekeeping Operations.

The exercise will prepare participants for future UN Peacekeeping missions, develop peace operations capabilities and enhance military readiness.

The exercise includes Command Post Exercise, Field Training Exercises, combat discussions, lectures, and demonstration.

Recent Exercise

- **12th edition of "Ex Ekuverin" between Indian & Maldives** - Chaubatia, Uttarakhand.
- **AL MOHED AL HINDI 2023 Naval Exercise** between India & Saudi Arabia - Saudi Arabia -
- **Exercise Jal Rahat** between Indian Army's Gajraj and Joint Flood Relief - Hagrama Bridge (Manas River), Assam.
- **4th Samudra Shakti-23 exercise between India & Indonesia** – Batam, Indonesia
- **1st Maritime Exercise between India & ASEAN** - Changi Naval Base (Singapore) & South China Sea.

247. India gifted the indigenously-built in-service missile corvette INS Kirpan to which country to enhance that country's naval capabilities?

भारत ने किस देश की नौसैनिक क्षमताओं को बढ़ाने के लिए स्वदेश निर्मित इन-सर्विस मिसाइल कोरवेट आईएनएस किरपान उपहार में दिया है?

- (a) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- (b) Maldives / मालदीव
- (c) Vietnam / वियतनाम
- (d) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Ans. c

Sol. India gifts missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam

India gifted the indigenously-built in-service missile corvette INS Kirpan to Vietnam to enhance that country's naval capabilities.

INS Kirpan is a Khukri class missile corvette displacing 1,350 tonnes and was commissioned into the Navy on January 12, 1991.

It has a displacement of close to 1,400 tonnes, a length of 91 metres, a beam of 11 metres, and is capable of speed in excess of 25 knots.

The ship is fitted with a medium-range gun, 30 mm close-range guns, chaff launchers, and surface-to-surface missiles, enabling it to perform a wide variety of roles, including coastal and offshore patrol, coastal security, surface warfare, anti-piracy, and Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) operations.

In June 2022, India and Vietnam signed an MoU on mutual logistics support in the presence of the two Defence Ministers during Mr. Singh's visit to the Southeast Asian nation.

Hanoi has procured 12 high-speed patrol boats for the Vietnamese border guard force under a \$100 million Line of Credit (LoC) extended in September 2014.

In 2016, India extended another \$500 million defence LoC, and discussions are under way to identify the equipment.

About Vietnam

- Capital- Hanoi
- Currency- Vietnamese dong
- Prime Minister - Pham Minh Chinh
- President - Vo Van Thuong

248. Who won the bronze medal in the women's sabre event at the Asian Fencing Championships held in Wuxi, China?

चीन के वूशी में आयोजित एशियन फेंसिंग चैंपियनशिप में महिलाओं की सेबर स्पर्धा में कांस्य पदक किसने जीता है?

- (a) Mara Navarria / मारा नवरिया
- (b) Bhavani Devi / भवानी देवी
- (c) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह
- (d) Man Wai Vivian Kong / मैन वाई विवियन काँग
- (e) Auriane Mallo / औरियन मल्लो

Ans. b

Sol. Bhavani Devi creates history by winning India's first medal in Asian Fencing Championships. Bhavani Devi won the bronze medal in the women's sabre event at the Asian Fencing Championships held in Wuxi, China.

Bhavani lost her semi-final match against Uzbekistan's Zainab Daybekova with a score of 14-15.

In the quarterfinals, Bhavani defeated defending world champion Misaki Emura of Japan by a score of 15-10.

Bhavani's next challenge will be the World Championships to be held in Milan from July 22 to 30.

249. Who became the first Indian pair to win the doubles title at a BWF Super 1000 event at the Indonesia Open 2023?

इंडोनेशिया ओपन 2023 में BWF सुपर 1000 इवेंट में युगल खिताब जीतने वाली पहली भारतीय जोड़ी कौन बनी है?

- (a) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty / सात्विकसाईराज रंकीरेड्डी और चिराग शेट्टी
- (b) Lakshya Sen and Chirag Shetty / लक्ष्य सेन और चिराग शेट्टी
- (c) Srikanth Kidambi and Chirag Shetty / श्रीकांत किदांबी और चिराग शेट्टी
- (d) Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Lakshya Sen / सात्विकसाईराज रंकीरेड्डी और लक्ष्य सेन
- (e) Lakshya Sen and Srikanth Kidambi / लक्ष्य सेन और श्रीकांत किदांबी

Ans. a

Sol. Satwik-Chirag become men's doubles champions at Indonesia Open 2023

Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty became the first Indian pair to win the doubles title at a BWF Super 1000 event at the Indonesia Open 2023.

Indonesia Open 2023 took place at Istora Gelora Bung Karno in Jakarta, Indonesia.

They defeated the Malaysian world champion pair of Aaron Chia and Soh Wooi Yik in the final.

The win made them the first doubles team from India to win the Indonesia Open.

They also became the first pair from the country to win India's first Badminton World Federation Super 1000 title.

250. Which edition of National Games will be held in October 2023 in Goa?

अक्टूबर 2023 में गोवा में राष्ट्रीय खेलों का कौन सा संस्करण आयोजित किया जाएगा?

- (a) 35th
- (b) 37th
- (c) 39th
- (d) 41st
- (e) 42nd

Ans. b

Sol. 37th National Games' mascot 'Moga' unveiled

Goa's Chief Minister Pramod Sawant has launched 'Moga' at a launch ceremony held at Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Stadium in Taleigao, Goa.

The 37th edition of the national games of India will be held in various locations in the state of Goa.

It will feature competitions in a total of 43 disciplines.

It will also feature 'Gatka', a traditional martial art form associated with Punjab.

About the National Games:

- National Games in India are organized by the Indian Olympic Association.
- The Indian sports ministry has affirmed that the National Games will be held every two years, except in years where the Olympics and Asian Games are held.
- PT Usha is the president of the Indian Olympic Association which is headquartered in New Delhi.

About Goa

- **Formation** – 30 May 1987
- **Capital** – Panaji
- **Chief Minister** – Pramod Sawant
- **Governor** – P.S. Sreedharan Pillai

251. International yoga day is celebrated every year on 21 June. What is the theme of International Yoga Day 2023?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस हर साल 21 जून को मनाया जाता है। अंतर्राष्ट्रीय योग दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Yoga for Humanity
- (b) Yoga for Health - Yoga at Home
- (c) Yoga For Wellness'
- (d) Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam
- (e) Yoga for Heart

Ans. d

Sol. 21 June - International Yoga Day

International yoga day is celebrated every year on 21 June.

Objective - To promote awareness of the benefits of the ancient practice known as yoga

Theme 2023 - Yoga for Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam

This year we will be celebrating the 9th edition of the International Day of Yoga, and Prime Minister Narendra Modi will lead a yoga session at the UN Headquarters for the first time on 21 June 2023.

It was in 2014 when Prime Minister Narendra Modi proposed the idea of a dedicated yoga day during his address to the 69th session of the UN General Assembly on 11 December 2014 and he was supported unanimously by all the 193 UN member states who agreed to observe the International Day of Yoga on June 21.

The inaugural celebration took place on June 21, 2015.

252. World Music Day is observed every year on 21 June. What is the theme of World Music Day 2023?

विश्व संगीत दिवस हर साल 21 जून को मनाया जाता है। विश्व संगीत दिवस 2023 की थीम क्या है?

- (a) Music for all
- (b) Day To Make And Celebrate Music
- (c) Make Music Day
- (d) Music on the Intersections
- (e) Reduce for Stress

Ans. d

Sol. 21 June - World Music Day 2023

World Music Day is observed every year on 21 June.

This global event encourages individuals to appreciate and actively engage with all forms of music, irrespective of genre, style, or language.

Theme 2023 -Music on the Intersections

Music is an important part of each of our daily lives, serving as an important instrument for stress relief, motivation, emotional expression and as a connecting force with others.

The origins of World Music Day have been traced back to 1982 when French Minister of Culture Jack Lang proposed the idea of celebrating a day of music or Fête de la Musique (festival of music).

As per another theory, World Music Day has been celebrated since 1976 when Joel Cohen proposed the idea of an all-night music festival to celebrate the beginning of summer solstice.

253. World Hydrography Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व हाइड्रोग्राफी दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 20 June / 20 जून
- (b) 21 June / 21 जून
- (c) 22 June / 22 जून
- (d) 19 June / 19 जून
- (e) 23 June / 23 जून

Ans. b

Sol. 21 June - World Hydrography Day

World Hydrography Day is marked annually on June 21.

Objective - To increase public awareness and understanding of hydrography's role in ensuring safe and efficient navigation, sustainable marine resource management, and coastal zone development

This day holds great importance as it serves as a platform to highlight the crucial work carried out by hydrographers worldwide and to promote the significance of hydrography itself.

Theme 2023 - Hydrography - underpinning the digital twin of the ocean

The International Hydrographic Organization (IHO) was established in 1921, serving as a prominent entity focused on addressing various aspects of marine life.

Headquartered in Monaco, the organization played a crucial role in advocating navigation-related concerns, setting technical standards, and protecting marine environments, engaging directly with governments.

Through various activities and events organized on this day, the IHO aims to increase public awareness and understanding of hydrography's role in ensuring safe and efficient navigation, sustainable marine resource management, and coastal zone development.

254. Which of the following has launched a Knowledge Sharing Platform for inclusive development of National Highways?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने राष्ट्रीय राजमार्गों के समावेशी विकास के लिए नॉलेज शेयरिंग प्लेटफॉर्म लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) National Highways & Infrastructure Development Corporation Limited
- (b) Dedicated Freight Corridor Corporation of India
- (c) Ministry of Road Transport and Highways
- (d) Border Roads Organisation
- (e) National Highways Authority of India

Ans. e

Sol. NHAI launches 'Knowledge Sharing Platform' for development of Highways

The National Highways Authority of India (NHA) has launched a Knowledge Sharing Platform for inclusive development of National Highways.

This initiative will help the authority to collaborate with experts and citizens who want to share knowledge and insights related to topics such as road design, construction, road safety, environment sustainability and related fields.

The platform will encourage sharing of best practices from around the world and will contribute towards holistic development of the National Highway infrastructure in the country.

255. Which state will host India's first MotoGP racing event on 22 and 23 September?

कौन सा राज्य 22 और 23 सितंबर को भारत के पहले MotoGP रेसिंग इवेंट की मेजबानी करेगा?

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

Ans. a

Sol. UP to host country's 1st MotoGP event in September

The Uttar Pradesh government announced that the Buddh International circuit in Greater Noida will host India's first MotoGP racing event on 22 and 23 September.

The high-end racing machines in the adventurous championship will enhance the reputation of 'Brand UP'.

The development marks the return of a big-ticket motorsport event in the country after Formula 1's departure in 2013.

In September last year, top officials from MotoGP visited India to sign a seven-year agreement (MoU) with Indian race promoters Fairstreet Sports (FSS), which has the same rights on behalf of MotoGP in India.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

256. Which state government has sanctioned funds amounting to Rs 13.48 crore for development projects at temples and dargahs?

किस राज्य सरकार ने मंदिरों और दरगाहों में विकास परियोजनाओं के लिए 13.48 करोड़ रुपये की धनराशि स्वीकृत की है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Rajasthan govt approves Rs 13.48 crore for promoting religious tourism

The Rajasthan government has sanctioned Rs 13.48 crore to promote religious tourism at Nagaur, Jaisalmer, and Alwar regions of the state.

The state government has been continuously working to promote religious tourism and develop various facilities for pilgrims at these places.

Under the initiative, Rs 3.10 crore has been sanctioned for Butati in Nagaur district, Rs 1.65 crore for Ghatveshwar Mahadev Temple, Rs 1.61 crore for Harmal Das Ji Maharaj Temple and Rs 1.36 crore for improving facilities at Dargah Hazrat Samman Badi Khat. CM Ashok Gehlot announced the allocation of funds for development works at religious places in the 2023-24 State Budget.

About Rajasthan

- **Capital** – Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Ashok Gehlot
- **Governor** – Kalraj Mishra

257. The Indian cabinet has given its approval to Micron Technology's plan to invest \$2.7 billion in setting up a semiconductor testing and packaging unit in which state?

भारतीय कैबिनेट ने किस राज्य में सेमीकंडक्टर परीक्षण और पैकेजिंग इकाई स्थापित करने के लिए माइक्रोन टेक्नोलॉजी की 2.7 बिलियन डॉलर के निवेश की योजना को अपनी मंजूरी दे दी है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Cabinet approves Micron's \$2.7 bn semiconductor packaging plant

The Indian cabinet has given its approval to Micron Technology's plan to invest \$2.7 billion in setting up a semiconductor testing and packaging unit in Gujarat.

The government will provide production-linked incentives worth Rs 11,000 crore (\$1.34 billion) for the semiconductor plant.

This investment is expected to boost India's semiconductor industry and aligns with Prime Minister Modi's vision of making India a global hub for semiconductor production.

The new facility is anticipated to create jobs and enhance India's capabilities in the sector, contributing to its digital ambitions and self-reliance in advanced technologies.

About Gujarat

- Capital- Gandhinagar
- Chief Minister- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel
- Governor- Acharya Devvrat

258. Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 National Highway projects in which state?

केंद्रीय सड़क परिवहन और राजमार्ग मंत्री नितिन गडकरी ने किस राज्य में 4 राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग परियोजनाओं का उद्घाटन और शिलान्यास किया?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. e

Sol. Nitin Gadkari inaugurates 4 National Highway projects in Haryana

Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 4 National Highway projects at Sonapat, Karnal, and Ambala in Haryana.

The construction of 11 flyovers on 8-lane National Highway 44 from Delhi to Panipat in Sonapat at a cost of Rs 890 crore with a total length of 24 km will provide better connectivity to the economic nodes of Haryana, Punjab, and Jammu and Kashmir.

The construction of national highways, Karnal Greenfield 35 km 6-lane Ring Road at a cost of Rs 1690 crore is not just a road but will become the lifeline for the development and prosperity of the region in times to come.

Gadkari also Inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of 2 NH projects worth Rs 1255 Crore in Ambala, Haryana.

About Haryana

- **Capital** – Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Manohar Lal Khattar
- **Governor** – Bandaru Dattatreya

259. Which country has become the first Baltic nation to legalize same-sex marriage?

कौन सा देश समलैंगिक विवाह को वैध बनाने वाला पहला बाल्टिक देश बन गया है?

- (a) Sweden / स्वीडन
- (b) Denmark / डेनमार्क
- (c) Lithuania / लिथुआनिया
- (d) Estonia / एस्तोनिया
- (e) Latvia / लातविया

Ans. d

Sol. Estonia becomes 1st Baltic nation to legalize same-sex marriage

Estonia's parliament approved a law legalizing same-sex marriage, making it the first central European country to do so.

The law will come into effect in 2024.

The bill received 55 votes in the 101-seat parliament, from the coalition of liberal and social democratic parties.

53 percent of the population supported same-sex marriage in a 2023 poll by the Centre for Human Rights.

Same-sex marriage is legal in much of Western Europe but not in central European countries which were once under communist rule and members of the Moscow-led Warsaw Pact alliance but now members of NATO and, largely, the EU.

About Estonia

- Capital- Tallinn
- Currency - Euro
- Official language- Estonian
- Prime minister- Kaja Kallas

260. According to a new report, Glaciers in Asia's Hindu Kush Himalaya could lose up to how much percent of their volume by the century's end due to global warming?

एक नई रिपोर्ट के अनुसार, एशिया के हिंदू कुश हिमालय में ग्लेशियर ग्लोबल वार्मिंग के कारण सदी के अंत तक अपने आयतन का कितना प्रतिशत तक खो सकते हैं?

- (a) 45%
- (b) 55%
- (c) 75%
- (d) 90%
- (e) 100%

Ans. c

Sol. Himalayan Glaciers on Track to Lose up to 75% of Ice by 2100: Report

According to a new report, Glaciers in Asia's Hindu Kush Himalaya could lose up to 75 percent of their volume by the century's end due to global warming.

Global warming is causing dangerous flooding and water shortages for the 240 million people who live in the mountainous region.

A team of international scientists has found that ice loss in the region, home to the famous peaks of Everest and K2, is speeding up. During the 2010s, the glaciers shed as much as 65 percent of ice, which was faster than they had in the preceding decade, according to the assessment by the Kathmandu-based International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD).

The Hindu Kush Himalaya stretches 3,500 km (2,175 miles) across Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, China, India, Myanmar, Nepal and Pakistan. At 1.5 degrees Celsius or 2 degrees Celsius of warming above pre-industrial temperatures, glaciers across the entire region will lose 30 percent to 50 percent of their volume by 2100.

261. According to the climate report, which of the following continent is world's fastest-warming continent?

जलवायु रिपोर्ट के अनुसार निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा महाद्वीप विश्व का सबसे तेज गर्म होने वाला महाद्वीप है?

- (a) Asia
- (b) Europe
- (c) Africa
- (d) North America
- (e) South America

Ans. b

Sol. Europe is world's fastest-warming continent: climate report

Europe should brace for more deadly heatwaves driven by climate change, said a sweeping report, noting the world's fastest-warming continent was some 2.3 degrees Celsius hotter last year.

Crop-withering drought, record sea-surface temperatures, and unprecedented glacier melt are among the consequences laid out in a report by the WMO and the EU's Copernicus Climate Change Service.

Since the 1980s, Europe has been warming twice the global average and witnessed its warmest summer on record last year as countries like France, Germany, Italy, Portugal, Spain, and the United Kingdom faced their warmest year on record.

Since the mid-1800s, the world has warmed at an average of around 1.2C, leading to a devastating cascade of extreme weather, which includes more severe droughts in a few areas, more intense heatwaves and storms which will be made more ferocious by rising seas.

262. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)?

भारतीय विशिष्ट पहचान प्राधिकरण (यूआईडीएआई) के नए सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajesh Verma / राजेश वर्मा
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) Dixit Joshi / दीक्षित जोशी
- (d) Amit Agrawal / अमित अग्रवाल
- (e) Sanjay Kumar Verma / संजय कुमार वर्मा

Ans. d

Sol. Senior IAS officer Amit Agrawal assumes charge as CEO of UIDAI

Senior IAS officer Amit Agrawal has assumed the charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).

He is an officer of the 1993 IAS batch from the Chhattisgarh cadre.

A graduate from the Indian Institute of Technology, Kanpur, he held several important positions both at the Centre and states of Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh.

Prior to joining UIDAI as CEO, he was Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).

Recent Appointment

- **First Muslim woman federal judge in US history** - Nusrat Chowdhary
- **Chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)** - Ravi Sinha (replace Samant Kumar Goel)
- **MD of of Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL)** - Kamal Kishore Chatiwal (replace Sanjay Kumar)
- **Director (Personnel) of NHPC Ltd** - Uttam Lal
- **Marketing Director of GAIL** - Sanjay Kumar

263. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of GIFT City Ltd?

GIFT सिटी लिमिटेड के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Ashwani Kumar / अश्विनी कुमार
- (c) Hasmukh Adhia / हसमुख अधिया
- (d) Tablesch Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. c

Sol. Hasmukh Adhia appointed as Chairman of GIFT City

Senior retired bureaucrat and former Union Finance Secretary & Revenue Secretary, Hasmukh Adhia has been appointed as Chairman of GIFT City Ltd.

Adhia replaces Sudhir Mankad, former chief secretary of Gujarat.

The entity responsible for developing India's first smart city Gujarat International Finance-Tec City in Gandhinagar.

Besides GIFT City, Adhia has also been appointed Director and Chairman of the boards of State public sector undertakings Gujarat Alkalies & Chemicals Ltd (GACL) and Gujarat Mineral Development Corporation Ltd (GMDC) with immediate effect.

Adhia, a Gujarat cadre IAS officer of the 1981 batch, currently serves as an advisor to the Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel.

At present Adhia is a non-executive Chairman of Bank of Baroda, and also the Chancellor of Central University of Gujarat.

He serves as a member of the Board of Governors of the Indian Institute of Management Bangalore.

He also serves as Vice-President in Gujarat Energy Research and Management Institute (GERMI) and Pandit Deendayal Energy University, Gandhinagar.

Recent Appointment

- **CMD of NMDC Steel Limited** - Amitava Mukherjee (reappointment)
- **Director General of the National Testing Agency (NTA)** - Subodh Kumar Singh
- **Chair-elect of IATA's Board of Governors** - Pieter Elbers
- **CMD of Director of Container Corporation of India Ltd (CONCOR)** - Sanjay Swarup
- **Chairman of The Hindu Group** - Nirmala Laxman (replace Malini Parthasarathy)

264. Which company has received orders worth Rs 3,914 crore of orders for the Akash Prime Weapon System?

किस कंपनी को आकाश प्राइम वेपन सिस्टम के लिए 3,914 करोड़ रुपये के ऑर्डर मिले हैं?

- (a) BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited / ब्रह्मोस एयरोस्पेस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड
- (b) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) / लार्सन एंड टुब्रो (एल एंड टी)
- (c) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड (बीईएल)

Ans. e

Sol. BEL receives orders worth Rs 5900 crore for Akash Missiles

Bharat Electronics (BEL) has received orders worth Rs 5,900 crore, of which Rs 3,914 crore of orders are from the Akash Prime Weapon System.

BEL received a work order for 2 regiments of Improved Akash Weapon System (AWS) with upgrades from Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), another defence PSU, for a value of Rs 3,914 crores.

Akash is an all-weather, point/area air-defense weapon system for defending vulnerable points/areas against threats emanating from low, medium and high altitudes. The system uses high-mobility vehicles for mobile application.

The improvements incorporated include high altitude operation, simultaneous engagement of multiple threats over 360 degrees, missiles fitted with RF Seeker and reduced footprint.

265. Which company has started delivering 'Armado,' an Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV), built specifically for the Indian armed forces?

किस कंपनी ने विशेष रूप से भारतीय सशस्त्र बलों के लिए निर्मित एक बख्तरबंद लाइट स्पेशलिस्ट वाहन (ALSV) 'आर्मडो' की डिलीवरी शुरू कर दी है?

- (a) BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited / ब्रह्मोस एयरोस्पेस प्राइवेट लिमिटेड
- (b) Mahindra Defence Systems / महिंद्रा डिफेंस सिस्टम्स
- (c) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड (बीईएल)

Ans. b

Sol. Indian Army takes delivery of Mahindra Armado armoured vehicle

Mahindra Defence Systems has started delivering 'Armado,' an Armoured Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV), built specifically for the Indian armed forces.

The Mahindra 'Armado' Armored Light Specialist Vehicle (ALSV) is a light armoured specialist vehicle built for use by military and defence forces.

The modular type vehicle allows for efficient maintenance and can be upgraded or configured in the field for a wide variety of operational roles. The ALSV offers ballistic protection up to B7, STANAG Level II.

The ALSV provides protected mobility at the front, side, and rear as per STANAG Level I Ballistics and Blast for four crew members with battle load with ample stowage space for arms and ammunition inside the crew compartment and additional 400 kgs cargo load-carrying capacity. It can also be upgradable up to STANAG – II Ballistics.

The Mahindra Armado makes use of a 3.2-litre diesel engine that makes 215 hp power and comes with an automatic transmission. It gets standard 4X4 with front and rear differential locks with 1,000 kg payload capacity, self-recovery winch, and a high travel all-wheel independent suspension with central type inflation system.

The Armado has a maximum speed of 120 kmph and can accelerate from 0 to 60 kmph in 12 seconds. It has a 30-degree gradability with parking brake holding capacity in full GVW, along with 50 km run-flat system on all five wheels.

266. The India U-23 women's team won the 2023 Women's Emerging Asia Cup T20 title after defeating which team in the final held at the Mission Round Ground in Hong Kong?

भारत की अंडर-23 महिला टीम ने हांगकांग के मिशन राउंड ग्राउंड में आयोजित फाइनल में किस टीम को हराकर 2023 महिला इमर्जिंग एशिया कप टी20 का खिताब जीता है?

- (a) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (b) Nepal / नेपाल
- (c) Bhutan / भूटान
- (d) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- (e) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश

Ans. e

Sol. India beat Bangladesh to win Women's Emerging Asia Cup 2023

The India U-23 women's team won the 2023 Women's Emerging Asia Cup T20 title after defeating Bangladesh in the final held at the Mission Round Ground in Hong Kong.

India's Kanika Ahuja was named the Player of the Match, who stayed not out on 30 off 23 with four fours in the final.

While India's Shreyanka Patil was named the Player of the Series, as she was the highest-wicket taker.

India has scored 127 for the loss of seven wickets in 20 overs.

267. World Rainforest Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व वर्षावन दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 20 June / 20 जून
- (b) 21 June / 21 जून
- (c) 22 June / 22 जून
- (d) 23 June / 23 जून
- (e) 24 June / 24 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 22 June - World Rainforest Day

World Rainforest Day is observed every year on 22 June.

Objective - To raise awareness about the importance of rainforests, their biodiversity and the urgent need for their preservation.

Theme 2023 - Conserve Restore Regenerate.

The roots of World Rainforest Day can be traced back to 2017 when the Rainforest Partnership, a non-profit environmental organization based in Austin, Texas, launched the global event.

This initiative was aimed at raising awareness about the importance of rainforests and their invaluable contributions to the planet.

268. Which state government has launched the state government's ambitious panchayat-level drugs shop scheme, aimed at making essential medicines available in remote areas?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य सरकार की महत्वाकांक्षी पंचायत-स्तरीय दवा दुकान योजना शुरू की है, जिसका उद्देश्य दूरदराज के क्षेत्रों में आवश्यक दवाएं उपलब्ध कराना है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Jharkhand government launches panchayat-level medicine scheme

Jharkhand chief minister Hemant Soren has launched the state government's ambitious panchayat-level drugs shop scheme, aimed at making essential medicines available in remote areas.

Hemant Soren inaugurated the scheme in Chatra district by handing over licences to three persons for operating the medicine shops in panchayats.

A total of 15 people have been selected for licences in the district so far. Essential medicines will be now be available here, so that villagers living in remote areas do not have to run from pillar to post for medicines

The CM also laid foundation of 177 projects worth around Rs 364 crore for Chatra district. He inaugurated 42 projects to the tune of nearly Rs 14.6 crore on the occasion.

The programs like 'Sarkar Aapke Dwar' will be restarted to establish a "real connection with people

About Jharkhand

- **Capital** – Ranchi
- **Chief Minister** – Hemant Soren
- **Governor** - C.P. Radhakrishnan

269. Which state government police has launched a helpline number for women travelling alone at night between 10 pm and 6 am?

किस राज्य सरकार की पुलिस ने रात 10 बजे से सुबह 6 बजे के बीच अकेले यात्रा करने वाली महिलाओं के लिए एक हेल्पलाइन नंबर शुरू किया है?

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

Ans. b

Sol. Tamil Nadu police launches new scheme for Women Traveling Alone at Night

The Tamil Nadu Police has launched a helpline number for women travelling alone at night between 10 pm and 6 am.

If they feel unsafe travelling alone, they can dial the number, and a police patrol vehicle will be made available.

The facility has been launched by the police to ensure women's safety in the state, and it can be availed free of cost.

Women in need of a conveyance at night can call the police helpline numbers 1091, 112, 044-23452365 and 044-28447701.

The police patrol vehicles will pick her up from the location, and drop her to the destination. The service is available for women on all days.

About Tamil Nadu

- **Capital** – Chennai
- **Chief Minister** – M K Stalin
- **Governor** – R N Ravi

270. Which city created a new Guinness World Record with the participation of 1.53 lakh people in the Yoga Day event?

किस शहर ने योग दिवस कार्यक्रम में 1.53 लाख लोगों की भागीदारी के साथ नया गिनीज वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड बनाया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) Panaji / पणजी
- (c) Bhubaneswar / भुवनेश्वर
- (d) Surat / सूरत
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. Surat sets Guinness World Record for largest gathering on Yoga Day

The Yoga Day event organised in Surat city of Gujarat has set a new Guinness World Record for the largest gathering for a yoga session at one place with 1.53 lakh people joining the program.

The previous world record was set in 2018 in Kota city of Rajasthan when 1,00,984 people participated in a Yoga Day session in one place.

The participants were given wristbands with QR codes for accurate counting. The QR code data confirmed the participation of 1.53 lakh people surpassing the previous record.

Nearly 2.20 lakh people registered themselves through an online link created for this purpose.

271. Which of the following has partnered with Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) to empower women and provide them with better career opportunities in the realm of entrepreneurship?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने महिलाओं को सशक्त बनाने और उन्हें उद्यमिता के क्षेत्र में बेहतर कैरियर के अवसर प्रदान करने के लिए दीनदयाल अंत्योदय योजना-राष्ट्रीय शहरी आजीविका मिशन (DAY-NULM) के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) United Nations Populations Fund (UNFPA) / संयुक्त राष्ट्र जनसंख्या कोष (यूएनएफपीए)
- (b) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)/ संयुक्त राष्ट्र विकास कार्यक्रम (यूएनडीपी)
- (c) World Economic Forum (WEF) / विश्व आर्थिक मंच (डब्ल्यूईएफ)
- (d) United Nations Education Scientific & Cultural Organization (UNESCO) / संयुक्त राष्ट्र शिक्षा वैज्ञानिक और सांस्कृतिक संगठन (यूनेस्को)
- (e) World Bank (WB) / विश्व बैंक (डब्ल्यूबी)

Ans. b

Sol. UNDP partners with DAY-NULM towards empowering women entrepreneurs

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM) joined hands to empower women and provide them with better career opportunities in the realm of entrepreneurship. The partnership will provide support for women looking to start and expanding their own enterprises, particularly in sectors such as care economy, digital economy, electric mobility, waste management, food packaging and more.

Focused on fostering entrepreneurship development and accelerating enterprise growth, the three-year project, extendable beyond 2025, will cover eight cities in the initial phase.

Women entrepreneurship is a proven strategy for poverty alleviation, financial independence, and reshaping gender norms. Today, women account for only 15 percent of the total entrepreneurs in India.

Drawing on its extensive experience in linking over 200,000 women to improved employment opportunities, UNDP will provide national-level capacity-building support to DAY-NULM.

As part of the partnership, UNDP and DAY-NULM will engage in on-ground mobilization activities, which involve identifying areas of urban poverty and potential entrepreneurs, as well as facilitating access to Business Development Services.

272. UK based Lloyds Banking Group will set up a new technology center in which city?

यूके स्थित लॉयड्स बैंकिंग ग्रुप किस शहर में अपना एक नया प्रौद्योगिकी केंद्र स्थापित करेगा?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. c

Sol. UK's Lloyds Banking Group to set up tech center in Hyderabad

The UK-based Lloyds Banking Group has decided to invest in a new technology centre in Hyderabad.

The Lloyds Technology Centre is a part of the group's £3 billion strategic investment over the next three years to transform its digital offering.

The group, with over 20 million digitally active users will initially employ around 600 highly skilled specialists in technology, data, and cyber security roles.

Lloyds Technology Centre will not provide any banking services but will focus on using technology and digital, data and analytics capabilities to drive innovation and end-to-end product delivery and is a step forward in the group's approach to international resourcing.

About United Kingdom (UK)

- **Capital** - London
- **Currency** - Pound sterling
- **Prime Minister** – Rishi Sunak

273. Which of the following bank has launched the 'one-view' feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts?

निम्नलिखित में से किस बैंक ने अपने मोबाइल एप्लिकेशन पर 'वन-व्यू' सुविधा लॉन्च की है जो कई बैंक खातों में खाता प्रबंधन को सक्षम बनाता 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. b

Sol. Axis Bank launches 'One-View' feature

Axis Bank has launched the 'one-view' feature on its mobile application which enables account management across multiple bank accounts, including non-Axis accounts.

The feature has been launched using the open banking principle leveraging the account aggregator (AA) ecosystem—an industry-first initiative.

AA or data aggregator platforms provide secure sharing of information while maintaining customer consent and data privacy.

Customers can link their non-Axis Bank accounts and get a comprehensive view of their balance, transactions and statements on a real-time basis, thus simplifying the process of managing finances and providing access to multiple bank accounts on one platform.

The feature will eliminate the need for multiple mobile banking applications and also allow customers to download and e-mail transaction details from their linked accounts.

About Axis Bank

- **Founded** - 1993
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Rakesh Makhija
- **MD & CEO** - Amitabh Chaudhary
- **Tagline** - Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Paytm introduces **UPI SDK** for seamless online merchant payments
- Kotak Mahindra Bank launches '**ActivMoney**', auto sweep account
- Indian Overseas Bank Introduces "**MY ACCOUNT MY NAME**"
- South Indian Bank launches **digital platform for hassle-free account opening**
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB) launched a new deposit scheme '**Vikas Ashadeep 400 days**'.

274. Rating agency Fitch has raised India's GDP forecast for the financial year 2023-24 to how much percent from 6 percent?

रेटिंग एजेंसी फिच ने वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 के लिए भारत की जीडीपी का अनुमान 6 प्रतिशत से बढ़ाकर कितना प्रतिशत कर दिया है?

- (a) 6.1%
- (b) 6.2%
- (c) 6.3%
- (d) 6.4%
- (e) 6.5%

Ans. c

Sol. Fitch raises India's GDP forecast to 6.3% from 6% for FY24

Ratings agency Fitch has raised India's GDP forecast for the financial year 2023-24 to 6.3 percent from 6 percent.

The revision is based on a stronger first-quarter performance and positive momentum in the near term.

In FY23, the growth forecast compares with a 7.2% GDP expansion. The economy had a growth of 9.1% in FY22.

The growth forecast compares with 7.2 percent GDP expansion in FY23. In the previous fiscal year (FY22), the economy had grown 9.1 percent.

Updated GDP List

- World Bank - 6.3% (FY24), 6.4% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)
- MOODY'S. – 5.5% (FY23)
- S&P – 7% (FY24), 6.3% (FY25)
- IMF – 5.9% (FY24), 6.8% (FY25)
- ADB – 6.4% (FY24), 6.7% (FY25)
- RBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- India Ratings – 6.9% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING – 6.3%

275. Which Payments Bank has partnered with Care Health Insurance to offer health insurance products to its customer?

किस पेमेंट्स बैंक ने अपने ग्राहकों को स्वास्थ्य बीमा उत्पाद पेश करने के लिए केयर हेल्थ इश्योरेंस के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Airtel Payments Bank / एयरटेल पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (b) India Post Payments Bank / इंडिया पोस्ट पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (c) FINO Payments Bank / फिनो पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (d) Paytm Payments Bank / पेटीएम पेमेंट्स बैंक
- (e) Jio Payments Bank / जियो पेमेंट्स बैंक

Ans. a

Sol. Airtel Payments Bank ties up with Care for health insurance

Airtel Payments Bank has partnered with Care Health Insurance to offer health insurance products to its customer via the Airtel Thanks app.

Under partnership, Airtel Payments Bank will be able to provide their customers with Care Health Insurance products along with the comprehensive and customized Health Insurance offering - Group care 360° through the banking section of the Airtel Thanks App. With this product, Airtel Payments Bank's customers can avail of comprehensive coverage for the entire family with a wide range of sum-insured options, ranging from ₹50,000 to ₹5 lakh.

Additionally, it covers a host of other benefits including coverage for pre-existing ailments & daycare treatment.

This health cover would financially secure the policyholder against possible unforeseen medical exigencies of the future by enabling access to quality healthcare.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- IndusInd Bank collaborates with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India
- SIDBI signs MoU with HDFC Bank to offer financial solutions to MSMEs
- Wipro launched innovation experience for financial services with Microsoft
- Yes Securities partners with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions to healthcare professional
- Equitas SFB partnered with IBM for digital banking platform
- HDFC Bank partners Manipal Global to build up a talent pipeline

276. Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Alibaba Group?

अलीबाबा ग्रुप के नए सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Clara Wu Tsai /क्लारा वू त्साई
- (b) Eddie Wu /एडी वू
- (c) Joseph Tsai /जोसेफ त्साई
- (d) Daniel Zhang /डैनियल झांग
- (e) Masayoshi Son / मासायोशी बेटा

Ans. b

Sol. Eddie Wu appoints as new CEO of Alibaba

Eddie Wu has been appointed as the new CEO of Alibaba Group while Joseph Tsai as Executive Chairman.

Eddie Wu is one of the co-founders of Alibaba and currently serves as the chairman of Taobao and Tmall Group.

This leadership change is the second major change for Alibaba in recent years after Jack Ma stepped down in 2019.

About Alibaba

- Founded - 4 April 1999
- Headquarters - Hangzhou, China
- Founders - Jack Ma, Joseph C. Tsai, Zhang Ying, Jianhang Jin

277. Petri Orpo has been elected as the new Prime Minister of which country?

पेट्री ओर्पो को किस देश का नया प्रधान मंत्री चुना गया है?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Norway / नॉर्वे
- (c) Brazil / ब्राजील
- (d) Finland / फिनलैंड
- (e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

Ans. d

Sol. Petteri Orpo elected as new PM of Finland

Petteri Orpo, the leader of the conservative party in Finland, has been elected as the country's prime minister by the parliament.

Orpo will replace Sanna Marin of the Social Democrats, who finished third in the polls.

Orpo's election was supported by 107 members of parliament, while 81 opposed and 11 abstained.

About Finland

- Capital- Helsinki
- Currency- Euro
- Prime Minister- Sanna Marin

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- President of Latvia - Edgars Rinkevics
- President of Turkey - Recep Tayyip Erdogan (re-elected)
- President of Nigeria -Bola Ahmed Tinubu
- President of Paraguay - Santiago Peña
- President of Bangladesh - Mohammed Shahabuddin Chuppu (22nd)
- Deputy prime minister of UK - Oliver Dowden

278. Who has been appointed as interim MD & CEO of PTC India Financial Services Ltd (PFS)?

पीटीसी इंडिया फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज लिमिटेड (पीएफएस) के अंतरिम एमडी और सीईओ के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Pranav Haridasan / प्रणव हरिदासन
- (b) Mahendra Lodha / महेंद्र लोढ़ा
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Ans. b

Sol. Mahendra Lodha appointed interim MD & CEO of PFS

Mahendra Lodha has been appointed as interim MD & CEO of PTC India Financial Services Ltd (PFS).

The move comes after the the current MD & CEO Pawan Singh has been sent on leave.

The PFS is an Indian non-banking financial institution promoted by PTC India (PTC) to make principal investments across the energy value chain.

Recent Appointment

- **Chairman of GIFT City** - Hasmukh Adhia (replace Sudhir Mankad)
- **CEO of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** - Amit Agrawal
- **First Muslim woman federal judge in US history** - Nusrat Chowdhary
- **Chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)** - Ravi Sinha (replace Samant Kumar Goel)
- **MD of of Indraprastha Gas Ltd (IGL)** - Kamal Kishore Chatiwal (replace Sanjay Kumar)

279. Who has been awarded Olympic Order by the International Olympic Committee (IOC)?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ओलंपिक समिति (IOC) द्वारा ओलंपिक ऑर्डर से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Christophe De Kepper / क्रिस्टोफ़ डी केपर
- (b) Thomas Bach / थॉमस बाख
- (c) Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus / डॉ. टेड्रोस गेब्रेयेसस
- (d) Santiago Peña / सैंटियागो पेना
- (e) Gianni Infantino / गियानी इन्फैनटिनो

Ans. c

Sol. WHO DG Tedros Ghebreyesus awarded Olympic Order by IOC

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) awarded the Olympic Order to Dr. Tedros Ghebreyesus, Director General of the World Health Organization (WHO).

The award was given to Dr. Tedros for his efforts in holding the Olympic Games Tokyo 2020 despite the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Olympic Order was presented to Dr Tedros, for his support of the cooperation agreement between the IOC and the WHO signed in 2020, by International Olympic Committee (IOC) President Thomas Bach at the Olympic House here.

About International Olympic Committee (IOC)

- Founded - 23 June 1894
- Founders - Pierre de Coubertin and D. Bikélas
- Headquarters - Lausanne, Switzerland
- President - Thomas Bach
- Director General - Christophe De Kepper

Recent Awards

- **First Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award** - Acharya Gopi
- **German Peace Prize 2023** - Salman Rushdie
- **45th European Essay Prize** - Arundhati Roy (for 'Azadi' Essay)
- **'Athi Uttam' by the NABET** - GSITI Hyderabad
- **Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023** - Ramachandra Guha (for Rebels Against the Raj)

280. United Nations Public Service Day is observed every year on which day?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र लोक सेवा दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 June / 25 जून
- (b) 21 June / 21 जून
- (c) 22 June / 22 जून
- (d) 23 June / 23 जून
- (e) 24 June / 24 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 23 June - United Nations Public Service Day

United Nations Public Service Day is observed every year on 23 June.

Commemorated on June 23, this special occasion aims to shine a spotlight on the vital role played by public servants.

It also seeks to honor the commendable work of these dedicated individuals and inspire the younger generation to embark on meaningful careers within the public sector.

On December 20, 2002, the General Assembly of the United Nations officially designated June 23 as Public Service Day through the adoption of resolution 57/277.

In order to enhance the recognition of this important day and highlight the significance of public service, the United Nations launched the UN Public Service Awards (UNPSA) program in 2003.

In 2016, the program underwent a review to align its objectives with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

281. World Olympic Day or International Olympic Day is observed every year on which day?

विश्व ओलंपिक दिवस या अंतर्राष्ट्रीय ओलंपिक दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 June / 25 जून
- (b) 21 June / 21 जून
- (c) 22 June / 22 जून
- (d) 23 June / 23 जून
- (e) 24 June / 24 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 23 June - International Olympic Day

World Olympic Day or International Olympic Day is celebrated all around the world on June 23.

The day is celebrated to commemorate the founding of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and promote the values of the Olympic Movement.

This day is marked by sports activities such as runs, exhibitions, music, and educational seminars involving athletes from all nations. In 1948, World Olympic Day was established to commemorate 23 June 1894, when the modern Olympic Games were born at the Sorbonne in Paris.

The IOC encourages National Olympic Committees (NOCs) around the world to organize events and activities to promote sports and Olympic values on this day.

About International Olympic Committee (IOC)

- Founded - 23 June 1894
- Founders - Pierre de Coubertin and D. Bikélas
- Headquarters - Lausanne, Switzerland
- President - Thomas Bach
- Director General - Christophe De Kepper

282. International Widows Day is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय विधवा दिवस प्रत्येक वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 June / 25 जून
- (b) 21 June / 21 जून
- (c) 22 June / 22 जून
- (d) 23 June / 23 जून
- (e) 24 June / 24 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 23 June - International Widows Day

International Widows Day is celebrated every year on 23 June.

Objective - To raise awareness about the plight of widows worldwide and to advocate for their rights and well-being.

The day serves as a reminder of the challenges faced by widows and the need to address their unique social, economic and legal issues.

International Widows Day was first recognised and established by the United Nations on June 23, 2011.

The day was officially recognized through a resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly, acknowledging the hardships faced by widows globally and the need to address their rights and welfare.

283. Who has launched the PM-Kisan Mobile App with Face Authentication Feature?

फेस ऑथेंटिकेशन फीचर के साथ पीएम-किसान मोबाइल ऐप किसने लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Narendra Tomar / नरेंद्र तोमर
- (b) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (e) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर

Ans. a

Sol. Narendra Tomar launches PM Kisan Mobile App with Face Authentication

The PM-Kisan Mobile App with Face Authentication Feature was launched by Union Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Minister Narendra Singh Tomar.

Through this App, remote farmers can do e-KYC by scanning their faces without OTP or fingerprint.

PM-Kisan is an innovative scheme whose benefits are being given by the central government to the farmers without any middlemen.

PM-Kisan is a very comprehensive and ambitious scheme of the Central Government and due to the support of States, the Centre is in a position to pay the installment to about 8.5 crore farmers after the completion of their KYC.

PM Kisan is one of the world's largest DBT schemes in which farmers get six thousand rupees directly transferred through Aadhaar-linked bank accounts in three installments in a year. Two lakh 42 thousand crore rupees have been transferred to the accounts of more than 11 crore farmers till date.

Narendra Singh Tomar in News

- Narendra Tomar launches PM Kisan Mobile App with Face Authentication
- Narendra Singh Tomar launches Biological Control Lab in Hyderabad
- Narendra Singh Tomar inaugurates Summit on Farm Machinery Technology
- Narendra Singh Tomar launched the first of its kind 'Millets Experience Centre (MEC)' at Dilli Haat in New Delhi.
- Narendra Singh Tomar introduced a new platform called 'DigiClaim' on the national crop insurance portal.

284. The Odisha cabinet approved an additional outlay of over Rs 1,000 crore for the ABADHA Yojana. What is the full form of ABADHA Yojana?

ओडिशा कैबिनेट ने ABADHA योजना के लिए 1,000 करोड़ रुपये से अधिक के अतिरिक्त परिव्यय को मंजूरी दी। ABADHA योजना का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) Augmentation of Basic Amenities and Development of Heritage and Agriculture
- (b) Agriculture of Basic Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture
- (c) Amenities of Basic Agriculture and Development of Heritage and Architecture
- (d) Augmentation of Business Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture
- (e) Augmentation of Basic Amenities and Development of Hatt and Architecture

Ans. a

Sol. Odisha cabinet approves Rs 1,000 cr for transforming Puri

The Odisha cabinet approved an additional outlay of over Rs 1,000 crore for the ABADHA Yojana.

In 2019, the Odisha government allocated Rs 3208 crore under the Augmentation of Basic Amenities and Development of Heritage and Architecture (ABADHA) scheme in three years to transform Puri into a world heritage city.

Now, the State government decided to raise the amount to Rs 4224.22 crore.

Similarly, the Odisha cabinet also approved the implementation of the MMSY-Connecting Unconnected Villages in Difficult areas for a period of 2 years i.e. from 2023-24 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs 976 crore.

The Cabinet has approved the execution of projects with a length of 361.34 km approximately targeted to be taken up in 2023-24 & 2024-25.

The Odisha State Cabinet has also approved a projected outlay of Rs 3354.40 crore for the "Mukhyamantri Sampurna Pushti Yojana (MSPY)".

The yojana is aimed at transforming nutrition outcomes of adolescent girls (15-19 years), pregnant women & lactating mothers, SAM, MAM, and severely underweight children of under 6 years of age across the state over a period of five years commencing from FY 2023-24.

About Odisha

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

285. Which of the following has launched Anti Money Laundering AI (AML AI) to help financial institutions detect money laundering more effectively and efficiently?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने वित्तीय संस्थानों को मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग का अधिक प्रभावी ढंग से और कुशलता से पता लगाने में मदद करने के लिए एंटी मनी लॉन्ड्रिंग एआई (एएमएल एआई) लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) Microsoft Azure
- (b) Amazon Web Services
- (c) Google Drive
- (d) OneDrive
- (e) Google Cloud

Ans. e

Sol. Google Cloud launches anti-money-laundering tool for banks

Google Cloud has launched Anti Money Laundering AI (AML AI) to help financial institutions detect money laundering more effectively and efficiently.

The product utilizes machine learning to assist banks and other financial institutions in meeting regulatory requirements for identifying and reporting suspicious activities.

The tool is designed to aid global financial institutions to detect money laundering more effectively and efficiently.

The risk score is based on the bank's data including network behavior, and Know Your Customer (KYC) data.

286. Which airline has placed an order for 500 Airbus A320 Family aircraft in the largest purchase agreement in aviation history?

किस एयरलाइन ने विमानन इतिहास में सबसे बड़े खरीद समझौते में 500 एयरबस A320 फैमिली विमानों का ऑर्डर दिया है?

- (a) Go First
- (b) Spice Jet
- (c) Vistara
- (d) Air India
- (e) Indigo

Ans. e

Sol. IndiGo makes historic order for 500 Airbus planes worth USD 50 billion

India's largest airline by market share, Indigo has placed an order for 500 Airbus A320 Family aircraft in the largest purchase agreement in aviation history.

This historic deal is pegged at \$50 billion at list prices and the airline will take delivery of these new aircraft between 2030 and 2035.

The current order comprises a mix of A320 neo, A321 neo, and A321 xlr aircraft

The engine selection for this order will be done in due course and so will be the exact mix of A320 and A321 aircraft.

At the moment IndiGo operates over 300 aircraft and has previous orders totaling 480 aircraft which are expected to be delivered by the end of 2030.

With this additional firm order of 500 aircraft for 2030-2035, IndiGo's order book has almost 1,000 aircraft yet to be delivered well into the next decade.

Currently, IndiGo operates flights to 26 international destinations, serving 75 international city pairs.

With its fleet of over 300 aircraft, the airline is operating well over 1,800 daily flights connecting 78 domestic destinations.

287. Which of the following state / UTs has celebrated Vitasta Mahotsav?

निम्नलिखित में से किस राज्य/केंद्र शासित प्रदेश ने वितस्ता महोत्सव मनाया है?

- (a) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Ladakh / लद्दाख

Ans. a

Sol. Vitasta Mahotsav celebrated in J&K

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah addresses the Vitasta Mahotsav organized by the Ministry of Culture as the chief guest in Srinagar.

The objective of Vitasta Mahotsav is to acquaint the whole country with the great cultural heritage, diversity and uniqueness of Kashmir.

The festival focuses on the folk beliefs associated with the Vitasta (Jhelum) river.

288. What is the rank of India in Global Gender Gap Index 2023 released by World Economic Forum (WEF)?

विश्व आर्थिक मंच (WEF) द्वारा जारी वैश्विक लिंग अंतर सूचकांक 2023 में भारत का स्थान क्या है?

- (a) 101st
- (b) 122nd
- (c) 131st
- (d) 127th
- (e) 115th

Ans. d

Sol. Global Gender Gap Index 2023: India ranked 127; topped by Iceland

According to Gender Gap Report 2023, India has been ranked 127 out of 146 countries in Gender Gap Report 2023.

In 2022, India was on 135.

The Global Gender Gap Index was established in 2006 and this is its 17th edition. It is published annually by the World Economic Forum (WEF).

Iceland has been ranked first as the most gender-equal country in the world for the 14th consecutive year with a score of 91.2%.

While Norway ranked 2nd, followed by Finland and Sweden.

Among India's neighbouring countries, Pakistan is at 142, Bangladesh at 59, China at 107, Nepal at 116, Sri Lanka at 115, and Bhutan at 103.

Iceland is the only country that has reduced the gender gap by more than 90%.

Recent index

- **Hanke's Annual Misery Index (HAMI) 2022:** India ranked 103rd; Zimbabwe (1st); Switzerland (157th)
- **World Press Freedom Index 2023:** India ranked 161; topped by Norway
- **World Bank's Logistics Performance Index 2023** - India ranked 38th
- **World's Wealthiest Cities 2023 List** - NewYork (Rank 1), Mumbai (21st), Delhi (36th), Kolkata (63rd), Hyderabad (65th)
- **World's Most Criminal Countries Ranking** - India ranked 77th; topped by Venezuela
- **Stanford University's annual AI Index report 2023** - India ranked 5th; topped by USA

289. RBI has recently imposed a monetary penalty on which bank for non-compliance with certain provisions of the RBI's directions on Prudential Norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification, and Provisioning pertaining to Advances – Credit Card Accounts?

आरबीआई ने हाल ही में आय पहचान, संपत्ति वर्गीकरण और अग्रिमों - क्रेडिट कार्ड खातों से संबंधित प्रावधान पर आरबीआई के निर्देशों के कुछ प्रावधानों का अनुपालन न करने के लिए किस बैंक पर मौद्रिक जुर्माना लगाया 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. b

Sol. RBI imposes Rs 2.5 crore penalty on Jammu & Kashmir Bank, Axis Bank

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty on three private and public sector lenders.

The central bank charged Jammu & Kashmir Bank with ₹2.5 crore penalty, while the Bank of Maharashtra faced a fine of ₹1.45 crore. Axis Bank received the least amount of penalty among them to the tune of ₹30 lakh.

RBI imposed a ₹2.5 crore penalty on J&K Bank for non-compliance with certain directions issued by RBI on 'Creation of a Central Repository of Large Common Exposures-Across Banks.

The RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.45 crore on Bank of Maharashtra for non-compliance with specific directions issued by the RBI.

Axis Bank has been levied a monetary penalty of Rs 30 lakh by the RBI for non-compliance with certain provisions of the RBI's directions on Prudential Norms on Income Recognition, Asset Classification, and Provisioning pertaining to Advances – Credit Card Accounts.

About Axis Bank

- **Founded** - 1993
- **Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **Chairman** - Rakesh Makhija
- **MD & CEO** - Amitabh Chaudhary
- **Tagline** - Badhti Ka naam Zindagi

290. Who has been appointed as the president of the BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women's Vertical (BRICS CCI WE) for a three-year term?

तीन साल के कार्यकाल के लिए ब्रिक्स चैंबर ऑफ कॉमर्स एंड इंडस्ट्री विमेन वर्टिकल (BRICS CCI WE) का अध्यक्ष किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ruby Sinha/ रूबी सिन्हा
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Janani Ramachandran / जननी रामचंद्रन
- (e) Sonia Guajajara / सोनिया गुज्जारा

Ans. a

Sol. Ruby Sinha appointed as the President of BRICS CCI WE

Ruby Sinha has been appointed as the president of BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women's Vertical (BRICS CCI WE) for a three-year term.

Sinha takes over from Shabana Nasim, who has become the Executive Director of BRICS CCI and Chief Patron of BRICS CCI WE.

An entrepreneur herself, Ruby Sinha is the founder of SheAtWork, a knowledge hub for women entrepreneurs, and Kommune Brand Communications.

BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry works towards promoting active trade, commerce and entrepreneurship between the BRICS and other friendly nations.

BRICS CCI is a parent organisation that promotes commerce and industry in the BRICS and other friendly nations. The chamber, founded in 2012, is a not-for-profit and non-governmental organisation. BRICS CCI is a registered body under the Societies Registration 'Act 1860, Government of India and empanelled with Niti Aayog.

The Women Vertical of BRICS CCI has been created with a prime focus on women empowerment initiatives and policies across geographies.

The objective of the women's wing is to create an enabling support system for women entrepreneurs and professionals across geographies.

291. Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC)?

दिल्ली विद्युत नियामक आयोग (डीईआरसी) के अध्यक्ष 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) Umesh Kumar / उमेश कुमार

Ans. e

Sol. Umesh Kumar appoints as Chief of DERC

President Droupadi Murmu has appointed former Allahabad high court judge Umesh Kumar as the new chairman of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC).

This appointment comes after justice (retired) Rajeev Kumar Shrivastava (Madhya Pradesh high court), who had been proposed for appointment as DERC chairperson by the GNCTD.

The President of India has appointed him under the sub-section 2 of Section 84 of the Electricity Act, 2003.

Recent Appointment

- **MD & CEO of PTC India Financial Services Ltd (PFS)** - Mahendra Lodha
- **Chairman of GIFT City** - Hasmukh Adhia (replace Sudhir Mankad)
- **CEO of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** - Amit Agrawal
- **First Muslim woman federal judge in US history** - Nusrat Chowdhary
- **Chief of Research and Analysis Wing (RAW)** - Ravi Sinha (replace Samant Kumar Goel)

292. Who has received the Guinness World Record Award certificate to become the first men's player to make 200 international appearances?

200 अंतर्राष्ट्रीय प्रदर्शन करने वाले पहले पुरुष खिलाड़ी बनने के लिए गिनीज वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड पुरस्कार प्रमाणपत्र किसे प्राप्त हुआ है?

- (a) Karim Benzema / करीम बेंजेमा
- (b) Cristiano Ronaldo / क्रिस्टियानो रोनाल्डो
- (c) Lionel Messi / लियोनेल मेसी
- (d) Luka Modrić / लुका मोड्रिक
- (e) Georgina Rodríguez / जॉर्जिना रोड्रिगज

Ans. b

Sol. Cristiano Ronaldo receives Guinness World Record award

Portuguese football player, Cristiano Ronaldo has received the Guinness World Record Award certificate to become the first men's player to make 200 international appearances.

He celebrated the milestone by scoring the winning goal in the 89th minute as Portugal beat Iceland in European Championship qualifying.

He received a Guinness World Records certificate before the game.

The closest to Ronaldo's tally is Bader Al-Mutawa, who was capped by Kuwait on 196 occasions.

Recent Awards

- **Olympic Order by IOC** - Tedros Ghebreyesus (DG of WHO)
- **First Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award** - Acharya Gopi
- **German Peace Prize 2023** - Salman Rushdie
- **45th European Essay Prize** - Arundhati Roy (for 'Azadi' Essay)
- **'Athi Uttam' by the NABET** - GSITI Hyderabad
- **Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023** - Ramachandra Guha (for Rebels Against the Raj)

293. American firm General Electric has signed an MoU with which Indian company to produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force (IAF)?

अमेरिकी फर्म जनरल इलेक्ट्रिक ने भारतीय वायु सेना (आईएएफ) के लिए लड़ाकू जेट इंजन बनाने के लिए किस भारतीय कंपनी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए 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) Bharat Electronics Limited / भारत इलेक्ट्रॉनिक्स लिमिटेड

Ans. a

Sol. GE Aerospace signs MoU with HAL to produce fighter jet engines

American firm General Electric has signed an MoU with India's state-run Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) to produce fighter jet engines for the Indian Air Force (IAF).

The agreement includes the potential joint production of GE Aerospace's F414 engines in India, and GE Aerospace continues to work with the US government to receive the necessary export authorization for this.

Once cleared, HAL will carry out the work at its Engine Division facility in Bengaluru and the co-production will not be through a joint venture.

The F414 engines will be co-produced in India to power the Indian Air Force's Light Combat Aircraft Mk2.

Eight F414 engines have already been delivered as part of an ongoing development program for Light Combat Aircraft (LCA) Mk2.

Recent MoU

- ICAR signed MOU with Amazon Kisan to empower farmers
- NHPC signs MoU with Maharashtra for renewable energy projects
- Microsoft, AirJaldi Networks collaborate to provide internet access
- IIT-Kharagpur signed MoU with HCL for collaboration in petroleum engineering
- Microsoft joins hands with Skill Development Ministry to train students, teachers

294. Which IITs has successfully conducted a test flight for cloud seeding?

किस आईआईटी ने क्लाउड सीडिंग के लिए परीक्षण उड़ान का सफलतापूर्वक संचालन 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. d

Sol. IIT Kanpur successfully conducts test flight for cloud seeding

Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur has successfully conducted a test flight for cloud seeding.

Cloud seeding involves the utilization of various chemical agents such as silver iodide, dry ice, common salt, and other elements with the aim of enhancing the probability of rains.

The project was initiated a few years ago and is headed by the Computer Science and Engineering Department of IIT Kanpur.

The flight went up to an approximate height of 5,000 feet. It landed on the IIT Kanpur lab airstrip after successfully completing the test ride.

The experiment was conducted with due approval from the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

IITs in News

- YES Bank collaborates with IIT Kanpur to offer support to Incubated Startups
- IIT Madras partnered with DRDO to develop sensor technology for underwater communications
- IIT-Kanpur launched cybersecurity skilling programme
- IIT Guwahati Researchers Develop Time-Bomb Liquid Marbles
- IIT Madras will set up its first international campus in Zanzibar, Tanzania in October 2023

295. Hockey Madhya Pradesh has won the 13th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2023 after defeating which team in the Final at the iconic Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium?

हॉकी मध्य प्रदेश ने प्रतिष्ठित बिरसा मुंडा हॉकी स्टेडियम में फाइनल में किस टीम को हराकर 13वीं हॉकी इंडिया जूनियर पुरुष राष्ट्रीय चैम्पियनशिप 2023 जीती है?

- (a) Hockey Delhi
- (b) Hockey Punjab
- (c) Hockey Odisha
- (d) Hockey Kerala
- (e) Hockey Chandigarh

Ans. e

Sol. Madhya Pradesh won 13th India Junior Men National Championship

Hockey Madhya Pradesh won the 13th Hockey India Junior Men National Championship 2023 after defeating Hockey Chandigarh in the Final at the iconic Birsa Munda Hockey Stadium.

Hockey Madhya Pradesh defeated Hockey Chandigarh by 4-2 in the Final.

Meanwhile, Hockey Haryana defeated Hockey Association of Odisha to finish third in the competition.

The goalscorers for Hockey Madhya Pradesh were Shreyas Dhupe (17', 46'), Mohd Konain Dad (25'), and Ali Ahmad (52'). Meanwhile, Sumit (9') and Surinder Singh (31') scored for Hockey Chandigarh.

296. Who is the author of a new book titled "Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)"?

"फाइनेंस मिनिस्टर्स ऑफ इंडिया: फ्रॉम इंडिपेंडेंस टू द इमरजेंसी (1947-1977)" नामक नई पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Amartya Sen / अमर्त्य सेन
- (b) Arvind Subramanian / अरविंद सुब्रमण्यम
- (c) Raghuram Rajan / रघुराम राजन
- (d) Dr. Manmohan Singh / डॉ मनमोहन सिंह
- (e) A.K. Bhattacharya / ए.के. भट्टाचार्य

Ans. e

Sol. A.K. Bhattacharya wrote a new book titled "Finance Minister of India

Journalist A.K. Bhattacharya wrote a new book titled "Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)".

The book is published by Penguin Business an imprint of Penguin Random House.

The book is divided into three main parts:

1. Nehru and his Finance Minister
2. Finance Minister under Shastri and Indira Gandhi
3. Indira Gandhi as her own Finance Minister

Bhattacharya has previously served as the editor of Pioneer and Business Standard.

Recent Book

- **Master Residential Real Estate** - Ashwinder Singh
- **India Secret War BSF** – Ushinor Majumdar
- **Through the Broken Glass** – T N Seshan
- **Beyond Cricket** – C D Gopinath
- **The Power of One Thought: Master Your Mind** - BK Shivani

297. International Women's Day in Diplomacy (IDWID) is observed annually on which day?

कूटनीति में अंतर्राष्ट्रीय महिला दिवस (IDWID) प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 June / 25 जून
- (b) 26 June / 26 जून
- (c) 27 June / 27 जून
- (d) 23 June / 23 जून
- (e) 24 June / 24 जून

Ans. e

Sol. 24 June - International Day of Women in Diplomacy

International Women's Day in Diplomacy (IDWID) is observed annually on 24 June.

It is a day to honor and recognize notable women in the field of diplomacy and decision-making globally.

Theme 2023 - Breaking Barriers, Shaping the Future: Women in Diplomacy for Sustainable Development

IDWID was created just last year, at the 76th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA), which began on September 14, 2021 and concluded on September 13, 2022. The resolution was adopted by the UNGA on June 20, 2022.

It recognised that as part of the 2030 SDG target, highlighting women's contributions in diplomacy, the need for equal participation of women in decision-making was a vital need.

To this end the UNGA declared June 24 as the International Day of Women in Diplomacy.

298. The 8th Global Pharmaceutical Quality Summit 2023 was held in which city?

8वां वैश्विक फार्मास्युटिकल गुणवत्ता शिखर सम्मेलन 2023 किस शहर में आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. e

Sol. 8th Global Pharmaceutical Quality Summit 2023 held in Mumbai

Union Minister for Chemicals and Fertilisers and Health & Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya addressed the 8th Global Pharmaceutical Quality Summit 2023 in Mumbai.

The theme for the Summit was, 'Patient Centricity: New Paradigm of Manufacturing and Quality'.

The two-day Summit brought together industry leaders, global regulators, quality experts, and stakeholders to foster knowledge exchange and deliberate on areas of importance in shaping the pharmaceutical landscape in India.

India played the role of pharmacy for the world during COVID-19 by ensuring an uninterrupted supply of quality medicines and vaccines to the world.

The Indian pharmaceutical industry has demonstrated its potential both in terms of quality and quantity.

299. India has signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement with which country for Authorized Economic Operators?

भारत ने अधिकृत आर्थिक ऑपरेटरों के लिए किस देश के साथ पारस्परिक मान्यता व्यवस्था पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Singapore / सिंगापुर
- (e) UAE / यूएई

Ans. e

Sol. India and UAE signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Authorized Economic Operators

India has signed a Mutual Recognition Arrangement with United Arab Emirates (UAE) for Authorized Economic Operators.

The agreement was formally inked today on the sidelines of the 141st/142nd sessions of the World Customs Organization's (WCO) Customs Co-operation Council meeting held in Brussels.

The Mutual Recognition Arrangement establishes a framework that enables the recognition of Authorized Economic Operators (AEOs) from both countries.

The Mutual recognition arrangement comes as the continuation of historic India-United Arab Emirates Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), which was signed between the two nations on 18 February 2022 and officially came into force on 1 May 2022.

CEPA is expected to increase the total value of bilateral trade in goods to over 100 billion US Dollars and trade in services to over 15 billion US Dollars within five years.

About United Arab Emirates (UAE)

- **Capital** - Abu Dhabi
- **Currency** - Dirham
- **President** - Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- **Prime Minister** - Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
- **Official language** -Arabic

300. Who has inaugurated the Medha Rail Coach Factory in the Sangareddy district of Telangana?

तेलंगाना के संगारेड्डी जिले में मेधा रेल कोच फैक्ट्री का उद्घाटन किसने किया है?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) K. Chandrasekhar Rao / के.चंद्रशेखर राव
- (e) Tamilisai Soundararajan / तमिलसाई सुंदरराजन

Ans. d

Sol. Telangana CM inaugurates Medha Rail Coach Factory at Sangareddy

Telangana Chief Minister K. Chandrasekhar Rao (KCR) has inaugurated the Medha Rail Coach Factory in Sangareddy district.

It is the largest private coach factory in India.

Medha signed an MoU with the Government of Telangana in 2017. The objective of the MoU is to set up a coach factory in the state.

The land was allotted by the Telangana State Industrial Infrastructure Corporation (TSIIC).

Medha and Swiss railway rolling stock manufacturer Stadler Rail signed a joint venture (JV) agreement. The joint venture Telangana unit is meant to cater to its tenders from the Indian market and exports from customers in the Asia Pacific region.

The joint venture aims to serve tenders from the Indian market and export to the Asia Pacific region.

About Telangana

- **Established** – 2 June 2014
- **Capital** – Hyderabad
- **Chief Minister** – K. Chandrashekar Rao
- **Governor** – Tamilisai Soundararajan

301. Union Home Minister Amit Shah has recently inaugurated the construction of the 'Balidan Stambh' in which city?

केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री अमित शाह ने हाल ही में किस शहर में 'बलिदान स्तंभ' के निर्माण का उद्घाटन किया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Srinagar / श्रीनगर

Ans. e

Sol. Amit Shah lays foundation stone of 'Balidaan Stambh' in Srinagar

Union Home Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated the construction of the 'Balidan Stambh' in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.

The 'Balidan Stambh' is a part of the Srinagar Smart City project and serves as a tribute to martyrs who sacrificed their lives for the nation.

The 'Sacrifice Pillar' is a monument that is being built as part of the Srinagar Smart City project.

Amit Shah in News

- Amit Shah unveils ₹8,000 crore schemes to strengthen disaster management
- Amit Shah lays foundation stone of campus of National Academy of Coastal Policing in Gujarat
- Amit Shah inaugurates training program on legislative drafting in New Delhi
- Amit Shah launched Vibrant Villages Programme in Arunachal Pradesh
- Amit Shah inaugurated Vedic Heritage portal in New Delhi

302. Which state government has launched PCTS mobile app to ensure better healthcare?
किस राज्य सरकार ने बेहतर स्वास्थ्य सेवा सुनिश्चित करने के लिए पीसीटीएस मोबाइल ऐप लॉन्च किया है?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Rajasthan govt brings PCTS mobile app to ensure better healthcare

The Rajasthan Government launched the Pregnancy, Child Tracking & Health Services Management System (PCTS) app to monitor the health of pregnant women, obstetricians, and infants online.

The PCTS app allows every ASHA Sahyogini in the state to reach women and infants in their respective areas and file reports on a daily basis.

The ASHA Sahyoginis can use the PCTS app to access information about various health-related services.

This strengthens healthcare services for women and children and contributes to the improvement in the health of women and child.

The department officials can directly obtain progress reports by communicating with any ASHA or ANM in the state.

About Rajasthan

- **Capital** – Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Ashok Gehlot
- **Governor** – Kalraj Mishra

303. What is the rank of the Indian Institute of Science Bengaluru in Times Higher Education's (THE) annual Asia university rankings 2023?

टाइम्स हायर एजुकेशन (THE) की वार्षिक एशिया यूनिवर्सिटी रैंकिंग 2023 में भारतीय विज्ञान संस्थान बेंगलुरु की रैंक क्या है?

- (a) 32th
- (b) 35th
- (c) 39th
- (d) 48th
- (e) 50th

Ans. d

Sol. TIMES Asia Rankings 2023: IISc best among Indian universities

A total of eighteen Indian universities featured in the top 200 positions on the Times Higher Education's (THE) annual Asia university rankings 2023.

Overall, India has only one university in the top 50, about four in the top 100, and a total of 18 universities in the top 200.

The Indian Institute of Science, Bengaluru, secured the 48th rank this year, becoming the best among Indian higher education institutions, despite falling six positions as compared to last year. As per the 11th edition of THE Asia University Rankings 2023 list, JSS Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mysuru, secured the second highest position among Indian universities with 68th spot. Jamia Millia Islamia University ranked 128th on the list while Jawaharlal Nehru University, which ranked 167th in 2022, failed to secure a rank among the top 200. China's Tsinghua University topped the rankings followed by Peking University and the National University of Singapore.

- 48th Rank - Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru
- 68th Rank - The Jagadguru Sri Shivarathreeswara (JSS) Academy of Higher Education and Research, Mysore, Karnataka
- 77th Rank - Shoolini University, Himachal Pradesh
- 95th rank - Mahatma Gandhi University or MG, Kottayam, Kerala
- 106th Rank - The International Institute of Information Technology Hyderabad
- 111th Rank - Alagappa University, Karaikudi Tamil Nadu.
- 113th Rank - The Saveetha Institute of Medical and Technical Sciences, Kuthambakkam, Tamil Nadu
- 128th Rank - Jamia Millia Islamia has nine faculties of Law, Engineering, Architecture
- 131st Rank - The Indian Institute of Technology Ropar (IIT Ropar) Rupnagar, Punjab.
- 137th Rank - The Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology university, Delhi.
- 142nd Rank - The Indian Institute of Technology Indore
- 145th Rank - Thapar University (TU) in Patiala, Punjab
- 147th Rank - Kalinga Institute of Industrial Technology (KIIT), Bhubaneswar
- 155th Rank - The Banaras Hindu University (BHU) Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh.
- 159th Rank - The Graphic Era University in Dehradun, Uttarakhand
- 170th Rank - Delhi Technological University
- 183rd Rank - Kalasalingam Academy of Research and Excellence, Madurai Tamil Nadu
- 190th Rank - Savitribai Phule Pune University in Maharashtra

304. Which IIT has recently proposed a sports quota with the aim to boost diversity?

हाल ही में किस आईआईटी ने विविधता को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से खेल कोटा का प्रस्ताव दिया 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-Madras proposes sports quota with aim to boost diversity

The IIT Madras has proposed a sports quota in IITs with an aim to boost diversity in the country's premier engineering institutions and to provide an opportunity to students performing well in the field of sport at state, national, and international levels.

Currently, the IITs don't have a sports quota. Many of the country's premium universities, including Delhi University, do.

The council, the apex body of the IITs is now looking at what this would mean. "In this regard, detailed implementation modalities and timelines for academic session 2024-25 may be prepared in consultation with JEE Apex Board (JAB)).

JAB is responsible for deciding guidelines for the conduct of JEE (Main) examination, and also coordinating the conduct of JEE (Advanced) exam for admissions to IITs.

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305. With reference to the “Global Liveability Index 2023”, consider the following statements:

- (1) Global Liveability Index 2023 published by the World Economic Forum (WEF).**
- (2) Vienna in Austria has topped the ranking of the most liveable cities.**
- (3) Only 4 cities in India are ranked in the index.**
- (4) Damascus in Syria and Tripoli in Libya remained at the bottom of the liveability index.**

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 3 only
- (d) All are correct
- (e) All are wrong

Ans. b

Sol. Global Liveability Index 2023 released

According to the Global Liveability Index 2023 published by the Economic Intelligence Unit (EIU), Vienna in Austria has topped the ranking of the most liveable cities.

While Copenhagen in Denmark placed second on the list, followed by Melbourne and Sydney.

Damascus in Syria and Tripoli in Libya remained at the bottom of the liveability index.

The list contains the names of 173 cities around the world that have been ranked based on a number of significant factors, including health care, education, stability, infrastructure and the environment.

Five cities from India - Bengaluru, Ahmedabad, Chennai, New Delhi and Mumbai - are also in the list based on their performance in various metrics.

From India, New Delhi and Mumbai are at 141st position and Chennai at 144th. Ahmedabad and Bengaluru are ranked 147 and 148, respectively.

Rank	Cities
1	Vienna, Austria

- 2 Copenhagen, Denmark
- 3 Melbourne, Australia
- 4 Sydney, Australia
- 5 Vancouver, Canada
- 6 Zurich, Switzerland
- 7 Calgary, Canada
- 8 Geneva, Switzerland
- 9 Toronto, Canada
- 10 Osaka, Japan and Auckland, New Zealand
- 141 New Delhi & Mumbai, India
- 144 Chennai, India
- 147 Ahmedabad, India
- 148 Bengaluru, India
- 173 Damascus, Syria

Recent index

- **Global Liveability Index 2023** - Rank 1 Vienna, Austria; Cities from India (141 - New Delhi, 141 - Mumbai, 144 - Chennai, 147 - Ahmedabad, 148 Bengaluru)
- **Global Gender Gap Index 2023**: India ranked 127; topped by Iceland
- **Hanke's Annual Misery Index (HAMI) 2022**: India ranked 103rd; Zimbabwe (1st); Switzerland (157th)
- **World Press Freedom Index 2023**: India ranked 161; topped by Norway
- **World Bank's Logistics Performance Index 2023** - India ranked 38th
- **World's Wealthiest Cities 2023 List** - New York (Rank 1), Mumbai (21st), Delhi (36th), Kolkata (63rd), Hyderabad (65th)

306. Which bank has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) to foster the growth of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the State?

किस बैंक ने राज्य में स्वयं सहायता समूहों (एसएचजी) के विकास को बढ़ावा देने के लिए तमिलनाडु राज्य ग्रामीण आजीविका मिशन (टीएनएसआरएलएम) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन (एमओयू) पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) Bank of Baroda / बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
- (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. IOB signs MoU with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission

Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission (TNSRLM) to foster the growth of Self-Help Groups (SHGs) in the State and provide them with vital financial support.

Under the terms of the MoU, TNSRLM will facilitate eligible SHGs for credit linkage with IOB.

This strategic collaboration aims to streamline access to financial resources for SHGs, enabling them to undertake entrepreneurial activities, expand their ventures, and contribute to the economic development of the State.

The collaboration is expected to catalyse the growth of SHGs targeting ₹1,875 crore and increase the disbursement under DAY-NRLM (Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission) during this fiscal, effectively doubling the impact of financial assistance.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Airtel Payments Bank ties up with Care for health insurance
- IndusInd Bank collaborates with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India
- SIDBI signs MoU with HDFC Bank to offer financial solutions to MSMEs
- Wipro launched innovation experience for financial services with Microsoft
- Yes Securities partners with WatchYourHealth to provide investment solutions to healthcare professional

307. Which fintech company has signed an MoU with Arunachal Pradesh Innovation and Investment Park (APIIP) to create a startup ecosystem for the youth in the northeastern state?

पूर्वोत्तर राज्य में युवाओं के लिए स्टार्टअप इकोसिस्टम बनाने के लिए किस फिनटेक कंपनी ने अरुणाचल प्रदेश इनोवेशन एंड इन्वेस्टमेंट पार्क (APIIP) के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

- (a) PhonePe
- (b) Google Pay
- (c) Paytm
- (d) BHIM
- (e) Instamojo

Ans. c

Sol. Paytm signs MoU with Arunachal Pradesh for creating startup ecosystem

Paytm Payment Services Limited (PPSL) has signed an MoU with Arunachal Pradesh Innovation and Investment Park (APIIP) to create a startup ecosystem for the youth in the northeastern state.

According to the MoU, Paytm Incubation Centre will provide its product to early-stage startups at a discounted price and offer free credits through the Paytm Startup toolkit to aid the business ventures of youths in their early stage of growth.

Paytm is India's payment app, which offers consumers and merchants payment services. It is a pioneer of mobile QR payments in the country.

It enables commerce for small merchants and distributes various financial services offerings to its consumers and merchants in partnership with financial institutions.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- IOB signs MoU with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission
- Airtel Payments Bank ties up with Care for health insurance
- IndusInd Bank collaborates with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India
- SIDBI signs MoU with HDFC Bank to offer financial solutions to MSMEs
- Wipro launched innovation experience for financial services with Microsoft

308. Who has flagged off the "Bharat in Paris" campaign with a short marathon at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi?
नई दिल्ली के जवाहरलाल नेहरू स्टेडियम में एक छोटी मैराथन के साथ "भारत इन पेरिस" अभियान को किसने हरी झंडी दिखाई 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. a

Sol.Anurag Thakur flagged off "Bharat in Paris" campaign

Union Sports Minister Anurag Singh Thakur flagged off the campaign with a short marathon at Jawaharlal Nehru Stadium in New Delhi.

The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has launched the "Bharat in Paris" campaign to create awareness and promote sports across India ahead of the Paris Olympics games.

The 2024 Olympics will be held in Paris, France, from July 26 to August 11.

The Target Olympic Podium Scheme was launched in 2014-15 and the government bears all the expenses of boarding, lodging, and training of top athletes in their country and abroad.

Recently the hockey junior teams, men and women both, won the Asia Cup, the shooters performed very well in the World Championship while the doubles pair of Satwik and Chirag reached sixth place in the world badminton rankings.

309. Who set a Guinness World Record by achieving 200 international caps for Portugal?

पुर्तगाल के लिए 200 अंतर्राष्ट्रीय कैप हासिल करके गिनीज वर्ल्ड रिकॉर्ड किसने बनाया है?

- (a) Neymar / नेमार
- (b) Cristiano Ronaldo / क्रिस्टियानो रोनाल्डो
- (c) Lionel Messi / लियोनेल मेसी
- (d) Kylian Mbappé / किलियन म्बाप्पे
- (e) Karim Benzema / करीम बेंजेमा

Ans. b

Sol. Cristiano Ronaldo sets Guinness World Record for 200 international caps

Cristiano Ronaldo set a Guinness World Record by achieving 200 international caps for Portugal.

The legendary forward is making his 200th appearance for A Selecao das Quinas in their Euro 2024 qualifier against Iceland.

The 38-year-old has broken another record and is the most-capped player in international football.

Ronaldo is also the all-time top goalscorer in international football, with 122 goals in 200 games.

About International Caps

A cap is awarded to players who make official appearances for their national team in international football.

England's Billy Wright was the first male footballer to play 100 international matches in 1959, collecting 105 caps.

Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo holds the current record with 200 international caps.

Badr Al-Mutawa of Kuwait previously held the record with 196 international caps.

Malaysia's Soh Chin Ain held the record before Al-Mutawa with 195 FIFA-sanctioned appearances

310. World Drug Day is observed every year on June 26. What is the theme of World Drug Day 2023?

विश्व औषधि दिवस हर साल 26 जून को मनाया जाता है। विश्व औषधि दिवस 2023 का विषय क्या है?

- (a) Addressing drug challenges in health and humanitarian crises.
- (b) Share Facts on Drugs. Save Lives
- (c) People first: stop stigma and discrimination, strengthen prevention
- (d) Better Knowledge for Better Care
- (e) Health for Justice. Justice for Health

Ans. c

Sol. 26 June - World Drug Day

The International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking or World Drug Day is observed every year on June 26.

It aims to strengthen action and cooperation against drug abuse to achieve a world free of this menace.

Theme 2023 - People first: stop stigma and discrimination, strengthen prevention

This year's campaign aims to raise awareness on the importance of treating people with drug problems with respect and empathy.

The event began after the adoption of a resolution in December 1987 at the United Nations. The resolution recognized the International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking.

311. International Day of the Seafarer is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय नाविक दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 June / 25 जून
- (b) 26 June / 26 जून
- (c) 27 June / 27 जून
- (d) 23 June / 23 जून
- (e) 24 June / 24 जून

Ans. a

Sol. 25 June - International Day of the Seafarer

International Day of the Seafarer is observed every year on 25 June.

This annual event aims to acknowledge the crucial role played by seafarers in international trade, the global economy, and society as a whole. Furthermore, it emphasizes their significant efforts in safeguarding the marine environment.

Theme 2023 - MARPOL at 50 – Our commitment goes on

The Day of the Seafarer was established through a resolution passed during the 2010 Diplomatic Conference in Manila, where the revised STCW Convention was adopted.

The resolution encourages governments, shipping organizations, companies, shipowners, and other relevant parties to actively promote and appropriately celebrate this significant day.

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312. UN International Day in Support of Victims of Torture is celebrated every on which day?

अत्याचार के पीड़ितों के समर्थन में संयुक्त राष्ट्र अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 June / 25 जून
- (b) 26 June / 26 जून
- (c) 27 June / 27 जून
- (d) 28 June / 28 जून
- (e) 24 June / 24 जून

Ans. b

Sol. 26 June - UN International Day In Support Of Victims Of Torture

United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture is celebrated every on June 26.

According to the United Nations, torture exists in all parts of the world, despite the total ban under international law. According to all relevant instruments, it is absolutely prohibited and cannot be justified under any circumstances.

The Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment generally known as the Torture Agreement, entered into force on June 26, 1987. This was a step towards recognizing that torture is universally banned.

Ten years later, on June 26, 1997, the United Nations General Assembly formally designated the day as the International Day in Support of Victims of Torture in order to help survivors and raise awareness about its effects.

313. The first hydrogen-powered trains in India are expected to start from which state by the end of 2023?

भारत में पहली हाइड्रोजन-संचालित ट्रेनें 2023 के अंत तक किस राज्य से शुरू होने की उम्मीद है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. e

Sol. India's first hydrogen-powered train to run from Jind district, Haryana

The first hydrogen-powered trains in India are expected to start from the Jind district of Haryana by the end of 2023.

The officials claimed that hydrogen-powered trains are running only in Germany, and the whole world is watching the project to see how India will start such trains.

India's first hydrogen plant is being set up near the railway junction in Jind district. The development of the plant has reached the final stage and hydrogen will be produced from water.

The first prototype of the hydrogen train is expected to be introduced in the financial year 2023-2024 between Jind and Sonipat on the Northern Railway.

The hydrogen fuel-based train of eight bogies will be environmentally friendly.

About Haryana

- **Capital** – Chandigarh
- **Chief Minister** – Manohar Lal Khattar
- **Governor** – Bandaru Dattatreya

314. Which of the following state government to build 1st underwater tunnel at a cost of Rs 6,000 crore in the state?
निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी राज्य सरकार, राज्य में 6,000 करोड़ रुपये की लागत से पहली पानी के नीचे सुरंग बनाएगी?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Bihar / बिहार
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. c

Sol. Assam govt to build 1st underwater tunnel between Numaligarh & Gohpur

Assam's first underwater tunnel to be constructed between Numaligarh and Gohpur at a cost of Rs 6,000 crore.

This groundbreaking project, estimated to cost Rs 6,000 crores, will be the first rail-road tunnel under the Brahmaputra River in northeast India.

By connecting the north and south banks of the river, the tunnel will significantly improve connectivity between Numaligarh and Gohpur, making travel more convenient and efficient. With a length of approx 15 kilometers, it will bring about a transformational change in the transportation infrastructure of the region.

The tenders for the project are scheduled to open next month, marking a significant milestone in the region's transportation infrastructure.

About Assam

- **Capital** – Dispur
- **Chief Minister** – Himanta Biswa Sarma
- **Governor** – Gulab Chand Kataria

315. Which of the following city will host Urban20 (U20) Mayoral Summit on 7-8 July 2023?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शहर 7-8 जुलाई 2023 को अर्बन20 (U20) मेयरल शिखर सम्मेलन की मेजबानी करेगा?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Guwahati / गुवाहाटी
- (d) Ahmedabad / अहमदाबाद
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. U20 Engagement Group of G20 to host 2 Days Mayoral Summit in Ahmedabad

The city of Ahmedabad is all set to host the Urban20 (U20) Mayoral Summit on 7-8 July 2023.

This Mayoral Summit is expected to bring together several city leaders and Mayors from across G20 nations.

The summit will also be attended by delegates representing various cities, knowledge partners, Indian and international organizations, academic institutes and dignitaries from the Government of India and the State Government.

Ahmedabad is the U20 Chair for the current sixth cycle and is supported by the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) as the Technical Secretariat, and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) as the nodal ministry.

G20 in News (Note - All Meetings are Under the Presidency of G20 by India)

- **G-20 Labour Engagement Summit** – Patna, Bihar (22 – 23 June 2023)
- **G20 Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (AMM)** - Hyderabad, Telangana (15 -17 June2023)
- **Science-20 Meeting** - Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh (16 -17 June 2023)
- **Women 20 Summit** – Mahabalipuram, Tamil Nadu (15 June 2023)
- **4th Education Working Group (EDWG) Meeting** - Pune, Maharashtra (19 -21 June 2023)

316. Which IT services company has partnered with state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for the deployment of private 5G network for enterprise customers?

किस आईटी सेवा कंपनी ने उद्यम ग्राहकों के लिए निजी 5G नेटवर्क की तैनाती के लिए राज्य के स्वामित्व वाली भारत संचार निगम लिमिटेड (BSNL) के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) Infosys
- (b) Reliance
- (c) L&T Technology
- (d) TCS
- (e) IBM

Ans. c

Sol. BSNL partners with L&T to offer private 5G network to businesses

IT company L&T Technology Services has partnered with state-owned Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) for the deployment of private 5G network for enterprise customers.

Under the agreement framework signed by both companies, the spectrum will be provided by BSNL using both PLMN (public land mobile network) and isolated allotment.

L&T Technology Services (LTTS) will anchor the private network requirements by deploying equipment, applications, servers, technology and software, and core for the integration of devices and sensors within the customer's ecosystem, the IT firm.

This partnership marks LTTS' foray into the 5G private network space, with LTTS assuming the role of a master system integrator for customers, offering choice of technologies, equipment and use case buildout, while BSNL will be the official network provider.

317. What is the rank of India in the Global Competitiveness Index 2023?

वैश्विक प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता सूचकांक 2023 में भारत का स्थान क्या है?

- (a) 31st
- (b) 41st
- (c) 28th
- (d) 52nd
- (e) 40th

Ans. e

Sol. Global Competitiveness Index 2023: India at 40

India has ranked 40th on the latest world competitiveness ranking released by the International Institute for Management Development (IMD). The country has slipped three spots from last year, but is still positioned better than the 43rd rank in 2019-21. According to the IMD's World Competitiveness Centre (WCC) report, India progressed in government efficiency but lagged in business efficiency, infrastructure and economic performance.

Key contributing factors to the country's score were exchange rate stability, compensation levels and advancements in pollution control.

Out of the 64 economies ranked in the annual report, Denmark, Ireland and Switzerland claimed the top three spots, while the Netherlands, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Sweden, the US and the UAE completed the top 10.

Recent index

- **Global Liveability Index 2023** - Rank 1 Vienna, Austria; Cities from India (141 - New Delhi, 141 - Mumbai, 144 - Chennai, 147 - Ahmedabad, 148 Bengaluru)
- **Global Gender Gap Index 2023**: India ranked 127; topped by Iceland
- **Hanke's Annual Misery Index (HAMI) 2022**: India ranked 103rd; Zimbabwe (1st); Switzerland (157th)
- **World Press Freedom Index 2023**: India ranked 161; topped by Norway
- **World Bank's Logistics Performance Index 2023** - India ranked 38th
- **World's Wealthiest Cities 2023 List** - NewYork (Rank 1), Mumbai (21st), Delhi (36th), Kolkata (63rd), Hyderabad (65th)

318. Which Insurance Company Limited has launched the 'Nishchit Pension Plan'?

किस बीमा कंपनी लिमिटेड ने 'निश्चित पेंशन योजना' लॉन्च की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance / बजाज आलियांज जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance / भारती एक्सा जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (c) Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance / आदित्य बिड़ला सन लाइफ इंश्योरेंस
- (d) Go Digit General Insurance / गो डिजिट जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance / यूनिवर्सल सोम्पो जनरल इंश्योरेंस

Ans. c

Sol. Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance launches 'Nishchit Pension Plan'

Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Limited, the life insurance subsidiary of Aditya Birla Capital Limited, has launched 'Nishchit Pension Plan'.

It is a non-linked, non-participating individual pension plan that enables the policyholders to plan for their retirement.

ABSLI Nishchit Pension Plan provides accrued guaranteed additions during the policy term and loyalty addition at the end of the policy term, provided the policy is in-force and all due premiums have been paid.

Under this plan, the policyholders will be able to accumulate 100 percent guaranteed corpus at desired retirement age and will get to be a benefactor of uninterrupted guaranteed income, post their retirement. The plan also provides the flexibility to defer vesting benefit by up to 10 years.

Under this plan, the insurer provides accrued guaranteed additions during the policy term and loyalty addition at the end of the policy term.

Policyholders can choose from multiple premium payment term options, ranging from 5, 6, 8, 10, 12 years & Regular Pay options.

The maximum entry age to avail ABSLI Nishchit Pension Plan is 65 years, while the minimum entry age is 30 years. The minimum annualized premium is Rs. 20,000. The maximum age to avail the vesting benefit is 75 years, while the minimum vesting age is 45 years.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banks & Insurance Sector

- Axis Bank launches '**One-View**' feature on its mobile application
- Paytm introduces **UPI SDK** for seamless online merchant payments
- Kotak Mahindra Bank launches '**ActivMoney**', auto sweep account
- Indian Overseas Bank Introduces "**MY ACCOUNT MY NAME**"
- South Indian Bank launches **digital platform for hassle-free account opening**

319. Manipal Technologies Limited (MTL) has partnered with which bank to drive financial inclusion by offering customized banking products?

मणिपाल टेक्नोलॉजीज लिमिटेड (MTL) ने अनुकूलित बैंकिंग उत्पादों की पेशकश करके वित्तीय समावेशन को बढ़ावा देने के लिए किस बैंक के साथ साझेदारी की है?

- (a) State Bank of India / भारतीय स्टेट बैंक
- (b) Punjab National Bank / पंजाब नेशनल बैंक
- (c) UCO Bank / यूको बैंक
- (d) Indian Bank / इंडियन बैंक
- (e) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक

Ans. d

Sol. Manipal Technologies, Indian Bank joined hands to offer banking products

Manipal Technologies Limited (MTL) has partnered with the Indian Bank to drive financial inclusion by offering customized banking products.

The partnership aims to build a sustainable network of corporate business correspondents (CBCs) that will enhance the availability, affordability, and accessibility of financial services, particularly in underserved markets and rural areas.

The initial focus will be serving more than 600 locations and gradually expanding the presence in newer regions in states such as Tamil Nadu, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Maharashtra, Haryana, and Punjab.

MTL will work closely with Indian Bank to offer tailor-made banking products in rural locations.

MD and CEO of MTL - Abhay Gupte

About Indian Bank

- **Founded** - 1907
- **Headquarters** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- **MD & CEO** - Shanti Lal Jain

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Paytm signs MoU with Arunachal Pradesh for creating startup ecosystem
- IOB signs MoU with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission
- Airtel Payments Bank ties up with Care for health insurance
- IndusInd Bank collaborates with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India
- SIDBI signs MoU with HDFC Bank to offer financial solutions to MSMEs

320. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has set up a state-of-the-art Business Centre at which city?
भारतीय नवीकरणीय ऊर्जा विकास एजेंसी (आईआरडीए) ने किस शहर में एक अत्याधुनिक बिजनेस सेंटर स्थापित किया है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Thiruvananthapuram / तिरुवनंतपुरम

Ans. b

Sol. IREDA opens Paperless Business Centre at East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has set up a state-of-the-art Business Centre at NBCC Office Complex, East Kidwai Nagar, New Delhi.

The new office incorporates cutting-edge technology and innovative solutions to eliminate the use of paper and promote efficient digital workflows throughout the organization.

IREDA is a Mini Ratna (Category – I) Government of India enterprise under the administrative control of the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy.

A significant milestone in IREDA's commitment to sustainable practices, the office which is designed to operate in a completely paperless manner, has been inaugurated by IREDA Chairman & Managing Director, Pradip Kumar Das.

IREDA aims to reduce its carbon footprint, minimize waste generation, and contribute to the preservation of the environment.

The new office at Kidwai Nagar has been meticulously designed to create an environment conducive to productivity, collaboration, and employee well-being.

It boasts advanced amenities, such as dedicated spaces for Yoga, Meditation, and Fitness activities, enabling employees to prioritize their physical and mental well-being.

321. Which IT company has bagged a digital transformation deal from Denmark-based Danske Bank estimated to be around USD 454 million for five years?

किस आईटी कंपनी ने डेनमार्क स्थित डांस्के बैंक से पांच साल के लिए लगभग 454 मिलियन अमेरिकी डॉलर का डिजिटल परिवर्तन सौदा हासिल किया है?

- (a) IBM
- (b) HCL
- (c) TCS
- (d) Infosys
- (e) Wipro

Ans. d

Sol. Infosys bags \$454-million deal from Danske Bank

IT major Infosys has bagged a digital transformation deal from Denmark-based Danske Bank estimated to be around USD 454 million for five years.

As part of the strategic collaboration with Danske Bank, Infosys will acquire Danske Bank's IT centre in India, which employs 1400 digitally skilled professionals

This collaboration will help Danske Bank achieve its strategic priorities towards better customer experiences, operational excellence, and a modernized technology landscape, powered by next-gen solutions.

Infosys was selected to help with the bank's technology transformation, optimize access to talent and capabilities.

Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of Infosys - Salil Parekh

322. Kyriakos Mitsotakis has been sworn in as the Prime Minister of which country?

क्यारीकोस मित्सोटाकिस ने किस देश के प्रधान मंत्री के रूप में शपथ ली है?

- (a) Netherland / नीदरलैंड
- (b) Greece / ग्रीस
- (c) Brazil / ब्राजील
- (d) Finland / फिनलैंड
- (e) Scotland / स्कॉटलैंड

Ans. b

Sol. Kyriakos Mitsotakis sworn in as Greece's PM

The leader of Greece's centre-right New Democracy party, Kyriakos Mitsotakis was sworn in as Prime Minister for a second term. Greek President Katerina Sakellariopoulou is set to formally hand over Mitsotakis, the mandate to form a government, after which he will be sworn in and announce his new Cabinet.

With 99.67 percent of the vote counted, New Democracy secured 40.55 percent of the vote, more than twice the percentage obtained by the main opposition party, Syriza.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President

- PM of Finland - Petteri Orpo (replace Sanna Marin)
- President of Latvia - Edgars Rinkevics
- President of Turkey - Recep Tayyip Erdogan (re-elected)
- President of Nigeria - Bola Ahmed Tinubu
- President of Paraguay - Santiago Peña

323. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been recently awarded the 'Order of the Nile'. It is the highest honor of which country?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी को हाल ही में 'ऑर्डर ऑफ द नाइल' से सम्मानित किया गया है। यह किस देश का सर्वोच्च सम्मान है?

- (a) Maldives / मालदीव
- (b) Mauritius / मॉरीशस
- (c) USA / यूएसए
- (d) Egypt / मिस्र
- (e) Finland / फिनलैंड

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi conferred Egypt's highest state honour

Prime Minister Narendra Modi was awarded the 'Order of the Nile,' Egypt's highest honor, by President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi during a ceremony at the Presidential palace in Cairo.

This is the 13th such highest state honour that various countries across the world have conferred upon PM Modi.

In the nine years of his tenure, PM Modi has received many international awards including Legion of Merit by the US Government, Companion of the Order of Fiji, and Ebakl Award by the Republic of Palau among others.

The 'Order of the Nile' was established in 1915 and is bestowed upon heads of states, crown princes, and vice presidents who have rendered invaluable services to Egypt or humanity.

During the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Egypt in 26 years, India and Egypt elevated their relationship to a 'Strategic Partnership' following extensive discussions between Modi and El-Sisi.

324. Who has been named the prestigious (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023 for the novel Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal?

पेरुमाझायथे कुंजिथालुकल उपन्यास के लिए प्रतिष्ठित (केंद्र) साहित्य अकादमी बाल साहित्य पुरस्कार 2023 किसे नामित किया गया है?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुंपा लाहिड़ी
- (d) Aravind Adiga / अरविंद अडिगा
- (e) Priya A.S. / प्रिया ए.एस

Ans. e

Sol. Priya A.S. received Sahitya Akademi Award 2023 for children's literature

Indian writer, Priya A S has been named the prestigious (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023.

She was awarded for children's literature in Malayalam for her 2018 novel Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal.

She also won the Kerala Sahitya Akademi Award for Children's Literature for the same novel in 2020.

The (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar consists of Rs 50,000 and an engraved copper plaque. Panels of three members each picked the winners in each language.

Dr Paul Manalil, B S Rajeev, and Mundoor Sethumadhavan were the jury members for Malayalam. Priya's novel was selected from a list of 10 recommended books.

In 2014, Priya won (Kendra) Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize for translating Arundhati Roy's Booker Prize-winning novel The God of Small Things into Malayalam.

Recent Awards

- **Guinness World Record award** - Cristiano Ronaldo
- **Olympic Order by IOC** - Tedros Ghebreyesus (DG of WHO)
- **First Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award** - Acharya Gopi
- **German Peace Prize 2023** - Salman Rushdie
- **45th European Essay Prize** - Arundhati Roy (for 'Azadi' Essay)

325. Who has been honored by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) award for his contribution to the medical field?

चिकित्सा क्षेत्र में उनके योगदान के लिए इंडियन मेडिकल एसोसिएशन (IMA) पुरस्कार 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. Ashvini Kumar Dwivedi / डॉ अश्विनी कुमार द्विवेदी
- (d) Dr. Tapan Saikia / डॉ. तपन सैकिया
- (e) Dr K Venugopal / डॉ के वेणुगोपाल

Ans. e

Sol. Alappuzha doctor K Venugopal selected for IMA award

A doctor at Alappuzha's General Hospital, Dr K Venugopal has been honored by the Indian Medical Association (IMA) for his contribution to the medical field.

Dr. K Venugopal has been selected for the award in the category of community service.

He will receive the award at a function to be held at IMA headquarters in New Delhi on July 1, 2023.

The award was instituted by the IMA on the occasion of National Doctor's Day.

Recent Awards

- **'Athi Uttam' by the NABET** - GSITI Hyderabad
- **Elizabeth Longford Prize 2023** - Ramachandra Guha (for Rebels Against the Raj)
- **Governor of the Year at the Central Banking Awards 2023 in London** - RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das (Raghuram Rajan in 2015)
- **RSL Christopher Bland Prize 2023** - Paterson Joseph (for Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho)
- **UNESCO Michel Batisse award 2023** - Jagdish S Bakan

326. Who has won her second Ladies European Tour (LET) at the Tipsport Czech Ladies Open 2023?

टिपस्पोर्ट चेक लेडीज़ ओपन 2023 में अपना दूसरा लेडीज़ यूरोपियन टूर (LET) किसने जीता है?

- (a) Aditi Ashok / अदिति अशोक
- (b) Sharmila Nicollet / शर्मिला निकोलेट
- (c) Pranavi Urs / प्रणवी उर्स
- (d) Diksha Dagar / दीक्षा डागर
- (e) Anshika Singh / अंशिका सिंह

Ans. d

Sol. Diksha Dagar wins record second ladies European tour event title

Indian golf player, Diksha Dagar has secured her second Ladies European Tour (LET) at the Tipsport Czech Ladies Open 2023.

In the final, she defeated Trichat Cheenglab of Thailand.

The 22-year-old southpaw Diksha won her first LET title back in 2019 in her rookie year and in 2021 she was part of the winning team at the Aramco Team Series in London.

After Aditi Ashok, Diksha Dagar is the only other Indian woman golfer to have won two or more LET titles.

She represented India at the Tokyo 2022 Olympics.

327. International Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Day or World MSME Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम (एमएसएमई) दिवस या विश्व एमएसएमई दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 25 June / 25 जून
- (b) 26 June / 26 जून
- (c) 27 June / 27 जून
- (d) 28 June / 28 जून
- (e) 29 June / 29 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 27 June - World MSME Day

International Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Day or World MSME Day is observed every year on 27 June.

Objective - To highlight the significance of MSMEs and how they play a crucial role in being the backbone of the country's economy.

Theme 2023 - Future-ready MSMEs for India@100

The United Nations (UN) designated 27th June as Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Day through a resolution passed in the UN General Assembly in April 2017.

In May 2017, a program titled 'Enhancing National Capacities for Unleashing Full Potentials of MSMEs in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Developing Countries' was launched.

328. Which of the following has launched a campaign called "Jeetenge Hum" to support the Indian cricket team in the 2023 Cricket World Cup?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने 2023 क्रिकेट विश्व कप में भारतीय क्रिकेट टीम का समर्थन करने के लिए "जीतेंगे हम" नामक अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Tata Group
- (b) Adani Group
- (c) Reliance Group
- (d) BCCI
- (e) Indian Cricket Team

Ans. b

Sol. Adani Group founder Gautam Adani launches "Jeetenge Hum"

Adani Group has launched a campaign called "Jeetenge Hum" to support the Indian cricket team in the 2023 Cricket World Cup. His ports-to-energy conglomerate on Saturday gathered 1983 World Cup Cricket legends including Kapil Dev to launch the 2023 World Cup winning campaign.

The "Jeetenge Hum" campaign serves as a platform for national pride and support for the Indian cricket team.

The campaign encourages fans to believe in the team's ability to emerge victorious at the World Cup.

About "Jeetenge Hum" campaign

- The campaign commemorates the 40th anniversary of India's historic victory in 1983.
- The campaign encourages Indian cricket fans to unite and unite in support of Team India.
- The campaign draws inspiration from the Adani Group's ethos of "Kar Ke Dikhaya, Kar Ke Dikhayenge".
- It epitomizes an indomitable spirit of achievement, both in cricket and business.

329. Parshottam Rupala has launched NANDI Portal at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi. What is the full form of NANDI?

परशोत्तम रूपाला ने नई दिल्ली के कृषि भवन में नंदी पोर्टल लॉन्च किया है। नंदी का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) NOC Application for New Drugs & Inoculation System
- (b) NOC Approvals for New Development & Inoculation System
- (c) New Drugs Approvals & Inoculation System
- (d) NOC Approvals for New Drugs & Inoculation Software
- (e) NOC Approvals for New Drugs & Inoculation System

Ans. e

Sol. Parshottam Rupala launched NANDI Portal

Union Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Minister, Parshottam Rupala has launched NANDI (NOC Approvals for New Drugs & Inoculation System) at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi.

The NANDI portal has been developed to digitize and streamline the regulatory approval process in India's Animal Health Sector.

The primary objective of the portal is to expedite the assessment and examination of veterinary product proposals, ensuring their safety, efficacy, and essentiality.

The development of the NANDI portal was carried out in collaboration with the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) and the Center for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC).

330. In which of the following state the historic Kharchi Puja has been celebrated recently?
निम्नलिखित में से हाल ही में किस राज्य में ऐतिहासिक खर्ची पूजा मनाई गयी है?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) West Bengal / पश्चिम बंगाल
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Bihar / बिहार
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Ans. a

Sol. Historical Kharchi Puja commences in Tripura

In a vibrant display of cultural heritage and religious fervour, the Historical 'Kharchi Puja' commenced at the revered fourteen gods temple in Khayerpur, Tripura.

The auspicious event marked the revival of ancient customs and traditions, drawing enthusiastic devotees from far and wide.

The Historical Kharchi Puja is a significant religious festival celebrated by the people of Tripura to honour the fourteen deities, believed to be the guardians of the state.

331. Which company will extend financial assistance of ₹3,045 crore to Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) for establishment and development of metro lines under phase-II project of Bangalore Metro?

कौन सी कंपनी बेंगलुरु मेट्रो के चरण- II परियोजना के तहत मेट्रो लाइनों की स्थापना और विकास के लिए बेंगलुरु मेट्रो रेल कॉर्पोरेशन लिमिटेड (बीएमआरसीएल) को ₹3,045 करोड़ की वित्तीय सहायता देगी?

- (a) Reliance Industries Limited / रिलायंस इंडस्ट्रीज लिमिटेड
- (b) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) / लार्सन एंड टुब्रो (एल एंड टी)
- (c) Hindustan Unilever Limited / हिंदुस्तान यूनिलीवर लिमिटेड
- (d) Tata Advanced Systems / टाटा एडवांस्ड सिस्टम्स
- (e) REC Limited / आरईसी लिमिटेड

Ans. e

Sol. REC to provide ₹3,045 cr finance to Bangalore Metro

State-run REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise will extend financial assistance of ₹3,045 crore to Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL), for establishment and development of metro lines under phase-II project of Bangalore Metro.

Phase-II project comprises extension of two corridors of Phase-I and establishing 2 new lines from RV Road to Bommasandra and Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara.

With completion of Phase-II (72.09 km), the combined network of Bangalore Metro will be 114.39 km, with 101 stations.

REC is an NBFC focusing on power sector financing and development across India.

332. Which of the following has published IS 18267: 2023 "Food Serving Utensils Made from Agri By-Products Specification," aimed at reducing plastic pollution and promoting sustainability?

प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण को कम करने और स्थिरता को बढ़ावा देने के उद्देश्य से निम्नलिखित में से किसने IS 18267: 2023 "कृषि उप-उत्पाद विशिष्टता से निर्मित भोजन परोसने वाले बर्तन" प्रकाशित किया है?

- (a) Finance Ministry / वित्त मंत्रालय
- (b) RBI / आरबीआई
- (c) Bureau of Indian Standards / भारतीय मानक ब्यूरो
- (d) NITI Aayog / नीति आयोग
- (e) NASSCOM / नैसकॉम

Ans. c

Sol. BIS Introduces Standard IS 18267: for Agri By-Product Utensils

The Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) has issued standards for agricultural by-product utensils with an aim to reduce plastic pollution and promote sustainability.

The published standard IS 18267: 2023 "Food Serving Utensils Made from Agri By-Products – Specification" provides comprehensive guidelines to manufacturers and consumers to ensure uniformity in quality requirements across the country.

BIS stated that the use of biodegradable agri by-product utensils will contribute to environmental safety, conservation of natural resources and promotion of a circular economy.

IS 18267: 2023 covers several aspects for the production of biodegradable utensils; including raw materials, manufacturing techniques, performance and hygiene requirements.

It specifies the use of agricultural by-products, such as leaves and sheaths, as preferred materials for making plates, cups and bowls.

333. Which state government has formed a dedicated special task force to combat the drug menace in the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में नशीली दवाओं के खतरे से निपटने के लिए एक समर्पित विशेष टास्क फोर्स का गठन किया है?

- (a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Goa / गोवा
- (d) Himachal Pradesh / हिमाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Punjab / पंजाब

Ans. d

Sol. Himachal to have a dedicated special task force to combat drug menace

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced the formation of a dedicated special task force to combat the drug menace in the state.

The government plans to establish two state-of-the-art drug de-addiction-cum-rehabilitation centers in Himachal to tackle drug addiction.

The State Government has taken up the issue of making the Narcotics Act more stringent with the Central Government so that the properties of drug peddlers can be confiscated and strict action can be taken against them.

About Himachal Pradesh

- **Capital** – Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- **Chief Minister** – Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu
- **Deputy Chief Minister** - Mukesh Agnihotri
- **Governor** – Shiv Pratap Shukla

334. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has flagged off how many new Vande Bharat trains from Rani Kamlapati Railway Station in Bhopal recently?

प्रधानमंत्री नरेंद्र मोदी ने हाल ही में भोपाल के रानी कमलापति रेलवे स्टेशन से कितनी नई वंदे भारत ट्रेनों को हरी झंडी दिखाई है?

- (a) 2
- (b) 3
- (c) 4
- (d) 5
- (e) 6

Ans. d

Sol. PM Modi flagged off five new Vande Bharat trains of the country

Prime Minister Narendra Modi has flagged off five new Vande Bharat trains from Rani Kamlapati Railway Station in Bhopal.

Out of the five, two trains will be operating in Madhya Pradesh and one in Karnataka. One new Vande Bharat Express connecting Patna and Ranchi has also been inaugurated.

Trains include Ranchi-Patna, Dharwad-KSR Bengaluru, Goa (Madgaon)-Mumbai, Bhopal-Indore and Bhopal-Jabalpur.

With the launch of the new five Vande Bharat Express trains, the total count of the premium trains has reached 23. Currently, Vande Bharat trains are operational on 18 routes across the country.

These semi-high-speed trains have been a favourite among travellers as they provide world-class passenger amenities.

335. Which airport has launched a new app called BLR Pulse to provide hassle-free experience to the commuters at Kempegowda International Airport?

केम्पेगौड़ा अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डे पर यात्रियों को परेशानी मुक्त अनुभव प्रदान करने के लिए किस हवाई अड्डे ने बीएलआर पल्स नामक एक नया ऐप लॉन्च किया 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) Mangaluru International Airport, Mangaluru / मंगलुरु अंतर्राष्ट्रीय हवाई अड्डा, मंगलुरु

Ans. b

Sol. Bengaluru airport launches BLR Pulse app for passengers

Bangalore International Airport Limited (BIAL) has launched a new app called BLR Pulse to provide hassle-free experience to the commuters at Kempegowda International Airport.

The app is made available for both android and iPhone users.

Through the BLR Pulse app, people can monitor real-time flight updates, book a table at restaurants inside the airport, connect WiFi, gather information on check-in gates, and even track the flights which are delayed.

It is an omnichannel platform, developed in collaboration with GrayMatter Software Services.

The interactive chatbot feature in the app will enable a self-sufficient mode of finding answers.

336. According to S&P Global Ratings, what is India's projected GDP growth rate for FY24?

S&P ग्लोबल रेटिंग्स के अनुसार, FY24 के लिए भारत की अनुमानित GDP वृद्धि दर क्या है?

- (a) 6%
- (b) 6.55%
- (c) 7%
- (d) 5%
- (e) 5.3%

Ans. a

Sol. S&P retains India's growth projection at 6% for FY24

S&P Global Ratings retained India's GDP growth forecast at 6 percent saying it will be the fastest-growing economy among Asia Pacific nations.

The Asian emerging market economies remain among the fastest-growing ones in our global growth outlook through 2026.

In India, under the assumption of normal monsoons, we expect headline consumer inflation to soften to 5 percent in fiscal 2024 from 6.7 percent.

S&P has lowered the growth forecast for China to 5.2 percent from 5.5 percent for 2023.

Updated GDP List

- World Bank - 6.3% (FY24), 6.4% (FY25), 6.5% (FY26)
- MOODY'S. – 5.5% (FY23)
- S&P – 6 (FY24)
- IMF – 5.9% (FY24), 6.8% (FY25)
- ADB – 6.4% (FY24), 6.7% (FY25)
- RBI – 6.8% (FY23)
- India Ratings – 6.9% (FY23)
- FITCH RATING – 6.3%
- Morgan Stanley - 6.2%(FY24)

337. Which insurance company has launched three insurance products focusing on MSMEs — MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy, Property All Risk (PAR) Policy, and i-Select Liability?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने एमएसएमई पर ध्यान केंद्रित करते हुए तीन बीमा उत्पाद - एमएसएमई सुरक्षा कवच पॉलिसी, प्रॉपर्टी ऑल रिस्क (पीएआर) पॉलिसी, और आई-सेलेक्ट लायबिलिटी लॉन्च किए हैं?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance / बजाज अलियांज जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (b) Bharti AXA General Insurance / भारती एक्सा जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (c) ICICI Lombard General Insurance / आईसीआईसीआई लोम्बार्ड जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (d) Royal Sundaram General Insurance / रॉयल सुंदरम जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (e) Universal Sompo General Insurance / यूनिवर्सल सोम्पो जनरल इंश्योरेंस

Ans. c

Sol. ICICI Lombard launches insurance products for MSMEs

General insurance company ICICI Lombard has launched of three insurance products focusing on MSMEs — MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy, Property All Risk (PAR) Policy, and i-Select Liability.

Objective - To make MSMEs more risk aware and provide them with the benefit of comprehensive coverage to safeguard their businesses.

The MSME Suraksha Kavach Policy is a bundled product to protect MSMEs against loss or damage to property due to defined insured perils.

The policy offers the benefits of optional coverage for STFI (Storms, Typhoons, Cyclones, Tempest, Tornados, Hurricanes, Floods and Inundation), and Terrorism, providing businesses with the flexibility to choose the right level of protection.

ICICI Lombard has a dedicated digital platform for SMEs to purchase, renew, and endorse insurance products online, as well as register claims.

338. Rajat Verma has been appointed as Managing Director of which bank?

रजत वर्मा को किस बैंक का प्रबंध निदेशक नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) City Union Bank / सिटी यूनियन बैंक
- (b) Indian Overseas Bank / इंडियन ओवरसीज बैंक
- (c) DBS Bank India / डीबीएस बैंक इंडिया
- (d) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक
- (e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Ans. c

Sol. Rajat Verma appoints as MD of DBS Bank India

DBS Bank India has appointed Rajat Verma as managing director and head of institutional banking for India.

Niraj Mittal, the current head of institutional banking for India, will be taking up a new role as country head of the DBS Bank in Australia.

With 26 years of banking experience, Rajat has demonstrated an outstanding record of steering business growth and delivering results.

He holds an MBA from the Indian Institute of Management (IIM), Lucknow, and a Bachelor of Electrical Engineering from the Delhi College of Engineering.

About DBS Bank India

- Founded- 16 July 1968
- Founder- Government of Singapore
- Headquarters- Singapore
- CEO- Piyush Gupta

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Swaminathan Janakiraman (MD of SBI)
- **MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank** - P N Vasudevan
- **Part-time Chairman of Axis Bank** - N S Vishwanathan
- **Chairman of TransUnion Cibil** - V Anantharaman
- **MD & CEO of UCO Bank** - Ashwani Kumar (replace Soma Sankara Prasad)

339. Who has been awarded st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contribution to traditional Baul music on the world stage?

विश्व मंच पर पारंपरिक बाउल संगीत में उत्कृष्ट योगदान के लिए किसे प्रथम कला क्रांति लाइफटाइम अचीवमेंट पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Pt P. D. Baul / पं. पी. डी. बाउल
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Salman Rushdie / सलमान रुश्दी
- (d) Aravind Adiga / अरविंद अडिगा
- (e) Chetan Bhagat / चेतन भगत

Ans. a

Sol. Pt P. D. Baul awarded 1st Kala Kranti Lifetime Achievement Award

At the Kolkata edition of the International Performing Arts Festival (IPAF), Padma Shri Pandit Purna Das Baul was presented with the IPAF Lifetime Achievement Award for his outstanding contribution to the traditional Baul music on the world stage.

The award was presented to him by Governor Dr. Bose at the prestigious Indian Museum's Ashutosh Birth Centenary Hall.

This is IPAF's 5th year in Kolkata with 2 days of cultural programs to support the dying Indian art forms and different artists from Kolkata participated in it along with artists from other states as well.

Recent Awards

- **Indian Medical Association (IMA) Award** - Dr K Venugopal
- **Sahitya Akademi Bal Sahitya Puraskar 2023** - Priya A S (for Perumazhayathe Kunjithalukal)
- **Guinness World Record award** - Cristiano Ronaldo
- **Olympic Order by IOC** - Tedros Ghebreyesus (DG of WHO)
- **First Prof. Kothapalli Jayashankar Award** - Acharya Gopi

340. Who is the author of the book titled 'The Yoga Sutra for Children'?

‘द योगा सूत्र फॉर चिल्ड्रेन’ नामक पुस्तक के लेखक कौन हैं?

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुंपा लाहिड़ी
- (d) Roopa Pai / रूपा पाई
- (e) Priya A.S. / प्रिया ए.एस

Ans. d

Sol. A book titled 'The Yoga Sutra for Children' by Roopa Pai

After her award-winning bestselling book 'The Gita for Children', author Roopa Pai's upcoming children's book will unravel the secrets of Patanjali's 2,000-year-old text on Yoga. '

'The Yoga Sutras for Children', published by Hachette India, aims to connect and relate the practice of Yoga to children's everyday lives and helps them use their mind power to bring out the best in themselves.

Peppered with 'Think' and 'Do' sections for a wholesome and interactive experience, the book shares Maharishi Patanjali's techniques to "nurture energies and attitudes, enabling them to do small and big things in a focused and balanced way".

The book helps young readers to approach their increasingly complex lives with positivity and confidence.

Recent Book

- **Finance Ministers of India: From Independence to the Emergency (1947-1977)** - Journalist A.K. Bhattacharya
- **Master Residential Real Estate** - Ashwinder Singh
- **India Secret War BSF** – Ushinor Majumdar
- **Through the Broken Glass** – T N Seshan
- **Beyond Cricket** – C D Gopinath

341. Union Minister Parshottam Rupala has recently launched 'Report Fish Disease App' to connect directly to district fisheries officers and scientists. It is funded under which scheme?

केंद्रीय मंत्री परशोत्तम रूपाला ने हाल ही में जिला मत्स्य अधिकारियों और वैज्ञानिकों से सीधे जुड़ने के लिए 'रिपोर्ट फिश डिजीज ऐप' लॉन्च किया है। यह किस योजना के तहत वित्त पोषित है?

- (a) Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana
- (b) Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme
- (c) Coconut Palm Insurance Scheme
- (d) Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana
- (e) Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana

Ans. d

Sol. Parshottam Rupala to launch the 'Report Fish Disease' App

Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying Minister, Parshottam Rupala has launched Report Fish Disease App in New Delhi.

The app designed for the aquaculture sector enables quick reporting of disease cases and also provides timely advice to farmers associated with aquaculture.

With the help of this app, the farmers will be able to connect directly to district fisheries officers and scientists.

The app has been developed by ICAR-NBFGR under the National Surveillance Programme for Aquatic Animal Diseases (NSPAAD). It is funded under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana.

This app will help the farmers to report the incidences of diseases in finfish and shrimps on their farms with field-level officers and fish health experts.

342. How many products of Uttar Pradesh have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai recently?

हाल ही में चेन्नई में भौगोलिक संकेत रजिस्ट्री से उत्तर प्रदेश के कितने उत्पादों को भौगोलिक संकेत (जीआई) टैग दिया गया है?

- (a) 4
- (b) 5
- (c) 6
- (d) 7
- (e) 10

Ans. d

Sol. Seven products from Uttar Pradesh get Geographical Indication tag

The seven products of Uttar Pradesh have been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Geographical Indications Registry in Chennai.

'Amroha Dholak', 'Mahoba Gaura Patthar Hastashlip', 'Mainpuri Tarkashi', 'Sambhal Horn Craft', 'Baghpat Home Furnishings', 'Barabanki Handloom Product' and 'Kalpi Handmade Paper' are the products that been given the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.

The Amroha Dholak is a musical instrument made of natural wood. Mango, jackfruit and teakwood is preferred for making the dholak's. Baghpat and Meerut are famous for their exclusive handloom home furnishing product and running fabrics in cotton yarn since generations, and only cotton yarn are used in the handloom weaving process.

The Barabanki Handloom Product has also being bestowed with a GI tag.

For Kalpi Handmade Paper, the application was filed by Hasht Nirmat Kagaj Samiti, Industrial Estate, Kalpi, Uttar Pradesh. Kalpi has historically been a centre of handmade paper manufacturing.

The Mahoba Gaura Patthar Hastashlip is a stone craft.

Tarkashi, a popular art form from Mainpuri in Uttar Pradesh, is primarily brass wire inlay work on wood.

In the Sambhal Horn Craft, the raw material is procured from dead animals. They are completely hand-made.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

343. Which state's police department has launched 'Operation Conviction' to combat criminals and mafias in the state?

किस राज्य के पुलिस विभाग ने राज्य में अपराधियों और माफियाओं से निपटने के लिए 'ऑपरेशन कनविक्शन' शुरू किया है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Punjab / पंजाब
- (e) Haryana / हरियाणा

Ans. a

Sol. UP launches 'Operation Conviction' for cow slaughter, child abuse cases

The Uttar Pradesh Police Department has launched 'Operation Conviction' to combat criminals and mafias in the state. The initiative will expedite the prosecution of cases registered under the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences (POCSO) Act, as well as those involving cow slaughter, religious conversion, rape, and murder.

'Operation Conviction' will ensure the immediate arrest of criminals, the collection of strong evidence against them, quality investigation, and effective representation of cases in courts so that they are punished in the shortest amount of time.

About Uttar Pradesh

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

344. The Ministry of Power has launched a new platform "UTPRERAK" to promote clean technologies and enhance energy efficiency in the country. What is the full form of UTPRERAK?

विद्युत मंत्रालय ने देश में स्वच्छ प्रौद्योगिकियों को बढ़ावा देने और ऊर्जा दक्षता बढ़ाने के लिए एक नया मंच "UTPRERAK" लॉन्च किया है।

UTPRERAK का पूर्ण रूप क्या है?

- (a) Unnat Takniki Pariksha Kendra
- (b) Unnat Technical Pradarshan Kendra
- (c) Unnat Technology Pradarshan Kendra
- (d) Unnat Technology Pariksha Kendra
- (e) Unnat Takniki Pradarshan Kendra

Ans. e

Sol. Govt launches UTPRERAK to adopt Energy Efficient Technologies

The Ministry of Power has established a new platform called Advanced Industrial Technology Demonstration Center (AITDC) for industry stakeholders to demonstrate and exchange knowledge on new energy-efficient technologies in the country.

The new center, also called Unnat Takniki Pradarshan Kendra (UTPRERAK), is expected to promote clean technologies and enhance energy efficiency in the country through knowledge sharing and demonstrations of new technologies.

The UTPRERAK center is expected to become a leading reference and resource institution for industrial energy-efficient technologies.

The center will provide inputs for national energy policy formulation, foster linkages between education and research in energy-efficient solutions, and develop innovative applied solutions to enhance energy efficiency further.

Over the next five years, UTPRERAK will provide intensive training to more than 10,000 energy professionals from various sectors, serving as a strategic capacity-building institution.

The center will offer comprehensive programs to enhance the skills and knowledge of industry personnel, contributing to India's goal of becoming a developed nation by 2047.

345. Which of the following city is organizing the 6th 'Divya Kala Mela' from 29 June to 5 July?

निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा शहर 29 जून से 5 जुलाई तक छठा 'दिव्य कला मेला' आयोजित कर रहा है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Jaipur / जयपुर
- (e) Mumbai / मुंबई

Ans. d

Sol. Divya Kala Mela organized in Jaipur

The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities is organizing the sixth 'Divya Kala Mela' from 29 June to 5 July in Jaipur, Rajasthan.

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar inaugurated the Mela.

Around hundreds Divyang artisans and entrepreneurs from nearly twenty states and Union Territories will be showcasing their products and skills.

The Ministry said that it will be an opportunity for all to go 'vocal for local' and products made by Divyang craftsmen.

About Rajasthan

- **Capital** – Jaipur
- **Chief Minister** – Ashok Gehlot
- **Governor** – Kalraj Mishra

346. Which of the following institute has topped the QS World Rankings 2024?

निम्नलिखित में से किस संस्थान ने QS विश्व रैंकिंग 2024 में शीर्ष स्थान प्राप्त किया है?

- (a) Massachusetts Institute of Technology, US
- (b) Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay
- (c) Oxford University
- (d) Cambridge University
- (e) Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore

Ans. a

Sol. IIT Bombay ranks 149th in the QS world ranking 2024

The Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay emerged as India's highest-ranked educational institute, according to QS World Rankings 2024.

Globally, it was ranked 149th and was the only such Indian institute in the top 150. However, it is the highest rank the institute has ever attained.

IIT Bombay showed an improvement from last year's QS world rankings when it took the 172nd spot.

It was followed by IIT Delhi (ranked 197th globally), slipping from 174th last year. These were the only two institutes in the top 200 on the list.

At the third spot was the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, ranked 225th globally. It slipped sharply from 155th place last year. While in the overall ranking, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), United States topped the rankings for the twelfth consecutive year.

UK's Cambridge University ranked second followed by Oxford University.

The rankings were based on nine indicators, including citations per faculty, employment outcomes, employer reputation, academic reputation, faculty-student ratio, sustainability, international research network, international faculty ratio, and international student ratio.

India is the seventh most represented country globally, with 45 universities ranked.

347. India becomes the second-largest country with the biggest road network after beating which country?

किस देश को पछाड़कर भारत सबसे बड़े सड़क नेटवर्क वाला दूसरा सबसे बड़ा देश बन गया है?

- (a) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) Japan / जापान
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) China / चीन

Ans. e

Sol. India beats China with world's second-largest road network

India becomes the second-largest country with the biggest road network after beating China.

While the United States remains in the number one position.

The report says India successfully reserved the position by spreading 1.45-lakh km of road connectivity over the last 8 years

India had 91,287 km of road network only. During his tenure, the minister gripped on NHAI, which has constructed, fixed and improved highways and expressways.

NHAI has constructed more than 30,000 km of highways and expressways nationwide.

347. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently canceled the banking license of which of the following cooperative bank?
भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (RBI) ने हाल ही में निम्नलिखित में से किस सहकारी बैंक का बैंकिंग लाइसेंस रद्द कर दिया है?

- (a) Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank / महालक्ष्मी सहकारी बैंक
- (b) Saraswat Co-operative Bank / सारस्वत सहकारी बैंक
- (c) Cosmos Co-operative Bank / कॉसमॉस सहकारी बैंक
- (d) Shamrao Vithal Co-operative Bank / शामराव विठ्ठल सहकारी बैंक
- (e) Abhyudaya Co-operative Bank Ltd / अभ्युदय सहकारी बैंक लिमिटेड

Ans. a

Sol. RBI cancels Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank Dharwad's banking license

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has canceled the banking license of the Karnataka-based Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank, Dharwad, and allowed function only as a non-banking institution.

This makes it obligatory on the part of Mahalaxmi Cooperative Bank Ltd., Dharwad, Karnataka to stop conducting the business of 'banking' within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Act ibid, including acceptance of deposits from non-members with immediate effect.

RBI has also been instructed to repay unpaid and unclaimed deposits of non-members held by it, whenever demanded, even after being notified as a non-banking Institution.

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

348. Who has been appointed as the first Indian council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) residing overseas?

विदेश में रहने वाले इंस्टीट्यूट ऑफ चार्टर्ड अकाउंटेंट्स इन इंग्लैंड एंड वेल्स (ICAEW) के पहले भारतीय परिषद सदस्य के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Ajay Banga / अजय बंगा
- (b) Aruna Miller / अरुणा मिलर
- (c) Apsara A Iyer / अप्सरा ए अय्यर
- (d) Janani Ramachandran / जननी रामचंद्रन
- (e) Vishesh Chandiook / विशेष चंडियोक

Ans. e

Sol. Vishesh Chandiook appointed initiated into ICAEW

CEO of Grant Thornton Bharat, Vishesh C. Chandiook has been appointed as the first Indian council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW) residing overseas.

This recognition honors Chandiook's significant contributions to the global accounting profession.

His appointment highlights the influence of Indian professionals in accounting and finance globally.

Founded in 1880, ICAEW has played a pivotal role in shaping the accounting industry and works with governments, regulators and business leaders globally.

Its commitment to upholding the highest professional standards and promoting ethical practices has made it the most influential accountancy organization in Europe.

Recent Appointments of Persons of Indian Origin

- **First Muslim woman federal judge in US history** - Nusrat Chowdhary
- **Harvard's vice president for finance and CFO** - Ritu Kalra (Indian-American origin)
- **President of World Bank** - Ajay Banga (Indian American)
- **1st-ever Indian-origin Lord Mayor of Birmingham** - Chaman Lal
- **US Ambassador for Global Women's Issues** - Indian-American Geeta Rao Gupta

349. Who has been appointed as part-time Chairman of the Federal Bank?

फेडरल बैंक के अंशकालिक अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Krishnan Sankarasubramaniam / कृष्णन शंकरसुब्रमण्यम
- (b) Rajiv Kumar / राजीव कुमार
- (c) AP Hota / एपी होता
- (d) Binesh Kumar Tyagi / बिनेश कुमार त्यागी
- (e) Laxman Narasimhan / लक्ष्मण नरसिम्हन

Ans. c

Sol. AP Hota appoints as part-time Chairman of Federal Bank

The Reserve Bank of India has given its approval to the Federal Bank for the appointment of AP Hota as part-time chairman, with effect from June 29, 2023, till January 14, 2026.

AP Hota has banking experience of over 27 years in the Reserve Bank, mostly in technology and payment systems, from 1982- 2009.

While at Reserve Bank of India, he served as nominee director to the Board of Vijaya Bank and subsequently Andhra Bank.

He was the architect of NPCI and served as its Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer between 2009- 2017.

In 2018, he was appointed as an Independent Director of Federal Bank Limited.

About Federal Bank

- Federal Bank Limited is an Indian private sector bank headquartered in Kochi, Kerala.
- The bank has 1,336 branches spread across different states in India.
- It also has representative offices abroad in Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, and Dubai.
- Founded- 23 April 1931
- Founder- K.P Hormis
- Headquarters - Kochi, Kerala.
- CEO- Shyam Srinivasan

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector

- **MD of DBS Bank India** - Rajat Verma
- **Deputy Governor of RBI** - Swaminathan Janakiraman (MD of SBI)
- **MD & CEO of Equitas Small Finance Bank** - P N Vasudevan
- **Part-time Chairman of Axis Bank** - N S Vishwanathan
- **Chairman of TransUnion Cibil** - V Anantharaman

350. Rohit Jawa has been appointed as Managing Director and CEO of which of the following company?

रोहित जावा को निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी का प्रबंध निदेशक और सीईओ नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) ITC Limited
- (b) FSSAI
- (c) Nestlé India
- (d) Hindustan Unilever Ltd
- (e) Amul

Ans. d

Sol. Rohit Jawa appoints as MD and CEO of Hindustan Unilever

Rohit Jawa has been appointed as Managing Director and CEO of Hindustan Unilever Ltd (HUL).

Jawa replaced Sanjiv Mehta retired after serving as the company's head for a decade.

Jawa's association with Hindustan Unilever dates back to 1988 when he joined the company as a trainee.

Jawa previously held the position of Unilever's chief of transformation. Throughout his career, he has primarily focused on Asian markets.

Jawa had previously served as the Chief of Transformation for Unilever in London.

Recent Appointment

- **President of BRICS Chamber of Commerce and Industry Women's Vertical** - Ruby Sinha
- **Chairman of the Delhi Electricity Regulatory Commission (DERC)** - Umesh Kumar (replace Rajeev Kr. Shrivastava)
- **MD & CEO of PTC India Financial Services Ltd (PFS)** - Mahendra Lodha
- **Chairman of GIFT City** - Hasmukh Adhia (replace Sudhir Mankad)
- **CEO of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI)** - Amit Agrawal

351. Which organization has organized an Anusandhaan Chintan Shivir' with an aim to encourage military research and development?

सैन्य अनुसंधान और विकास को प्रोत्साहित करने के उद्देश्य से किस संगठन ने 'अनुसंधान चिंतन शिविर' का आयोजन किया है?

- (a) ISRO / इसरो
- (b) DRDO / डीआरडीओ
- (c) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre / भाभा परमाणु अनुसंधान केंद्र
- (d) Border Security Force / सीमा सुरक्षा बल
- (e) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited / हिंदुस्तान एयरोनॉटिक्स लिमिटेड

Ans. b

Sol. DRDO organizes 'Anusandhaan Chintan Shivir' 2023

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has organized an Anusandhaan Chintan Shivir in New Delhi aimed at promoting Defence Research and Development in the industry and academia.

At the event, a list of 75 technology priority areas was released, encouraging indigenous innovation in defence technologies and fostering self-reliance.

The DRDO Technology Foresight 2023, listing current and future technology development tasks, was also unveiled.

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan also attended the event as the Chief Guest with other dignitaries.

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

352. Which of the following Indian women's cricketer has recently joined MCC World Cricket Committee (WCC)?
निम्नलिखित में से कौन सी भारतीय महिला क्रिकेटर हाल ही में एमसीसी विश्व क्रिकेट समिति (डब्ल्यूसीसी) में शामिल हुई है?

- (a) Harleen Deol / हरलीन देओल
- (b) Harmanpreet Kaur / हरमनप्रीत कौर
- (c) Mithali Dorai Raj / मिताली दोराई राज
- (d) Smriti Mandhana / स्मृति मंधाना
- (e) Jhulan Goswami / झूलन गोस्वामी

Ans. e

Sol. Jhulan Goswami, Heather Knight, Eoin Morgan join MCC World Cricket Committee

Indian woman cricketer Jhulan Goswami has joined England women's team captain Heather Knight and Eoin Morgan to become a member of the MCC World Cricket Committee (WCC).

This committee is an independent body that consists of current and former international cricketers, umpires, and officials from various countries.

Jhulan Goswami retired from international cricket in 2022. Throughout her impressive two-decade-long career, Goswami took over 300 wickets in white-ball cricket across 272 appearances and secured 44 wickets in 12 Test matches.

Heather Knight has been leading the England cricket team since 2016. Under her captaincy, England won the ICC Women's World Cup at Lord's in 2017, just a year after she took over.

Eoin Morgan, one of England's greatest run-scorers in ODI cricket, has amassed just under 7,000 runs in his career. He captained the English team to their historic victory in the ICC Men's World Cup in 2019, which culminated in an unforgettable final against New Zealand.

353. National Statistics Day is observed annually on which day?

राष्ट्रीय सांख्यिकी दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 27 June / 27 जून
- (b) 28 June / 28 जून
- (c) 29 June / 29 जून
- (d) 30 June / 30 जून
- (e) 26 June / 246 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 29 June - National Statistics Day

National Statistics Day is observed annually on 29 June to honour the contribution of Professor Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis in statistics and economic planning.

Objective - To create public awareness in the young generation about the role and importance of statistics in strategizing, economic planning and policy formulation.

Theme 2023 - Alignment of State Indicator Framework with National Indicator Framework for Monitoring Sustainable Development Goals

The first National Statistics Day was celebrated on June 29, 2007 and it has been celebrated on the same day since then.

Professor Mahalanobis was part of the first planning commission of India and was instrumental in establishing the Indian Statistical Institute (ISI) in 1931.

354. International Day of the Tropic is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय उष्णकटिबंधीय दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 27 June / 27 जून
- (b) 28 June / 28 जून
- (c) 29 June / 29 जून
- (d) 30 June / 30 जून
- (e) 26 June / 246 जून

Ans. c

Sol. 29 June - International Day of the Tropic

International Day of the Tropic is observed every year on 29 June.

Objective - To spread awareness about conservation strategies and promote tropical regions on Earth.

James Cook University of Australia, alongside 11 other research institutions, released an inaugural State of the Tropics Report on June 29, 2014.

The report specifically mentioned that the population present in the Tropical region is expected to rise from 40 percent to 50 percent by the year 2050. It looked into various environmental, social, and economic factors to acknowledge the quality of life in tropical regions.

The Tropics account for 36 percent of the Earth's landmass. It includes the Equator and parts of North and South America, Africa, Asia, and Australia.

355. Which state government has signed an MoU with American chipmaker firm Micron Technology for a semiconductor assembly and test facility in the state?

किस राज्य सरकार ने राज्य में सेमीकंडक्टर असेंबली और परीक्षण सुविधा के लिए अमेरिकी चिप निर्माता फर्म माइक्रोन टेक्नोलॉजी के साथ एक समझौता ज्ञापन पर हस्ताक्षर किए हैं?

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

Ans. c

Sol. Gujarat govt signs MoU with Micron Technology for semiconductor assembly and test facility

The Gujarat government has signed an MoU with American chipmaker firm Micron Technology for a semiconductor assembly and test facility at Sanand in Ahmedabad district.

The MoU was signed at Gandhinagar in the presence of Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel and Union Electronics and IT Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw.

Under the scheme, the Central Government will provide 50 percent fiscal support for the total project cost to the US-based firm while the state government will provide incentives representing 20 percent of the total.

The semiconductor assembly and test plant is expected to create five thousand direct employment opportunities in the State.

According to government, Phase 1 of the plant will become operational by the end of 2024.

About Gujarat

- Capital- Gandhinagar
- Chief Minister- Bhupendra Rajnikant Patel
- Governor- Acharya Devvrat

356. Who has chaired the 42nd edition of PRAGATI, a platform for proactive governance, reviewing 12 key projects across various ministries and states?

विभिन्न मंत्रालयों और राज्यों में 12 प्रमुख परियोजनाओं की समीक्षा करने वाले सक्रिय शासन के लिए एक मंच, प्रगति के 42वें संस्करण की अध्यक्षता किसने की है?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (e) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर

Ans. a

Sol. PM Modi chairs 42nd PRAGATI interaction

Prime Minister Narendra Modi chaired a meeting of the 42nd edition of PRAGATI, the ICT-based multi-modal platform for Pro-Active Governance and Timely Implementation, involving Centre and state governments.

In the meeting, 12 key projects were reviewed.

Among the 12 projects, seven projects were from the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, two projects were from the Ministry of Railways and one project each was from the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways, Ministry of Steel, Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas. These projects have a cumulative cost of over Rs. 1,21,300 crore and relate to 10 states viz., Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Odisha and Haryana and two Union Territories viz. Jammu and Kashmir and Dadra and Nagar Haveli.

PM Modi in News

- PM Modi inaugurated first-ever National Training Conclave in New Delhi
- PM Modi launched two schemes named Amrit Dharohar and MISHTI (Mangrove Initiative for Shoreline Habitats and Tangible Incomes).
- PM Modi addresses 76th Session of the World Health Assembly in Geneva
- PM Modi laid the foundation stone and dedicate several railway projects worth over 8,000 crore rupees in Odisha

357. Who vhas unveiled India's first-ever report on "Critical Minerals for India"?

"भारत के लिए महत्वपूर्ण खनिज" पर भारत की पहली रिपोर्ट का अनावरण किसने किया है?

- (a) Pralhad Joshi / प्रह्लाद जोशी
- (b) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (e) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर

Ans. a

Sol. Pralhad Joshi unveils list of "Critical Minerals for India"

Union Minister of Mines, Pralhad Joshi has unveiled India's first-ever report on Critical Minerals for India. The report identifies 30 critical minerals essential for sectors including defense, agriculture, energy, pharmaceuticals, and telecom.

This comprehensive list marks a milestone in India's pursuit of self-reliance and security in mineral resources, aligning with the vision of achieving 'Net Zero' targets.

The list aims to guide policy formulation, strategic planning, and investment decisions in the mining sector.

358. The Department of Expenditure under the Finance Ministry has approved capital investment proposals of Rs 56,415 cr for how many states in the current financial year 2023-24?

वित्त मंत्रालय के अधीन व्यय विभाग ने चालू वित्तीय वर्ष 2023-24 में कितने राज्यों के लिए 56,415 करोड़ रुपये के पूंजी निवेश प्रस्तावों को मंजूरी दे दी है?

- (a) 10
- (b) 12
- (c) 14
- (d) 16
- (e) 29

Ans. d

Sol. Centre approves Rs 56,415 crore to 16 states for capital investment

The Department of Expenditure under the Finance Ministry has approved capital investment proposals of Rs 56,415 cr for 16 states in the current financial year 2023-24.

The amount has been approved for 16 states including Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Chhattisgarh, Goa, Gujarat, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Mizoram, Odisha, Rajasthan, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, and West Bengal.

The approval has been given under the scheme titled 'Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment 2023-24'.

The scheme, which was announced in the Budget for 2023-24 in continuation of a similar push for capex from the last three years, special assistance is being provided to the state governments in the form of 50-year interest-free loan up to an overall sum of Rs 1.3 lakh crore during the financial year 2023-24.

359. The Cabinet approved a new scheme PM-PRANAM to incentivize states to promote alternative fertilizers. What is the meaning of R in PRANAM?

कैबिनेट ने वैकल्पिक उर्वरकों को बढ़ावा देने के लिए राज्यों को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए एक नई योजना PM-PRANAM को मंजूरी दी। PM-PRANAM में R का क्या अर्थ है?

- (a) Restoration
- (b) Research
- (c) Reduce
- (d) Revamp
- (e) Recycle

Ans. a

Sol. Cabinet Approves PM-PRANAM Scheme To Promote Alternative Fertilizers

The Cabinet approved a new scheme PM-PRANAM to incentivize states to promote alternative fertilizers, said Fertiliser Minister Mansukh Mandaviya.

PRANAM stands for PM Programme for Restoration, Awareness, Generation, Nourishment, and Amelioration of Mother Earth Scheme.

The government also approved the continuation of the Urea Subsidy Scheme with an outlay of Rs 3,70,128.7 Crore committed for the urea subsidy for 3 years.

Under the scheme financial assistance will be given to the states and the states will be able to strengthen the fertilizer system.

The PM-PRANAM scheme was aimed at saving the soil and promote sustainable, balanced use of fertilizers and it involved the participation of State governments.

The state was using 10 lakh tonnes of conventional fertilizers and reduced its consumption by three lakh tonnes, then the subsidy saving would be ₹3,000 crore.

360. Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami honored the people of Uttarakhand who fought against the Emergency in 1975 and the honorarium of Loktantra Senani has been increased from Rs 16,000 to _____.

उत्तराखंड के मुख्यमंत्री पुष्कर सिंह धामी ने 1975 में आपातकाल के खिलाफ लड़ने वाले उत्तराखंड के लोगों को सम्मानित किया और लोकतंत्र सेनानी का सम्मान राशि 16,000 रुपये से बढ़ाकर _____ कर दिया गया है।

- (a) Rs 20,000
- (b) Rs 25,000
- (c) Rs 30,000
- (d) Rs 35,000
- (e) Rs 40,000

Ans. a

Sol. Uttarakhand CM honours 'Loktantra Senani', increases pension funds

Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami honored the people of Uttarakhand who fought against the Emergency in 1975. The CM announced that the dependents of Loktantra Senani will be given a pension fund and the honorarium of Loktantra Senani has been increased from Rs 16,000 to Rs 20,000.

The Emergency was declared in 1975 by former PM Indira Gandhi and was in effect for 21 months.

About Uttarakhand

- **Capital** - Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)
- **Chief Minister** - Pushkar Singh Dhami
- **Governor** - Gurmit Singh

361. Which of the following country has launched the "Digital Nomad Strategy" to address its skilled labour shortage, particularly in the tech industry?

निम्नलिखित में से किस देश ने विशेष रूप से तकनीकी उद्योग में अपने कुशल श्रम की कमी को दूर करने के लिए "डिजिटल घुमंतू रणनीति" शुरू की है?

- (a) France / फ्रांस
- (b) Russia / रूस
- (c) UK / यूके
- (d) USA / यूएसए
- (e) Canada / कनाडा

Ans. e

Sol. Canada launches 'Digital Nomad Strategy' for foreign workers

Canada has launched the "Digital Nomad Strategy" to address its skilled labour shortage, particularly in the tech industry.

The strategy aims to attract talented individuals from around the world.

The shortage of skilled workers, particularly in the tech industry, has prompted Canada to take proactive measures.

What will digital nomad strategy offer?

- The "digital nomad strategy" will allow workers with a foreign employer to stay and work in Canada for up to six months. If they get a job offer while in the country they can remain in Canada even longer.
- It will be extremely beneficial for Canada, those workers will "spend money in communities in this country."
- In a bid to address Canada's skills shortage, the federal government is looking to poach talent from abroad through three new initiatives.

About Canada

- **Capital** - Ottawa
- **Currency** - Dollar
- **President** - Justin Trudeau

362. Which Insurance company has partnered with actyv.ai to offer bite-sized insurance products to new-age Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) companies?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने नए जमाने की सूक्ष्म, लघु और मध्यम उद्यम (MSME) कंपनियों को छोटे आकार के बीमा उत्पाद पेश करने के लिए actyv.ai के साथ साझेदारी 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) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance / कोटक महिन्द्रा जनरल इंश्योरेंस
- (e) Edelweiss General Insurance / एडलवाइस जनरल इंश्योरेंस

Ans. d

Sol. Kotak Insurance partners with actyv.ai to provide insurance to MSMEs

Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Co. Ltd (Kotak General Insurance) has partnered with actyv.ai to offer bite-sized insurance products to new-age Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) companies.

Kotak General Insurance will leverage actyv.ai's AI-powered platform to provide insurance solutions to support the business sustainability of small businesses.

This partnership will offer innovative insurance products to the enterprise and close to one lakh supply chain partner ecosystem to focus on driving growth without worrying about business risks.

Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (Kotak General Insurance) is a 100% subsidiary of Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd. Kotak General Insurance was established to service the growing non-life insurance segment in India.

The company aims to cater to a wide range of customer segment & geographies offering an array of non-life insurance products like Motor, Health, Home etc.

Recent MoU in Banking Sector

- Manipal Technologies, Indian Bank joined hands to offer banking products
- Paytm signs MoU with Arunachal Pradesh for creating startup ecosystem
- IOB signs MoU with the Tamil Nadu State Rural Livelihood Mission
- Airtel Payments Bank ties up with Care for health insurance
- IndusInd Bank collaborates with Wise to offer low-cost & fast inward remittance to India

363. Which organization has approved \$391 million in financing to improve access to high-quality healthcare services and to economic opportunities for people in Assam and Tripura?

किस संगठन ने असम और त्रिपुरा में लोगों के लिए उच्च गुणवत्ता वाली स्वास्थ्य सेवाओं और आर्थिक अवसरों तक पहुंच में सुधार के लिए 391 मिलियन डॉलर के वित्तपोषण को मंजूरी दी है?

- (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. e

Sol. World Bank approves \$391 million for Assam, Tripura

The World Bank has approved \$391 million in financing to improve access to high-quality healthcare services and to economic opportunities for people in Assam and Tripura.

The Assam State Secondary Healthcare Initiative for Service Delivery Transformation (ASSIST) Project, for which \$251 million was approved, will improve access to high-quality secondary healthcare services in Assam and directly serve at least 1.8 million people.

The global financial institution said the project will increase access to comprehensive emergency obstetric and newborn care services and improve treatment and management of non-communicable diseases.

The project will also upgrade up to 10 lower-level facilities to district hospitals in essential districts and strengthen the capacity of nurses and healthcare managers for better service delivery.

While \$140 million was approved for the Tripura Rural Economic Growth and Service Delivery Project.

364. Who has been appointed as the new deputy head of the UN Development Programme (UNDP)?

संयुक्त राष्ट्र विकास कार्यक्रम (यूएनडीपी) के नए उप प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Jeffrey Sachs / जेफरी सैक्स
- (b) Xu Haoliang / जू हाओलियांग
- (c) Dag Hammarskjöld / डैग हैमर्सकजॉल्ड
- (d) Kofi Annan / कोफी अन्नान
- (e) Kojo Annan / कोजो अन्नान

Ans. b

Sol. UN chief appoints Xu Haoliang of China as deputy head of UNDP

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has announced the appointment of Xu Haoliang from China as the new Undersecretary-General and Associate Administrator of the UN Development Programme (UNDP).

Xu Haoliang will succeed Usha Rao-Monari from India in this role.

Xu has been serving as the UN Assistant Secretary-General and Director of the Bureau for Policy and Programme Support at the UNDP since 2019.

From 2013 to 2019, he held the position of UNDP Assistant Administrator and Director of the Regional Bureau for Asia and the Pacific.

Recent Appointments of Persons of Indian Origin

- **First Indian council member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales (ICAEW)** - Vishesh C. Chandiok
- **First Muslim woman federal judge in US history** - Nusrat Chowdhary
- **Harvard's vice president for finance and CFO** - Ritu Kalra (Indian-American origin)
- **President of World Bank** - Ajay Banga (Indian American)
- **1st-ever Indian-origin Lord Mayor of Birmingham** - Chaman Lal

365. International Asteroid Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्षुद्रग्रह दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 27 June / 27 जून
- (b) 28 June / 28 जून
- (c) 29 June / 29 जून
- (d) 30 June / 30 जून
- (e) 26 June / 26 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 30 June - International Asteroid Day

International Asteroid Day is observed every year on June 30.

Objective - To spread awareness about asteroids and the possible hazards they can cause during an impact.

The asteroid impact hazard. It also marks the date of Earth's largest asteroid impact, the Siberia Tunguska event, recorded in history.

The history of International Asteroid Day dates back to 1908. The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) passed the resolution 2016 and declared June 30 to be observed as 'International Asteroid Day' every year.

This day marks the historic Tunguska event, a colossal asteroid explosion that decimated 2,150 square kilometres of Siberian forest in 1908. It is also known as World Asteroid Day.

366. The International Day of Parliamentarism is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संसदवाद दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 27 June / 27 जून
- (b) 28 June / 28 जून
- (c) 29 June / 29 जून
- (d) 30 June / 30 जून
- (e) 26 June / 26 जून

Ans. d

Sol. 30 June - International Day of Parliamentarism

The International Day of Parliamentarism is a momentous occasion celebrated on June 30th each year. It offers a unique opportunity to recognize and appreciate the crucial role that parliaments play in upholding democracy, good governance, and the rule of law.

Theme 2023 - Strengthening Democracy and Governance.

The United Nations General Assembly established the International Day of Parliamentarism in 2018 through a resolution. This commemorative day recognizes the pivotal role of parliaments in the development and functioning of democratic societies.

367. Nobel Prize winning lithium battery inventor John Goodenough passed away recently at the age of 100. In which year did Goodenough win the Nobel Prize?

नोबेल पुरस्कार विजेता लिथियम बैटरी आविष्कारक जॉन गुडइन्फ का हाल ही में 100 वर्ष की आयु में निधन हो गया। गुडइन्फ ने किस वर्ष नोबेल पुरस्कार जीता था?

- (a) 2018
- (b) 2019
- (c) 2020
- (d) 2021
- (e) 2022

Ans. b

Sol. Nobel-winning lithium battery inventor John Goodenough dies at 100

John Goodenough, who shared the 2019 Nobel Prize in Chemistry for developing the lithium-ion battery that revolutionized modern life, has died at the age of 100.

The US scientist's contributions to the development of lithium-ion batteries paved the way for smartphones.

Goodenough became the oldest person to win a Nobel Prize when at the age of 97 he shared the 2019 chemistry award with Britain's Stanley Whittingham and Akira Yoshino of Japan for the invention of the lithium-ion battery.

Goodenough built on Whittingham's prototype, substituting a different metal compound and doubling the potential energy of the battery to four volts.

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